

Notes: August 19, 2017

Start: 10 AM

**Order of service:**

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tov
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: An Inconvenient Reality

What a week!!!

I believe I need to share with you several things, providing clarity and understanding in that many of you have identified me as your Rabbi, your shepherd. An Inconvenient Truth is already taken, in that it is the title of Al Gore's climate change movies. So, this sermon is entitled "An Inconvenient Reality".

Listening to the majority of news outlets, you would think we as a nation are in a state of anarchy, chaos, we have reached the abyss.

The sheer vitriol being spewed has reached a fever pitch.

What transpired in Charlottesville, VA a week ago is a tragedy that should never have happened, yet it did and we are living in the aftermath of it today. A young woman's life was tragically cut short by the sheer hatred of an ideology.

There are a number of things that I heard over the week that just flat out surprised me.

One person equated the circumstances of this racial divide all the way back to slavery..we are talking over 150 years ago, while denying that failed government policies had anything to do with it. The division of the family, welfare and gang violence have nothing to do with it, it is all about the affects of slavery. Yet, if this is truly the case, you would think it would have impacted the entire community, yet I can rattle off the names of many successful African Americans who not only overcame the impact of slavery, but also the failed government policies they grew up in.

The sheer parsing and dissecting of words is unbelievable. An incorrect transcript from one of the President's statements went viral, adding further fuel to this fire, only to be retracted and revised with correct wording.

There is no place for hate speak in our society, yet it is protected by the first amendment of the constitution. If you were to pick and choose what can and can't be said, it wouldn't be too long before those who are atheist would legislate and outlaw your ability to speak about Yeshua. This happened once before with Yeshua...

**Act 4:16** "What can we do with these men?" they asked each other. "Why, anyone in Yerushalayim can see that a remarkable miracle has come about through them — we can't possibly deny that.

**Act 4:17** But to prevent it from spreading any further among the people, let's warn them not to speak any more to anyone in this name."

**Act 4:18** So they called them in again and ordered them under no circumstances to speak or teach in the name of Yeshua.

**Act 4:19** But Kefa and Yochanan answered, "You must judge whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than God.

**Act 4:20** As for us, we can't help talking about what we have actually seen and heard."

**Act 4:21** They threatened them some more but finally let them go — they couldn't punish them because of the people, for everyone was praising God over what had happened,

**Act 4:22** since the man who had been miraculously healed was more than forty years old.

The sanctity of the freedom of speech is foundational to our country to where the founding fathers identified it as a God given right and the first listed in the Bill of Rights.

To hear the chant “Jews won't replace us” from Neo-Nazies is no better than hearing “what do we want? Dead cops” from “Black Lives Matter”. To the point, when you state that all lives matter, you are labeled a racist.

The sheer agenda of the media to assign blame is astounding. One outlet actually attempted to make the connection between Charlottesville and Barcelona, yet we are talking about very distinct and therefore different groups. In no way are the Alt-right of Neo Nazis and KKK and the Alt-left of Antifa in any way associated with radical Islam and the terror they inflict.

Another outlet gave Antifa an audience and actually allowed them to promote and defend their violent approach to stopping their opponents.

<https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/nicholas-fondacaro/2017/08/17/really-chuck-msnbcs-todd-aids-promotion-antifa-violence>

Yet, with all this noise and bluster of the last week, I believe a more pressing concern is taking shape and, in my opinion it is more alarming than extreme groups of both the left and the right.

A fire is fueled by two things...a combustible material and oxygen The President was absolutely correct when he said that both sides are to blame for the violence that transpired in Charlottesville. Just as it takes two to tango, it take at least two to riot.

Yet, the sheer presence of the Neo Nazis and KKK was not just intended to be peaceful, but rather intimidating.

I was forwarded an article this morning from the Portland Press Herald regarding the sole synagogue in Charlottesville...

