



Zakar / Remember

Transcript

Zakar.

"I will *zakar* the deeds of the Lord."

The Hebrew word *zakar* is often translated "remember," that is, calling something to mind or not forgetting.

Joseph has a dream about his brothers bowing down to him. And years later, when it actually happens, Joseph is said to "*zakar* his dream." He is recalling something he'd forgotten.

But *zakar* is often more than just remembering. *Zakar* is also focusing your attention on something in order to act.

When God commands Israel to *zakar* the Sabbath, it's not because they might forget about what the Sabbath is. *Zakar* means keeping the meaning of the Sabbath at the forefront of your mind in order to keep the Sabbath.

And in the story of Noah and the flood, when God "remembers" Noah and the animals, it's not that God had forgotten them. Rather, God's *zakar* is acting on a promise to save them.

"God heard their groaning and God *zakar* his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."