



Message 9-16-17
Nitzavim-You Are Standing
Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20

VaYelech - and he went
Deuteronomy 31:1-30
Isaiah 61:10-63:9
Luke 1:68-75

Introduction

Moses asserts the saving power of God's love and of teshuvah (repentance): "When you return to the Lord your God then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and take you back in love." He asserts that the teachings of the Torah are very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it.

Deuteronomy 30:1-6

1 "And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God has driven you, ² and return to the LORD your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, ³ then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you. ⁴ If your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there he will take you. ⁵ And the LORD your God will bring you into the land that your fathers possessed, that you may possess it. And he will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers. ⁶ And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live. (ESV)

Moses is sharing what will happen to Israel in the future because they will fall away from following the God of Israel. God's Torah will be put on a shelf, gathering dust, as it sits there waiting for Israel to come back. Moses tells the Israelites that they will be scattered and they will remember the blessing and the curse in whatever nation the Lord has sent them to and they will remember and return to Him and obey His voice. After forty years of leading Israel it must have hurt Moses to hear the Lord tell him what will happen to Israel after he is gone. He has labored so long and so hard on behalf of the Lord serving Him and serving Israel. He brought them the Torah from the Holy One to help guide them and teach them the ways of the Almighty and they will turn away. We see this today all over the world where God's people have turned away from His voice to follow after those who come to tickle their ears with teachings that will teach them the mysteries of the word.

Daniel 2:22 He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with him. (NRS)

It is in His power to reveal the hidden things, but don't you think that first we learn the simplicity of the Torah so we have a foundation with which to understand our Creator?

Ezekiel 34:13 And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. (ESV)

The Prophet Ezekiel is only confirming what Moses told the people of Israel in this week's Torah portion that they will be brought back. He will gather them from where He scattered them and bring them back to the land that He promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob would be their inheritance. Right now, there is a remnant of Israel back in the land but all of Israel has not yet come back. This lies within the power of the Holy One of Israel to bring them back home in His time, not ours. We can look to the seasons, as the Fall Festivals unfold to see if the rest of His plan will be coming to fruition in our day. We long for the return of the Messiah. He will set things right. He will bring back Torah and His people from their exile. I believe this will take place beginning with the Fall Festivals of Leviticus 23 because they have not been fulfilled yet.

Messiah came, he died and was resurrected but that was only the first half of God's plan. There is another part to His plan and it still must happen.

Nehemiah 1:8 Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, ⁹ but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' (ESV)

Once again, a Prophet, this time Nehemiah, repeats what Moses had told the people and Ezekiel shared. Scripture confirms Scripture my friends. Don't base your beliefs on one of two Scriptures or teachings that tickle your ears. Be careful and test all the teachings. The Apostle Paul told the Bereans to test his teachings by Scripture and they did it. Today if you question what Paul taught because of the way it is being interpreted you may be declared to be a heretic. It is not easy to follow the ways of the Lord the way they were meant to be followed. It is a hard road to travel on to follow the Messiah, the author of our faith.

Yaakov (James) 3:1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴ Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will

of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. (ESV)

Most of Israel still in the diaspora waiting to be called back home, but how many will hear the voice of the Holy One calling them to come back? Will it be just like it was in Babylon? When the time came for Judah to come home only a remnant returned. Will it be like when the Messiah returns and reaches out to lead Israel home? Will you hear the voice of the Lord my friends? Will you hear and obey? This may be the last chance you have to come back. After that, there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth in the outer darkness. What will you do? You might be saying you are not worthy and yet are any of us? Look at the men and women in the Bible the Lord called to serve Him. None of them were perfect but they heard the voice of the Lord and they listened and obeyed. Will you follow their example and repent of your sins as we approach the Fall Festivals? What if Messiah chooses to return with Festivals? Where will that leave you?

Isaiah 63:7-9

7 I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD, the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸ For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely." And he became their Savior. ⁹ In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity, he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. (ESV)

If any passage of Scripture is prophetic this is one of them. Prophecy flows throughout the Bible, all we should do is open our hearts and minds to allow the Ruach HaKodesh to teach us. His love for His people that He called out to be His own is so great and all encompassing. He became our Savior, the Redeemer of Israel because all of us will become a part of Israel through faith in Messiah Yeshua and following the Torah. If God ever laid out a blueprint for us to follow you will find it in the Torah. The Torah is the foundation of the covenant the Lord is building with His people. The doors are open will you walk through them into the New Jerusalem or will you wait in the ruins of the old one that was built by the hands of men while the New Jerusalem was built by God!

Messiah is afflicted when we are. He redeemed by the angel of His presence. What is the presence of the Holy One? It is His Shekinah – His holy glory that no man can look upon and live. Moses could not look upon God's face or else he would die but the Lord allowed him to look upon His back as He passed by. When Moses was in the presence of the

Lord he was filled with the power of the Almighty and his face glowed and the people were afraid. They were passing up a blessing from God they could possibly have had.

Luke 1:68-75

68 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people, ⁶⁹ And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of David His servant-- ⁷⁰ As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old-- ⁷¹ Salvation FROM OUR ENEMIES, And FROM THE HAND OF ALL WHO HATE US; ⁷² To show mercy toward our fathers, And to remember His holy covenant, ⁷³ The oath which He swore to Abraham our father, ⁷⁴ To grant us that we, being rescued from the hand of our enemies, Might serve Him without fear, ⁷⁵ In holiness and righteousness before Him all our days. (NAU)

The horn of salvation is none other than Messiah Yeshua! He is descended from David and yet He came before David. He is the King of kings, whose Father has given Him the throne to rule over Israel and the earth. He will remember His covenant to Israel as laid out through those who have come before. There were those who paved the way of the covenant to show us the way. Don't turn away when the opportunity arises. Whether it was predestined or not the result is the same. Will you look a gift horse in the mouth when Messiah comes calling?

Psalm 106:10 So he saved them from the hand of the foe and redeemed them from the power of the enemy. (ESV)

Verse 71 of Luke 1 comes from Psalm 106:10. ***He saved them from the hand of the foe and redeemed them from the power of the enemy.***

He redeemed them! We have never redeemed anyone. It is not without our power to do so. Redemption comes from God through His Son Yeshua. Yeshua died and rose from the grave to be able to redeem us. That is the gift that keeps on giving!

I will close with this: ***Torah Man says: "A firm faith in the promises of God is the best theology."***

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

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