

TSIYON NEWS

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MESSIAH'S MIGHTY MEN
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Episode 12
The Disciple

Live Discussion – Hosted by Michael

See this live stream panel discussion tonight at www.Tsiyon.Net

Also in this *Tsiyon News*, Eliyahu shares his latest message.

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Live Panel Discussion

Michael, Benjamin, Joshua, and Roderick are featured in the live panel discussion.

From Eliyahu

The place was 1st century Judea under occupation by the Romans. The person was the son of a carpenter from Nazareth named Yeshua. He had just set out from his rather humble beginnings. Entering his ministry. He was not well known at that time, had not done many great miracles - which did happen as he went through his ministry later.

But at this time, being unknown, having not yet done all these great miracles and done all this great teaching. He set out to gather his primary disciples, who would be a part of his ministry with him.

He knew where to find them. By the Sea of Galilee.

This is not where you would expect him to look. The people he would find on the seashore of Galilee would be fishermen, families of fishermen, really lowly people and people not of, uh, great reputation within Judea. Not people that you would expect to respond to a spiritual message.

They were rather salty, these folks, and they were strong people, because actually, fishing was something that was rigorous in those days. They had to respond to every kind of weather. They had some tough people to deal with. The work itself was sometimes very difficult, but they had a way to make a living, and that was through fishing.

As Yeshua walked along the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers. They were casting their nets into the sea as fishermen do. For them this was a day, like every other day, and they were doing what they did as fishermen. They were fishing.

Something happened they did not expect. They were encountered by this man just starting out in his ministry who said to them, “come after me and I will make you fishers of men.”

What happened next is really startling and perhaps impossible to explain. They immediately left their nets and followed him. Why? Why would they do that?

There was no amazing record that had been built up by Yeshua yet, that his fame would've gone before him to explain this.

They weren't looking to get saved. They weren't looking in that sense for the Messiah. They were children of Israel in covenant with God. They didn't worry about being saved because they already were friends of God.

They weren't religious people, so they weren't just waiting to go on some exciting religious mission.

So when he called them, when he said to them, “come after me and I will make you fishers of men” why did they just cast their nets into the sea and follow him?

Clearly, it was not for the reasons that people follow him now, because they didn't know who he was (the Savior). Even once they started following him, it was some time before they understood and realized that he truly was the Son of God and the Messiah of Israel.

They became his followers, his disciples, because of him. Him. When they encountered him, the person that he truly was radiated out from the heart of that man, Yeshua, in such a way that these fishermen responded to it, they recognized it, and whoever he was, they were following him. This is how it is for true disciples of Yeshua.

It's not about getting saved. Although if you follow him, you will be saved. It's not about setting out on some exciting spiritual adventure, although if you follow him, you will have the most exciting spiritual adventure you could ever imagine. No, it's all about the man, Yeshua. It's all about who he is in his heart.

For those whose spiritual eyes, be they fishermen, or be they theologians, if they truly see who he is, there is only one response to that, and that is to follow him, to become as much like him as you possibly can be. Because when you really see him, you realize there's nothing else. There's nothing else that matters so much as him.

And then that (reality) just calls to you to follow him, to become as like him as you possibly can because this is the highest thing a human being can do. This is the true essence of being a disciple.

Yes. This was just the beginning for these fishermen and we know the story as to what happened with them. They walked with him and he taught them. He modeled and he was the exemplar of the truth - the way, the truth, and the life. He IS that.

They had the privilege of walking with him every day and witnessing this unfolding manifestation of the Son of God in human flesh. A lot of times they didn't understand. How could anyone? He would do things, he would say things that seemed totally contrary to his best interests. They were babies in comparison to him, and yet they kept following him even when they didn't understand, because of who he truly was, and they saw him do things that they never expected. He taught them to be so much more than they were. He was kind of like a mirror that they could look into and see their true selves and be changed into the people they were meant to be.

