

Kehilah Portland



A Messianic Jewish Synagogue

Congregational Business Mailing Address:

12 Liberty Lane, Unit 68
South Portland, ME 04106
Website: www.shalommaine.com
Email: info@jewishheritagerevival.com

Congregation Meeting Address:

1338 Broadway Ave.
South Portland, ME 04106

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 – Torah and Some Misconceptions

What is Torah?

Many of you know it as the Pentateuch, the five books of Moses or the law. Torah is the Hebrew word that references the first five books of your bible. Many versions translate Torah into law. Although that is not inaccurate, law isn't the best translation. A better translation into English for Torah would be instructions. So, Torah is more accurately known as instructions.

Whose instructions and to whom?

Torah or instructions were given to the descendants of Avraham, known as Israel and today the Jewish people. Think of Torah as their constitution. It contains instructions for a people that will become a nation created by Adonai. There are civil instructions given specifically for Israel as a nation. Just as the US constitution is only for this country, likewise there are instructions in Torah that applied only to Israel.

There are ceremonial laws, pertaining to the priesthood, who were the spiritual leaders of the nation.

Just as we have our holidays – July 4th, Memorial Day and Thanksgiving, likewise Israel has its holidays or moadim. These are known as the Feasts of Adonai, given to Israel.

The final category of instructions are known as moral instructions. These instructions were given directly to Israel, but are applicable to all people.

The framers of the US constitution used as their inspiration the Torah, what Adonai instructed to Israel. So, if only 237 years ago, the framers of the constitution considered Torah to be foundational for our country, isn't it still today?

Many view Torah as old testament, meaning that all within it has been superseded by the New Covenant. This is where the confusion begins and perception takes over.

Today, we have very briefly covered that Torah does contain many instructions and was inspirational in the foundational development of the United States. However, the misconception that Torah is instruction only and not relevant for today is totally false and incorrect.

Torah is so much more than instructions. In our next broadcast, I will delve further into the dynamics of Torah.

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.

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 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.