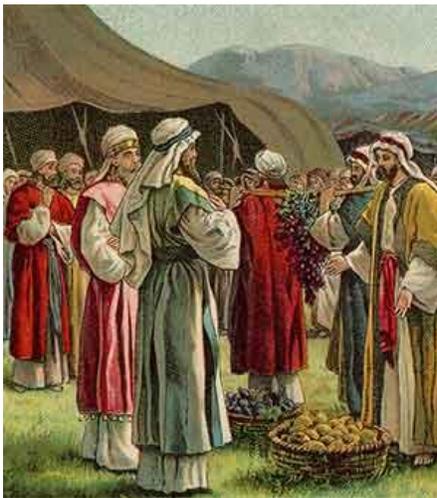


Parasha 37: Sh'lach L'kha (Send For Yourself/On Your Behalf) Bamidbar/Numbers 13:1-15:41

*All Scripture References from The Orthodox Jewish Bible- Referred to as OJB- unless otherwise noted

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As we are progressing in our Torah study parashot/portions, things have taken a *'decidedly ominous turn'*. The two verses at the end of chapter 10, verses 35 and 36, were to be a doorway. A *'portal of belief'*, for Am Yisrael to begin to *'enter their inheritance'*, which YHWH had given them. Instead, Am Yisrael continued making more, and more decisions *'ear marked by the flesh'*. In our *'present parasha'*, this *'downward trend'* will continue. In fact, the very title of our parasha, *'Send For Yourself'*, or *'On Your Behalf'*, belies the real truth of what is happening. I am going to ask you, to lay aside what you may *'think you know'* about this episode of those who were *'supposedly'* called, *'to spy out the land'*. What we are about to see, will be a *'very different accounting'* of this experience. IT'S NOT WHAT YOU

THINK. The idea, of *'who'* sent the spies, is NOT *'who'* you thought it was. Finally, we will see, how dangerous it is to *'devise our own plans'*, by our *'own intuition'*, and THEN ask YHWH to bless it. If ever you wanted a lesson on HOW NOT TO DO SOMETHING regarding YHWH's purposes, there will be *'plenty to meditate'* on in this parasha. May YHWH give us His *'discernment'*, to *'divide clearly'* between the *'flesh'*, and *'spirit'*, as we continue.

Understanding The Setting Of The Sending Out Of The Spies

*"And Hashem [YHWH] spoke unto Moshe, saying,
Send thou anashim [men]..." (Bamidbar/Numbers 13:1-2a OJB- definitions mine)*

For the most part, the *'way the history'* of the *'sending of the so-called spies'* goes, we have been led to believe it was YHWH who was commanding Moshe to do the sending. Yet, a little careful study, will reveal, that this is not so. In the above passage, we *'seem'* to be reading this very thing. However, the *'Hebrew'* does not read this way. Even the *'Orthodox Jewish Bible'*, which usually comes very close to the *'Hebrew Scriptures'*, doesn't render it as it should. The *'Complete Jewish Bible'*, actually gives a better rendering.

**“Adonai [YHWH] said to Moshe,
“Send men on your behalf...” (Bamidbar/Numbers 13:1-2a Complete Jewish Bible-
CJB- definitions mine)**

The ‘literal Hebrew’ reads in verse two, ‘Send for YOURSELF’. What’s the big deal you may ask? It’s always a ‘big deal’ when it comes to the ‘plans’, and ‘purposes’ of YHWH, undertaken by His people. In the ‘economy of YHWH’s Kingdom’, He doesn’t only ask, WHAT ‘was done’? He also wants to know...by WHOM ‘it was done’; and most importantly... WHERE ‘did the thought for the action originate’? Why this attention to detail? Because ALL that is done within the ‘scope of YHWH’s Kingdom’, is done by ONE ‘unyielding principal’: ALL FOR HIS GLORY! Our blessed Mashiach Yeshua understood this ‘absolute underlying principle’. It is why, He said on numerous occasions in the Besorah/Gospel of Yochanon/John,

“In reply, therefore, Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach [Teacher, King The Mashiach] was saying to them, Omein, omein, I say to you, HaBen [The Son] is not able to do anything FROM himself except what he sees HaAv [The Father] doing, for what things that One is doing, these things also HaBen [The Son] likewise is doing.” (Yochanon/John 5:19 OJB-definitions/emphasis mine)

“Therefore, Rebbe, Melech HaMoshiach [Teacher, King Mashiach] said to them, When you perform the hagbah (lifting up) of the Ben HaAdam [Son of Man], you will have da’as [intimate knowledge] that Ani Hu, [I Am He] and FROM myself I do nothing, but as HaAv [The Father] of me taught me, these things I speak.” (Yochanon/John 8:28 OJB-emphasis/definitions mine)

Please notice the ‘emphasized preposition’ **FROM** in the above two Scripture verses. What Rebbe Yeshua is stating by ‘using this preposition’ is, NOTHING He did, or said, was to be found ORIGINATING from ‘within His own soul’. YHWH, THE FATHER, WAS THE ORIGINATOR. The things He did, He did, because He had FIRST ‘seen’ His Abba do them. The things He spoke; He spoke, because He had FIRST ‘heard’ His Abba ‘say them’. Rebbe Yeshua had NO ‘personal agenda’ of His own making. EVERYTHING He was about, ORIGINATED with His Abba. ALL THE GLORY BELONGED TO HIS ABBA. Long before Rebbe Yeshua ever bore the ‘outward physical execution stake’, He bore the ‘inward spiritual one’! (Luke 9:23-24)

This was NOT the case with the ‘so-called spies’ here in our Torah parasha. In the ‘Jewish Traditional Writings/Talmud’, there is the account, of where Am Yisrael ‘began to be afraid’ of leaving Mt. Sinai. The thought of going into the Land of Promise, ‘against the seven nations’, that lived in Canaan, made them afraid. The ‘reputation’ of these ‘nation’s fierceness’, and ‘merciless ways’ they treated those whom they conquered, was legendary. No one in Am Yisrael had ever seen this Land. They had no idea what these ‘seven nations’ looked like, or how well armed, and fortified their cities were. All they knew was, that YHWH said it was an ‘*eret zavat cholov udevash/a land flowing with milk and honey*’. He was leading them to this Land, and had told them through Moshe, that He HAD GIVEN it to them. It ‘seemed logical’, to at least ‘spy out the probabilities’ of what they would be facing. So, Am Yisrael pressed Moshe to let them have their way here.

So as not to lend ourselves, to ‘too much conjecture’ based on the ‘Jewish Traditional Writings’, we find that the ‘Torah itself’, gives witness, to what has been said. Let us slip forward a bit, to the ‘sefer/book of D’varim/Deuteronomy’. In the very first chapter, we find Moshe making this statement.

“And when we departed from Chorev [Mt. Sinai] we went through all that great and terrible midbar [wilderness], which ye saw on the way to the Har HaEmori [Mountain of the Emorites], just as Hashem Eloheinu [YHWH our Mighty One] commanded us; and we came to Kadesh-Barnea.

And I said unto you, Ye are come unto the Har HaEmori [Mountain of the Emorites] which Hashem Eloheinu [YHWH our Mighty One] doth give unto us.

