

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 – The New Covenant Writings

Over the last few segments I have been sharing what Yeshua meant by His statement recorded in Yochanan chapter 14 and verse 15:

Joh 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commands;

Concluding, the same instructions that Ruth would have done as a convert to Israel are the same instructions for believers in Yeshua.

I want to continually reemphasize that not all Torah applies to everyone and that there are instructions that can no longer be done because the Temple is no longer standing.

During His sermon on the mount, Yeshua makes the following statement: Matthew chapter 5 and verses 17 through 20

Mat 5:17 "Don't think that I have come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete.

Mat 5:18 Yes indeed! I tell you that until heaven and earth pass away, not so much as a yud (י) or a stroke will pass from the Torah — not until everything that must happen has happened.

Mat 5:19 So whoever disobeys the least of these mitzvot and teaches others to do so will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But whoever obeys them and so teaches will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Mat 5:20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness is far greater than that of the Torah-teachers and P'rushim, you will certainly not enter the Kingdom of Heaven!

In looking at verse 17 first, Yeshua is telling everyone that His purpose is not to tear down and replace the foundation of Israel which is Torah and the Prophets. What has already been written will remain.

There is a misconception among believers regarding this passage. Many translations use the word fulfill in verse 17 and tend to understand fulfillment as being no longer required. If it has been fulfilled you can check it off the list as being done by

Yeshua, so we no longer are required to do it ourselves. However, when you look at the Greek word used here, pleroosai, a better translation is to make full or to complete.

Yeshua did not come to abolish but "to make full" (*pléroōsai*) the meaning of what *Torah* and the ethical demands of the Prophets require. Thus he came **to complete** our understanding of **the Torah and the Prophets**, so that we are empowered by the Ruach ha Kodesh to do what is written.

Over the next few segments, I will dissect this passage proclaimed by Yeshua and apply the understanding that is relevant for all believers, whether Jewish or not.

During the month of July, Messianic Perspectives is offering the message "Whatever Happened to the Sabbath" 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.

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

Past segments of Messianic Perspectives are archived on our web site www.shalommaine.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 Kehillah 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.