

Notes: May 28, 2016

Start: 10 AM

**Order of service:**

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Jeri - Drash
8. Praise and Worship Songs
9. Message
10. Aaronic Blessing
11. Kiddush
12. 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: Are We Living In The Days of Elijah? (Revisited)

In this week's Parashah Behar, we learn about the Yovel and I was reminded of these words...

**These are the days of Elijah,  
Declaring the Word of the Lord**

Which brought me back to a sermon I did in February 2015 – “Are We Living In The Days of Elijah?”

A parshah that goes into detail on the Yovel, the Jubilee and the seven Shimttah that are associated with it. Rather than talking about that, we are going to revisit my message from last year while keeping in mind the outcome of Yovel...

**Lev 25:9** Then, on the tenth day of the seventh month, on Yom-Kippur, you are to sound a blast on the shofar; you are to sound the shofar all through your land;

**Lev 25:10** and you are to consecrate the fiftieth year, proclaiming freedom throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It will be a yovel for you; you will return everyone to the land he owns, and everyone is to return to his family.

On Israel's Day of Atonement, after the High Priest has interceded for Israel, you can now proclaim freedom, in that your transgression have been atoned.

Just as Yeshua will do upon His return, in delivering Israel and atoning for their transgression, ultimately

proclaiming freedom, yet in both instances...

**Zec 12:9** "When that day comes, I will seek to destroy all nations attacking Yerushalayim;

**Zec 12:10** and I will pour out on the house of David and on those living in Yerushalayim a spirit of grace and prayer; and they will look to me, whom they pierced." They will mourn for him as one mourns for an only son; they will be in bitterness on his behalf like the bitterness for a firstborn son.

What do I mean by the title of this message?

There is a moral transformation that is overtaking America and much of the world to where America is rejecting the biblical values that were used to establish this nation. The same biblical values that spread from Jerusalem 2000 years ago. This transformation is accelerating.

Last week I talked about the loss of religious liberty to the point where many of today's issues that are contrary to our biblical faith are not being addressed.

It has been a little over 2 years since the referendum in Maine regarding the legalization of same sex marriage in Maine was approved. Then, we were one of four states. Now, we are one of 36 states. Today, – 14 states remain regarding biblical definition of marriage – yet those states are under attack. It likely won't be much longer until every state in the nation has modified the biblical definition of marriage.

This is the fastest moral transformation since the garden of Eden

symptom of something deeper – a civilization rejection of its spiritual foundation

Last week I shared the progressive nature of this transformation. Let me add a few things...

- Growing – children born out of wedlock – 57% don't know what marriage is
- Growing – atheism – challenging the faith
- Removal of Yeshua's name from the public mainstream culture
- Increase of satanic challenges to the faith

- Christian dating sites – majority in favor of premarital relations
- Replace by profanity and vulgarity

Updated:

- The Bathroom debate involving transgender
- Companies and Artists (Bruce Springsteen) boycott North Carolina because of NC law
- President issues order to all states that regarding public school bathrooms and transgender access.

Since last year, unfortunately I still say this verse applies... Prophet calls evil good and good evil (Isaiah)

**Isa 5:20** Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who change darkness into light and light into darkness, who change bitter into sweet and sweet into bitter!

Woe to those who change from the ways of God

Ultimately persecute God's people – how?

In the name of tolerance God's people are being persecuted.

Growing acceptance of iniquity – christian baker who was suicide for not baking a cake for a same sex marriage.