See, Hashem Eloheicha [YHWH your Mighty One] hath set ha’arets [the land] before thee;

***GO UP AND POSSESS IT**, as Hashem Elohei Avoteicha [YHWH Mighty One of your Fathers] hath said unto thee; **FEAR NOT, NEITHER BE DISCOURAGED.**”*

(D’varim/Deuteronomy 1:19-21 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine)

Did you ‘pay attention’ to the ‘underlined emphasized portion’ in the above passage? Moshe is ‘repeating the history’ of Am Yisrael, THE FIRST GENERATION, who had ‘failed to enter’ The Land of Promise. He says to those of the NEXT GENERATION: ‘YHWH commanded your fathers to, GO UP AND POSSESS IT!’ There was NOTHING there from YHWH about ‘spying out’ The Land first. Just GO! DO IT! YHWH HAS GIVEN IT TO YOU. There’s no need to be afraid. There’s no need to let discouragement set in. It DOESN’T MATTER whether you have SEEN [with the natural eye] The Land yet. It DOESN’T MATTER what you’ve HEARD about the nations, that are in The Land. [Notice these are words of the ‘sense realm’] All that matters is, that YHWH **HAS SAID** it is your’s. He **HAS GIVEN** it to you, and He **HAS PROMISED** to go before you, and fight on your behalf! All that remains is, for you to GO UP AND POSSESS IT! Hear O Yisrael...BELIEVE HIS WORD!

However, Moshe then reminds this NEXT GENERATION about the response of their fathers,

*“And ye came near unto me every one of you, and said, **LET US SEND ANASHIM [MEN]** ahead of us, and **THEY** shall **SPY OUT** ha’arets [the land]’, and bring us word again by what way we must go up, and into what towns we shall come.” (D’varim/Deuteronomy 1:22 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine)*

From the above ‘underlined portions’, we KNOW clearly, WHO did the sending. IT WASN’T YHWH! IT WASN’T MOSHE! IT WAS THE LEADERS OF AM YISRAEL! The people HAD THE CHOICE to believe YHWH or not. If we ‘believe’ YHWH, then we do so SOLELY BASED UPON THE WORD He has spoken. If we believe, then there is only ONE RESPONSE, that ‘validates’ our saying we believe...ACTION! YHWH doesn’t need our committees. He doesn’t need our fact finding missions. IF HIS WORD HAS COME, THEN THAT’S ALL WE NEED!

To Spy Or Tour?

Now, keeping in mind what is being said, let’s look at something else, that will ‘solidify’ what this ‘trip into The Land’ was all about. I will quote the verse we opened our parasha with.

*“And Hashem [YHWH] spoke unto Moshe, saying,
 Send thou anashim [men], that they may spy out Eretz [the Land of] Kena’an, which I give
 unto the Bnei Yisroel [Children of Yisrael]: of every tribe of their avot [fathers] shall ye send a
 man, everyone a nasi [prince, chief, leader] among them.
 And Moshe by the mouth of Hashem [YHWH] sent them from the Midbar [Wilderness]
 Paran; all those men were Roshei [Heads/Chiefs] Bnei Yisroel [Children of Yisrael].”
 (Bamidbar/Numbers 13:1-3 OJB- definitions mine)*

In leading up to this above passage, you will notice, that I ‘italicized’ the word ‘spy’ as we went along. Why? Because in Hebrew, the word ‘spy’, is ‘tur’. While it can mean ‘spy’, it also means ‘to seek’, ‘search out’, and ‘explore’. In the ‘Qal conjugation’ [past tense in the active voice] of this word ‘tur’, is a ‘verb’ in the Hebrew, it can also mean ‘to have sought’, or ‘selected’, with the inference being, ‘to find out HOW to do something’. Please pay attention. The men who are being sent, are NOT ‘instructed’ to go, and find out IF they can take The Land. No! They were told to go, ‘gather the intel available’, to ‘devise the plan’ of HOW they would take The Land! There is a BIG difference between IF, and HOW! That’s because, The Land was theirs’ BEFORE Am Yisrael ever got there! YHWH HAD GIVEN it to them, BEFORE they ever left Mitzrayim/Egypt to begin with! (Shemot/Exodus 3:8) The WHOLE OPERATION, was to be one of BELIEF, based on TRUSTING FAITHFULNESS in the WORD YHWH HAD ALREADY SPOKEN in promise to Am Yisrael.

So, what was really going on here? Does the word ‘tur’ seem familiar in any way? The ‘phonetic pronunciation’ in Hebrew is ‘too-whr’. How about our English word ‘tour’? While the two words, are not actually related, technically, their ‘definitions’ do have a ‘corresponding definitive connection’. A ‘tour’, is ‘distinctly different’, then a ‘spy mission’. Firstly, a ‘tour’ is mainly what people do when ‘visiting a place’, and desire to ‘see the sites’. ‘Spying’ on the other hand, is what the ‘military does’, when ‘obtaining intel’ on ‘infrastructure’, and ‘information’, in ‘lieu of an attack’. Now, check out the ‘list of those being sent’, given to us in verses 4-16 of chapter thirteen of our parasha. Then, look at the ‘list of those leaders’, who were given to us earlier in chapter one verses 4-16. Did you notice the difference? The names of the ones from chapter thirteen, ‘are different’ from those of chapter one. Why? Because, what we are talking about here in our parasha, is NOT a ‘military mission’. It was basically, a ‘site-seeing excursion’, to simply CONFIRM the words YHWH had spoken. The men ‘listed in chapter one’, were those chosen as MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES to ‘lead each tribe’ as Yisrael’s ‘tzava/army’. This further proves, that what YHWH ‘intended’ for these ‘leaders’, listed in chapter thirteen to do, and WHAT they CHOSE to do while there in The Land, WAS TWO ENTIRELY DIFFERENT MATTERS! This is why, there is a ‘difference’ in ‘what we read’ earlier of the verse quoted by Moshe to the SECOND GENERATION of Yisrael, and what was spoken to their ‘avot/fathers’ of the FIRST GENERATION. The latter, were sent to ‘go search out’ The Land, to simply CONFIRM what YHWH had already spoken.

*“And ye came near unto me every one of you, and said, LET US SEND ANASHIM [MEN] ahead of us, and THEY SHALL SPY OUT [tur/search out] HA’ARETZ [THE LAND], and bring us word again by what way we must go up, and into what towns we shall come.
 AND THE PROPOSAL PLEASED ME WELL; and I took Shneym Asar, (Twelve) of you, one of each shevet (tribe);” (D’varim/Deuteronomy 1:22-23 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine)*

Did you notice, the ‘emphasized portion’ in the above passage? Why did the proposal ‘seem pleasing’, or ‘acceptable’ to Moshe? Because, the men were being ‘sent strictly’, to TOUR THE

LAND! They were to ‘gather information’ to CONFIRM the Word of YHWH already spoken concerning The Land, as an ‘*eretz zavat cholov udevash/land flowing with milk and honey*’. It was NEVER to be more than that. Unfortunately, those ‘*scribes from the church of Christendom*’ who ‘*transliterated the Scriptures*’ most of us have in our Bibles today, ‘*chose to define*’ the Hebrew word ‘*tur*’, as ‘*spy*’, rather than to ‘*seek*’, ‘*search out*’, or ‘*explore*’. It has only ‘*added to the confusion*’, of what the ‘*original intent*’ was in ‘*sending*’ those leaders out, and WHO IT WAS THAT DID THE SENDING.

Moshe Changes Yahushua’s/Joshua’s Name

“These are the *shmot [names]* of the men which Moshe sent to spy out the land. And Moshe called Hoshea ben Nun Yehoshua” (Bamidbar/Numbers 13:16 OJB- *definitions mine*)

In light of what has been said thus far, let’s take a further look into an interesting situation. In the above verse is recorded, that Moshe ‘*changes*’ Joshua’s/Yahushua’s original name, as ‘*Hoshea*’, just before the men are sent out to The Land. Why?

