

TROUBLE

Do you realize that trouble is what has made you everything you are today. Trouble is proof that your a card carrying member of the human race. Trouble is an asset, we hate trouble, we complain about trouble, we whine about trouble, we run from trouble and we try to avoid trouble. The only place success comes before trouble is in the dictionary. Going out looking for trouble is one of life's shortest walks. If the truth be known, trouble has made you make every improvement you've ever made. If you learn the principals of Yahveh you'll find that you can do your best work when your up against your greatest opposition. After all, how can you be victorious if your not in the battle.



Everywhere we look today we see trouble. We turn on the TV and we see trouble, we turn on the radio and we hear about trouble. Our children come home from school they tell us about their trouble. We talk to our friends, relatives and parents and what do we hear about; trouble. Trouble with health, trouble with love, trouble with divorce, trouble with the husband, trouble with the wife. We look around us and see all the things that need doing and we get depressed, we just can't handle all of this. What do we do?. Do we fight with the wife, husband or kids, do we try to hide in a corner somewhere thinking it will all go away? Do we grab a bottle of whiskey and try to drowned our trouble? How about drugs, should we try that; if we haven't already tried it. Some people try to calm down with the use of anti depressants, and some just take it out on whoever is the closest at the time. Should we go to our friends and relatives for help or should we call our doctor? What are we to do. Should we pretend these problems aren't happening, can we turn our back on all these things. What do we do? We all think our troubles are so bad and wonder if we'll ever be able to climb that mountain. You know, Yahveh wants to know if your a warrior or a wimp, so he puts you out there in the storm, he's constantly testing and refining you.

Josh. 1:9 *"I command you, be strong and courageous! do not be afraid or discouraged, For the Yahveh your Elohim is with you wherever you go"*

Some people walk around like bombs waiting to go off. Is this the way it's supposed to be? What about life, what about all those dreams we had, how do we console ourselves? What are we to do. Is "if" really the middle word in "life" How can you know Yahveh is a healer unless you've been sick, how can you know that Yah is a great provider unless you have been in need, how can you know that Yah is your greatest friend unless you've been lonely. If you are in trouble you are in a great position, you are able to see the beauty of Gods power. You're in the perfect situation so that you can observe the power of Adonai to answer prayers. Your in a perfect position to discover how Yah heals the broken hearted and comforts those who mourn. He can and will show you how to restore your finances, he will show you how to live life without any limits. He will show you joy that is indescribable, fill you with glory so that when you are in the storm the storm won't get you down. You must think positive, every opportunity has a difficulty and every difficulty has an opportunity. Paul wrote in **2Cor. 4:8-9** *"We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed and broken. We are perplexed, but we don't give up and quit. We are hunted down, but Yah never abandons us. We get knocked down, **but we get up again and keep going**"* Paul says, don't worry, when your in trouble, Yahveh is there and he wants to help you, he wants to pick you up and give you strength and he has told you where to get that strength. What are you waiting for?

Think about the apple tree, it starts out as a tiny seed planted in the soil. It has to struggle to push its way up through the rocks and hard soil to get through to the sunshine and the fresh air. Then it must wrestle with storms, driving rain, hail, snow and frost before it can grow and produce beautiful fruit. It must endure to become something strong and bare fruit.

We are way over our heads in debt, we have much more than we need and can handle and what ever happened to just getting by? Must we have more than everyone else, is it really a material competition, who's got the most stuff? Do we have what we need or are we infatuated with greed.

We complain about our shoes, until we meet someone without feet. Our troubles are something we're going to have to deal with and we all can if we know how. In **1Cor. 10:13** Paul says *"But remember that the temptations that come into your life are no different from what others experience, and Yah will be faithful. He will keep the temptation from becoming so strong that you can't stand up against it. When you are tempted, **he will show you a way out so that you will not give in to it**"*

