Parasha 15 Bo (Come or Go) Shemot/Exodus 10:1 –13:16

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

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We are now reaching the climax of the judgments of YHWH on Mitzrayim/Egypt. We have had seven, and now the stage is set for the last three. The pride and arrogance of Mitzrayim/Egypt and their 'false mighty ones/non-gods' have suffered terrible defeat and humiliation. It seems the entire existence of Mitzrayim's/Egypt's religious, socio-economic and political infrastructure is

teetering on the brink of complete collapse. All of this is because YHWH is 'proving to everyone' that HE ALONE IS THE MIGHTY ONE/THE SOVEREIGN OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.

The Pharaoh of Yosef's/Joseph's day was used to show the 'sovereignty' of YHWH's power in mercy and blessing. YHWH blessed Mitzrayim/Egypt because this Pharaoh blessed Yosef/Joseph. However, the Pharaoh of Moshe's day was the complete opposite. He, in his arrogance, refused to acknowledge the Mighty One of the Hebrews. He sought to prove his dominion over them by cruel slave labor. To this Pharaoh, YHWH will show His 'sovereignty by judgment'. When He is finished, all of Mitzrayim/Egypt will know the Mighty One of the Hebrews and HOW GREAT HIS NAME IS!

As we will see in this parasha, all of these judgments will become part of the Mo'ed/Appointed Time of Pesach/Passover. It will be a time of 'perpetual remembrance' for the whole nation of Yisrael. In fact, YHWH tells Moshe,

"And Hashem [YHWH] said unto Moshe, Go in unto Pharaoh; for I have hardened his lev [heart], and the lev [heart] of his avadim [servants], that I might show these My otot [signs] before him; AND THAT THOU MAYEST TELL IN THE EARS OF THY BEN [SON], AND OF THY BEN'S BEN [SON'S SON- GRANDSON], WHAT THINGS I HAVE WROUGHT IN MITZRAYIM, and My otot [signs] which I have done among them; that ye may have da'as [intimate knowledge] that I AM HASHEM [YHWH]." (Shemot/Exodus 10: 1-2 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine)

A Word On The Hardening Of Pharaoh's Heart

We have not as yet really given any attention to the subject of the 'hardening of Pharaoh's heart'. Did YHWH disregard Pharaoh's free will? Did Pharaoh have no part in what was happening to him? The issue of YHWH's 'sovereignty' is in some ways beyond our ability to comprehend. In fact, YHWH HIMSELF IS BEYOND OUR ABILITY TO COMPREHEND BY OUR OWN MENTAL ACHIEVEMENT. Yet, in His mercy, He does 'allow' us to see enough into His glorious Being through the 'revelation of His Word' and His 'HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness', so that we may serve Him 'intelligently in spirit and truth'. Even so, what we see is only a 'glimpse' into what 'can be known'. This is why we will spend eternity coming to greater and greater measures of His revelation.

Now, in YHWH's 'sovereignty', He chose this Pharaoh because He 'already knew' the condition of his heart. He was arrogant and prideful. He saw himself as a 'mighty one/false god' and this alone set him against YHWH in the most prideful of manners. Yet, it is just here that we must give some comment.

There is a 'grave lesson' that we may learn from Pharaoh's choices. The 'Hebraic mindset' whole heartily supports both the 'free will of man' and the 'sovereignty of YHWH'. If this seems to be a 'paradox of conflicting ideals', then welcome to the 'Hebraic mind'! The 'Greek mind' DEMANDS clear-cut thoughts and parameters. The 'Hebrew mind' SIMPLY ACCEPTS that there are some things that WILL NOT be understood when it comes to YHWH and His ways. THIS DOES NOT PARALYZE FAITH, INSTEAD IT CAUSES A RESPONSE OF PURE WORSHIP! Why? Because it accepts the 'glory of YHWH's existence' as being 'beyond our ability to comprehend'; AND... IT DOES NOT DEMAND THAT HE EXPLAIN HIMSELF! He alone is the 'supreme Mighty One' and we are NOT! We 'surrender to Him', regardless of what we understand or don't. HE IS YHWH! The fact that YHWH 'knew' what Pharaoh would do, does not change the fact that on his end, Pharaoh still had his right to 'exercise free will'. YHWH simply CONFIRMED or AGREED with his choice to choose against Him. In turn, YHWH chose to use Pharaoh's 'stubborn choices' to challenge His sovereignty as a platform by which He would 'reveal His glory and power'.

