

In our last podcast we began to understand the judgment of God in our lives, and what His purpose or “reason” is in taking us through all the difficult times. We learned that it is all for freedom’s sake, for our healing, to free us from all the fears that drive our wrong belief and unbelief, all of which drives our layers and layers of self-protection, all of which drives our sinful behavior and fleshly responses to the people and circumstances in our lives. Let’s pick back up with **EP 21, Yahweh According to Job, Job 5:17-18 P3**, and this issue of healing.

### ***Healing***

Think of healing as fear conquered – the systematic draining of the power which fear has exercised over our lives. Healing is freedom from fear in the deepest segments of our being. Keep in mind that the **FEAR** (all caps and bolded **FEAR**) which dominates the core of our being and induces us to protect ourselves, is made up of all these different layers of little fears, and attached to each little fear is some sort of armor and preferred coping mechanism that operates to protect our vulnerability in that area.

Ultimately each instance of little fear needs to be addressed honestly with God if we are ever going to find freedom from **FEAR** (all caps and bolded **FEAR**) and from our idolatrous need to play God over our own lives in our foolish attempt to protect and provide for ourselves.

## **Lessons of the Heavenly Realms 32**

**Healing comes through a process whereby we address one little fear at a time, and our self-protection and coping mechanisms are willingly surrendered because we have discovered an alternative, a true and formidable substitute to our reckless inability to be our own God.**

Our *willingness* to address each little fear occurs as we learn **WHY** God needed to wound us in each area and **HOW** our vulnerability in that area is such an important part of His masterpiece, His workmanship, something to be adored, admired, and appreciated, not shunned, shamed or guarded.

In His mercy, God gives us opportunities, though difficult they may be, to realize that with each little fear, **Yahweh** yearns for our *willingness* to let Him cause us to be established in faith, with the result being that we begin to look to Him to be our source for all things all the time. This includes **Yahweh** being our protection in and our provision for each-and-every vulnerability and weakness, remembering that when we are weak, then He is strong. This is where the names of **Yahweh**, which we reviewed previously, are so important. Challenge Him in an area of wounding with His name, ask Him to show you How in your weakness, He is strong.

Unfortunately, in our culture, we do not value weakness. We have no relational ethic to accept weakness within ourselves much less within others. We value strength and personal power. Yet, God loves to work through our weaknesses, through our vulnerabilities, through our wounding, for then His majesty and His glory is revealed to others. “*But we **now** have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power may **now** be of God and not from ourselves.*”<sup>1</sup> In our weakness and vulnerability, the impossible is made practically, emotionally, mentally, and physically tangible for all to see.

---

<sup>1</sup> **2 Corinthians 4:7**

**What Does Healing Look Like?**

Healing looks like **intimacy**, the ability to experience the deepest level of security and trust in relationships with others because we are intimate and secured in our relationship with **Yahweh**.

Healing looks like abiding in **hope**.

***Lamentations 3:21-23, 31-33***

This I recall to mind; therefore, **I have hope**. **Yahweh's** lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. New every morning; great is Your faithfulness ... For **Yahweh** will not reject forever, for if He causes grief, then He will have compassion according to His abundant lovingkindness. For He does not afflict willingly or grieve the sons of men.

Healing looks like abiding in **faith**, experienced in our ability to wait for Him, patiently, in surrender hopeful (or confident) that He will always be who He says He is, and He will always fulfill His promises, it is just a matter of time.

***Lamentations 3:24-26***

"**Yahweh** is my portion," says my soul, therefore I have hope in Him. **Yahweh** is good to those who wait for Him, to the person who seeks Him. Good that he waits silently for the salvation of **Yahweh**.

"**Yahweh is my portion**," or said another way, "**Yahweh** is my source for all things all the time." It is true, **the source matters, the source is everything!**

Healing looks like our **surrender**, the ability for us to stand firm in faith, unmoved by our painful circumstances, no longer obsessed with taking care of ourselves because we know that it is **Yahweh's** job to take care of us.

