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Favor Zion Ministries

January 2007
Tevet-Shevat

Shalom Haveirim:
(Hello to you, my friends)

And, blessings in the Name of Adonai- Yeshua, our Messiah.

January marks the first page of our new 2007 calendar followed by eleven more pages with squares not filled in yet. Appointments, obligations and event times will soon fill in the blank spaces.

Each January signals a new beginning –a fresh start - a new chance to “get it right”. The choices made throughout the year are going to be the measurement of whether we get it right this time. For most people the soul part of our makeup is the area that trips us up. Our soul includes the mind, will and emotions. There is a line in a hymn that says, “Sweep over my soul, Sweep over my soul, Holy Spirit, sweep over my soul.”

Sometimes we need a mind sweeper to get rid of clutter/junk that doesn't belong there. The starting point of change begins in the mind. “*As a man thinks in his heart, so is he*” Proverbs 23:7. Our thinking has to change so our behaviors will change. This is called renewing and transforming our mind into Godly thoughts and attitudes. Romans 12:2 says: “*Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*”

In Philippians 4:8 (Amplified Bible) we are given thought guidelines: “*Whatever is true, whatever is worthy of reverence and is honorable and seemly, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely and lovable, whatever is kind and winsome and gracious, if there is any virtue and excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think on and weigh and take account of these things (fix your minds on them).*”

The year 2007 is going to hold varied and unknown experiences, both bitter and sweet. Ideally, finding the perfect will of God is the goal or destination at the end of the year for every believer. It doesn't always happen. Every one of us will bump up against the temptation to indulge our will rather than seek God's will for each circumstance or situation. As an ounce of prevention that is worth a pound of cure, we can commit ahead of time to seek God's will above our own in each instance. “*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you*” Matthew 6:33. This is actually a “life verse” for me, and one I go back to very often. Another appropriate verse is, “*...and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*” (Hebrews 11:6b) Our soul needs to be anchored and focused in our Messiah and in the

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Word of God, and then our mind, will and emotions will not fluctuate, but will be steadfast and secure.

The winner of the tug of war in our mind, will and emotions, (between what we want and what God wants for us) will determine if Yeshua is Lord of our lives or not. The prayer below is called **The Lordship Prayer**, author unknown. It is appropriate at the beginning of the year to “take stock” and see if Yeshua is not only our Savior, but also Lord of our lives.

The Lordship Prayer

Lord Yeshua, my Messiah, I acknowledge my need of you and accept you as my Savior.

I invite you now to be Lord of my life:
Lord of my spirit and my relationship with you,
Lord of my body and all its behavior,
Lord of my mind, and all that I think,
Lord of my emotions, and all my feelings and their expressions,
Lord of my will and all my decisions,
Lord of my eyes and all they look upon,
Lord of my ears and all they listen to,
Lord of my mouth, and all that I speak,
Lord of my sexuality,
Lord of my time, my home, my family, my possessions
and all of my relationships,
Thank you that your blood was shed that I might be free.
I invite you now to be Lord of every area of my life.
Amen

We thank you for standing with us in prayer and financial support over the past year. Our ministry stands with you to encourage you as we travel together into the unknowns of a new year. We come boldly before the throne of grace on your behalf and give thanks for each of you.

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.” 3 John: 2, our prayer for you.

Ted