

Tree of Life Messianic Ministries

PO Box 467, Organ, NM 88052-0467 * 575-382-0193 * Fax 866-800-2390
tolmm@etz-chayim.org * www.etz-chayim.org



Message 10-24-09
Noach-Noah (Rest)
Genesis 6:9-11:32
Isaiah 55:1-5
Romans 11:25-31

Introduction

Disgusted with the corruption of humanity, God decides to cause a flood that will destroy the world, sparing only Noah's family and the animals that Noah gathers together on the ark. Life starts over again after the Flood.

Genesis 6:17-18

17 "For My part, I am about to bring the Flood -- waters upon the earth -- to destroy all flesh under the sky in which there is breath of life; everything on earth shall perish. **18** But I will establish My covenant with you, and you shall enter the ark, with your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives.

<01285> בְּרִית *berith* (136b)

Meaning: *a covenant*

Origin: from an unused word

Usage: allied(1), allies*(1), covenant(275), covenants(1), El-berith*(1), league(2), treaty(4)

Can you imagine what it must have been like for the Creator of all things to have to destroy His creation? Just think of what it must have been like for the Almighty when He came to the decision that all flesh, except for 8 souls, were going to be destroyed? His heart must have been in such pain over what He knew He had to do and how disappointed He was in the people He had brought forth upon the face of the earth. To Noah He affirmed He would make a covenant with Him and the mark of this covenant would show throughout all time when man would look towards heaven and see the rainbow in the sky.

Genesis 9:13 I have set My bow in the clouds, and it shall serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. **14** When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, **15** I will remember My covenant between Me and you and every living creature among

all flesh, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. **16** When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures, all flesh that is on earth. **17** That," God said to Noah, "shall be the sign of the covenant that I have established between Me and all flesh that is on earth."

The Almighty established an everlasting covenant with Noah that would go on forever, and yet, He did not choose Noah as the one through whom all the nations of the earth would be blessed. I wonder if Noah could see down the annals of time and see what would happen in the future. He must have had some inkling of what the Holy One's plan must have been beyond the flood. He knew why mankind was being destroyed and he must have been thankful that he and his family had been chosen to bring forth new life upon the earth.

The Holy One knew that by allowing all of Noah's family to survive the flood He was permitting sin to continue on through the line of Ham. Ham's sin against his father showed his true colors and the kind of person he was. His son would be Canaan and I would have to assume that the Promised Land was named after Canaan and it became filled with sin of all kind. In the midst of this land lived Melchizedek who was the Righteous King of the Holy One of Israel. Melchizedek reminds me of the state of the Jewish today, in that; they are a minority in the midst of a majority of sinners keeping the presence of the Almighty alive even if they do not realize it. Melchizedek knew the Almighty as evidenced by his blessing the wine and bread giving thanks to the Holy One.

Would that Israel and the Jewish people living in the Land and around the world would come to know the Holy One of Israel. Imagine what they could do if they only followed the Almighty instead of bending to the will of man. Noah was a man who answered the call of His Master. It took him 120 years to build the Ark and you would think that during those years people would be coming by and watching what Noah was doing. They would have had to ask him what he was building and he probably told them what was coming. If you judge a person by their ministry then we would have to assume that Noah was a failure in drawing people to follow the One who had created them all. Only his family was destined to be saved and that was because of his righteousness and not their own. The Rabbis speculate that Shem was a righteous man and that he was actually Melchizedek. There is no proof for this but it is the stuff of Jewish legends and it sounds good. They say that Shem founded a Yeshiva where he taught the Torah and that Eber, who the Hebrew people get their name from, assisted him.

There would have to be some measure of truth to this because the question had to arise of what happened to Noah, Shem, Japeth, and Ham after the flood. It would seem they all settled in the same area with Shem being the middle in the city of Shalem, which many believe to be Jerusalem. It would seem that in the midst of all of this sin in the Land there was an island of hope laying the foundation for the rest of us. You have to ask yourself why would the Holy One, knowing what was to be before it took place, allowed Ham to come though the flood knowing that his nature was to follow after the evil inclination that exists within all of us? He would become the founder of the seven nations living in the land who the Holy One had instructed Moses to tell the people they were to destroy all of them because if they didn't the Children of Israel would follow after their gods rather than the true Living God.

When we read about our ancestors it is my prayer that we learn from their mistakes before it is too late. There is only one way and that is His way – in Hebrew it is called Halachah or The Way. Halachah is mostly associated with the Oral Torah or the teachings of the Rabbis but it should

be associated with the ways of Messiah. The Messianic Movement desperately needs a new Halachah because the one they are following was designed by men to fit specific needs while the Torah of the Almighty comes directly from Him in the form of His Word – Yeshua.

Isaiah 55:1-5

1 Ho, all who are thirsty, come for water, even if you have no money; come, buy food and eat: buy food without money, wine and milk without cost. **2** Why do you spend money for what is not bread, your earnings for what does not satisfy? Give heed to Me, and you shall eat choice food and enjoy the richest viands. **3** Incline your ear and come to Me; hearken, and you shall be revived. And I will make with you an everlasting covenant, the enduring loyalty promised to David. **4** As I made him a leader of peoples, a prince and commander of peoples, **5** So you shall summon a nation you did not know, and a nation that did not know you shall come running to you -- for the sake of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel who has glorified you.

