



Taking Messiah Yeshua and Torah to the World!

Tree of Life Messianic Ministries  
PO Box 467, Organ, NM 88052-0467  
866-874-7250 \* Fax: 866-800-2390  
[tolmm@etz-chayim.org](mailto:tolmm@etz-chayim.org) \* [www.etz-chayim.org](http://www.etz-chayim.org)

**Message 4-17-10**  
**Tazria-She Bears Seed**  
**Leviticus 12:1-13:59**  
**2 Kings 4:42-5:19**

**Metsora-Infected One**  
**Leviticus 14:1-15:33**  
**2 Kings 7:3-20**  
**Acts 7:8**

### Introduction

Jackie Mason, the great Jewish humorist, traces the Jewish fixation with health and sickness to this Parashah, Tazria, and its frequent companion Metsora; a double portion and an unusually lengthy text, unique in all of Leviticus, that can be subtitled, How-To-Deal-With-Mysterious-Disease. This Parashah is confronting a natural human fear: the dreaded risk of a contamination from various infections spreading person-to-person, house-to-house.

### Leviticus 12:3

**3** And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised. (Lev 12:3 ESV)

*From the Jewish Study Bible: Circumcision is not a stage in the purification process. It is noted here by association; mention of the seventh day of a male child's life quite naturally calls to mind the event of the eighth day. Halakhic exegesis also notes that since the command of circumcision was given not to Moses but to Abraham (Gen. 17:9-14), it needed to be repeated here, in the context of the giving of the Torah to Israel in the wilderness, in order to be valid.*

The Jewish Study Bible's explanation that the command concerning circumcision had to be repeated here in order to be valid within the context of Torah is plausible to some degree since the Torah was being given to a newly formed nation rather than individuals. Prior to its giving at Mount Sinai the Torah had been given to individuals in some way, shape, and form - we do see Torah commands being followed by individuals before Mount Sinai with regards to Cain and Abel and their bringing of the first from their crops and flocks. Noah makes a sacrifice once he departs from the Ark after the flood waters recede. The most important instance of a pre-Sinai Torah command being done was by God Himself in Genesis after Adam and Chava sinned and they realized they were naked and He clothed them with the skins of an animal showing us the need for a blood sacrifice to be made in order for sin to be covered pointing the way to Yeshua's ultimate sacrifice.

The most obvious keeping of the Torah is found in Genesis 26:5 where we are told:

**Genesis 26:5** because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my Torahs. (Gen 26:5 ESV)

I have touched on this passage in the past but so many people skim over what is being said here. Abraham obeyed God by keeping His commandments, His statutes, and His Torahs or instructions. We need to remember that Torah is better translated, not as law, but as the teachings or instructions of the Holy One of Israel. He established a multi-faceted covenant with Abraham. He tried to establish His covenant with other individuals prior to Abraham but finally settled on Abraham as the recipient of this special calling.

The sign or seal of this covenant was to be circumcision or the cutting away of excess flesh that before this was used to cover a sensitive part of the male anatomy much as in the same way that our hearts need to be circumcised in order that the Holy One can write His covenant of Torah upon the flesh of our hearts in order to seal His covenant that before this was established through the sign of circumcision of the outward flesh. In the same way that immersion is the outward sign of an inner spiritual change outward circumcision is the outward sign of an inner spiritual change one that *cuts* to the heart of the *matter*. I realize I am making some puns with my choice of words here but I take seriously the covenant of the Almighty. A play on words is done by the writers of the Bible, from time to time, when a point needs to be made or the subject is repeated several times to make the point that the Almighty takes His word seriously.

The Number Eight in Jewish Life (a Chassidic view):

1. Eight vertices (Vertex (Latin: corner; plural vertices or vertexes) may refer to: Mathematics. Vertex (geometry), a corner point of a polygon, polyhedron, tessellation, etc.) of a cube.
2. Three-dimensional plurality.
3. The Holy One is one in the seven heavens and the earth.
4. The eighth day – the day of circumcision.
5. The eight days of Chanukah – “The candle of the Almighty is the soul of man.”
6. The circumcision of the foreskin of the lips on Chanukah.
7. The circumcision of the foreskin of the ears on the eighth day of Sukkot.
8. The circumcision of the foreskin of the heart on Yom Kippur, the eighth day of the High Priest’s separation.
9. The gateway to infinity.
10. The Almighty’s transcendent Light.
11. The origin of the soul and its descent through the seven heavens to earth.

