

**PastorChick:** Dear Father in Heaven. We thank You for this sanctified time for our spiritual benefits. We expect an outpouring of Your Spirit as we contemplate the principles shared. In YASHUA's holy name, AMEN!

**Zahakiel:** Amen.

**Barb:** Amen Daphna: Amen

**Adriel:** Amen

**Lucan:** Amen

**Naraiel:** Amen

**gadriel:** Amen, Amen

**Elyna:** Amen

**Zahakiel:** Happy Sabbath to everyone. Tonight's study is about blessings. In fact, I am calling it "Unique Blessings," because I believe that we, as a people, and humanity as a whole, have a lot to learn about being thankful for the things that our Father has given us.

I am not sure to what extent others do this, but there are times when I will spend time thinking about thinking. I will contemplate the act of thought, and consider that, even awareness, even the ability to think, and reason, and make decisions, is because of the great gift that our Creator has given us: to be made in His image. When I meditate on these things, as one born again, and as a temple of the Holy Spirit, I feel that I am drawing closer to the Truth that is Yahweh, and although I can never grasp all that He is, and could never put it into words even if such a thing were possible, it is a communion, a prayer without language, that places me squarely in His divine presence.

Perhaps it was thinking along these lines that led King David to write the words,

"When I consider Thy Heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained; what is man, that Thou art mindful of him, and the son of man, that Thou visitest him?" (Psalm 8:3, 4)

I consider the experience of the Living Creatures that stand around the Creator's throne:

"And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within, and they rest not day and night, saying, 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.'" (Rev 4:8)

I consider this verse, well-known to Adventists and of key importance to Creation Seventh Day Adventists:

"And it shall come to pass, that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me," saith Yahweh." (Isa 66:23)

So far, I have shared three verses. The first is an author wondering at the investment that Yahweh has made in mankind, despite the fact that we are finite, and He is infinite. The second speaks of four Living Creatures (rather simplistically translated as "beasts" in the English of the KJV) that are continually wondering at what is being revealed to them about the Almighty. The third speaks of the gathering, weekly and monthly, that "all flesh" will share before the Throne in the world to come. What ties these three ideas together in perfect harmony is the endless wonder that comes from knowing Yahweh, from learning about Him.

The contemplation of the Creator by the created will extend into eternity, and in ceaseless ages, not only will there be more to learn about Him, but our amazement at what we discover will not fade away with increased familiarity. The angels that stand nearest the Throne, closest to the I AM seated thereupon, will continue to learn, and will never exhaust all that there IS to learn, and all they can say in response is "Holy, Holy, Holy."

What shall we learn, and what shall we see, when we are in His visible presence after our time on this earth is over? Well, the truth is, we do not need to wait until then to begin. I would suggest that, if one is able to read the words of Scripture, or sit in quiet contemplation, for more than an hour, and not find something that amazes us, that inspires us, then we are missing some blessings that our Father intends for us to experience.

Those who draw near to Yahweh are overwhelmed. Those who begin to see Him, as best we can with the eyes of the soul, have powerful responses that change them forever, and continually change them from glory to glory. Each of us has our own way of experiencing the Father through the indwelling of the Son... but there are some common features to worship. Every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Yahshua is "Lord and Master" when He returns in His Father's glory. Every redeemed mind will know that "Heaven is cheap enough," when, like Paul, they realize that "our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." (2Cor 4:17)

**Adriel:** Amen

**Zahakiel:** This is not a realization that must await the resurrection or the translation. This is something for which we must begin to give thanks even now.

In Isaiah's prophecy, we read – and clearly – that neither the New Moons nor the Sabbaths were abolished at the cross; rather, they were confirmed as an everlasting agreement between Yahweh and "all flesh." While we will "continue" to come before the Father on these appointed times, those who know the Father and Son, so that they "sin

not" and so that they are "as one" with Them, are not waiting for the Day of Judgment and beyond to maintain righteousness in these matters. Every blessing that we will experience in Heaven will have begun with our experience on earth.

It is true that no eye has seen, nor any ear heard, those things that await us – but in those infinite ages, the things in which we will glory, the things about our Father that we learn, will all be shown to have their origins, their roots, in the original creation that we are experiencing now. Twisted by sin, and faded over time, the things that our Father has made, which were called "very good" by the Master Craftsman, continue to testify to the goodness of Yahweh's principles.

