

A Future Passover – Messianic Hope

Passover –Last Day

Deuteronomy 14:22 – 16:17, Numbers 28:19-25, Isaiah 10:32-12:6

As the Jewish people come to a close of the Festival of Passover, a special portion of Scripture is read, focusing on Pesach l'atid **פסח לעתיד** (a future Passover), which will be a new redemption and a new exodus.

In this **new exodus**, the Jewish people will not be delivered from Egypt as in the past, but from **all the lands of their dispersion, to be gathered into our own land**. For a second time, the Lord will reach out His mighty hand and outstretched arm to deliver His people.

“In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the surviving remnant of his people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the Mediterranean.” (Isaiah 11:11)

The prophet Isaiah gives this amazing promise of a future redemption for Israel. The ingathering of the exiles of Israel has already begun, but in the future all the scattered people of Judah will come home from the four quarters of the earth.

“He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; He will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth.” (Isaiah 11:12)

Therefore, in the Diaspora, the last two days of Passover (in Israel the last day) are observed as a full ‘Yom Tov’ (Holy day of rest and assembly) in anticipation of this glorious future Passover.

The Prophet Jeremiah also spoke about this coming ‘greater exodus’ which will completely re-frame how we even refer to God Himself!

“However, the days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when it will no longer be said, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,’ but it will be said,

‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.’

For I will restore them to the land I gave their ancestors.” (Jeremiah 16:14-15)

Jeremiah tells us that at first God will send fishermen to fish for His people in the nations, but after this time of grace, He will send hunters to hunt for them, to bring them out of the land of their exile to which they cling in false hopes of security and comfort.

“But now I will send for many fishermen,” declares the LORD, “and they will catch them. After that I will send for many hunters, and they will hunt them down on every mountain and hill and from the crevices of the rocks.” (Jeremiah 16:16)

God kept His word to ‘pass-over’ those who, as an act of faith and obedience, applied the blood of the lamb to their doorposts, when He poured out His final judgment upon Egypt. There will come a time in the future when God will once again ‘pass over’ His people and rescue them from their enemies.

“Like birds hovering overhead, the LORD Almighty will shield Jerusalem; he will shield it and deliver it, he will ‘pass over’ it and will rescue it.” (Isaiah 31:5)

On this day, we read from this most well known of the Messianic Prophecies in the Tanach, the 11th chapter of the Prophet Isaiah, that a shoot will come out of Jesse, and a branch from his roots.

A shoot (netzer) will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.” (Isaiah 11:1)

The connection between this Messianic prophecy and Yeshua is amazing when we look into the Hebrew. The word used here is ‘netzer’ נֶצֶר, which can mean ‘branch, shoot, twig, sprout, willow or descendant.’

It can also be used, however, in the context of Christianity, which is called ‘natzrut’ נִצְרוּת in Hebrew. To become a Christian is nitzer נִצֵּר. The same exact word with different vowels (natzer) נָצֵר means to watch, guard, or keep. The original Hebrew, therefore, contains a precious secret: Christians are called to be guards or ‘Watchmen’ on the walls of Jerusalem’:



“I have posted watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the LORD, give yourselves no rest, (Isaiah 62:6)

A related word, notzri, is used for a Christian – someone who follows Yeshua of Natzeret נִצְרֵת (Nazareth in Hebrew).

Even the very Hebrew language itself contains this secret knowledge that Yeshua of Natzeret came as the Netzer (branch) out of Jesse! From Jesse (Yishai) came the mighty King David and through the lineage of David came Yeshua, Ben (son of) David, who sits on his throne eternally. (Isaiah 9:6-7)

Isaiah prophecies that the Spirit of the Lord would rest upon this branch out of stump of Jesse:

*“The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD...”* (Isaiah 11:2)

When Yeshua entered the synagogue one Shabbat (Sabbath day), he stood up in front of the entire congregation, read this Messianic Prophecy from Isaiah and declared it fulfilled in himself.

He went to Natzeret, where he had been brought up, and on Shabbat, he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” (Luke 4:16-20)

When the Lord returns a second time, we will finally experience that glorious ‘peace on earth’ under the righteous reign of the Messiah that we wait for with such longing.

The Christian musical group, Casting Crowns express this so beautifully in the song, Glorious Day. This is an excerpt from the lyrics:

Living He loved me, dying He saved me
And buried He carried my sins far away
Rising He justified freely forever
One day He’s coming, oh, glorious day, oh, glorious day
Glorious day, oh, glorious day

Come soon Adonai Yeshua!

Isaiah prophesies that in this glorious day, animals will also live together in peace, and a little child would suffer no harm even by handling a dangerous serpent. **“The infant will play near the cobra’s den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper’s nest.”** (Isaiah 11:8)

In this glorious day, the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea: **“They will neither harm nor destroy on all My holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.”** (Isaiah 11:9)

When the Root of Jesse, the Messiah, returns as the Lion of Judah, all the nations will seek Him:

“In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.” (Isaiah 11:10)

What will there be left for God’s people to do but give thanks for His love and mercy which endures forever. This is how we end every Passover Seder - with praise (hallel) for what He has done, what He is doing now and what He will do in the future!

The haftorah (prophetic portion of Scripture) for this day also ends with praise:

*“In that day you will say: **“I will praise you, LORD. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation (Yeshuah).”*** (Isaiah 12:1)

It is from this well of salvation (Yeshua) that we may draw living waters and rejoice:

“With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation (Yeshuah).” (Isaiah 12:3)

May the people of Zion also shout aloud and sing for joy because of the glorious things God has done for us! **Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”** (Isaiah 12:6)

What a great hope of redemption, restoration, rescue, and deliverance Israel has in God’s Word. Thank you for standing with us in prayer, love and support, to see God’s glorious purposes fulfilled for Israel and the Jewish people in this Land and in the nations of the earth.

Y’VARECH’CHA ADONAI V’YISHM’RECHA

YA’ER ADONAI PANA V A LECHA VICHUNECHA

YISA ADONAI PANA V ALECHA V’YASEM L’CHA SHALOM

MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU

MAY THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE UPON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU

MAY THE LORD LIFT UP HIS COUNTENANCE UPON YOU

AND GIVE YOU PEACE

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Hannah Neshher grew up in an Orthodox Jewish home and received her education in a religious Hebrew school in Canada.

During a crisis pregnancy, she came to know Jesus (Yeshua) as her Messiah and Savior.

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“For out of Zion shall go forth the Torah, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” (Isaiah 2:3)

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