***Lamentations 3:27-33***

Good for a man that he should bear the yoke in his youth. Let him sit alone and be silent since He has laid [the yoke] on him. Let him put his mouth in the dust, perhaps there is hope. Let him give his cheek to the wounder [the smiter], let him be filled with reproach. For **Yahweh** will not reject forever, for if He causes grief, then He will have compassion according to His abundant lovingkindness.<sup>2</sup> For He does not afflict willingly or grieve the sons of men.

Healing looks like **confidence** that everything, even great opposition, is from **Yahweh**, and therefore is

---

<sup>2</sup> See **1 Peter 5:10**: After you have been suffering for a little while, the God of all grace, who has been calling you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself in the **future** perfect, in the **future** confirm, in the **future** strengthen, in the **future** establish you.

intentional, purposeful, and necessary as He carves His masterpiece from our lives.

***Lamentations 3:37-38***

Who is there who speaks, and it comes to pass, unless **Yahweh** has commanded {or given orders} [Is it] not from the mouth of the Most High that both good and evil go forth?

Healing looks like **honesty** and **humility**, knowing that we too have been the nail that God has used in the lives of others, we too have poured out evil on others.

***Lamentations 3:39-40***

Why should living mortal, or mighty man, offer complaint in view of his sins? Let us examine and probe our ways and let us return to **Yahweh**.

Healing looks like **acceptance**, acknowledgment that all that God has purposed for our lives is an expression of His great love for us.

***Lamentations 3:41***

We lift up our heart and hands toward God in heaven

Healing looks like **VICTORY** as we rest in **Yahweh** and trust Him for the outcomes of our lives.

***Lamentations 3:55-58***

I called on Your name, O **Yahweh**, out of the lowest pit. You have heard my voice. Do not hide Your ear from my relief, from my cry for help. You drew near when I called on You; You said, "**Do not fear!**" O **Yahweh**, You have pleaded my soul's cause; You have redeemed my life.

Healing looks like **justice**, not our own, but **Yahweh's** unique form of justice. We want to revenge, we want to act out, we want to push away and self-protect, but when we are in the depths of suffering, **Yahweh** wants us to leave all matters of justice to His own hands.

***Lamentations 3:59-66***

O **Yahweh**, You have seen my oppression; Judge my case. You have seen all their vengeance, all their schemes against me. You have heard their reproach, O **Yahweh**, all their schemes against me.

The lips of my assailants and their whispering against me all day long. Look on their sitting and their rising; I am their mocking song.

You will recompense them, O **Yahweh**, according to the work of their hands. You will give them hardness of heart, Your curse will be on them. You will pursue them in anger and destroy them from under the heavens of **Yahweh**!

The courage and tenacity to address each-and-every *fear* with **Yahweh** is the narrow pathway to life, the pathway to rest, the pathway to relationship and intimacy. This means we must also understand and accept that the wounds that have created others are just as beautiful as our wounds, since God used and is using them to create His masterpiece in their lives. So instead of looking down on others, belittling them because they are not what you want or expect, we can, with mercy, compassion, and empathy, begin to see how those wounds, when they are not driven by fear, and are *willing*, will create a beautiful reliance upon the Spirit of God for all things all the time.

Sure, while others are still ruled by fear, what flows relationally from their lives it is often ugly and unsafe, and they will hurt you (just as you will hurt them if you do not detach from fear), it is all just a matter of time. But we have learned that there is a new path for dealing with the hurt, a choice we can make to meet **Yahweh** and explore who He is and how He can be to us what we need in each area of fear.

Healing is realized in the very places where our wounds once festered with pain and infection (like Job's boils that oozed pus), such that we are no longer driven to protect ourselves and take control of our own lives in a futile attempt to keep us from incurring more pain. Instead, we have become *willing* to let the Spirit of God cause us to now be trusting ourselves completely to **Yahweh Yasha** (**Yahweh** who saves us from ourselves) knowing that God is good to those who wait for Him, and so we wait as **Yahweh Qanna** and **Yahweh Mekaddishkem** accomplishes His beautiful purposes.<sup>3</sup>

Let's read our passage again.

