

October 21, 2023

Adonai is stirring the Jewish Heart

I was intrigued by something Doug Hershey said on Sunday evening.

He talked about the timing of the attack against Israel and the Parshah. How the scroll had been rolled back and we started again. The time of rejoicing in Torah had been used to attack the Jewish people just as Yom Kippur was used to do so 50 years prior.

Yet Doug went a step further and talked about Genesis 1 and what Adonai had done...

Gen 1:3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

Gen 1:4 God saw that the light was good, and God divided the light from the darkness.

He divided, separated the darkness from the light, alluding this verse to what is happening now and what I shared with you last Shabbat. How the distinction between light and dark is becoming more so, that to see people supporting a terrorist group over a sovereignly governed state is surreal.

It is only becoming more distinct, not less, the messaging, the narrative, the propaganda intended to deceive many. Take for instance what happened this week...

There was a hospital that was bombed and it was immediately reported by the Palastinian Health Ministry that 500 were killed and the strike was at the hands of Israel, creating the narrative of an evil people killing innocent civilians. This report, transmitted by the media spurred protests throughout the world at embassies, both American and Israeli.

Israel would push back with actual evidence, not an anecdotal account. They had drone video footage, intercepted communications. It would eventually be reported correctly by the majority of the media, yet the damage had already been done, infusing a false narrative, invoking masses of people to come against Israel for their evil actions.

This type of action will only continue because it is what many people are gravitating to. You hear our administration saying all the right things in public but when the Secretary of State has a 7 hour meeting with the Prime Minister of Israel, they are not talking about encouragement, they are talking about discouragement. They are trying to discourage Israel from launching their ground offensive to where you hear a call for a truce / ceasefire. You hear it by some

members of congress, you hear it alluded to by the Administration.

As I mentioned this will only get worse. Consider a time from the beginning to about 1100 years after, at the time of Noah...

Gen 6:5 Adonai saw that the people on earth were very wicked, that all the imaginings of their hearts were always of evil only.

Gen 6:6 Adonai regretted that he had made humankind on the earth; it grieved his heart.

Gen 6:7 Adonai said, "I will wipe out humankind, whom I have created, from the whole earth; and not only human beings, but animals, creeping things and birds in the air; for I regret that I ever made them."

This week's Parshah reveals to aspects in time where the evil of man and his inclination is only that. Self has risen to be man's focus. Pride and malice resided in the hearts of His creation as a result of knowing what Good and Evil were. Adonai had separated them just as He had separated the darkness from the light and His creation was gravitating to the darkness, the evil, the very essence of everything Adonai opposed.

We see the pride and covetousness revealed later in Genesis 11...

Gen 11:1 The whole earth used the same language, the same words.

Gen 11:2 It came about that as they traveled from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shin`ar and lived there.

Gen 11:3 They said to one another, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them in the fire." So they had bricks for building-stone and clay for mortar.

Gen 11:4 Then they said, "Come, let's build ourselves a city with a tower that has its top reaching up into heaven, so that we can make a name for ourselves and not be scattered all over the earth."

Gen 11:5 Adonai came down to see the city and the tower the people were building.

Gen 11:6 Adonai said, "Look, the people are united, they all have a single language, and see what they're starting to do! At this rate, nothing they set out to accomplish will be impossible for them!"

We are seeing these same inclinations and their distinction from Adonai. It is Torah that truly reveals the distinction between what Adonai considers to be righteous and that which is evil...

Deu 30:14 On the contrary, the word is very close to you—in your mouth, even in your heart; therefore, you can do it!

Deu 30:15 "Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil—

Deu 30:16 in that I am ordering you today to love Adonai your God, to follow his ways, and to obey his mitzvot, regulations and rulings ; for if you do, you will live and increase your numbers; and Adonai your God will bless you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.

Deu 30:17 But if your heart turns away, if you refuse to listen, if you are drawn away to prostrate yourselves before other gods and serve them;

Deu 30:18 I am announcing to you today that you will certainly perish; you will not live long in the land you are crossing the Yarden to enter and possess.

Deu 30:19 "I call on heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have presented you with life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore, choose life, so that you will live, you and your descendants,

Deu 30:20 loving Adonai your God, paying attention to what he says and clinging to him—for that is the purpose of your life! On this depends the length of time you will live in the land Adonai swore he would give to your ancestors Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya`akov."

for Sha'ul conveys Torah as being the foundation for knowing what sin is, the transgression, the doing of what Adonai simply says, don't do...

Rom 7:1 Surely you know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who understand Torah—that the Torah has authority over a person only so long as he lives?

It is about life for those who understand it...

Rom 7:7 Therefore, what are we to say? That the Torah is sinful? Heaven forbid! Rather, the function of the Torah was that without it, I would not have known what sin is. For example, I would not have become conscious of what greed is if the Torah had not said, "Thou shalt not covet."

Rom 7:8 But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, worked in me all kinds of evil desires—for apart from Torah, sin is dead.

Rom 7:9 I was once alive outside the framework of Torah. But when the commandment really encountered me, sin sprang to life,

Rom 7:10 and I died. The commandment that was intended to bring me life was found to be bringing me death!

Rom 7:11 For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me; and through the commandment, sin killed me.

Rom 7:12 So the Torah is holy; that is, the commandment is holy, just and good.

A passage that should be familiar with everyone who has been coming here for

any period of time for it is something we emphasize because it doesn't appear Sha'ul agrees with the present day narrative that Torah has been done away with.

I share this with you because I believe there is another separating that is in the process of happening.

Just as Adonai established a covenant with Avram...

Gen 12:1 Now Adonai said to Avram, "Get yourself out of your country, away from your kinsmen and away from your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you.

