

Notes: January 25, 2020

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: Revealing The Mission – Part 2

Over the past three Shabbats I have shared with you your purpose as believers. You are to be messengers and when required warriors.

In addition, I conveyed to you, being the work of the Potter, an image and likeness of the Potter and as such, possessing the qualities of the Creator.

In establishing who you are and what your mission is, it is time to unpack the details of that mission. Last Shabbat I shared with you the first aspect of the mission. The first priority for Yeshua and for Sha'ul was conveying the message, the Gospel to their own brethren first. We see this in their own words...

**Mat 15:22** A woman from Kena'an who was living there came to him, pleading, "Sir, have pity on me. Son of David! My daughter is cruelly held under the power of demons!"

**Mat 15:23** But Yeshua did not say a word to her. Then his talmidim came to him and urged him, "Send her away, because she is following us and keeps pestering us with her crying."

**Mat 15:24** **He said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Isra'el."**

**Mat 15:25** But she came, fell at his feet and said, "Sir, help me!"

**Mat 15:26** He answered, "It is not right to take the children's food and toss it to their pet dogs."

**Mat 15:27** She said, "That is true, sir, but even the dogs eat the leftovers that fall from their master's table."

**Mat 15:28** Then Yeshua answered her, "Lady, you are a person of great trust. Let your desire be granted." And her daughter was healed at that very moment.

**Rom 9:1** I am speaking the truth — as one who belongs to the Messiah, I do not lie; and also bearing witness is my conscience, governed by the Ruach HaKodesh:

**Rom 9:2** my grief is so great, the pain in my heart so constant,

**Rom 9:3** that I could wish myself actually under God's curse and separated from the Messiah, if it would help my brothers, my own flesh and blood,

**Rom 9:4** the people of Isra'el! They were made God's children, the Sh'khinah has been with them, the covenants are theirs, likewise the giving of the Torah, the Temple service and the promises;

**Rom 9:5** the Patriarchs are theirs; and from them, as far as his physical descent is concerned, came the Messiah, who is over all. Praised be Adonai for ever! Amen.

As we look at Sha'ul's actions...wherever he travelled, he would go to the synagogue first.

Last Shabbat I conveyed our challenges in taking on this first aspect of the mission. The challenges are numerous, yet not impossible.

Today, I will expand and share the second aspect.

The second part of this mission, equally as significant as the first part has been alluded to in the Tanakh, yet not really hidden, just not fully understood.

How would this come to fruition?

What would this look like?

Here is one place where Adonai's plan is conveyed...

**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."

**Isa 42:5** Thus says God, Adonai, who created the heavens and spread them out, who stretched out the earth and all that grows from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk on it:

**Isa 42:6** "I, Adonai, called you righteously, I took hold of you by the hand, I shaped you and made you a covenant for the people, to be a light for the Goyim,

**Isa 42:7** so that you can open blind eyes, free the prisoners from confinement, those living in darkness from the dungeon.

And conveyed further

**Isa 49:1** Coastlands, listen to me; listen, you peoples far away: Adonai called me from the womb; before I was born, he had spoken my name.

**Isa 49:2** He has made my mouth like a sharp sword while hiding me in the shadow of his hand; he has made me like a sharpened arrow while concealing me in his quiver.

**Isa 49:3** He said to me, "You are my servant, Isra'el, through whom I will show my glory."

**Isa 49:4** But I said, "I have toiled in vain, spent my strength for nothing, futility." Yet my cause is with Adonai, my reward is with my God.

**Isa 49:5** So now Adonai says — he formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Ya`akov back to him, to have Isra'el gathered to him, so that I will be honored in the sight of Adonai, my God having become my strength —

**Isa 49:6** he has said, "It is not enough that you are merely my servant to raise up the tribes of Ya`akov and restore the offspring of Isra'el. I will also make you a light to the nations, so my salvation can spread to the ends of the earth."

“...bring justice to the Goyim”

“...listen to me, listen you peoples far away”.

“...a light to the nations...”.