*For Diane Gartner Hillman, the new reality of being Jewish in Charlottesville sunk in when she had to leave Congregation Beth Israel through the back door.*

*On any other Saturday, worshippers at the city's lone synagogue would have left through the front and walked without fear to their cars, parked near the statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee in Emancipation Park.*

*But now, men wearing white shirts and khaki pants and other white supremacists carrying semi-automatic rifles were streaming past their sanctuary, taunting Beth Israel with phony 'Brooklyn' accents and mocking old fashioned Yiddish expressions, such as "oy gevalt."*

*"We were in a different world than where we had been previously," Hillman, 69, said Friday, as a stream of people entered the synagogue, now guarded by three police officers out front and several more in the park.*

<http://www.pressherald.com/2017/08/18/jews-bullied-at-their-charlottesville-va-temple/>

The other group, known as Antifa, abbreviated for Anti-Fascists, would appear to be a positive group in that they are against these fascist groups, yet they convey a racism of their own. I want to share with you something from Jonah Goldberg, editor for National Review, whose article appeared in the New York Post...

*Fighting Nazis is a good thing, but fighting Nazis doesn't necessarily make you or your cause good. By my lights this is simply an obvious fact.*

*The greatest Nazi-killer of the 20th century was Josef Stalin. He also killed millions of his own people and terrorized, oppressed, enslaved or brutalized tens of millions more.*

*Nazism was evil. Soviet Communism was evil. It's fine to believe that Nazism was more evil than Communism. That doesn't make Communism good.*

*Yet confusion on this point poisoned politics in America and abroad for generations.*

*Part of the problem is psychological. There's a natural tendency to think that when people, or movements, hate each other, it must be because they're opposites. This assumption overlooks the fact that many — indeed, most — of the great conflicts and hatreds in human history are derived from what Sigmund Freud called the “narcissism of minor differences.”*

<http://nypost.com/2017/08/17/fighting-nazis-doesnt-make-antifa-the-good-guys/>

The conversation moved from Charlottesville, to the reason for the gathering...protesting the removal of a statue of Robert E. Lee, the leader of the Confederate Army.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert\\_E.\\_Lee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_E._Lee)

A statue, considered to be offensive by many, and therefore must be removed.

What is the mindset behind this, I can only surmise, “out of sight out of mind.” We can get rid of our bad historical moments by removing any and all reminders of them.

This past week, the city of Baltimore removed four statues in the middle of the night. The stated reason was to avoid commotion. Yet when something is done in the middle of the night, it is meant to ultimately be done with as little attention as possible. Consider 1984...the city of Baltimore experienced another midnight experience. The city's football team, the Baltimore Colts, left town in the middle of the night, headed for Indianapolis.

Yeshua's trials with the Sanhedrin occurred in the middle of the night ultimately because what was being done was anything but legal, let alone moral.

**Mat 26:59** The head cohanim and the whole Sanhedrin looked for some false evidence against Yeshua, so that they might put him to death.

**Mat 26:60** But they didn't find any, even though many liars came forward to give testimony. At last, however, two people came forward and said,

**Mat 26:61** "This man said, 'I can tear down God's Temple and build it again in three days.' "

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
1. Annas	Mt 26:57-58	Mk 14:53-54	Lk22:54-55	Jn 18:12-23
2. Caiaphas	Mt 26:59-75	Mk 14:55-65	Lk 22:56-65	Jn 18:24
3. Sanhedrin	Mt 27:1	Mk 15:1	Lk22:66-71	-

Actions that were clearly violating the letter and spirit of Torah.

**Deu 19:15** "One witness alone will not be sufficient to convict a person of any offense or sin of any kind; the matter will be established only if there are two or three witnesses testifying against him.

**Deu 19:16** "If a malicious witness comes forward and gives false testimony against someone,  
**Deu 19:17** then both the men involved in the controversy are to stand before Adonai, before the cohanim and the judges in office at the time.  
**Deu 19:18** The judges are to investigate carefully. If they find that the witness is lying and has given false testimony against his brother,  
**Deu 19:19** you are to do to him what he intended to do to his brother. In this way, you will put an end to such wickedness among you.