Brendan Eich – former chairman of Mozilla, fired for supporting marriage (Wikipedia)

On March 24, 2014, Eich was promoted to CEO of [Mozilla Corporation](#).<sup>[12]</sup> His appointment sparked controversy over a \$1,000 political donation Eich had made in 2008 to the successful campaign for [California Proposition 8](#), which sought to establish that, "Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."<sup>[13]</sup> This had been noted publicly two years prior, in March 2012, and was criticized at the time in social media by gay rights activists, particularly on Twitter.<sup>[13]</sup> After his appointment to CEO, the controversy reemerged. In the ensuing public debate, [OKCupid](#) and two gay application developers called for a boycott of the company.<sup>[14][15]</sup> A number of [Mozilla Foundation](#) employees asked him to step down, while others at the [Mozilla Corporation](#) spoke out on their blogs in his favor.<sup>[16][17]</sup> Three of Mozilla Corporation's six directors resigned just prior to Eich's appointment,<sup>[18][19]</sup> which the Mozilla Foundation attributed to "a variety of reasons. Two of the board members had been planning to leave for some time, one since January and one explicitly at the end of the CEO search, regardless of the person selected."<sup>[20]</sup> On April 3, 2014, Eich stepped down as CEO and resigned from working at Mozilla.<sup>[21][22]</sup> In his personal blog, Eich posted that "under the present circumstances, I cannot be an effective leader."<sup>[23][24]</sup> Following Eich's resignation, the [National Organization for Marriage](#) called for its own boycott of Mozilla, due to his resigning instead of explaining his own view

City of Houston – Lesbian mayor pushed through an ordinance allowing men who identified as women to be allowed to use public women's restrooms: unilaterally enacted but when voted on was rejected by 61% of voters. – challenged by families and pastors – issuing subpoenas for pastors to turn over their sermons.

The times are changing – There are agendas everywhere. Agendas with the intent of eliminating God from the lives of Americans, not to mention the nations.

There is a precedence for the changes that are happening - This happened to ancient Israel as well.

It isn't just the Harbinger or the Shemitah, but it is much bigger.

We are seeing many parallels occur between ancient Israel and America.

A civilization that once knew God and knew His word is turning away towards immorality

Jonathan Cahn called it "Spiritual Amnesia" once knew God, who then forgot Him – lets look at the transformation that occurred with Israel.

Subtle at first:

- Lip service
- Joining Him with other things - Ba'al
- ba'al worship, idol worship

Then blatant:

- started despising Him
- From subtle to overt
- ultimately defying and denying God.
- Broke his law
- Drove His Name out of their culture
- Became defiant of God
- Embraced the ways of the pagans
- Promoted sexual immorality
- Offer up their children to ba'al and molach
- The priests of ba'al once on the fringes of society have now been lifted up to the throne room, to prominence to where they ruled
- As they ruled, persecution was coming

A national persecution of those who followed God and ministered for Him.  
The prophets went into hiding

These were the days of Elijah

It follows a progression:

Stage 1: Biblical faith absolute and prominent and unquestioned, the foundation of the culture; while anti – biblical culture is on the fringe, illegal, condemned, in the shadows of society

Stage 2: not quite as absolute, anti, still on the fringe still condemned, yet becoming more and more known

Stage 3: increasingly questioned yet still prevailing as the standard for society, steps are taken to move away from absolute adherence - key word is tolerance, open minded, live and let live, “is there really any absolute truth?” - anti biblical culture still on the fringe yet becomes emboldened, yet becomes part of the culture

Stage 4: biblical faith still dominant, yet now one of many views – anti-biblical faith becomes increasing emboldened

Stage 5: biblical faith becomes increasing challenged seen as one of many truths, yet with no right to claim supremacy - the anti-biblical culture is now a minority, yet growing and gaining legitimacy, leading to a culture war

Stage 6: biblical faith loses power and legitimacy while the anti-biblical position gains power, reaching a tipping point

Stage 7: pass the tipping point – rise of anti-biblical culture rises and accelerates and becomes embraced by the majority, it is now legitimate, it is the mainstream, while the biblical culture is now clearly on the defense, seen as intolerant, out of step with society, reactionary, hateful

Stage 8: anti-biblical culture is now the established as THE culture, dominant, unquestioned, those who embrace it are in positions of power - The biblical faith is disestablished

The anti biblical once calling for tolerance now becomes the priests of intolerance, calling for total conformity, any dissent must be removed

It is now unquestioned – if you go against the state you will be punished.

