



Message 7-15-17
Pinchas-Phineas (Dark-skinned)
Numbers 25:10-30:1
Jeremiah 1:1-2:3
Romans 8:31-39

Introduction

A new census confirms that the generation of the exodus has died, fulfilling God's dictate that those rebellious Israelites would die in the wilderness and their children would reach the Promised Land.

Numbers 26:63-65

63 These were those listed by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who listed the people of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho. ⁶⁴ But among these there was not one of those listed by Moses and Aaron the priest, who had listed the people of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai. ⁶⁵ For the LORD had said of them, "They shall die in the wilderness." Not one of them was left, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun. (ESV)

This was a new census that the Lord had commanded be taken of Israel, but with one very specific exclusion: no one who had come out of Egypt 20 years of age and up were to be listed because they had been condemned to die in the wilderness due to their sin against the Holy One of Israel. It would seem to some that the Lord was very hard on the Children of Israel, but then again, He did what any loving Father would do and demonstrated for us He practices what is known as "*tough love*." He cares about His people deeply, or else He would not have asked His Son, Yeshua, to offer Himself up as a sacrifice in our place. We come to our time and see all manner of people who call themselves followers of Messiah but disregard the Torah and do whatever the heck they want to, all the while professing their belief in a Messiah who has freed them from the shackles of Torah to the freedom of following Yeshua any way they choose. They use the story of the Exodus to show that the Israelites failed to keep Torah, so the Lord changed it. It was almost as though they are saying that He set the people of Israel up for failure because the rules He put in place were too difficult to follow. So, in the end He revised the covenant by changing it to one based solely on love. This love covenant embraced a different God from the one presented to us in what is called the "*Old Testament*." The "*Old Testament*" has been replaced by the "*New Testament*" because the new one has brought fulfillment to the old because of the death and resurrection of the Messiah Yeshua. Is that true?

ESV **Matthew 5:17** "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Torah until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Notice what it says. You need to pay close attention to the Messiah's words because they reveal to us the truth. In verse 18 it says: "***For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Torah until all is accomplished.***"

Not one iota or a dot will pass from the Torah until heaven and earth pass away. The last time I looked outside the heavens and the earth were still here and they were not new. So, why is that we suffer today for our faith in Messiah while we try to follow His teachings found in the Torah while others who profess faith in Him seem to do whatever they want? Are they following the same Messiah we are? I realize that what I am saying may seem harsh, but there are Scriptures that talk about some following another gospel and another Messiah. Can "*true believers*" really follow the wrong Messiah? Anyone can be misled to go down the wrong path that leads away from the true Messiah. Even the Muslims believe in Yeshua, but they only believe in Him as a prophet second to Mohammed. They also believe that their Yeshua will come to lead the rest of mankind to believe in Allah, a god who is not the One True God.

Israel decided to go their own way and even wanted to go back to Egypt because they did not like the way things were going under their new God. Even though they had been slaves in Egypt, they began to look upon it as the "*good old days.*" There was nothing good about it, but God gave them the freedom to choose, and they chose poorly. They did not want to travel the road that led to Yeshua, their Kinsman Redeemer. They wanted to travel the road that did not take them back to Egypt nor did it bring them to the Promised Land. It brought them to a burial plot in the Wilderness of Sinai, and they will be joined by many more who believe they have the freedom to do what they want to in the name of the Messiah. He seems to have become a convenience; someone to bring out when they want Him and the rest time they put Him on a shelf to gather dust just like most of their Bibles. He does not want to be taken for granted, so for your sake and the sake of the ones you love, commit to a life of faith to walk in harmony with the Son of God – the true Son, Messiah Yeshua.

