Notes: November 25, 2017

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

- 1. Meet and Greet
- 2. Introduction (if new people)
- 3. Ma Tovu
- 4. Open in Prayer for service
- 5. Liturgy Sh'ma +
- 6. Announcements
- 7. Jeri Drash
- 8. Praise and Worship Songs
- 9. Message
- 10. Aaronic Blessing
- 11. Kiddush
- 12. 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: The Fullness of Yochanan 1:14

As we were preparing for erev Shabbat, Jeri read me the following scripture...

Joh 1:14 The Word became a human being and lived with us, and we saw his Sh'khinah, the Sh'khinah of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

I saw this verse, not in a new light, but rather in its fullness...

At the very beginning of Yochanan's Gospel it is revealed to us the eternal nature of Adonai and His Word...

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 He was with God in the beginning.

Joh 1:3 All things came to be through him, and without him nothing made had being.

This very declaration takes us directly to Genesis 1:1

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Yet through Yochanan, he ultimately takes us through creation in that it was Adonai's Word that spoke creation into existence. This spoke Word, in my opinion is the Hebrew language that was used by Adonai.

This spoken Word, we have witnessed throughout Scripture. In essence Adonai speaking directly to someone, such as Avraham...

Gen 15:5 Then he brought him outside and said, "Look up at the sky, and count the stars — if you can count them! Your descendants will be that many!"

Gen 15:6 He believed in Adonai, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Sha'ul expands on this further...

Rom 4:20 He did not by lack of trust decide against God's promises. On the contrary, by trust he was given power as he gave glory to God,

Rom 4:21 for he was fully convinced that what God had promised he could also accomplish.

Rom 4:22 This is why it was credited to his account as righteousness.

In other words...Avraham took Adonai at His Word.

This spoken Word, would become written in the form of Torah as was recorded by Moshe, commanded by Adonai...

Deu 31:9 Then Moshe wrote down this Torah and gave it to the cohanim, the descendants of Levi who carried the ark with the covenant of Adonai, and to all the leaders of Isra'el.

The written Word of Adonai and the Word spoken by Adoani have equal authority, because the source is the same. It is from which the Word originates that the authority and power of it are established.

Now to the second part of the first part of this verse – becoming human...

The *Tanakh* reports many instances of God's appearing as a man-to:

Avraham in Genesis 18,

Gen 18:1 Adonai appeared to Avraham by the oaks of Mamre as he sat at the entrance to the tent during the heat of the day.

Gen 18:2 He raised his eyes and looked, and there in front of him stood three men. On seeing them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, prostrated himself on the ground,

Gen 18:3 and said, "My lord, if I have found favor in your sight, please don't leave your servant.

Ya'akov (Gen 32:25-33),

Gen 32:24 (32:25) and Ya akov was left alone. Then some man wrestled with him until daybreak.

Gen 32:25 (32:26) When he saw that he did not defeat Ya`akov, he struck Ya`akov's hip socket, so that his hip was dislocated while wrestling with him.

Gen 32:26 (32:27) The man said, "Let me go, because it's daybreak." But Ya`akov replied, "I won't let you go unless you bless me."

Gen 32:27 (32:28) The man asked, "What is your name?" and he answered, "Ya`akov."

Gen 32:28 (32:29) Then the man said, "From now on, you will no longer be called Ya`akov, but Isra'el; because you have shown your strength to both God and men and have prevailed."

Gen 32:29 (32:30) Ya`akov asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he answered, "Why are you asking about my name?" and blessed him there.

Gen 32:30 (32:31) Ya`akov called the place P'ni-El [face of God], "Because I have seen God face to face, yet my life is spared."

Y'hoshua (Jos. 5:13-Jos. 6:5),

Jos 5:13 One day, when Y'hoshua was there by Yericho, he raised his eyes and looked; and in front of him stood a man with his drawn sword in his hand. Y'hoshua went over to him and asked him, "Are you on our side or on the side of our enemies?"

Jos 5:14 "No," he replied, "but I am the commander of Adonai's army; I have come just now." Y'hoshua fell down with his face to the ground and worshipped him, then asked, "What does my lord have to say to his servant?"

Jos 5:15 The commander of Adonai's army answered Y'hoshua, "Take your sandals off your feet, because the place where you are standing is holy." And Y'hoshua did so.

the people of Israel (Jdg 2:1-5),

- **Jdg 2:1** Now the angel of Adonai came up from Gilgal to Bokhim and said, "I brought you up out of Egypt, led you to the land I swore to your fathers and said, 'I will never break my covenant with you;
- Jdg 2:2 you, for your part, are not to make any covenant with the inhabitants of this land but must tear down their altars.' However, you have paid no attention to what I said. What is this you have done?
- Jdg 2:3 This is why I also said, 'I will not drive them out before you; but they will be on your flanks, and their gods will become a snare for you.' "
- Jdg 2:4 When the angel of Adonai spoke these words to all the people of Isra'el, they began crying and wailing at the top of their voices.
- Jdg 2:5 So they called the name of that place Bokhim [crying] and sacrificed there to Adonai.

