

Notes: November 1, 2014

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. 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: Expectations of Messiah

Last week I shared with you how Yeshua was identified as Messiah. When Andrew said to his brother Shimon Kefa - "We have found Messiah" recorded in Yochanan's Gospel 1:41 there were certain expectations regarding His character and identity. There were certain things that scripture indicated only Adonai's Anointed could do. These signs would be a witness to the Jewish people in identifying Messiah.

So, if there were expectations regarding what He would do to identify Himself, there are also expectations regarding changes that Messiah would usher in.

Starting with Maimonides...

Rabbi Moses ben Maimon, better known as [Maimonides](#) or "The Rambam" (1135-1204 CE), lived at a time when both Christianity and Islam were developing active theologies. Jewish scholars were often asked to attest to their faith by their counterparts in other religions.

Maimonides' 13 principles were controversial when first proposed, evoking criticism by [Crescas](#) and [Joseph Albo](#). They evoked criticism as minimizing acceptance of the entire Torah (Rabbi S. of Montpellier, Yad Rama, Y. Alfacher, Rosh Amanah). The 13 principles were ignored by much of the Jewish community for the next few centuries. (*Dogma in Medieval Jewish Thought*, [Menachem Kellner](#)). Over time two poetic restatements of these principles (*Ani Ma'amin* and *Yigdal*) became canonized in the [Jewish prayerbook](#). Eventually, Maimonides' 13 principles of faith became the mostly widely accepted statement of belief.

I believe with perfect faith in the coming of the Messiah; and even though he may tarry, nonetheless, I wait every day for his coming.

In the future, the Messianic king will arise and renew the Davidic dynasty, restoring it to its initial sovereignty. He will build the Temple and gather the dispersed of Israel.

Then, in his days, the observance of all the statutes will return to their previous state. We will offer sacrifices, observe the Sabbatical and Jubilee years according to all their particulars as described by the Torah.

Anyone who does not believe in him or does not await his coming, denies not only the statements of the other prophets, but those of the Torah and Moses, our teacher. The Torah testified to his coming, as Deuteronomy 30:3 – 5 states:

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.

These explicit words of the Torah include all the statements made by all the prophets.

These words and thoughts were expressed during the 12th century.

Was Maimonides breaking new ground with His 13 Principles of the Faith in general and number 12 specifically or was he making a statement that had existed prior?

There are aspects found in scripture that indicated the premise that Messiah existed long before the 12th century. If aspects regarding a Messiah existed long before Maimonides...

What were these expectations?

Where do we find them?

How do they apply to Yeshua?

The Rebuilding of the 3rd Temple:

Eze 37:26 I will make a covenant of peace with them, an everlasting covenant. I will give to them, increase their numbers, and set my sanctuary among them forever.

Eze 37:27 My home will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Eze 37:28 The nations will know that I am Adonai, who sets Isra'el apart as holy, when my sanctuary is with them forever.' "

Ezekiel wrote this long before the destruction of the 2nd Temple. So when it was destroyed and this covenant of peace did not yet exist, the expectation of Messiah and a 3rd Temple began to materialize.

When asking Jewish people who do not believe that Yeshua is Messiah, they will point to this passage and what is missing.

“He can't be the Messiah – if He is, where is the peace that scripture talks about?”

Expectations are based on the understanding of scripture and its application.

Here the Prophet, a messenger of Adonai is conveying a message to his audience that Adonai will make a covenant of peace and it will be everlasting.

In gathering of the Exiles of Israel:

Through Messiah those that were scattered into exile would be regathered. There are several scriptures that support this expectation:

- Isaiah 43:3 – 5
- Amos 9:14 – 15
- Jeremiah 23:7 – 8
- Ezekiel 39:25 – 29

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.

Isa 11:1 But a branch will emerge from the trunk of Yishai, a shoot will grow from his roots.

Isa 11:2 The Spirit of Adonai will rest on him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and power, the Spirit of knowledge and fearing Adonai –

Isa 11:11 On that day Adonai will raise his hand again, a second time, to reclaim the remnant of his people who remain from Ashur, Egypt, Patros, Ethiopia, `Eilam, Shin`ar, Hamat and the islands in the sea.

Isa 11:12 He will hoist a banner for the Goyim, assemble the dispersed of Isra'el, and gather the scattered of Y'hudah from the four corners of the earth.

The first regathering was after the Babylonian captivity, when thousands returned to the land, only to be sent into exile at the hands of Rome some 500+ years later.

There would be a second regathering and this time it would be from the four corners of the earth.

Something you are witnessing today.

Six million Jews and counting have returned to the land, that for nearly 1900 years lied desolate. The land drew the attention of Christians and Muslims, yet when the Jews possessed the land, “the desert would bloom”

There is a deep connection to the land and how the land responds when Israel resides in it.

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.

Adonai is the one who is bringing them back.

End of Evil and Sin:

Through Messiah, He would bring an end to evil and sin.

- Ezekiel 37:23
- Zephaniah 3:13
- Malachi 3:19
- Isaiah 60:21

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.

Zec 13:2 "When that day comes," says Adonai-Tzva'ot, "I will cut off the very names of the idols from the land, so that no one even remembers them any more. I will also expel the *[false]* prophets and the spirit of uncleanness from the land;

What appears to be talking of the return from Bavel, based on Jeremiah 50:18:

Jer 50:18 Therefore Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says: "I will punish the king of Bavel and his land as I punished the king of Ashur.