True Repentance: A Gift From YHWH

As a further insight, we may learn a valuable lesson about 'teshuvah/repentance'. If we truly understood sin, we would stay a million miles away from it. It's kind of like radioactive material. While it is cool that when you absorb enough of it you can glow in the dark. However, the aftereffects will kill you! Therefore, we know to stay far, far away from such hazardous material. We do not afford sin that same respect. We play with it. We enjoy it. What is the end result? IT WILL KILL US! (Romans 6:23) We allow sin and our heart to deceive us. Some think that 'forgiveness' is the 'same as repentance'. IT'S NOT! When we sin, we 'ignite a cycle of behavior'. We may 'ask forgiveness', and if we are 'truly sorry in our heart' for what we've done, then YHWH will forgive us. However, we need to go a step further. We do need 'forgiveness', but we also need 'repentance' too. Why? Because 'repentance or teshuvah' in Hebrew, is what STOPS THE SIN CYCLE. Without 'true repentance', then the 'cycle ignited' by our original act of sin remains intact.

When it comes to 'repentance', it is not enough just to decide... 'I will repent'. **REPENTANCE DOES BEGIN WITH A CHOICE... BUT...** and this is no small conjunction; **REPENTANCE IS A GIFT.** Let's look at the words of Rav Sha'ul,

"And an eved [servant of] Hashem [YHWH] ought not be a Ba'al Machlokes (quarrelsome person), but ought to be eidel (gentle, courteous) to all, a skilled rabbinic moreh [teacher], savlan (patient), Correcting the mitnaggedim (opponents) in anavat ruach (a spirit of meekness), in the tikvah [hope] that Hashem [YHWH] MAY EFSHER (PERHAPS) GRANT THEM TESHUVA [REPENTANCE], resulting in da'as HaEmes [intimate knowledge of The Truth], AND THAT THEY MAY COME TO THEIR SENSES, escaping the pakh (trap) of Hasatan, after having been captured by him to do his will." (11 Timothy 2:24-26 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine]

The word 'grant' used in verse 25 means 'to bestow or give'. The implication is, the 'power/ability to make teshuvah/repentance' once chosen on our part, IS A GIFT that is GIVEN by YHWH. NO ONE HAS THE POWER TO TESHUVAH/REPENT ON THEIR OWN WILL **POWER!** Rav Sha'ul is giving some very sound wisdom to his son in the faith, Timothy. If you have been given the responsibility to pastor YHWH's people, then you must be able to 'teach and instruct the hearts' of those under your care. At the same time, you must be 'patient', because not everyone is going to like or agree with your instructions. When it comes to those who have 'allowed the enemy to infiltrate their heart' through sinful actions, then we are dealing with a 'battle of wills'. The person who has sinned has 'unwittingly surrendered their will to the will of a demonic power'. They are, in fact, a 'captive of the enemy'. They may not 'feel like it or believe it', BUT THEY ARE! The only hope is that while the person YHWH is using to 'teach and instruct' this son or daughter of His who has been taken captive, YHWH, by His HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness, will be able to get through to them. I learned a long time ago, it's not my part to 'convict or convince' anybody of the truth. My responsibility is simply to 'faithfully speak that truth' out in love. YHWH, THROUGH HIS HARUACH HAKODESH/HIS SPIRIT HOLINESS IS THE ONE WHO DOES THE CONVICTING OR **CONVINCING.** What happens when the 'anointing' is present and that person ensnared in sin 'chooses' to give into the prompting of YHWH's HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness? As Ray Sha'ul says, **THEY COME TO THEIR SENSES!** What happened? That person is given the **GIFT OF REPENTANCE.** As we have stated, Rav Sha'ul says that 'repentance' is something that is 'given'. What if that person had merely 'asked for forgiveness' and got up and left? They would have been 'forgiven', but they would STILL REMAIN A CAPTIVE OF THE ENEMY. Why? Because the 'yoke of the enemy' that held them to that 'cycle of sin', ignited by their sinful disobedience, HAD NOT YET BEEN BROKEN! They were 'forgiven', BUT they had not yet obtained the 'gift of repentance'. This is the 'key to lasting deliverance and freedom from sinful indulgence'.