### ***Job 5:17-18***

Behold, happy is the man whom God reproves, so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty. For He inflicts pain and gives relief; He wounds, and His hands heal.

It's been a bit, but if you remember, we jumped ahead to **Job 5:18** and now let us circle back to **Job 5:17**: "*Behold, how happy is the man whom God reproves, so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.*" This should now make so much more sense considering what we have learned about God's purposes, His "reason," and His desire for our lives.

### ***Happy is the Man***

#### ***The Almighty***

Let's connect some words, "reproves" or "corrects," "discipline" or "instruction," and the "Almighty." The intentional use of the Hebrew word "Shaddai," the "Almighty" instead of "God" is to communicate

---

<sup>3</sup> ***Lamentations 3:25***

that when the Almighty moves to correct us and instruct us, there is no escaping it. And if He is the Almighty, then we can be assured that the Satan is not able to supplant **Yahweh's** directions for our lives. The Satan cannot do anything that the Almighty does not direct him to do.

That is the first reason we can be "happy." Our lives are in the hands of **Yahweh** and not the Satan.

### **Judgment & Punishment**

It is very important to understand that the difference between **judgment** (correction that is bent on instruction) and **punishment** all comes down to the type of relationship a person has with **Yahweh**. What God brings into a person's life may be very similar in terms of circumstances or events, but what He is doing with that person all depends on the nature of the relationship He has with that person.

Without question the Almighty punishes, it is all over scripture. The wicked are punished, and His divine punishment is reserved for those who are not in a mutual relationship of love with Him. Sometimes this punishment occurs real-time, and sometimes it is delayed until death and experienced in eternity, but either way it will come.

In contrast, those who have been "called" into His own household, those who identify with Him and believe in Him as the Almighty, are brought into judgment. And this is a dynamic that is guaranteed, yes, guaranteed for those who are in a mutual relationship of love with Him, even for those who are considering and seeking a relationship with Him (for instance, those trapped in religion, but who know that there must be more to a relationship with God).

Divine judgment is the proof that God loves you and is willing to live up to His promise to give you the opportunity to make you like Him (of course, subject to your *willingness* to be like Him). To the one who loves God, judgment, wounding, pain, and promise are synonymous. The Bible often refers to this as "discipline," which is to be understood in the way a father would discipline a child.

For many, this notion of "discipline" is a loose metaphor and does not provide a direct line of comparison since many of us had a father, or equivalent authority figure, that punished us out of anger in reaction to our behavior instead of disciplining (correcting and instructing) us in love.

In my mind, "fatherly discipline" is still associated with being good and not being bad. But that is the if/then religion that resides deep in my being; it was formed by the social construct in which I lived. Maybe some of you had a different childhood experience, so this metaphor settles in your soul quite beautifully. But for many, and in rejection of that if/then lie, we must understand that God's discipline is about giving us opportunity after opportunity to choose to accept His nature or to reject it. He works to bring this *choice* to our conscious mind so our acceptance or rejection of Him is our own decision and not something that is done to us.

### **1 Corinthians 11:32**

But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

Whereas those who reject his discipline, often end up walking down the pathway of religion, the broad path that leads to death.

## Lessons of the Heavenly Realms 33

Discipline is not just a good thing, it is a great thing, and it is not something we should avoid. It is something we should take a hold of and grasp completely. For it is how we come to know what it means to bet our lives on every aspect of who Yahweh is. It is how we choose to surrender and give Him space and occupancy in still another area of our soul. It is how we confirm that we believe He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.<sup>4</sup>

Now this next passage explains the second reason we can be “happy.”

