

November 25, 2023

A Response To My Question To Adonai.

Subsequent to October 7<sup>th</sup> and the unprovoked attack against Israel and the events that would transpired I shared with you my surprise that I heard little from our connections within the Christian community. There was no response that came to us, knowing who we are and the connections we have established.

Well, on November 12<sup>th</sup>, we received an unexpected response from an unexpected source. A source we have never been in contact with, have no relations with or know no one there.

I believe this is a response in response to our questions we posed to Adonai...

*Good morning,*

*I teach Ancient World History to 9th/10th graders over at Windham Christian Academy and we are about to begin a section on the Roots of Judaism.*

*Besides what is devastatingly happening in our world today, I wanted to emphasize the importance of knowing about Judaism. However, I would love for these students to get the accurate Messianic Jewish view of Judaism.*

*Therefore, would someone be available to come speak to the class in December? Maybe even lead us in a mini, informative celebration of Hanukkah? I know a lot would be involved with that and I could get parent volunteers to prepare, bring in food, etc. I also teach Earth Science so we could dedicate an entire afternoon (12:20-2:40) to your visit any day Tues through Fri! If more time is needed, I could request an in-school field trip; we have flexibility!*

*I am new to Maine (we actually looked into GPCS as an option for our girls before we bought a house closer to WCA) so I don't know if you have done this before for GPCS or WCA but, either way, I know the students would soak in as much knowledge from you all as they could during your visit!  
Please let me know if this is a possibility and I pray that you have a blessed week.*

This has been on my mind for the last two weeks as we exchanged emails back and forth to which this email came in earlier this week, November 22<sup>nd</sup>,

*I hope your Thanksgiving week is going well!*

*For December, I'm so excited for you to come and speak to my Ancient History class that I'm having a difficult time narrowing down the subject matter*

*I know you said you were willing to come more than once so if that is still an option, please pick which two afternoons work best for you. Our class meets every afternoon, Tues-Fri.*

*I'd greatly appreciate if you could discuss the following:*

- What Messianic Jews believe about the beginning of their "religion" (so many directions you could go with that; I'm interested to hear how the Holy Spirit leads you!)*
- How you and your congregation celebrate Hanukkah (I can provide a few treats if you would direct me to which ones fit your presentation best)*
- As many fulfilled prophecies you'd like to discuss in the allotted time, to include bringing the Torah scroll, as it ties in wonderfully with the Roots of Judaism from our book!*

*Of course, I have to chuckle at the last one because it would take years to simply scratch the surface of Christ's fulfilled prophecies but I trust you to know which ones to discuss in December. Unfortunately, the curriculum schedule only allows me to allot ~two hours each time in the afternoon. It would be from 12:50-2:40. However, the students will have eaten lunch so whatever treats we prepare will be small/manageable and not take up too much of your presentation time.*

*Please let me know when you are available and what you need from me to prepare ahead of time! If your schedule only allows you to speak once in Dec, please hold off on the fulfilled prophecies except those relating to Hanukkah.*

*Because- my principal, Mrs. Sands, would love for you to return and lead all of the high school students (and teachers and staff) in a Passover Seder, if you are available. The school can offer a small stipend for the Passover Seder and provide the ingredients. According to my calendar, that will be in April (though we would work around your schedule so if March is better, that is fine with us!) and we have plenty of time to prepare for that.*

*Thank you, again, for your joyful willingness to do this. I am truly overjoyed that you will be showing our students such important insight into God's work through His people!*

*It would be easy to just rattle off all the fulfilled prophecies from the Tanakh and list the corresponding verses in the Brith Hadosah.*

*As I have been pondering what to do and how to do it, I wanted to take them back in time to where they can understand the Judaism of Yeshua's time. Get into the minds of the people, their thoughts, their expectations.*

*Should time permit I will provide an overview of the history of Judaism and the contrast between Biblical Judaism and Rabbinic Judaism of today. What we see*

today is not what we see in Scripture. Much has been added to it that was never intended to be added to it. Even at the time of Yeshua He calls out the P'rushim for their traditions.