In a rather short period of time, the conversation went from leaders of the confederate who supported slavery to slave owners.

If we are going to cleanse our country of any confederate reminders, we should rid ourselves of any prominent slave owners.

The problem with this thinking, is that to do so, you would have to blot out the names of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

And sure enough the conversation moved to Washington and Jefferson.

A Chicago pastor has asked the Emanuel administration to remove the names of two presidents who owned slaves from parks on the South Side, saying the city should not honor slave owners in black communities.

A bronze statue of George Washington on horseback stands at the corner of 51st and King Drive, at the northwest entrance to Washington Park.

Bishop James Dukes, pastor of Liberation Christian Center, said he wants the statue gone, and he wants George Washington's name removed from the park.

The pastor also said President Andrew Jackson's name should be removed from nearby Jackson Park, because he also was a slave owner. He said he's not necessarily asking the city rename the parks alto

<http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2017/08/16/jackson-washington-park-protest-presidents-slave-owners/>

New York activist Al Sharpton offered an emotional and personal case calling for the federal government to halt funding to Washington, D.C.'s Jefferson Memorial.

<http://insider.foxnews.com/2017/08/16/al-sharpton-jefferson-memorial-charlottesville-white-supremacist-violence-donald-trump>

All of this is noise to the truly underlying issue.

When something is uncomfortable or inconvenient, remove it and rewrite a more desirable version.

Otherwise known as revising history.

We as a congregation are quite familiar with this tactic of those who despise us. Denial of the Holocaust has a rather lengthy history, that I was rather surprised to read on Wikipedia. 72 years since the end of World War II and we are seeing history rewritten, denial claims expanding, ultimately fueling another generation's hatred towards the Jewish people. As a Messianic Gentile, you would be considered a Jewish sympathizer and are therefore equally reviled.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holocaust\\_denial](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holocaust_denial)

Israel's history is for all to see and read, in that it comprises the very Bible you read and study. As hard as the truth is, it is there, all 39 books of the good, the bad and the ugly, Israel's history, to be read, studied and most importantly to be learned from. The focus shouldn't be on Israel's iniquity, but rather Adonai's grace and mercy towards His people Israel. With that grace and mercy being extended to the nations who come to accept the Messiah who would come forth through the Jewish people.

Yet the cleansing of history that I talked about and being attempted today, is something that has transpired in the

past.

You would think we the Jewish people would want to change the narrative about our history and therefore attempt to change Scripture. Yet, this is not the case. As ugly as our history is, we have preserved its record.

Ask yourself, who benefits from attempting to rewrite history – the right or the left?

History records it is not the right, but rather the left who is responsible for the slavery, the KKK, Jim Crow laws, being against civil rights.

Within the body of Messiah there have been attempts to rewrite the narrative of Adonai.

A man by the name of Marcion would become instrumental in creating a mindset that would forever change the direction of how believers in Messiah would think. Eventually labeled a heretic, Marcion's influence would remain, to varying degrees.

Study of the Jewish Scriptures, along with received writings circulating in the nascent Church, led Marcion to conclude that many of the teachings of Yeshua were incompatible with the actions of the god of the Tenach, Adonai

- Marcion responded by developing a dualist system of belief around the year 144.
- This dual-god notion allowed Marcion to reconcile supposed contradictions between Old Covenant theology and the Gospel message proclaimed by Yeshua.

By the year 144, what had happened?

- The destruction of the Temple and the major center for believers in Messiah was greatly weakened
- Yochanan's death, approximately 90 CE
- The Bar Kokbah Revolt 132 – 135 CE, where all Jewish people were expelled from the land and it became illegal for any Jew to live in the land.
- The primary Jewish influence for believers and what was once the authoritative base, is now gone.

Marcion affirmed:

- Yeshua to be the savior sent by the Heavenly Father,
- Sha'ul was his chief apostle.

