

Notes: May 20, 2023 (August 30, 2015)

Introduction: The Mystery of the Relationship between Israel and Gentiles In the New Covenant
What the One New Man Looks Like?

There is this teaching based on Ephesians 2:15

Eph 2:15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, *so* making peace; (KJV)

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, (CJB)

This teaching is of “one new man”

And conveys the following:

Denying any distinction between Jew and Gentile

Minimizing or eliminating identity and ethnicity and replacing it with uniformity

If there is no distinction then we don't need to do what we did as Jews.

We have a new identity in Yeshua, but we also have the identity we were created into.

In his letter to the Ephesians, Sha'ul's revelation isn't that Gentiles could be saved, that was Kefa

Kefa's revelation – Gentiles could be saved – Acts 10

Sha'ul's revelation, - creation of a much bigger body equal to Israel, working in conjunction with Israel

Equal to Israel offensive and hard to comprehend from a Jewish perspective.

Ephesians 2:11 – 22 – gentiles being saved. - becoming one new man.

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.

What is enmity?

“the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something.”

This enmity between Jews and Gentiles had four components:

- (1) Gentile envy of the special status accorded by God to Israel in the *Torah*.
- (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 caused **by the *Torah***. It was caused by the Torah because in relation to verse 12, it was the absence of Torah from the nations that made them foreigners to the ways of God.

Thus, overcompensating for these elements would be to eliminate identity altogether.

However, when identity is eliminated, it changes our understanding of scripture, therefore leading to false teachings.

Throughout the New Covenant writings there is Jewish identity and Gentile identity.

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

Good News shalom “you far off” – Gentiles
Shalom “those nearby” – Jewish people

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

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.

The same foundation that Israel has been built on.

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!**

So you have this dynamic of Jew and Gentile coming together...being built together into a spiritual dwelling-place for God.

What is the bigger picture message here?

Sha'ul was recognizing their former state, not remaining in it but transforming from it.

Sha'ul conveys this in the next chapter...

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.**

Ephesians 3 – A one new man message

What is this secret plan?

It implies something hidden for a time and is now being revealed. There are scriptures that talk about this dynamic that I will share with you later.

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 3:7 I became a servant of this Good News by God's gracious gift, which he gave me through the operation of his power.

Eph 3:8 To me, the least important of all God's holy people, was given this privilege of announcing to the Gentiles the Good News of the Messiah's unfathomable riches,

Eph 3:9 **and of letting everyone see how this secret plan is going to work out. This plan, kept hidden for ages by God, the Creator of everything,**

Eph 3:10 is for the rulers and authorities in heaven to learn, through the existence of the Messianic Community, how many-sided God's wisdom is.

Secret Plan / Mystery 3x = Partnership 3x

What is the Mystery?

It is partnership between Israel and gentiles (church).
“marriage between man and woman” example

2 different things become one – a mystery how this happens.

I convey this frequently in our congregation, the idea of echad, plural one – a complex unity.

Humility leads to revelation

Church is an equal partner – Ephesians 3:10 – leads to fullness of Gentiles

The gentiles are not a separate entity unto itself but have been called out of one thing and into another.

As we have a revelation of this international body, it leads to the fullness of the church,

When you have revelation it leads to all Israel being saved.

So, how do we look at this term church...

It is usually meant to represent gentiles.

ekklesia – to call out – gentiles being called out and into a body of people, becoming equal partners with Kehilah

So, gentiles are being called out in order to come into something.

Kehilah – to bring together – not being called out of anything (called together) a community that is already established.

When we look at the synagogue, it is a kehilah. The synagogue was the center of the community that brought together the community on Shabbat and at other times.

Jewish - We are not converting to anything new, but remaining in what we were already called to.

We are to bring together those who were once foreigners and strangers to the covenants - Gentiles.

What is the dynamic happening here?

The dynamic occurring here is the relationship between the older brother and younger brother.

The older brother is responsible for the younger brother.

The older brother becomes the head of the family

The older brother, taking place as the leader of the family

Who is the older brother of the family?

Could it be that Messianic Jews are the older brother of the family...

What is our role as the older brother?

guide, protect, lead, nurture

The family of God will become the family of God when Messianic Jews take their place as head of the family.

Not to “lord over” but to do as is conveyed in Scripture – guide, lead, protect and nurture.

Not in either pride or arrogance, but in humility.

When we look at the New Covenant writings, ask yourselves...

Who is teaching?

Who is taking forth the message?

Who is calling gentiles out?

Where are they coming into?

It all started with Yeshua, who in essence chose His talmadim, to teach them, ultimately preparing them to take the message of the Jewish Messiah to the world.

Messianic Jews – Kefa (Peter), Yochanan (John), Ya'akov (James) and the world's first Messianic Rabbi Sha'ul (Paul)...

All prepared by Yeshua with the Tanakh being their foundational source.

Ask yourselves...