The state seeks to drive those who hold to the Bible to the fringes of society, ultimately criminalizing them, persecute them,

**1Ki 18:19** Now order all Isra'el to assemble before me on Mount Karmel, along with the 450 prophets of Ba`al and the 400 prophets of the asherah who eat at Izevel's table."

Stage 8 = the days of Elijah

This is the stage that we are now in the process of entering, if we are not there already.

**1Ki 18:17** When Ach'av saw Eliyahu, Ach'av said to him, "Is it really you, you troubler of Isra'el?"

**1Ki 18:18** He answered, "I haven't troubled Isra'el, you have, you and your father's house, by abandoning Adonai's mitzvot and following the ba`alim.

Elijah was seen as an enemy of the state A thorn in the side of the apostasy, he had not bowed to ba'al

Elijah is the epitome of everything they rejected

He represented everything they were undoing, law prophets

He represented the righteousness that is now opposed and was called intolerant

That voice that endangered their new voice, the voice of God that questioned the unquestioned

“you troubler of Israel”

Yet it is Elijah who holds the answer for Israel

**1Ki 18:22** Then Eliyahu said to the people, "I, I alone, am the only prophet of Adonai who is left, while Ba`al's prophets number 450.

What does this mean for us?

We are now witnessing the same thing – light called darkness and darkness called light – good evil and evil good.

To marginalize the people of God

Elijah is the people of God, the people who will not compromise and bow (Romans 11:2 – 5)

**Rom 11:2** God has not repudiated his people, whom he chose in advance. Or don't you know what the Tanakh says about Eliyahu? He pleads with God against Isra'el,

**Rom 11:3** "Adonai, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars, and I'm the only one left, and now they want to kill me too!"

**Rom 11:4** But what is God's answer to him? "I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not knelt down to Ba`al."

**Rom 11:5** It's the same way in the present age: there is a remnant, chosen by grace.

refused to bend at all

Who is Elijah – we are the Elijah's of the day – who is we?

He represents everything the culture was looking to eliminate and abandon.

Then he appears out of nowhere

This nation and civilization is abandoning and waring against its biblical faith,

**1Ki 18:21** Eliyahu stepped forward before all the people and said, "How long are you going to jump back and forth between two positions? If Adonai is God, follow him; but if it's Ba`al, follow him!" The people answered him not a word.

The faith that was brought to civilization by Messianic Jews, Messianic Jewish Apostles, Messianic Jewish Believers Messianic Jewish Disciples and Messianic Jewish Rabbis

What is America and civilization rejecting?

Its Judeo Christian foundation, its world view

Judeo – Jewish  
Christian - Messianic

The culture is at war with its Messianic foundation.

If weren't for Messianic Jews, there would be no Judeo Christian foundation in the Gentile world.

Messianic Jews brought the Scriptures of Israel to the World.

Messianic Jews brought Messiah to the World.

Messianic Jews who made disciples of the nations, responsible for His Word going to the entire world.

This war is against what was done then and what we are doing now.

The war that is against this faith has everything to do with us.

Elijah was the epitome of everything they were abandoning.

We are the epitome today as Elijah was then.

Just when it appeared that Ahab and Jezebel were succeeding, Elijah appeared.

And He bears witness against them.

As it appears that the anti-biblical culture is succeeding, then suddenly appears the Messianic movement, as Elijah did. We are the witness and reminder of what and whom are being warred against. As the first Messianic believers did, we are the ones who will usher in Messiah. In this day of apostasy, We are the Elijah's of this time.

We are the reminders of what has been brought into this world, the witnesses.

As the darkness tries to eradicate the light, the lights are strangely dim (silent) Where are the voices in the church world, where are the voices speaking out strongly for God? Speaking to a nation and a world that has turned its back on God.

When DOMA was struck down by congress, where were the pastors? They were few and far between.

The media bias further amplifies this message to millions of people every day.

However, Messiah calls us to be the salt of the earth and light of the world.

**Mat 5:13** "You are salt for the Land. But if salt becomes tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything except being thrown out for people to trample on.

**Mat 5:14** "You are light for the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

**Mat 5:15** Likewise, when people light a lamp, they don't cover it with a bowl but put it on a lampstand, so that it shines for everyone in the house.