Yeshua alludes to this very concept but does not proceed on his own with this part of the mission as I had shared with you earlier. Yet He most certainly had mercy on the woman from Kena'an who truly sought after Him to heal her daughter. Such a passionate plea demonstrated enormous faith that Yeshua recognised and as such the woman was rewarded for her faith in Yeshua.

We read of these allusions in.

**Joh 10:14** I am the good shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me —

**Joh 10:15** just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father — and I lay down my life on behalf of the sheep.

**Joh 10:16** Also I have other sheep which are not from this pen; I need to bring them, and they will hear my voice; and there will be one flock, one shepherd.

*Moreover, Yeshua intimated the coming inclusion of Gentiles when he healed the Roman army officer's orderly ([Mat 8:5-13](#)) and the daughter of the woman from Cana'an ([Mat 15:22-28](#)), ministered to the woman at the well in Shomron ([Joh 4:1-26](#)), and prophesied that many would come from the east and the west to sit with the Patriarchs ([Mat 8:11](#)) and that some nations (or Gentiles; see [Mat 5:46](#)) would be judged favorably ([Mat 25:31-46](#)).*

This joining of non-Jews to God's people is alluded to again at 11:52 where the plan to have Yeshua put to death is being hatched...

**Joh 11:49** But one of them, Kayafa, who was cohen gadol that year, said to them, "You people don't know anything!

**Joh 11:50** You don't see that it's better for you if one man dies on behalf of the people, so that the whole nation won't be destroyed."

**Joh 11:51** Now he didn't speak this way on his own initiative; rather, since he was cohen gadol that year, he was prophesying that Yeshua was about to die on behalf of the nation,

**Joh 11:52** and not for the nation alone, but so that he might gather into one the scattered children of God.

*This concept is the major subject of the book of Acts, of Sha'ul's letters to the Romans, Galatians and Ephesians, and of the book of Revelation. The ingathering of Gentiles has begun but has not been completed. Portions of the Bible have been translated into more than 1,800 languages, but there are some 5,000 languages spoken (depending on what is defined as a language). There are believers in the Messiah and in God's Word among hundreds of peoples, but hundreds of other peoples are virtually unreached. The "other sheep" will continue to be added "until the Gentile world enters in its fullness" ([Rom 11:25](#)).*

Speaking of Sha'ul, the one tasked with taking the message of Messiah to the nations knows full well the dynamics of this part of the mission as he writes to those in Ephesus...

**Eph 3:1** It is a consequence of this that I, Sha'ul, am a prisoner of the Messiah Yeshua on behalf of you Gentiles.

**Eph 3:2** I assume that you have heard of the work God in his grace has given me to do for your benefit,

**Eph 3:3** and that it was by a revelation that this **secret plan** was made known to me. I have already written about it briefly,

**Eph 3:4** and if you read what I have written, you will grasp how I understand this **secret plan** concerning the Messiah.

**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.

Sha'ul talks of this secret plan being made known to him and is revealing a mystery...that mystery being Goyim ,

Gentiles are to be joint heirs, a joint body and joint sharers with the Jewish people in what Adonai has promised.

This concept of Goyim, Gentiles, the nations being part of Yeshua's overall mission should not be lost on anyone. Yet, today, it seems to have taken priority over the first part of the mission. Notice Sha'ul's words written earlier, ultimately lay out this “secret plan” of Adonai...

Speaking to those in Ephesus...

**Eph 2:1** You used to be dead because of your sins and acts of disobedience.

**Eph 2:2** You walked in the ways of the `olam hazeh and obeyed the Ruler of the Powers of the Air, who is still at work among the disobedient.

**Eph 2:3** Indeed, we all once lived this way — we followed the passions of our old nature and obeyed the wishes of our old nature and our own thoughts. In our natural condition we were headed for God's wrath, just like everyone else.

Notice the past tense of this passage. So, here Sha'ul is speaking to believers.

**Eph 2:4** But God is so rich in mercy and loves us with such intense love

**Eph 2:5** that, even when we were dead because of our acts of disobedience, he brought us to life along with the Messiah — it is by grace that you have been delivered.