Even in these dark times, to draw attention to some ready examples, every Sabbath, and every New Moon, contains a blessing. Let me go a step further. Every Sabbath, and every New Moon contain a blessing – and each occasion, each blessing, is unique. No two people are exactly the same. No two people who were ever born, or will ever be born, are identical. No two days are ever perfectly alike, and although Yah has built cycles into His creation – such that days follow nights, and the seasons run in a recurring pattern – each of these have unique blessings for which we may be gratefully amazed.

Our Father is full of unique truths for us to learn in ceaseless ages. Into each day, into each moment, He has placed a blessing for His creation. Now, I do not say that Yahweh is IN His creation. Adventists well know the dangers of seeing the Creator as spread out through all that is made, and inspiration has called all such pantheistic thoughts deceptions. The Father is a Person, just as the Son is a Person, unique and distinct from all that is not Himself. But in all that He has made, Yahweh has placed a revelation about His character. The greatest of these creations, and thus the greatest of His revelations, is mankind himself, and in redeemed humanity the world may see the Father.

Yahshua said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father," (John 14:9) and we also may say – without pride or self-deception, that we are the righteousness of the Father in Christ who dwells within us. (2Cor 5:21, Gal 2:20)

Now, if it is true that all things, and all times, may reveal the Father to us; or rather, Yahweh may reveal Himself to us through whatsoever, and whensoever, He chooses, what should this tell us about things that He has specifically said, "This is holy?" I believe I did a study some time ago about the things that the Bible calls "Holy." Among them are the Sabbaths and New Moons. They are not, of course, the only things, but they are good examples for the point I am laying out tonight.

Each thing that Yah has blessed is uniquely blessed. Each day that Yah has blessed has been given a unique blessing, and one that will never appear in exactly the same way again.

We are told, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." (Exo. 20:8) It is important that we do this, and not just so that we can be obedient, or within the bounds of the law. There is no bondage in obedience to what the Scriptures call "the perfect law of liberty," (James 1:25) but if we neglect to receive the blessing of each day that Yahweh has called blessed, we lose something that we can never – in all of eternity – regain.

The choices we are making today shape who we are in the everlasting age to come. There are no words that can describe the weight of this great responsibility. We are created in the image of a perfect Father, and we are given privileges and responsibilities equal to that super-natural status. Here is an example from Scripture, a very unusual one; however, it captures perfectly my feelings on the thoughts I have just shared with you:

"O that thou wert as my brother that sucked the breasts of my mother! When I should find thee without, I would kiss thee; yea, I should not be despised." (Songs 8:1)

Culturally, chronologically, some of the imagery in the Song of Solomon might be a little difficult for us to comfortably contemplate. For this reason, perhaps, it is not commonly quoted in the typical Bible study. Here, for example, we have a woman in love with a man, and saying, in effect, "I wish you were my brother, for then I would have grown up knowing you my entire life, and I could show you affection openly, with nobody thinking anything was inappropriate."

There is a parallel there that will exist in the hearts and minds of the "Bride" of Yahshua. Most of its number will have come to know the Bridegroom some time into their lives. They will have wandered for years in darkness before seeing the Way, the Truth and the Life. When they come to know, and love, the Father and Son, they will open their hearts and allow Them to enter in and abide there. They will rejoice in the blessings that they receive moment-by-moment, day-by-day, and month-by-month, especially on those occasions that the Father has specifically called "sacred." And while they will not "regret" exactly – for there will be no sorrow in the world to come – the time they spent outside of the grace of Yahweh, they will be aware that there was time that they could have spent with the Father and Son that they did not, time that would have enriched them forever thereafter. Knowing these things, what manner of people ought we to be?

We read, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is." (Eph. 5:15-17)

Though we cannot actually recover the specific blessings that we have missed, we may nevertheless "redeem" the time. As we learn what Yahweh's will is (and the Scripture tells us that we may indeed know it) we may receive other blessings in these present days, and in the days to come, by which we make the best use of the sacred potential of every day.

The sacred times hold a special purpose for our sanctification, but of course each day holds blessings that we may both receive and share with those around us. When we seek ways to be blessed, and ways to bless others, then what sin can enslave us? This is the "mind" of those who are victorious over all sin.

As we redeem the time we have lost, replacing new blessings for the missing ones that have come and gone before, we manifest the agape love of Yahweh to the world. When we do this, we become mighty in righteousness, for what fear can lay hold of us, to turn us from the path of our Father's will?

