

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

We have been exploring Matthew chapter 5 and verses 17 through 20 and expanding upon the understanding Yeshua was conveying to His audience. He taught the following:

1. He came to complete our understanding of Torah and the Prophets.
2. Nothing will be removed from Torah, not so much as a yud or stroke that would change a word and the meaning of the text until everything that is supposed to happen has happened.
3. Whoever disobeys the least of the mitzvots found in Torah and teaches others to do so will be called least in His Kingdom
4. Our conduct should be greater than that of the Torah teachers and P'rushim or Pharisees.

Sounds pretty legalistic.

He is telling us to keep all these rules and ordinances.

What happened to grace and faith?

What does Sha'ul say about all of this? He is the author of all of these grace and faith letters. Surely he is going to say something different.

Romans chapter 3 and verses 28 through 31

Rom 3:28 Therefore, we hold the view that a person comes to be considered righteous by God on the ground of trusting, which has nothing to do with legalistic observance of Torah commands.

Rom 3:29 Or is God the God of the Jews only? Isn't he also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, he is indeed the God of the Gentiles;

Rom 3:30 because, as you will admit, God is one. Therefore, he will consider righteous the circumcised on the ground of trusting and the uncircumcised through that same trusting.

Rom 3:31 Does it follow that we abolish Torah by this trusting? Heaven forbid! On the contrary, we confirm Torah.

Our trust or faith in relation to the grace provided by Adonai actually validate Torah. It is through our circumcised heart, the instruction of Yeshua and the Ruach ha Kodesh that we are and should be willing to follow the instructions of the one who created us. The same one who died for us, in order to reconcile His creation back to the creator is the same one who created Torah.

Many rebel when they hear the word law, which is not the best translation for Torah. A better translation into English is instructions. Ultimately, Torah are the instructions of Adonai. As I have continually stated we need to understand the context to what applies to whom in Torah and in relation to the New Covenant.

I introduced some terminology in Romans chapter 3 and verse 28 that I will expand upon next time.

What just is legalistic observance of Torah commands.

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 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 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.