

Notes: February 20 2021

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: New Covenant Reality Meets Tanakh Centered Truth

What have we learned over the past 10 months while living through this pandemic?

One of the greatest things we have experienced is the restriction as a congregation to come together. Beginning in April of last year there was a lock down for 15 days intended to “flatten the curve” and prevent an overflow to our hospital system. Thus we were being asked to isolate in order to prevent the spread of the virus. After 15 days, for which some “medical experts” had indicated was needed, did not flatten the curve to the desired levels, thus we were encouraged to isolate an additional 30 days. This “encouragement” came from the Covid Task Force led by the Vice President. It would be during this time that governors were given “emergency powers” and thus rolling and varied lock downs from state to state was born.

We would witness each state respond in their own way. Some states were extremely strict while others not so much. We as a congregation, like many others had to revert to an online service to merely stay connected. The very dynamic where Adonai conveys...

Gen 2:18 Adonai, God, said, "It isn't good that the person should be alone. I will make for him a companion suitable for helping him."

We were created to be social, not isolated. Many of us have learned first hand it is not good to be alone. The two and a half months when we were restricted to meeting online only, took a toll on many of you. The sheer need for human interaction was becoming more self evident.

We are seeing this challenge today and specifically in schools which in some states remain locked down. Virtual

learning has not been the answer in teaching our children. The impact is being noticed. Teen depression and suicide have greatly increased. What we don't know, is the long term impact on the development of our children's social skills. Schools not only teach our children but is where they garner and further develop their social skills by interacting with others, face to face, not virtually. What lingering impact will this have?

We have persevered through these restrictions but there has certainly been an impact on each individual. I will go out on a limb and say that Everyone in this congregation has experienced some level of impact due to isolation. Imagine for a moment what it would have been like if this pandemic were to happen 30 years ago when there was no internet and cell phones were not as widespread. I believe the repercussions would have been devastating. There would be no “virtual” anything, learning, congregational meetings, shopping, etc... Technology is a double edged sword and thus today has enabled us to at least survive, yet not totally isolated.

We have experienced restrictions due to Covid yet we are not denied because of Covid. What do I mean by this?

During this time, we could not do what we do and the way we have done it. Yet this doesn't mean we are unable to still do what we are called to do. As believers in Messiah, the Gospel message has not been paused or put on hold because we are restricted from meeting or we can only have X number of people at a service.

[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."

Notice what is not in this mitzvah...

It doesn't say go “if”

Go if you are able
Go if there are no restrictions

and verse 19 doesn't say...go “when”

Go when you believe it is safe
Go when you feel up to it

Verse 19 say “go and make”

To aspects of action, both verbs.

Has anyone with all the many options of social media actually met someone new?

Have you reached out to someone you don't know or haven't interacted with in quite some time.

Today we are fortunate, that we have such tools at our disposal. Keeping in mind they are tools to communicate but not a substitute for interaction. It is a means by which we are able to stay connected, but it is not a substitute for physical, in person interaction. Though online communication only two of our senses are engaged, sight and hearing. Yet, we are not made to function with only 40% of our senses on a regular and ongoing basis.

Many things have changed during this pandemic, whether permanently or not is still to be determined. “The New Normal” has been spoken from the lips of many in government, for I believe to prepare us for new legislation relating to things that have occurred during these last 10 months. Yet, there is still a Normal that exists and we must continue to do. It is Adonai's Normal, our interaction with each other. Our love for one another within the body of

Messiah and thus the extension of that love to others.

Let us not be stifled by what we have experienced over the last 10 months.
Let us not be discouraged by what we have experienced over the last 10 months.

Though we have seen a great deal of change over the last 10 months know this...

Heb 13:8 Yeshua the Messiah is the same yesterday, today and forever.

And thus the Word of Adonai does not change either.

Rom 6:14 For sin will not have authority over you; because you are not under legalism but under grace.

Everyone is in need. The pandemic has not isolated us from this reality. We do not have a “pandemic pass” or a “Covid redo” Thus our responsibility is still a necessity.

Heb 4:12 See, the Word of God is alive! It is at work and is sharper than any double-edged sword—it cuts right through to where soul meets spirit and joints meet marrow, and it is quick to judge the inner reflections and attitudes of the heart.

Heb 4:13 Before God, nothing created is hidden, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of him to whom we must render an account.

His Word, the very Word we teach in order to live by is our very life support through all times, pandemic or not.

True Torah teaching will pierce the heart and assist to engrave the words of Adonai upon the tablets of the heart.

This social dynamic is witnessed in Torah.

After Aharon and Miryam had spoken against Moshe and Adonai responded...

Num 12:9 The anger of Adonai flared up against them, and he left.

Num 12:10 But when the cloud was removed from above the tent, Miryam had tzara`at, as white as snow. Aharon looked at Miryam, and she was as white as snow.

Num 12:11 Aharon said to Moshe, "Oh, my lord, please don't punish us for this sin we committed so foolishly.

Num 12:12 Please don't let her be like a stillborn baby, with its body half eaten away when it comes out of its mother's womb!"

Num 12:13 Moshe cried to Adonai, "Oh God, I beg you, please, heal her!"

