

November 17, 2023

First Assembly of God Church in Portland

The Coming of Messiah

During the 40 days after His resurrection when Yeshua was teaching He shared this...

Luk 24:44 Yeshua said to them, "This is what I meant when I was still with you and told you that everything written about me in the Torah of Moshe, the Prophets and the Psalms had to be fulfilled."

Luk 24:45 Then he opened their minds, so that they could understand the Tanakh,

Luk 24:46 telling them, "Here is what it says: the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day;

Luk 24:47 and in his name repentance leading to forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed to people from all nations, starting with Yerushalayim.

Are your minds opened, not by me but by Him and thus do you desire to know more about Him and His return?

There is great anticipation for Yeshua's return as there was for His initial coming. Throughout the centuries there was promise after promise spoken of by the Prophets to the Jewish people. Yet they would go unanswered and unfulfilled in the generation they were given.

The expectation was that when Adonai spoke through one of His Prophets, what was being conveyed was for that time and that generation. Yet what would occur constantly were that the messages conveyed went unanswered and unfulfilled

Ecc 3:1 For everything there is a season, a right time for every intention under heaven—

Just because our expectation did not align with Adonai, does not mean He failed or lacked in answering us. It meant, not in our time but in His.

Over time, these unfulfilled and unanswered prophecies would accumulate. As that happened, the people's anticipation of Adonai doing something would grow as well.

The backdrop of much of Israel's history has been under one of subjection, that is under the authority / control of another more powerful nation.

They were cast into exile as a result of their unfaithfulness and neglect towards Adonai, first the 10 Northern tribes were defeated by Assyria in 722 BCE. Then the Southern Kingdom would fall at the hand of Bavel. Their exile would be for a time, a season. It would not be shortened or lengthened but it would be a season...

Jer 29:1 Following is the text of the letter Yirmeyahu the prophet sent from Yerushalayim to the leaders remaining in exile, as well as to the cohanim, the prophets and all the people N'vukhadnetzar had carried off captive from Yerushalayim to Bavel.

Jer 29:2 This was after Y'khanyah the king, the queen mother, the officers, the leaders of Y'udah and Yerushalayim, and the artisans and skilled workers had left Yerushalayim.

Jer 29:3 The letter was entrusted to El`asah the son of Shafan and G'maryah the son of Hilkiyah; Tzidkiyah king of Y'udah sent them to Bavel, to N'vukhadnetzar king of Bavel. The letter said:

Jer 29:4 "Here is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says to all those in exile, whom I have caused to be carried off captive from Yerushalayim to Bavel:

Jer 29:5 'Build yourselves houses, and live in them. Plant gardens, and eat what they produce.

Jer 29:6 Choose women to marry, and have sons and daughters. Choose wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage to men, so that they can have sons and daughters—increase your numbers there, don't decrease.

Jer 29:7 Seek the welfare of the city to which I have caused you to go in exile, and pray to Adonai on its behalf; for your welfare is bound up in its welfare.'

Jer 29:8 For this is what Adonai-Tzva'ot, the God of Isra'el, says: 'Don't let your prophets who are living among you and your diviners deceive you, and don't pay attention to the dreams you urge them to dream.

Jer 29:9 For they are prophesying falsely in my name; I have not sent them,' says Adonai.

Jer 29:10 "For here is what Adonai says: 'After Bavel's seventy years are over, I will remember you and fulfill my good promise to you by bringing you back to this place.

Jer 29:11 For I know what plans I have in mind for you,' says Adonai,'plans for well-being, not for bad things; so that you can have hope and a future.

Then would come the Greeks and their authoritarian rule under Alexander and then Antichos for whom we just concluded the celebration of Hanukkah and the rededication of the Temple. For it was under Antichos that a pig was offered on

the altar of Adonai in the Temple to Zeus.

Then came Rome and their oppressive rule, for which the backdrop would be when Adonai would respond and act as He would bring forth Messiah, not a moment sooner, nor a moment later.

I share this because there is this verse where many believe you can hasten the return of Yeshua.

Through Daniel, there was a decree sent forth, upon the conclusion of the exile.

Dan 9:24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and for your holy city for putting an end to the transgression, for making an end of sin, for forgiving iniquity, for bringing in everlasting justice, for setting the seal on vision and prophet, and for anointing the Especially Holy Place.