I believe, there is a ‘*hidden purpose*’ in Moshe’s action. He has been around the block with these Yisraelites a time or two already. I think in Moshe’s heart of hearts, he could sense, that something was about to happen. Something so grave, that he wanted to ‘*insure*’ the fact, that his ‘*closest servant*’, whom we know as ‘*Joshua/Yahushua*’, but was called ‘*Hoshea*’ before, would have something to ‘*reinforce his faithfulness*’, should it be needed along the way. The name ‘*Hoshea*’ [יהושע] in Hebrew means, ‘*salvation*’. However, by adding the Hebrew letter ‘*yod*’ י to his name, an ‘*interesting change*’ occurs. The ‘*Memorial Name*’, YHWH, begins with the Hebrew letter י ‘*yod*’. [יהוה- Heh-Waw-Heh-Yod- read right to left] So, now, there is a י ‘*yod*’, and a ה ‘*heh*’ in the name. [יהושע] As ‘*Hoshea*’ means ‘*salvation*’, the addition of the י ‘*yod*’, with the ה ‘*heh*’ together, caused the ‘*meaning of the name*’ to become, ‘*salvation comes from YHWH!*’ ***[Yahushua became the Hebrew name of the future Mashiach. ‘Yeshua’ is the Aramaic shortened version of that name]** It was Moshe’s way of providing a ‘*concealed message*’ of ‘*strength*’, and ‘*encouragement*’ to His young servant. Others may turn aside in their faith, but he ‘*must remain faithful*’ to YHWH, regardless. Yes, ‘*Hoshea*’ meant ‘*salvation*’, but the Hebrew letter י ‘*yod*’ added to the ה ‘*heh*’ in ‘*Hoshea*’ would ‘*remind his servant*’, WHO was ‘*bringing that salvation*’! SALVATION COMES ONLY FROM YHWH! In the long run, it turned out to be a very wise decision.

The Necessity Of Being Courageous

As Moshe is giving the marching orders, he also gives a ‘*very important principle*’, we all must learn for our own personal ‘*wilderness*’ times. It is found in verse 20 of chapter thirteen,

“And what the land is, whether it be fertile or barren, whether there be wood therein, or not. AND BE YE OF GOOD COURAGE, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the first ripe grapes.” (Bamidbar/Numbers 13:20 OJB- *emphasis mine*)

Within this verse, is found a ‘*word of encouragement*’. It is, in fact, a ‘*charge*’, that must be ‘*learned*’, and ‘*practiced*’, by ALL who walk before YHWH during ‘*times of testing*’. All who

belong to YHWH will be tested. LEARNING, DOING this phrase, and incorporating it into our lives, will cause us to *'overcome'* during these times of testing.

“...And be ye of good courage...”

This phrase in Hebrew is transliterated as, *'v'heet chazaq t'am'*. It literally means, *'and you shall be courageous'*. To this, is added the Hebrew word *'t'am'*, which is a *'contraction'* of the word *'tamiym'*. It means, *'perfect'*, or *'complete'*. So, the *'whole phrase'* in Hebrew transliterates as,

'And you shall be PERFECT/COMPLETE in courage'

This is not a *'new concept'* in Torah. YHWH told Abraham, when he was ninety-nine to *'walk before Him'*, and be *'perfect/complete'*. (B'reshheet/Genesis 17:1). Later in the Torah, YHWH *'instructed Yisrael'* to be *'perfect/complete'* before Him, in *'direct contrast'* to those *'seven nations'*, He was *'bringing judgment'* upon in The Land to remove them. (D'varim/Deuteronomy 18:13) Our hope for *'escaping judgment'* in the *'hour of our being tested'* is, to *'keep'*, and *'maintain the vision'* of YHWH *'in our heart'*. *'Vision'*, and *'eyesight'*, are *'not the same'* in the economy of YHWH's ways. No matter what our *'natural eyes'*, and *'ears'* *'see'*, and *'hear'*, they are NOT *'our source'* for *'believing'* what YHWH has promised. The reason *'courage'* is brought in here is, *'courage'* is *'based on belief'*. If we *'truly believe'*, then *'courage'* can be *'increased'* by *'synergy'*. One can do *'one'* thing. However, two, cannot only do *'twice as much'*, but the production can be MULTIPLIED by synergy! That's why our *'encouraging one another'*, when being tested is so important. The *'added strength'* of others with us, *'causes our courage level'* to be MULTIPLIED. IT IS AN EXPONENTIAL INCREASE! (Wayikra/Leviticus 26:8) It *'causes our courage'*, to be *'perfected'*, and *'made complete'*.

Coming Into Our Inheritance

Beloved, what is the *'midbar/wilderness'* about? Do you remember? It's a *'sterile place'*, like a *'petri dish'* in a lab. A *'sterile'*, *'controlled environment'*, where cultures may be grown. YHWH is *'testing'* us, in order to *'remove'* those things *'in our flesh'*, that will *'become our undoing'*, if we don't let them go. He is desirous to produce a *'culture of faithfulness'*. Therefore, He allows us to be *'shaken'*, during these testing times. We all bring baggage into this *'walk of restoration'*. WE MUST LET IT GO. So much of what those of us who have *'come through the ways'* of the *'church of Christendom'* have brought with us, must either be *'adjusted'*, or *'removed'* from our heart. Instead, we want to *'tie tzitzit'* around these things, or *'cover them'* with a tallit. **[compromise in an effort to make them holy]** We cannot *'Hebraize those things'* which YHWH places His finger on. BELOVED, THEY ARE THE LIES WHICH OUR FATHERS HAVE INHERITED. (Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah 16:19) MIXTURE is MORE DANGEROUS, than OUTRIGHT EVIL! This is why, we MUST *'return to the Ancient Paths'* of YHWH's Torah. (Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah 6:16) We need to be RECTIFIED, and REPATRIATED to our TRUE HEBRAIC IDENTITY as Yisraelites. So much *'has been lost'*, and so much *'waits to be regained'*. YHWH's dealings may at times seem hard, maybe even harsh, but what is before us are ETERNAL ISSUES. There is a whole chapter in the *'Messianic Writings'* **[Matthew-Revelation]** of the sefer/book of Ivrin/Hebrews on this very thought.

“Therefore, let us walk in yir’at Shomayim [reverential fear/awe of the Heavens], for fear that, while the havtachah (promise) of entering the menuchah of Hashem [rest of YHWH] is still open, anyone of you should seem to have fallen short of it.

For indeed we have had Besuras HaGeulah [Gospel of the Redemption] preached to us, just as they [Yisrael of old] did also; but the Dvar Hashem [Word of YHWH] preached did not make that generation benefit, because hearing did not form an agudah [union, bond] with emunah [faith].

For we ma'aminim [believers...in Rebbe Melech HaMoshiach] enter into that menuchah [rest], just as Hashem [YHWH] has said, "ASHER NISHBA'TI V'API IM YEVO'UN EL MENUCHATI" ("As I vowed in My fury, they shall never enter into My rest"

TEHILLIM/PSALMS 95:11), although the ma'asim (works) of Hashem [YHWH] were finished from the hivvased tevel (foundation of the world).

For concerning Shabbos, the ‘Yom HaShevi’ [Seventh Day], Hashem [YHWH] has said somewhere, "VAYISHBOT Elohim BAYOM HASHEVI'I MIKOL MELAKHTO" ("And He rested on the seventh day from all His work." [BERESHIS 2:2]

And again, in this mekor (passage, citation), "IM YEVO'UN EL MENUCHATI" ("Never shall they enter into My rest" TEHILLIM/PSALMS 95:11).