The common denominator that drives great people to success is trouble. Alexander the Great had epilepsy and look what he accomplished, Albert Einstein never spoke a word until he was four years old. Helen Keller , one of the worlds most accomplished authors was deaf and blind. Martin Luther translated the bible into German so the world could read it while he was under house arrest. Trouble drives you to success. In Gods kingdom your not measured by the things you can do but by the weaknesses of other people that you are to endure. Yah permits trouble to develop you, without the resistance of air a bird can't fly, without the resistance of water a ship can't float, without the resistance of gravity you couldn't walk. **2Cor. 1:4** *"**He helps us***

in all our troubles, so that we are able to help others who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we ourselves have received from him”

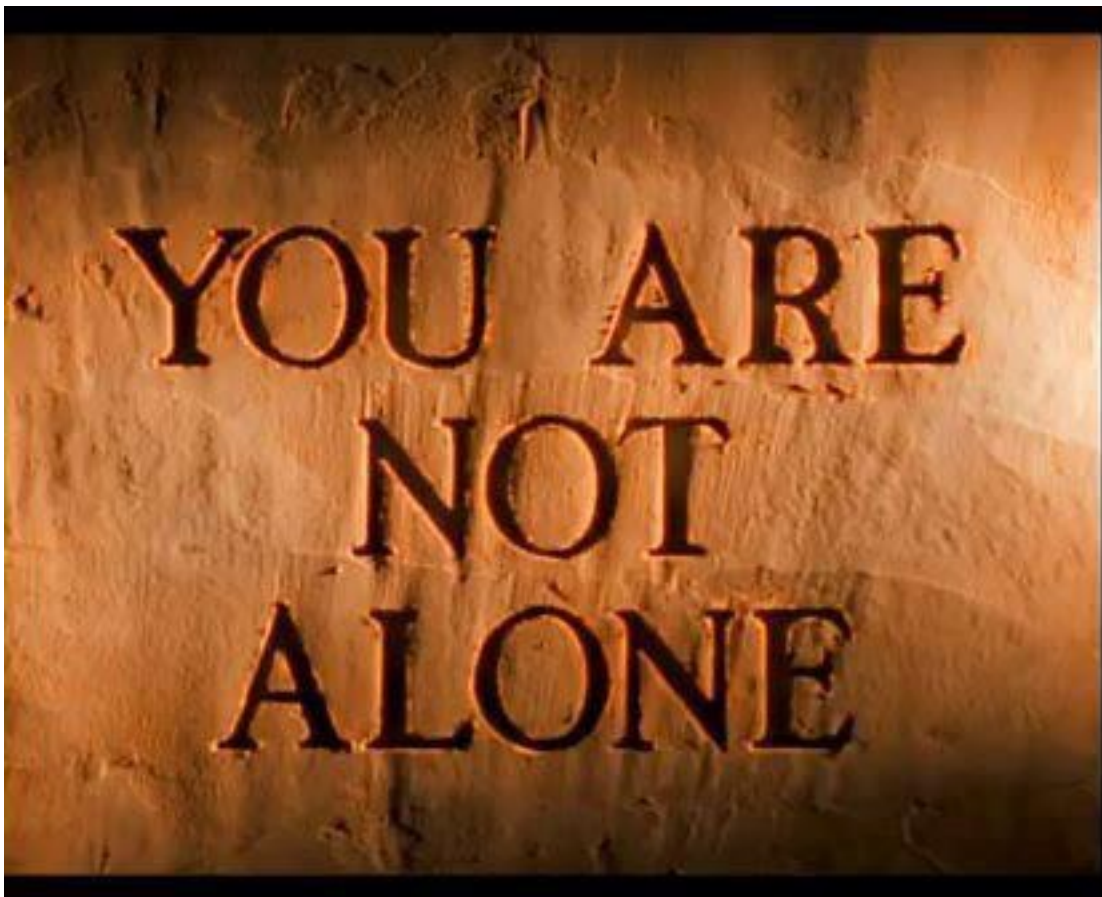
Yeshua said to take up our cross “daily” and follow him. (Luke 9:23)

Don't be afraid of trouble, no problem can be resolved if you fear it, you need your wits about you, if you show or have fear it strangles you, fear makes you act irresponsibly. What man needs to get ahead is a powerful enemy. Your antagonist is your helper, he sharpens your wits and helps develop your skills, he transforms your human spine into steel. Kites only rise up when they are going against the wind.

