

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 – Torah and Application

In our last two episodes, we heard briefly from Yeshua and Sha'ul regarding what they said about Torah.

Yeshua said that it would not pass away until all was accomplished. Sha'ul called it Holy and that without it you would not know what sin is.

So, with two strong supporters of Torah, how can we relate that today. Time will not permit me to provide a sufficient answer. However, let me provide you with a few nuggets for starters...

If you understand Torah first, from a Jewish perspective, everything else will fall into place, including the New Covenant in relation to Yeshua.

Many of His teachings dealt with providing a proper understanding of Torah, directly from the author Himself.

When people say that it is impossible for anyone to keep all of Torah, I want you to understand that they are both correct and incorrect.

They are correct in that it is impossible for anyone to keep all of Torah, because not all of Torah applies to everyone. There are instructions specifically for the priesthood. If you are not a priest, they don't apply. If you are the King of Israel, there are instructions that apply only to the King. If you are not the King of Israel, then that part of Torah doesn't apply.

They are incorrect in that what does apply is not impossible to do because it can be and has been accomplished before. When we look at someone like Zechariah, father of Yochanan the Immerser (John the Baptist) in Luke chapter 1 and verses 5 and 6

Luk 1:5 In the days of Herod, King of Y'hudah, there was a cohen named Z'kharyah who belonged to the Aviyah division. His wife was a descendant of Aharon, and her name was Elisheva.

Luk 1:6 Both of them were righteous before God, observing all the mitzvot and ordinances of Adonai blamelessly.

I would like to provide some additional context to verse six and state that both Z'kharyah and Elisheva were deemed righteous through observing all the mitzvot and ordinances that applied to them. Z'kharyah and Elisheva had different standards to maintain. Z'kharyah was both a man and cohen so he had different mitzvots than his wife. The point being that they did everything that was required of them and therefore viewed to be righteous and blameless before Adonai.

In order to gain understanding regarding Torah, you need to study Torah and apply it to the context of Yeshua's teachings.

We go through the Torah every year, by doing what is known as the Parashah...Torah divided into weekly portions that regardless of where you are, are studied in congregations throughout the world at the same time.

I strongly encourage everyone listening to pursue such a study. It will forever change your life, just like when you first accepted Yeshua as Messiah and Savior. When Yeshua said my yoke is easy, He was referring to Torah in its proper and intended context.

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 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.