Therefore, als (since) it remains for some to enter it, and the ones, who formerly had the Besuras HaGeulah [Gospel of Redemption] preached to them, did not enter, because they were koferim (unbelievers),

So then, again Hashem [YHWH] sets a certain day, "HAYOM" ("Today," TEHILLIM/PSALMS 95:7) in one of the Tehillim/Psalms of Dovid [HaMelech], much later, in that quoted above, "HAYOM IM BEKOLO TISHMAU AL TAKSHU LEVAVCHEM" ("Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your heart" –TEHILLIM/PSALMS 95:7).

For if Yehoshua [ben Nun] had brought them to a place of menuchah (rest), Hashem [YHWH] would not have spoken of another "Yom [Day]" after that [TEHILLIM/PSALMS 95:7].

Therefore, there remains a Shabbos menuchah [Shabbat of rest] for the Am Hashem [people of YHWH].

For whoever has entered into the menuchah of Hashem [rest of YHWH] has also rested from [depending on the zchus (merit) of] his ma'asim [works], just as Hashem [YHWH] rested from his.

Therefore, let us have zerizut (diligence) to enter into that menuchah [rest], for fear that anyone fall through following be'ikvot (in the footsteps) of their same lack of mishma'at (obedience).” (Ivrim/Hebrews 4:1-11 OJB- definitions mine) [also read Ivrim/Hebrews 3:7-19]

The word for ‘rest’ in Hebrew is ‘menuchah’. The writer of Ivrim/Hebrews is quoting from Tehillim/Psalms 95. There are a number of words in Hebrew for ‘rest’. But, this word, in particular, is used in reference to The Land as the ‘inheritance of Yisrael’.

“Ye shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes.

For ye are not as yet come TO THE REST and TO THE INHERITANCE, which Yahweh your Elohim [Mighty One] giveth you.

But when ye go over Jordan, and DWELL IN THE LAND which Yahweh your Elohim [Mighty One] giveth you TO INHERIT, and when he giveth you REST from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety;” (D’varim/Deuteronomy 12:8-10 WOY- Word of YHWH- emphasis/definitions mine)

There is a tendency among the *'church of Christendom's theology'*, to *'spiritualize'* things to the *'point of complete rejection'* of the *'physical'*. The goal becomes *'heaven'*, not a *'physical manifestation'* of YHWH's Kingdom on earth. It is, in fact, the undercurrent of *'anti-Semitism'*, and its theological by-product, *'Replacement Theology'*! This *'false theological premise'* supposedly gives ALL things *'spiritual in Christ'* to the *'church'*. In turn, ALL things *'physical'*, are supposedly left to the Jews. NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH! The one thing we have learned in this *'restoration of the Whole House of Yisrael'* is, BOTH HOUSES ARE YISRAEL! There is a JEWISH ONE, and a NON-JEWISH ONE. While there is indeed *'spiritual'* aspects of our *'inheritance as believers'*, the *'physical'* promises of inheritance are just as valid too. If we are Yisrael, then until we enter the PHYSICAL land, and PHYSICALLY dwell there, as YHWH promised, we HAVE NOT entered FULLY into *'our inheritance'* as Yisrael.

The *'replacement entity'* known as *'church'*, has *'no part in that inheritance'*. So, there must come a point, where we LET GO of OUR HOLD on that SYSTEM OF RELIGION, and ITS HOLD ON US! WE ARE YISRAEL, and all that we are going through now *'in the wilderness of the people'* (Yechezk'el/Ezekiel 20:35), the *'testing'*, the *'shaking'*, is to REPATRIATE us to the *'Hebraic Truth'* of who we are.

The writer of Ivrim/Hebrews, in his quote of Tehillim/Psalms 95, uses the Greek word *'katapausis'*. It is the *'sister word'* to the Hebrew word *'menuchah'* for *'rest'*. It is the *'same Greek word'* chosen by the rabbis who *'transliterated the Torah'* into Greek, for what became known as *'The Septuagint'* for Alexander the Great. The writer of Ivrim/Hebrews connects the *'katapausis/menuchah'* words for *'rest'*, to the *'spiritual portion'* of our *'inheritance'* provided through Mashiach. However, that does not NEGATE the *'physical aspects'* of our inheritance *'promised through Torah'* in relation to our being a part of the *'Whole House of Yisrael'*. BOTH ASPECTS ARE VALID. The FULLNESS of our PROMISED REST, will not be COMPLETE until we are IN POSSESSION of both the PHYSICAL, and SPIRITUAL DIMENSIONS of our inheritance.

I have spent quite a bit of space on this, but the *'reality must be embraced'*. We, as the *'returning house of Yosef-Ephraim'*, the *'non-Jewish house'*, are *'just as much Yisrael'*, as the *'Jewish house of Yahudah/Judah'* is. Our *'inheritance'* is both PHYSICAL, and SPIRITUAL. As we have said, the *'importance of our entering into'* the FULLNESS OF OUR INHERITANCE is: WHEN WE COME INTO OUR'S, THEN YHWH COMES INTO HIS! Only then, will the *'kingdom of Hasatan'* **[may his memory be blotted out forever]**, and his *'dark minions'* be defeated. Therefore, it takes PERFECT/COMPLETE COURAGE to *'pass through the trials'* we must face. The enemy knows this, so he works to *'blind'*, and *'confuse'* YHWH's completion of His *'eternal purpose'* in our mind, and heart. Therefore, a *'major weapon'* in his arsenal is, the SPIRIT OF UNBELIEF.

The Terrible Premise Of Unbelief

One of the ways by which YHWH *'disciplines us'* is, *'by giving us what we want'*. Yisrael had already experienced this with their lusting, and complaining about not having meat. YHWH gave them the quail, but at a terrible price. Now, they were *'getting their own way again'*. The end result would be *'even more devastating'*, than anyone could have ever possibly imagined.

The chosen leaders went, and searched through The Land. All that YHWH had promised them about the beauty, and produce of The Land proved to be true. They gave the following report upon their return,

*“And they returned from searching of the land after arba'im [forty] days.
And they went and came to Moshe, and to Aharon, and to all the congregation of the Bnei Yisroel [children of Yisrael], unto the Midbar [Wilderness] Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto Kol HaEdah [the Whole Assembly], and showed them the pri ha'aretz [fruit of the land].*

And they told him, and said, we came unto ha'aretz [the land] where thou didst send us, and truly it floweth with cholov and devash [milk and honey]; and this is the fruit of it.”

(Bamidbar/Numbers 13:25-27 OJB- definitions mine)

IF ONLY THE TEN LEADERS HAD STOPPED THERE! Beloved, our words betray us. They all 'agreed' with the 'promise of YHWH' about 'the produce of The Land'. They had the 'evidence' to prove it. BUT, THEN IT HAPPENED. The words that should have never been uttered. Out they came. All you have to do, is listen 'long enough to people as they speak', and you will be 'able to discern', what 'kind of spirit' they are of. The 'spirit of unbelief' began to be revealed.

“NEVERTHELESS, the people are strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and gedolot me'od [exceedingly great]; and moreover, we saw the Anak there.

The Amalek dwell in the eretz [land] of the Negev; and the Chitti, and the Yevusi, and the Emori, dwell in the hills; and the Kena'ani dwell by the yam [sea], and by the bank of the Yarden [Jordan].

And Kaleb [Caleb] silenced HaAm [The People] before Moshe, and said, Let us go up at once, and take possession of it; for we are well able to overcome it.

