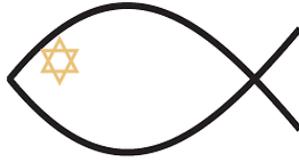


Kehilah Portland



A Messianic Jewish Synagogue

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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 – The Month of Elul

As part of the month of Elul, in preparing for Yom Kippur, we are to be reminded of the 13 attributes of Adonai that is embraced throughout Judaism. These attributes are found in Exodus chapter 34 and verses 6 and 7:

Exo 34:6 Adonai passed before him and proclaimed: "YUD-HEH-VAV-HEH!!! Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh (יהוה) [Adonai] is God, merciful and compassionate, slow to anger, rich in grace and truth;

Exo 34:7 showing grace to the thousandth generation, forgiving offenses, crimes and sins; yet not exonerating the guilty, but causing the negative effects of the parents' offenses to be experienced by their children and grandchildren, and even by the third and fourth generations."

According to the Talmud - everyone who properly understands these Thirteen Attributes and invokes them in his prayers meticulously will never experience that his prayers went totally unheard, that the people who invoke them will not return empty-handed from their prayer. The only reason that one's prayer would go unheard would be certain specific sins which are not subject to G-d's forgiveness.

It is not just saying a prayer and ending it in the name of Messiah...our T'shuvah, our prayers should always begin from our heart as should our relationship and understanding of Adonai.

So, just what are these attributes of Adonai: For the sake of time I will need to summarize Adonai's attributes:

- Adonai is merciful both before we sin and after we have sinned
- His Name denotes power and authority
- Compassionate where Adonai eases the punishment of the guilty
- He is Gracious even to the undeserving
- He is Slow to anger so the sinner can reconsider long before it is too late
- He is Abundant in kindness
- He is Truth, in that He can be trusted at His Word.

- He Preserves Kindness to the thousandth generation.
- Adonai forgives those who sin intentionally, unintentionally, carelessly or apathetically, so long as there is T'shuvah, repentance

The peshat (plain meaning) of the text are attributes of a king's practices in his dealings with his people. All of these attributes come under the heading chesed v'emet (kindness and truth)

When we look at the plain meaning, I would hope that everyone here sees what should be obvious to all believers...

The very attributes possessed by Adonai and done by a king are the same attributes of King Messiah Yeshua for they are one.

This month, Messianic Perspectives is offering four articles on significance of the Fall Feasts for all believers whether Jewish or not. We are including an article that conveys evidence in scripture as to when Yeshua was born. Our offer is 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

Past segments of Messianic Perspectives are archived on our web site shalommaine.com

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

13 Attributes of Adonai – Expanded:

1. *Hashem*. This Name denotes mercy. G-d is merciful **before** a person sins, even though He knows the evil lies dormant in the person.
2. *Hashem*. G-d is merciful **after** the sinner has gone astray.
3. *E-L*. This Name denotes power and authority. G-d's mercy sometimes surpasses even the degree indicated by the name Hashem.
4. *Rachum*. Compassionate; G-d eases the punishment of the guilty, and He does not put people into extreme temptation.
5. *ve-Chanun*. And Gracious; even to the undeserving.
6. *Erech Apayim*. Slow to Anger; so that the sinner can reconsider long before it is too late. (Rav Moshe Cordovero in "*Tomer Devorah*," describes G-d as a "*Melech Ne'Elav*," an "Insulted King," Whose subjects disobey Him, yet He maintains their existence.)
7. *Ve-Rav Chesed*... And Abundant in Kindness...; towards those who lack personal merits. Also, if the scales of good and evil are evenly balanced, He tips them towards the good.
8. ...*Ve-Emet*. And Truth; G-d never reneges on His word.
9. *Notzer Chesed La-Alafim*. Preserver of Kindness for thousands of generations; The deeds of the righteous benefit their offspring far into the future.
10. *Nose Avon*... Forgiver of iniquity...; G-d forgives the intentional sinner, if he or she repents.
11. ...*Va-Phesha*... ...and willful sin...; Even those who purposely anger G-d are allowed to repent.

12....*VeChataah*. ...and error; This is a sin committed out of carelessness or apathy.

13. *VeNake*. And Who cleanses; G-d wipes away the sins of those who repent.

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.