Jeremiah 1:14-19

14 Then the LORD said to me, "Out of the north disaster shall be let loose upon all the inhabitants of the land. ¹⁵ For behold, I am calling all the tribes of the kingdoms of the north, declares the LORD, and they shall come, and everyone shall set his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, against all its walls all around and against all the cities of Judah. ¹⁶ And I will declare my judgments against them, for all their evil in forsaking me. They have made offerings to other gods and worshiped the works of their own hands. ¹⁷ But you, dress yourself for work; arise, and say to them everything that I command you. Do not be dismayed by them, lest I dismay you before them. ¹⁸ And I, behold, I make you

this day a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls, against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land. ¹⁹ They will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, declares the LORD, to deliver you." (ESV)

The Holy One of Israel will call the tribes of the kingdoms of the north to surround Jerusalem so the Lord can bring His judgments against His people because they have forsaken Him. They turned to other gods and worshipped them even though they are not living gods but ones they have made with their own hands. Why would anyone in their right mind worship an idol they have made instead of the One True God and walk with His Son Yeshua down a road that leads to eternal life? The Almighty who called these nations to surround Israel will now hear from the Israelites and will tell them everything that He will command them to say. He will protect His people from the nations of the north, and while the nations will fight against Jerusalem, they will not prevail because He is with His people declares the Lord. No matter how dark the days might seem to be, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Isaiah 37:19 and have cast their gods into the fire. For they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood, and stone. Therefore, they were destroyed. ²⁰ So now, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you alone are the LORD." ²¹ Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Because you have prayed to me concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria, ²² this is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning him: "She despises you, she scorns you-- the virgin daughter of Zion; she wags her head behind you-- the daughter of Jerusalem. (ESV)

We must repent of our sins in the way we have walked before the Lord God Almighty. The God of Israel is not a god made by man's hands of wood and stone. They have been cast into the fire. The nations of the earth despise Israel because they belong to the God of the heavens and the earth. The nations follow the lead of the god of this world, Satan, whose only desire is to lead as many people away from God that he can. When he is finally cast into the lake of fire, how many will be thrown in there with him? Will you be one of them?

Isaiah 50:7 But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore, I have not been disgraced; therefore, I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸ He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹ Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. ¹⁰ Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God. ¹¹ Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who equip yourselves with burning torches! Walk by the light of your fire, and by the torches that you have kindled! This you have from my hand: you shall lie down in torment. (ESV)

If we hold to our faith in Messiah Yeshua, we will never be abandoned or disgraced. He helps us. He vindicates us. He stands by us, and we need to come together. The Lord will help us so no one can say we are guilty by Torah because it is by Torah we are redeemed. Our God is the giver of the Torah to man from the very beginning. Our Messiah Yeshua lived Torah in His life and taught the Torah as He knew it in its purest form because He is the Living Word of the Father. The one who walks in darkness and has no light must learn to trust in the Lord. Don't walk by the light of your fire, walk by the light of the life of Messiah who gave Himself for you and for me. Without Him you will lie down in torment in the day of judgment. Isn't it better to live by the teachings of Messiah Yeshua, or do the teachings of the Adversary draw you to him and to eternal damnation?

Romans 8:31-39

31 What, then, are we to say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare even his own Son, but gave him up on behalf of us all- is it possible that, having given us his Son, he would not give us everything else too? ³³ So who will bring a charge against God's chosen people? Certainly, not God- he is the one who causes them to be considered righteous! ³⁴ Who punishes them? Certainly, not the Messiah Yeshua, who died and- more than that- has been raised, is at the right hand of God and is actually pleading on our behalf! ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of the Messiah? Trouble? Hardship? Persecution? Hunger? Poverty? Danger? War? ³⁶ As the *Tanakh* puts it, "For your sake we are being put to death all day long, we are considered sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors, through the one who has loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor other heavenly rulers, neither what exists nor what is coming, ³⁹ neither powers above nor powers below, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God which comes to us through the Messiah Yeshua, our Lord. (CJB)

Messiah died and was raised from the dead by the right hand of His Father pleading for us. This is a love so great that we tend to take it for granted. Nothing can separate us from the love of God that comes to us through the Messiah Yeshua, our Kinsman Redeemer.

Torah Man says: "Faith is a higher faculty than reason."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

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