**Mat 5:16** In the same way, let your light shine before people, so that they may see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.

If we are witnessing massive darkness, what does this mean? The light has not been the light.

What is the purpose of light?

If we are watching a massive decay, then the salt has not been the salt.

What is the purpose of salt?

Is it not a preservative? As salt are we not to preserve the Word of God for our children, and their children?

Where are the Elijah's?

Not too long ago Billy Graham would preach the message of Messiah and be honored by Presidents.

Do we see that at all today?

Today we hear different gospels preached.

A gospel of success where God will meet your need

A God who is born by your desires – an idol.

A morphing of God with ba'al

a new church culture whose moral compass has been compromised by apostasy  
instead of the light impacting the world, the world is impacting the light

The voices that you would expect to be hearing, for Judeo Christian values are silent, afraid, intimidated or muted, or emphasizing different gospels.

Some of the strongest voices that you are hearing, speaking out against these apostasies are not who you would expect to hear. They are not from the church but from the Jewish community. Even those who are not believers in Yeshua. The more prominent voices are Jewish:

Dennis Praeger

Michael Medved

Mark Levin

Michael Savage

Ben Stein

Charles Krauthammer

These men don't have the truth of Messiah, yet they have a shadow of what we are. They are speaking out against the apostasy that is consuming the world as we know it.

This is pointing to something much greater.

Not too long ago Messianic Judaism was an oddity on the fringe of the faith. There was a time when no one knew what Messianic Judaism was.

To quote another Jew - Bob Dylan – The times, they are a changing.

Today, there is a growing awareness of the Messianic movement, including Messianic Rabbi's, Messianic worship, so much so, that Messianic Jews are being lifted up to places of prominence.

One of the most outspoken advocates against these apostasies regarding sexuality and gender is Dr. Michael Brown  
Other prominent Messianic Jews include Jewish Voice with Jonathan Bernis and It's Supernatural with Sid Roth  
One of the most powerful voices fighting for the rights of believers and the Gospel is Jay Sekulow.  
Jonathan Cahn

We are witnessing something striking. When there is a vacuum in leadership God is raising up Messianic Jewish Leaders to fill the void.

Bigger phenomena...

At the beginning of the age, world culture was pagan, idolatrous, Rome and Greece. Into that world comes the message of Messiah, given to the world by Messianic Jews.

Gentiles begin to receive it.

The more it moved, the more it departed from its roots. The more it became established the more it separated.

It overcame the pagan culture. Yet in becoming more established in world culture, the Jewish leadership began disappearing.

What is happening now is the opposite. As the Gospel is being disestablished the Messianic Jew is returning to the

world.

The 1960s was a key time.

Disestablishment takes form – removing of prayer and bible from school, new morality forms, leading to such things as legalized abortion.

It is no coincidence that at the time when God's morality is diminishing from society that the Messianic Revival begins

The faith that originally came from the Jewish people is returning home. Returning back to the Jewish people.

Think of this...when the faith was lead by Jewish believers, it was at its most powerful and impactful, most anointed phase

It was a pagan world at that time. So, as this world returns to that time, we are returning to the book of Acts.

During the time of Sha'ul and Kefa, it was a time of immorality.

History is repeating itself.

So, if the establishment of this faith that spread throughout the world has lead to the disappearance of the Messianic Jewish leadership, then the disestablishment of our faith is leading to our reestablishment. The time is now.

When Messianic Jewish Leadership is returning not when it is status quo, but radical. Consider the book of Acts again...

We are now considered the counter culture. Remember the stages. We have gone from a position of certainty to a position that is less influential, we are being pushed to the fringe of being relevant. Just as more and more believers are going to have to become radical, so to this faith is becoming more and more Jewish.

As this apostasy is spreading, This faith that we profess is becoming more radical, in relation to culture. God is raising up Jewish people and our identity.

As the Messianic movement establishes its identity.