It has been suggested that this upcoming feast, with the studies and experiences leading up to it, is about purging out fears. Another way to put this, since perfect love casts out all fear, is that the appointed times ahead are given to us so that we may learn how to perfectly love.

I pray that we will be eager for the blessings that our Father has stored up for us in the great treasure-house of His will. I pray that we will actively seek out the blessings, and that we may say with Jacob as he wrestled with Yahweh's own Angel: "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." (Gen 32:26)

Lay hold, then, on the blessings that Yah has sent to His people. Honor the Sabbath, and keep it holy. Gather before Yahweh on the New Moon, and seek, each day, His perfect will in which there is joy, and life, and peace.

Are there any questions or comments about tonight's study?

**Adriel:** Amen!

**Elyna:** Amen.

**Adriel:** C

**Zahakiel:** Go ahead.

**Adriel:** It is a sobering thought that we have missed out on unique blessings. Yah has blessed us all so much...I will be contemplating on these things and will be cognizant to be "gratefully amazed". As always I praise Yah for this beautiful study. 😊 End

**Lucan:** C

**PastorChick:** c

**Zahakiel:** Go ahead.

**Lucan:** The sections about "thinking about thinking" and the uniqueness of each moment reminded me of something I was thinking about in 1 Cor. 13 recently.

"Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away..." "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known..."

What occurs to me is that our experiences in this earth are a very small portion of our overall experience. When I was a child, I had an understanding of time, but it wasn't particularly based on experience; existence, for as much as I knew it, only had tangibly been around for a few years. As I've grown older, time has passed quicker, days seem much shorter, and I find it hard to recall those childhood experiences that, for a long time, were my entire view of reality. Our time to learn and minister on this planet is a very unique one; we will never be in this position again, through all of eternity. No created being ever will. Our vision is partial; we receive and study prophecies, we learn languages to communicate, but none of these will be of use to us once this blip of sin is over.

Love, however, will always be the foundation of Yahweh's government and creation. Whatever experiences and knowledge of the love of Yahweh we gain here will continue to be of eternal value, beyond any other study or achievement. Yet, we know that whoever feareth is not made perfect in love. We cannot truly gain the experiences Yahweh wants us to gain, for this world and the next, until fear is banished. So, to conclude my comment, I am looking forward to our upcoming feast, and the purging of that leaven from our camp. <End.>

**Zahakiel:** Thank you for sharing that. Go ahead, Pastor.

**PastorChick:** Unrecognized blessings are still blessings, while recognized blessings are more appreciated. There will always be different levels of blessing among YAH's people. It is necessary to avoid "fearing" that we are not getting or appreciating the steady flow of blessing from the Throne of YAH. This subject is very subjective and unique for each one of course. END.

**Zahakiel:** Right. And I do want to clarify... that I was not, above, talking about blessings unrecognized, but blessings unobtained by virtue of not being obedient to the will of Yah, using Sabbaths and New Moons as examples.

As Bro. Luke has rightly pointed out, our time here on earth is a tiny portion of the eternal destiny of the saints, and it is my hope that we will focus on the uniqueness of the blessings of each day, of which there will be an endless number.

Are there any others with thoughts to share? All right, then I will ask Bro. Luke to offer a closing prayer.

**Elyna:** Peter C

**Zahakiel:** Go ahead.

**Elyna:** Every day that I am awake it is a blessing. When I look back to my childhood, it seems like it was yesterday. Sometimes, I wish for time to stand still, but then I would not obtain the blessing of growing older and at the same time growing younger, most of all, to be that little child as Yahshua stated - Except ye become a little child, ye shall not see the kingdom of heaven. In the flesh, it may seem that it is not a blessing, but in the spirit it is a great blessing, and for that I am happy. END

**Zahakiel:** All right. 😊 Go ahead, when ready, Bro. Luke.

**Lucan:** Dear heavenly Father. We thank you for the blessings that you have freely poured on us, both recognized and unrecognized. While we know that every moment is a blessing from Your hand, we are grateful that you have also given us sacred times, during which we may know a blessing is prepared. We thank you for the one we have received in gathering here before you, and we look forward to those remaining as we enter into the Sabbath hours. In Yahshua's name we pray, amen.

**Zahakiel:** Amen.

**Naraiel:** Amen

**PastorChick:** Amen.

**Adriel:** Amen

**Elyna:** Amen.

**Barb:** Amen Daphna: Amen

**Gadriel:** Amen, Amen