



March 2023

Dear brothers and sisters in Messiah,

Shalom! שלום

"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of Jehovah unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith Jehovah of hosts." Zechariah 4:6

זְכַרְיָה 4:6 "וַיַּעַן וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי לֵאמֹר זֶה דְּבַר יְהוָה אֶל־זְרֻבָּבֶל לֵאמֹר לֹא בְחַיִל וְלֹא בִקְצָה כִּי אִם־בְּרוּחִי אָמַר יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת:

We trust that this letter finds you well, being sustained by the grace of God, day by day.

As we all go through various trials and challenges in our lives, we realize what a blessing it is to open the Word of God, and as learners, glean instructions from our God. Recently, a dear brother who faithfully attends our weekly zoom Bible classes asked for my thoughts on Exodus 35:10-11, regarding the instructions of the Lord to Israel. We read, **And every wise hearted among you shall come, and make all that the LORD hath commanded. The tabernacle, his tent, and his covering, his taches, and his boards, his bars, his pillars, and his sockets...**

As we looked together into additional passages in the Scriptures conveying the same thought as found in Exodus 35:10, we learned that a wise hearted person, חָכָם־לֵב, is one, who loves the Lord and His people, and seeks to be a builder in the house of the Lord, for the spiritual wellness of the believers. These same instructions were given to the Ephesians by the apostle Paul, who reminded them of the reason God gave spiritual gifts to the assembly. Paul impressed upon the Ephesian believers that spiritual gifts were given **for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.** Ephesians 4:12. This principle, of being a wise hearted person, applies to the people of God in every dispensation. May the Lord stir us up to be a wise hearted people, seeking to build up the body of believers.

5 Learning Points about Jonah's Prayer (Jonah 1:17-2:10)

- 1 **Jonah 1:17** Jonah was swallowed by the fish that God prepared
Jonah was in the fish's belly 3 days and 3 nights
- 2 There are Two ways to understand the miracle of Jonah in the fish's belly
- Jonah was kept alive for 3 days and 3 nights in the fish's belly.
- Jonah Actually died, then arose after 3 days & 3 nights, while still in the fish's belly.
- 3 **Matthew 12:38-41**
Matthew 16:1-4
Luke 11:29-30 Jonah being in the fish's belly for 3 days and 3 nights,
became God's sign to His people of Israel, of the death, burial
and resurrection of the Lord Yeshua the Messiah.
- 4 **Jonah 2:9-10** While Jonah wrote his prayer after he was vomited out by the Fish.
Jonah's prayer took place while his Body was still in the fish's belly
and after his resurrection
- 5 **Jonah 2:1-9** Jonah Actually prayed 3 distinct prayers, at 3 different times,
during his 3 days and 3 nights in the Fish's Belly

We have just completed our study of the book of Jonah, during our Holy Scriptures and Israel Zoom Bible class meetings. The study of Jonah the prophet taught us the importance of knowing the heart of God. The LORD bore patiently with His disobedient servant Jonah, who needed to learn the heart of God, that He is the God of all peoples. Sadly, Jonah disobeyed and for this he was disciplined by God. God had chosen Israel to be a light to the world, and Jonah was called to go to Ninevah, a city of an enemy people, and preach to them a message from God. The apostle Paul emphasized this truth when he wrote to the Romans; **Is he the God of the Jews only, is he not also of the Gentiles, yes, of the Gentiles also.** Romans 3:29. We praise God, that during this unique church age, both Jews and Gentiles are called by God to be part of the called out ones. **For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.** Romans 10:13. We are working on posting the complete video recordings on the book of Jonah, which will be available on our [Holy Scriptures and Israel YouTube channel](#).

We look forward to returning to our in-person outreach meetings in Toronto. These in-person meetings will not replace our three weekly Zoom Bible classes, but will be in addition to the existing ones. We value your prayers dear brothers and sisters, for the much needed grace, as well as the physical strength from the Lord. The Lord is good, and He is able to provide that which is needed. We aim to continue to furnish a setting whereby both Jewish and non-Jewish individuals will be able to come together and listen to the Word of the Lord.



We are often approached by individuals who feel there is a great need for the encouragement of the saints, especially in the times we are in. Paul wrote of this need to the Thessalonians; **Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.** 1 Thessalonians 5:11. So we trust that these in-person meetings will be for mutual blessing to all who can attend.

In a few weeks the Feast of Passover will be celebrated by the Jewish community in Israel and around the world. During this season, we present to our people the person of the Lord Jesus the Messiah, the One who came into this World as the prophets of Israel foretold, in order to become the Passover Lamb. The One who would suffer and pay the penalty of sin for the whole world. Of Him the apostle John declared; **Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.** John 1:29b. Paul also declared; **For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.** 1 Corinthians 5:7b. Praise God, dear brothers and sisters, that God opened our eyes to recognize *Yeshua* / Jesus, the Lamb of God, as our Lord and Saviour.



Currently, the State of Israel is going through very challenging times. The elected new conservative government is seeking to reform the way that judges are elected to the Israeli Court, which will limit the power of the court. On the other hand, the liberal opposition parties are concerned for human rights and religious freedom, are opposing the move. This situation is causing much stress and internal conflict between the right and left parties, as is happening all over the world. Please pray for the people of Israel and also for the believers in *Yeshua* the Messiah in Israel, both Arabs and Jews, that this will not hinder them from gathering together and sharing the gospel of our Lord Jesus the Messiah. Thank God for His protection over His own, and for His promise that His Word will not return unto Him void. **So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth. it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.** Isaiah 55:11.

We thank the Lord for His grace and we thank you dear brothers and sisters for your prayers for us and for the outreach ministry of the [Holy Scriptures and Israel](#). May the Lord bless you richly. **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.** 2 Corinthians 13:14.

Please pray for:

- The radio and video outreach ministry.
- The international Zoom Bible classes.
- The in-person meetings in Toronto.
- The encouragement for the believers.
- The health situation of our sister Patricia.
- The needed spiritual and physical strength.
- The situation in Israel.
- **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.** Psalm 122:6

*"For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth."
Isaiah 62:1*

God bless you.

In Messiah,

G. Leon & Irene



Please pray for Israel to open their hearts and see Yeshua our Messiah who said, "I am the light of the world." John 8:12

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