The promises found in the next verses appear to be incomplete

Jer 50:19 I will bring Isra'el back to his pasture, to graze on the Karmel and the Bashan, on the hills of Efrayim and in Gil`ad until he has his fill.

Jer 50:20 In those days, at that time," says Adonai, "Isra'el's guilt will be sought, but there will be none, and Y'hudah's sins, but they won't be found; for I will pardon the remnant I leave.

What we can see looking back is that Yeshua did address sin during His first time with us. He made a way through Himself, as our High Priest of the New Covenant, making atonement for us.

When asking a non-believing Jew about this, they will likely point to these passages to defuse our belief in Yeshua:

“There is still evil and sin in the world, therefore how can He be the Messiah”

Awareness and Knowledge of Adonai:

The expectation that the age of Messiah would bring a universal awareness, perception and knowledge of Adonai.

- Isaiah 11:9
- Isaiah 52:8
- Jeremiah 31:32 – 33

Isa 40:1 "Comfort and keep comforting my people," says your God.

Isa 40:2 "Tell Yerushalayim to take heart; proclaim to her that she has completed her time of service, that her guilt has been paid off, that she has received at the hand of Adonai double for all her sins."

Isa 40:3 A voice cries out: "Clear a road through the desert for Adonai! Level a highway in the `Aravah for our God!

Isa 40:4 Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill lowered, the bumpy places made level and the crags become a plain.

Isa 40:5 Then the glory of Adonai will be revealed; all humankind together will see it, for the mouth of Adonai has spoken."

Joe 2:28 (3:1) "After this, I will pour out my Spirit on all humanity. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions;

Joe 2:29 (3:2) and also on male and female slaves in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

This awareness of Adonai would be felt by all people, leading to the next expectation:

Universal Worship of Adonai:

Messiah would mend fences, bringing the whole world together whereby all would serve in unity.

- Zephaniah 3:9
- Zechariah 9:16
- Michah 4:1 - 2

Isa 2:2 In the acharit-hayamim (end of days) the mountain of Adonai's house will be established as the most important mountain. It will be regarded more highly than the other hills, and all the Goyim will stream there.

Isa 2:3 Many peoples will go and say, "Come, let's go up to the mountain of Adonai, to the house of the God of Ya`akov! He will teach us about his ways, and we will walk in his paths." For out of Tziyon will go forth Torah, the word of Adonai from Yerushalayim.

Zec 14:9 Then Adonai will be king over the whole world. On that day Adonai will be the only one, and his name will be the only name.

Universal Worship can only occur if there is Universal Peace and Harmony. The awareness and knowledge of Adonai will remove the narrow minded dispositions that lead to strife and war. We can even go a step further, based on what we know today and say that it will remove the divisions within the body of Messiah

Some of the scriptures just referenced contain this dynamic in the verses that follow:

- Isaiah 2:4
- Michah 4:3

Isa 2:4 He will judge between the nations and arbitrate for many peoples. Then they will hammer their swords into plow-blades and their spears into pruning-knives; nations will not raise swords at each other, and they will no longer learn war.

And other passages speaking of a universal peace and harmony:

- Hosea 2:20
- Zechariah 9:10
- Isaiah 11:6 – 9

Isa 65:25 The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion eat straw like an ox (but the serpent — its food will be dust). They will not hurt or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain," says Adonai.

Resurrection of the Dead:

We saw this expectation last week when I talked about how people would be able to recognize Messiah.

Joh 11:21 Marta said to Yeshua, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

Joh 11:22 Even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

Joh 11:23 Yeshua said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

Joh 11:24 Marta said, "I know that he will rise again at the Resurrection on the Last Day."

Joh 11:25 Yeshua said to her, "I AM the Resurrection and the Life! Whoever puts his trust in me will live, even if he dies;

This expectation of a resurrection of the dead was not something made up, but is found in the Prophets to where Marta, had an understanding of the Scriptures.

- Ezekiel 37:12 – 14
- Daniel 12:2

Isa 26:19 Your dead will live, my corpse will rise; awake and sing, you who dwell in the dust; for your dew is like the morning dew, and the earth will bring the ghosts to life.

And the final expectation of Messiah and the Messianic age He would bring upon His arrival would be a time of both physical and spiritual bliss:

- Isaiah 11:9
- Isaiah 25:8
- Amos 9:13

Isa 35:5 Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped;

Isa 35:6 then the lame man will leap like a deer, and the mute person's tongue will sing. For in the desert, springs will burst forth, streams of water in the `Aravah;

Then if some of you are keen to remember, weren't these some of the things that Messiah would do as proof of His identity?

The expectation is that they would occur during the end of the age and not been first seen as a sign of Messiah is based on human understanding.

For this reason and this reason alone we must be careful in how we interpret Scripture.

The only infallible means is through the Ruach ha Kodesh.

Yes they are, however, expectations arise from people's understanding of scripture.

There were times when these expectations elevated due to circumstances.

The greater that Israel was oppressed the greater the expectation for Messiah.

Whether in the land or exiled, the inherent connection between Adonai and His people is a bond akin to a parent and child.

Next week we will look at how these expectations have truly materialized