Stage 1 – Here we are, we appeared

[1Ki 18:7](#) `Ovadyah was on the road when suddenly Eliyahu encountered him. `Ovadyah recognized him, fell on his face and said, "Is it really you, my lord Eliyahu?"

Stage 2 – Building up the culture, Messianic Congregations, Worship

Stage 3 – To reclaim our place as we had at the beginning – taking the mantle once held by the first Messianic Rabbis and believers that ultimately changed the world.

What you are part of is something that is extremely powerful.

We cannot be marginalized, we cannot be pushed aside, we must walk by faith and in the center of culture.

We need to be the strongest voices of this age.

This age that we live in will not be complete until we are the strongest voices. I have talked before of how the revival that is happening as we speak is one not of quantity, but one of impact and quality.

The battles will be many. Anything biblical is considered a threat to the world's cultural shift back to pagan beliefs, removing God from the foundation of our country.



God calls us to rise where we have greater battles.

Not just with anti-missionaries, but bigger, more important

I believe that we will find favor in the Jewish communities, because God is removing the veil in preparation for the return of Messiah.

This congregation and other like it are the return of those first world changing Messianic believers  
We are to this civilization as Elijah was to Israel – we are the Elijah's of this age.

Elijah holds the key...

What did he do?

Ahab called him the troubler of Israel

Elijah answers – It is not I who trouble Israel...

1. He would not let the world define him or the apostasy. He was grounded in God, there was no compromise. He not only didn't bend his knee, he would not bend his doctrine, his beliefs. He didn't seek anyone's approval. In this way we need to be the same.

Even though he struggled, but God used him mightily

2. He was a man of prayer our branches cannot exceed our roots. The deeper our roots, the greater our fruit. We need to be more serious in prayer and communing with God.
3. He was independent of his circumstances, so plugged into God, he didn't care what people thought. Not touched by the famine, dependent upon God and independent of the world. Independent of the culture so we can touch the culture. Being plugged into God will be more and more crucial for believers in this time.
4. He was a man of great faith – batach, we need to be the most confident of people, He was listening to and being led by the voice of God. We must be sensitive to the same voice in this time and go forward with Him.
5. He respected no god but God – it is the most Jewish thing to oppose the other gods, we are not to revere them on any level. Elijah rebuilt the altar of the Lord. The altar today is the atonement of Messiah. This faith that the nations are abandoning, we are called to uphold it, to declare it, to boldly proclaim the Message of Messiah, the death and resurrection of Yeshua, the atoning power of His chatat, His sin offering for us.
6. He was bold, we need to be bolder. He didn't not react but was proactive. We must be proactive as agents to impact this world. Elijah was defiant against the enemy of God. We must be defiant against the enemy.
7. Eliyahu - “My God is the Lord” This was his life.

We can't just proclaim it but we need to live it.

God has called us for this day.

You are here for this reason. Submitted to the will of God is when God anoints.

Our calling will be unleashed when we make this commitment, more than ever before.  
The anointing will be more powerful than ever before. Yeshua says that you will do greater things.

Elijah called a nation to return to God.

**1Ki 18:39** When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "Adonai is God! Adonai is God!"

what was the it...

**1Ki 18:38** Then the fire of Adonai fell. It consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones and the dust; and it licked up the water in the trench.

A burnt offering that was doused with water three times and fully saturated that if you tried lighting a fire the conventional way, would be impossible. Yet, with Adonai, all things are possible, including His fire consuming the burnt offering and everything around it.

Likewise in this age we are calling a nation and people to return – T'shuvah.

This transformation of society in the form of a “new morality” I mentioned earlier, would not stop with Roe v. Wade, but would go on from there in a slow and methodical (but accelerating) manner, pushing the envelop ever so slightly as not to shock and ultimately disrupt its progress. This new morality would continue to grow as tolerance grows and what was once hidden from the majority, became exposed and eventually accepted.

Two decades later, in the 1980s we were introduced to a new epidemic, AIDS, originating within another counter culture, that of the LGB community.

