MARANATHA GLOBAL BIBLE STUDY CONFRONTING UNBELIEF // STEPHANIE QUICK

04. HE DOES NOT FORGET HER

YOUR SOUL & THE CITY OF THE GREAT KING

"REMEMBER THESE, O JACOB, AND ISRAEL, FOR YOU ARE MY SERVANT; I HAVE FORMED YOU, YOU ARE MY SERVANT; O ISRAEL, YOU WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN BY ME! I HAVE BLOTTED OUT, LIKE A THICK CLOUD, YOUR TRANSGRESSIONS, AND LIKE A CLOUD, YOUR SINS. RETURN TO ME, FOR I HAVE REDEEMED YOU." ISAIAH 44:21-22

Affliction and trial have their way of pressing us into corners, and Israel is no different. The priest Zechariah felt so forgotten that he couldn't believe Gabriel's words when he heard them (LUKE 1). Martha felt forgotten in her grief and couldn't believe God could write His own rules about when and how He could intervene in her life (JOHN 11). Zion would hear Isaiah's promises of restoration and sigh in response: "The LORD has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me." (ISAIAH 49:14)

I. PILLOW-TOP THEOLOGY

- A. Setting aside Sunday school answers and what you 'should' say, when you put your head on your pillow at night, what do you believe about God? Do you believe He is *for* you?
- B. Israel felt forgotten.
 - four hundred years separated the last prophetic word from the first coming of Jesus Christ. Jacob's children felt forgotten, unseen, and exactly the opposite of an object of determined affection.
 Consequentially, they despised His name, wearied Him with false accusation, robbed Him, and spoke harshly against Him.
 - a) Malachi 1:2, 2:17
 - b) Malachi 1:6
 - by bringing defiled sacrifices compromising because they felt the Lord treated them the same way
 - c) Malachi 3:8
 - you cannot love God and money. They weren't robbing God of money. They were robbing God first of their affections and allegiances. It was exposed through their love of money
 - d) Malachi 3:13-14



FAIMISSION.ORG PAGE 1 of 2

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believing that God forgot about you gives you permission to forget about him. And that puts you in a very dangerous place - straight on the wide road that leads to destruction

П. THE TRUTH

- Isaiah 49:15-16 Α.
- B. Consider this:
 - 1) John 20:24-29
- C. When we wonder and when our trust begins to wane and wander, we can remember Thomas' grief and discouragement after he watched his Rabbi get betrayed, beat up, and brutalized before getting buried in a garden tomb. "I'll believe He's still alive when I see Him walking around with the holes in His hand." And He did.
- D. Even after the resurrection, Jesus bore - and bears - His scars of execution; His wounds by bloody crucifixion carved this costly covenant into His incarnate flesh. In all the coming millennia of the ages, they'll remind us that the only names and memories flung into a sea of forgetfulness are our accusations and treasons. He will never forget us.
- E. Heaven will always know our names. And His will be written on our foreheads when we walk on streets of gold, shining like the stars in the kingdom of our Father.
- F. So get into the Word, confess it even if you don't believe it, and ask God to help your unbelief.



PAGE 2 of 2