- What Scriptures did Yeshua teach from?
- What Scriptures did they learn from?

To the point where Kefa, writing about Sha'ul says...

2Pe 3:15 And think of our Lord's patience as deliverance, just as our dear brother Sha'ul also wrote you, following the wisdom God gave him.

2Pe 3:16 Indeed, he speaks about these things in all his letters. They contain some things that are hard to understand, things which the uninstructed and unstable distort, to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.

There are many things that have been perverted and changed. The very thing Kefa is warning his audience about.

There are many things that believers are challenged to understand and Pastors are not properly equipped to teach them these things. I am referring primarily to the Tanakh, what you call the old testament.

I even had one pastor admit to me that he knows very little about it and very rarely incorporates it into his messages.

Yet, what many fail to realize...if you understand the first five books, everything else will fall into place.

2Pe 3:17 But you, dear friends, since you know this in advance, guard yourselves; so that you will not be led away by the errors of the wicked and fall from your own secure position.

2Pe 3:18 And keep growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Deliverer, Yeshua the Messiah. To him be the glory, both now and forever! Amen.

Growing in grace and knowledge.

How can you grow in both if you ignore who Yeshua is?

Are we not seeing this dynamic again today?

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."

Ya'akov is to be a light to the nations.

Zec 8:21 the inhabitants of one city will travel to another and say, "We must go to ask Adonai's favor and consult Adonai-Tzva'ot. I'll go too."

Zec 8:22 Yes, many peoples and powerful nations will come to consult Adonai-Tzva'ot in Yerushalayim and to ask Adonai's favor.'

Zec 8:23 Adonai-Tzva'ot says, 'When that time comes, ten men will take hold — speaking all the languages of the nations — will grab hold of the cloak of a Jew and say, "We want to go with you, because we have heard that God is with you." ' ' "

God has given Israel the responsibility to convey the message of Messiah. To be a light to the nations.

That has been absent for some time, but is now being restored. You are seeing more Jewish believers today than at any time in history, including the first century.

I'm sorry but 40,000 denominations worldwide is not one body, no matter how you try to spin it.

Doctrines that either add to Scripture or subtract from Scripture is not the way.

So, what does this one new man of Ephesian 2:15 look like?

We need look no further than Romans 11:

Rom 11:13 However, to those of you who are Gentiles I say this: since I myself am an emissary sent to the Gentiles, I make known the importance of my work

Rom 11:14 in the hope that somehow I may provoke some of my own people to jealousy and save some of them!

This is Sha'ul's message to you...

Rom 11:15 For if their casting Yeshua aside means reconciliation for the world, what will their accepting him mean? It will be life from the dead!

Rom 11:16 Now if the hallah offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole loaf. And if the root is holy, so are the branches.

Sha'ul is conveying the bigger picture that involves Jew and Gentile.

Just because they have been blinded, does not mean that God

Rom 11:17 But if some of the branches were broken off, and you — a wild olive — were grafted in among them and have become equal sharers in the rich root of the olive tree,

Rom 11:18 then don't boast as if you were better than the branches! However, if you do boast, remember that you are not supporting the root, the root is supporting you.

Rom 11:19 So you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in."

Rom 11:20 True, but so what? They were broken off because of their lack of trust. However, you keep your place only because of your trust. So don't be arrogant; on the contrary, be terrified!

Rom 11:21 For if God did not spare the natural branches, he certainly won't spare you!

Rom 11:22 So take a good look at God's kindness and his severity: on the one hand, severity toward those who fell off; but, on the other hand, God's kindness toward you — provided you maintain yourself in that kindness! Otherwise, you too will be cut off!

Rom 11:23 Moreover, the others, if they do not persist in their lack of trust, will be grafted in; because God is able to graft them back in.

Rom 11:24 For if you were cut out of what is by nature a wild olive tree and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree!

Rom 11:25 For, brothers, I want you to understand this truth which God formerly concealed but has now revealed, so that you won't imagine you know more than you actually do. It is that stoniness, to a degree, has come upon Isra'el, until the Gentile world enters in its fullness;

Rom 11:26 and that it is in this way that all Isra'el will be saved. As the Tanakh says, "Out of Tziyon will come the Redeemer; he will turn away ungodliness from Ya`akov

Rom 11:27 and this will be my covenant with them, . . . when I take away their sins."

Rom 11:28 With respect to the Good News they are hated for your sake. But with respect to being chosen they are loved for the Patriarchs' sake,

Rom 11:29 for God's free gifts and his calling are irrevocable.

Your call is found in verse 11, in part, is to provoke the Jewish people to jealousy, in relation to Yeshua...

Rom 11:11 "In that case, I say, isn't it that they have stumbled with the result that they have permanently fallen away?" Heaven forbid! Quite the contrary, it is by means of their stumbling that the deliverance has come to the Gentiles, in order to provoke them to jealousy.

Unfortunately, I don't see you doing what you have been called to do.