Gen 12:2 I will make of you a great nation, I will bless you, and I will make your name great; and you are to be a blessing.

Gen 12:3 I will bless those who bless you, but I will curse anyone who curses you; and by you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

(Next week's parshah)

Establishing a nation that would be distinct because it would be the only nation Adonai would place His name upon.

Deu 28:9 "Adonai will establish you as a people separated out for himself, as he has sworn to you—if you will observe the mitzvot of Adonai your God and follow his ways.

Deu 28:10 Then all the peoples on earth will see that Adonai's name, his presence, is with you; so that they will be afraid of you.

Num 6:27 "In this way they are to put my name on the people of Isra'el, so that I will bless them."

His name being just one of the distinctions that would set Israel apart from all other nations.

For Sha'ul conveys this to both Jew and non-Jew in his letter to Rome...

Rom 9:1 I am speaking the truth—as one who belongs to the Messiah, I do not lie; and also bearing witness is my conscience, governed by the Ruach HaKodesh:

Rom 9:2 my grief is so great, the pain in my heart so constant,

Rom 9:3 that I could wish myself actually under God's curse and separated from the Messiah, if it would help my brothers, my own flesh and blood,

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.

Rom 9:6 But the present condition of Isra'el does not mean that the Word of God has failed. For not everyone from Isra'el is truly part of Isra'el;

Rom 9:7 indeed, not all the descendants are seed of Avraham; rather, "What is to be called your 'seed' will be in Yitz'chak."

Adonai conveys that Torah is already in the heart of the Jewish people, yet he will write it upon their hearts as a promise of the New Covenant...

Jer 31:30 "Here, the days are coming," says Adonai, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah.

Jer 31:31 It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers on the day I took them by their hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt; because they, for their part, violated my covenant, even though I, for my part, was a husband to them," says Adonai.

Jer 31:32 "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Jer 31:33 No longer will any of them teach his fellow community member or his brother, 'Know Adonai'; for all will know me, from the least of them to the greatest; because I will forgive their wickednesses and remember their sins no more."

I believe Adonai is stirring the Jewish heart, not the unbeliever but the believer in Messiah.

Recent events in Israel have caused Jewish hearts to feel the depth of what is happening. I have had phone calls and meetings with Jewish believers.

One occurrence does not make a trend.

Two occurrences start you wondering.

Three occurrences convey that Adonai is doing something with in the hearts of Jewish believers in Messiah.

I believe He is calling them out of the church and into Messianic Judaism

Assimilation was never intended for His people for they are to be distinct. They are to be a light to the nations...

Isa 49:5 So now Adonai says—he formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Ya`akov back to him, to have Isra'el gathered to him, so that I will be honored in the sight of Adonai, my God having become my strength—

Isa 49:6 he has said, "It is not enough that you are merely my servant to raise up the tribes of Ya`akov and restore the offspring of Isra'el. I will also make you a light to the nations, so my salvation can spread to the ends of the earth."

Jewish believers in Messiah are withering on the vine because that which Adonai has given them, that which is now written on their hearts is far from them because it is not embraced in the church.

There is a hunger

There is a stirring

There is a desire that is appearing and being revealed

This is part of Adonai gathering His people back to Him.

Yes he is gathering all people to Him yet this is a distinct regathering...

Deu 30:1 "When the time arrives that all these things have come upon you, both the blessing and the curse which I have presented to you; and you are there among the nations to which Adonai your God has driven you; then, at last, you will start thinking about what has happened to you;

Deu 30:2 and you will return to Adonai your God and pay attention to what he has said, which will be exactly what I am ordering you to do today—you and your children, with all your heart and all your being.

Deu 30:3 At that point, Adonai your God will reverse your exile and show you mercy; he will return and gather you from all the peoples to which Adonai your God scattered you.

Deu 30:4 If one of yours was scattered to the far end of the sky, Adonai your God will gather you even from there; he will go there and get you.

Deu 30:5 Adonai your God will bring you back into the land your ancestors possessed, and you will possess it; he will make you prosper there, and you will become even more numerous than your ancestors.

Deu 30:6 Then Adonai your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your children, so that you will love Adonai your God with all your heart and all

your being, and thus you will live.

He is bringing the physical seed of Avraham back together, embracing their call and their responsibility.

What I have experienced I don't believe to be a coincidence but a stirring, a move, just as He has been opening Jewish eyes and circumcizing Jewish hearts He is gathering His people back together.

I will never forget a conversation I had with Rabbi Frank, my mentor when I was getting to know him and him me. I was sharing that I believe my place was in the church being a light there.

He flat out disagreed with me and said this to me...

Your call is to your people.

Jewish people are being called back together. The Jewish believer first and thus I believe it is this "strength in numbers" that will lead to the next wave of Adonai's gathering. The unbelieving, uncircumcized Jewish heart.

Get ready for it. The trickle is happening already. The Adversary is doing everything to snatch them away from where Adonai is calling them to. I have seen that as well.

So your prayer needs to be fervant and passionate because we do not want one to be lost, one to wither on the vine and die. We need to pray a hedge of protection around them. The propoganda, the tactics of the Adversary are fierce and unfortunately are effective. Yet let not the believing Jew, the one who has embraced Messiah be deceived. Let them be deceived no longer for Torah has always been with them.

Let the stirring of their hearts become amplified with what is transpiring in the land. Let them question what this stirring is, what these tears mean.

I firmly and wholeheartedly believe this is a part of Adonai's plan and thus the return of Messiah.

To the Jew first, well let's start with the believing Jew first. Let us reintroduce them to their heritage. Let us undo the errors and travesty of assimilation.

This does not mean that the call of Gentile believers has changed.