But the anashim [men] that went up with him said, We are not able to go up against the people; for they are chazak (stronger) than we.” (Bamidbar/Numbers 13:28-31 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine)

'NEVERTHELESS...' Now comes the 'words of fear'. THE PEOPLE ARE STRONG...THE CITIES ARE WALLED AND EXCEEDING GREAT...THE ANAK AND THE AMALEK ARE THERE. Then, finally comes the 'coup de gras'...WE ARE NOT ABLE! How those last words must have hung in the air? They reverberated in the hearts of the Yisraelites. Trusting faithfulness drained away, as the 'words of unbelief' gave rise to 'fear', and 'despair'. Yet, there was still a voice undaunted. KALEB/CALEB ROSE UP. He had 'heard the promise' given by YHWH through Moshe...AND...HE BELIEVED! He tried to still the SPIRIT OF FEAR ignited by the 'unbelief' of the other men. 'LET US GO UP AT ONCE. LET US TAKE POSSESSION OF THE LAND. WE ARE WELL ABLE TO OVERCOME ALL THAT IS THERE.' But, it was to no avail. The 'words of faithlessness' had done their damage.

“And they spread an EVIL REPORT of HaAretz [The Land] which they had explored unto the Bnei Yisroel [Children of Yisrael]...” (Bamidbar/Numbers 13:32a OJB- definitions mine)

There are some that would say, the ten leaders only offered their 'opinion'. What they said was 'a truth'. BUT! There is a HUGE DIFFERENCE, between what is 'a truth', and what is THE TRUTH! The Torah says what these leaders offered was, in fact, an **EVIL REPORT!** Beloved, we have only ONE CHOICE when it comes to 'how' we respond to YHWH's Word. We either

BELIEVE it or not. Anything else is an EVIL REPORT. Why? Because when we reject YHWH's Word, we are *'calling Him'*... a LIAR! He told Am Yisrael, that He HAD GIVEN them The Land. In turn, it was theirs for the taking. The fact that there were others there, inhabiting The Land, DIDN'T CHANGE ANYTHING! Those nation's time was done. It doesn't matter what the EYES see. It doesn't matter what the EARS hear. ALL THAT MATTERS IS WHAT YHWH HAS SAID! There is only ONE valid response...LET US GO UP AT ONCE!

This is the *'terrible premise'* upon which *'unbelief is built'*. IT IS EVIL. It takes our boney human finger, and points it in the face of the Almighty, and CALLS HIM A LIAR! YHWH help us! What sounds to be the *'voice of reason'* is, in reality, the voice of an EVIL REPORT. Of all the things that YHWH can do, there is only one thing He cannot...LIE! (Romans 3:4)

The *'spirit of unbelief'* began to *'burn through'* the *'heart of Am Yisrael'*. Quickly, things began to deteriorate, until the people were ready to *'reject YHWH's leadership'*, *'appoint themselves another leader'*, and *'turn back toward Mitzrayim/Egypt'*. Yahushua/Joshua, and Kaleb/Caleb rose up, and *'attempted to withstand'* the *'spirit of unbelief'*. With their own *'words of resounding faith'*, they sought to *'overcome this viral spirit'*. However, the EVIL REPORT *'deafened the ears'* of the people.

The *'spirit of unbelief'*, began to mutate into a *'spirit of violence'*. The people began to pick up stones to murder Moshe, Aharon, Yahushua/Joshua and Kaleb/Caleb. SUDDENLY, EVERYTHING CAME TO AN ABRUPT HALT.

"...And the Kavod Hashem [Glory of YHWH] appeared in the Ohel Mo'ed [Tent of Meeting] before Kol Bnei Yisroel [All of the Children of Yisrael]." (Bamidbar/Numbers 14:10b OJB-definitions mine)

The Mark Of A True Leader: No Personal Ambition

Let me stop for just one moment, and make a very important point. It was at this juncture, that YHWH intervenes in this *'scene of escalating violence'*, and *'spiraling evil'*. Am Yisrael was at the *'last of YHWH's longsuffering'*. He was ready, to bring it all to an end. In the *'process'*, He even tells Moshe, that He will do just that, and start over with him! But listen to Moshe's reply,

"And Hashem [YHWH] said unto Moshe, how long will this people treat Me with contempt? And how long will it be until they believe in Me, for all the otot [signs] which I have performed among them?"

I will strike them down with dever (pestilence), and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.

And Moshe said unto Hashem [YHWH], Then the Egyptians shall hear it, (for Thou broughtest up this people in Thy ko'ach [might] from among them;)

And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land; for they have heard that Thou Hashem [YHWH] art among this people, that Thou Hashem [YHWH] art seen eye to eye, and that Thy Anan [Cloud] standeth over them, and that Thou goest before them, by day in an Amud Anan [Pillar of Cloud], and in an Amud Eish [Pillar of Fire] by night.

Now if Thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the Goyim [Nations] which have heard the fame of Thee will speak, saying,

Because Hashem [YHWH] was not able to bring this people into HaAretz [The Land] which He promised them by oath, therefore He hath slaughtered (shachat) them in the midbar [wilderness].

And now, I beseech thee, let the Ko'ach Adonoi [Might of My Master] be great, according as Thou hast spoken, saying,

Hashem [YHWH] is slow of anger, and of rav chesed [full of lovingkindness], forgiving avon [iniquity/torahlessness] and peysha [transgression/rebellion], and by no means exonerating the guilty, visiting the avon [iniquity/torahlessness] of the avot [fathers] upon the banim [children] unto the third and fourth generation.

Selach (forgive!), I beseech thee, the avon [iniquity/torahlessness] of this people according unto the greatness of Thy chesed [lovingkindness], just as Thou hast forgiven this people, from Mitzrayim [Egypt] even until now.” (Bamidbar/Numbers 14:11-19 OJB-definitions mine)

Do you hear Moshe's voice? If he was an 'ambitious man', THIS WAS HIS MOMENT! YHWH, seemingly was done with this bunch of Yisraelites. They had crossed the last line. They 'refused to believe Him', which was, in essence, CALLING HIM A LIAR. This was not the first, or second time, BUT THE TENTH! *[See End Note] ENOUGH WAS ENOUGH. With one stroke, YHWH would be done with them. He was ready to begin over again with His 'trusted servant' Moshe. But, the 'dealings of YHWH', had gone 'deep into this man'. The 'principle of the execution stake' had been 'driven through his fleshy desires', and 'ambitions'. (Luke 9:23-24) The 'forty years' on the 'backside of the desert' had 'done its work'. The man, Moshe, was 'truly a servant' of the Most High. He only cared for one thing...THE GLORY OF YHWH! Listen to how he 'immediately' begins to 'cry out' for YHWH, to 'consider His own reputation' BEFORE THE NATION'S. If the word got back to Mitzrayim/Egypt, they would 'immediately dismiss' YHWH's great power. They would 'accuse Him' of NOT BEING ABLE to 'bring Yisrael into the Land of Promise'. MOSHE COULD NOT ALLOW THAT. No matter what the cost to himself. It didn't matter. All that mattered was, THE GLORY OF YHWH! IT WAS THAT, AND THAT ALONE to which Moshe was given to.

Here is the 'cry of my heart': MAY YHWH GIVE US MEN AND WOMEN LIKE THAT. Leaders 'whose heart' is ONLY FOR THE GLORY of our Mighty One. Nothing for oneself. No concern for 'our name', 'our ministry', 'our notoriety'. ALL FOR THE GLORY OF YHWH. I am afraid, it is few, and far between in this restoration. Already the speaking circuit in this restoration swells with the 'reputations of renowned men', with 'deep revelations', and 'peculiar insights'. The people love it. They chase after the next 'deep revelation'. I remember many, many years ago sitting in a meeting with a man who had a 'true heart' after YHWH. He said 'one of the most profound things', I had ever heard up to that time. IT IS STILL ONE OF THE MOST PROFOUND THINGS I HAVE EVER HEARD. It still 'echoes in my heart' after all these years. He said,

'How much of a friend, is the friend of the Bridegroom, who seduces the Bride? But after all isn't that what we're doing with our tapes, books and conferences? Are we really preparing the Bride, or just seducing her with our anointing, our words and our efforts?'