How do you know your faith is strong unless it has been tested.? You are being refined by Adonai to suite his purpose, when your ready, he'll let you know. You must remember that as powerful as Yah is he can't help you unless you call upon him for help, he can not answer prayers that aren't made. Prayer should always be your first choice, nothing is impossible with our Father.

Jonah had hit rock bottom, entombed in the belly of a whale. He was in a battle for his life, filled with despair, shame and guilt. He was heavy of heart, literally as low as a person can get. He thought Yah had abandoned him. Jonah didn't receive any

word of deliverance. He was in a hopeless situation, with everything about him dark and gloomy. He was ready to faint. Yet, when he came to such a point, he said, “I'm just going to thank the Yahveh ” In the midst of all his troubles, Jonah entered the Yah's presence with the calves of his lips and he offered up thanks. Yah answered, that's what I've been waiting to hear



you say. Jonah, you've trusted me in the middle of it all. You just passed the test. Jonah prayed from inside a whale. Yah doesn't care where you pray from, as long as you pray, he hears your prayer and he responds. You are dealing with the great "I am", this mighty Adonai that holds the entire universe, holds you.

Sometimes what Yah does makes no sense to us, but how can it, he is Supernatural and we are mortals. But you must understand that he says “my grace is sufficient for you” Yahveh expects you to be strong, you weren’t created with fear, you developed it yourself. **2Tim. 1:7** *“For Yah has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power and self discipline”* He knows your not strong enough by yourself, you’ll only survive with his strength.

“A story is told about a small boy who was trying to lift a heavy stone. His father, noting his sons failure, said to him. Are you sure your using all your strength. The boy looked up at his father and said, yes, I’m using all my strength. The father answered, no, your not, my son, you haven’t asked me to help”

There’s a story told about an old grandfather clock that stood for three generations in the same corner of the room, faithfully ticking off the minutes and hours, day after day. In the clock was a heavy weight that was pulled to the top each night to keep it running. Then one day the clock was sold, and the new owner noticed the heavy weight. “Too bad,” he said, “that such an old clock should have to bear so great a load.” So he took the weight off the chain. At once the old clock stopped ticking. “Why did you do that?” asked the clock. “I wanted to lighten your burden,” said the man. “Please put it back,” said the clock. “That’s what keeps me going!”

No one in life succeeds unless they are driven by trouble to do their very best. Sometimes trouble and risk go hand in hand but don’t be afraid to take a risk once in a while, a turtle gets nowhere until it sticks its neck out. We are allowed to make mistakes in life and sometimes they’re gonna get us in trouble, but that’s acceptable. A man who never makes mistakes is the man who never did anything. You will never get away from trouble and it’s impossible to succeed without first experiencing failure. Don’t let it get the best of you, lay everything at the foot of the cross and ask Yah to take over. Take that leap of faith and trust in God. It is not possible for a person to fail unless he quits. **James 1:1-4** reads; *“Dear brothers and sisters, **whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy. For when your faith is tested, your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything”*** James is saying, whenever heavy trials come upon you, rejoice! you can be confident that in such times Yah is at work in you. It isn’t the devil coming after you, trying to bring you down, but Yahveh , who wants to build you up. He is at work bringing you to a place of rest and faith in him. Beloved, these fiery tests of our faith are important because Yah’s keeping, delivering power is released according to our faith in him. The stronger our faith is, the more his keeping power will be released in our lives. You see, Yah wants something from all of us in our times of overwhelming troubles and testings. He wants us to offer him a sacrifice of thanksgiving in the midst of it all! As stated in Rom. 12:1, we are to offer ourselves daily to Yahveh as a living sacrifice.

Anybody can shout in gratitude after the victory comes but the question Yah is putting to us is, will you praise me before I send help, while you’re still in the midst of the battle? Sometimes the trials become more and more difficult and intense because we never once stop in the midst of our testings to give Yahveh a sacrifice of thanksgiving. Yahveh says, give me an offering of thanksgiving and suddenly everything will look different, your depression will lift. You will have peace in your battle.

