

May 2, 2020

Life and Blood

Last Shabbat I shared with you the aspect of Life and Death in that we have been inundated with this subject constantly over the last several weeks. Yet, it wasn't life and death as we understand it from our perspective, but what Life and Death is from Adonai's perspective. Life and Death are not two finite aspects of our existence, but are eternal in nature, infinite.

Simply put, I had shared with you that Life and Death refer to our proximity to Adonai. Death ultimately means separation from Adonai, while Life means being in His presence. Life means we reside in His Kingdom, inside the camp, not out. Life means we have an eternal place in the Kingdom of Adonai. Just as when Israel was in the desert Adonai through Moshe

Deu 30:15 "Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil -

This wasn't an unconditional offer but one that would require one to choose and then do.

Deu 30:16 in that I am ordering you today to love Adonai your God, to follow his ways, and to obey his mitzvot, regulations and rulings ; for if you do, you will live and increase your numbers; and Adonai your God will bless you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.

A choice that requires action on our part and thus leads us to the blessing of Adonai Himself.

This dynamic is no different now. As it was then, it is today.

We have a choice to make.

Israel was choosing life through their redeemer

Are Yeshua's statements any different than what Adonai conveyed through Moshe?

Joh 14:12 Yes, indeed! I tell you that whoever trusts in me will also do the works I do! Indeed, he will do greater ones, because I am going to the Father.

Joh 14:13 In fact, whatever you ask for in my name, I will do; so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Joh 14:14 If you ask me for something in my name, I will do it.

Joh 14:15 "If you love me, you will keep my commands;

Joh 14:16 and I will ask the Father, and he will give you another comforting Counselor like me, the Spirit of Truth, to be with you forever.

The children of Israel were to put their trust in Adonai when they followed Him, This aspect of trusting Adonai would be a challenge throughout Israel's relationship with Adonai.

Num 14:11 Adonai said to Moshe, "How much longer is this people going to treat me with contempt? How much longer will they not trust me, especially considering all the signs I have performed among them?"

They did not trust in Him and all that He did. This verse is in response to the response of the people who had just heard the report from the spies regarding the land...

Num 13:31 But the men who had gone with him said, "We can't attack those people, because they are stronger than we are";

Num 13:32 and they spread a negative report about the land they had reconnoitered for the people of Isra'el by saying, "The land we passed through in order to spy it out is a land that devours its inhabitants. All the people we saw there were giant!

Num 13:33 We saw the N'filim, the descendants of `Anak, who was from the N'filim; to ourselves we looked like grasshoppers by comparison, and we looked that way to them too!"

After Adonai had conveyed to Moshe...

Num 13:1 Adonai said to Moshe,

Num 13:2 "Send men on your behalf to reconnoiter the land of Kena`an, which I am giving to the people of Isra'el. From each ancestral tribe send someone who is a leader in his tribe."

Adonai had already given them the land, yet they did not trust in Him. They saw what was before them...the inhabitants of the land, obstacles to possessing the land.

Yochanan chapter 14 for which I had just referenced does not convey a different dynamic as Deuteronomy 30 does. It is this chapter and Yeshua's talmidim that substantiates the parallel with Deuteronomy 30...

Joh 14:1 "Don't let yourselves be disturbed. Trust in God and trust in me.

Joh 14:2 In my Father's house are many places to live. If there weren't, I would have told you; because I am going there to prepare a place for you.

Joh 14:3 Since I am going and preparing a place for you, I will return to take you with me; so that where I am, you may be also.

Joh 14:4 Furthermore, you know where I'm going; and you know the way there."

Joh 14:5 T'oma said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you're going; so how can we know the way?"

Joh 14:6 Yeshua said, "I AM the Way — and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through me.

Yeshua makes this unmistakable connection with Adonai, the God of Avraham, Yitzchak and Ya'akov. While sealing the deal...

Joh 14:9 Yeshua replied to him, "Have I been with you so long without your knowing me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Joh 14:10 Don't you believe that I am united with the Father, and the Father united with me? What I am telling you, I am not saying on my own initiative; the Father living in me is doing his own works.

Joh 14:11 Trust me, that I am united with the Father, and the Father united with me. But if you can't, then trust because of the works themselves.

Ultimately, Yeshua is conveying to His talmidim what Adonai conveyed to the nation...

Deu 30:15 "Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil -

So, what is this life that is being presented to us?

In order to answer this question, we must first start at the beginning.

Gen 2:6 Rather, a mist went up from the earth which watered the entire surface of the ground.

