

What Say You Rabbi...

Over this past week I had been asked about Covid-19 and its context in relation to Adonai. First regarding the “end times” and second in relation to tzara`at (leprosy) coming from Adonai. I would not be surprised if these thoughts had crossed other minds over the last few weeks, so consider this my Shabbat sermon whereby I respond to the question / thoughts presented...hence, “What Say You Rabbi?”

Question:

I have, as most of us are, been in the Word quite a bit. In the midst of this “plague”, I have been focusing on end times prophecies and the last days. Particularly, Zechariah 14:12, which speaks of Adonai striking all those against Israel with a plague. Also, Ezekiel 38 and 39, in his prophecies concerning the last days. I recently read an article concerning the possibility that Gog and Magog, the belligerents in the last days, may come in the form of a plague.

Please read it and get back to me on your thoughts. I will be preparing a message for our Kehila here in Nahariya, and I would like input from you both. I believe, as you probably do, that we may very well be in the last days and are about to witness the culmination of God’s plan. Now is the time for those who don’t know Him to repent, accept Yeshua and help others to hear the Word and do the same. Time is very short. One other thought... I have also been spending time in 2nd Chronicles 7:12-22. This speaks about humility before Adonai, seeking His face and repenting, which will cause Him to heal our land from an epidemic. All this tells me that we are indeed in the last days and are about to see the unfolding of final prophecies.

Response:

As you should remember, I am a big supporter of context. The article you provided takes some things out of context while not utilizing the Brith Hadoshah for additional insight. There is much to unpack here. Let's deal with Gog and Magog first.

We first read of this battle that will ensue in Ezekiel 38 and 39, whereby Gog is an individual and Magog a place. There is great detail provided about this future battle.. Yet there is one detail that is absent...when? When will this battle take place, With further insight provided through the Brith Hadoshah, we know the when...

Rev 20:7 **When the thousand years are over**, the Adversary will be set free from his prison
Rev 20:8 and will go out to deceive the nations in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for the battle. Their number is countless as the sand on the seashore;
Rev 20:9 and they came up over the breadth of the Land and surrounded the camp of God's people and the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and consumed them.

Regarding Zechariah 14, this too has a time component associated with it. Verse 12 needs to be taken in the context of the entire passage for it too conveys a when...

Zec 14:1 Look, a day is coming for Adonai when your plunder, [Yerushalayim], will be divided right

there within you.

Zec 14:2 "For I will gather all the nations against Yerushalayim for war. The city will be taken, the houses will be rifled, the women will be raped, and half the city will go into exile; but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city."

Zec 14:3 Then Adonai will go out and fight against those nations, fighting as on a day of battle.

Zec 14:4 **On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives**, which lies to the east of Yerushalayim; and the Mount of Olives will be split in half from east to west, to make a huge valley. Half of the mountain will move toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

The day of Adonai is coming and Zechariah conveys what will happen on that day. Ted, Do you remember what "The Day of Adonai" is that I have taught you before?

For which Luke conveys the following:

Act 1:11 The men said, "You Galileans! Why are you standing, staring into space? **This Yeshua, who has been taken away from you into heaven, will come back to you in just the same way as you saw him go into heaven.**"

Act 1:12 **Then they returned the Shabbat-walk distance from the Mount of Olives to Yerushalayim.**

The very place where Yeshua ascended is the very place He will return, thus bringing about the fulfillment of these prophecies.

Both of these scenarios have yet to occur and are not related to Covid-19. Remember Yeshua's warning to us...

Mat 24:3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the talmidim came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that you are coming, and that the 'olam hazeh is ending?"

Mat 24:4 Yeshua replied: "Watch out! Don't let anyone fool you!"

Mat 24:5 For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will lead many astray.

Mat 24:6 You will hear the noise of wars nearby and the news of wars far off; see to it that you don't become frightened. Such things must happen, but the end is yet to come.

Mat 24:7 For peoples will fight each other, nations will fight each other, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various parts of the world;

Mat 24:8 all this is but the beginning of the 'birth-pains.'

Mat 24:9 At that time you will be arrested and handed over to be punished and put to death, and all peoples will hate you because of me.

Mat 24:10 At that time many will be trapped into betraying and hating each other,

Mat 24:11 many false prophets will appear and fool many people;

Mat 24:12 and many people's love will grow cold because of increased distance from Torah.

Mat 24:13 But whoever holds out till the end will be delivered.

