

## Tree of Life Messianic Ministries

PO Box 467, Organ, NM 88052-0467 \* 575-382-0193 \* Fax 866-800-2390  
[tolmm@etz-chayim.org](mailto:tolmm@etz-chayim.org) \* [www.etz-chayim.org](http://www.etz-chayim.org)



**Message 6-20-09**  
**Shelach Lecha-Send for Yourself**  
**Numbers 13:1-15:41**  
**Joshua 2:1-24**  
**Hebrews 9:16-22**

### Introduction

In this week's portion Moses sends twelve scouts to spy out the land the people are about to enter.

### Numbers 14:19-24

**19** Please pardon the iniquity of this people, according to the greatness of your steadfast love, just as you have forgiven this people, from Egypt until now." **20** Then the LORD said, "I have pardoned, according to your word. **21** But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD, **22** none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, **23** shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it. **24** But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.

The Holy One of Israel looked deep into the hearts of the Israelites and saw that they despised Him and that because of that heart attitude they would never see the Land. Moses, as always, had interceded on behalf of the Israelites and the Almighty pardoned them but because of the fact that they had tested the Almighty ten times and had rejected Him in their hearts He had rejected them as His people. A relationship with the Almighty cuts both ways and is not a one way street.

**Genesis 12:3** I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

While this passage is the Almighty speaking to Abram its intent should not be lost on us. While the initial promise applies to Abram and his descendants, we are part of those descendants. Yet the Holy One tells Abram that He will bless those that bless you and curse those that curse you. It would

seem, on the face of it, that his descendants have not really been blessed by what mankind has done to them but the flip side is have they done what the Almighty has asked them to do? Don't expect blessings unless you do what He has instructed you to do.

I see these time and time again in congregations I have visited over the years. I have seen it in my own congregation's especially when it comes to the issue of true forgiveness. I watch as people tell me they have forgiven so-and-so but in their hearts they still bear a grudge. A truly forgiving person will be free of the burden but if they hold onto the grudge they will not just affect themselves they will infect others and ultimately the congregation. It is like the swine flu that is running rampant these days. I wonder how many people have stopped to consider that this may be a warning from the Almighty that His patience is wearing thin as it did with the Hebrews He had brought out of slavery in Egypt?

**Nehemiah 9:30** Yet for many years You had patience with them, and testified against them by Your Spirit in Your prophets. Yet they would not listen; Therefore You gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.

This is speaking about the time when the Almighty judged Israel and found them wanting and because of their sin He turned them over to the nations to punish them for their transgressions. Imagine, if you will, what would happen if everyone would stop trying to be the Almighty and just be His children? There are too many chiefs and not enough Indians my friends. When someone disagrees with the way a leader is doing something and they can't get them to do things their way they leave and start their own congregation. I have seen this and I have experienced this in my own congregation. There are instances where this might have to happen because the leadership is not in line with Messiah and Torah. If you have followed the Biblical procedure for dealing with a problem then you are free to go out. This does not mean you are free to raid the congregation to build your own. If the Almighty is in what you are doing He will make the way for you to build a congregation but don't do it at the expense of another congregation unless the people in the congregation feel the Ruach HaKodesh calling them out.

**Revelation 14:12** Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Yeshua.

The commandments of God and faith in Yeshua – this is what we are called to and we fail at it time and time again. You might believe you are doing the commandments but are they the commandments of the Torah or of man? I am not just talking about the Oral Law of the Jews but of the Oral Laws of the Church because man insists on their own laws sometimes contrary to the Almighty's. The yoke of the Messiah is light because it is the Torah. The Law's of men weigh you down and can take you away from Him only to find yourself lost and looking for a way out of all of this.

**Matthew 11:29** "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. [Jeremiah 6:16] **30** "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

What yoke is the Messiah talking about? What burden is He speaking about – the Torah! The Torah as it is supposed to be lived out in our lives every day that we walk this earth and with every breath that we take. That is what the Messiah is talking about. We have failed this in so many ways I cannot

begin to list how but read the Torah and you will see it. We are supposed to be a loving body but we are not. We fight at every turn, we find reasons to disagree. We see Torah and we say no to it. I find that hard to believe and yet I have seen it. I have seen it where people speak the words of the Messiah and then say I disagree with that and go on to spin it to what they want to see happen. It's amazing but I have seen this!

With everything that is happening throughout the world right now before our eyes we should be getting ourselves ready for the days ahead of us. If Messiah returned tomorrow what would He find? Would He find a better more mature group of people than what the Hebrew's were when He brought them out of Egypt? I think not! I think He will find the same bickering group who believe they are more spiritually mature than their ancestors when it is a facade of self-righteousness. I would rather a person be honest with me than smile at me and tell me what they think I want to hear but are thinking what they really want to say.

**Matthew 15:7** "You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you: **8** 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME. [Isaiah 29:13]

This is the people He will find. He has spoken to us in every generation down through the ages. Have we listened to His voice and obeyed His Word? I'll leave it up to you to answer the question.

#### **Joshua 2:21-24**

**21** And she said, "According to your words, so be it." Then she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window. **22** They departed and went into the hills and remained there three days until the pursuers returned, and the pursuers searched all along the way and found nothing. **23** Then the two men returned. They came down from the hills and passed over and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and they told him all that had happened to them. **24** And they said to Joshua, "Truly the LORD has given all the land into our hands. And also, all the inhabitants of the land melt away because of us."

