

Notes: December 27, 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. 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: If My people...

2Ch 7:14 then, if my people, who bear my name, will humble themselves, pray, seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin and heal their land.

This verse is the final result of the dedication of the Temple by Solomon, and Israel. It is the conclusion of a statement by Adonai, based on the hearts of Solomon and the people during this dedication. Last week on Hanukkah I had talked about rededication of the Temple and if there was a rededication, there must have been an initial dedication.

Today, I want to share with you the outcome of that initial dedication of the Temple, what it meant for Israel and what it means for us today.

After Solomon had finished praying (2 Chronicles 6)

2Ch 7:1 When Shlomo had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of Adonai filled the house,

2Ch 7:3 All the people of Isra'el saw when the fire came down, and the glory of Adonai was on the house; they bowed down with their faces to the ground on the flooring; prostrating themselves, they gave thanks to Adonai, "for he is good, for his grace continues forever."

2Ch 7:4 Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before Adonai.

2Ch 7:5 King Shlomo offered a sacrifice of 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep. Thus the king and all the people dedicated the house of God.

2Ch 7:6 The cohanim stood at their appointed stations, while the L'vi'im used the instruments that David the king had provided for making music to Adonai in order to "give thanks to Adonai, for his grace continues forever," by means of the praises David had composed. Opposite them the cohanim sounded trumpets; and all Isra'el stood up.

2Ch 7:8 So Shlomo celebrated the festival at that time for seven days, together with all Isra'el, an enormous gathering; *[they had come all the way]* from the entrance of Hamat to the Vadi *[of Egypt]*.

2Ch 7:9 On the eighth day they held a solemn assembly, having observed the dedication of the altar for seven days and the festival for seven days.

2Ch 7:10 Then, on the twenty-third day of the seventh month, he sent the people away to their tents full of joy and glad of heart for all the goodness Adonai had shown to David, to Shlomo and to Isra'el his people.

After Solomon's prayer,

After its dedication and the many offerings done on the altar...

Adonai came to Solomon and said to Him:

2Ch 7:12 Adonai appeared to Shlomo by night and said to him, "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.

2Ch 7:13 If I shut up the sky, so that there is no rain; or if I order locusts to devour the land; or if I send an epidemic of sickness among my people;

Let us look further at this often quote verse 2 Chronicles 7:14

2Ch 7:14 then, if my people, who bear my name, will humble themselves, pray, seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin and heal their land.

If My People

Adonai identifies His people in relation to the Covenant He has made:

Exo 3:7 Adonai said, "I have seen how my people are being oppressed in Egypt and heard their cry for release from their slavemasters, because I know their pain.

It is through the Covenant Adonai makes with Avraham, that He identifies Avraham's descendants as "His People"

You are His people, because you have entered into the Covenant made with Israel, establishing Yeshua as High Priest In the same manner God established Israel as His people through the Covenant He made.

The beginning of this verse is conditional as referenced by the first word "if" It requires action and follow through in order to come to fruition.

"if you love Me,

“If you” is found in 454 verses.

Who Bear My Name:

He is speaking to His people, those who were chosen to follow Him and accepted His call. In addition, it also includes those who chose to follow Him.

To bear one's name, means that you have taken on the identity of that person or have established authority under that person. In the case of Adonai, He has placed His Name on the people of Israel:

We hear this every week at the end of service with Aaron's b'ruchah:

Num 6:27 "In this way they (the Cohen) are to put (invoke) my name on the people of Isra'el, so that I will bless them."

As a believer in Messiah, we have accepted and follow Him in His ways and by His instructions. The very instructions given to Moshe. The very instructions taught by Yeshua.

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

Joh 14:26 But the Counselor, the Ruach HaKodesh, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything; that is, he will remind you of everything I have said to you.

In His name, all authority is given. The key to the Kingdom, which indicates authority.

Isaiah 22:20 / Revelation 3:7

Will Humble Themselves:

These are the verses we gave last week...