**Eph 2:6** That is, God raised us up with the Messiah Yeshua and seated us with him in heaven,

**Eph 2:7** in order to exhibit in the ages to come how infinitely rich is his grace, how great is his kindness toward us who are united with the Messiah Yeshua.

These are people who believe in the resurrection and its power.

**Eph 2:8** For you have been delivered by grace through trusting, and even this is not your accomplishment but God's gift.

**Eph 2:9** You were not delivered by your own actions; therefore no one should boast.

**Eph 2:10** For we are of God's making, created in union with the Messiah Yeshua for a life of good actions already prepared by God for us to do.

And they have embraced its message where Sha'ul is reminding them of what that power produced. Something you did not see, and yet through trust, through faith you have come to believe. We will see in a moment just how extraordinary this is...

**Eph 2:11** Therefore, remember your former state: you Gentiles by birth — called the Uncircumcised by those who, merely because of an operation on their flesh, are called the Circumcised —

**Eph 2:12** at that time had no Messiah. You were estranged from the national life of Isra'el. You were foreigners to the covenants embodying God's promise. You were in this world without hope and without God.

**Eph 2:13** But now, you who were once far off have been brought near through the shedding of the Messiah's blood.

**Eph 2:14** For he himself is our shalom — he has made us both one and has broken down the m'chitzah which divided us

**Eph 2:15** by destroying in his own body the enmity occasioned by the Torah, with its commands set forth in the form of ordinances. He did this in order to create in union with himself from the two groups a single new humanity and thus make shalom,

**Eph 2:16** and in order to reconcile to God both in a single body by being executed on a stake as a criminal and thus in himself killing that enmity.

There is a breaking down of the barriers between the nation and the world. An enmity, a hostility towards someone is being dealt with and Messiah Yeshua is the one who is breaking down this barrier.

*This enmity between Jews and Gentiles had four components:*

(1) *Gentile envy of the special status accorded by God to Israel in the Torah. No other nation ever established has what Israel has been given, as reminded by Sha'ul.*

(2) *Jewish pride at being chosen.*

(3) *Gentile resentment of that pride.*

(4) *Mutual dislike of each other's customs. This is a common cause of friction between cultures, but in this instance, Jewish customs are different for a unique reason. They did not merely evolve; rather, they were the Jewish people's response to **the Torah, with its commands set forth in the form of ordinances.***

*This is why it is appropriate to say that **the enmity, the hostility** between Jews and Gentiles was **occasioned by the Torah** because it amplifies the distinguishment between Israel and the nations.*

*The enmity was destroyed in the Messiah's body when he died for all sinners, Jews and Gentiles alike. Whoever catches a vision of himself as the undeserving object of God's grace, saved from eternally ongoing destruction by the Messiah's atoning death in his place, realizes that in comparison with this salvation the distinction between Jew and Gentile is insignificant. Isaiah, faced with a comparable display of God's holiness, said, "Woe is me, for I am undone!" ([Isa 6:5](#)). Jew and Gentile are equally undone before the Messiah; the Messiah destroys the enmity by showing Jew and Gentile equally needy at the foot of his execution-stake. This is what Sha'ul means by saying that in the Messiah "there is neither Jew nor Gentile" ([Gal 3:28](#), [Col 3:11](#)).*

And yet, this does not ignore or invalidate the structure by which all has been established. Regarding the dynamic that is taught in relation to Galatians 3:28, being neither Jew nor Gentile, has nothing to do with identity but that of status in relation to our relationship with Messiah. Sha'ul addresses this aspect in both his first letter to Corinth and his letter to Rome.

Regarding status, specifically "conversion" there is no Messianic conversion law within the New Covenant. Prior, if you wanted to align yourself with Israel and partake in the lifestyle, circumcision was required. Acts 15 addresses this very issue and Sha'ul conveys the results...

**1Co 7:17** Only let each person live the life the Lord has assigned him and live it in the condition he was in when God called him. This is the rule I lay down in all the congregations.

**1Co 7:18** Was someone already circumcised when he was called? Then he should not try to remove the marks of his circumcision. Was someone uncircumcised when he was called? He shouldn't undergo b'rit-milah.