Oh my, 'how my heart reeled' after hearing those words. I was in Bible College at the time. Like so many of my peers, I was preparing for the call to ministry. That meeting, and that little English preacher, forever changed my life! The 'path of true ministry', is marked by the 'execution stake'. HOW DEEPLY WE MUST DIE, IF EVER WE ARE TO BE TRUSTED WITH BEING CLOSE TO YHWH'S GLORY. HOW DEEP THE WOUNDS MUST GO? HOW DEEP THE

DEALINGS, UNTIL WE HATE EVEN THE GARMENT SPOTTED BY THE FLESH. Our courage must be 'complete/perfect'. YHWH GIVE US TRUE SHEPHERDS. Those in this 'hour of restoration' of The Whole House of Yisrael. Amein!

The Torah Teaches The Difference Between Forgiveness And Judgment

What is to follow, is something we need to let 'sink deep into our heart'. Sadly, because of such an 'emphasis on grace', most of us who have come through the 'church system of Christendom', ALL WE UNDERSTAND IS FORGIVENESS. Yet, what the Torah is 'about to reveal to us', is deeply pertinent. We may actually be 'forgiven', but, that does not mean we will be 'exempt from suffering, to some degree, the consequences of our decisions', and 'actions'. Listen closely, to what we are about to hear YHWH say.

***“And Hashem [YHWH] said, I have pardoned according to thy word [of petition]:
But as surely as I live, Kol HaAretz (all the Earth) shall be filled with the Kavod Hashem [Glory of YHWH].
Because all those men which have seen My kavod [glory], and My otot (miraculous signs), which I performed in Mitzrayim [Egypt] and in the midbar [wilderness], and have tested Me now these ten times, and have not paid heed to My voice;
Surely they shall not see HaAretz [The Land] which I swore unto their avot [fathers], neither shall any of them that treated Me with contempt see it:
But Avdi Kalev [My Servant Caleb], because he hath a ruach acheret [another spirit] in him, and hath followed after Me fully, him will I bring into HaAretz [The Land] whereinto he went; and his zera [seed] shall inherit it.” (Bamidbar/Numbers 14:20-24 OJB- definitions mine)***

Did you see it? YHWH tells Moshe, that He has 'forgiven', even as he had interceded for Am Yisrael. **BUT...**and what an important conjunction that is...Those who were involved with the 'spirit of unbelief', would STILL BEAR THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTIONS! Beloved, 'forgiveness' IS NOT ENOUGH! The Torah is 'teaching us a grave', and 'important lesson' here. We must 'learn to consider' our actions BEFORE we undertake them. Can we be 'forgiven'? ABSOLUTELY, BUT WE'RE ASKING THE WRONG QUESTION. Are we willing to deal with the 'consequences' of what our actions may bring? Those actions may not only be an 'issue' for us, but even for our 'future generations'! If we 'truly understood', the 'ramifications of sin'... WE'D STAY FAR, FAR AWAY.

As a result, of their 'sinful unbelief', NONE OF THOSE INVOLVED, WILL EVEN BE ALLOWED TO **SEE THE LAND OF PROMISE**. Yet, MARK this: They were FORGIVEN! Being FORGIVEN, 'does not exclude us' from being DISCIPLINED! Almost an ENTIRE GENERATION will 'pass away', WITHOUT EVER HAVING ENTERED INTO THE PROMISE FOR WHICH YHWH HAD CALLED, AND DELIVERED THEM! However, there is something 'very important', that we must let the Ruach HaKodesh/Spirit of Holiness 'impress indelibly' upon our hearts. THE POWER OF THE WORDS THAT COME OUT OF OUR MOUTH.

Our Words Become Our Judge

“And Hashem [YHWH] spoke unto Moshe and unto Aharon, saying, How long shall I bear with this Edah Hara’ah [Evil Assembly], which murmur against Me? I have heard the murmurings of the Bnei Yisroel [Children of Yisrael] which they murmur against Me.

Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith Hashem [YHWH], AS YE HAVE SPOKEN IN MY EARS, SO WILL I DO UNTO YOU:” (Bamidbar/Numbers 14:26-28 OJB-emphasis/definitions mine)

Here we have it. THE JUDGMENT HAS COME. Yet, pay attention to WHAT ‘the judgment is’. It is, THE VERY WORDS THAT WERE SPOKEN BY THE YISRAELITES THEMSELVES! YHWH says to them, ‘YOU SAY WE CAN’T... THEN YOU WON’T!’ Beloved, how many times do we sabotage our own selves? We know what YHWH ‘has said’, but we say the EXACT OPPOSITE. Do we realize, that what we are saying is an EVIL REPORT in YHWH’s ears? Do we understand, that it is AGAINST YHWH HIMSELF that we have murmured? IT IS AGAINST YHWH HIMSELF THAT WE ARE CONTENDING? The ten leaders didn’t. Am Yisrael didn’t, and it cost them dearly. Their words became their own judgment! AS YOU HAVE SPOKEN IN MY EARS, SO WILL I DO UNTO YOU!

“Your corpses shall fall in this midbar [wilderness]; and all that were numbered of you, according to your entire mispar (number, census), from twenty years old and upward which have murmured against Me.

Not one of you shall come into HaAretz [The Land], concerning which I swore to make you dwell therein, except for Kalev ben Yephunneh [Caleb son of Jephunneh], and Yehoshua ben Nun [Joshua son of Nun].

But your little ones, which ye said would be plunder, them will I bring in, and they shall know HaAretz [The Land] which ye have rejected.

But as for you, your corpses, they shall fall in this midbar [wilderness].

And your banim [children] shall wander [wandering ro’im/shepherds] in the midbar arba’im shanah [wilderness for forty years], and bear [the penalty of] your whoredoms [zenut: spiritual disloyalty and rebellion], until the last of your corpses lies in the midbar [wilderness], After the number of the days in which ye explored HaAretz [The Land], even arba’im [forty], each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even arba’im shanah [forty years], and ye shall know My Tenu’a (Opposition).

I, Hashem [YHWH], have spoken, I will surely do it unto this Kol HaEdah, [The Whole Assembly] that are gathered together against Me: in this midbar [wilderness] they shall come to an end, and there they shall die.

And the anashim [men], which Moshe sent to spy out the land, who returned, and made Kol HaEdah [The Whole Assembly] to murmur against him, the ones spreading a dibbah (bad report, slander) about HaAretz [The Land],

Even those anashim [men] that did bring up the evil report of HaAretz [The Land], died by the maggefah [plague] before Hashem [YHWH].” (Bamidbar/Numbers 14:29-37 OJB-definitions mine)

What ‘great lengths’ YHWH is willing to go, to ‘teach His people’ about ‘His glory’, and ‘His ways’. Just read over the above, and let it ‘sink down into your heart’. There wasn’t ‘anything’, that YHWH ‘wasn’t willing to provide’, to ‘see His people enter into the Land of His promise’. As

we have said, YHWH DESIRES us to *'enter into our inheritance'*, because, WHEN WE RECEIVE OUR'S, HE RECEIVES HIS! Yet, not since the *'Golden Calf'* incident, has there been such a *'monumental failure'*. That sin, caused the ENTIRE *'firstborn's inheritance'*, **[priesthood]** of the *'first generation'* of Yisrael, to be forfeited! YHWH in turn, gave it to the Levi'im, sons of Aharon, instead. But, this sin, is resulting in an *'even greater loss'*. This WHOLE *'first generation'*, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE LAND OF PROMISE, from twenty years old and up! It will even cause their children to suffer. They will have to *'wander the midbar/wilderness'* for ANOTHER FORTY YEARS, before they will be able to make their entrance!