While these interpretations are from Chassidic or Ultra-Orthodox perspectives the connections to a Messianic view can be seen literally in the interpretation of the number eight as the gateway to infinity or eternity, that place beyond time when the Messianic Age ends after one thousand years. The fact that another interpretation is the number eight is the Almighty's transcendent light should not be lost on us as Believer's in the Messiah Yeshua who is the Light of the world and the living Torah.

The meaning of transcendent is:

- 1 a: exceeding usual limits: surpassing b: extending or lying beyond the limits of ordinary experience c in Kantian philosophy: being beyond the limits of all possible experience and knowledge
- 2: being beyond comprehension
- 3: transcending the universe or material existence

This is man's way of trying to explain who the Creator is or what He is and the bottom line is He is beyond the limits of our understanding. Some of the meanings I have conveyed from Jewish understanding are connected with Kabbalah or Jewish mysticism a subject that is misunderstood on the one hand and on the other hand it bears closer scrutiny as not all of it is bad. Much of the Apostle John's Gospel is Kabbalistic in nature and understanding and shows us the deep nature of the word of the Holy One. He is beyond our understanding because look at what we have done with the little bit He has revealed to us?

**Job 37:14** "Hear this, O Job; stop and consider the wondrous works of God. **15** Do you know how God lays His command upon them and causes the lightning of His cloud to shine? **16** Do you know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of Him who is perfect in knowledge, **17** you whose garments are hot when the earth is still because of the south wind? **18** Can you, like Him, spread out the skies, hard as a cast metal mirror? **19** Teach us what we shall say to Him; we cannot draw up our case because of darkness. **20** Shall it be told Him that I would speak? Did a man ever wish that he would be swallowed up? **21** "And now no one looks on the light when it is bright in the skies, when the wind has passed and cleared them. **22** Out of the north comes golden splendor; God is clothed with awesome majesty. **23** The Almighty-- we cannot find him; He is great in power; justice and abundant righteousness he will not violate. **24** Therefore men fear him; He does not regard any who are wise in their own conceit." (Job 37:14 ESV)

Job sought to understand the Almighty – *El Shaddai* – and this was part of the Almighty's answer to him. It is not a matter of understanding the Eternal One it is a matter of opening up our hearts to Him and allowing Him to write His Torah on the flesh of our hearts after the foreskin has been circumcised. The eighth day speaks of what is beyond time to a place where those who belong to Him will enter into with Yeshua leading the way. He is the transcendent Light of the Holy One of Israel.

## **2 Kings 7:3-20**

**17** Now the king had appointed the captain on whose hand he leaned to have charge of the gate. And the people trampled him in the gate, so that he died, as the man of God had said when the king came down to him. **18** For when the man of God had said to the king, "Two seahs of barley shall be sold for a shekel, and a seah of fine flour for a shekel, about this time tomorrow in the gate of Samaria," **19** the captain had answered the man of God, "If the LORD

himself should make windows in heaven, could such a thing be?" And he had said, "You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat of it." **20** And so it happened to him, for the people trampled him in the gate and he died. (2Ki 7:17 ESV)

This passage is based on the words of the prophet Elisha, the disciple of the prophet Elijah and his successor. We are being told that nothing is beyond the power of the Almighty and all we have to do is stop and take the time to look and see Him all around us. My wife and I live at the foot of the Organ Mountains and every day, weather permitting, we walk our dogs along the base of the mountains. These mountains are up close and personal where we can see firsthand the majesty of our Creator and His handiwork. There are times I walk and I get so caught up in my own little world that I almost miss His world. He speaks to me when I take time to take stock of His creation. All we have to do is open our eyes and look around us and see our God at work. We not only see Him in what surrounds us we see His Son Yeshua through whom all of what exists was created. He was the Word of the Father spoken in the beginning that brought about all that is. He dwells in it because it comes from Him from the mouth of His Father.

This is more than just the words:

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen 1:1 CJB)

How many times have we read these words or recited them but did we really grasp their meaning? Do we understand what is being said here about the power of the Holy One and who He is?