**1Co 7:19** Being circumcised means nothing, and being uncircumcised means nothing; what does mean something is keeping God's commandments.

**1Co 7:20** Each person should remain in the condition he was in when he was called.

**Eph 2:17** Also, when he came, he announced as Good News shalom to you far off and shalom to those nearby,

**Eph 2:18** news that through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

Those far off = Gentiles

Those nearby = Jewish people

**Eph 2:19** So then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers. On the contrary, you are fellow-citizens with God's people and members of God's family.

**Eph 2:20** You have been built on the foundation of the emissaries and the prophets, with the cornerstone being Yeshua the Messiah himself.

**Eph 2:21** In union with him the whole building is held together, and it is growing into a holy temple in union with the Lord.

**Eph 2:22** Yes, in union with him, you yourselves are being built together into a spiritual dwelling-place for God!

Consider this dynamic.

You have become fellow citizens with the Jewish people. In other words you have been brought into the

commonwealth of Israel.

This does not mean you are bringing in your own structure, but are embracing the structure you are coming into. I am making this point, because I want to pause for a moment, and go back in time, prior to coming here as I ask this question.

When you became a believer, were you brought into a life embracing that which Sha'ul describes?

**Eph 2:12** at that time had no Messiah. You were estranged from the national life of Isra'el. You were foreigners to the covenants embodying God's promise. You were in this world without hope and without God.

Sha'ul identifies what the elements of this life are in his letter to Rome...

**Rom 9:4** the people of Isra'el! They were made God's children, the Sh'khinah has been with them, the covenants are theirs, likewise the giving of the Torah, the Temple service and the promises;

**Rom 9:5** the Patriarchs are theirs; and from them, as far as his physical descent is concerned, came the Messiah, who is over all. Praised be Adonai for ever! Amen.

Did you experience this?

It is important to not lose sight of what Adonai has established for the body of Messiah. It has not discarded everything He has established, first through the nation of Israel, ultimately to be experienced by the nations. Yet, we don't see that embracing response.

*The Tanakh often has the salvation of Gentiles in view; see, for example, [Gen 12:3](#), [Gen 18:14](#), [Gen 22:18](#), [Gen 26:4](#); [Isa 11:10](#), [Isa 19:6](#), [Isa 54:1-3](#), [Isa 60:1-3](#); [Hos 1:10](#); [Amo 9:11](#); [Mal 1:11](#); Psalms 72, 87. [Isa 45:23](#) is quoted by Sha'ul in this connection ([Php 2:10](#)). The strongest impact of this idea on the consciousness of observant Jews comes from [Zec 14:9](#), recited daily in the synagogue in the 'Aleinu prayer: "And Adonai will be king over all the earth; on that day Adonai will be one and his name one." While [Zec 14:16-19](#) proves that eventually New Testament worship will be far more Jewish in character than it is now (see [Joh 7:2](#)), the present verse and the New Testament references given in this note show that the final form of God's chosen people includes Gentiles who have not converted to Judaism.*

So I share all of this with you and conclude with the following verses...

Consider the warnings of Adonai towards His own people. Because if He did not spare His own people, whom He called, why would He spare the nations for the same actions...

**Hos 4:1** Hear the word of Adonai, people of Isra'el! For Adonai has a grievance against the inhabitants of the land: there is no truth, no faithful love or knowledge of God in the land;

**Hos 4:2** only swearing and lying, killing and stealing and committing adultery! They break all bounds, with one blood crime following another.

**Hos 4:3** Therefore the land mourns, and everyone living there languishes, wild animals too, and the birds in the air; even the fish in the sea are removed.

**Hos 4:4** But no one should quarrel or rebuke, because your people are having to quarrel with the cohen.

**Hos 4:5** Therefore you will stumble by day, and the prophet will stumble with you at night. "I will destroy your mother.

**Hos 4:6** **My people are destroyed for want of knowledge.** Because you rejected knowledge, I will also reject you as cohen for me. Because you forgot the Torah of your God, I will also forget your children.

**Hos 4:7** The more they increased in number, the more they sinned against me. I will change their glory into shame.

**Isa 5:12** They have lutes and lyres, drums and flutes, and wine at their parties; but they pay no attention to how Adonai works and never look at what his hands have made.