Dan 9:25 Know, therefore, and discern that seven weeks [*of years*] will elapse between the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Yerushalayim until an anointed prince comes. It will remain built for sixty-two weeks [*of years*], with open spaces and moats; but these will be troubled times.

Dan 9:26 **Then, after the sixty-two weeks, Mashiach will be cut off and have nothing. The people of a prince yet to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary, but his end will come with a flood, and desolations are decreed until the war is over.**

We see this through the people's expectations, 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!' "

Are you the Prophet?
Are you Eliyahu (Elijah)

The people are asking questions based not on their own understanding but what Torah and the Prophets convey...

We read of the Prophet being asked about here in Deuteronomy 18...

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.

It didn't stop with Yochanan, but the expectation was so great and the evidence being witnessed was so resounding they could not help but speculate and ask. Miracles only Messiah would do were happening.

Joh 1:35 The next day, Yochanan was again standing with two of his talmidim.

Joh 1:36 On seeing Yeshua walking by, he said, "Look! God's lamb!"

Joh 1:37 His two talmidim heard him speaking, and they followed Yeshua.

Joh 1:38 Yeshua turned and saw them following him, and he asked them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi!" (which means "Teacher!") "Where are you staying?"

Joh 1:39 He said to them, "Come and see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and remained with him the rest of the day—it was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

Joh 1:40 One of the two who had heard Yochanan and had followed Yeshua was Andrew the brother of Shim`on Kefa.

Joh 1:41 The first thing he did was to find his brother Shim`on and tell him, "We've found the Mashiach!" (The word means "one who has been anointed.")

The talmidim were being gathered, in that their eyes were being opened and they saw the promise of Messiah standing before them. This expectation would continue to resonate among the people...

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.

When was this?

When did this occur?

What did He say that caused them to be stirred?

The last words He spoke just prior to this commotion among the people...

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!"

He would go on to convey some of His most powerful words...

Joh 8:12 Yeshua spoke to them again: "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light which gives life."

So there is this promise of the Prophet whom would speak the Words of Adonai for Yeshua conveys...

Joh 12:47 If anyone hears what I am saying and does not observe it, I don't judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.

Joh 12:48 Those who reject me and don't accept what I say have a judge—the word which I have spoken will judge them on the Last Day.

Joh 12:49 For I have not spoken on my own initiative, but the Father who sent me has given me a command, namely, what to say and how to say it.

Notice what He says, those who don't observe what I say goes directly back to Deuteronomy.

There are things that must happen before Messiah can return yet believers are not truly aware of what they are.

You heard me reference Eliyahu, Elijah before. We are told it is Yochanah the Immerser whom the spirit of Eliyahu, hence the fulfillment of the prophecy in Malachi...

Mal 3:22 "Remember the Torah of Moshe my servant, which I enjoined on him at Horev, laws and rulings for all Isra'el.

Mal 3:23 Look, I will send to you Eliyahu the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai.

Mal 3:24 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers; otherwise I will come and strike the land with complete destruction." [*Look, I will send to you Eliyahu the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai.*]

You will see Eliyahu, the real Eliyahu, not just the spirit of him, for Yeshua reveals this to us...

Mat 17:1 Six days later, Yeshua took Kefa, Ya`akov and his brother Yochanan and led them up a high mountain privately.

Mat 17:2 As they watched, he began to change form—his face shone like the sun, and his clothing became as white as light.

Mat 17:3 Then they looked and saw Moshe and Eliyahu speaking with him.

Mat 17:4 Kefa said to Yeshua, "It's good that we're here, Lord. I'll put up three shelters if you want—one for you, one for Moshe and one for Eliyahu."

Mat 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them; and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

Mat 17:6 When the talmidim heard this, they were so frightened that they fell face down on the ground.

Mat 17:7 But Yeshua came and touched them. "Get up!" he said, "Don't be afraid."

Mat 17:8 So they opened their eyes, looked up and saw only Yeshua by himself.

Mat 17:9 As they came down the mountain, Yeshua ordered them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

This is known as the transfiguration...when we saw the glorification of the Son and there were two standing before him.

One being Moshe who asked Adonai...