Gen 2:7 Then Adonai, God, formed a person [*Hebrew: adam*] from the dust of the ground [*Hebrew: adamah*]

...

From the dust of the ground and the mist which watered the surface of the ground we were formed by His hand.

We were formed into a lifeless “statue”, a self portrait of Adonai, in that we were made in His image. Yet we did not have His likeness, His attributes, His characteristics. We did not receive those until...

...and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, so that he became a living being.

The breath of life entered our nostrils and we were brought to life,

to exist,

to live.

This breath transmitted the character and attributes of Adonai.

This breath created the complexity of the human body into what it is today. A complex yet self contained system that is both an open looped system and a closed loop system. Open in that it would require external elements such as food and sunlight for fuel. Closed in that our digestive system, nervous system, blood system, respiratory system are all able to function without any outside assistance.

*The **Human Genome Project (HGP)** was an international [scientific research](#) project with the goal of determining the [base pairs](#) that make up human [DNA](#), and of identifying and mapping all of the [genes](#) of the [human genome](#) from both a physical and a functional standpoint.^[1] It remains the world's largest collaborative biological project. After the idea was picked up in 1984 by the [US government](#) when the planning started, the project formally launched in 1990 and was declared complete on April 14, 2003.*

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_Genome_Project

It would not have taken 13 years to map the structure of dust and water, or its composite...clay. It took 13 years to map the complexity of the human body. The origin of this complex creation is Adonai.

It is His breath that transformed us from an inanimate, that is a lifeless object into a function being that is full of life...His Life.

So, it is His breath that brings forth life. What exists now in us, did not exist prior. The very symbiotic functioning of our bodies requires an element to flow through it.

Last year in my sermon the “*Heart and the Body*” I had talked about the Body of Messiah as conveyed in 1 Corinthians, whereby one aspect was not mentioned, the heart. I had shared this with you...

The heart pumps blood with a rhythm determined by a group of pacemaking cells in the **sinoatrial node**.

These generate a current that causes contraction of the heart, traveling through the **atrioventricular node** and along the **conduction system of the heart**. The heart receives blood low in oxygen from the **systemic circulation**, which enters the right atrium from the **superior** and **inferior**

venae cavae and passes to the right ventricle. From here it is pumped into the **pulmonary circulation**, through the **lungs** where it receives oxygen and gives off carbon dioxide. Oxygenated blood then returns to the left atrium, passes through the left ventricle and is pumped out through the **aorta** to the systemic circulation—where the oxygen is used and **metabolized** to **carbon dioxide**.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heart>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:CG_Heart.gif

The purpose for reoxygenating our blood is because **oxygen** is needed to burn the fuel [sugars and fatty acids] in **our** cells to produce energy.

The heart is the center of the body and that without it, we do not live, we do not function. And yet, the breath of life given by Adonai has a signature that is unmistakable. The letter Shin.

The heart which oxygenates the blood, pumps life through our bodies that we may continue to live. It is the heart that is the vessel used to convey the dynamic nature of our relationship with Adonai, that is through Yeshua...

The letter Shin appears in the middle of Yerushalayim in that this is where Adonai would dwell among His people.

2Ch 6:5 'Since the day I brought my people out of Egypt, I chose no city from any of the tribes of Isra'el to build a house, so that my name might be there; nor did I choose anyone to be the leader of my people Isra'el.

2Ch 6:6 But now I have chosen Yerushalayim, so that my name can be there; and I have chosen David to be over my people Isra'el.'

2Ch 6:7 It was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of Adonai the God of Isra'el;

2Ch 6:8 but Adonai said to David my father, 'Although it was in your heart to build a house for my name, and you did well that it was in your heart,

2Ch 6:9 nevertheless you will not build the house. Rather, you will father a son, and it will be he who will build the house for my name.'

The Shin appears in the center of Yeshua's name, the name where all authority has been given. The one for whom is from Adonai, of Adonai and is Adonai.

Eph 3:5 In past generations it was not made known to mankind, as the Spirit is now revealing it to his emissaries and prophets,

Eph 3:6 that in union with the Messiah and through the Good News the Gentiles were to be joint heirs, a joint body and joint sharers with the Jews in what God has promised.

Eph 3:16 I pray that from the treasures of his glory he will empower you with inner strength by his Spirit,

Eph 3:17 so that the Messiah may live in your hearts through your trusting. Also I pray that you will be rooted and founded in love,

Eph 3:18 so that you, with all God's people, will be given strength to grasp the breadth, length, height and depth of the Messiah's love,

Eph 3:19 yes, to know it, even though it is beyond all knowing, so that you will be filled with all the fullness of God.