Num 12:14 Adonai answered Moshe, "If her father had merely spit in her face, wouldn't she hide herself in shame for seven days? So let her be shut out of the camp for seven days; after that, she can be brought back in."

Num 12:15 Miryam was shut out of the camp seven days, and the people did not travel until she was brought back in.

Miryam was outside the camp for seven days. She was isolated and quarantined, separated from all human interaction. However, she was not lost nor forgotten...

Num 12:16 Afterwards, the people went on from Hazerot and camped in the Pa'ran Desert.

The entire nation waited. The entire nation paused for one person before they would move on to their next destination.

We see this very same dynamic with Aharon and his death whereby the entire community mourned...

Num 20:25 Take Aharon and El'azar his son, bring them up to Mount Hor,

Num 20:26 remove the garments from Aharon and put them on El'azar his son. Aharon will be gathered to his people—he will die there."

Num 20:27 Moshe did as Adonai had ordered. They went up onto Mount Hor before the eyes of the whole community.

Num 20:28 Moshe removed the garments from Aharon, and put them on El'azar his son, and Aharon died there on the top of the mountain. Then Moshe and El'azar came down the mountain.

Num 20:29 When the entire community saw that Aharon was dead, they mourned Aharon thirty days, the whole house of Isra'el.

It is not good for man to be alone. Together we both comfort and encourage. Together we both mourn and rejoice.

This pandemic is coming to a close regardless of what some of the medical “experts” keep telling you. Our time of isolation and restrictions are coming to an end. Until they do, reach out to someone...

A strong community must first begin with you and then be immersed within the home.

Deu 6:4 "Sh'ma, Yisra'el! Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai echad [*Hear, Isra'el! Adonai our God, Adonai is one*];

Deu 6:5 and you are to love Adonai your God with all your heart, all your being and all your resources.

Deu 6:6 These words, which I am ordering you today, are to be on your heart;

Deu 6:7 and you are to teach them carefully to your children. You are to talk about them when you sit at home, when you are traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Deu 6:8 Tie them on your hand as a sign, put them at the front of a headband around your forehead,

Deu 6:9 and write them on the door-frames of your house and on your gates.

And thus each home immersed in this truth extends to and becomes a community, a nation which is merely a community of communities...

Eze 36:22 "Therefore tell the house of Isra'el that Adonai Elohim says this: 'I am not going to do this for your sake, house of Isra'el, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have been profaning among the nations where you went.

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.

Eze 36:28 You will live in the land I gave to your ancestors. You will be my people, and I will be your God.

Eze 36:29 I will save you from all your uncleanness. I will summon the grain and increase it, and not send famine

against you.

And thus from a community of communities goes forth the message of Messiah to the world...

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."

A community of communities of communities.

Yet it all starts with one person interacting with another. One person developing a relationship with another. One person sharing with another. The Tanakh is the foundation of what is espoused in the pages of the Brith Hadoshah.

I want to share the conclusion from Lesson 11, Part 2 of "How To Study Torah"

Conclusion

We, as Messianic Believers, have been too passive in our manner and methods of teaching the Torah. Each of us must renew our commitment by our actions not just our words to personally know Adonai, the Elohim of all Israel. It is one thing to proclaim that you are Believers; it is a completely different thing to LIVE as Believers. Until we are willing to embrace the study and practice of the Torah with all our hearts, as Messianic Believers, we will never see the learning of the Scripture as an obligation given to us from the Master Teacher. We are commanded to study the Scriptures not just read them. Reading is not studying!

- "Study [spoudazo, to use speed, to make effort, to be prompt and earnest, to be diligent, to labor] *Do all you can to present yourself to God as someone worthy of his approval, as a worker with no need to be ashamed, because he deals straightforwardly with the Word of the Truth.* 2 Tim.2:15

Exploring the Scriptures is to be a challenge and requires us to contemplate, meditate, and practice its truths. Each end becomes a new beginning and each answer a new question. As long as Gentiles are satisfied with the intellectual facts of their "Hebrew Roots," they will never begin to actually DO the Torah and guard its commands. They will continue to sit and "learn" for years but never taste of the richness of the Torah. Torah study per se is insufficient unless it is transformed into action and obedience. Study is not the goal, rather the deeds. If one's deeds exceed his knowledge then his knowledge will endure. But if one's knowledge exceeds his deeds, then his knowledge will not endure.

- *I will betroth you to me forever; yes, I will betroth you to me in righteousness, in justice, in grace and in compassion; I will betroth you to me in faithfulness, and you will know ADONAI.* Hoshea 2:19-20

- *Children, don't let anyone deceive you — it is the person that keeps on doing what is right who is righteous, just as God is righteous.* 1 John 3:7

The time is NOW for Messianic Believers to take hold of the Tanakh centered truth pertaining to the concept of Relationship building and once again become a set-apart people to Adonai as we follow His instructions and expand His Kingdom.

I want to leave you with a blast from the past and a message that is as simple and doable as can be done.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcskckuosxQ>

Now is as good a time as any to interact with someone new or someone you haven't interacted with in a while. Share yourself with them. In sharing yourselves you are sharing Messiah. In sharing yourself, you are making known a door