



Taking Messiah Yeshua and Torah to the World!

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Message 2-13-10
Mishpatim-Judgments
Exodus 21:1-24:18
2 Kings 12:1-17
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Introduction

The Parashah opens in mid-story with the conjunction "and" ("And these are the laws that you shall place before them") intending, to link this Parashah "mundane and minute" civil laws, which by definition mankind would have followed anyway, to last week's Godly Ten Words.

Exodus 24:9-17

9 Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, **10** and they saw the God of Israel. And *there was* under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in *its* clarity. **11** But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they saw God, and they ate and drank. **12** Then the LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them." **13** So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God. **14** And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Indeed Aaron and Hur *are* with you. If any man has a difficulty, let him go to them." **15** Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain. **16** Now the glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. **17** The sight of the glory of the LORD *was* like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.

From the Jewish Study Bible: For this unique occasion the people's leaders and representatives are granted a visual experience of God. Later Jewish writers, who believed that God is not visible, held that the experience was not literally visual but was either an intellectual perception or a prophetic vision such as those in Isaiah 6:1 and Ezekiel Chapter 1. The Bible does not deny that God is visible, but the text is reticent about describing Him. By focusing on what was *under His feet*, it seems to suggest that the leaders did not see God directly but from below, through a transparent sapphire, or rather, lapis-lazuli, colored pavement (Ezekiel 1:26-28, 10:1-2). This lapis-lazuli pavement is the floor of God's palace, and also explains why the sky is blue. Despite their seeing God, no harm befell them. *They ate and drank:* A well-established way of celebrating the establishment of a covenant; see Genesis 26:28-30; 31:54; and the ceremony reaffirming the covenant in Deuteronomy 27:1-8; the parallelism in Obadiah 7 and Psalm 41:10.

In covenants between humans both parties share the meal. Here, one of the parties, God, does not eat, and Moses and the leaders merely eat in His presence.

The importance of this passage and what is taking place here should not be lost on us. We are seeing or reading about an experience that few individuals have had throughout Biblical history. We see here a small group of men, the leaders of Israel, gathering to break bread before the Lord of Lords. Since Judaism views God as an invisible Being represented by a ball of fire, similar to the Burning Bush and Moses' encounter with God, who was at this meal with the leaders of Israel? We had this discussion recently at our weekly Bible study and I brought up the point about what Yeshua said about Himself and how they would know who He was.

Luke 24:36 Now as they said these things, Yeshua Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." **37** But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. **38** And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? **39** "Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." **40** When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. **41** But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" **42** So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. **43** And He took *it* and ate in their presence. **44** Then He said to them, "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the ***Torah of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.***" **45** And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. **46** Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, **47** "and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. **48** "And you are witnesses of these things. **49** "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." **50** And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. **51** Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.

Verse 44 tells us what we need to know and the fact remains that in the knowledge Yeshua provided His disciples they could finally comprehend what Scripture had to say about Yeshua and that He was revealed in its pages. This week's Torah portion is one of these instances where Yeshua is revealed because He is the physical revelation of the invisible Father. Yeshua Himself said that you see the Son you have seen the Father. Some interpret this as meaning that there is only the Father or a composite Being that does away with the need for a Son or otherwise. The reason for wanting to believe this is to be able to reconcile the Jewish belief in only one God. To believe that Yeshua is also God is paganism to Judaism and not monotheism. The day is coming when the blindness will be removed from the eyes of our Jewish brothers and sisters and they will behold the Messiah of Israel coming in all of His glory on the clouds of heaven that took Him away 2,000 years ago.

It was Yeshua who sat at the table on the mountain with the elders of Israel, Moses, Aaron and his sons. It was Yeshua who walked in the cool of the day in the Garden with Adam and Chavah. It was Yeshua who showed His back to Moses, once again on the mountain. It was Yeshua who came to Abraham before the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. It was Yeshua who met Joshua before his battle to take Jericho.

Joshua 5:13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?" **14** So He said, "No, but *as* Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." **And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped**, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?" **15** Then the Commander of the LORD'S army said to Joshua, "**Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy.**" And Joshua did so.

Notice that Joshua falls on his face and worships this person and he is told to take his sandals off because he is standing on holy ground. This is the same thing Moses was instructed to do at the Burning Bush. The person standing before Joshua is none other than the Son of God Yeshua. You can try to explain it away all you want but these are things that Yeshua was talking about when He said the Torah, and the Prophets, and the Psalms speak of Him. When sharing about Messiah 2,000 years ago and for at least another 300 years or so you had to do it from the Tanach **because there was no "New" Testament!** People seem to take it for granted that the "New" Testament was being used in Yeshua's day. You need to stop and take a deep breath and think about it. The only Bible they had was the Tanach and the extra-Biblical books.

Later on the "New" Testament began to evolve and become, from about 150CE to the mid 4th century the Bible we know today. Yeshua has walked in and out of Biblical times over and over and we can see this in the pages of the Tanach. With the Gospel accounts in the Apostolic Scriptures we see Messiah revealed to mankind as a flesh and blood individual who was human and deity to pave the way for us to be reconciled with His Father. The closer we draw to the last days the more dissension there will be in the Body of Messiah. Everyone will be running here and there saying they are seeking Biblical truth. The problem is they are seeking truth but it is not Biblical. They believe it is because there is the beginning of the great delusion sweeping over the Body of Messiah. The veil that is over the eyes of the Jewish people that is causing them not to recognize their Messiah Yeshua is now beginning to come over the eyes of the Church and the Messianic Body causing them to lose sight of the truth of who Yeshua truly is. Be careful my friends as you seek this Biblical truth. You might find what you are looking for but it might not be the truth you desire.

