

**Leave the Past --> Live in the Present --> to Prepare for the Future**

God never changes the past. He recalls the past as examples to guide us away from wrong thinking and direct us toward practical, positive, fulfilling plans.

We should stop reliving the past - whether painful or joyous.

For those who trust in Yeshua, He chooses to not remember our sins.

No one really knows God's plans, but we do know that we should obey God's commands.

The law of planting and harvesting still applies in all of life.

We should align our expectations with God's desires and focus on the present - our actions now determine our future. Even when we do wrong or don't plan ahead, God is in control.

We should not dwell on what our future might be. Instead, live each day in the joy God gives us.

*God never changes the past. He recalls the past as examples to guide us away from wrong thinking and direct us toward practical, positive, fulfilling plans.*

*Psalm 119:52*

I remember Your judgments from of old, YHVH, and comfort myself.

*Romans 15:4*

For whatever was written before was written for our instruction, so that through patience and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

*We should stop reliving the past - whether painful or joyous. **Recalling** the past differs from **reliving** the past. **Dwelling** on it, or (worse) imagining what today might be if I had done differently in the past (that "**what if**" daydreaming), will not change my present. Only appropriate action will change your future.*

*Isaiah 26:13-14*

YHVH Eloheinu, other lords beside You have had dominion over us, but we remember Your Name alone. The dead do not live - dead souls do not rise. Thus You punished and destroyed them and wiped out all memory of them.

*Matthew 8:21-22*

Then another of the disciples said, "Master, first let me go and bury my father." But Yeshua tells him, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

*Isaiah 43:18*

Do not remember former things, nor consider things of the past.

*For those who trust in Yeshua, He chooses to not remember our sins.*

*Psalm 32:1-2,5*

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is pardoned. Blessed is the one whose guilt YHVH does not count, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not hide my iniquity. I said: "I confess my transgressions to YHVH," and You forgave the guilt of my sin.

*1 John 1:9*

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

*Psalm 103:12*

As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

*Jeremiah 31:34b*

I will forgive their iniquity, their sin I will remember no more.

*Isaiah 54:4*

Fear not, for you will not be ashamed. Nor cringe, for you will not be disgraced. For you will forget the shame of your youth, and you will remember the reproach of your widowhood no more.

*Romans 8:1*

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Messiah Yeshua.

*No one really knows God's plans, but we can know what He wants us to do. However, only knowing God's word is not enough - we can read manuals on driving a vehicle, but until we start actually driving, we really have no understanding of all that is involved in that. We should obey God's commands.*

*Psalm 103:17-18*

The mercy of YHVH is from everlasting to everlasting on those who revere Him, His righteousness to children's children, to those who keep His covenant, who remember to observe His instructions.

*Leviticus 18:4*

You are to obey My ordinances and keep My statutes and walk in them - I am YHVH your God.

*Deuteronomy 11:1*

Therefore you are to love YHVH your God and keep His charge, His statutes, His ordinances and His mitzvot at all times.

*Deuteronomy 26:16*

This day YHVH your God is commanding you to do these statutes and ordinances - so you are to take care and do them with all your heart and with all your soul.

*Ecclesiastes 12:13*

A final word, when all has been heard: Fear God and keep His mitzvot! For this applies to all mankind.

*The law of planting and harvesting still applies in all of life. Although we don't want to dwell on the past, its consequences still come from the law of planting and harvesting.*

1 Samuel 15:22b

To obey is better than sacrifice, to pay heed than the fat of rams.

John 15:10

If you obey My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love.

Esther 4:14

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place - but you and your father's house will perish. Who knows whether you have attained royal status for such a time as this?

Galatians 6:7-8

Do not be deceived - God is not mocked. For whatever a man sows, that he also shall reap. For the one who sows in the flesh will reap corruption from the flesh. But the one who sows in the Spirit will reap from the Spirit eternal life.

*We should align our expectations with God's desires.*

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in YHVH with all your heart, lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Psalms 37:3-5

Trust in YHVH and do good. Dwell in the land, feed on faithfulness. Delight yourself in YHVH, and He will give you the requests of your heart. Commit your way to YHVH. Trust in Him, and He will do it.

Matthew 6:31-34

Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For the pagans eagerly pursue all these things; yet your Father in heaven knows that you need all these. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Exodus 16:14-15,18

When the layer of dew was gone, on the surface of the desert was a thin, flake-like frost, as fine as the frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said one to another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Then Moses said to them, "It is the bread that YHVH has given you to eat." When they measured it with an omer, those who gathered more had nothing left over, and those that gathered less did not lack at all. Every man gathered according to his appetite.

*And focus on the present - our actions now determine our future.*

Ecclesiastes 3:10-13

I have seen the task that God has given to the children of men to keep them occupied. He has made everything beautiful in its time. Moreover, He has set eternity in their heart - yet without the possibility that humankind can ever discover the work that God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to rejoice and enjoy themselves in their lifetime. Also when anyone eats and drinks, and finds satisfaction in all of his labor, it is the gift of God.

Luke 14:28-32

For which of you, wanting to build a tower, doesn't first sit down and figure out the cost, to see if he has enough to finish it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and isn't able to finish everything, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and wasn't able to finish!' Or what king, going to make war against another king, won't first sit down to consider whether he is able with ten thousand to confront the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If not, while the other is still far away, he sends an ambassador and asks for peace.

*Even when we do wrong or don't plan ahead, God is in control.*

Genesis 45:4-8,50:20

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come near me." So they came near. "I'm Joseph, your brother - the one you sold to Egypt," he said. "So now, don't be grieved and don't be angry in your own eyes that you sold me here - since it was for preserving life that God sent me here before you. For there has been two years of famine in the land, and there will be five more years yet with no plowing or harvesting. But God sent me ahead of you to ensure a remnant in the land and to keep you alive for a great escape. So now, it wasn't you, you didn't send me here, but God! And He made me as a father to Pharaoh, lord over his whole house and ruler over the entire land of Egypt." "Yes, you yourselves planned evil against me. God planned it for good, in order to bring about what it is this day - to preserve the lives of many people."

*We should not dwell on our future.*

Acts 1:7

He said to them, "It is not your place to know the times or seasons which the Father has placed under His own control."

James 4:13-14

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit." Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. What is your life? For you are a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

*Instead, live each day in the joy God gives us.*

*Nehemiah 8:10*

So he said to them, "Go! Eat choice food, drink sweet drinks, and send portions to those who have nothing ready. For today is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of YHVH is your strength."

*Isaiah 35:10*

The ransomed of YHVH will return and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy upon their heads. They will obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

*Matthew 28:7-8*

"Go quickly now and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead. And behold, He's going before you to the Galilee. There you will see Him. See, I have told you!" They quickly left the tomb, with fear yet with great joy, and ran to bring news to His disciples.

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

Therefore if anyone is in Messiah, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

*Philippians 3:13-14*

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself as having taken hold of this. But this one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal for the reward of the upward calling of God in Messiah Yeshua.

*Hebrews 12:1-2*

Therefore, since we have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also get rid of every weight and entangling sin. Let us run with endurance the race set before us, focusing on Yeshua, the initiator and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame; and He has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God.