

With All Your Heart (V'chol Levavcha)

“⁵Love Adonai your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength” (Deut. 6:5).

Adonai is interested in one and only one thing from His people – their being engaged with Him with ***all of their heart***. Anything less will not suffice:

“²⁹But from there you will seek Adonai your God and you will find Him, when you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul” (Deut. 4:29).

“So now, O Israel, what does Adonai your God require of you, but to fear Adonai your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve Adonai your God with all your heart and soul” (Deut. 10:12).

“You must not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams—for Adonai your God is testing you, to find out whether you love Adonai your God with all your heart and with all your soul” (Deut. 13:4).

“This day Adonai 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” (Deut. 26:16).

⁹Adonai your God will make you prosper in all the work of your hand—in the fruit of your womb, and the offspring of your livestock, and the produce of your soil—for good. For Adonai will again rejoice over you for good, as He rejoiced over your fathers—¹⁰when you listen to the voice of Adonai your God, to keep His mitzvot and His statutes that are written in this scroll of the Torah, when you turn to Adonai your God with all your heart and with all your soul” (Deut. 30:9-10).

“Only be very careful to observe the mitzvah and the Torah which Moses the servant of Adonai commanded you, to love Adonai your God and walk in all His ways, and to keep His mitzvot, cling to Him and worship Him with all your heart and with all your soul” (Joshua 22:5).

“If your children watch their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel” (1 Kings 2:4).

“You will seek Me and find Me, when you will search for Me with all your heart” (Jer. 29:13)

“Even now—declares Adonai—turn to Me with all your heart, fasting, weeping & lamenting” (Joel 2:12).

“Trust in Adonai with all your heart, lean not on your own understanding” (Prov. 3:5)

“And he said, ‘Adonai, God of Israel, there is no God like You in the heavens or in the earth, keeping covenant and showing mercy to Your servants who walk before You with all their heart’” (2 Chro. 6:14)

“And He said to him, ‘You shall love Adonai your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind’” (Matt. 22:37, Mark 12:30, Luke 10:27)

“Then all of Messiah’s communities will know that I am the One who searches minds and hearts, and I will give to each of you according to your deeds” (Rev. 2:23).

Why is it so hard to engage with Him at a complete heart level? Is it mistrust, doubt, or a lack of confidence in Him? It is clear from the (few) Scriptures above that He has always expected complete and total surrender to Him with unconditional love and its corresponding passion. But we in our day go about our Godly business with a lackadaisical approach, without enthusiasm and determination. Don’t we realize that this is a demonstration of carelessness and laziness in the things of *Adonai*?

When are you going to ignite His fervor and zeal? What are we really waiting for? I believe the time is now and the hour is far spent to rev up your Spiritual engine. We continue to ***“row, row, row your boat gently down the stream...merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream...”*** But down the stream is white water and not a dream but a nightmare! Time passes and our *chill* attitude is not preparing us for the magnificence of the hour. Our time to arise and shine has come, and we are in a lethargy of spirit incapable

of springing into any sort of action. It is just us and our apathy. We expect nothing because we are in continual chill mode – always in hibernation.

The fact is that we must awaken our hearts and begin to let His Spirit and Blood flow so we can get in the game before it is too late. Where is your enthusiasm? Where is your passion? When was the last time you were excited about Him and His work? Lukewarm is not and has never been the answer: He prefers either hot or cold and lukewarmness makes Him vomit. My fellow Believers, this state of affairs is doomed to fail. Let's take inventory and gauge our level of heart involvement. Will 30%, 60%, 85%, or even 95% suffice? When Scripture states "*with all your heart*", doesn't it mean 100%, i.e., in its entirety!

It is past time to repent, to get a tune up, and to start operating at a 100% heart level. Begin to live the highest level of heart involvement and exude enthusiasm so that everyone you come in contact with will get His touch. Let your life so shine with His fervor and enthusiasm that everyone will see the light and glorify Our Father which is in heaven. This is His TODAY will for us! I know that I know that I know that it is! *Shabbat Shalom!*