

Notes: December 13, 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: Line of Messiah

For the last several weeks I have been focusing on various aspects of Messiah.

- The expectations for Messiah
- The character of Messiah
- The identity of Messiah
- Being able to identify Messiah
- The Message of Messiah
- Simplicity of the Message of Messiah

Last week I dealt with the corruption of the message of Messiah. A simple message, yet so many different doctrines and denominations. Some similar while some extremely different. We saw how simple the message of Messiah is. The Gospel - It isn't that complicated

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the Good News, since it is God's powerful means of bringing salvation to everyone who keeps on trusting, to the Jew especially, but equally to the Gentile.

Rom 1:17 For in it is revealed how God makes people righteous in his sight; and from beginning to end it is through trust – as the Tanakh puts it, "But the person who is righteous will live his life by trust."

So, when people think about Yeshua they think of a sinless man who died for our transgressions.

We recall the requirement for the Passover lamb:

Exo 12:3 Speak to all the assembly of Isra'el and say, 'On the tenth day of this month, each man is to take a lamb or kid for his family, one per household —

Exo 12:4 except that if the household is too small for a whole lamb or kid, then he and his next-door neighbor should share one, dividing it in proportion to the number of people eating it.

Exo 12:5 Your animal must be without defect, a male in its first year, and you may choose it from either the sheep or the goats.

Without defect, we see Yeshua as perfect in every way.

Yet His lineage is not one of perfection, but one of imperfection.

Two Tuesday's ago, during our Tuesday evening Bible study I talked about the Goel – the Redeemer.

We looked at Boaz and Ruth:

Ruth a Moabite was married to one of Naomi's son's – a Jew. They resided in the land of Moab. She was on her path, yet because of the death of her husband, her path would change course.

Boaz, who is of the line of David would take on the role of Goel for Naomi's family and provide a continuation of the line for Naomi's family.

Ruth, a Moabite by birth, yet a Jew in her heart.

Rth 1:16 But Ruth said, "Don't press me to leave you and stop following you; for wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God will be my God.

Rth 1:17 Where you die, I will die; and there I will be buried. May Adonai bring terrible curses on me, and worse ones as well, if anything but death separates you and me."

Rth 1:18 When Na`omi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Brought into the family was one of the earliest mixed marriages for which the Jewish community in Maine comprises 60% today.

Then, looking at Boaz, His mother was Rachav

Mat 1:5 Salmon was the father of Bo`az (his mother was Rachav), Bo`az was the father of `Oved (his mother was Ruth), `Oved was the father of Yishai,

This is the same Rachav that we read about in Joshua 2:

Jos 2:1 Y'hoshua the son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Sheetim with these instructions: "Go, inspect the land and Yericho." They left and came to the house of a prostitute named Rachav, where they spent the night.

Jos 2:2 The king of Yericho was told about it — "Tonight some men from Isra'el came here to reconnoiter the land."

Jos 2:3 The king of Yericho sent a message to Rachav, "Bring out the men who came to you and are staying in your house, because they have come to reconnoiter all the land."

Jos 2:4 However, the woman, after taking the two men and hiding them, replied, "Yes, the men did come to me; but I didn't know where they had come from.

And as a result of her willingness to protect them we read in Joshua 6, her reward

Jos 6:17 But the city and everything in it is to be set aside for Adonai and therefore to be destroyed completely; only

Rachav the prostitute is to be spared, she and everyone with her in her house, because she hid the messengers we sent.

Jos 6:25 But Y'hoshua spared Rachav the prostitute, her father's household and everything she had; and she has continued living with Isra'el from then until now; because she hid the messengers Y'hoshua had sent to reconnoiter Yericho.

She continued living in Israel – she got married, had a son.

The only account of this shows up in Matthew 1:5.

Like Ruth, she became part of the line of Messiah.

Like Ruth, she was born in Canaan, yet in her heart she was a Jew.

This is made clear by her actions.

A woman of not so good reputation, received a new path when she chose Adonai.

Then there is King David and the continuation of his line...

David had 8 wives. The eldest son Amnon, whose mother was Ahinoam who by all measures should have been the next in line – he was the first born son.

Yet as we have seen before, the path that Adonai selects is not always the same path.

Even David was not the oldest.

It would be through his eighth wife Bat-sheva, which resulted in an adulteress affair the line would continue with Solomon.

Lastly, looking at today's Parashah, Genesis 38 and this interlude found between the narrative of Yoseph, that being the story of Judah and Tamar.

Judah had three sons through his wife a Canaanite woman named Shua.

The first two sons were evil:

Gen 38:6 Y'hudah took a wife for `Er his firstborn, and her name was Tamar.

Gen 38:7 But `Er, Y'hudah's firstborn, was evil from Adonai's perspective, so Adonai killed him.

After his first son was put to death, Judah instructed his second son Onan to provide a son for Er through Tamar, yet he refused:

Gen 38:9 However, Onan knew that the child would not count as his; so whenever he had intercourse with his brother's wife, he spilled the semen on the ground, so as not to give his brother offspring.

Gen 38:10 What he did was evil from Adonai's perspective, so he killed him too.

With his first two sons gone, Judah makes a promise to Tamar, wait until my youngest, Shelah is old enough and you will marry him.