### *Hebrews 12:1-13*

Therefore, since we are **now** having so great a cloud of witnesses choosing to **now** be surrounding us, let us also choose to be laying aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us **now** run with endurance the race that is **now** by choice being set before us, **now** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy **now** by choice being set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

You are commanded to choose to consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you may not grow weary and **now** be caused to be losing heart. You have not yet resisted to the point of blood in your choice to **now** be striving against sin; and you have chosen to forget the exhortation which is **now** by choice addressed to you as sons,

"MY SON, YOU ARE COMMANDED TO NOT **NOW** REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD, YOU ARE COMMANDED TO NEITHER **NOW** BE CAUSED TO FAINT WHEN YOU ARE **NOW** CAUSED TO BEING REPROVED BY HIM; FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD **NOW** LOVES HE **NOW** DISCIPLINES, AND HE **NOW** SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE **NOW** CHOOSES TO RECEIVE."<sup>5</sup>

It is for discipline that you **now** endure; God **now** deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom [his] father does not **now** discipline? But if you are **now** without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are **now** illegitimate children and not sons.

Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we were caused to respect them; shall we not much rather in the **future** be caused to be subject to the Father of spirits, and in the **future** live? For they disciplined us for a short time as **now** seeming best to them, **but He now in being good, so that we may share His holiness.**

All discipline for the **now** being present **now** seems not to **now** be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been caused to being trained by it, afterwards it **now** yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness. Therefore, you are commanded to strengthen the hands caused to being weak and the knees caused to being feeble, and you are commanded to **now** make straight paths for your feet, so that which is lame may not be caused to be put out of joint but rather may be caused to be healed.

---

<sup>4</sup> *Hebrews 11:6*

<sup>5</sup> *Proverbs 3:11-12*

In studying this text, I realized that I was emotionally trapped in a sort of predefined experiential social and cultural understanding of the word “discipline.” I do not like that word as it carries, in my mind at least, a predominately negative implication, that of being punished when I was bad versus being nurtured as a child.

However, it is comforting to know that Greek word “paideia,” translated as “discipline,” involves not the idea of punishment for being bad, but the whole training and education of children which relates to the cultivation of their mind, their soul, and their morals. It also includes the proper training and care of the body. This understanding captures the idea of being nurtured as a child, shaped, molded, cared for, protected, while at the same time training in that which is beneficial and not blatantly harmful. Of course, this nurturing involves correction, even hard correction, but it does not involve the type of “punishment” that is based on the caregiver’s annoyance, anger or rage.

The passage would probably be understood more comprehensively if they would have chosen to use the word nurture as the translation instead of discipline.

"MY SON, YOU ARE COMMANDED TO NOT **NOW** REGARD LIGHTLY THE NURTURE OF THE LORD, YOU ARE COMMANDED TO NEITHER **NOW** BE CAUSED TO FAINT WHEN YOU ARE **NOW** CAUSED TO BEING REPROVED BY HIM; FOR THOSE WHOM THE LORD **NOW** LOVES HE **NOW** NURTURES, AND HE **NOW** SCOURGES EVERY SON WHOM HE **NOW** CHOOSES TO RECEIVE."

With a more comprehensive understanding, we can be 100% confident that our “discipline” is not a tit-for-tat reaction of anger to our sinful behavior, as Eliphaz has stated. After all, our sinful behavior is merely a reaction, or fruit that stems from all our fear, which is rooted in our wrong belief and unbelief. What we believe is true about God, what we believe is true and about ourselves, and what we believe is true about ourselves and God in relationship are the real trouble spots that need to be nurtured, corrected, reprovved, and trained. This is the reason why any focus that we put on trying to control our sinful behavior is futile and always short-lived.

When God wounds us, painful as it may be, it is how He helps us to see where it is in our soul that we refuse to believe the truth about Him, the truth about ourselves, and the truth about our relationship with Him, who we are to Him. Through this process of judgment, He helps us realize that in every area where we remain hidden behind our armor of protection, we have a distorted view of the truth.

Therefore, He wounds us to get our attention focused on the source of the problem. He knows that if we are willing to let Him reconstruct our understanding of these truths, the fruit that will stem from our lives will naturally change. His wounding in our lives is our opportunity to choose to see the real Him, to accept the real Him, to get to know the real Him, and not some “god” distorted by the **ME** or by our religion. It is also how we get to know who we are in this world, as His children of light, His precious possession, as opposed to the wounded, selfish, self-seeking survivalist that defines the **ME**.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>6</sup> See 1 Peter 5:9; Ephesians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; Matthew 5:14

*Sin is Just a Tool*

Contrary to how most people in the religion of Christianity think, sin is a critical and necessary tool which God uses in our life to help us see the truth. If we take the manifested expression of our sin, for instance anger towards another, with the Spirit's intervention, we can trace that "sinful" reaction to understand why we get angry, what it is about that situation that triggers us in the first place. Said differently, we can begin to explore why we feel unsafe and why we feel the need to self-protect.

