

# Tree of Life Messianic Ministries

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**Message 3-7-09**  
**Tetsaveh-You Shall Command**  
**Exodus 27:20-30:10**  
**Ezekiel 43:10-27**  
**Revelation 22:1-5**

## Introduction

This week's portion continues the account of the wilderness sanctuary by prescribing the consecration of Aaron and his sons as the first priests to minister in the Sanctuary.

## Exodus 30:1-10

**1** "You shall make an altar to burn incense on; you shall make it of acacia wood. **2** "A cubit *shall be* its length and a cubit its width-- it shall be square-- and two cubits *shall be* its height. Its horns *shall be* of one piece with it. **3** "And you shall overlay its top, its sides all around, and its horns with pure gold; and you shall make for it a molding of gold all around. **4** "Two gold rings you shall make for it, under the molding on both its sides. You shall place *them* on its two sides, and they will be holders for the poles with which to bear it. **5** "You shall make the poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. **6** "And you shall put it before the veil that *is* before the ark of the Testimony, before the mercy seat that *is* over the Testimony, where I will meet with you. **7** "Aaron shall burn on it sweet incense every morning; when he tends the lamps, he shall burn incense on it. **8** "And when Aaron lights the lamps at twilight, he shall burn incense on it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations. **9** "You shall not offer strange incense on it, or a burnt offering, or a grain offering; nor shall you pour a drink offering on it. **10** "And Aaron shall make atonement upon its horns once a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonement; once a year he shall make atonement upon it throughout your generations. It is most holy to the LORD."

You should take notice that only Aaron could burn the incense upon this altar. It would be placed before the veil that covers the ark of the Testimony or covenant. This would be in the Holy of Holies, the place where the Almighty would come to meet Aaron once a year on Yom HaKippurim – the Day of Atonements. To the Jewish people this is the holiest day on the Jewish calendar. It was

the only time the High Priest was permitted to enter into the Holy of Holies where he would make atonement for himself and for the Children of Israel and for the tabernacle because of all the offerings for sin that was made upon it throughout the preceding year. Notice that in verse 9 the Almighty instructs Aaron never to burn strange incense upon the altar. This might explain why Nadab and Abihu were killed by the Holy One because they willingly and deliberately brought strange fire before the Almighty. This was Aaron's responsibility not his sons. Some commentaries say that Nadab and Abihu were only zealous because they had just been ordained as priests of the Holy One of Israel.

He makes it very clear who was to bring incense into His presence and when. There were certain responsibilities the High Priest had and the other priests. What we can find in this is that we each have different responsibilities before the Almighty. Some may define this as gifts of the Spirit and for want of another definition I'll go along with that because we find this in the Word of the Almighty.

**1 Corinthians 12:4** There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. **5** There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. **6** And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. **7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: **8** for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, **9** to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, **10** to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. **11** But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. **12** For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Messiah. **13** For by one Spirit we were all immersed into one body-- whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free-- and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

The Apostle Paul gives us this description of some of the gifts of the Spirit – the Ruach HaKodesh. He makes it clear that these gifts are given not to divide the Body of Messiah but to bring them into unity as one Body in the Messiah Yeshua. Everything that was instructed by the Holy One was intended to bring them together as the Children of Israel. His desire was to see them come into unity as one Body with many different parts. We forget about this today and this is why so many congregations go through heartache within their Body. Instead of people working together in Messiah for the good of the entire Body everyone has their own agenda as to what they believe they think is best for the congregation. The Almighty's way is one of unity and oneness in **echad**. *Echad* is the Hebrew word for one but in a plural form. The Hebrew word for one in a singular form is **yachid**.

**Genesis 22:2** Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

**3173** יָחִידִי yachiyd {yaw-kheed'}

**Meaning:** adj 1) only, only one, solitary, one 1a) only, unique, one 1b) solitary 1c) (TWOT) only begotten son subst 2) one

**Origin:** from 03161; TWOT - 858a;

**Usage:** AV - only 6, darling 2, only child 1, only son 1, desolate 1, solitary 1; 12

This is the use of the Hebrew word for one in a singular form rather than the plural one **echad**. We see Adam and Chava are described as being one flesh. This is one in the plural form. The Almighty One is also seen in this same way in the plural form of one. As the Ruach HaKodesh-the Holy Spirit gives several different gifts to the Body – the Body is described as being one – this would be one in the plural form – **echad**. It is through things like this that the Holy One gives us glimpses as to who He is and how He is. He is like nothing we have ever seen in this life. It will be in the Olam Haba-the World to Come that we will finally see the Holy One of Israel, His Son and the Ruach HaKodesh as they have always been. We will probably wind up being humbled by this final revelation of who He is and how He manifests Himself.