Judah had not yet given Tamar over to Shelah - Yet it would be Tamar who would intercede and become pregnant through Judah.

When we look at what transpires between Judah and Tamar, we see a number of things:

- Tamar is an unlikely participant as to the ongoing lineage because of her Canaanite descent – a daughter of the very people whom Abraham had warned his children to stay away from. The very people whom Israel would displace from the land.
- In what appears to be a sinful action is not condemned by Torah, but when we see Judah's response to her, she is actually respected for her desperate action:

Gen 38:26 Then Y'hudah acknowledged owning them. He said, "She is more righteous than I, because I didn't let her become the wife of my son Shelah." And he never slept with her again.

- Tamar's action actually fulfilled the requirements in Torah in relation to what is called the levirate marriage, in which she would continue the line for her dead husband, yet it was through the father of her dead husband.

Deu 25:5 "If brothers live together, and one of them dies childless, his widow is not to marry someone unrelated to him; her husband's brother is to go to her and perform the duty of a brother-in-law by marrying her.

Deu 25:6 The first child she bears will succeed to the name of his dead brother, so that his name will not be eliminated from Isra'el.

Through the line of Messiah we see this mitzvot fulfilled, not once but on two separate occasions.

Through Tamar and through Ruth.

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."

It is the imperfection of the line of Messiah that makes Him perfect.

2Co 12:9 but he told me, "My grace is enough for you, for my power is brought to perfection in weakness." Therefore, I am very happy to boast about my weaknesses, in order that the Messiah's power will rest upon me.

When we look at Tamar, Rachav, Ruth and Bat-sheva, there was a bigger picture in Adonai's plan than was revealed at the time.

When we look further at **Tamar... Rachav ... Rut ... the wife of Uriyah** (Bat-sheva)

Women, especially those born Gentiles, were rarely included in biblical genealogies. These four were Gentile women whom God honored by including them among the recorded ancestors of Yeshua the Jewish Messiah—through whom Gentiles, women and slaves are saved equally with Jews, men and free ([Gal 3:28](#)).

The separation of nations from Israel would be bridged by Messiah whom Adonai uses to be a light to the nations.

Gal 3:26 For in union with the Messiah, you are all children of God through this trusting faithfulness;

Gal 3:27 because as many of you as were immersed into the Messiah have clothed yourselves with the Messiah, in whom

Gal 3:28 there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor freeman, neither male nor female; for in union with the Messiah Yeshua, you are all one.

Gal 3:29 Also, if you belong to the Messiah, you are seed of Avraham and heirs according to the promise.

Verse 28 does not nullify one's identity yet conveys our equal standing when we come to Messiah.

We see this through the line of Messiah

A Moabite
Two Canaanites
A Hitite

Through His imperfect lineage...

Through the imperfection of those found in His lineage

the power of Adonai to reconcile the world through Messiah is amplified.

"My grace is enough for you, for my power is brought to perfection in weakness."

Adonai is ultimately in control.

Unfortunately when we question, we base everything on our own understanding.

- Does it make sense?
- Is it rational?
- Is it logical?

I had a conversation with the Head of School after our Finance Committee, he asked me about Purim, when it is and if we would be interested in doing something. He made a comment that I have heard before and he indicated his own perplexedness.

We talked about the Megillah of Esther and a common question amongst many church leaders regarding its inclusion in the Tanakh because no where is Adonai mentioned. Yet we were both in agreement that the fingerprint of Adonai is found throughout.

Yet it is as I mentioned before, when coming to understand Adonai, we use our own standards.

- Does it make sense?
- Is it rational?
- Is it logical?

Yet Adonai conveys His perspective, His rational, His logic...

Isa 55:1 "All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You without money, come, buy, and eat! Yes, come! Buy wine and milk without money — it's free!

Isa 55:2 Why spend money for what isn't food, your wages for what doesn't satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and you will eat well, you will enjoy the fat of the land.

Isa 55:3 Open your ears, and come to me; listen well, and you will live — I will make an everlasting covenant with you, the grace I assured David.

Isa 55:4 I have given him as a witness to the peoples, a leader and lawgiver for the peoples.

Isa 55:5 You will summon a nation you do not know, and a nation that doesn't know you will run to you, for the sake of Adonai your God, the Holy One of Isra'el, who will glorify you."

Isa 55:6 Seek Adonai while he is available, call on him while he is still nearby.

Isa 55:7 Let the wicked person abandon his way and the evil person his thoughts; let him return to Adonai, and he will have mercy on him; let him return to our God, for he will freely forgive.

Isa 55:8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways," says Adonai.

Isa 55:9 "As high as the sky is above the earth are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your

thoughts.

Isa 55:10 For just as rain and snow fall from the sky and do not return there, but water the earth, causing it to bud and produce, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater;

Isa 55:11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth — it will not return to me unfulfilled; but it will accomplish what I intend, and cause to succeed what I sent it to do."

Isa 55:12 Yes, you will go out with joy, you will be led forth in peace. As you come, the mountains and hills will burst out into song, and all the trees in the countryside will clap their hands.

Isa 55:13 Cypresses will grow in place of thorns, myrtles will grow instead of briars. This will bring fame to Adonai as an eternal, imperishable sign.