The Holy One makes His covenant with different people throughout the Bible and there are always conditions to these covenants. When He came to Abraham the story began to change because the Almighty was moving from making covenants with individuals and starting to lay the groundwork for the covenant that would be laid with Israel. A covenant needs two parties to make it work. It is a contract between two parties.

Joshua 7:11 Israel has sinned! They have broken the covenant by which I bound them. They have taken of the proscribed and put it in their vessels; they have stolen; they have broken faith!

Psalms 25:10 All the LORD's paths are steadfast love for those who keep the decrees of His covenant.

Isaiah 24:5 For the earth was defiled under its inhabitants; because they transgressed teachings, violated laws, broke the ancient covenant.

Hebrews 10:6 IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND *sacrifices* FOR SIN YOU HAVE TAKEN NO PLEASURE. **7** "THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME (IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME) TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.'" [Psalm 40:6-8, Ezra 6:2, Jeremiah 36:2, Ezekiel 2:9, 3:1]

The Almighty takes His covenants very seriously. They are not just words that He brings forth so we can disregard them. He wants to enter into a covenantal relationship with us and we keep turning our backs to Him. There is more to a covenantal relationship than receiving redemption from the Holy One through belief in His Son. This also entails following the Torah, the teachings straight from the heart of our Master. Yeshua lived His life on this earth according to the tenets of the Torah. He lived the Torah in His life because He is the Torah come in the flesh. When the Word became flesh it was the Torah becoming flesh.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Shaliach Yochanan (John) saw the deeper things of the Almighty. He was the only one of the twelve who died of old age and it was a very long life for that time and even today. He became a follower of Yeshua at a very young age and he was loved by Yeshua in a special way.

John 13:23 One of his disciples, whom Yeshua loved, was reclining at table close to Yeshua.

It is believed that this disciple was John or Yochanan. Some speculate that it may not have been John and why would Yeshua have a special place for John? Isn't He the Son of God who can do whatever He desires? He loves all of us. The Father created us through the Son. He does not desire that any should be lost but the truth is there will many lost. Only a remnant will be saved and this is a Biblical truth found throughout the Bible. Yet in Revelation John sees a large group standing before the Messiah and these are those who have been saved throughout the ages. John says that he cannot count those standing there but this does not mean they are not a remnant if you count how many people have lived since the beginning.

John 14:6 Yeshua said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **7** If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Isaiah prophesies about the time to come when we will be with the Lord forever. We have life everlasting when we come to Messiah. We receive forgiveness for our sins when we acknowledge that we have sinned. We come to the Father through the Son – Yeshua says that when we have seen Him we have seen the Father. He spoke these words to His disciples before He was taken. He tried to build up His followers before the darkness came. They did not understand then but would later.

Romans 11:25-31

25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery-- so that you will not be wise in your own estimation-- that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; **26** and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB." **27** "THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS." [Isaiah 59:20] **28** From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of *God's* choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers; **29** for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. **30** For just as you once were disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy because of their disobedience, **31** so these also now have been disobedient, that because of the mercy shown to you they also may now be shown mercy.

What does Shaul mean about the mystery of the Gentiles? Is this mystery concerning how the Gentiles or the nations can become part of Israel? This is not just about Judah and Ephraim my friends – this is about the larger group – the nations. Everyone focuses on the two houses but they have lost sight of the fact that the Gentiles play a part here, a very important part. This is what Yeshua told the disciples before His ascension.

Matthew 28:16 So the eleven *talmidim* went to the hill in the Galil where Yeshua had told them to go. **17** When they saw him, they prostrated themselves before him; but some hesitated. **18** Yeshua came and talked with them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore, go and make people from all nations into *talmidim*, immersing them into the reality of the Father, the Son and the *Ruach HaKodesh*, **20** and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember! I will be with you always, yes, even until the end of the age."

Yeshua instructed the remaining eleven disciples that they were to go to the nations and teach them what Yeshua had taught them – Torah. Torah is not about obeying strict rules from the Father. It is about the love that exists in the Torah and that should exist in us. We have to learn how to apply the Torah's love rather than the letter of the law. The letter kills while the spirit brings life. This does not leave the Torah out of the picture instead it puts the Torah right in the center because the Torah brings us to Yeshua the Messiah. The Torah should draw us to Him just like the moth is drawn to the flame.

We are all one Body in Messiah but we are not a Body where one side follows Torah and the other side rejects it. If we say we are one in Messiah we are one in all things the Messiah taught. He was a Rabbi, He taught Torah and His teachings should be taught today. If we apply the Torah without love we are nothing and if we apply love without Torah we have a problem.

Galatians 3:28 there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor freeman, neither male nor female; for in union with the Messiah Yeshua, you are all one.

1 Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient and kind, not jealous, not boastful, **5** not proud, rude or selfish, not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. **6** Love does not gloat over other people's sins but takes its delight in the truth. **7** Love always bears up, always trusts, always hopes, always endures. **8** Love never ends; but prophecies will pass, tongues will cease, knowledge will pass. **9** For our knowledge is partial, and our prophecy partial; **10** but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass. **11** When I was a child, I spoke like a child, thought like a child, argued like a child; now that I have become a man, I have finished with childish ways. **12** For now we see obscurely in a mirror, but then it will be face to face. Now I know partly; then I will know fully, just as God has fully known me. **13** But for now, three things last- trust, hope, love; and the greatest of these is love.

We fall not because we are weak but because we think we are strong...Yiddish proverb

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

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