Every congregation should try to come together in unity despite the differences that may exist between people. I have seen many people who congregation hop looking for just the right congregation where they are in agreement with everything the group does 100%. The sad part of this is that there is not a congregation that exists where you will always be in agreement 100% with what they do or believe. Congregations are living organisms because of the people within them. Sure, some congregation's can be seen as being dead spiritually because there is no love for other members of the Body or for the Creator. They might think they are doing these things but in truth they are not.

I have seen the Messianic Movement grow from its infancy as Messianic Judaism into the Messianic Movement that is now the umbrella that covers all different types of congregations and groups or however they have chosen to define themselves. It is usually in this label that they set themselves apart from others because it is though labels that we define who we are. This applies to people from the country's they live in or from the states or provinces they call home. Because I live in the United States I am an American and because I live in New Mexico I was a New Mexican. I am also Jewish. So many labels and it goes on because I am a Messianic Jewish Believer who believes in the equality of all Believers' in Messiah. We are all part of Israel – the Israel that includes those who believe in Yeshua the Messiah and walk out Torah in their lives. Yet I would be remiss if I did not include those who love the Almighty One and His Son but may not understand Torah though they are living it. It would be so better if we could find a simple definition for who we are in our Creator rather than what divides us.

The purpose of the Tabernacle was to provide the people a central place where they could worship the Holy One of Israel. They did not need idols any longer because the Almighty One of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had revealed Himself to, not just Israel, but to the rest of known world at that time. He stepped out of eternity where He dwells to show the world a small part of Himself. Then He came against Egypt and brought them to its knees and brought His chosen ones out of slavery and into freedom and made them His people. They could not accept what the Holy One of Israel was doing for them. They did not know how to deal with this new-found freedom. We struggle in the same way not knowing what to do with the revelation of the Almighty One as shown to us through His Son Yeshua. Everyone has their own take on what it means to be a follower of Yeshua. Some cling to the notion that somehow Yeshua and Jesus are the same when it is clear that the beliefs attached to Yeshua are of a Hebrew-Jewish foundation and not beliefs that sever these ties. This is what I believe is being spoken about when we read about another Jesus another gospel.

**2 Corinthians 11:4** For if he who comes preaches another Yeshua whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted-- you may well put up with it!

The Apostle Paul was speaking to the Corinthian congregation to whom he had written several letters because of things happening there. It would appear that the congregation was going through changes that were drawing them away from the true Messiah and the true gospel and the true Spirit. I am sure you will say that you are not doing what this congregation did but in truth we all may be doing this. The Church is doing it and those who are finding out about their Hebrew Roots. In their zeal for their Hebrew Roots they throw out the richness that Judaism has for them because you cannot grab hold of the Hebrew Roots of our faith without something from Judaism attaching itself to it. Whether you call it Hebrew or Jewish the reality is the flavor you have tasted in your quest for the truth has a Jewish taste to it.

### **Ezekiel 43:4-9**

**4** And the glory of the LORD came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east. **5** The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the temple. **6** Then I heard *Him* speaking to me from the temple, while a man stood beside me. **7** And He said to me, "Son of man, *this* is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever. No more shall the house of Israel defile My holy name, they nor their kings, by their harlotry or with the carcasses of their kings on their high places. **8** "When they set their threshold by My threshold, and their doorpost by My doorpost, with a wall between them and Me, they defiled My holy name by the abominations which they committed; therefore I have consumed them in My anger. **9** "Now let them put their harlotry and the carcasses of their kings far away from Me, and I will dwell in their midst forever.

When the Almighty instructed Moses to have the Children of Israel build a Tabernacle to house His presence I would dare say that the people never expected the presence of the Holy One to descend upon the Tabernacle to take up residence above the Ark of the Testimony where He would speak to Moses and to the High Priest once a year. When the people sinned they lost the presence of the Holy One dwelling in their midst. He chose to remove His presence from within their midst and had Moses set up a tent at the edge of the camp where Moses would go to meet the Almighty when he was called. It was there that the presence of the Almighty would descend. What would we do if we were faced with the same situation? Actually we are and it might be that we are failing as well. Are we forcing the presence of the Holy One to dwell outside our camp?