Gid'on (Jdg 6:11-24)

This doesn't include the countless times Adonai spoke directly to someone. These examples are relate to a physical manifestation.

In all of these passages the terms "Adonai" and "the angel of Adonai" (or "Elohim" and "the angel of Elohim") are used interchangeably, and in some of them the angel of Adonai (or Elohim) is spoken of as a man. The Tanakh itself thus teaches that the all-powerful God has the power, if he chooses, to appear among men as a man. The New Testament carries this already Jewish idea one step farther: not only can God "appear" in human form, but the Word of God can "become" a human being-and did so.

Joh 1:14 The Word became a human being and lived with us, and we saw his Sh'khinah, the Sh'khinah of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

We have seen the Sh'khinah of Adonai appear at various times throughout Scripture. Whether it was Moshe's request to see the Sh'khinah of Adonai...

Exo 33:18 But Moshe said, "I beg you to show me your glory!"

Exo 33:19 He replied, "I will cause all my goodness to pass before you, and in your presence I will pronounce the name of Adonai. Moreover, I show favor to whomever I will, and I display mercy to whomever I will.

Exo 33:20 But my face," he continued, "you cannot see, because a human being cannot look at me and remain alive.

Exo 33:21 Here," he said, "is a place near me; stand on the rock.

Exo 33:22 When my glory passes by, I will put you inside a crevice in the rock and cover you with my hand, until I have passed by.

Exo 33:23 Then I will remove my hand, and you will see my back, but my face is not to be seen."

or the dedication of Solomon's Temple:

2Ch 7:1 When Shlomo had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of Adonai filled the house,

2Ch 7:2 so that the cohanim could not enter the house of Adonai; because the glory of Adonai filled Adonai's house.

To where we see the fullness of Adonai's Sh'khinah through His Son...

Luk 9:28 About a week after Yeshua said these things, he took Kefa, Yochanan and Ya`akov with him and went up to the hill country to pray.

Luk 9:29 As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed; and his clothing became gleaming white.

Luk 9:30 Suddenly there were two men talking with him — Moshe and Eliyahu!

Luk 9:31 They appeared in glorious splendor and spoke of his exodus, which he was soon to accomplish in Yerushalayim.

Luk 9:32 Kefa and those with him had been sound asleep; but on becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.

Luk 9:33 As the men were leaving Yeshua, Kefa said to him, not knowing what he was saying, "It's good that we're here, Rabbi! Let's put up three shelters — one for you, one for Moshe and one for Eliyahu."

Luk 9:34 As he spoke, a cloud came and enveloped them. They were frightened as they entered the cloud; Luk 9:35 and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen. Listen to him!" Luk 9:36 When the voice spoke, Yeshua was alone once more. They kept quiet — at that time they told no one anything of what they had seen.

But it is the last part of this verse I want to focus on...

Joh 1:14 The Word became a human being and lived with us, and we saw his Sh'khinah, the Sh'khinah of the Father's only Son, **full of grace and truth.**

Just two verses later, we read...

Joh 1:16 We have all received from his fullness, yes, grace upon grace.

Joh 1:17 For the Torah was given through Moshe; grace and truth came through Yeshua the Messiah.

Joh 1:18 No one has ever seen God; but the only and unique Son, who is identical with God and is at the Father's side — he has made him known.

It is sometimes thought that the present verse demeans Moshe, but this is not the case. On the contrary, that a mere man for whom no claim to divinity has ever been made should even be compared with the Word of God incarnate shows how highly Yochanan regards Moshe.

Nor does he demean the *Torah*, God's eternal "teaching" about himself as given to Israel, by comparing it with **grace and truth**. Elsewhere Yeshua himself says that he did not come to abrogate the *Torah* but to fill it out (Mat 5:17-20), and proceeded to follow this program by interpreting the *Torah* in ways that make its meaning and commands even clearer (Mat 5:21-48).

The very essence of The Word, first spoken, then written must have contained both grace and truth. If they had not, then Yeshua, who is identified as the Word becoming a human being could not have been made full of these traits.

We see throughout Torah as conveyed by Yochanan Adonai's character of grace and truth...

We need look no further than Adonai's 13 qualities in Exodus 34...

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."

We need look no further than Adonai's relationship with Israel.

He gave Torah to Israel.

No other nation has ever received instructions from the Creator of all things to live by.

No other people have been called His first born...

Exo 4:22 Then you are to tell Pharaoh: 'Adonai says, "Isra'el is my firstborn son.

No other people have been called His own unique treasure...Three times in Deuteronomy and once in Psalm 135 we read...

Deu 7:6 For you are a people set apart as holy for Adonai your God. Adonai your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his own unique treasure.

Also...Deuteronomy 14:2 and 26:18; Psalm 135:4

Adonai has made universal Covenants through Adam, "be fruitful and multiply" and Noach "I will not flood the earth again as judgment", but He has only made non-universal Covenant through Avraham and His descendants...Moshe, David, Yeshua...