Exo 33:18 But Moshe said, "I beg you to show me your glory!"

Exo 33:19 He replied, "I will cause all my goodness to pass before you, and in your presence I will pronounce the name of Adonai. Moreover, I show favor to whomever I will, and I display mercy to whomever I will.

Exo 33:20 But my face," he continued, "you cannot see, because a human being cannot look at me and remain alive.

Exo 33:21 Here," he said, "is a place near me; stand on the rock.

Exo 33:22 When my glory passes by, I will put you inside a crevice in the rock

and cover you with my hand, until I have passed by.

Exo 33:23 Then I will remove my hand, and you will see my back, but my face is not to be seen."

What happened here, but Adonai fulfilled a promise to His servant Moshe.

The other appearing is Eliyahu, connected to Messiah through Malachi and who will be one of the two witnesses in Revelation...

Thus, Eliyahu must appear first. That is Yeshua will not return until this happens as well as other things as well, such as the rebuilding of the Temple because the two witnesses will be there...

Rev 11:1 I was given a measuring rod like a stick and told, "Get up, and measure the Temple of God and the altar, and count how many people are worshipping there!

Rev 11:2 But the court outside the Temple, leave that out; don't measure it; because it has been given to the Goyim, and they will trample over the holy city for forty-two months.

Rev 11:3 "Also I will give power to my two witnesses; and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, dressed in sackcloth."

Rev 11:4 These are the two olive trees and the two menorahs standing before the Lord of the earth.

Hence Yeshua affirms this in His response to His talmidim...

Mat 17:10 The talmidim asked him, "Then why do the Torah-teachers say that Eliyahu must come first?"

Mat 17:11 He answered, "On the one hand, Eliyahu is coming and will restore all things;

Mat 17:12 on the other hand, I tell you that Eliyahu has come already, and people did not recognize him but did whatever they pleased to him. In the same way, the Son of Man too is about to suffer at their hands."

Mat 17:13 Then the talmidim understood that he was talking to them about Yochanan the Immerser.

Can you expedite the return of Yeshua?

2 Kefa and verse 12...

2Pe 3:12 as you wait for the Day of God and work to hasten its coming. That

Day will bring on the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt from the heat;

Kefa, Peter is alluding to this verse from the Prophet Yeshayahu...

Isa 60:21 All your people will be tzaddikim; they will inherit the land forever; they will be the branch I planted, my handiwork, in which I take pride.

Isa 60:22 The smallest will grow to a thousand, the weakest will become a mighty nation. I, Adonai, when the right time comes, will quickly bring it about."

When the right time comes, Kefa also says to wait...

2Pe 3:13 but we, following along with his promise, wait for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness will be at home.

To hasten does not just mean to make happen sooner but to do that in a swift manner. Ultimately being in a prepared state ready at any moment, just as Adonai had instructed the Jewish people at the time of the 10th plague, the death of the first born and the eating of the Passover Lamb...

Exo 12:8 That night, they are to eat the meat, roasted in the fire; they are to eat it with matzah and maror.

Exo 12:9 Don't eat it raw or boiled, but roasted in the fire, with its head, the lower parts of its legs and its inner organs.

Exo 12:10 Let nothing of it remain till morning; if any of it does remain, burn it up completely.

Exo 12:11 " 'Here is how you are to eat it: with your belt fastened, your shoes on your feet and your staff in your hand; and you are to eat it hurriedly. It is Adonai's Pesach [*Passover*].

Exo 12:12 For that night, I will pass through the land of Egypt and kill all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both men and animals; and I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt; I am Adonai.

Likewise, the 10 virgins awaiting the coming of the bridegroom were instructed to be prepared for his coming.

Mat 25:1 "The Kingdom of Heaven at that time will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom.

Mat 25:2 Five of them were foolish and five were sensible.

Mat 25:3 The foolish ones took lamps with them but no oil,

Mat 25:4 whereas the others took flasks of oil with their lamps.

Just as with the Bridegroom, no one truly knows the hour by which Messiah will return.

Yet I do believe we know the when that will occur and it is based on Yeshua's words and thus His answer to his talmidim...

Mat 24:1 As Yeshua left the Temple and was going away, his talmidim came and called his attention to its buildings.