**Mar 7:1** The P'rushim and some of the Torah-teachers who had come from Yerushalayim gathered together with Yeshua

**Mar 7:2** and saw that some of his talmidim ate with ritually unclean hands, that is, without doing n'tilat-yadayim.

**Mar 7:3** (For the P'rushim, and indeed all the Judeans, holding fast to the Tradition of the Elders, do not eat unless they have given their hands a ceremonial washing.

**Mar 7:4** Also, when they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they have rinsed their hands up to the wrist; and they adhere to many other traditions, such as washing cups, pots and bronze vessels.)

**Mar 7:5** The P'rushim and the Torah-teachers asked him, "Why don't your talmidim live in accordance with the Tradition of the Elders, but instead eat with ritually unclean hands?"

**Mar 7:6** Yeshua answered them, "Yesha`yahu was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites—as it is written, 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far away from me.

**Mar 7:7** Their worship of me is useless, because they teach man-made rules as if they were doctrines.'

**Mar 7:8** "You depart from God's command and hold onto human tradition.

**Mar 7:9** Indeed," he said to them, "you have made a fine art of departing from God's command in order to keep your tradition!

So I intend to look at what the people expected and thus anticipated.

First I will look at the promise made to Moshe...

**Deu 18:15** "Adonai will raise up for you a prophet like me from among yourselves, from your own kinsmen. You are to pay attention to him,

**Deu 18:16** just as when you were assembled at Horev and requested Adonai your God, 'Don't let me hear the voice of Adonai my God any more, or let me see this great fire ever again; if I do, I will die!'

**Deu 18:17** On that occasion Adonai said to me, 'They are right in what they are saying.

**Deu 18:18** I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kinsmen. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I order him.

**Deu 18:19** Whoever doesn't listen to my words, which he will speak in my name, will have to account for himself to me.

For the people were most certainly anticipating the Prophet when you look at their responses at certain times. First with Yochanan the Immerser...

**Joh 1:19** Here is Yochanan's testimony: when the Judeans sent cohanim and L'vi'im from Yerushalayim to ask him, "Who are you?"

**Joh 1:20** he was very straightforward and stated clearly, "I am not the Messiah."

**Joh 1:21** "Then who are you?" they asked him. "Are you Eliyahu?" "No, I am not," he said. "Are you 'the prophet,' the one we're expecting?" "No," he replied.

**Joh 1:22** So they said to him, "Who are you?—so that we can give an answer to the people who sent us. What do you have to say about yourself?"

**Joh 1:23** He answered in the words of Yesha`yahu the prophet, "I am The voice of someone crying out: 'In the desert make the way of Adonai straight!' "

What they saw Yochanan doing caused them to wonder, is he the Prophet spoken of by Moshe?

Could he be the one we have been waiting for?

Then after Yeshua is revealed and He commences His time, his ministry we read...

**Joh 1:43** The next day, having decided to leave for the Galil, Yeshua found Philip and said, "Follow me!"

**Joh 1:44** Philip was from Beit-Tzaidah, the town where Andrew and Kefa lived.

**Joh 1:45** Philip found Natan'el and told him, "We've found the one that Moshe wrote about in the Torah, also the Prophets—it's Yeshua Ben-Yosef from Natzeret!"

**Joh 1:46** Natan'el answered him, "Natzeret? Can anything good come from there?" "Come and see," Philip said to him.

**Joh 1:47** Yeshua saw Natan'el coming toward him and remarked about him, "Here's a true son of Isra'el—nothing false in him!"

**Joh 1:48** Natan'el said to him, "How do you know me?" Yeshua answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

**Joh 1:49** Natan'el said, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Isra'el!"

**Joh 1:50** Yeshua answered him, "you believe all this just because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than that!"

**Joh 1:51** Then he said to him, "Yes indeed! I tell you that you will see heaven opened and the angels of God going up and coming down on the Son of Man!"

and finally, the third reference to this promise conveyed through Moshe...