Understanding The Yoke Of Sin

I would like to take a moment here to speak to exactly what 'the yoke of sin' is. You see, most of us have been taught that sin is 'merely a thought or an action'. There are 'thoughts' that may be sinful. 'Imaginations' that are sinful. Even 'inclinations and actions' that are sinful. While all these are true, we will be 'deceived' if we let our understanding of sin remain solely on this level. What do I mean?

Beloved the Scriptures teach that while sin itself may be expressed through these various means, the 'actual matrix' of sin **GOES BEYOND THAT.** Sin is not only 'thought or action', it is perpetrated by an actual 'spiritual intelligence'!

YES, SIN IS DIRECT CONTACT WITH A DEMONIC SPIRITUAL ENTITY/PERSONALITY! Rav Sha'ul teaches us this in his letter to the Ephesian assembly.

"Put on the whole armor of Hashem [YHWH] for you to be able to stand against the nechalim (scheming deceitfulness, wiles, evil plots) of Hasatan. Because we are not wrestling against basar vadahm (flesh and blood), but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of the choshech [darkness] of the Olam Hazeh [this Present World], against the kokhot ruchaniyim ra'im (evil spiritual forces) in Shomayim [the Heavens]." (Ephesians 6:11-12 OJB- definitions mine]

Rav Sha'ul 'clearly defines' that the battle we as believer's face **IS NOT** 'merely with other human beings or simple thought processes' within our own emotional/mental being. There is a **REAL INTELLIGENCE** at work behind these things. Until we come to understand the 'validity of this revelation' we will **NEVER** be able to deal with the 'root issue' behind sin. Let's look at a couple of other Scriptures.

"For I do not have da'as [intimate knowledge] what I do. For that which I commit is not what I want; no, it is what I hate that I do! But if that which I do is what I do not want, I agree with the Torah that the Torah is good. But now it is no longer I doing this, but [the power of] Chet (Sin) which <u>DWELLS</u> within me." (Romans 7:15-17 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine)

Here, in the above passage, is part of Rav Sha'ul's famous treatise on the struggle between the 'inner negative inclination/yetzer hara' to sin and the 'direct call' of YHWH's Torah to 'willfully turn away' from such behavior. We haven't time here to look into this struggle in-depth, but I only wish to point out one fact that Rav Sha'ul brings to our attention. Please look with me at the last portion of verse 17. He tells us that the 'power behind this struggle to walk in righteousness' which Torah instructs, and the 'pull of the sinful inclination' that we are wrestling with is the 'presence' of what is 'dwelling in us'! Now, to get the 'full impact' of what YHWH wants us to understand here, we MUST UNDERSTAND the use of the word 'dwells' in verse 17.