Mat 24:2 But he answered them, "You see all these? Yes! I tell you, they will be totally destroyed—not a single stone will be left standing!"

Mat 24:3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the talmidim came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that you are coming, and that the `olam hazeh is ending?"

Much is conveyed by Yeshua in Matthew 24 yet all these things must happen before this comes to fruition...

Mat 24:29 "But immediately following the trouble of those times, the sun will grow dark, the moon will stop shining, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in heaven will be shaken.

Mat 24:30 "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, all the tribes of the Land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with tremendous power and glory.

Mat 24:31 He will send out his angels with a great shofar; and they will gather together his chosen people from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

This time I believe will be during the Moadim, the appointed times of Adonai. Specifically Yom T'ruah, the Feast of Trumpets.

One aspect of His return conveys that of total darkness, then the sign of the Son of Man appears?

What is that sign, but that of light, for it will convey that Yeshua is truly THE light of the world.

Know that we are to remain steadfast and faithful, paying attention to the times we are in, what is happening with Israel and the signs as they have been revealed to us. I have shared two with you, Eliyahu in detail and referencing that of a

rebuilt Temple.

Knowing the signs and the times we are living in is important. One such moment, event is what occurred on October 7th and the unprovoked attack by Hamas against the nation of Israel. How are we to view this moment but as Yeshua conveys to us...

Mat 24:4 Yeshua replied: "Watch out! Don't let anyone fool you!

Mat 24:5 For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will lead many astray.

Mat 24:6 You will hear the noise of wars nearby and the news of wars far off; see to it that you don't become frightened. Such things must happen, but the end is yet to come.

Mat 24:7 For peoples will fight each other, nations will fight each other, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various parts of the world;

Mat 24:8 all this is but the beginning of the 'birth-pains.'

This is the 9th time Israel will be at war since May 14th 1948 when they declared their independence.

Psa 83:1 [*A song. A psalm of Asaf:*] God, don't remain silent! Don't stay quiet, God, or still;

Psa 83:2 because here are your enemies, causing an uproar; those who hate you are raising their heads,

Psa 83:3 craftily conspiring against your people, consulting together against those you treasure.

Psa 83:4 They say, "Come, let's wipe them out as a nation; let the name of Isra'el be remembered no more!"

Psa 83:5 With one mind they plot their schemes; the covenant they have made is against you—

Psa 83:6 the tents of Edom and the Yishma`elim, Mo'av and the Hagarim,

Psa 83:7 G'val, `Amon and `Amalek, P'leshet with those living in Tzor; (Selah)

Psa 83:8 Ashur too is allied with them, to reinforce the descendants of Lot.

Psa 83:9 Do to them as you did to Midyan, to Sisra and Yavin at Vadi Kishon—

Psa 83:10 they were destroyed at `Ein-Dor and became manure for the ground.

Psa 83:11 Make their leaders like `Orev and Ze'ev, all their princes like Zevach and Tzalmuna,

Psa 83:12 who said, "Let's take possession of God's meadows for ourselves."

Psa 83:13 My God, make them like whirling dust, like chaff driven by the wind.

Psa 83:14 Like fire burning up the forest, like a flame that sets the mountains ablaze,

Psa 83:15 drive them away with your storm, terrify them with your tempest.

Psa 83:16 Fill their faces with shame, so that they will seek your name, Adonai.

Psa 83:17 Let them be ashamed and fearful forever; yes, let them perish in disgrace.

Psa 83:18 Let them know that you alone, whose name is Adonai, are the Most High over all the earth.

Who are these nations today and how do they relate to those in this Psalm?

Ashur	Located in present day Iraq
Moab	Located in Southwest Jordan
Edom	Located in Jordan
Ammon	Located in Jordan
Gebal	Present day Lebanon
Amalek	Nomadic tribe that bordered present day Egypt
Philistine	Well documented and long standing enemy of the Jewish people
Tyre	Present day Lebanon
Ishmalites	One of the seven nations that came from Hagar
Hagarenes	Descendents of Hagar, Abraham's second wife who bore Ishmael, and comprised seven other nations: Ishmael, Zimran, Ishbak, Shuah, Medan, Midian and Jokshan

I could go on and on, but time does not permit me to do so. Hopefully, I will be asked back and can share more with you.