

Notes: November 3, 2012

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. Announcements
6. Jeri - Drash
7. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
8. Praise and Worship Songs
9. Dismiss Children
10. Message
11. Kaddash - Time of Prayer
12. Aaronic Blessing
13. Kiddush
14. Oneg

New format – nursery, Shabbat class for kids
Oneg sign up
Visitor cards – fold and put in Tzadakah box

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: Foundation for Messianic Community Authority

In week's past, we have gone from talking about the Maturity of a believer and that a mature believer should possess:

- Will seek counsel
- Be accountable
- Seek confirmation

To...How do we grow to become mature believers:

- Learn to follow
- Know that confrontation is necessary for strengthening us as believers
- A balance of trust and facts

To...Becoming a believer:

- It is Adonai who first reveals Himself to us before we even take a step.
- Our path begins with T'shuvah and leads us into a New relationship with Adonai through Yeshua

So, where do we go from there?

Ultimately leads us to the Messianic community, which is comprised of believers in Messiah, both Jewish and non-Jewish:

Where the community comprises the congregation and an order for believers to follow.

Is this new?

Throughout scripture, there has always been an order of authority and accountability:

Starting with Noah:

Gen 9:5 I will certainly demand an accounting for the blood of your lives: I will demand it from every animal and from every human being. I will demand from every human being an accounting for the life of his fellow human being.

To Moshe directly when dealing with disputes, regarding Adonai's ways:

Exo 18:14 When Moshe's father-in-law saw all that he was doing to the people, he said, "What is this that you are doing to the people? Why do you sit there alone, with all the people standing around you from morning till evening?"

Exo 18:15 Moshe answered his father-in-law, "It's because the people come to me seeking God's guidance.

Exo 18:16 Whenever they have a dispute, it comes to me; I judge between one person and another, and I explain to them God's laws and teachings. "

To a structure that would be in place for many years throughout the communities of Israel: Judges:

Exo 18:19 So listen now to what I have to say. I will give you some advice, and God will be with you. You should represent the people before God, and you should bring their cases to God.

Exo 18:20 You should also teach them the laws and the teachings, and show them how to live their lives and what work they should do.

Exo 18:21 But you should choose from among all the people competent men who are God-fearing, honest and incorruptible to be their leaders, in charge of thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens.

Exo 18:22 Normally, they will settle the people's disputes. They should bring you the difficult cases; but ordinary matters they should decide themselves. In this way, they will make it easier for you and share the load with you.

Then came the establishment of King for Israel - for the extreme cases they would come before Adonai's representative.

When we look at Solomon dealing with extreme cases, including the two women and one child found in 1Kings 3:16 -28

Then came the divided kingdom with two separate systems, leading to exile of the northern kingdom and first dispersion, then the exile and dispersion of the southern kingdom to where no structure was in place in that all of Israel was now under the authority of other countries.

So there was a period of time, where there was no authoritative rule.

After the exile, upon the return, Ezra and Nehemiah would again establish authoritative order for Israel.

After the exile and during the second Temple period, the Sanhedrin would be established. - meaning "sitting together" and comprising between 70 and 73 officials.

The earliest record of a Sanhedrin is by Josephus who wrote of a political Sanhedrin convened by the Romans in 57 B.C.E. Hellenistic sources generally depict the Sanhedrin as a political and judicial council headed by the country's ruler.

Even at this time, in the synagogues there was the seat of Moshe:

Mat 23:2 "The Torah-teachers and the P'rushim," he said, "sit in the seat of Moshe.

Mat 23:3 So whatever they tell you, take care to do it. But don't do what they do, because they talk but don't act!

Mat 23:3 So whatever they tell you, take care to do it. But don't do what they do, because they talk but don't act!

Mat 23:4 They tie heavy loads onto people's shoulders but won't lift a finger to help carry them.

Mat 23:5 Everything they do is done to be seen by others; for they make their t'fillin broad and their tzitziyot long,

Mat 23:6 they love the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues,

expand...

Do as I say, not as I do...

So, we have a background of an order of authority and accountability as seen throughout the centuries starting with Noach and seen throughout the history of Israel.

How and when did this change occur?

Yeshua had already initiated a process transferring halakhic authority from the *cohanim*, judges and rabbis to the emissaries and later leaders of the Messianic Community.

Mat 18:18 Yes! I tell you people that whatever you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.

Mat 18:19 To repeat, I tell you that if two of you here on earth agree about anything people ask, it will be for them from my Father in heaven.

Mat 18:20 For wherever two or three are assembled in my name, I am there with them."

When entering Jerusalem, Yeshua has an exchange with the Cohanim and Pharisees and conveys this statement through the telling of the parable of the vineyard beginning at Matthew 21:33:

Mat 21:42 Yeshua said to them, "Haven't you ever read in the Tanakh, 'The very rock which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone! This has come from Adonai, and in our eyes it is amazing'?"

Mat 21:43 Therefore, I tell you that the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to the kind of people that will produce its fruit!"

A few months later, Kefa would tell the Sanhedrin:

Act 4:11 "This Yeshua is the stone rejected by you builders which has become the cornerstone.

Act 4:12 There is salvation in no one else! For there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by whom we must be saved!"

Before Kefa's encounter with the Sanhedrin, and after Yeshua's resurrection, He came to His talmadim...

Mat 28:18 Yeshua came and talked with them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Mat 28:19 Therefore, go and make people from all nations into talmidim, immersing them into the reality of the Father, the Son and the Ruach HaKodesh,

Mat 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember! I will be with you always, yes, even until the end of the age."

I lay this foundation because for believers in Messiah accountability is still required. We see this through Sha'ul's writings to the congregation at Corinth.

1Co 6:1 How dare one of you with a complaint against another go to court before pagan judges and not before God's people?

1Co 6:2 Don't you know that God's people are going to judge the universe? If you are going to judge the universe, are you incompetent to judge these minor matters?

Moshe was given final authority as Adonai's representative. Under Moshe were other's who would handle matters that could be settled.

1Co 6:3 Don't you know that we will judge angels, not to mention affairs of everyday life?

1Co 6:4 So if you require judgments about matters of everyday life, why do you put them in front of men who have no standing in the Messianic Community?

1Co 6:5 I say, shame on you! Can it be that there isn't one person among you wise enough to be able to settle a dispute between brothers?

1Co 6:6 Instead, a brother brings a lawsuit against another brother, and that before unbelievers!

1Co 6:7 Actually, if you are bringing lawsuits against each other, it is already a defeat for you. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated?

1Co 6:8 Instead, you yourselves wrong and cheat; and you do it to your own brothers!

Next week I will be elaborating on this New Covenant order and the role of this congregation for people who choose to attend and be part of this congregation.

Kingdom Authority

Love and Justice

The process of congregational life

How we will deal with matters as a congregation

When covenant principles are violated – what happens

Matthew 12:18 – 21 quoting Isaiah 42:1 - 4

Isa 42:1 "Here is my servant, whom I support, my chosen one, in whom I take pleasure. I have put my Spirit on him; he will bring justice to the Goyim.

Isa 42:2 He will not cry or shout; no one will hear his voice in the streets.

Isa 42:3 He will not snap off a broken reed or snuff out a smoldering wick. He will bring forth justice according to truth;

Isa 42:4 he will not weaken or be crushed until he has established justice on the earth, and the coastlands wait for his Torah."