The Jewish community is by no means jealous in any way of your relationship with the Jewish Messiah.

For one, His identity has been changed.

Deuteronomy 4:2 and 12:32 state that you are neither to add to or subtract from Scripture. Yet Judaism is guilty of adding to Scripture through the belief in what they consider to be the "divine nature" of the oral law while Christianity is guilty of subtracting from Scripture, based on the belief that fulfillment of Scripture means the need to no longer live by it or its requirements.

By subtracting from Scripture, you have in essence stripped away the identity of Messiah and have therefore presented a different Messiah to the Jewish people.

This in no way has made them jealous, because this subtraction has removed any and all connections that were established through the New Covenant writings.

A wild olive branch grafted into a natural olive tree is not supposed to produce a wild olive or even strange fruit. It is not to continue to grow as if it were still part of the wild olive tree. By being grafted into a new tree, it is to produce the fruit of that tree.

When a branch is grafted into a tree it is supposed to produce the same fruit as the other branches.

Can you say that you are producing the same fruit?

Are you producing natural olives?

This one new man is the natural olive tree of Israel with wild branches grafted in, and all producing the same fruit.

This is the mystery of the relationship between the Church and Israel.

One of the falacies being taught regarding Ephesians 2:15 is that identity is not important...we are all one.

Yet identity still exists and it still matters.

If the church doesn't have revelation leading to Jewish people coming to Messiah, then you are ignoring your call.

Our revelation of the partnership will lead to coming into their fullness

Consider Revelation 7:4 and 7:9

Rev 7:4 I heard how many were sealed — 144,000 from every tribe of the people of Isra'el:

Rev 7:9 After this, I looked; and there before me was a huge crowd, too large for anyone to count, from every nation, tribe, people and language. They were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palm branches in their hands;

Rev 7:10 and they shouted, "Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

sealed = protected

2 peoples, parallel in relation to end times – 1 distinct group Jewish only, one of all the nations

ethnic, cultural, linguistic, governmental

Identity still exists.

You are not identified by nationality or by denomination, you are in essence echad – a complex unity.

We are equal and in partnership, yet distinct

In Noah are comprised all the nations,

Abraham is a subset of Noah, and would bless the nations.

We are to be a blessing to the nations and when we do that we will be blessed.

When we look at the covenants God made with Noah and Abraham...in the signs we see the following:

Rainbow, heavenly, dynamic in color, representing many nations

Circumcision – called out and distinct.

When we look at the message of Ruth we see...

Ruth message – church is not to be Orpha, but like Ruth

Boaz and Ruth, a coming together of Jew and Gentile, leading to the birth of Messiah

Through Jew and Gentile came the birth of Messiah.

This partnership has been present for centuries, and was once a mystery, but now Sha'ul has revealed the mystery of this partnership.

This partnership is far from reaching its fullness. In order for this to happen, the following must happen:

Messianic Judaism must take on the role of older brother

Gentiles must accept the partnership that God has created.

As Scripture says, you can't have two masters.

I want to tell you of a relationship that is happening in San Diego as we speak. A Messianic Jewish Synagogue is using a church for their Shabbat services. The Rabbi (Lieberman) and Pastor (Jim Garlow) have been developing a relationship as a result of their dealings from a congregational level. Pastor Garlow came to him one day and said - "I should be learning from you" - the ways that scripture speak of.

Pastor Garlow allowed God to reveal to him something that was absent.

As one who is grafted into the natural olive tree, is desirous of producing fruit of that natural olive tree.

Notice he didn't convey it the other way, but rather the younger brother (Gentile / Church) should be learning from its older brother – Messianic Jew.

So, it is possible and it is happening.

The question is, are you willing to humble yourself and submit as Pastor Garlow has?

Are you willing to do what you have been called to do?

The question now is how?

For starters, you need to look at the past in order to realize that what has been done before did not work.

1. Convert or die as a product of the Crusades and Inquisition, did not convey the love of Messiah.
2. Stating that the church has replaced Israel does not convey that you are part of the same tree
3. Calling Jews Christ killers certainly didn't build any bridges
4. Preaching fear and hell to a Jew does not work

The absence of a Jewish voice in the body of Messiah has led to many divisions and heresies. Add to this the dynamic of Hebrew Roots groups, led primarily by disgruntled church goers who have discovered the roots of Yeshua, and are conveying a one law for all people premise and you have another facet of division.

Keep in mind that there is only one Torah, yet, not all Torah applies to all people. One of the errors of the Hebrew Roots groups is applying all laws to all people, when that is not the case. This is a whole other message.

Take heed and listen to the Scriptures I gave you and the example of the relationship that needs to happen in order for you to live up to your calling, a calling that is irrevocable. One that you cannot escape from because God gave it to you.

You will provoke Israel and the Jewish people to jealousy when you live according to the Scriptures better than they do.

If you are asking how can we do this? My answer is...

Will you allow the older brother to help the younger brother?