

THE POWER OF THE PAST

Part 1 of 3

1/20/07

- Part 1 -- Power of the Past
- Part 2 -- Power of the Future
- Part 3 -- Power of Now

We will examine the "power of the past" and the "power of the future" and consider how they influence the "power of now."

WE SHOULD LEARN LESSONS FROM THE PAST

Deut. 32:7 remember the days of old
Rom. 15:4 were written for our learning -- that we
through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope
1 Cor. 10:5-11 Old Testament accounts were lessons for the
congregation in Corinth during the time of Paul -- (and the end of
the world)
Jude 5-7 remember the examples -- consequences
Exod. 13:3 remember the day in which you came out of Egypt
Lev. 23:42-43 booths at feast of tabernacles -- in Egypt
Num. 15:38-40 tassels -- to remember the commandments
Deut. 5:15 sabbath -- servant in the land of Egypt
Deut. 7:18 remember what God did to Pharaoh and Egypt
Deut. 8:2 remember the way God led you for 40 years
Deut. 8:10-18 when you are blessed, do not forget God
Deut. 9:7 remember how you provoked God in the wilderness
Deut. 15:15 7th year of release -- a slave in Egypt
Deut. 16:3 days of unleavened bread -- came out in haste
Deut. 16:12 feast of weeks -- a slave in Egypt
Deut. 24:9 what God did to Miriam after leaving Egypt
Deut. 24:18 righteous judgment -- a slave in Egypt
Deut. 24:22 feeding the poor -- a slave in Egypt
Deut. 25:17 what Amalek did to you after leaving Egypt

THE POWER OF THE PAST CAN BE CRIPPLING

Job 29:2 longing for past -- that I were in months past
Ezek. 23:19,21 she remembered the sins of her youth

Here are excerpts from *One-Way Relationship Workbook* by Alred Ells.

From page 129: "We have all been wounded and brokenhearted at some time in our lives. We all can recall some event or time in our lives when we felt a deep wound of spirit. Our inner being felt pained and pierced to the depths. . . ."

From page 134: "Ever know someone who cannot let go of the past? The person still thinks about old relationships, experiences, or events frequently. This is usually an indication of an unresolved hurt. The wound is crying out for attention, and we are responding by remaining stuck to the event or memory. Codependents are often stuck in the past. They may have trouble letting go of either the good or the bad parts of the past, and this holding on can interfere with present relationships."

From page 149: "Most wounded people, although they keep it from showing on the surface, never really heal. The wound is tender and sensitive and can be easily reopened by subsequent rejections. The old sores get touched again and again, never getting a chance to heal. An oversensitive, codependent person who keeps reacting because of the unhealed wound is the result. However, the wounds that scar over can be the most dangerous. Scar tissue is not as resilient and pliable as healthy tissue. . . ."

From page 151: "The wounds of life are imprinted as memories and mental images. The painful feelings associated with the memories need to be released for the wound to be healed. Our memory of what we saw, smelled, touched, or tasted will usually remain the same. But the negative feeling associated with the event needs to and can be changed. This is the basis for all inner healing. . . ."

From page 152: "There are cases where the wounding is so longstanding and so deep that only with God's help can we forgive. But God will not set aside our free will and magically cause us to forgive. He can empower the decision, but the choice must be ours. We need to let go and let God take over our injustice, pain and resentments."

THE POWER OF THE PAST CAN BE LIBERATING

In the past, Christ suffered and died for you. In the past, God raised Him from the dead.

Psalm 103:11-12 His great mercy -- removed our transgressions
Isaiah 43:18 remember not the former things -- things of old
25 I will not remember your sins
Isaiah 54:4 you shall forget the shame of your youth
Jer. 31:34 God -- I will remember their sin no more
Luke 22:19 Jesus -- do this in remembrance of Me
Rom. 5:10 reconciled by His death -- saved by His life
1 Cor. 11:24-25 quoting Jesus -- do this in remembrance of Me
Heb. 10:32-34 remember your calling

Power of the future -- 1 Cor. 15:12 -- Titus 2:13
Power of now -- 2 Tim. 1:6-7 -- 2 Pet. 1:10-18