I will bless your soul with assurance. **Ps. 100:4** *“Enter his gates with thanksgiving, go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name. For Yahveh is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation”*

How many times during the day do you think of others. What about those poor starving sick people all over the world, how much concern do you give them. If you think you have troubles imagine how they feel. Are we truly brothers and sisters, do we help each other out. Share with those who need help, give generously to those in difficult times. Some of you have worked hard all your lives and because you



conquered troubles and endured you have succeeded in life, you’ve managed to build up a nest egg, you’ve been very fortunate. But what good are riches if you can’t share them with the ones you love, what are you waiting for? Have you ever seen a Hearse with a trailer. You must remember that all riches belong to Yah and everything you have is because he allowed you to have it. It’s what you do with it that he is concerned about. There is a definite

difference between things we need and things of greed. We all know the difference but we allow ourselves the things that the flesh wants us to have. It’s hard to say “no” to all the earthly things but you must remember when you became a child of Yah you became not of this world, you became part of the supernatural world of Yeshua. Remember **Matt. 19:24** *“It is much harder for a rich person to enter the kingdom of Yah than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle”*

Bend over backwards to instil biblical values in your home and at your place of work. **Gal. 6:2** *“share each others troubles and problems”*. Come out of the closet as a



Believer and be proud to stand up for Yeshua. **Ps. 34:4** *“I prayed to Yahveh and he answered me, freeing me from all my fears”* The Holy Spirit has opened an account for all of us in heaven, all we have to do is ask Yah for the number and all his riches are ours to keep. Take advantage of Adonai’s spiritual riches because he is more than willing to share them with you. But remember the rules, remember to ask for his guidance and remember to ask for his help in times of trouble.

Ask him to come into your life as a fixture not just an ornament. **Prov.16:3** *“Ask Yahveh to bless your plans and you will*

be successful in carrying them out” Live everyday as if it was your last, you don't know for sure about tomorrow until the sun rises. If your wife, husband, child, or any other member of your family died tomorrow, would you be ready, would you be satisfied knowing that your last conversation with him or her was a good one.

Something's wrong isn't it? Are we doing things right, are we even trying? You must ask yourself this every day if you want to find the answer. The answer is there you know, waiting for you. Do you truly believe or do you put Yah in a box and only open it up on Sunday's, at your convenience? Praise the Lord and be thankful for what you've got and do something about the things you don't really need. **2Cor. 9:8** ***“Yah will generously provide you with all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others “***

When we are in trouble we look up at Yah and say; why me! what have I done to deserve this? Yah uses your trouble for your own good. David says, in **Ps. 119:71** ***“The suffering you sent was good for me, for it taught me to pay attention to your principals. Your law is more valuable to me than millions in gold and silver”***

Do you sometimes feel like a dog, is your head wagging the tail or is the tail wagging the head, are we totally out of control, in a free fall? Slow down, this hopeless race you are in can't be won without the help of your father in heaven. You won't find the answer with that credit card and there are no air miles with Yeshua. With Yeshua there is total peace and joy, something so simple it's too simple to explain. How about it, where are you at? Maybe it's time you had a serious look around and re-connect with Yah. Put everything else on the back burner and get your priorities straight. **Prov. 17:3** ***“Gold and silver are tested by fire but a persons heart is tested by Yahveh.”*** Come to Yah with your troubles, don't be afraid to ask for help. What kind of a father do you think he is? What kind of father doesn't love his children and want to help them as much as possible. We are his children and he wants to help us all become whole. Can you imagine a father that wouldn't do everything he could for his child. He feels that way about you. He loves you and he holds out his hand for you, reach out and grab that mighty hand of Yah and let him show you the way. Put all your trust in him, put him first in your life and everything else will fall in place.

Yeshua is alive today, he is here with us right now. Bring your troubles to his people, the body of Yeshua, they are here to help you. If you are sick, if you need prayer, come to the elders of the people like it says in the scriptures. Trust in Yah and our body of Yeshua and you will be saved, you will be cured. If you are having trouble in your mind ask the Holy Spirit to help you, he will, look in the bible for help, don't get taken in by the secular world.

Too many people today are getting conned by things like psychology, they are even being told there is such a thing as Christian psychology. Psychology is a religion and has no place within the body of Yeshua. It is the practice of using mans wisdom for answers rather than the wisdom given by the Holy Spirit. Psychology is totally unscientific and has no hard scientific proof of what it teaches. It is a religion that pretends to be a science, a fake religion that seeks to destroy true religion. It takes everything of Christianity itself and either demeans it or eventually destroys it.