Sha'ul conveys these very things...

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.

He has been true to His Word, even though we have not been...

Jer 31:31 (31:30) "Here, the days are coming," says Adonai, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah.

Jer 31:32 (31:31) It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers on the day I took them by their hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt; because they, for their part, violated my covenant, even though I, for my part, was a husband to them," says Adonai.

He would do everything in His power to establish and maintain a Covenant with His people. Even if it required a death of one who was innocent.

Jer 31:33 (31:32) "For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Isra'el after those days," says Adonai: "I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Jer 31:34 (31:33) No longer will any of them teach his fellow community member or his brother, 'Know Adonai'; for all will know me, from the least of them to the greatest; because I will forgive their wickednesses and remember their sins no more."

Yeshua's focus was to the lost sheep of Israel...

Mat 10:5 These twelve Yeshua sent out with the following instructions: "Don't go into the territory of the Goyim, and don't enter any town in Shomron,

Mat 10:6 but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Isra'el.

Mat 10:7 As you go, proclaim, 'The Kingdom of Heaven is near,'

Mat 10:8 heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those afflicted with tzara`at, expel demons. You have received without paying, so give without asking payment.

Mat 15:22 A woman from Kena`an who was living there came to him, pleading, "Sir, have pity on me. Son of David! My daughter is cruelly held under the power of demons!"

Mat 15:23 But Yeshua did not say a word to her. Then his talmidim came to him and urged him, "Send her away, because she is following us and keeps pestering us with her crying."

Mat 15:24 He said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Isra'el."

Yet, this woman persisted...

Mat 15:25 But she came, fell at his feet and said, "Sir, help me!"

Mat 15:26 He answered, "It is not right to take the children's food and toss it to their pet dogs."

Mat 15:27 She said, "That is true, sir, but even the dogs eat the leftovers that fall from their master's table."

Mat 15:28 Then Yeshua answered her, "Lady, you are a person of great trust. Let your desire be granted." And her daughter was healed at that very moment.

To where we receive a glimpse of what Yeshua would mention as being another sheep pen...

Joh 10:14 I am the good shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me —

Joh 10:15 just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father — and I lay down my life on behalf of the sheep.

Joh 10:16 Also I have other sheep which are not from this pen; I need to bring them, and they will hear my voice; and there will be one flock, one shepherd.

Who would take away the sin of the world...

Joh 1:29 The next day, Yochanan saw Yeshua coming toward him and said, "Look! God's lamb! The one who is taking away the sin of the world!

To where He would command His talmadim to go into the world...

Mat 28:18 Yeshua came and talked with them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Mat 28:19 Therefore, go and make people from all nations into talmidim, immersing them into the reality of the Father, the Son and the Ruach HaKodesh,

Mat 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember! I will be with you always, yes, even until the end of the age."

I want to close with two Psalms...

Psa 138:1 [By David:] I give you thanks with all my heart. Not to idols, but to you I sing praise.

Psa 138:2 I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your grace and truth; for you have made your word [even] greater than the whole of your reputation.

Psa 138:3 When I called, you answered me, you made me bold and strong.

Psa 138:4 All the kings of the earth will thank you, Adonai, when they hear the words you have spoken.

Psa 138:5 They will sing about Adonai's ways, "Great is the glory of Adonai!"

Psa 138:6 For though Adonai is high, he cares for the lowly; while the proud he perceives from afar.

Psa 138:7 You keep me alive when surrounded by danger; you put out your hand when my enemies rage; with your right hand you save me.

Psa 138:8 Adonai will fulfill his purpose for me. Your grace, Adonai, continues forever. Don't abandon the work of your hands!

Psa 108:1 [A song, A psalm of David:] My heart is steadfast, God. I will sing and make music with my glory.

Psa 108:2 Awake, lute and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.

Psa 108:3 I will thank you, Adonai, among the peoples; I will make music to you among the nations.

Psa 108:4 For your grace is great, above heaven, and your truth, all the way to the skies.

Psa 108:5 Be exalted, God, above heaven! May your glory be over all the earth,

Psa 108:6 in order that those you love can be rescued; so save with your right hand, and answer me!

Psa 108:7 God in his holiness spoke, and I took joy [in his promise]: "I will divide Sh'khem and determine the shares in the Sukkot Valley.

Psa 108:8 Gil ad is mine and M'nasheh mine, Efrayim my helmet, Y'hudah my scepter.

Psa 108:9 Mo'av is my washpot; on Edom I throw my shoe; Over P'leshet I shout in triumph."

Psa 108:10 Who will bring me into the fortified city? Who will lead me to Edom?

Psa 108:11 God, have you rejected us? You don't go out with our armies, God.

Psa 108:12 Help us against our enemy, for human help is worthless.

Psa 108:13 With God's help we will fight valiantly, for he will trample our enemies.