

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 – Significance of Sukkot

In our last segment of Messianic Perspectives, I provided you with some insight as to the meaning of the feast of Sukkot given to Israel. I had mentioned that it was both a time of remembrance but also a time of joy.

I would like to expand further on the element of joy and the feast of Sukkot.

Specific instruction is given that you are to be joyful during this time. That means no heavy hearts, no grieving, no sadness.

Deuteronomy chapter 16 and verses 13 and 14:

Deu 16:13 "You are to keep the festival of Sukkot for seven days after you have gathered the produce of your threshing-floor and winepress.

Deu 16:14 Rejoice at your festival - you, your sons and daughters, your male and female slaves, the L'vi'im, and the foreigners, orphans and widows living among you.

We have been commanded to have a good time. Why?

What is happening at this time?

- We have just come out of a very serious time in that Yom Kippur was just 5 days previous.
- It is the time of the final harvest of the year.

Our time of remembrance is also a time of joyfulness in that we are remembering how Adonai was with us the entire time in the desert after leaving Egypt.

There is even another instruction given for Sukkot to those who are traveling from far off and can't effectively bring their tithes of the harvest with them. Deuteronomy chapter 14 and verses 22 through 26

Deu 14:22 "Every year you must take one tenth of everything your seed produces in the field,

Deu 14:23 and eat it in the presence of Adonai your God. In the place where he chooses to have his name live you will eat the tenth of your grain, new wine and olive oil, and the firstborn of your cattle and sheep, so that you will learn to fear Adonai your God always.

Deu 14:24 But if the distance is too great for you, so that you are unable to transport it, because the place where Adonai chooses to put his name is too far away from you; then, when Adonai your God prospers you,

Deu 14:25 you are to convert it into money, take the money with you, go to the place which Adonai your God will choose,

Deu 14:26 and exchange the money for anything you want - cattle, sheep, wine, other intoxicating liquor, or anything you please - and you are to eat there in the presence of Adonai your God, and enjoy yourselves, you and your household.

Eating in the presence of Adonai in essence is having a meal together that ultimately reaffirms the covenant. Sukkot is that time.

Feel free to visit our web site shalommaine.com. We have created articles on all the feasts including Sukkot that will provide you with a wealth of information you may have never known before. You will gain a Jewish perspective on the Messiah of your faith and how it impacts your relationship.

If you have been blessed with this segment and would like to support our efforts with a tax deductible gift, you can send your offering to Jewish Heritage Revival – 12 Liberty Lane, Unit 68 South Portland, Maine 04106. In supporting this broadcast you are also supporting Maine's first and only Messianic Jewish Synagogue.

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.