**Joh 7:37** Now on the last day of the festival, Hoshana Rabbah, Yeshua stood and cried out, "If anyone is thirsty, let him keep coming to me and drinking!"

**Joh 7:38** Whoever puts his trust in me, as the Scripture says, rivers of living water will flow from his inmost being!"

**Joh 7:39** (Now he said this about the Spirit, whom those who trusted in him were to receive later—the Spirit had not yet been given, because Yeshua had not yet been glorified.)

**Joh 7:40** On hearing his words, some people in the crowd said, "Surely this man is 'the prophet' ";

**Joh 7:41** others said, "This is the Messiah." But others said, "How can the Messiah come from the Galil?"

**Joh 7:42** Doesn't the Tanakh say that the Messiah is from the seed of David and comes from Beit-Lechem, the village where David lived?"

**Joh 7:43** So the people were divided because of him.

There is still division today, yet that division doesn't change the reality of the promise made to Moshe and the reality that the prophet is Yeshua.

The second passage I would share would be relating to the woman with the issue of blood.

**Mar 5:25** Among them was a woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years

**Mar 5:26** and had suffered a great deal under many physicians. She had spent her life savings; yet instead of improving, she had grown worse.

**Mar 5:27** She had heard about Yeshua, so she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his robe;

**Mar 5:28** for she said, "If I touch even his clothes, I will be healed."

**Mar 5:29** Instantly the hemorrhaging stopped, and she felt in her body that she had been healed from the disease.

**Mar 5:30** At the same time, Yeshua, aware that power had gone out from him, turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

Many don't understand the risk associated with her action nor the motivation leading to her being healed.

She took great risk upon herself to go out in public and among the crowds. For Torah conveys...

**Lev 15:25** " 'If a woman has a discharge of blood for many days not during her period, or if her discharge lasts beyond the normal end of her period, then throughout the time she is having an unclean discharge she will be as when she is in niddah—she is unclean.

**Lev 15:26** Every bed she lies on at any time while she is having her discharge will be for her like the bed she uses during her time of niddah; and everything she sits on will be unclean with uncleanness like that of her time of niddah.

**Lev 15:27** Whoever touches those things will be unclean; he is to wash his clothes and bathe himself in water; he will be unclean until evening.

Anyone who comes in contact with her would become unclean and would not be permitted to approach the Temple, offer sacrifices or function within the community. They are to be isolated so they do not cause others to become unclean according to Torah.

She must wait 7 days and on the 8<sup>th</sup> day approach the cohen and make an atoning offering...

**Lev 15:28** " 'If she has become free of her discharge, she is to count seven days; after that, she will be clean.

**Lev 15:29** On the eighth day, she is to take for herself two doves or two young pigeons and bring them to the cohen at the entrance to the tent of meeting.

**Lev 15:30** The cohen is to offer the one as a sin offering and the other as a burnt offering; thus the cohen will make atonement for her before Adonai on account of her unclean discharge.

Yet this woman could not do so at any point in time for 12 years.

Imagine the isolation, the depression, the tears she must have shed, being

separated from her family, friends and community.

Why did she take such a risk?

Why did she believe that she could be healed?

She first had to believe that Yeshua was the Messiah, the promised one, the Prophet.

She must have heard what was happening. Others must have shared things with her, even while not coming in direct contact with her.

I believe she knew Scripture and she knew the promises, such as this one...

**Mal 3:19** For the day is coming, burning like a furnace, when all the proud and evildoers will be stubble; the day that is coming will set them ablaze," says Adonai-Tzva'ot, "and leave them neither root nor branch.

**Mal 3:20** But to you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will break out leaping, like calves released from the stall.

The light of righteousness would come with healing in his wings...

Yet what are the wings?

What was her focus, what did she believe she needed to touch?

The hem of his garment, the tzitzit attached to His garment. What was Yeshua's response when she touched Him...

**Mar 5:30** At the same time, Yeshua, aware that power had gone out from him, turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"