Please listen, the Torah causes us to *'face the consequences'* of our sin. The fact is, that not only do WE suffer, but OUR GENERATIONS suffer too! The Final ReNewal of YHWH's Covenant, has been *'ratified'* through the *'redemptive work'* of our blessed *'Kinsman Redeemer'*, Mashiach Yeshua. However, sin is still able to exact, *'a terrible price'*, for our *'choices of unbelief'*. Todah Rabbah, that because of that *'redemption'*, we don't get ALL we deserve. **[Which is a result of the Final Renewed Covenant being 'ratified' by the redemptive work of our blessed Master Yeshua HaMashiach/The Messiah]** However, there is still a cost! That's why Rav Sha'ul tells us, THE TORAH IS STILL FOR US TODAY. We are not called to *'learn sin by experience'*. The *'wages of sin'*, is STILL DEATH! (Romans 6:23) We are called to *'learn about sin'*, BY THE EXAMPLE OF WHAT YISRAEL OF OLD EXPERIENCED. This is WHY it is *'recorded for us in the Torah'*. Remember our verse we quoted from Rav Sha'ul's letter to the Corinthian assembly last week.

"Now, these things happened to those ones as moftim (examples), BUT IT WAS WRITTEN FOR OUR ADMONITION, to whom the Kitzei HaOlamim [Ends of The Ages] has come."
(1 Corinthians 10:11 OJB- definitions mine)

Another issue is, YHWH Himself suffers loss too. He *'wants His people'* to come into their *'promised inheritance'*. As a result, HE GETS TO DWELL IN OUR MIDST. He has never wanted to be far off from His people. When He is *'enthroned among His people'*, then ALL THE NATIONS CAN SEE HIS GLORY. THE WHOLE EARTH IS FULL OF HIS PRAISE! When that doesn't happen, then the enemy *'seemingly'*, has the upper hand. The Name of YHWH becomes *'mocked'*, and *'ridiculed'*. But, He is *'willing to suffer this'*, in order for His people to *'learn their lesson'*, and become *'part of His glorious triumph'*. WE ARE DESTINED TO RULE AND REIGN WITH HIM. (Revelation 3:21) The *'nation of Yisrael'*, has ALWAYS been YHWH's *'prophetic instrument'*, by which He will *'reveal His glory'* in the earth. It is why He is RETURNING, to RECOVER HIS DIVIDED HOUSE, and to make it ONE...ECHAD...AGAIN! It has been such a *'costly process'*. But, if we ever come to understand the way of YHWH *'concerning His glory'*, then *'we will understand why He does it'*.

Those who went to *'search out'* The Land, and brought back the EVIL REPORT, fell under YHWH's judgment through a plague. Only Yahushua/Joshua, and Kaleb/Caleb were spared. They alone remained faithful...COMPLETE/PERFECT IN COURAGE. In time, YHWH would honor them both.

Human Sorrow Not Enough

In the past, I have had some experience in jail ministry. There is one thing that I have found. Everyone in jail is 'sorry'. However, there is a difference between 'human sorrow', and the true 'godly sorrow', that comes as the Ruach HaKodesh/YHWH's Spirit of Holiness brings 'conviction of sin'. The former tries to work through things, because you realize how much what you did cost you. The latter recognizes that, but goes further. It realizes that our actions are the result of our NOT believing what YHWH has written in His 'Loving Instructions'...His Torah.

When I was a pastor, I used to preach repentance. I knew, that for someone to truly come through the 'process of redemption', they 'had to change the direction they were headed'. Unfortunately, I never gave them a 'destination'. The truth is, I didn't know what it was. Here is what I've learned since coming to the 'reality' of YHWH's Word through the 'Hebraic mindset'. There is NO 'true repentance', that DOES NOT result in, a 'return to YHWH's Torah'! One of the things that Torah does is, DEFINE WHAT SIN IS. (Yochanon Alef/1 John 3:4) The Torah also points to 'the answer' for that sin...OUR BLESSED REDEEMER, MASHIACH YESHUA! (**Romans 10:4-the 'end of the Torah' means the GOAL to which it points is...MASHIACH YESHUA**) However, 'eternal redemption', which culminates in 'eternal salvation', is 'predicated upon', a 'relinquishing of our own will', and our SUBMISSION TO THE WILL OF YHWH FOR OUR LIFE. If the 'will remains untouched', then there is NO REAL EXCHANGE OF HEART between us, and YHWH. Salvation is about YHWH's Kingdom. That Kingdom is 'founded', and 'governed upon' HIS AUTHORITY. UNTIL WE SURRENDER, AND WILLINGLY PLACE OURSELVES UNDER HIS AUTHORITY, THEN WE DON'T TRULY UNDERSTAND WHAT BEING REDEEMED IS ALL ABOUT!

This was Yisrael's problem in our present Torah parasha. They HEARD the judgment of YHWH that had befallen them. Yet, somehow, they thought they might be able to SKIRT THE ISSUE. How? By DOING SOMETHING, that would 'supposedly' prove, that NOW they somehow 'believed', where they had failed to do so before. Moshe 'warned them' against what they were planning. Remember the old saying, 'Two wrongs don't make a right?' Well, it was bad math then, and it is still bad math today.

"And Moshe told these sayings unto Kol Bnei Yisroel [All the children of Yisrael], and HaAm [The People] mourned greatly.

And they rose up early in the boker [morning], and went up into the height of the hill country, saying, Behold, we are here, and will go up unto the place which Hashem [YHWH] hath promised: for we have sinned.

And Moshe said, why now do ye transgress the utterance of Hashem [YHWH]? This will not succeed.

Go not up, for Hashem [YHWH] is not among you; that ye be not struck down before your enemies.

For the Amaleki and the Kena'ani are there before you, and ye shall fall by the cherev [sword]: because ye are turned away from Hashem [YHWH], therefore Hashem [YHWH] will not be with you.

But they PRESUMED to go up unto the ridge of the mountain: nevertheless, the Aron Brit Hashem [Ark of the Covenant of YHWH], and Moshe, departed not out of the machaneh [camp].

Then the Amaleki came down, and the Kena'ani which dwelt in that hill country, and struck them down, and put them to rout, even unto Chormah.” (Bamidbar/Numbers 14:39-45 OJB-definitions mine)

Look closely at the passage. It says Am Yisrael MOURNED GREATLY. It says that they even ACKNOWLEDGED the fact, WE HAVE SINNED. But, it wasn't enough. They were still only 'concerned about themselves', and what THEY were losing. It was still about THEM. There was 'no thought' about what it was costing YHWH. The Almighty doesn't play these kinds of games. Am Yisrael still had not learned the ABSOLUTE NECESSITY of having YHWH's 'Sh'khinyah/Manifest Presence' with them. Somehow, they thought they could 'show Him', how 'sincere' they were on their own, and that would be sufficient. It wasn't. All it did was 'add insult to injury'. The enemies of YHWH won a 'great victory' over His people that day. Yisrael was struck down, and routed. They turned in defeat, and ran away. Already the Name of YHWH had suffered, but now it was 'cast down in the sight' of those who hated Him.