Psychology teaches about oneself; I, I, I, rather than a true connection between Yah and mankind. Christianity and psychology cannot be joined in any way.

The most therapized group in the US and Canada today are those professionals called clinical psychologists, including marriage and family counsellors. Psychiatrists have the highest number of suicides of any profession. Psychology has no value system whatsoever. Freud, the great master of psychology was a cocaine addict. He had an incredible fear of death and couldn't go to funerals or anywhere near a dead body, he was a basket-case.

Carl Young, another one of the great masters grew up in a home so demonically influenced that his mother kept a dairy of the daily activities of demons in their house. Her father was a master Mason. Carl was a heavily demonized occultist. He said the Holy Spirit came to him once in the form of a dog. He had a spirit guide named Filenin that taught him the secrets of life were in your imagination.

Psychology is an attempt to scientifically explain human behavior. It is an attempt to explain the mind, a science of the mind. If you fell down and hurt your brain, that's one thing, if you fell down and broke your arm, that we can understand, but the mind is not a physical thing so it can not be sick. Christian counselling is the answer, using Gods word to solve all your problems, not some expensive professional witchdoctor with a success rate of less than 10%.

In **2Pet. 2:1** *"But there were also false prophets in Israel, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will cleverly teach their destructive heresies about Yah and even turn against their master who bought them. There's will be a swift and terrible end. Many will follow their evil teaching and shameful immorality. And because of them, Messiah and His true way will be slandered. In their greed they will make up clever lies to get hold of your money"*

In **2Pet. 1:3** *"As we know Yeshua better, his divine power gives us everything we need for living a Godly life"* Everything, means everything, it's all there, in the bible, that wonderful book that should be sitting out in the open in everyones home. The answer to all your trouble is in that little black book, thousands of years old.

Another story is told about two philosophers standing in front of one of the great masterpieces of Raphael in the Vatican. A fly was seen sitting on the 6 ft. square painting. One man said to the other, what do you think that fly see's as it clings to the painting?

The man said, the fly would tell us if it could talk, "it sees one tiny black blotch of paint on one tiny bit of a stroke of the masters brush. He would say that what it sees immediately under it is black and irregular and incredibly ugly. The fly would say that it was the most miserable mess that he'd seen in his life." But if the fly would back up and see the totality of the painting he would see that it was one of the greatest masterpieces of all time. He would know that it was the genius expression of a master artist.

Our lives can be like that of the fly. If you are going through a trial that you don't understand. If you are seeing a miserable dark ugly moment in your life you don't understand. If you are looking at death, illness or have just been through a tragedy in your life or family, if your full of despair and you don't understand, remember that in

eternity you will stand back and see it's a masterpiece. You will see the whole masterpiece which Yah has created and you will understand why Yah does the things that he does, and you will understand when, how and why he does them. What Adonai does is beyond your comprehension and what Adonai has in store for you is beyond your understanding and wisdom because he is Yah and you as a mortal cannot possibly understand the masterpiece he has and is creating. Yah has prepared a life for you that is beyond your comprehension. Yah is greater than what your puny little mind can understand. So if your going through the darkest night of your life, if you are going through hell right now, stand up and square your shoulders and remember that Yah is on the throne in heaven, he is in control and he knows what he's doing. Everything's gonna be alright because Yah is love and if you love Yah and you do what the good book says he will look after you no-matter what happens because "Yah is love".

For us life is like looking at a parade through a knot-hole in a fence. We can only see what's immediately in front of us. Our mind is like a snap shot through the knot-hole, we cannot comprehend what Yah has in store for us, we cannot see the whole masterpiece. But Yah sees everything in front of us, he looks over the fence not through the knot-hole; he knows what's next in the parade of our lives. Yahveh is the Alpha and the Omega, he sees the beginning and the end at the same time. Yahveh tells us that what he has planned for us is too great for us to comprehend. He says "the half has not entered the minds of men what I have prepared for you" if you walk closely to me. I have given you a book that tells you how the parade will end. The parade ends with the saints of Yah standing before Yah the Father singing the song of the redeemed and we win because of the love of Yah.

