

ARTISTS UNITED INTERNATIONAL



He Who Suffers In The Flesh Has Ceased From Sin (May 29, 2016)

Today, even in Christian circles, we hear much about how to fulfill and realize our individual potential, and hear little about how to suffer in the flesh. We are bombarded with social media and narcissistic practices, all of which are designed to feed and stimulate the ego. Very little about taking up the cross (death) and following Yeshua. Matthew 10:38

However, the Lord has quickened this truth to me, and told me to share it with those who have an ear to hear what the Spirit is saying, in order to strike a balance.

Of course, there is much suffering going on in the world--that is not what we are talking about here. Instead, we are referring to the suffering in the flesh for our faith, and for our obedience to G-d and to His Word.

Therefore, since Christ **has suffered** in the **flesh**, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because **he who has suffered** in the **flesh has ceased** from **sin**. (1 Peter 4:1)

That would probably be the opposite to what we are accustomed to hear in most western churches, where only the blessing side is preached, which in turn, is producing weak and self-centered believers.

It is the Word of G-d that is our spiritual food and that gives us spiritual and natural strength, that is when it is quickened and anointed by the Holy Spirit.

For the letter killeth but the Spirit giveth life. 2 Corinthians 3:6

The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
(Hebrew 4:12)

The Word also states the importance of practicing a life of prayer and fasting, or to keep the life of the body under subjection. Shaul (Paul) says this under the inspiration of the Ruah hakodesh (Holy Spirit).

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. (1 Corinthians 9:27)

A great prophet and healing evangelist that was mightily used by God during the healing revival in the USA, once said, that the the number one enemy of the anointing is the sin of pride, and we must always ask the Lord to keep us from this enemy of God with prayer and fasting.

Shaul himself is also the prime example of someone who suffered in the will of God and produced great results for the Kingdom of God. A spirit of Satan buffeted him with great afflictions and persecutions. He asked the Lord to deliver him from this thorn (persecution) in the flesh, but the Lord just responded :

My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities (weaknesses), that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 2 Corinthians 12:9

The body and the flesh have a life of its own (pride), which has to be kept under submission to the Word of God and the Spirit of God, in order for us to walk by faith, in humility, and not by sight, in pride.

For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7

The Father wants all of his children to be led by his Spirit, just like Jesus and Paul. 1 Corinthians 11:1

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God they are the Sons of God. Romans 8:14