אַתֶּה־תִּקְוֶה הַשָּׁנִי (Jos 2:21 WTT)

**8144** שָׁנִי shaniy {shaw-nee'}

**Meaning:** scarlet, crimson, properly, the insect 'coccus ilicis', the dried body of the female yielding coloring matter from which is made the dye used for cloth to color it scarlet or crimson

**Origin:** of uncertain derivation; TWOT - 2420a; n m

**Usage:** AV - scarlet 34, scarlet + 08438 5, scarlet thread 2, crimson 1; 42

**8615** תִּקְוָה tiqvah {tik-vaw'}

**Meaning:** cord, hope, expectation, ground of hope, things hoped for, outcome

**Origin:** from 06960; TWOT - 1994d, 1994e; n f

**Usage:** AV - hope 23, expectation 7, line 2, the thing that I long for 1, expected 1; 34

Do you see the promise hidden in this verse? The second word used is *tikvah* the word that is part of the national anthem of Israel. To those of us who are Believers in the Messiah of Israel our *scarlet cord* is the *scarlet hope* found in the blood of Messiah Yeshua. Rahab was instructed to hang this cord from her window so that when the Israelites came into Jericho that she and her family would be spared from the sword. The scarlet thread held life for her and she is said to have become a part of

the Children of Israel. She knew of the God of Israel and that the wonders He had done to Egypt and beyond that was known to the entire inhabitant's of the Land. The Land was there for Israel to take and they could rest in peace if they drove the Canaanites out, but instead they could not because their faith in the Almighty was not there.

As he was about to die, Joshua gathered the people around him to give them his final discourse. He drew on the Torah and Moses as he laid out the choices Israel could make. The one choice was to follow the ways of the Almighty and the other way was to follow the ways of the gods of the Land that they had been warned against. Several times Joshua told the people they would choose the easy way out and follow the gods of the nations that were still in the Land. Israel said no, they would not, that they would follow the Almighty. Joshua told them they would not and the people said together they would. Joshua held them at their word and made sure they understood what it was they were getting themselves into.

All of his life Joshua followed the Almighty. When Moses would leave the Tent of Meeting Joshua would stay there. Joshua was commander of the army of Israel. He led them into battle and to victory when they held fast to the ways of the Almighty. Joshua in Hebrew is Yehoshua and in Aramaic it is Yeshua. Joshua is a type of Messiah who is the commander of the army of the Holy One of Israel. The day is coming when He will return at the head of that army.

**Revelation 19:11** Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. **12** His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. **13** He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. **14** And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. **15** From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. **16** On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

This is the Messiah Ben David – the King of kings – who comes to set His Father's Kingdom right. The first time He came He came as Messiah Ben Joseph or the Suffering Servant to show us the way to redemption by His blood. He became the sin offering and the burnt offering that would go up as a sweet smelling fragrance to the Holy One of Israel. If we lose sight of this we lose sight of Him and then we will really be lost. This is the whole enchilada (as they say out here in the Southwest) and if you drop it you lose. He is the Bread of Life and His blood flows over us and cleanses us as the flood did to the earth long ago. Through the flood came one righteous man and his family while from the blood of Messiah comes the Redeemed of mankind.

### **Hebrews 9:16-22**

**16** For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. **17** For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. **18** Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. **19** For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, **20** saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." **21** And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. **22** Indeed,

under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

This passage has caused some in the Messianic Movement to struggle with the word and to try to invalidate the book of Hebrews. The word that causes the problem is *will*.

**1242 διαθήκη** diatheke {dee-ath-ay'-kay}

**Meaning:** a disposition, arrangement, of any sort, which one wishes to be valid, the last disposition which one makes of his earthly possessions after his death, a testament or will, a compact, a covenant, God's covenant with Noah, etc.

**Origin:** from 1303; TDNT - 2:106,157; n f

**Usage:** AV - covenant 20, testament 13; 33

Many times the word *diatheke* is translated as covenant. This is where the confusion comes in because *will* would have been a better choice because a will is what is done when death comes. What I mean is that a *will* comes into effect upon the death of the person whose *will* it is. When Yeshua died His will came into effect and His *will* was the covenant He had made through the giving of His body and the pouring out of His blood. So, both words can be used together here to explain what is happening. The Bible has a scarlet cord running through it from the beginning to the end. By following this cord we find Yeshua waiting for the day when He will be revealed. In His revealing the first time He came to set the covenant in place and when He returns the second time He will fulfill the second part of this covenant when He sets things right preparing the way for the final battle against the Adversary and his followers and to judge all of mankind and turn over His throne to His Father and take His rightful place next to Him.

Moses sprinkled the people with blood when they entered into the covenant of Torah. Yeshua washed us clean in His blood and we become bonded to Him as a bond-servant in faith and Torah.

### ***Who is brave? Who turns a foe into a friend...Period of the Mishnah***

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*Ardelle Brody [[abrody@mchsi.com](mailto:abrody@mchsi.com)](posted on Mordecai's website along with his Torah commentary-an excellent woman's perspective)*

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

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