Let's take for instance the house you and I live in. Within the places in which we live may be found many 'things'. We have furniture, appliances, cooking utensils, electronics ...etc. However, these are 'things'. These 'things while in our homes' CANNOT be said to 'dwell' in our homes. In order to 'dwell' in our homes, whatever is 'dwelling there' must be some sort of 'physical entity... a personage'. In like manner, regarding our 'physical body' being the place for 'spiritual things', it may also be the 'dwelling place for spiritual entities' seeking to 'influence or oppress' us. **[eg. YHWH's HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness in 'our reborn human spirit or demonic spirits' oppressing us in our soul (mind, emotion, imaginations, will) or physical bodies] to exercise their 'spiritual intelligence'. As we have seen, in Rav Sha'ul's words to the Ephesian assembly, we are 'wrestling against literal spiritual entities of various spiritual levels and authority'. The 'higher echelon of spiritual entities' (principalities and powers) use the class of 'lower spiritual entities' (demonic spirits) to 'oppress', with the intention of **GAINING ENTRANCE** to the 'mental/emotional and/or physical realms. From this point, they 'dwell within the flesh' of the believer/person in order to 'further develop strongholds in varying degrees of spiritual/physical bondage'. This is why 'sinful thoughts and practices' are so dangerous. Just like when our physical bodies suffer scrapes and cuts, it may open our bodies to 'infections' from bacteria and germs. So, 'sinful activities' do the same. If we don't 'treat' the affected area quickly and 'cleanse' it properly **[seek forgiveness by confessing our sin, applying the blood of Yeshua, turn away/obtain the 'gift of repentance'], then 'infection' may set in. The same holds true in our 'spiritual bodies' too.

One last set of Scriptures will make what we are saying even clearer. In B'resheet/Genesis chapter four, Kayin/Cain is being warned about his 'emotional state' due to his offering being rejected by YHWH. In the literal transliterated verse from the Torah, we are given this insight...

"If thou doest well, shalt thou not be lifted up? And if thou doest not well, SIN lieth at the door [the heart]. And unto thee [shall be] HIS teshukah (desire), and thou shalt rule over HIM." (B'resheet/Genesis 4:7 Literal Transliterated Torah- emphasis/definition mine)

Please note the instructions YHWH gives to Kayin/Cain. He is told that his 'emotional state' is providing a dangerous 'means of access' for not only possible 'spiritual infection', BUT INTRUSION! Notice, this 'spiritual influence' is identified NOT AS A THING, BUT BY THE **PERSONAL PRONOUN HIS!** In other words, it is not A WHAT, but A WHO that is 'waiting at the door' of Kayin's/Cain's heart to bring 'infection' into his very being! Sin, biblically, is 'empowered' by the 'real presence of demonic spirits'. The believer, like the 'Mishkan/Tabernacle and Heikhal/Temple' is made up of 'three compartments'. While the 'human spirit' of the believer is under the control of YHWH through His HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness, the believer's 'mind and body' are not under that same 'direct control'. Therefore, the enemy can set up 'strongholds' (mental/emotional mindsets, even physical infirmities empowered by demonic entities/personalities) to 'oppress and manifest hindrances' in those areas. Thus, we have Rav Sha'ul's dilemma he related in the above passage from his letter to the Romans. He came to realize that his 'struggle' between the 'seeming unending cycles of sinful behavior' WAS NOT just his 'weakness of will power'. It was the ACTIVE PRESENCE OF A DEMONIC ENTITY/PERSONALITY having gained penetration from 'within the flesh of his mind and/or body'. Deliverance comes by 'identifying the correct cause of the oppression and **DRIVING** THAT ENTITY OUT BY THE POWER OF MASHIACH'S FINISHED WORK ON THE PHYSICAL EXECUTION STAKE! This deliverance has nothing to do with the Hollywood versions of the demonic realm! There doesn't have to be 'gross manifestations'. The word 'ruach' in Hebrew means 'spirit or breath'. Deliverance from 'demonic oppression' may simply come by 'releasing that spiritual entity as a breath'. The 'real test of deliverance' is not how 'violent' the deliverance is. IT IS THE REAL FREEDOM THAT ONE EXPERIENCES AFTERWARDS!

