

WHAT ARE THE PROPHETIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE HEBREW ROOTS/MESSIANIC MOVEMENT?

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There is a saying we have all used many times about “taking three steps forward and two steps backwards” which means that we are moving forward at a very slow pace. Is it possible in our spiritual journey to take two steps back and then as a result take a quantum leap forward spiritually? The prophets of the Bible talk about returning to the ancient paths in order to leap forward spiritually in our walk with YHWH Elohim. Is this possible, and if so how?

Jer. 6:16,19 16 Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the ancient paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein...Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my Torah, but rejected it.

What is happening all across America and around the world?

Within much of the Christian church there is an awakening love and concern for the Jewish people in general and the state of Israel in particular. In many Christian churches banners, shofars, Davidic or messianic dance is working its way into worship services, and there is a renewed interest among Christian Bible teachers and pastors to teach more deeply about and understand the Jewish customs, ceremonies and Torah life-style as found in the OT. Some churches are sponsoring Passover Seders and on Christian radio there are many Christian pastors and teachers teaching about the Sabbath, the OT Feast Days or Holy Days of YHWH, and about the pagan origins of the traditional Christian holidays such as Christmas and Easter. Less than ten years ago such was not the case on Christian radio. Only since the mid to late 1990s has this been occurring. What is going on in the church???

Some Christians are getting their appetites whetted with all this Hebrew roots stuff and are wanting to go to the next level. As a result, Bible studies are starting up in people's homes to study the Hebrew roots of the Christian faith and from this many home fellowships are being launched. Thousands have started across our country. No individual or organization is orchestrating this. It is totally a grass roots movement. Some church leaders are for it and see it as a good thing while others are against it and see the Hebrew Roots movement as threat to the church—as a return to legalism or judaizing.

There Are Two Basic Messianic Movements (occurring in North America):

- (a) **Jews becoming Christians:** Religious Jews becoming believers in Yeshua as the Messiah. Some convert lock, stock and barrel to Christianity accepting all of its non-Jewish and non-Scriptural traditions and anti-Torah theologies. Other Jews accept the Gospel message and belief in Yeshua, but still are Torah-observant and don't assimilate into mainstream Christianity. These are the two extremes. There are many points between these two poles.
- (b) **Christians returning to their Hebrew Roots (Book of Acts):**

What is the prophetic overview of this Movement?

The biblical feast days are a prophetic shadow picture of YHWH's plan of salvation for mankind. A

general understanding of YHWH's holy feast days will give us some clues as to the answer to this question.

The spring holy days of Passover, Unleavened Bread and Pentecost were shadow-pictures of Messiah Yeshua's first advent or coming to this earth to fulfill the role of the Suffering Servant as prophesied by the prophets of the Tenach/OT.

After the Spring Feast Days are the long, dry summer months followed by the fall feast days occurring at the fall harvest time of the year. These days—the Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles and the Eighth Day—are prophetic shadow-pictures of the Second Coming of Messiah Yeshua, this time as a Conquering King. They still await their prophetic fulfillment.

It has been 2000 years since Yeshua's ascension to heaven and the establishment of the Books of Acts Messianic congregation. Prophetically, this 2000 years period represents the long dry summer months between the last spring festival of Pentecost and the first fall festival of the Feast of Trumpets. Prophetically, the Feast of Trumpets represents Yeshua, the Bridegroom coming for his Bride, the body of saints. The Hebrew roots stirrings and rumblings within the Christian church is the Bride of Yeshua awakening to who Yeshua is Hebraically and to who it is Hebraically. The Spirit of YHWH is being poured out upon believers everywhere to get ready, for the bridegroom is coming. Yeshua is not returning neither for a Christian nor a Jewish bride, but a bride who is neither Jew or Gentile, but one which is one new person in Messiah. That bride is made up of believers who have been grafted into the Olive Tree of Romans 11. **This is part of the restitution of all things talked about in Acts 3:19.**

- Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;
20 And he shall send Yeshua HaMashiach, which before was preached unto you:
21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.
- Hos. 5:15 I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.
6:1 Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.
2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.
3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.
Mal. 3:4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.
5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:
6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Those of us who call ourselves “Messianic” and who understanding the prophetic implications of the Messianic/Hebrew Roots movement as described here in this paper *are not* turning to modern-day rabbinic Judaism, but returning to the religion of the Book of Acts, Messianic Jewish believers. That faith was the one new man in Messiah that Paul talked about in **Eph. 2:11—22**

- 11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;
- 12 That at that time ye were without Messiah, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants [plural] of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:
- 13 But now in Messiah Yeshua ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Messiah.

14 ¶ For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Yeshua HaMashiach himself being the chief corner stone;

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Restoration of Spirit and Truth:

What are the implications of this Scripturally and prophetically?

Jn. 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Spirit and truth can be understood in many ways. Both have to converge and unite to form a path which leads straight to the Father in Heaven (Jn. 4:23-24). It is the straight and narrow path which is a river of life (Mt. 7:14). Before we cite some Scriptural examples about this spirit and truth path, let's understand the concept of duality in Hebrew religious thought. The idea that two halves make a whole is very important in Jewish theology. For example, a man is not complete without a wife. There is heaven and earth, good and evil, obedience and disobedience, blessings and cursings, light and darkness, judgment and mercy, love and hate, and this world and the world to come. In the natural realm we see positive and negative, hot and cold, up and down, the sun and moon. We can see some very common themes of duality in Scripture all following under the general concept of Spirit and Truth as Yeshua outlined in John 4—

- Moses and Elijah (Mal. 3:4-6) or the law and the prophets
- Old and New Testament
- Logos and Rhema
- Mercy and Judgment
- Speak the truth in love
- the Two Witnesses of Revelation
- Law and Grace

Scripture says that the saints alive on the earth prior to the return of Yeshua would have the balance between spirit and truth:

- Rev. 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Yeshua HaMashiach.
- Rev. 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Yeshua.

The Bride of Messiah has got to prepare herself for the coming bridegroom.

Yeshua Messiah is not coming back for a bride with spotted and wrinkled garments (Eph. 5:27) — spotted with the stains of sin and worldliness. Lukewarm believers will be spewed from his mouth (Rev. 3:16) — only those who are red hot for him, who have overcome the world, the flesh and the devil and who love him enough to keep his commandments will be in the wedding feast. Yeshua is calling out to his bride at this very moment to prepare herself for his arrival.

- Rev. 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

Right now Yeshua is calling his bride to come out of spiritual Babylon!

- Rev. 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.
- 2 Cor. 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Messiah with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

What is spiritual Babylon?

It is any religious system that is a blend of truth and error. The word *Babylon* means *mixture*, and the devil will create religious systems that have some truth and a lot of pagan, heathen beliefs that taint, poison or just water down the truth of YHWH Elohim. YHWH's bride must be walking in pure, untainted and undiluted truth—not a mixture of truth and error, or hot and cold. He will vomit lukewarm believers out of his mouth (Rev. 3:16).

The Hebrew roots movement is a return to pure stream of Bible truth and walking in the Spirit of YHWH Elohim where we will obey only his word without the added pagan traditions and practices that have crept into traditional churchianity. Are you ready to go to the next level in your spiritual walk? Are you ready to walk closer to the fire of the anointing of YHWH Elohim? To do this we have to turn away from traditions of men by which the word of YHWH is made of none effect. (Mt. 15:6-9; Mk. 7:7).