2Ch 34:26 "But you are to tell the king of Y'hudah, who sent you to consult Adonai, that Adonai the God of Isra'el also says this: 'In regard to the words you have heard,

***2Ch 34:27** because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before God when you heard his words against this place and its inhabitants — you humbled yourself before me, tore your clothes and cried before me — I have also heard you,' says Adonai.

2Ch 34:28 'Here, I will gather you to your ancestors; you will go to your grave in peace; and your eyes will not see all the calamity I am going to bring on this place and its inhabitants.' " So they brought back word to the king.

***Jas 4:7** Therefore, submit to God. Moreover, take a stand against the Adversary, and he will flee from you.

Jas 4:8 Come close to God, and he will come close to you. Clean your hands, sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded people!

To humble means: Having or showing a lower estimate of one's own importance.

One who is humble is willing to submit.

Just because you can do something, doesn't mean you have to show everyone.

In order to continue the steps as mentioned in 2 Chronicles 7:14, a humble nature must be present.

Isa 66:1 "Heaven is my throne," says Adonai, "and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house could you build for me? What sort of place could you devise for my rest?"

Isa 66:2 Didn't I myself make all these things? This is how they all came to be," says Adonai. "The kind of person on whom I look with favor is one with a poor and humble spirit, who trembles at my word.

Pro 18:12 Before being ruined, a person's heart is proud; before being honored, a person must be humble.

Yeshua told this parable...

Luk 14:7 When Yeshua noticed how the guests were choosing for themselves the best seats at the table, he told them this parable:

Luk 14:8 "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, don't sit down in the best seat; because if there is someone more important than you who has been invited,

Luk 14:9 the person who invited both of you might come and say to you, 'Give this man your place.' Then you will be humiliated as you go to take the least important place.

Luk 14:10 Instead, when you are invited, go and sit in the least important place; so that when the one who invited you comes, he will say to you, 'Go on up to a better seat.' Then you will be honored in front of everyone sitting with you.

Luk 14:11 Because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but everyone who humbles himself will be exalted."

Luk 14:12 Yeshua also said to the one who had invited him, "When you give a lunch or a dinner, don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives or rich neighbors; for they may well invite you in return, and that will be your repayment.

Luk 14:13 Instead, when you have a party, invite poor people, disfigured people, the crippled, the blind!

Luk 14:14 How blessed you will be that they have nothing with which to repay you! For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

What are your intentions when you do something?

Pray:

Through prayer, we recognize our dependency on Adonai and realize that every blessing, even life itself, is not earned but rather a generous and divine gift that has been given to us.

Prayer should express our deepest feelings with the one whom created us and redeemed us.

Abraham Joshua Heschel, a renowned 20th century Rabbi said this:

"To pray is to take notice of the wonder, to regain a sense of the mystery that animates all beings, the divine margin in all attainments"

Our prayer should convey these aspects of our life in relation with our creator Adonai and through our redeemer Yeshua.

How did Yeshua pray?

Mat 26:37 He took with him Kefa and Zavdai's two sons. Grief and anguish came over him,

Mat 26:38 and he said to them, "My heart is so filled with sadness that I could die! Remain here and stay awake with me."

The aspect of death, even for the Son of God was a stark reality. The pain and suffering He would endure would be real. Even with the knowledge that He had, Yeshua experienced real human emotions...

Grief
Anguish

Mat 26:39 Going on a little farther, he fell on his face, praying, "My Father, if possible, let this cup pass from me! Yet — not what I want, but what you want!"

For His Talmadim He instructed them to pray specifically:

Mat 26:41 Stay awake, and pray that you will not be put to the test — the spirit indeed is eager, but human nature is weak."

He knew what they would experience after this time. There would be many challenging tests of their trust that Yeshua had instilled in them. They would need every ounce of strength to preserve the tests that would be before them.

Yeshua went off to pray a second time...

Mat 26:42 A second time he went off and prayed. "My Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink it, let what you want be done."

And a third time, the same words.