Beloved, therefore, we too must 'guard' against illicit contact with the 'spiritual realm of darkness'. When sin presents itself to us, either by 'thought/imagination' or we are 'enticed to action', we must IMMEDIATELY REBUKE THAT INFLUENCE! We are in 'close proximity' to the 'demonic spiritual realm'. Our giving in may very well result in the 'invasion' not only of 'spiritual bacteria' into our heart. **[Sinful thoughts, if not dealt with immediately will result in physical action. Once the demonic spirits have gained entrance into the soulish/physical realms, they work to establish 'strongholds of bondage' to keep the one oppressed under their control] Lasting deliverance will require that the 'stronghold be identified, rooted out, pulled down, destroyed and thrown down'. (Yirmeyahu/Jeremiah 1:10) There MUST BE a 'building or literally a rebuilding' in that area of 'true holiness' in order that the 'Kingdom of YHWH' may be 'planted and grow to full strength'. Thus, we may now understand Rav Sha'ul's words to the Galatian assemblies who found themselves under 'spiritual oppression'. He prayed for their deliverance, and then for the 'character of Mashiach to be formed within them'.

"My yeladim [children], for whom again I suffer chevlei leydah (birth pains) until Moshiach is FORMED IN YOU..." (Galatians 4:19 OJB- emphasis/definitions mine)

I share the above to 'make clear how dangerous sin truly is in our lives'. Thanks be to the Mighty One, that deliverance is available. We can go to YHWH and receive the 'gift of repentance' in order to overcome the oppression of the darkness. Better, we need a 'healthy respect for the realm of spirit' and learn to 'avoid prolonged contact' with the 'dark side of that realm' on every hand.

The Process Of Repentance

I apologize for taking so much time on this, but I feel that it is necessary; not only to our understanding as it relates to Pharaoh, but more importantly, as it relates to us as believers. You

see, once we ask forgiveness, and our heart is under the influence of YHWH through His HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness, **THEN...** we can begin the 'repentance process'. Notice I said 'process'. The word 'repent or teshuv' in Hebrew means, 'to (re)turn'. Now, when the 'process' of repentance 'begins', we **MUST** 'make the choice' **TO TURN**. However, in order for that 'turning' to be productive, **YHWH MUST MEET US** in that 'process' and **GIVE US REPENTANCE.** In other words, He **BREAKS THE CYCLE OF SIN** that we began when we initially gave into the enemy's trap. **TRUE SORROW** breaks in upon us, and we 'see' how wicked our heart is. We 'see' sin for **WHAT** it really is, and **WHO** it is that is behind it! We receive the **GIFT OF REPENTANCE** and are 'empowered' to **RETURN TO YHWH**, and His Torah. As Rav Sha'ul said, through our 'choice to yield' to YHWH's HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness, **WE COME TO OUR SENSES**, and escape the 'prison of lies' the enemy was holding us in.

When The Gift Of Repentance Is Withheld

Now, let's take this a step further. What happens if we never receive the 'gift of repentance'? What happens, if all we get is forgiveness? Beloved, that's a terrible place to be. Why? Because in time, sin will produce a 'deadening effect' upon our conscience. We will become 'less and less sensitive' to the prompting of YHWH's call through His HaRuach HaKodesh/The Spirit of His Holiness to repentance. REMEMBER, WE DON'T CONTROL THE GIFT OF REPENTANCE... YHWH DOES! Is there a place where a person may come where the 'gift of repentance' is never given?

"See to it that no one fall short of the Chen v'Chesed [grace and mercy/lovingkindness] Hashem [YHWH]; that no SHORESH [ROOT] (Dt 29:19) of merirut (bitterness) sprouting up may cause tzoros [trouble/affliction], and by it many be made teme'ot [unclean/defiled]; Lest someone guilty of gilui arayot (sexual immorality) or some person who is mitnaged ladat (irreligious, opponent of religion) like Esav [Esau], who in exchange for one meal sold HaBechorah [The Birthright] belonging to him.