**Isa 5:13** For such lack of knowledge my people go into exile; this is also why their respected men starve and their masses are parched from thirst.

**Isa 5:14** Therefore Sh'ol has enlarged itself and opened its limitless jaws — and down go their nobles and masses, along with their noise and revels.

Are these warnings any different than that of Yeshua?

**Joh 3:16** "For God so loved the world that he gave his only and unique Son, so that everyone who trusts in him may have eternal life, instead of being utterly destroyed.

**Joh 3:17** For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but rather so that through him, the world might be saved.

**Joh 3:18** Those who trust in him are not judged; those who do not trust have been judged already, in that they have not trusted in the one who is God's only and unique Son.

**Joh 3:19** "Now this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, but people loved the darkness rather than the light. Why? Because their actions were wicked.

**Joh 3:20** For everyone who does evil things hates the light and avoids it, so that his actions won't be exposed.

**Joh 3:21** But everyone who does what is true comes to the light, so that all may see that his actions are accomplished through God."

Adonai's plan for the nations is still going forward in doing as Yeshua shared with Yochanan the Immerser...

**Mat 11:4** Yeshua answered, "Go and tell Yochanan what you are hearing and seeing —

**Mat 11:5** the blind are seeing again, the lame are walking, people with tzara'at are being cleansed, the deaf are hearing, the dead are being raised, the Good News is being told to the poor —

**Mat 11:6** and how blessed is anyone not offended by me!"

And yet today, we are seeing apostasy occurring right before our eyes. We see many in the body of Messiah falling away. One such occurrence which has been percolating for some time has come into its own maturity. I am speaking of the United Methodist Church and their recent announcement that they will form into two different entities.

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/united-methodist-church-split-lgbtq-rights>

The division is based on the position regarding LGBTQ, specifically the difference over same sex marriage and the inclusion of gay clergy. The plan is to break into two, with the group not supporting these inclusions, be identified as "Traditionalist Methodist"

Of the nearly 7 million United Methodist in the United States alone, more than half have embraced the non-Traditionalist view for the Methodist church.

Sha'ul talks about a great falling away that must occur prior to the return of Yeshua...

**2Th 2:1** But in connection with the coming of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah and our gathering together to meet him, we ask you, brothers,

**2Th 2:2** not to be easily shaken in your thinking or anxious because of a spirit or a spoken message or a letter supposedly from us claiming that the Day of the Lord has already come.

**2Th 2:3** Don't let anyone deceive you in any way. For the Day will not come until after the Apostasy has come and the man who separates himself from Torah has been revealed, the one destined for doom.

It is not one event that will occur, but many. This is but one that you can see and if you have the knowledge of Adonai can recognise.

What is the one prominent thing you have noticed regarding the United Methodist church in relation to this message today?

It can't be for lack of knowledge because they have the Word of Adonai.

Ultimately, they have created their own path, not paying attention to the knowledge given by Adonai.

The mission continues whereby both Jew and Gentile are to be working together, one coming along side of the other, for which the order has been established by Adonai. In His proper order you in essence have the two gates Yeshua describes in His sermon on the mount...

**Mat 7:13** "Go in through the narrow gate; for the gate that leads to destruction is wide and the road broad, and many travel it;

**Mat 7:14** but it is a narrow gate and a hard road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

The imagery of the gates was not lost to those who were listening to Yeshua, because Yerushalayim has many gates and with different dimensions. So, they were provided with a visual they could understand, because they lived it.

This promise for the nations goes all the way back to when Avram was first called out and would ultimately become the father of the nation of Israel.

**Gen 12:1** Now Adonai said to Avram, "Get yourself out of your country, away from your kinsmen and away from your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you.

**Gen 12:2** I will make of you a great nation, I will bless you, and I will make your name great; and you are to be a blessing.

**Gen 12:3** I will bless those who bless you, but I will curse anyone who curses you; and by you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

So, we have a mission...Jew and Gentile.

Next Shabbat – if there is a mission, there must be a message.