In contrast to the nascent Christian church, Marcion declared:

- Christianity was in complete discontinuity with Judaism and entirely opposed to the Old Testament message.
- Did not claim that the Jewish Scriptures were false.
- Instead, Marcion asserted that they were to be read in an absolutely literal manner, thereby developing an understanding that Adonai was not the same god spoken of by Jesus.
- For example, Marcion argued that the Genesis account of Adonai walking through the Garden of Eden asking where Adam was proved Adonai inhabited a physical body and was without universal knowledge (omniscience), attributes wholly incompatible with the Heavenly Father professed by Jesus.
- The god of the Old Covenant, whom he called the Demiurge, the creator of the material universe, is a jealous tribal deity of the Jews, whose law represents legalistic reciprocal justice and who punishes mankind for its sins through suffering and death.
- Contrastingly, the god that Jesus professed is an altogether different being, a universal god of compassion and love who looks upon humanity with benevolence and mercy. Marcion also produced his *Antitheses* contrasting the Demiurge of the Old Testament with the Heavenly Father of the New Testament.

Marcion proposed his own unique New Covenant canon.

- His canon consisted of only eleven books grouped into two sections:

- The *Evangelikon*, being a version of the Gospel of Luke, removing the “Jewish parts”
- The *Apostolikon*, a selection of ten epistles of Paul the Apostle, whom Marcion considered the correct interpreter and transmitter of Jesus' teachings. From this selection of New Testament books he eliminated elements relating to Jesus' birth, childhood, Judaism, and material challenging Marcion's dualism.

In 144, Marcion became one of the first declared a heretic for his deviations from the orthodox viewpoints of the apostolic church.

I have never read Marcion's version of Luke, but I can't imagine there would be much left after his edit of anything Jewish from the book. The book of Luke is a Temple centered book whereby it not only begins at the Temple during the Aviyah division of service, but it ends at the Temple with Yeshua's disciples rejoicing after the resurrection of Messiah and forty days of fellowship and study.

- The suppression of the Marcionist form of Christianity is thus viewed as a catalyst for the development of the New Covenant canon.

So, what impact was there towards Marcion's attempt to change the narrative of Adonai?

The same person who said this...

*We used to hate and destroy one another and refused to associate with people of another race or country. Now, because of Christ, we live together with such people and pray for our enemies.*

also said this...

*The custom of circumcising the flesh, handed down from Abraham, was given to you as a distinguishing mark, to set you off from other nations and from us Christians. The purpose of this was that you and only you might suffer the afflictions that are now justly yours; that only your land be desolated, and you cities ruined by fire, that the fruits of you land be eaten by strangers before your very eyes; that not one of you be permitted to enter your city of Jerusalem. Your circumcision of the flesh is the only mark by which you can certainly be distinguished from other men...as I stated before it was by reason of your sins and the sins of your fathers that, among other precepts, God imposed upon you the observance of the sabbath as a mark.*

Justin Martyr - [http://www.azquotes.com/author/27034-Justin\\_Martyr](http://www.azquotes.com/author/27034-Justin_Martyr)

The same person who said this...

*No matter how just your words may be, you ruin everything when you speak with anger.*

also said this...

*The synagogue is worse than a brothel...it is the den of scoundrels and the repair of wild beasts...the temple of demons devoted to idolatrous cults...the refuge of brigands and debauchees, and the cavern of devils. It is a criminal assembly of Jews...a place of meeting for the assassins of Christ... a house worse than a drinking shop...a den of thieves, a house of ill fame, a dwelling of iniquity, the refuge of devils, a gulf and a abyss of perdition."..."I would say the same things about their souls... As for me, I hate the synagogue...I hate the Jews for the same reason.*

John Chrysostom - [http://www.azquotes.com/author/21940-Saint\\_John\\_Chrysostom](http://www.azquotes.com/author/21940-Saint_John_Chrysostom)

The same person who said this...

