



Taking Messiah Yeshua and Torah to the World!

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Message 2-27-10
Tetsaveh-You Shall Command
Exodus 27:20-30:10
1 Samuel 15:2-34
Hebrews 9:22-28

Introduction

Since clothes make the man, this Parashah discusses the precise attire to be worn by the priesthood when performing Temple or Tabernacle services. The Chassidim love this portion: the desert sanctuary comes alive as a metaphor for personal inner sanctity; the building instructions are a blueprint on how to conduct oneself; the "eternal light" an inspiring symbol on how to illuminate one's life and drive away improper thoughts.

Exodus 28:30

30 "And you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron's heart when he goes in before the LORD. So Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel over his heart before the LORD continually.

From the Jewish Study Bible: It apparently consisted of two or more lots which the High Priest drew out of the breast piece and which signified a positive, negative, or noncommittal answer to a question or indicated a particular message. *Urim* and *Thummin* may have been the name of the lots. Derivation of these terms from Hebrew "*ohr*" for "light" and "*tom*," "completeness, perfection, integrity," is suggestive but far from certain. Thus Aaron shall carry the instrument of decision for the Israelites...before the Lord at all times: This may indicate that the *Urim* and *Thummim* were consulted only in the sanctuary.

I don't think the focus should be on the Urim and Thummim in this week's portion but on the fact that Aaron had to place them over his heart. He was to bear the Children of Israel over his heart before the Lord always. It would fall the High Priest the responsibility to have to be the intermediary between Israel and God. This was an awesome responsibility and one that should not be lost on us. The High Priest was doing what Yeshua would do for us later and does for us now. He is at the right hand of the Father constantly interceding on our behalf with His Father. Every time the High Priest would put on his official garments he would place the breastplate with the twelve stones in it that represented the twelve tribes of Israel along with the Urim and Thummim. Granted that the Urim and Thummim were apparently some sort of lots that would give the High Priest an answer from God on questions posed but even more so is the fact that with this God was moving away from a one-on-one relationship with His people and pointing the way to the need for someone to stand in the gap for His people.

Psalm 110:1 <A Psalm of David.> The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool."

John 14:6 Yeshua said to him, "I am the way, 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; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

I have said before that Judaism views God as a pure Spirit that cannot be seen and Yeshua makes the statement that if we know Yeshua we know the Father because He comes in His name and does what the father has instructed Him to do. This should help us understand the nature of God and Yeshua. Yeshua is the physical manifestation of an invisible God the Father. Can we see God the Father – not at this time but the possibility that one day we will be able to see the Father is confirmed to us in the word?

Revelation 22:1 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

Revelation 22:3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

In these two verses from Revelation there is an indication there will be two thrones, one for the Father and one for the Son, though I may be incorrect in my assumption. I try not to box God in. He is the one who existed before anything and it was through His Word that all things were brought into existence. The evidence is very strong that God is much more than a singular entity. Even though the Jewish people lay claim to an absolute singular or oneness of God there are Jews who see the Godhead even if it is through a Kabbalistic interpretation. I have said it before and I will repeat it once more that not everything labeled as Kabbalistic is bad. People hear the words "*Jewish Mysticism*" and immediately the walls go up. Why is it that when God does things that are supernatural in nature we tend to doubt but when Satan does things along the same lines we accept it as reality? There is a world of difference between what Satan does and what God does but they operate in the supernatural realm that crosses over in the physical world we live in.

Allow the power of the Holy One of Israel to work in your lives and you will experience an awakening in your understanding of what the Word of God has to teach you. This is what the Ruach HaKodesh does. The Holy Spirit is sent from God to help us to understand the mysteries found in the Word. The mysteries of God are being revealed a little bit at a time as the layers that separate God from us are being peeled back. I love the story of when God told Moses to bring Aaron and his sons and the elders of Israel up on the mountain to break bread with Him. How awesome do you think that was? To be in the presence of the Creator and have Him share a table with us – His creation. Think back in the Bible to all of those times when God spoke to man and when He walked in the Garden talking with Adam and Chava. If God is an invisible Spirit then who was it that did this? Things like this appear throughout the word and they should amaze us and make us hunger after His word even more and to want to have a close relationship with Yeshua because Yeshua is the way to the Father.

I have already shared a Scripture about this but I think it bears repeating that God chose us to be able to become His Children and to be part of His chosen people Israel. Aaron wore the

breastplate with the stones of the twelve tribes and the Urim and Thummim as a witness before God when he would come before Him in the Sanctuary. The burden of the judgment of the Children of Israel was upon Aaron. Moses spoke to God and then brought His teachings to the people while Aaron brought the people before God. It has been said in the Jewish writings of old that Moses loved the Torah and Aaron loved the people. Whether this is true or not, I don't know, but I think that Moses loved the people just as much as Aaron did because if not for Moses God would have judged Israel as lost sinners and would have wiped them off of the face of the earth forever but Moses would intercede on their behalf and God would stay His hand.