There are many who have had loved ones die and could not understand why. Some day when we are in heaven we will look down at Yah's masterpiece and we will understand why. It's not important when you die, it's important how you die and if you know the El Shaddai when you die whether you are 14, 44 or 84 years of age. As long as you are inside the gate of heaven with the prince of glory after you die nothing else much matters.

Are you going through a hard time right now? Do you have enemies who are wounding you, tearing you apart? Are you facing a situation you can do nothing about? Are you weighed down with heaviness, sorrow, stress? Do you feel you just can't go on? Dear child of Adonai, do not be alarmed. It may not be the devil who is working on you, but Yahveh! El Gibor knows you are going to need great faith to overcome in the dark times ahead. Indeed, you need to be able to stand by faith alone. Yet, he knows your faith must be tried by fire, the fire of affliction, trials and troubles. How you react in a crisis determines your walk with Yah thereafter. If you do things your way, if you don't wait for Yahveh to work out your situation, you will stumble the rest of the way. When you have no place to turn, turn to the right, turn to thanksgiving and turn to the one who paid the price for you. Thank Yahveh for his forgiveness, for releasing you from all past sins. Thank him for delivering you from the teeth of the lion, for giving you a new home in glory, for all that he is going to do. In everything, give thanks! We serve a Yah who will pull us out of our deepest crisis and set us upon a safe place. So, make an

alter to him in your heart right now, in the midst of your crisis and bring to him your life as a sacrifice of thanksgiving! If you are in the midst of an overwhelming struggle, you must learn the word Yah gave to **Zech. 4:6** *“not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith Yahveh”* Adonai is telling us, if you want to be protected from the onslaught of your troubles, then hide under my wings. I will secure you, covering you the way a mother hen covers her chicks. You don't have to live in fear of your enemies any longer.

The thing that is about to destroy you, Yeshua will use to save you. When Yeshua commanded his disciples to go out onto the sea of Galilee he did so because he knew there was a storm coming and he knew that they needed to be in a storm to develop their character. They were in the storm over 9 hours. He knew that they would have to call upon him for help and the help would then have more impact on them. (Matt. 14:22) When Peter walked on the water, he stayed up as long as he was focused on Yeshua. Peter was in fact walking on faith, it just happened to be over water. If you will focus on Yeshua the storm will not bother you, but the moment you start looking at your circumstance, you'll collapse, fear will overwhelm you. There's a song that says “turn your eyes upon Yeshua, look full in his wonderful face and the things of this world will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace” No storm can defeat you when your eyes are upon Yahveh. The waves don't matter, the winds don't matter, criticism does not matter, rejection does not matter, the slander of your dearest friend does not matter. When you focus on Yahveh you can walk through the storm.

Let me ask you, are you in a great warfare right now? Are you facing an enemy that is too powerful for you? If so, how do you expect to remain pure, faithful, Christlike, while others around you are falling left and right? How will you gain victory over your lusts and temptations, when Satan comes against you like a roaring lion? Yah asks simply that you lay down your sword and that you trust him to take up his sword on your behalf. He wants you to come to the point where you say, “Yahveh, I know the battle is not mine anymore. I've failed so many times. Now I come to you in simple faith. Help me, God. Deliver me from my troubles”. Yahveh is urging you: cling to me in the midst of your battle with trouble. Your victory is all a matter of faith and God's power and willingness to deliver you. Seek me with all your heart and I will do battle for you. I'll protect you as you walk in covenant with me. Your part is simply to humble yourself, truly believe in my covenant promises and seek my face. Then you will receive my word of direction and you will see all your troubles put to flight. Your only way to full and complete victory is to “faith” your way out of the crisis. The battle is never ours. It is always Yah's! Faith and faith alone, faith in Yah's promise to keep you from falling, to put in you a will to want to do right, this is the way to glorious freedom.

