

Kehilah Portland



A Messianic Jewish Synagogue

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Messianic Perspectives

Shalom and welcome to Messianic Perspectives – a program aired on radio stations WRKJ 88.5 and WMTP 91.1 in Maine, with the purpose of exploring the scriptures from a Jewish point of view. Paul, whose Hebrew name is Sha'ul writes in Romans 9:4 – 5:

Rom 9:4 the people of Isra'el! They were made God's children, the Sh'khinah has been with them, the covenants are theirs, likewise the giving of the Torah, the Temple service and the promises;

Rom 9:5 the Patriarchs are theirs; and from them, as far as his physical descent is concerned, came the Messiah, who is over all. Praised be Adonai for ever! Amen.

It is from this perspective that we will explore the relationship between the Tenach – the Jewish Bible and the Brith Hadoshah – the New Covenant writings.

Today's topic – Why Mikveh

Last time I mentioned Ritual Impurity, Consecration and Conversion as three reasons why one would go through Mikveh or immersion.

All three of these aspects are also the reasons why a believer is instructed to go through immersion, commonly known as baptism;

Ritual impurity – a symbolic cleansing of our sinfulness

Mat 3:2 "Turn from your sins to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near!"

This concept of turning from your sins and turning to God in Hebrew is known as T'shuvah, what many understand as repentance. I will discuss this in greater detail on a future segment

Consecration – setting us apart to be citizens of the Kingdom of Adonai, the Kingdom of Heaven. In essence separating us from our old life and old nature. This is the same concept when Adonai consecrated Israel at Mount Sinai in Exodus 19.

Conversion or Transformation -

As believers in Yeshua, we have been transformed. Sha'ul, says that we have received a new nature.

By being immersed you are making the statement that I am “ritually unclean” one of sinfulness, that I have either ignored Adonai or never recognized Him to begin with. You are willing to submit and be obedient to the smallest of instructions in order to be transformed.

Coming out of immersion, you are consecrated and transformed.

Separated from your past life and transformed into a new creation.

Through acceptance of Messiah, we are identified as a new creation – 2 Corinthians chapter 5 and verse 17:

2Co 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is united with the Messiah, he is a new creation — the old has passed; look, what has come is fresh and new!

This is what is called being born again, another Jewish concept that I will talk about next time.

For believers there is also another immersion, not of water but of the Spirit of Adonai: Matthew Chapter 3 and verse 11

Mat 3:11 It's true that I am immersing you in water so that you might turn from sin to God; but the one coming after me is more powerful than I — I'm not worthy even to carry his sandals — and he will immerse you in the Ruach HaKodesh (the Holy Spirit) and in fire.

It is when we receive this second immersion that our lives forever change.

During the month of June, Messianic Perspectives is offering the message "Covenant Confusion" to anyone sending a tax deductible gift in any amount in support of this ministry and Portland's only Messianic Jewish Synagogue, Kehillah Portland. If God places this ministry upon your heart, please send your offering to Jewish Heritage Revival – 12 Liberty Lane, Unit 68, South Portland, ME 04106. Please be sure to include your name and address so that we may send you a copy of the message and your tax deductible receipt.

Past episodes of Messianic Perspectives are archived on our web site – www.shalommaine.com

Feel free to send your questions and comments to info@jewishheritagerevival.com

So, until next time when we will continue our journey into Messianic Perspectives, todah and shalom (thank you and peace)

Messianic Perspectives is brought to you by Kehilah Portland, a Messianic Jewish Synagogue located in South Portland, where both Jew and non-Jew come together to worship on Shabbat and believe Yeshua is the Messiah spoken of in scripture and is the fulfillment of many promises given to Israel and the Jewish people. We meet every Saturday at 1338 Broadway Ave. in the Greater Portland Christian School gymnasium. Our service begins at 10:00 with meet and greet, followed by Torah study at 1 pm.