Then we can explore whether we are actually unsafe in those types of situations or if it just feels unsafe. Those are two different things. Either way, we can then ponder responsibility, i.e., who is responsible to keep us safe, ourselves or God? If we conclude that it is God, then we can start talking to Him about how we feel unsafe or are in fact unsafe, with this being the reason why we move so quickly to protect ourselves. We can even apologize and repent for pretending to be God over our lives.

We can then start to ask Him how this vulnerability that we feel is a good thing and not dangerous. This will likely lead us to address the wound or wounds that we received (that which we received as little children), and by whom. This will bring up all sorts of related issues that drive our fear like betrayal, distrust, and even the paralyzing terror that only seems to be managed by our outbursts of anger.

At the same time, when we are calm before God, it will also bring up our need to forgive, which is something that is empowered when we come to understand the level of brokenness of those who hurt us and how our wounds were all about them, and what they did to us was never actually about our not being good enough, not being worthy enough, or our not being loveable enough.

This understanding starts to produce in our soul a level of empathy for the person who was used by God as a nail in our lives, and empathy leads to the freedom of true forgiveness, not the religious sort of forgiveness which we tend to tell one another, which is absolutely nonsense. But a forgiveness that leaves us free to be in relationship with others no longer mastered by our self-protection.

Finally, we can begin to think about what those wounds have developed in us, how God has specifically carved us to be one of His masterpieces, the work of His hands, such that we are becoming exactly who He desires us to be when we let Him be the strength to our weakness, when we let Him be the source of our protection, when we let Him cause us to lay aside our own self-protection.

This is the moment of understanding when thankfulness for our "nurturing" or our "discipline" starts to overtake us. When we see the power and the beauty of God manifested in-and-through our weakness, then we start to rejoice and experience legitimate joy, even happiness, in what God has created. As we understand His intentionality in all things, we can start to appreciate that through the pain He is always accomplishing His beautiful purposes.

***James 1:2-4***

You are commanded to choose to consider it all joy, my brethren, when you may encounter various trials, **now** knowing that the testing of your faith chooses to **now** produce endurance. And you are commanded to let endurance **now** have perfect result, so that you may **now** be perfect and complete, choosing to **now** be lacking in nothing.

*“Lacking in nothing”* is a powerful concept. It means that God has become our source for all things all the time and that we have let the Spirit of God cause us to let go of our false God of the **ME**.

Remember, left to ourselves we would not search for God in this manner. We would stay nice and uncomfortable hiding behind our armor, and we would continue to exalt and protect the **ME**. But He loves us too much to leave us in this terrible condition. There is no freedom when we are bound by all that armor. He wants to free us; freedom is part and parcel of His name, **Yahweh Yasha (Yahweh who saves)**.

*“Behold, happy is the man whom God reproves, so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty. For He inflicts pain and gives relief; He wounds, and His hands heal.”*

## **Lessons of the Heavenly Realm 34**

**Discipline also known as “nurturing” or judgment, though involving pain and wounding, is all about finding our freedom, where we live complete, lacking in nothing.**

### ***Happy?***

**Job 5:17**, *“Behold, happy is the man whom God reproves, so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.”* Viewed through the lens of freedom, this kind of nurturing is something to embrace and not despise. Can you imagine how amazing it could be to choose to live complete, lacking in nothing, because **Yahweh** is our complete provision, our portion, our source for all things all the time? What a goal to embrace. If we were to let the truth of God’s amazing love and purpose for our lives become our truth, it would make complete sense for us to align our will with the Father’s will and cooperate, or to offer Him our *willingness*.

Let’s stop here and we will pick back up with **Job 5:19**.

I am glad you tuned in and have been ready to listen.