Do you know and do you really understand that Yeshua loves you and that nothing else is as important to him as his love for you and he deserves your total devotion. We all have our own cross to bare, stand straight and carry it and be proud that you are going to the place of eternal life. Remember what David said in **Ps. 23** *“Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, thou*

art with me, thy rod and thy staff they shall comfort me” David didn’t say he would walk around the valley, he said he would walk through the valley. Try not to be afraid.

Did you know that trouble will always be around us, it’s what we do in our times of trouble that make us shine. A diamond is only a lump of coal until it is put under intense pressure. The pedals of a flower will not yield perfume until they are crushed, an olive will not give up its oil until it is pulverized, a grape won’t yield wine until it’s squashed. Yah puts you in trouble to show you what you must overcome before you can be your best. About the only thing you can get in a hurry nowadays is, trouble. Pauls words in **2Cor. 12:10** are a paradox, *“For when I am weak, then I am strong”*

You think you can handle all things, sometimes your selfish soul tells you need this or you need that, your body tells you to slow down and your mind tries to fool you into thinking that you can do all things. But your spirit knows what is right in Gods eyes. **Gal. 6:4-5** *“Each person should judge his own conduct. If it is good, then he can be proud of what he himself has done, without having to compare it with what someone else has done. For everyone has to carry his own load”*

Sometimes trouble stretches out over your life and somehow shuts out the sunshine of Gods blessings. You see other people around you in the sunshine but rarely do you ever get a chance to get into this sunshine yourself. You can’t understand how other people manage to be happy and fulfilled, it seems impossible to you. Sometimes, this trouble isn’t just trouble as you know it. Sometimes this trouble is because of a curse. Like a dark shadow from the past, you don’t know what it is or where it comes from, whatever it is, it may not be from your lifetime and might have something to do with your family background, your heritage. Maybe generations ago your ancestors were idol worshipers or were involved in the Occult. Look into it, if unexplainable things keep urging you to do and experience bad things, you could be under the influence of a curse. Every form of compulsive sex adoration (adultery, fornication, homo sexuality, lesbianism, etc.) is demonic. The most obvious signs of demonic influences are “restlessness” and “confusion” if you have these types of troubles you should go to your church for help. These curses and demonic influences can be readily removed by God’s representatives with faith through the powers of the Holy Spirit. If you find yourself in trouble, simply ask for your father up in heaven to help you and use the spiritual resources you have available to you. Remember, Satan is the cause of all troubles; including war, sickness, pain, sin, suffering and heartache. But you must also remember that Satan can do no more damage than a Christian will allow him to do through ignorance. Tell him to flee and he must, he has to leave you when you tell him to go, in Yeshua’s name.

When you get ready to die, Yeshua, the prince of peace, will be there, the last trouble you will have on this earth will be with the angel of death. It will be a triumphant march you will make threw heavens gates. Yeshua, when he died on the cross for us, said, “it is finished” giving you victory over the dark angel of death, hell and the grave, rejoice, because Yah is there. Remember Yeshua said, ***“I am with you always even to the end of the earth”*** nothing can separate us from the love of Yah which is in our Messiah. Yah says when your going through the trouble and you want help, call on me. ***“You may feel the heat but the fire won’t burn you, when you walk through the***

water it won't be deep enough to drown you, when you head into that dark tunnel you won't get lost, there is a bright light ahead, Yah is that light. In the day of trouble call on me, because I am Yahveh your Elohim and nothing can, or will defeat you" (Isa. 43:2 and 58:8)

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Butterfly

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole.

Then it seemed to stop making any progress.

It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could, and it could go no further. So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon.

The butterfly then emerged easily. But it had a swollen body and small, shrivelled wings.

The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time.

Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shrivelled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man, in his kindness and haste, did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. If Yah allowed us to go through our lives without any obstacles, it would cripple us.

We would not be as strong as what we could have been.

We could never fly!

I asked for Strength.....

And Yah gave me Difficulties to make me strong.

I asked for Wisdom.....

And Yah gave me Problems to solve.

I asked for Prosperity.....

And Yah gave me Brain and Brawn to work.

I asked for Courage.....

And Yah gave me Danger to overcome.

I asked for Love.....

And Yah gave me Troubled people to help.

I asked for Favors.....

And Yah gave me Opportunities.

I received nothing I wanted

I received everything I needed!