*The whole being of any Christian is faith and love. Faith brings the person to God, love brings the person to people.*

also said this...

*What then shall we Christians do with this damned, rejected race of Jews? Since they live among us and we know about their lying and blasphemy and cursing, we can not tolerate them if we do not wish to share in their lies, curses, and blasphemy. In this way we cannot quench the inextinguishable fire of divine rage nor convert the Jews. We must prayerfully and reverentially practice a merciful severity. Perhaps we may save a few from the fire and flames [of hell]. We must not seek vengeance. They are surely being punished a thousand times more than we might wish them. Let me give you my honest advice.*

*First, their synagogues should be set on fire, and whatever does not burn up should be covered or spread over with dirt so that no one may ever be able to see a cinder or stone of it. And this ought to be done for the honor of God and of Christianity in order that God may see that we are Christians, and that we have not wittingly tolerated or approved of such public lying, cursing, and blaspheming of His Son and His Christians.*

*Secondly, their homes should likewise be broken down and destroyed. For they perpetrate the same things there that they do in their synagogues. For this reason they ought to be put under one roof or in a stable, like gypsies, in order that they may realize that they are not masters in our land, as they boast, but miserable captives, as they complain of incessantly before God with bitter wailing.*

*Thirdly, they should be deprived of their prayer-books and Talmuds in which such idolatry, lies, cursing, and blasphemy are taught.*

*Fourthly, their rabbis must be forbidden under threat of death to teach any more...*

*Fifthly, passport and traveling privileges should be absolutely forbidden to the Jews. For they have no business in the rural districts since they are not nobles, nor officials, nor merchants, nor the like. Let them stay at home...If you princes and nobles do not close the road legally to such exploiters, then some troop ought to ride against them, for they will learn from this pamphlet what the Jews are and how to handle them and that they ought not to be protected. You ought not, you cannot protect them, unless in the eyes of God you want to share all their abomination...*

*To sum up, dear princes and nobles who have Jews in your domains, if this advice of mine does not suit you, then find a better one so that you and we may all be free of this insufferable devilish burden - the Jews...*

*Let the government deal with them in this respect, as I have suggested. But whether the government acts or not, let everyone at least be guided by his own conscience and form for himself a definition or image of a Jew. When you lay eyes on or think of a Jew you must say to yourself: Alas, that mouth which I there behold has cursed and execrated and maligned every Saturday my dear Lord Jesus Christ, who has redeemed me with his precious blood; in addition, it prayed and pleaded before God that I, my wife and children, and all Christians might be stabbed to death and perish miserably. And he himself would gladly do this if he were able, in order to appropriate our goods...*

*Such a desperate, thoroughly evil, poisonous, and devilish lot are these Jews, who for these fourteen hundred years have been and still are our plague, our pestilence, and our misfortune.*

*I have read and heard many stories about the Jews which agree with this judgment of Christ, namely, how they have poisoned wells, made assassinations, kidnapped children, as related before. I have heard that one Jew sent another Jew, and this by means of a Christian, a pot of blood, together with a barrel of wine, in which when drunk empty, a dead Jew was found. There are many other similar stories. For their kidnapping of children they have often been burned at the stake or banished (as we already heard). I am well aware that they deny all of this. However, it all coincides with the judgment of Christ which declares that they are venomous, bitter, vindictive, tricky serpents, assassins, and children of the devil, who sting and work harm stealthily wherever they cannot do it openly. For this reason, I would like to see them where there are no Christians. The Turks and other heathen do not tolerate what we Christians endure from these venomous serpents and young devils...next to the devil, a Christian has no more bitter and galling foe than a Jew. There is no other to whom we accord as many benefactions and from whom we suffer as much as we do from these base children of the devil, this brood of vipers.*

Translated by Martin H. Bertram, "On The Jews and Their Lies, Luther's Works, Volume 47"; Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1971.