For you have da'as [intimate knowledge] that even afterwards, when he desired to receive the nachalah [inheritance] of the bracha [blessing], he was rejected, for he found no place for teshuva [repentance], though he sought for it with tears." (Ivrim/Hebrews 12:15-17 OJB-emphasis/definitions mine)

Beloved, this should strike the 'reverential awe of YHWH' in our heart! It is a terrible thing, when we fall under the 'governmental justice' of the Mighty One. We are told plainly here that there is a place where we may find ourselves, where the 'gift of repentance' MAY NOT COME! When is that time? I don't know. It is most likely different for each one of us, but a 'stubborn willful heart' that plunges head on over and over into 'sinful acts of disobedience', comes closer and closer to that horrible end. This is why, we need to keep 'short accounts' with YHWH, when it comes to sin. Even better, LET'S STAY AWAY FROM SIN ALTOGETHER. We see Esav/Esau as an example of one who found 'no place' for repentance! We see in our Torah portion another. Pharaoh, at least twice, became 'conscious' that he had sinned. He even started the 'process' of turning in repentance. BUT... YHWH NEVER RESPONDED! He NEVER gave Pharaoh the 'gift of repentance'. What was the result? He simply 'turned' until he found himself BACK AT SQUARE ONE! Pharaoh 'hardened his heart', and YHWH simply 'agreed', and 'confirmed' his choice. What a terrible place to find oneself. This is what is meant when we read that YHWH 'hardened' Pharaoh's heart. May Abba YHWH grant us mercy to NEVER KNOW such a fearful end.

Overview Of The Last Three Judgments

Here in our present parasha, the last three judgments are presented. They are: Locusts, darkness and finally, the death of the firstborn of both man and animal. YHWH is bringing His final acts of judgment against all of the false mighty ones worshipped in Mitzrayim/Egypt (Shemot/Exodus 12:23) In the last of these judgments, YHWH will establish an 'everlasting memorial' to be celebrated by His soon to be birthed nation of Yisrael. This celebration called 'Pesach', or 'Passover', was to bring to Yisrael's 'remembrance', the power of YHWH's great Name, and of His mighty deliverance through the blood of the lambs. This blood applied to the 'three portions' of the doorframe [two doorposts & the top header-forming the Hebrew letter T, 'Chet'... meaning LIFE]. It was a 'sign of life', causing the Death Angel as he passed through Mitzrayim/Egypt that night, to 'passover' those houses. All who were inside were spared. In time, this 'Mo'ed/Appointed Time', would become the first of seven commanded 'Mo'edim/Appointed Times', which YHWH would give to Yisrael, in order to worship Him in 'spirit and truth'. (Wayikra/Leviticus 23)

The judgment of locusts came as Moshe raised his rod over the land. YHWH brought a strong east wind that carried these locusts into Mitzrayim/Egypt. They devoured everything green in the fields. What the hail had not destroyed, the locusts did. Only in the land of Goshen where Yisrael dwelt, was nothing touched by this plague.

Pharaoh, afterwards, still refused to let the Hebrews leave. He chose to once more harden his heart and YHWH agreed with him. This brought on the next plague, that of darkness throughout the land of Mitzrayim/Egypt. This darkness was supernatural. It was so thick, that the 'natural eyesight' was completely impaired. You could not see the proverbial 'hand in front of your face'. Pharaoh's response was to again bargain with Moshe concerning the release of the Hebrews. However, Moshe completely rejected this effort, which resulted in an enraged Pharaoh. He told Moshe to leave his presence, and that if he ever saw him again, he would be put to death. Little did Pharaoh know how true his words were. Only it wasn't Moshe that would die. It would be Pharaoh himself that would die at the waters of the Sea of Reeds/Red Sea, as the Hebrews made their final exit from Mitzrayim/Egypt!