Aaron made the Golden Calf that some of Israel worshipped as their god. Moses destroyed the calf and made them drink the water that contained the ground up gold so they would remember their sin against their Creator. They did not remember and they died on the way to the Promised Land never able to enter into the promise. We wait for the promise of a place where the Father and Son will rule together from in a time beyond all time where the Bible does not go. No longer will we need an intermediary because no longer will there be sin. Aaron will no longer have to bear the judgment of the Children of Israel over his heart. God will be in all of our hearts in that day when we will all know God in a way we don't know Him now.

1 Samuel 15:22-23

22 Then Samuel said: "Has the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, *and* to heed than the fat of rams. **23** For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from *being* king."

In our weekly Bible study we have been studying the books of 1 and 2 Samuel and the story of David and Saul. Saul had been chosen by God to be the first king of Israel but he was not God's intended choice but was what the people wanted. They wanted a king just like the rest of the nations had and God gave them what they wanted. God was supposed to be the King of Israel but the people could never seem to shake off the bonds of the world. This would be sin of Judah and Ephraim and they would be sent into the nations as punishment for turning after the gods of the nations. Ephraim's punishment would be even greater with the sense of identity being taken away as well. They would wander the earth until God calls them back. In our day it would appear He is beginning to call Ephraim back but Ephraim is not even sure of whom they are as they hear His call. Some point to the Church and say the Church is Ephraim – the problem being that what markings are you using to determine the Church are Ephraim and why you are making that assumption? Israel is a calling for all of us and this breakdown into different groups are causing more and more dissension in an already messed up mix.

Now we have some saying that Gentiles, indicating non-Jews, do not have to follow the Torah if they choose not to. If they want to that is fine but it is not a sin if they don't want to. Following the Torah is a distinction for Judah alone and an obligation as well. Unfortunately I know of many Jews who do not view Torah observance as a calling let alone an obligation. What do you say to the many Gentiles who are following the Torah that they no longer have to follow it? I have dealt with this subject in my book *"The Torah IS Valid! The Covenant of Israel."* God is very clear that anyone who desires to be a part of His people Israel they are required to follow the God of Israel and His Torah. There is no two ways about it.

Saul desired to go his own way because he could not wait on Samuel. Samuel was a judge and priest of God Saul was not. Saul took too much upon himself the same as we do. When we make

decisions saying that some people have to follow the Torah and others do not have to we are advocating a two covenant system and this is not from God. I have to tell you that you need to be on your toes because there are teachings making the rounds under the guise of scholarly research that do not line up with the word of God. There are some who say the Jews can be saved by the keeping of the Torah alone. They say this because they have been blinded to the truth of Yeshua so Torah is their way to salvation. When you do this you deny the power of God to remove the blindness so the Jewish people can see Yeshua and accept Him as their Messiah.

Once again this advocates a two covenant theology that is the opposite of the one I described before this. The teachings that are rising to the surface must be viewed with extreme caution. Don't follow after Saul when you can follow after Samuel. I urge you, my friends, to do as the Bereans did.

Acts 17:11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and **searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.** **12** Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men.

The Bereans tested what Paul taught them to see if they lined up with the Word of God. Interestingly enough the Scriptures being spoken about had to have been the Tanach or Hebrew Bible. It could not have been the "New" Testament because it did not exist when Acts was written.

Hebrews 9:22-28

22 And according to the Torah almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. **23** Therefore *it was* necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. **24** For Messiah has not entered the holy places made with hands, *which are* copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; **25** not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another-- **26** He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. **27** And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, **28** so Messiah was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

There are some who deny the validity of the book of Hebrews. They say there are problems in it and have questioned whether it should be even in the Bible. This reminds me of an ancient figure in history Marcion who wanted the Tanach to be removed from the Bible as well as any book not written by Paul. In the end what he desired was rejected but he still garnered followers. In our day we are seeing a resurrection of the same things Marcion advocated for from the Church side and the Messianic camp. We are living in very dangerous times and we must be very careful because the enemy is out there just waiting for the opportunity to pounce upon those who do not understand.

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. **9** Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. **10** But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Messiah Yeshua, after you have suffered a while, perfect,

establish, strengthen, and settle *you*. **11** To Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Everything I have shared with you is taking place as you read these words my friends. You need to be careful in your walk because there are those who are seeking to derail the train that takes you to Messiah. He has already walked the road we are on and He never wavered in His faith and belief in His Father and what had been promised to him despite the suffering He had to go through. As Isaac lay bound on the altar waiting for his father to slay him as a sacrifice to God, Yeshua hung on the tree because His Father asked Him to so that we, His creation, could receive redemption. I don't know about you but I don't want to tamper with that or take the chance that some other road can lead to God or that God is a universal being that everyone worships.

I follow the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God who walked the earth as Yeshua. Beware of the Adversary as he seeks to devour those who have strayed from the straight and narrow road. Hold fast to your faith my friends as the day turns to night and the light is fading.

"You know," Miriam says to her best friend, "Whenever I'm down in the dumps I buy myself a dress." "well, now I know where you get them from!"

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

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