One Torah For All

In chapter fifteen, we find this wonderful statement,

“One torah [instruction] and one mishpat [right-ruling] shall be for you, and for the ger [stranger] that sojourneth with you.” (Bamidbar/Numbers 15:16 OJB-definitions mine)

We are 'told clearly here', that there is to be ONE TORAH for all Yisrael. This is to include the 'ger/stranger', the 'non-Yisraelite' who 'comes to sojourn' among them. This is important for us, who make up the 'returning house of Yisrael', the 'house of Yosef-Ephraim'. There are those within the ranks of the 'Jewish house of Yisrael' (**Orthodox/Ultra-Orthodox, and in some instances Messianic Jewish**), that 'would assume' to keep us [**non-Jews**] from the study of Torah.

For the Orthodox/Ultra-Orthodox, they point us to the so-called 'Noachide Laws'. These are 'supposedly' designed for the 'non-Jew', as a means to provide a 'source of righteousness', apart from the 'Jewish claims' through the Torah. Unfortunately, this has resulted in a 'fabricated system' of 'extra-biblical' requirements. It is NOT Torah! It is an attempt, by 'Jewish Rabbinical order', to allow those of 'non-Jewish descent', a 'supposed connection' to the Elohim/Mighty One of Yisrael. It is designed to keep the 'so-called Gentile', apart from the 'Jew', unless that one should decide to 'undergo the Jewish conversion' process. IT IS NOT THE TRUE MEANS PROVIDED BY YHWH, as it is seen from the above verse.

Many [**not all**] Messianic Jewish congregations, while accepting of so-called 'Gentile Christian believers' [**that, in itself, is a 'misnomer'... see Ephesians 2:11**] teach, that it is not necessary for such to 'actually keep the Torah'. They may fellowship with the congregation, but 'do not', and in some cases, are told, 'should not' progress into actual 'Torah keeping practice'. This too, is in 'error' according to the Torah itself.

The above Scripture 'shows us implicitly', that it is YHWH's desire for ALL who are Yisrael, to keep YHWH's Torah. Whether by 'birth', or having 'become a part of Yisrael' by 'choice/being grafted in' through Mashiach Yeshua's 'redemptive work'. (Romans 11) 'Keeping the Torah', is both a 'great privilege', as well as a 'solemn responsibility'. For those of us who have come to understand ourselves to be a part of the 'returning house of Yosef-Ephraim', we indeed have a

biblical *'right, and privilege, to keep'* YHWH's Torah. We have been *'scattered among the nations'* for 2700 years. Now, by YHWH's *'promise in His own Torah'*, and by the *'work of His Ruach HaKodesh/Spirit of Holiness'*, we have come to see, that WE TOO ARE YISRAEL! We simply are not a *'part of the Jewish house'*. We are a *'part of the non-Jewish house'* of northern Yisrael, but still, we are YISRAELITES INDEED! YHWH has *'promised through the nevi'im/prophets'*, that His house *'would be restored'*. (Yechezk'el/Ezekiel 37) The *'southern kingdom'* (Yahudah/Judah), would be *'reunited'* with the *'northern kingdom'* (Yosef-Ephraim-Yeshayahu/Isaiah 11:11-14) When our blessed M'lech Mashiach/King Messiah Yeshua returns, He will REIGN OVER a UNITED HOUSE OF YISRAEL. ONE nation...ONE house...ONE Kingdom...ONE King, and ONE TORAH FOR ALL!

The Tzitzit

Lastly, we will look briefly at the *'fringes'*, which YHWH *'instructed Yisrael'* to wear, on the *'four corners'* of their garments. The *'fringes'*, or *'tassels'* in Hebrew, are called *'Tzitzit'*, or *'Tzitziyot/plural'*. They were given for a *'specific reason'*, and *'purpose'*.

In chapter fifteen verses 37-41, YHWH *'instructed Yisrael'* to *'wear the tzitzit'* on the *'four corners'* of their garment. They were to be there, *'conspicuously'*, as a *'reminder'* of YHWH's Torah, and they were to DO IT. The *'tzitziyot'* were a *'physical'*, *'personal sign'*, that they had been *'redeemed by YHWH'*, from the *'land of Mitzrayim/Egypt'*. As a *'part of that redemption'*, they were to ALWAYS REMEMBER, that they *'belonged to YHWH'*, and *'were to live'* for HIS WILL, and PURPOSE IN LIFE. When they were *'tempted by sin'*, by being able to *'touch the tzitzit'*, would help them *'keep mentally focused'*. It was a *'physical reminder'*, that they BELONGED TO YHWH. They were to live with their *'will yielded'* COMPLETELY to His. They were NOT to *'give into the lust of their heart'*, or *'follow after their own will'*. Their WHOLE BEING was to be ONE with their Creator.

We are not going to do an in depth study of the *'tzitzit'* here. Suffice it only to say, that it is *'still valid'* for all Yisraelites, Jewish, and Non-Jewish, to wear them. Even though today we don't wear *'four cornered garments'*, we may still find ways to *'fulfill this instruction'* of Torah. For many, we attach them to the belt loops of our pants. Brother Judah has developed a sort of undershirt, known as a *'Katan'*, which allows for the *'tzitzit'* to be worn on each *'corner of the garment'*. Also, there is the use of a *'tallit'*, known as a *'prayer shawl'*. This allows the *'tzitzit'* to be attached at the *'four corners'*. The *'tallit'* may be used during *'personal private times of prayer'*, and during *'service times'*, when the congregation is meeting. ****[There are some who prefer to allow the wearing of the tallit/prayer shawl during service times to suffice for the instruction to don the 'tzitzit'. Mainly, due to the fact, that we, in our society today, no longer wear 'four cornered' garments. Still others choose not to wear 'tzitzit' at all. While it is true, that we no longer wear the same garments as did the Yisraelites of that day, I believe, that our doing the 'best we can' [wearing the tzitzit on our belt loops], will show YHWH, the WILLINGNESS OF OUR HEART to follow His instructions. However, we, at GTZ ultimately leave that decision to each person's heart before YHWH]**

I know from my own experience, that *'wearing the tzitzit'* has brought about many discussions from those who would stop, and ask what they are. I have even had Jewish people stop me, and inquire as to why I, as a non-Jew, was wearing them. It *'provided an opportunity'*, to give witness

to YHWH's 'promised restoration' of the 'Whole House of Yisrael'. These were wonderful moments indeed.

I encourage you to go back, and read over this Torah parasha again. Meditate on what is there. All of Yisrael 'must learn to walk in trusting faithfulness' with our YHWH. We must also 'seek to escape' the 'many wiles' by which the enemy will seek to stop what YHWH is doing. May YHWH 'increase His mercy', and 'compassion' on His Whole House, as we are returning to the 'Ancient Paths' of Torah (Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah 6:16), and the realization of His glorious 'eternal purpose'. Amen.

We say the following blessing as we continue each week's study of Torah:

*Chazak u'Barukh...
Strength and Blessing!*

End Notes

The Ten Testings Of YHWH By Yisrael

- 1.) When the Egyptians chased them into the Red Sea (Shemot/Exodus 14:11)
- 2.) When they had nothing to drink but the bitter waters of Marah (Shemot/Exodus 15:24)
- 3.) When they ran out of food (Shemot/Exodus 16:3)
- 4.) When they left manna over **[to the next day]**, even though they had been told not to (Shemot/Exodus 16:20)
- 5.) When they left the camp to gather manna on the Sabbath even though they had been told not to (Shemot/Exodus 16:27)
- 6.) When their water ran out at Refidim (Shemot/Exodus 17:2)
- 7.) When they worshiped the Golden Calf (Shemot/Exodus 32:4)
- 8.) When they rebelled against God's mitzvos (Numbers 11:1)
- 9.) When they complained that the manna was not good (Numbers 11:4)
- 10.) When they believed the spies evil report about Eretz Yisrael (Babylonian Talmud, Tractate Arachin 15a) **[Stone Edition Chumash, Bamidbar, pg. 807.]**