

Kehilah Portland



A Messianic Jewish Synagogue

Congregational Business Mailing Address:

12 Liberty Lane, Unit 68
South Portland, ME 04106
Website: www.shalommaine.com
Email: info@jewishheritagerevival.com

Congregation Meeting Address:

1338 Broadway Ave.
South Portland, ME 04106

Messianic Perspectives

Shalom and welcome to Messianic Perspectives – a program aired on radio stations WRKJ 88.5 and WMTP 91.1 in Maine, with the purpose of exploring the scriptures from a Jewish point of view. Paul, whose Hebrew name is Sha'ul writes in Romans 9:4 – 5:

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.

It is from this perspective that we will explore the relationship between the Tenach – the Jewish Bible and the Brith Hadoshah – the New Covenant writings.

Today's topic – Mikveh Origin

Last time I indicated that baptism wasn't a new concept but whose origin is found in the Tenach, also known as the Jewish Bible. Today, I want to explore the origin of immersion.

The origin of Mikveh, meaning to gather and understood as immersion can actually be found in Genesis chapter 1 and verse 2:

Gen 1:2 The earth was unformed and void, darkness was on the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God hovered over the surface of the water.

The first immersion was creation. The entire earth was covered by water. Out of the water came the land – Genesis chapter 1, verses 9 and 10

Gen 1:9 God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let dry land appear," and that is how it was.

Gen 1:10 God called the dry land Earth, the gathering together of the water he called Seas, and God saw that it was good.

In these two verses you see a gathering of water or Mikveh – “let the water under the sky be gathered”

and out of the gathered water came the land – the second half of immersion.

What did Adonai say at the end...

He said that It was good.

Meaning it was pristine, undefiled, without blemish.

I want to share with you a midrash or discussion documented in the Talmud, which is also known as the oral law that talks about Genesis chapter 1 and verse 2 (Genesis Rabbah 2) The Talmud documents the following concepts discussed by Rabbis over the centuries:

- ⑤ The Spirit of Adonai which was over the waters refers to the Spirit of Messiah.
- ⑤ The Messianic age represents the final fulfillment of God's purpose in creation.
- ⑤ Evil will be vanquished and good will reign over all mankind.
- ⑤ The Spirit of Adonai directs all change and movement in a positive force, moving the world, His creation' back to its ultimate goal, which is its original state of perfection. This is The Messianic age.

These insights came centuries before Yeshua walked on the earth. So, the concept of Messiah was well engrained within the Jewish mind.

During the month of June, Messianic Perspectives is offering the message "Covenant Confusion" to anyone sending a tax deductible gift in any amount in support of this ministry and Portland's only Messianic Jewish Synagogue, Kehillah Portland. If God places this ministry upon your heart, please send your offering to Jewish Heritage Revival – 12 Liberty Lane, Unit 68, South Portland, ME 04106. Please be sure to include your name and address so that we may send you a copy of the message and your tax deductible receipt.

Past episodes of Messianic Perspectives are archived on our web site – www.shalommaine.com

Feel free to send your questions and comments to info@jewishheritagerevival.com

So, until next time when we will continue our journey into Messianic Perspectives, todah and shalom (thank you and peace)

Messianic Perspectives is brought to you by Kehillah Portland, a Messianic Jewish Synagogue located in South Portland, where both Jew and non-Jew come together to worship on Shabbat and believe Yeshua is the Messiah spoken of in scripture and is the fulfillment of many promises given to Israel and the Jewish people. We meet every Saturday at 1338 Broadway Ave. in the Greater Portland Christian School gymnasium. Our service begins at 10:00 with meet and greet, followed by Torah study at 1 pm.