

## Crucifying the Flesh with its Susceptibilities

Those who belong to Messiah have crucified the flesh with its susceptibilities. Gal 5:24 means *experientially* belong. We belong to Him in reality as much as we have crucified the flesh. We have to belong to Him in order for the power of Ruach ha Kodesh to be released. Even as we said in the past that our God is not going to give His power to lawless men who would just misuse it. So before the race begins we must lay aside the sin that so easily entangles us. We are that seed that falls into the ground and dies. There won't be a harvest apart from that. We have to hate our life in this world. Self-judgment is circumcision. We have to judge the flesh with its susceptibilities (Rom 16:19-20). Our senses have to be trained to discern between good and evil (Heb 5:14; Pr 27:12).

Our Father never had a people that would wait for Him. There are so many places in the scriptures that talk about waiting for Him.

Gen 16:16 tells us that Abram was 86 years old when Hagar bore Ishmael for him. Then there is nothing recorded until 13 years later (Gen 17:1), when Abram was 99 years old. A lot happened in those 13 years. It was the time when Abram learned experientially through much suffering that Ishmael wasn't the son of promise, but that it was the flesh indeed. That's when the flesh was being cut off and he grew strong in faith (Rom 4:19-24).

This is written down for our sake; we must believe, we must wait, we must crucify the flesh with its susceptibilities.

Abraham was 24 years in the land learning to discern between good and evil, the flesh and the Spirit, having his senses trained. When he was able to judge himself, El Shaddai appeared to him, that is God Almighty. He came to know the power of God. You cannot walk before El Shaddai unless you are blameless and, to know El Shaddai means to know His power in your life (Lk 1:73-75,72). At this point Abram's name was changed to Abraham and Sarai's name was changed to Sarah. The *h* (*ch* sound) that was added to their name is the breath of Ruach ha Kodesh, meaning the power of Ruach ha Kodesh was being released in their lives.

And so although Abraham's body was as good as dead and Sarah's womb barren, they brought forth Isaac not according to the power of the flesh, but according to the power of Ruach ha Kodesh.

This is written down for our instruction that we might be the people who will wait upon the Sovereign, the seed that is falling into the ground and is dying, so that much fruit could come forth — those who are crucifying the flesh with its susceptibilities so that we could belong to Him and that He could entrust us with the power that is necessary to bring in the harvest.