The heart, represented by Shin is the vessel by which His word is written to us...

Deu 30:10 "However, all this will happen only if you pay attention to what Adonai your God says, so that you obey his mitzvot and regulations which are written in this book of the Torah, if you turn to Adonai your God with all your heart and all your being.

Deu 30:11 For this mitzvah which I am giving you today is not too hard for you, it is not beyond your reach.

Deu 30:12 It isn't in the sky, so that you need to ask, 'Who will go up into the sky for us, bring it to us and make us hear it, so that we can obey it?'

Deu 30:13 Likewise, it isn't beyond the sea, so that you need to ask, 'Who will cross the sea for us, bring it to us and make us hear it, so that we can obey it?'

Deu 30:14 On the contrary, the word is very close to you - in your mouth, even in your heart; therefore, you can do it!

And continues to reside there...

Jer 31:33 (31:32) "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Eze 36:23 I will set apart my great name to be regarded as holy, since it has been profaned in the nations — you profaned it among them. The nations will know that I am Adonai,' says Adonai Elohim, 'when, before their eyes, I am set apart through you to be regarded as holy.

Eze 36:24 For I will take you from among the nations, gather you from all the countries, and return you to your own soil.

Eze 36:25 Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your uncleanness and from all your idols.

Eze 36:26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit inside you; I will take the stony heart out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Eze 36:27 I will put my Spirit inside you and cause you to live by my laws, respect my rulings and obey them.

The Life of Adonai resides in you.

As believers in that you have accepted Yeshua, you have accepted and received life that is eternal, life that is being with Adonai, in His Kingdom.

This life that flows through you, is the very means by which you have been brought near.

In this week's parsha, Acharei Mot, we read of the regulation for bringing an offering of sacrifice to Adonai. You cannot do this just anywhere, but must follow Adonai' regulation in order for him to accept it...

Lev 17:1 Adonai said to Moshe,

Lev 17:2 "Speak to Aharon and his sons and to all the people of Isra'el. Tell them that this is what Adonai has ordered:

Lev 17:3 'When someone from the community of Isra'el slaughters an ox, lamb or goat inside or outside the camp

Lev 17:4 without bringing it to the entrance of the tent of meeting to present it as an offering to Adonai before the tabernacle of Adonai, he is to be charged with blood — he has shed blood, and that person is to be cut off from his people.

One might ask, how is this relevant to what I am talking about?

There is a reason for Adonai's instruction...

Lev 17:5 The reason for this is so that the people of Isra'el will bring their sacrifices that they sacrifice out in the

field — so that they will bring them to Adonai, to the entrance of the tent of meeting, to the cohen, and sacrifice them as peace offerings to Adonai.

So, these offerings to Adonai, whether they be a sin offering or not, are to be brought to Adonai and His designated place.

Lev 17:6 The cohen will splash the blood against the altar of Adonai at the entrance to the tent of meeting and make the fat go up in smoke as a pleasing aroma for Adonai.

Lev 17:7 No longer will they offer sacrifices to the goat-demons, before whom they prostitute themselves! This is a permanent regulation for them through all their generations.'

Lev 17:8 "Also tell them, 'When someone from the community of Isra'el or one of the foreigners living with you offers a burnt offering or sacrifice

Lev 17:9 without bringing it to the entrance of the tent of meeting to sacrifice it to Adonai, that person is to be cut off from his people.

Sounds harsh, yet there is a reason for Adonai's strict regulation regarding sacrifices. Not only the means by which an offering is to be brought, but Adonai also addresses that which is done within the nations surrounding Israel is abhorrent to Adonai, because they do not know what they are doing.

Lev 17:10 When someone from the community of Isra'el or one of the foreigners living with you eats any kind of blood, I will set myself against that person who eats blood and cut him off from his people.

These restrictions are in place for a reason. They lead to the concept of what is kadosh...that which is holy.

Lev 17:11 For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for yourselves; for it is the blood that makes atonement because of the life.'

Lev 17:12 This is why I told the people of Isra'el, 'None of you is to eat blood, nor is any foreigner living with you to eat blood.'

Lev 17:13 "When someone from the community of Isra'el or one of the foreigners living with you hunts and catches game, whether animal or bird that may be eaten, he is to pour out its blood and cover it with earth.

Lev 17:14 For the life of every creature — its blood is its life. Therefore I said to the people of Isra'el, 'You are not to eat the blood of any creature, because the life of every creature is its blood. Whoever eats it will be cut off.'