THE END IS NOT YET.

In my opinion Covid-19 is of man and has the Adversary written all over it. An interesting exercise would be going back and looking at how Adonai executes judgment. Seeing as we are coming into Passover, a good place to start would be the 10 plagues. Further, you will want to look at how the world is responding to this. What is occurring but separation through division thus preventing the

gathering together of believers via state executive order.

We have been in the last days since Yeshua departed. Remember His warning in Matthew 24.

Question / Thoughts:

This is a Worldwide problem that needs worldwide intervention from Adonai to end this scourge and obviously He can do it and will if we ask Him. Things like COVID19 are really not that different from some of the leprosy verses in scripture. First off we have Naaman, the Syrian general and commander of the Syrian army, who is healed of leprosy in 2 Kings 5:1-19 or in Luke 17:11-19, when Yeshua is walking past Galilee on His way to Yerushalayim (Jerusalem) when 10 lepers call out to Him for healing and He healed them. Prayer is really an "ask" so how about Matthew 7:7.

Any thoughts on world wide prayer for help with a worldwide disease? This disease (COVID 19), is our modern day leprosy and Yeshua can eradicate it.

Response:

Interesting thoughts.

I don't know if I would categorize Covid being similar to leprosy, in that leprosy (tzara`at) is a Spiritual condition with physical manifestations. He will be deemed unclean in relation to being able to bring an offering or to reside within the community.

Lev 13:1 Adonai said to Moshe and Aharon,

Lev 13:2 "If someone develops on his skin a swelling, scab or bright spot which could develop into the disease tzara`at, he is to be brought to Aharon the cohen or to one of his sons who are cohanim.

Lev 13:3 The cohen is to examine the sore on his skin; if the hair in the sore has turned white, and the sore appears to go deep into the skin, it is tzara`at, and after examining him the cohen is to declare him unclean.

Lev 13:14 But if one day inflamed flesh appears on him, he will be unclean.

Lev 13:15 The cohen will examine the inflamed flesh and declare him unclean; the inflamed flesh is unclean; it is tzara`at.

Lev 14:1 Adonai said to Moshe,

Lev 14:2 "This is to be the law concerning the person afflicted with tzara`at on the day of his purification. He is to be brought to the cohen,

Lev 14:3 and the cohen is to go outside the camp and examine him there. If he sees that the tzara`at sores have been healed in the afflicted person,

Lev 14:4 then the cohen will order that two living clean birds be taken for the one to be purified, along with cedar-wood, scarlet yarn and hyssop leaves.

There are some similarities, in that isolation is deemed to be a remedy from infecting others as is being done with Covid.

Regarding Na'aman, what was the recipe for him being healed?

He had to trust in the words of Elisha when he instructed him to bathe seven times in the Jordan...

2Ki 5:10 Elisha sent a messenger to him, who said, "Go, and bathe in the Yarden seven times. Your skin will become as it was, and you will be clean."

At first he refused...

2Ki 5:11 But Na`aman became angry and left, saying, "Here now! I thought for certain that he would come out personally, that he would stand, call on the name of Adonai his God and wave his hand over the diseased place and thus heal the person with tzara`at.

He had in his mind how he would be healed. Yet, this is not what the Prophet of Adonai had instructed. The words of the Prophet are the Words of Adonai...

Num 12:6 He said, "Listen to what I say: when there is a prophet among you, I, Adonai, make myself known to him in a vision, I speak with him in a dream.

And yet Na'aman refused to listen to Elisha...

2Ki 5:12 Aren't Amanah and Parpar, the rivers of Dammesek, better than all the water in Isra'el? Why can't I bathe in them and be clean?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

It wasn't until Na'aman's servants approached him in order to reason with him...

2Ki 5:13 But his servants approached him and said, "My father! If the prophet had asked you to do something really difficult, wouldn't you have done it? So, doesn't it make even more sense to do what he says, when it's only, 'Bathe, and be clean'?"

It wasn't until he became obedient to the Word of the Prophet which is the Word of Adonai that he would be healed...

2Ki 5:14 So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Yarden, as the man of God had said to do; and his skin was restored and became like the skin of a child; and he became clean.

2Ki 5:15 Then, with his whole retinue, he returned to the man of God, went and stood before him, and said, "**Well, I've learned that there is no God in all the earth except in Isra'el**; therefore, please accept a present from your servant."

