

THERE IS A STORY TO TELL IN EVERY SCAR

Scars are marks reminding us of a past that will not fade away easily. It tells a story without words to satisfy curiosities around us. It goes deeply into the soul – emotion, will, intellect. The soul is the control center of feelings as the emotion. It controls how we feel. How we react to experiences pleasant or not. When it goes deeply, it leaves scars reminding us of such past. There are two kinds of scars -emotional and physical. The emotional is hidden in our heart, causing visible problems in our physical body. It constitutes a different kind of scar hard to heal. It brings with it bitterness, anger, unforgiveness, etc. Paul writes to the Ephesians warning them saying, “When angry, do not sin; do not ever let your wrath last until the sun does down; leave no room or foot hold for the devil” (Eph. 4:26-27); Psalms 4:4 says, “Be angry and sin not; commune with your own hearts upon your beds and be silent.”; Hebrews 12: 15 says: “Exercise foresight and be on the watch to look [after one another], to see that no one falls back from and fails to secure God’s grace, in order that no resentment shoots forth and causes trouble and bitter torment, and the many become contaminated and defiled by it.”

“Just think of Him Who endured from sinners such grievous opposition and bitter hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or exhausted, losing heart and relaxing and fainting in your minds. You have not yet struggled and fought agonizing against sin, nor have you yet resisted and withstood to the point of pouring out your [own] blood” (Heb. 12:3-4). The scars that our Lord took in His body as a ransom for our sins were beyond our comprehension. “He was despised and rejected and forsaken by men, a Man of sorrows and pains, and acquainted with grief and sickness; and like One from Whom men hide their faces He was despised and we did not appreciate His worth or have any esteem for Him... He was oppressed [yet when] He was afflicted, He was submissive and opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth” (Isa. 53:3,7)

YAHSHUA’S scars tell the story of redemption of mankind. “And they shall look upon Me Whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for Him as one mourns for his son, and it shall be in bitterness for Him as one who is in bitterness for his firstborn” (Zech. 12). The doubter Thomas, one of His disciples, would not believe He was alive. So YAHSHUA told him to reach out his finger and see My hands; and put out your hand and place in My side. Do not be faithless and incredulous, but believe! (John 20). Thomas touched YAHSHUA’S scars as He told Him. He said to Thomas, “Reach out your finger here, and see My hands; and my side. Do not be faithless and incredulous, but believe! Thomas answered Him, My Lord and my God! YAHSHUA told Thomas, “Because you have seen Me, Thomas, do you now believe? Blessed and happy and to be envied are those who have never seen Me and yet have believed and adhered to and trusted and relied on Me.” (John 20). What had Thomas seen? The evidence of His crucifixion. The story the scars

told him. **Physical scars are easy to see, but not the story behind it. For those who carry them, they are memories that touch the soul for a long time, causing great emotional pain year after year until death, if not treated.**

Scars are testimony of the past. The psalmist so expressed himself: "Even my own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who ate of my bread, has lifted up his heel against me" (Ps. 41:9). This was prophetic of YAHSHUA'S experience before His trials in John 13:18-19: "I am not speaking of and I do not mean all of you, I know whom I have chosen; but it is that the Scripture may be fulfilled. He who eats My bread with Me has raised up his heel against Me. I tell you this now before it occurs, so that when it does take place you may be persuaded and believe that I am He [Who I say I am] – the Messiah." Judas was destined to perdition. He was called the son of perdition (Satan). With a terrible task to perform which caused him to commit suicide. I truly believe, he will come as the antichrist to finish the work of his father- the devil.

YAHSHUA died with marks all over His body to prove Israel that He was the Messiah Who came to fulfill redemption for all who would believe in Him. While they forsake Him, many still believed and will witness the marks on His body as evidences of His Messianic act of salvation. The disciples who discredited His resurrection, were also shown by the eating of the bread with them. On the road to Emmaus, He took bread and praised [God] and gave thanks and asked a blessing, and then broke it and gave it to them, when their eyes were opened and they recognized Him and He vanished. At the testimony of these disciples, YAHSHUA appeared to the others while they were talking about this, YAHSHUA Himself took His stand among them and said to them, Peace be to you! He said to them, why are you disturbed and troubled, and why do such doubts and questionings arise in your hearts? See My hands and My feet, that is I Myself! Feel and handle me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones, as you see that I have... He said to them, Have you anything here to eat? They gave Him a piece of broiled fish. And He took and ate before them (Luke 24). YAHSHUA'S scars served to testify of His resurrection to the disciples and to the world. Before He closed His eyes to death, He forgave those who were inflicting scars on His body and saved a thief on the cross. And when the time comes, we will see the scars on His hands, feet and side. We will forever be thankful in adoration and in praises to Him.

Scars are certain that will happen to all of us. They exist to tell a life story of challenges and results. Physical scars are many times the causes for the emotional scars. However, living in the past, we will never find the way to healing, for pain returns every time we think about it and bitterness brings us sickness that affects the heart, liver, blood pressure, kidneys. Our Lord desires our emotion to be clean and free from it. The tongue is a weapon that causes great pain and scars in our emotion, for it is the peace taker. The Bible warns us of it in several passages. The book of James, for example is very clear about it. He said, "The tongue is a fire of

wickedness set among our members, contaminating and depraving the whole body and setting on fire the wheel of birth, being itself ignited by hell; the human tongue can be tamed by no man. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison” (James 3). Scars caused by the tongue can lead even to death. David prayed, “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer” (Ps. 19: 14).

Our Lord YAHSHUA suffered much from the tongues of His own people. However, there were no scars left on His soul that affected Him emotionally. His heart was free from bitterness, but full of love and forgiveness. So much so, that He took their own cross and died in their places, forgiving and saving them by the shedding of His blood. Let our scars be testimonies that edify and lift one from their own pain, for by His own “stripes we are healed and made whole.” Through every stripe applied on YAHSHUA’S body by sinners, He offered forgiveness and healing instead. At the insults thrown at Him, nailing Him to the cross, He prayed, “Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do.” So, He died. Loving, forgiving sinners who hated Him and scarred Him. The story that the scars on His body is: “For God so greatly loved the world that He gave up His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:16)

May we erase every scar left in our soul through forgiveness, as we were forgiven, following the example YAHSHUA gave us.