

What Beth Shechinah Doesn't Believe

Today's modern-day Messianic Movement has been in existence for almost fifty years. Since its revival, there have been many streams of thought that have deviated from its original root. Much of our relevance and effectiveness as a community within the wider Body of Messiah and the Jewish community is determined by what we believe. There are a number of views that have emerged that are controversial in nature, non-scriptural and have the potential of undermining the validity of the Messianic Movement. Even though the majority of these views are non-salvation issues, they have the potential of causing discord and division within the Messianic Movement. Unfortunately, Messianic Congregations have had to deal with these types of emotionally charged issues that have disrupted and undermined the integrity, unity and peace within their congregations.

What we do not affirm with Perfect Faith:

1. **Replacement Theology** (Supersessionism): This view asserts that the New Covenant supersedes the Torah and Tenakh; which was made exclusively with the Jewish people. It teaches that the Church has replaced national Israel regarding the plans, purposes, and promises of God; and that the Torah has been done away with. Therefore, many of the promises that God made with Israel have been spiritualized.
2. **One Law Theology**: The belief that there is no distinction between Jewish and Gentile Believers or any distinction in their respective obligations to the Torah.
3. **Sacred Name Theology**: The belief that God's Hebrew name and Yeshua's name (i.e. Adonai, Ha Shem, Elohim, Yeshua) must be pronounced a certain way in Hebrew and any alternate names are not correct and are dishonoring to His name.
4. **Two-House Theology** (also called the Ephraimite Movement): The belief that participation in Israel is based on ancestral genealogical connection to the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel and that *Christians* are actually members of the *Ten Lost Tribes*.

What we do not affirm with Perfect Faith (continued)

5. **The Hebrew Roots Movement**: The premise of the Hebrew Roots movement is the belief that the Church has veered far from the true teachings and Hebrew concepts of the Bible. This movement maintains that Christianity has been indoctrinated with the culture and beliefs of Greek and Roman philosophy and that ultimately Biblical Christianity, taught in churches today, has been corrupted with a pagan imitation of the New Testament gospels.
6. **Alternate calendar**: The observance of Festivals and Holy Days on an alternate lunar or solar calendar which was established to correct the traditional Jewish calendar.
7. **Flat Earth**: The erroneous view that the Earth is flat and not spherical in shape; that gravity is uncertain; that the curvature of the earth is an optical illusion; and, a belief in the many unfounded global conspiracies associated with this false view.

"Arise and have mercy on Zion for it is time to show favour to her, for the appointed time has come... For when the Lord shall build up Zion; He shall appear in His glory." Psalm 102:13, 16


Returning
to the Roots of Our Faith

We are a Community of Messianic Believers

who embrace a unique oneness of faith in Yeshua the Messiah, Saviour of Israel and the world.

We are loyal to Jewish heritage and true to New Covenant Faith.

For more information, visit

bethshechinah.com



Beth Shechinah's Statement of Faith



Beth Shechinah's Statement of Faith

Our Statement of Faith represents what we believe as a Messianic Congregation. What we believe affects how we live; and how we live, can affect what we believe. Holding to sound doctrine is important because we must ascertain truth in a world of falsehood.

*"Many false prophets have gone out into the world."
(1 John 4:1)*

There are tares among the wheat and wolves among the flock. (Matthew 13:25; Acts 20:29)

The best way to distinguish truth from falsehood is to know what the truth is. As a Messianic Congregation we stand on the Word of God. It is the solid foundation on which we stand. His written Word is our supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and practice and the following statement of faith is intended to express what we believe and what we don't believe.

We affirm with Perfect Faith:

1. We believe that there is only one God (Elohim) who created all things out of nothing and revealed Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. His nature is a unified plurality (Echad) and is eternally coexistent. (Genesis 1:1-26; Hebrews 1:1-3; Colossians 1:15-20)
2. We believe the Tanakh (Old Covenant) and Brit Hadasha (New Covenant) is the only divinely inspired, inherent word of God; fully trustworthy and is the supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and practice. (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20, 21)
3. We believe in the deity of Yeshua Ha Mashiach and that He was fully God and fully man. We believe His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles; and His vicarious and atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and great glory. (Isaiah 7:14; Zechariah 14:3-9; Luke 24:44-47; John 1:14; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Hebrews 1:1-4 and 4:15)
4. We believe the Messiah's death is to be remembered by partaking in the Shulkan Adonai (Lord's Table) as a reminder of our salvation. (1 Corinthians 5:7 and 11:17-34)
5. We believe sin is the transgression of God's commandments. And, we believe salvation is from God the Father for lost and sinful mankind by their repentance of sin, through the atonement of Yeshua's blood and regeneration from the Holy Spirit for both Jew and Gentile. (Titus 3:5, Romans 10:8-15)
6. We believe that upon acceptance of Yeshua as Lord and Messiah, we are sealed and in-dwelt by the Holy Spirit of Promise, and commanded to be immersed in water (Tevillah) as an outward testimony of our inward salvation experience. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3; Ephesians 1:13, 14)
7. We believe that as Believers there is an empowering presence of the Holy Spirit for the purpose of proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel. (Matthew 3:11; Acts 1:8 and 2:38)
8. We believe that the Scriptures teach the orderly practice of all the Spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12-14)
9. We believe in the resurrection to everlasting life for all of those redeemed. And also, of a resurrection to judgment for the un-redeemed; resulting in an everlasting, conscious separation from God and that their names will be blotted out of the Book of Life. (John 5:24-32; Revelation 20:11-15)
10. We believe that the Torah (teachings), the Prophets and the Writings given to the Jewish people are as valid today as when they were first received. (Deuteronomy 30:11-20 and 6:20-25; Matthew 5:17-19)
11. We believe the Torah is God's gift to Israel and provides universal instructions for behavior and practical life for both Jewish and Gentile Believers. (2 Timothy 3:16)
12. We believe that Israel is God's chosen people and that the Holy Land is Israel's eternal inheritance. (Genesis 12:1-3; Deuteronomy 7:6-10; Isaiah 41:9)
13. We believe that Israel's return to the land is a fulfillment of Biblical prophecy. At God's appointed time, Israel will accept Yeshua as Messiah, and He will establish His worldwide reign from Jerusalem. (Genesis 12:1-3; Jeremiah 31:31-37, Ezekiel 34:11-19 and 36:22-38; Zechariah 12:10)
14. We believe that Jewish followers of Yeshua are called to maintain their Jewish Biblical heritage and to remain part of the people of Israel and the universal body of Believers. (Exodus 19:5, 6; Romans 11)
15. We believe that Jewish and Non-Jewish Believers have been grafted together as 'one new man' and are partakers of the covenants and richness of the Olive Tree. (Romans 11:17-21; Ephesians 2:11-13)
16. We believe that Spiritual life is grounded in godly family units within the relational framework of congregations, whereby fellow Messianic Believers are to be encouraged, trained and disciplined. Families in Messianic Jewish Congregations should be strengthened and established in their Messianic calling to covenant life. (Matthew 18:15-18; Romans 9:1-5; 1 Corinthians 7:17-20; Galatians 6:1, 2)
17. We believe in the Biblical teachings regarding the sanctity of life from conception to natural death and the holiness of marriage between one man and one woman. (Exodus 21:22-24; Leviticus 18-20; Psalms 139; Matthew 19:6-9)
18. We believe that Israel remains the chosen people of God and has never been replaced by all or any portion of the Gentile Church, despite any teaching to the contrary. (Romans 9-11)