A worldwide pandemic is missing what healed Na'aman...T'shuvah.

What happened with Yeshua and the ten men afflicted with tzara`at? Notice the similarity..

Luk 17:12 As he entered one of the villages, ten men afflicted with tzara`at met him. They stood at a distance

Luk 17:13 and called out, "Yeshua! Rabbi! Have pity on us!"

Luk 17:14 On seeing them, he said, "**Go and let the cohanim examine you!**" And **as they went, they were cleansed.**

They heard the Words of the Prophet and it was their action in going to the Cohen, who would inspect them and determine if they were healed that healed them. Yeshua didn't heal them on the spot but their action to His instruction was required for them to be healed. Tzara'at is of Adonai for His purpose in correcting people. Na'aman perspective needed to be corrected. The ten were presented with a test for which only one passed.

Luk 17:15 One of them, as soon as he noticed that he had been healed, returned shouting praises to God,

Luk 17:16 and fell on his face at Yeshua's feet to thank him. Now he was from Shomron.

Luk 17:17 Yeshua said, "Weren't ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?"

Luk 17:18 Was no one found coming back to give glory to God except this foreigner?"

Luk 17:19 And to the man from Shomron he said, "Get up, you may go; your trust has saved you."

Two foreigners recognised that it was the God of Israel that healed them and thus gave honor to Him. One returning to the Prophet Elisha, the other returning to Yeshua, Adonai with us.

If Covid-19 is of Adonai then I could see the parallel. Unfortunately, the origins of this virus is of human hands. Mixing of animals and their fluids that are not meant to be together or the other scenario...a manufactured bio-weapon. Neither have the fingerprint of Adonai in that it does not fit how He does things.

If its origin is from a bat that was to be eaten, this to me, represents the epitome of both unkosher and unclean.

These are my thoughts about what we are in the midst of at this moment.

There are probably many responses going around both on YouTube and FaceBook about this pandemic and its Biblical relationship. Know this. The next "plagues" from Adonai will truly be of Biblical proportion in that they will kill 1/3 of the population of the world, and not over time but in an instant...

Rev 9:12 The first woe has passed, but there are still two woes to come.

Rev 9:13 The sixth angel sounded his shofar, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the gold altar before God,

Rev 9:14 saying to the sixth angel, the one with the shofar, "Release the four angels that are bound at the great river Euphrates!"

Rev 9:15 And they were released. These four angels had been kept ready for this moment, for this day and month and year, to kill a third of mankind;

Rev 9:16 and the number of cavalry soldiers was two hundred million! — I heard the number.

Rev 9:17 Here is how the horses looked in the vision: the riders had breastplates that were fire-red, iris-blue and sulfur-yellow; the horses' heads were like lions' heads; and from their mouths issued fire, smoke and sulfur.

Rev 9:18 It was these three plagues that killed a third of mankind — the fire, smoke and sulfur issuing from the horses' mouths.

Rev 9:19 For the power of the horses was in their mouths — and also in their tails, for their tails were like snakes with heads, and with them they could cause injury.

Rev 9:20 The rest of mankind, those who were not killed by these plagues, even then did not turn from what they had made with their own hands — they did not stop worshipping demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk.

Rev 9:21 Nor did they turn from their murdering, their involvement with the occult and with drugs,

their sexual immorality or their stealing.

Their impact will be felt in a significant way, not in a “drip, drip” manner where day after day, we hear reports of those infected and those who have died. Today there are over 1.1 million people worldwide who have been infected with Corvid-19 while the death toll will reach 60,000 today (April 4th). This represents 0.012% of the global population of 7.8 billion people. The percentage of deaths relating to the US population is 0.002%.

All life is precious and is a gift from our Creator, so any loss is a tragedy. Moreso if they did not have a relationship with Adonai through Yeshua.

So, stay close to Him, rest in Him, rejoice in Him.

Joh 16:29 The talmidim said to him, "Look, you're talking plainly right now, you're not speaking indirectly at all.

Joh 16:30 Now we know that you know everything, and that you don't need to have people put their questions into words. This makes us believe that you came from God."

Joh 16:31 Yeshua answered, "Now you do believe.

Joh 16:32 But a time is coming — indeed it has come already — when you will be scattered, each one looking out for himself; and you will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone; because the Father is with me.

Joh 16:33 "I have said these things to you so that, united with me, you may have shalom. In the world, you have tsuris. But be brave! I have conquered the world!"