

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 – Hebrew Idioms

Last episode I discussed the Hebrew idiom of the dead burying their own dead. This is one of over 1000 Hebrew idioms found throughout scripture. Continuing, our next idiom is understanding the term hate.

When we look at a scripture such as Romans 9:13, which quotes Malachi 1:2 – 3

Rom 9:13 This accords with where it is written, "Ya`akov I loved, but Esav I hated."

When we see the word hate used, we are conditioned to focus on the actual meaning of the word as used in our cultural context today.

To hate means - To feel intense and passionate dislike, to loathe or detest.

The implication is one of disdain for another person. So when Yeshua makes such a statement as found in Luke chapter 14 and verse 26:

Luk 14:26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father, his mother, his wife, his children, his brothers and his sisters, yes, and his own life besides, he cannot be my talmid.

How are we to take it?

On the surface, when this verse is taken literally and applying the definition of the word hate, we are to dislike, to loathe and to detest our family. Such a view is in direct contrast to Torah when we are told to honor our father and mother.

So is Yeshua speaking against Torah? As Sha'ul would say, "heaven forbid"

In the examples that I have provided from Malachi 1, Romans 9 and Luke 14

For Ya'akov I love, but Esau I hate...when putting this phrase through Jewish thought and understanding a better translation would be:

For Ya'akov I love, but Esau I love less.

When we look at this idiom through the perspective it was written, makes other scriptures easier to understand. So, with cultural context applied Luke chapter 14 and verse 26 means...

If anyone comes to me and doesn't love their father, mother, wife, children, brothers or sisters, not to mention their own lives less than Me, they are not my talmadim.

When we look at Adonai's order of His commandments, We are to love Him first and foremost, commandments 1 through 4, then we are to honor our father and mother, the fifth commandment.

It is all about who we place first in our lives.

So, when we understand the idiom, scripture is so much easier to understand and therefore apply to our lives.

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 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.