*He said to them,
"Come after me,
and I will make you
fishers of men."*

*They immediately
left their nets and
followed him.*

Matthew 4:19-20



Later on, when the thing happened that they could not imagine - his death - they were spooked, they were disappointed, they were frightened, but they had been built together in this experience of walking with him, and they could not leave one another.

It seemed like the entire enterprise was over, because he was dead. And yet, they could not leave one another, because what he had built in them together was so powerful, so strong. It just held them together despite the tragedy that had happened.

Then the impossible happened.

This man who had been the very center of their lives, who they had believed was the Messiah of Israel, who they had seen die a horrible death at the hands of the Romans, and was buried, the corpse being buried. Some of the women from among their group actually handling the body and preparing the body for burial. No question in the mind of any of them that he was dead.

They saw the impossible when he made an appearance in their midst – alive - still with the holes in his hands from the nails where he was nailed to the tree, holes in his feet from the nails. A big wound in his side where he was wounded with the spear. But fully alive and cognizant and glorified. Not only did they see him as if it was or could have been some kind of apparition or perhaps mind games, but he continued with them over a course of 40 days revealing himself, not just to them, but to some 500 various disciples and people that had known him, who saw him alive and bore witness to him being alive.

These disciples saw something that is truly world changing, universe changing in fact, and they were witnesses to the world. They are still witnesses to us. Through the pages of the Scriptures.

This is something that is not just some elaborate story, but when you dig more deeply into this and you look at the facts of history, you look at all of these details, what you find out is that all of this is real. It was so real, it dictated the rest of the entire lives of these disciples.

All but one of them shared in the death of Yeshua when they reached the end of their earthly witness in their life. All of them were, in one way or another, put to death as criminals as he had been. They never turned away. Through all of that time, they stood by what they had seen, what they had witnessed. What they had learned. This is what it means to be a disciple.

being a disciple of Yeshua Messiah is not about being saved. Being saved is a byproduct of knowing Yeshua, the Messiah, and following him. It's not the object of following him. He is the object of following him. Every true disciple is a disciple because of him, not because of them.

Oh, many start out having needs. He is more than willing to cast a life-rope to those needing that help, just like he did in the first century. He saved so many, so many from demonic control, from diseases, from relationship problems, all kinds of troubles. And many times people are introduced to him through that situation, but you can't stay a disciple because of that. Because of you. You can only remain a disciple because of him.

You must see him. You must know him. You must follow him to be his disciple. He said it a lot of different ways. "Unless you pick up your cross and carry it daily, you cannot be my disciple." This is what he said. What has happened with all of that?

What has happened with all of that? Why do we hear so much from the church world about the person rather than about Yeshua? Why do we focus so much on the individual being saved - on the individual's needs?

This seems to be the big thing. Salvation from (hell?) seems to be the big thing, not Yeshua, not following him, walking after him, learning from him, making this the whole thrust of your life. The biggest thing, the most important thing that you can do. Following him.

Why don't we hear that from the church world? That is the message we heard from him. That's what we saw modeled by the disciples he chose, and that's what it is to be a disciple.

This brings me to tonight's live stream panel discussion entitled: ***The Disciple***. We can all use a fresh look at discipleship from time to time, and this panel discussion will not disappoint those looking for truth on the subject. This discussion will be streamed from our member website at Tsiyon.Net, and on all of our other streaming platforms. Feel free to invite friends and family to view this helpful and uplifting content.

Eliyahu
Tsiyon.Org

Important Notice



Many of you know and love Sister Sherry, an outstanding disciple of Yeshua and volunteer at Tsiyon HQ. We are sad to report that she was recently taken by cancer in a powerful display of faith, courage, perseverance and dignity at its finest. Sherry has made us proud in how she has fought and won the battle. A tribute to her is at this link: [Tsiyon.net/tribute-sister-sherry](https://tsiyon.net/tribute-sister-sherry)

Audio:



Video:



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