The blood of a sacrifice is for one purpose, making atonement for our transgressions.

The blood, having life is the means by which Adonai reconciles us. This is foundational in Torah through the sacrificial system and is understood by the authors of the New Covenant...

The writer of Hebrews conveys...

Heb 9:19 After Moshe had proclaimed every command of the Torah to all the people, he took the blood of the calves with some water and used scarlet wool and hyssop to sprinkle both the scroll itself and all the people;

Heb 9:20 and he said, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has ordained for you."

Heb 9:21 Likewise, he sprinkled with the blood both the Tent and all the things used in its ceremonies.

Heb 9:22 In fact, according to the Torah, almost everything is purified with blood; indeed, without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

So, the foundation has been established by Adonai. This foundation is associated with that which are copies of what already exists in Heaven...

Heb 9:23 Now this is how the copies of the heavenly things had to be purified, but the heavenly things themselves require better sacrifices than these.

The copy is of human construction, but is Adonai designed. It is our coming in contact with this holy structure that requires their cleansing. Yet this is not the same for what already exists in that they have never been in contact with our transgression...

Heb 9:24 For the Messiah has entered a Holiest Place which is not man-made and merely a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, in order to appear now on our behalf in the very presence of God.

Heb 9:25 Further, he did not enter heaven to offer himself over and over again, like the cohen hagadol who enters the Holiest Place year after year with blood that is not his own;

Heb 9:26 for then he would have had to suffer death many times — from the founding of the universe on. But as it is, he has appeared once at the end of the ages in order to do away with sin through the sacrifice of himself.

Offering himself over and over again is an allusion to another aspect of this week's Parsha for which I have talked about extensively and would encourage you to go back to previous sermons to learn more about...that is Yom Kippur. The very image of Yeshua appearing at the altar not made by human hands where both life and death appear.

On Yom Kippur the death of one of the goats is meant for its blood to be applied to the altar as a sin offering. While the goat that is alive, bearing all of the transgressions of the nation appears before Adonai.

On Ha Bikkurim, First Fruits, the day of Yeshua's resurrection, He appeared as both goats, alive with our transgression and with the blood from His death to be applied to the altar...

Joh 20:1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Miryam from Magdala went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.

Joh 20:13 "Why are you crying?" they asked her. "They took my Lord," she said to them, "and I don't know where they have put him."

Joh 20:14 As she said this, she turned around and saw Yeshua standing there, but she didn't know it was he.

Joh 20:15 Yeshua said to her, "Lady, why are you crying? Whom are you looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you're the one who carried him away, just tell me where you put him; and I'll go and get him myself."

Joh 20:16 Yeshua said to her, "Miryam!" Turning, she cried out to him in Hebrew, "Rabbani!" (that is, "Teacher!")

Joh 20:17 **"Stop holding onto me," Yeshua said to her, "because I haven't yet gone back to the Father. But go to my brothers, and tell them that I am going back to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."**

On the day of the resurrection, Miryam encounters Yeshua and embraces Him. He has yet to go to the Father. He has yet to appear before the altar of Adonai.

He could not have done it prior, because He had not yet been resurrected, because as with Yom Kippur one must appear alive before the altar.

Heb 9:11 But when the Messiah appeared as cohen gadol of the good things that are happening already, then, through the greater and more perfect Tent which is not man-made (that is, it is not of this created world),

Heb 9:12 he entered the Holiest Place once and for all. And he entered not by means of the blood of goats and calves, but by means of his own blood, thus setting people free forever.

Heb 9:13 For if sprinkling ceremonially unclean persons with the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer restores their outward purity;

Heb 9:14 then how much more the blood of the Messiah, who, through the eternal Spirit, offered himself to God as a sacrifice without blemish, will purify our conscience from works that lead to death, so that we can serve the living God!

And we know this was completed on the first day of the week, that which is resurrection because He returned and appeared before His talmidim.

Joh 20:19 In the evening that same day, the first day of the week, when the talmidim were gathered together behind locked doors out of fear of the Judeans, Yeshua came, stood in the middle and said, "Shalom aleikhem!"

Peace be to you, for you have life through the blood that was offered on the altar not made by human hands and therefore have life, the eternal nature of the life that was breathed into us. That very breath of life is Ruach ha Kodesh, the Holy Spirit.

Deu 30:15 "Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil -

As then, today, it is still your choice.

Adonai is providing us with life and good through whether we accept Yeshua as the one who would atone for our transgression towards Adonai.