Knowing His own outcome as well as the purpose of His outcome, ultimately the will of Adonai, His personal motives took a back seat to what was truly important.

How well do we know what the bigger picture of Adonai is?

Seek My Face:

Adonai says to seek His face, yet...

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

To seek means "to attempt to find"

Ultimately, we are to pursue, the one whom we are to follow.

Deu 4:29 However, from there you will seek Adonai your God; and you will find him if you search after him with all your heart and being.

How much are you willing to put into your pursuit?

There are promises associated with seeking and finding Him...

Mat 6:33 But seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Mat 6:34 Don't worry about tomorrow — tomorrow will worry about itself! Today has enough tsuris already!

Go back and read Matthew 5 & 6 to find out what “these things” are.

Turn From Their Evil Ways:

We have talked about T'shuvah many times...

Meaning repentance.

Turn from the ways which are contrary to the Word of Adonai which are also the teachings of Messiah.

Return to me and follow me...

He Will Hear From Heaven:

He may appear to be silent, but Adonai hears and listens...

1Pe 3:10 For "Whoever wants to love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit,

1Pe 3:11 turn from evil and do good, seek peace and chase after it.

1Pe 3:12 For Adonai keeps his eyes on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayers; but the face of Adonai is against those who do evil things."

The prayers of His people are as precious to Him as the pleasing aroma of a burnt offering.

Rev 8:1 When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for what seemed like half an hour.

Rev 8:2 Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and they were given seven shofars.

Rev 8:3 Another angel came and stood at the altar with a gold incense-bowl, and he was given a large quantity of incense to add to the prayers of all God's people

Rev 8:4 on the gold altar in front of the throne. The smoke of the incense went up with the prayers of God's people from the hand of the angel before God.

Sin Forgiven, Land Healed:

Pay attention to this passage:

Luk 7:44 Then, turning to the woman, he said to Shim`on, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house — you didn't give me water for my feet, but this woman has washed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair!

Luk 7:45 You didn't give me a kiss; but from the time I arrived, this woman has not stopped kissing my feet!

Luk 7:46 You didn't put oil on my head, but this woman poured perfume on my feet!

Luk 7:47 Because of this, I tell you that her sins — which are many! — have been forgiven, because she loved much. But someone who has been forgiven only a little loves only a little."

Luk 7:48 Then he said to her, "Your sins have been forgiven."

Luk 7:49 At this, those eating with him began saying among themselves, "Who is this fellow that presumes to forgive sins?"

Luk 7:50 But he said to the woman, "Your trust has saved you; go in peace."

In the case of the land being healed, Israel would return to the land after transgressing the commands of Adonai once the land had experienced its Sabbaths of rest it was deprived of experiencing. They were expelled from the land by serving other gods and not keeping the Sabbaths for the land.

They would not return until the debt had been paid.

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.'

Jer 29:12 When you call to me and pray to me, I will listen to you.

Jer 29:13 When you seek me, you will find me, provided you seek for me wholeheartedly;

Jer 29:14 and I will let you find me,' says Adonai. 'Then I will reverse your exile. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have driven you,' says Adonai, 'and bring you back to the place from which I exiled you.'

Conclusion:

All of these aspects are found in David's prayer: Psalm 51

His sin was forgiven, but He still bore the consequences for his actions.

2Sa 12:10 Now therefore, the sword will never leave your house — because you have shown contempt for me and taken the wife of Uriyah the Hitti as your own wife.'

2Sa 12:11 Here is what Adonai says: 'I will generate evil against you out of your own household. I will take your wives before your very eyes and give them to your neighbor; he will go to bed with your wives, and everyone will know about it.'

2Sa 12:12 For you did it secretly, but I will do this before all Isra'el in broad daylight.' "

2Sa 12:13 David said to Natan, "I have sinned against Adonai." Natan said to David, "Adonai also has taken away your sin. You will not die."

What is the penalty for adultery?

Both the man and woman are to be put to death by being stoned.

2Sa 12:14 However, because by this act you have so greatly blasphemed Adonai, the child born to you must die."

