

Notes: December 29, 2012

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: When Covenant Principles Are Violated

The foundation of Covenant principles is found in...

To Love Adonai Deuteronomy 6:4

To Love Your Neighbor as Yourself. (Leviticus 19:18)

It is the essence of what Torah conveys and what Messiah Yeshua teaches.

Ultimately, it should be part of us as believers.

During Hanukkah I talked about the purging of our bodies, as the Temple where the Spirit of Adonai resides and that he could not reside there so long as we were defiled.

In Jewish understanding God lives in his Temple; that is where his glory dwells, his *Sh'khinah*

*Heb 1:1* In days gone by, God spoke in many and varied ways to the Fathers through the prophets.

*Heb 1:2* But now, in the acharit-hayamim (end of days), he has spoken to us through his Son, to whom he has given ownership of everything and through whom he created the universe.

**Heb 1:3** *This Son is the radiance of the Sh'khinah, the very expression of God's essence, upholding all that exists by his powerful word; and after he had, through himself, made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of HaG'dulah BaM'romim. (Majesty on High)*

The very essence of Adonai resides in us as believers.

It is in this passage, that we need to consider the seriousness of what Adonai says through Sha'ul...

**1Co 3:16** Don't you know that you people are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

**1Co 3:17** So if anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you yourselves are that temple.

What's happening in Corinth?

I have described Corinth as the city that would make Las Vegas blush.

From here, Sha'ul goes on to warn against one's own pride in the form of our own worldly wisdom...

**1Co 3:18** Let no one fool himself. If someone among you thinks he is wise (by this world's standards), let him become "foolish," so that he may become really wise.

**1Co 3:19** For the wisdom of this world is nonsense, as far as God is concerned; inasmuch as the Tanakh says, "He traps the wise in their own cleverness,"

**1Co 3:20** and again, "Adonai knows that the thoughts of the wise are worthless."

It is in these thoughts that the potential for division can grow.

It is here that the potential for violating the very foundational principles of Adonai's Covenants are violated.

When we look at ourselves in the context of how we are identified – that being sheep, it is very easy to see how this violation is possible.

Some of the characteristics of a sheep:

- timid, fearful, easily panicked
- gullible, dumb, stupid
- vulnerable to fear
- easily influenced by a leader – the shepherd
- vulnerable to mob psychology
- cannot defend themselves
- shepherd is most effective in calming them
- jealous
- competitive for dominance
- little discernment in choosing food,

- stubborn – will insist on their own way
- creatures of habit
- easily cast (thrown down), flipped over on their back
- look for easy places to rest
- require the most care of any livestock
- need to be on the move, having a pre-determined plan for grazing
- totally dependent of the shepherd for every need
- require “rod and staff” guidance

**Gal 5:16** What I am saying is this: run your lives by the Spirit. Then you will not do what your old nature wants.

**Gal 5:17** For the old nature wants what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit wants what is contrary to the old nature. These oppose each other, so that you find yourselves unable to carry out your good intentions.

**Gal 5:18** But if you are led by the Spirit, then you are not in subjection to the system that results from perverting the Torah into legalism.

**Gal 5:19** And it is perfectly evident what the old nature does. It expresses itself in sexual immorality, impurity and indecency;

**Gal 5:20** involvement with the occult and with drugs; **in feuding, fighting, becoming jealous and getting angry**; in selfish ambition, **factionalism**, intrigue

**Gal 5:21** and **envy**; in drunkenness, orgies and things like these. I warn you now as I have warned you before: those who do such things will have no share in the Kingdom of God!

- Factionalism – sides divided
- Feuding
- Fighting
- Jealousy
- Anger
- Envy

It is these destructive traits that lead to covenant principles being violated within the congregation.

It is not those who fall short of perfection who are excluded from the Kingdom, for that would exclude everyone, but those who willfully continue to practice their sins instead of turning from them sincerely to seek God's forgiveness...it is these people that Sha'ul is talking about.

Consider the seriousness of what Sha'ul writes at the end of verse 21...

“I warn you now as I have warned you before: those who do such things will have no share in the Kingdom of God!”

However, when we consider our bodies as a Temple where Adonai's very Spirit, His *Sh'khinah* resides in us, then we have the means and ability to combat such destructive traits...

**Gal 5:22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

**Gal 5:23** humility, self control. Nothing in the Torah stands against such things.

**Gal 5:24** Moreover, those who belong to the Messiah Yeshua have put their old nature to death on the stake, along with its passions and desires.

**Gal 5:25** Since it is through the Spirit that we have Life, let it also be through the Spirit that we order our lives day by day.

**Gal 5:26** Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

I believe it is important to recognize both the fruit of our old nature and the fruit of our new nature, so we can prevent and combat this negative nature in order to

From here, we will continue on our congregational journey as we explore the gifts of the Spirit of Adonai and how they relate to life as part of the congregation.