

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 – Complete Jewish Bible – Introduction

Last episode, I provided some addition insight regarding what makes Dr. David Stern's translation of the New Covenant different and unique. This was back in 1989.

The challenge back then was that those who chose to use this New Covenant translation needed a second bible because it didn't include the Tenach, the Jewish Bible. It would be nearly 10 years later, but in 1998, Dr. Stern published the Complete Jewish Bible.

The title says it all.

It is the Tenach, which comprises Torah, or the 5 books of Moses, the Nev'im, also known as the book of the Prophets and the K'tuvim, known as the writings.

For the Jewish believer, the Complete Jewish Bible was an answer to prayer.

The Tenach portion was compiled in the exact book order of the Jewish Bible, not the christian version. So, you will see the same books but in different places.

One distinct difference is with the last book. In the Christian bible the last book is Malachi which leads into Matthew's Gospel, due to Malachi concludes: chapter 4 and verse 5 and 6

Mal 4:5 (3:23) Look, I will send to you Eliyahu the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai.

Mal 4:6 (3:24) He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers; otherwise I will come and strike the land with complete destruction."

Matthew's Gospel begins with the genealogy of Yeshua, what would appear to be an ideal transistion and opening.

All in all, it sounds appropriate and makes sense. However, there is a bigger picture to how the scriptures are ordered. To find out more about this we have an article on our web site that conveys this in greater detail.

What was the reason for compiling a Complete Jewish Bible that included the New Covenant writings. Dr. Stern states the following:

1. To restore the unified Jewishness of the Bible and to show that the New Covenant writings are Jewish – through and through
2. To express the Word of God together, in an enjoyable format. It needed to be accessible and easy to read, unimpeded, a continuous flow, one continuous revelation
3. To create a translation that could be used by and in a Messianic Synagogue, where the Brith Hadoshah could be read as part of any Torah service that includes the Haftarah.

I believe Dr. Stern accomplished what he had set out to do. This translation, is not only used in Messianic Jewish Synagogues worldwide, but also by many people who are answering the call that Adonai has placed upon their hearts. That calling is to know more about the Jewishness of Messiah and the culture from which He came into the world and will return.

Dr. Stern has created and incorporated many tools into this translation that include a glossary of terms, Parashah reading cycle, and a bold face font for Tenach quotes found in the New Covenant writings with a foot note reference of the scripture.

If you have been blessed with this segment and would like to support our efforts with a tax deductible gift, you can send your offering to Jewish Heritage Revival – 12 Liberty Lane, Unit 68 South Portland, Maine 04106. In supporting this broadcast you are also supporting Maine's first and only Messianic Jewish Synagogue.

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)

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.