Martin Luther - [http://www.azquotes.com/author/9142-Martin\\_Luther](http://www.azquotes.com/author/9142-Martin_Luther)

History is not always convenient. It does not always fit a narrative or tie nicely into a bow. To deny it is one thing, to attempt to change it, create a new narrative and suppress the truth is the progression towards an authoritarian culture whereby liberty does not exist.

History is being rewritten as we speak. I conveyed earlier the intent to eliminate the inconvenient reality of the Holocaust from the world. From the world of Islam to extreme Christianity, denial of the Holocaust is the new truth they are spewing. "Jews are liars and they are lying about this too". Its origins as we have seen, go way back in time, yet you have a growing number of groups attempting to create a new narrative.

The Nazis burned books, synagogues and Torah scrolls with the intent of "cleansing" the world of the Jewish people

Communism removes individual thought from society, denying liberty whereby those who fought for this God given right were killed.

The events you have been witnessing from these extreme groups intend to take us down these paths.

It is up to us, not to be silenced by this hate speak and dangerous ideology.

Yeshua conveyed the following during Sukkot...

**Joh 8:30** Many people who heard him say these things trusted in him.

**Joh 8:31** So Yeshua said to the Judeans who had trusted him, "If you obey what I say, then you are really my talmidim,

**Joh 8:32** you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

**Joh 8:33** They answered, "We are the seed of Avraham and have never been slaves to anyone; so what do you mean by saying, 'You will be set free'?"

**Joh 8:34** Yeshua answered them, "Yes, indeed! I tell you that everyone who practices sin is a slave of sin.

**Joh 8:35** Now a slave does not remain with a family forever, but a son does remain with it forever.

**Joh 8:36** So if the Son frees you, you will really be free!

**Joh 8:37** I know you are the seed of Avraham. Yet you are out to kill me, because what I am saying makes no headway in you.

**Joh 8:38** I say what my Father has shown me; you do what your father has told you!"

**Joh 8:39** They answered him, "Our father is Avraham." Yeshua replied, "If you are children of Avraham, then do the things Avraham did!

If you have studied American history you have likely heard "Speak softly and carry a big stick"

Does anyone remember their history?

Who said it?

The widespread use of 'speak softly and carry a big stick' began with American president Theodore Roosevelt written in a letter to Henry L. Sprague, on January 26th 1900.

A proverb advising the tactic of caution and non-aggression, backed up by the ability to do violence if required.

The notion being expressed here is the opposite of the tactics employed by every temporary schoolteacher - who begin stern and tough and, when discipline allows it, become more easy-going. The 'speak softly...' doctrine, like the earlier phrase '*the iron fist in the velvet glove*', was to begin gently, but hold a decisive weapon in reserve.

<http://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/speak-softly-and-carry-a-big-stick.html>

For which I have shared with you recently another saying that is in essence a play on these words...



“Talk softly and carry a big book.”

Let your voice be heard, yet in a peaceful manner while not relying on the ability to do violence if required, but rather to rely solely on the Word of Adonai as your weapon of offense and your means for defense.

**Eph 6:12** For we are not struggling against human beings, but against the rulers, authorities and cosmic powers governing this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm.

**Eph 6:13** So take up every piece of war equipment God provides; so that when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist; and when the battle is won, you will still be standing.

**Eph 6:14** Therefore, stand! Have the belt of truth buckled around your waist, put on righteousness for a breastplate,

**Eph 6:15** and wear on your feet the readiness that comes from the Good News of shalom.

**Eph 6:16** Always carry the shield of trust, with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One.

**Eph 6:17** And take the helmet of deliverance; along with the sword given by the Spirit, that is, the Word of God;

**Eph 6:18** as you pray at all times, with all kinds of prayers and requests, in the Spirit, vigilantly and persistently, for all God's people.

These ideologies are of the adversary, solely, because they are contrary to everything Adonai conveys.

**Joh 8:31** So Yeshua said to the Judeans who had trusted him, "If you obey what I say, then you are really my talmidim,

**Joh 8:32** you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."