2 Kings 12:1-3 (Tanach 12:2-4)

1 In the seventh year of Jehu, Jehoash became king, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name *was* Zibiah of Beersheba. **2** Jehoash did *what was* right in the sight of the LORD all the days in which Jehoiada the priest instructed him. **3** But the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

Notice that Jehoash did what was right in the eyes of the Lord because of the instruction he received from the High Priest. He made a mistake though; he did not destroy the high places where people brought sacrifices to pagan gods. He forgot that our God is a jealous God and He tells us He will not share His glory with anyone else. I don't blame Him! He is the Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them. He was there before the beginning because He existed. No one created Him because He was or as He told Moses "I AM!"

Exodus 20:4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness *of anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; **5** you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, **am a jealous God**, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those

who hate Me, **6** but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

When He gives Moses the Ten Words notice that He says He is a jealous God who will not allow His people to bend the knee to these pagan gods or serve them. This is why He tells us not to make a carved image of anything that is in heaven or in the earth. We are to worship the Creator not the creation. The creation stands as witness to the greatness of the Holy One of Israel. He made man out of the dust of the earth and gave Him life by breathing the Ruach HaKodesh into man. Who else could do something like this? We are trying, believe me, we are trying. I saw a program a couple of months ago where researchers are creating living tissue that will help grow new limbs or body parts rather than using artificial body parts. I saw the program and I saw various body parts being grown. I saw them placing these body parts into people, who are part of their testing program, and they are having their severely injured bodies being repaired.

I can understand an individual's desire to want to be able to function just like they did before their injuries. Most of the people involved in the testing phase are soldiers injured in combat. On one hand I can see what they desire but on the other hand are we trying to play God? Isn't He the one who makes us whole? Is making us whole in Spirit only and not in Body? Isn't His grace sufficient for us? Where is our faith in all of this? Are we bowing down to the gods of this world rather than the God of Creation? Are we playing God because deep down inside of us we want to be God?

We are living in very dangerous times my friends and we must be careful. We walk a road that is straight and narrow and it is very easy to go to the right or to the left.

Luke 10:3 "Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. **4** "Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road.

We walk the same road as the Apostles. We share the good news of Yeshua with all we come into contact with. Some will listen, others will turn away. The Messiah said He did not come to bring unity but that His coming would cause division. He divides families, countries, and nations. Unity will not come until He returns and lays down the law – literally!

John 14:8-15

8 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." **9** Yeshua said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? **10** "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*, but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. **11** "Believe Me that I *am* in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. **12** "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father. **13** "And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** "If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*. **15** "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

This passage of Scripture is the one I referred to earlier in this teaching. Yeshua tells His disciples, His talmidim, that when they look upon Him and listen to Him they have seen the Father because He and the father are one. Yet how does this oneness work because God being

one is at the heart of the issue of the Jewish people being able to “see” Yeshua. Whenever a well intentioned person shares Yeshua with a Jewish person the stumbling block that comes up is how Yeshua is shared. What I mean is we, as Believers for the most part, believe that Yeshua is both man and God while the Jewish people, those who are waiting for the first coming of the Messiah, are looking not for God but for a messenger from God who will come to lead them to victory over their enemies and set up Israel as God’s kingdom and people.

They are not looking for a personal savior because they are taught that they can go directly to God without an intermediary. It is this direct route to God that causes a Jew to stumble on hearing about Yeshua when they are told they have to come to Him and confess their sins, receive forgiveness and accept that Yeshua is the Son of God and God Himself. This causes untold grief because in Judaism to do this you have converted and become a Christian. If Yeshua is shared as being only a man a Jew can more easily understand and accept this but then why the need for a personal Redeemer when they can go to God directly for redemption? What if you are the one who shares a Messiah who is not God because if He is not then how can He forgive sin because only God can forgive sin?

This causes a problem for Messianic’s when they begin to drift around and falling into the trap of questioning who Yeshua is based on those whom God has blinded to the truth for now. When it comes to Messiah Yeshua be careful, very careful. God has entrusted Judah to share Torah with the nations but only a small fragment of Judah is doing this. It is the teaching of Torah and the Hebrew way of understanding the Word of God that Judah is to do.

Judah can only see the father they are blinded to the Son. Listen to what Judah has to say about Torah and the Jewish walk and apply it to your Messianic walk. Don’t try to become too Biblical in your search for the truth because you may just walk right out of the Bible and into a world that will suck you into a black hole. Keep your eyes on Yeshua and hold fast to Him because when you look upon Yeshua you see in Him the Father because He is in the Father and the Father is in Him. They are one in their own unique way – a way that we might not fully understand but we have been given enough of the truth to understand the Messiah as His talmidim did.

The Rosenbergs are out celebrating when the wife notices a familiar face at the bar. “Honey,” she says to her husband, “See that guy over there at the bar. He’s been drinking like that ever since I left him seven years ago.” “Don’t be silly,” he replies, “No one celebrates that much!”

May the Lord bless you and yours... *Mordecai Silver*

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