

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 Sabbath

Last episode of Messianic perspectives I provided you with statements from the Council of Nicea in 325 of the common era that forever changed the direction for believers.

I had quoted a reference that had indicated that there were already believers who were doing different things such as meeting on Sunday. What many don't realize regarding the history of this movement of Adonai of belief in Messiah and its Jewish origins as recorded by Luke in the Book of Acts was that a significant historical event would become the catalyst for the primary influence of believers shifting from a Jewish foundation to a non-Jewish influence.

This one event that caused a chain reaction, leading to the paradigm shift was the destruction of the Temple in 70 of the common era followed by the final defeat of Judea during the Bar Kokbah revolt in 135 of the common era that would lead to the expulsion of the Jewish people from the land.

As recorded in Acts, Jerusalem was the center of this movement. It is where Ya'akov also known as James and Kefa, also known as Peter resided. Subsequent leaders would reside in the land. However, with expulsion, influence would first shift to Alexandria Egypt and later to Rome.

From the time after 135 of the common era would arise certain individuals such as Justin Martyr, Oregin and Eusabius who would forever change the direction, moving away from the Jewishness of the gospel. It was Oregin who taught Eusabius who would ultimately influence Constantine. There was a distinct bias against anything Jewish, even within the New Covenant writings by these men. Eusebius wrote a history of the church that eliminated any positive reference regarding Israel and its restoration.

This shift from the Jewishness that we can view the Brith Hadoshah also known as the New Covenant writings has been minimized in understanding to the point where it has ultimately become discarded and taught from a non-Jewish mindset. I recently completed segments on Hebrew idioms. Without understanding the cultural dynamic behind what was written can lead and has led to significant errors in theology.

Today many believers have been taught that the Sabbath has been done away with. One person used the phrase "it has been nailed to the cross". The article that we are offering as a gift provides a comprehensive look at the Sabbath. Time would not permit me to go into detail, but let me summarize the following:

1. The Sabbath predates the giving of Torah to Israel and is part of creation
2. It is the only day of the weekly cycle that Adonai set apart, making it holy
3. It was given to Israel as a gift, representing a sign of the covenant Adonai made at Sinai
4. Yeshua didn't do away with the Sabbath, but spent a great deal of time instructing on properly keeping it.
5. Believers kept the Sabbath as recorded in the New Covenant writings
6. Finally, When Messiah returns, every believer will be keeping the Sabbath

Next time we will look at what the New Covenant writings say about the Sabbath.

This week, 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.