The promotion of equal rights in this community have now taken us to the not too distant past of 2013, when Maine was one of the first four states in the nation to pass a referendum in the November election, legalizing same sex marriage, to where just two years later, it is now considered to be the law of the land.

From marriage reclassification to talking about gender being subjective and not absolute. You are who you “believe” you are, not what your anatomy tells you. Ultimately using legislation from the 60s and 70s such as The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title 9 to support positions that were not even discussed at the time legislation was passed, thus grossly misinterpreting laws to promote an agenda.

In sermons past, I have said that America has passed the point of no return. These issues are all about a rejection of God.

Where is the T'shuvah of our leadership? I have talked about the transformation of believers in relation to society...as a result, I would say, the majority of believers have lost their zeal.

Where is the zealousness to bring this country back to God.

It certainly isn't in Portland.

When you stand for God, you are labeled as bigots, racist, neanderthal because your views have not transformed with the rest of the open minded tolerant people.

Earlier I had referenced Zechariah 12:10 and Israel's repentance towards Yeshua, Now I want to share with you the entire passage of chapter 12. This will provide you with an additional understanding the impact of T'shuvah is to have...

**Zec 12:1** A prophecy, the word of Adonai concerning Isra'el — here is the message from Adonai, who stretched out the heavens, laid the foundation of the earth and formed the spirit inside human beings:

**Zec 12:2** "I will make Yerushalayim a cup that will stagger the surrounding peoples. Even Y'hudah will be caught up in the siege against Yerushalayim.

**Zec 12:3** When that day comes, I will make Yerushalayim a heavy stone for all the peoples. All who try to lift it will hurt themselves, and all the earth's nations will be massed against her.

**Zec 12:4** When that day comes," says Adonai, "I will strike all the horses with panic and their riders with madness; I will keep watch over Y'hudah, but I will strike blind all the horses of the peoples.

**Zec 12:5** The leaders of Y'hudah will say to themselves, 'Those living in Yerushalayim are my strength through Adonai-Tzva'ot their God.'

**Zec 12:6** When that day comes, I will make the leaders of Y'hudah like a blazing fire pan in a pile of wood, like a fiery torch among sheaves of grain; they will devour all the surrounding peoples, on the right and on the left. Yerushalayim will be inhabited in her own place, Yerushalayim.

**Zec 12:7** Adonai will save the tents of Y'hudah first, so that the glory of the house of David and the glory of those living in Yerushalayim will not appear greater than that of Y'hudah.

**Zec 12:8** When that day comes, Adonai will defend those living in Yerushalayim. On that day, even someone who stumbles will be like David; and the house of David will be like God, like the angel of Adonai before them.

**Zec 12:9** "When that day comes, I will seek to destroy all nations attacking Yerushalayim;

**Zec 12:10** and I will pour out on the house of David and on those living in Yerushalayim a spirit of grace and prayer; and they will look to me, whom they pierced." They will mourn for him as one mourns for an only son; they will be in bitterness on his behalf like the bitterness for a firstborn son.

**Zec 12:11** When that day comes, there will be great mourning in Yerushalayim, mourning like that for Hadad-Rimmon in the Megiddo Valley.

**Zec 12:12** Then the land will mourn, each family by itself — the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Natan by itself, and their wives by themselves;

**Zec 12:13** the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shim`i by itself, and their wives by themselves;

**Zec 12:14** all the remaining families, each by itself, and their wives by themselves.

Equally important is Zechariah 13:1:

**Zec 13:1** When that day comes, a spring will be opened up for the house of David and the people living in Yerushalayim to cleanse them from sin and impurity.

A nation must first repent, leading to the people

Furthermore, I want you to be mindful...

**Rom 12:11** Don't be lazy when hard work is needed, but serve the Lord with spiritual fervor. (zeal)

**Rom 12:12** Rejoice in your hope, be patient in your troubles, and continue steadfastly in prayer.

To quote the words of Jim Valvano, men's basketball coach of the 1983 NC State Wolfpack NCAA national championship team, died in 1993 from cancer, gave a moving speech during the first ESPY awards, concluding that speech with...

“Don't give up, Don't ever give up”