

# Kehilah Portland



## A Messianic Jewish Synagogue

### *Congregational Business Mailing Address:*

12 Liberty Lane, Unit 68  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Website: [www.shalommaine.com](http://www.shalommaine.com)  
Email: [info@jewishheritagerevival.com](mailto: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 – Traditions

Last time I went into greater detail regarding the term “legalistic observance of Torah commands”, which is used in the Complete Jewish Bible and is more commonly translated in other Bible versions as “works of the law”

I had indicated that the source of understanding comes from the Jewish writings that are compiled in the Talmud and also known as “Traditions of the Elders”

When the term tradition is used, it tends to be conveyed as negative, however, not all traditions are bad.

When a tradition becomes more important than the commandments of Adonai, this is where the problems start. When we look at a passage such as Mark chapter 7 and verses 5.

**Mar 7:5** The P'rushim and the Torah-teachers asked him, "Why don't your talmidim live in accordance with the Tradition of the Elders, but instead eat with ritually unclean hands?"

Eating with ritually unclean hands is found nowhere in Torah, but is found in the Talmudic writings. The Pharisees and Torah teachers were questioning Yeshua about His talmidim and challenging their disregard for the oral laws, the traditions of the elders.

How did Yeshua respond? Verses 6 through 8:

**Mar 7:6** Yeshua answered them, "Yesha`yahu was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites — as it is written, 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far away from me.

**Mar 7:7** Their worship of me is useless, because they teach man-made rules as if they were doctrines.'

**Mar 7:8** "You depart from God's command and hold onto human tradition.

Notice Yeshua's distinction - "man made rules as if they were doctrine, meaning mitzvots of Adonai. To review from our last two segments...no one will be deemed righteous through legalistic observance of Torah commands – man-made rules as if they were doctrine.

Be careful what you follow and don't follow. If you understand Torah, everything else will fall into place. The Word given by Adonai will not contradict itself.

Also, be careful, because not all tradition is considered to be bad. Yeshua, Himself followed tradition:

**Joh 10:22** Then came Hanukkah in Yerushalayim. It was winter,

**Joh 10:23** and Yeshua was walking around inside the Temple area, in Shlomo's Colonnade.

Hanukkah is a tradition, not a mitvot. Yeshua was at the Temple for the rededication of the Temple, which is what Hanukkah recognizes.

During the month of July, Messianic Perspectives is offering the message "Whatever Happened to the Sabbath" 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.

Feel free to send your questions and comments to [info@jewishheritagerevival.com](mailto:info@jewishheritagerevival.com)

Past segments of Messianic Perspectives are archived on our web site [shalommaine.com](http://shalommaine.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 Kehilah 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.