David's response...

2Sa 12:16 David prayed to God on behalf of the child; David fasted, then came and lay all night on the ground.

How he answered...

2Sa 12:22 He answered, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept; because I thought, 'Maybe Adonai will show his grace to me and let the child live.'

2Sa 12:23 But now that he's dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

How did he get there?

Psa 51:1 *[For the leader. A psalm of David, (51:2) when Natan the prophet came to him after his affair with Bat-Sheva:]* (51:3) God, in your grace, have mercy on me; in your great compassion, blot out my crimes.

Psa 51:2 (51:4) Wash me completely from my guilt, and cleanse me from my sin.

Psa 51:3 (51:5) For I know my crimes, my sin confronts me all the time.

Psa 51:4 (51:6) Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil from your perspective; so that you are right in accusing me and justified in passing sentence.

Psa 51:5 (51:7) True, I was born guilty, was a sinner from the moment my mother conceived me.

Psa 51:6 (51:8) Still, you want truth in the inner person; so make me know wisdom in my inmost heart.

Psa 51:7 (51:9) Sprinkle me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Psa 51:8 (51:10) Let me hear the sound of joy and gladness, so that the bones you crushed can rejoice.

Psa 51:9 (51:11) Turn away your face from my sins, and blot out all my crimes.

Psa 51:10 (51:12) Create in me a clean heart, God; renew in me a resolute spirit.

Psa 51:11 (51:13) Don't thrust me away from your presence, don't take your Ruach Kodesh away from me.

Psa 51:12 (51:14) Restore my joy in your salvation, and let a willing spirit uphold me.

Psa 51:13 (51:15) Then I will teach the wicked your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Psa 51:14 (51:16) Rescue me from the guilt of shedding blood, God, God of my salvation! Then my tongue will sing about your righteousness -

Psa 51:15 (51:17) Adonai, open my lips; then my mouth will praise you.

Psa 51:16 (51:18) For you don't want sacrifices, or I would give them; you don't take pleasure in burnt offerings.

Psa 51:17 (51:19) My sacrifice to God is a broken spirit; God, you won't spurn a broken, chastened heart.

Psa 51:18 (51:20) In your good pleasure, make Tziyon prosper; rebuild the walls of Yerushalayim.

Psa 51:19 (51:21) Then you will delight in righteous sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then they will offer bulls on your altar.

Just because we have sinned, doesn't mean our life is over. Through a changed heart and recommitment to Adonai, life can go on...

2Sa 12:24 David comforted his wife Bat-Sheva, came to her and went to bed with her; she gave birth to a son and named him Shlomo. Adonai loved him

We will still experience the consequences for our transgressions, just as David did, but...

Adonai wasn't done with him, because he (David) chose...

- To humble
- To seek
- To pray
- To repent

In doing so, Adonai...

- To hear from Heaven
- To forgive our sin

Many think that it starts with prayer, yet that is actually the third thing on the list. Before prayer, we must first humble ourselves, setting aside our pride that likely led to our transgression,

We must then seek Adonai, come before Him humbled.

Then we are to pray to Him, to communicate our inner most thoughts and feelings to Him, seeking forgiveness.

Then finally on our end we are to repent of our transgressions, turn away from them and return to God. T'shuvah

The first four are actions that are required of us. The last two are actions that are done in response to what we have first done.

The responsibility is first ours. We must be the first to act.

Mal 3:7 Since the days of your forefathers you have turned from my laws and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says Adonai-Tzva'ot. "But you ask, 'In respect to what are we supposed to return?'

Rev 3:19 As for me, I rebuke and discipline everyone I love; so exert yourselves, and turn from your sins!

Rev 3:20 Here, I'm standing at the door, knocking. If someone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he will eat with me.

Rev 3:21 I will let him who wins the victory sit with me on my throne, just as I myself also won the victory and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Rev 3:22 Those who have ears, let them hear what the Spirit is saying to the Messianic communities." ' "

The message is the same.