YHWH Establishes Pesach As The First Of His Mo'edim/ Appointed Times

"And Hashem [YHWH] spoke unto Moshe and Aharon in Eretz Mitzrayim [Egypt] saying, Hachodesh hazeh (this month- Aviv) shall be unto you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you." (Shemot/Exodus 12:1-2 OJB- definitions mine)

This month referred to above is known as 'Aviv'. (Shemot/Exodus 13:4) It would also be a celebration of 'Rosh Chodesh or the New Moon', a monthly celebration YHWH would establish. It would be considered the 'national religious New Year' for Yisrael and would become a 'perpetual celebration' for them.

Pesach/Passover would be commemorated by the offering of a lamb at each celebration. On this inaugural offering, YHWH gave explicit instructions through Moshe as to how these lambs and their blood was to be offered.

- 1. The lambs were to be taken into the houses of each Hebrew family on the tenth day of the month. It was to remain there until the fourteenth day when it was to be offered as a korban/offering to YHWH. During this time the lamb was to be inspected for defects. If any were found, the lamb was to be removed and another free of any defect given in its place.
- 2. On the fourteenth day, each lamb was to be without blemish, a male and offered 'between the evenings' just before dusk. Hebraically, this is just at the close of the fourteenth day, and just the erev/evening of the fifteenth day begins. The blood of each lamb was to be placed on the 'mashkof/lintel/top header' and the 'outer mezuzot/doorposts' of the house. The actual marking is in the shape of the Hebrew letter '\overline{\tau} \cdot \text{chet}' \text{ It is the shortened version of the Hebrew word 'chayim', which is the 'eighth letter' of the Hebrew AlefBet and means 'life or living'. So, all who were inside the house would LIVE, as the Death Angel struck all the firstborn in Mitzrayim/Egypt. This included both man and animal.
- 3. The Hebrews were to 'eat the lamb' along with 'maror/bitter herbs'. They were to **EAT IT ALL.** If any was left it was to be placed in the fire and consumed.
- 4. They were to eat the lamb with their 'robes on/girded, sandals on their feet, and staves in their hands'. They were to be 'ready to leave' (a picture of teshuvah/repentance) as soon as YHWH gave the command.

The further instructions had to do with eating of what was to become known as the second of YHWH's 'Mo'edim/Appointed Times, HaMatzot or Unleavened Bread'. The Hebrew people had to leave the next morning on their Exodus in haste. Therefore, their dough was not able to go through the 'leavening process to ferment/rise'. Later, this 'lo chametz/unleavened bread' became 'flat, striped and pierced'. It was a perfect picture of Yeshua HaMashiach/The Messiah, and His body that was 'pierced' and whose blood was shed for our redemption. 'HaMatzot/Unleavened Bread' was to be celebrated for 'seven days'. The first and last days of this celebration are a 'special type of shabbat'. They are 'Shabbaton/annual/yearly Sabbaths'. **[These 'rest days' are considered to be 'outside of time' - from the 'eternals of YHWH'. The regular weekly Shabbat/Sabbath is a 'rest day' considered to be 'within the realm of time'] All 'chametz/leaven' was to be removed from the houses. Those 'seven days', bookended by 'Shabbaton/Annual Sabbaths', were to be a picture of YHWH's 'future Millennial Kingdom' that is to be set up on earth for 1000 years. This time will be a period where no sin will be within the confines of the borders of The Land of the 'restored nation of Yisrael'. This will be the time of the 'days of heaven on earth'. A time after our Adon/Lord Yeshua's return, when He will be crowned M'lekh HaM'lekhim/King of Kings. He will rule over a restored 'Whole House of Yisrael' and the whole earth from Yerushalayim/Jerusalem. Those who are seeing this 'prophetic time of restoration' being fulfilled are also learning how YHWH desires us to respond to Him in worship and obedience. May Abba increase His grace as we continue. Amein!

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

Chazak u'Baruch...
Strength and Blessing!

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Parash 15: Bo/Come or Go