*Three-dimensional plurality* – from the list of aspects of the number eight is an insight from Judaism and while not accepting the plurality of God that reveals the Messiah Yeshua there is an acceptance of the plurality or existence of a God-head among the Chassidim. There is so much we can learn from the Jewish sages but we get so caught up in the fear of things Jewish that we lose sight of the truth that can be ours if we get beyond our fear and stop hiding our heads in the sand like an ostrich. How can we hope to see or understand our Master if we are not looking for the light that will lead us out of the darkness? **Our Messiah was and is a Jew!** No matter how you cut it Yeshua was Jewish and still is but somewhere along the way we removed the Jewishness of our Messiah and replaced it with a neutered look that we were more comfortable with.

It seems that things Jewish upset too many people including the Church. Understanding that Yeshua was Jewish can be a freeing experience and open up doors to understanding that many are locked out of for now. It is empowering to open up one's eyes and take in the creation given to us as a gift from our Abba through His Son for us and for Him as well.

### **Acts 7:8**

**8** And He gave him the covenant of circumcision. And so Abraham became the father of Isaac, and circumcised him on the eighth day, and Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob of the twelve patriarchs. (Act 7:8 ESV)

Here we have a re-affirmation of the covenant of circumcision as given to Abraham by the Almighty with the commandment that it is done on the eighth day. Imagine carrying the sign of the covenant in your flesh as a reminder, not only of the covenant of Torah and the Promised

Land, but of the land that lies beyond this physical realm. It is my firm belief that we will return to the Garden of Eden on the eighth day.

**Genesis 2:15** Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to tend and keep it. (Gen 2:15 NKJ)

**Genesis 3:24** So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the Garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. (Gen 3:24 NKJ)

**Isaiah 51:3** Indeed, the LORD will comfort Zion; He will comfort all her waste places. And her wilderness He will make like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and sound of a melody. (Isa 51:3 NAU)

**Ezekiel 36:35** And they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the Garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.' **36** Then the nations that are left all around you shall know that I am the LORD; I have rebuilt the ruined places and replanted that which was desolate. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it. (Eze 36:35 ESV)

Too many believe we are living in paradise because mankind has advanced in so many ways but nothing could be further from the truth. We might think we have advanced so far but all we have done is moved ourselves further from God than ever before or maybe I should say as it was in the days of the Tower of Babel when man thought himself to be so high and mighty the true Almighty humbled man and brought him down back to earth where we belong until the day comes when He calls us forth into the eighth day. In the beginning we were placed in Paradise and sent out into the Wilderness just as Israel was brought out of Egypt and then found itself in the Wilderness where they were left for forty years as a remembrance of how man was sent out of Eden and where we now find ourselves in the Wilderness since that day.

Sin caused our exile from Eden and sin has caused our exile and punishment from our Creator. In the beginning the Father spoke forth His Word – Yeshua – who in turn brought us forth to dwell with Him in peace and not in contention the way it has been since man believed the lie given by Satan. The serpent was cursed to eat the dust of the earth for the rest of its life as punishment for allowing Satan to use it to mislead man. Satan was punished by being sentenced to the Lake of Fire in the end before the eighth day. Satan had tasted the eighth day and it was not enough for him. He wanted the throne and wanted to cast the Son down in order to take down the Father. This was not to be because we are told:

**Revelation 20:10** The Adversary who had deceived them was hurled into the lake of fire and sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet were; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Rev 20:10 CJB)

Amen and Amen!

***A man phones a mental hospital and asks the receptionist if there is anybody in room number 27. She goes and checks, and tells him, "No, Sir, the room is empty." "Great! That means I must have really escaped."***

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

---

If you have been blessed by what you have read in these daily e-mails or by what you have read or listened to on our website at [www.etz-chayim.org](http://www.etz-chayim.org) please make a donation to Tree of Life Messianic Ministries on our website by clicking on the donation button in increments of \$25.00 and you can increase your donation by changing the quantity...

---

If you would like to have your group listed on our website at [www.etz-chayim.org/directory.htm](http://www.etz-chayim.org/directory.htm) drop us an e-mail with your information...

---

Subscribe to our free e-mail groups by sending an e-mail to [tolmm@etz-chayim.org](mailto:tolmm@etz-chayim.org) asking to subscribe to one of our three e-mail lists. We offer the Whole House of Israel group (Torah commentary, news updates from Israel, Whole House of Israel light (a "light" version of Whole House of Israel with Torah commentary's only along with information pertinent to Tree of Life Messianic Ministries) and other items of interest and our Messianic Life magazine.

---

Tree of Life Messianic Ministries is a legally incorporated non-profit ministry with 501 (c) (3) status...