Do we really welcome the Holy One of Israel into our congregations on the Sabbath and into our lives? When He created Adam He breathed not just life into man but this life was the Ruach HaKodesh.

**Genesis 2:7** Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

<05301> נָפַח *naphach* (655d)

**Meaning:** to breathe, blow

**Origin:** a prim. root

**Usage:** blow(3), blows(1), boiling(2), breathe(1), breathed(1), breathing is labored\*(1), disdainfully sniff(1), lose(1), unfanned(1).

### **Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Lit soul

<sup>a</sup> Gen 3:19

<sup>b</sup> 1Co 15:45

<05397> נִשְׁמָה neshamah (675c)

**Meaning:** *breath*

**Origin:** from 5395

**Usage:** blast(2), breath(15), breathes(1), life(1), persons alive(1), spirit(2), who breathed(3).

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Lit *soul*

<sup>a</sup> Gen 3:19

<sup>b</sup> 1Co 15:45

5315 נֶפֶשׁ nephesh {neh'-fesh}

**Meaning:** 1) soul, self, life, creature, person, appetite, mind, living being, desire, emotion, passion 1a) that which breathes, the breathing substance or being, soul, the inner being of man 1b) living being 1c) living being (with life in the blood) 1d) the man himself, self, person or individual 1e) seat of the appetites 1f) seat of emotions and passions 1g) activity of mind 1g1) dubious 1h) activity of the will 1h1) dubious 1i) activity of the character 1i1) dubious

**Origin:** from 05314; TWOT - 1395a; n f

**Usage:** AV - soul 475, life 117, person 29, mind 15, heart 15, creature 9, body 8, himself 8, yourselves 6, dead 5, will 4, desire 4, man 3, themselves 3, any 3, appetite 2, misc 45; 751

There are no notes for this verse.

Breathed, breath and being are the Hebrew words used here to describe what the Almighty did to bring man to life. He placed a soul within man. That is what *nephesh* means. The soul and spirit are two different things that both exist within man and they make man what he or she is. Every person who has ever lived or who will ever live has the spirit of the Almighty in them because He places that there when we come to life. We know there is something more than us out there. We know that simply living whatever number of years we will live and then die is not all there is to life. The Bible tells us there is more, much more.

Those who do not know the Messiah Yeshua and have not been forgiven of their sins will one day stand before the throne of the Holy One of Israel for judgment. Is that when it will dawn on them that the Bible is not just a book full of stories, it is reality, and the story of our relationship with our Creator and what He expects from us. He lays this out in detail so we do not miss the point and yet we do. I see it all the time how people get so caught up in themselves that they lose sight of the goal – Messiah!

### Revelation 22:1-5

**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. **2** In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. **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. **4** They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. **5** There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

This is the culmination of the promises the Almighty has made with His people Israel. Israel is more than the Jewish people, it is more than the twelve tribes of Israel, it is more than the House of Judah and the House of Ephraim. It is about all those who have become grafted into the tree of Israel or in all possibility it is the tree of life we have become a part of the one that once stood in the midst of the Garden of Eden and now stands in the Kingdom of the Holy One and His Son in this passage from Revelation. The fruit that comes from this tree bears twelve types of fruit and it is for the healing of the nations. This healing brings us together as one – as ***echad***. This is where we began this week's portion and this is where it will end. It is no different than when we were brought into being by our Creator and placed in the Garden of Eden to tend it for Him.

**Genesis 2:8** The LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed.

One day we will once again stand in the Garden of Eden where the light of the Father and of the Son will outshine the sun, moon and stars. Once again we will be clothed in the glory of the Holy One as Adam and Chava once were before they fell. One again...once again...O Holy One of Israel please come quickly, Amen!

***We have not beheld the light of the Divine if we think only of ourselves when serving God...Chassidic***

**Other good Torah teachings:**

**Tony Robinson at [www.devoted.to/Torah](http://www.devoted.to/Torah) (sign up)**

**Mark R. Ensign at [mrensign@arn.net](mailto:mrensign@arn.net) (request to be added to list)**

**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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