



This article was originally sent out as a Shabbat Newsletter on Day 10 of Month 11 on the Creator's calendar, also known as January 11, 2025 on the Roman calendar.

It was quite a week of weather. While many people were focused on the back to back winter storms hitting the center of the country, all of a sudden the area surrounding Los Angeles was ablaze, and it is still on fire.

It is very interesting to see how some of these people are responding to the loss of their material possession. Western culture places extraordinary significance on their homes and their possessions.

I often like to point out how this stands in stark contrast to the patriarchs of the faith who lived in tents, as did Elohim for centuries. When King Yahushua came, he was essentially homeless.

He famously stated: *"Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."* Matthew 8:20 and Luke 9:58

Last week I talked about understanding time in terms of ages and the need for a heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear.

I also talked about the need to be wise, although wisdom by itself is not enough for a follower of King Yahushua.

I often remind people of King Solomon, who was renowned for his knowledge and wisdom, yet his life ended in tragedy and sorrow. He was literally handed the keys to the kingdom by his father David, yet he allowed the kingdom to slip through his fingers.

David was a warrior King, responsible for uniting the divided houses of Yisrael and Yahudah. He brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem and established Jerusalem as the capital city of the united Kingdom.

David even made all the plans and preparations for the Temple and readied the reign of Solomon for peace and prosperity. David could not actually build the House of $\aleph \Upsilon \aleph \aleph$ because he had too much blood on his hands. That honor and privilege would be bestowed upon Solomon.

King Solomon essentially had his reign handed to him on a platter by his father, which seemed to be off to a good start. Solomon first went and offered a thousand burnt offerings to Elohim, and Elohim then appeared to him.

"⁷ On that night Elohim appeared to Solomon, and said to him, 'Ask! What shall I give you?' ⁸ And Solomon said to Elohim: 'You have shown

great mercy to David my father, and have made me king in his place. ⁹ Now, O אלהים Elohim, let Your promise to David my father be established, for You have made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. ¹⁰ Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of Yours?’ ¹¹ Then Elohim said to Solomon: ‘Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches or wealth or honor or the life of your enemies, nor have you asked long life - but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge My people over whom I have made you king - ¹² wisdom and knowledge are granted to you; and I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like.’ 2 Chronicles 1:7-12

Solomon asked for wisdom and knowledge so he could rightly judge the people and Elohim gave Him more than he asked for. Things seemed like this was going to be a golden age for Yisrael. The question is “What would Solomon do with all of that wisdom and knowledge, as well as the wealth and the riches?”

We know that he built the Temple, but he went beyond that task.

“^{1:13} So Solomon came to Jerusalem from the high place that was at Gibeon, from before the tabernacle of meeting, and reigned over Israel. ¹⁴ And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen; he had one thousand four hundred chariots and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he stationed in the chariot cities and with the king in Jerusalem. ¹⁵ Also the king made silver and gold as common in Jerusalem as stones, and he made cedars as abundant as the sycamores which are in the lowland. ¹⁶ And Solomon had horses imported from Egypt and Keveh; the king’s merchants bought them in Keveh at the current price. ¹⁷ They also acquired and imported from Egypt a chariot for six hundred shekels of silver, and a horse for one hundred and fifty; thus, through their agents, they exported them to all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria.

2:1 Then Solomon determined to build a temple for the Name of אֱלֹהִים, and a royal house for himself. 2:2 Solomon selected seventy thousand men to bear burdens, eighty thousand to quarry stone in the mountains, and three thousand six hundred to oversee them.” 2 Chronicles 1:13 to 2:2

And here is a description of his reign:

“²⁰ Yahudah and Yisrael were as many as the sand by the sea. They ate and drank and were happy. ²¹ Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates to the land of the Philistines and to the border of Egypt. They brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life. ²² Solomon’s provision for one day was thirty cors of fine flour and sixty cors of meal, ²³ ten fat oxen, and twenty pasture-fed cattle, a hundred sheep, besides deer, gazelles, roebucks, and fattened fowl. ²⁴ For he had dominion over all the region west of the Euphrates from Tiphseh to Gaza, over all the kings west of the Euphrates. And he had peace on all sides around him. ²⁵ And Yahudah and Yisrael lived in safety, from Dan even to Beersheba, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, all the days of Solomon. ²⁶ Solomon also had 40,000 stalls of horses for his chariots, and 12,000 horsemen. ²⁷ And those officers supplied provisions for King Solomon, and for all who came to King Solomon’s table, each one in his month. They let nothing be lacking. ²⁸ Barley also and straw for the horses and swift steeds they brought to the place where it was required, each according to his duty. ²⁹ And Elohim gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, ³⁰ so that Solomon’s wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. ³¹ For he was wiser than all other men, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol, and his fame was in all the surrounding Nations. ³² He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were 1,005. ³³ He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of the wall. He spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of reptiles, and of fish. ³⁴ And people of all Nations came to

hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.” 1 Kings 4:20-34

Notice how Yahudah and Yisrael were identified separately. David first ruled over the House of Yahudah for seven years from Hebron. He then united all the tribes when the House of Yisrael anointed him king and he ruled over the all Yisrael for another 33 years. He reigned for 40 years total, which is a Messianic reference.

Remember how Moses established the pattern of three 40 day periods on the mountain totaling 120 days? Of course, Moses lived to be 120 years old and his life is actually separated in 40 year periods.

Yahushua began His ministry with 40 days in the wilderness. He then remained on earth for 40 days after His resurrection. I believe that He will return after 40 (Jubilee) years from when He declared the acceptable year of אָזְנֵי, which would have been when He began His earthly ministry around the age of 30.¹ It seems like we are close to that time, unless of course אָזְנֵי has a different plan.

I don't spend a lot of time trying to determine future dates, because I think that misses the point. Knowing when the Messiah will return does not equate to being known by the Messiah when He returns. Did you catch that distinction with a difference?

That is the danger in being consumed by wisdom and knowledge alone.

In my new book, *The Israel Dilemma*, I stress how Abraham was chosen after the Tower of Babel incident where the people were divided into Nations. If you have read this newsletter before, then you understand that I try to give people the big picture on the plan of Elohim.

¹ See Luke 4:9

What started as a sin in the Garden of Eden ended up as a full scale rebellion against אַיָּהוָה at Babel. The very existence of Nations is a reminder of the punishment upon mankind for their rebellion at Babel. There were no Nations prior to that point.

The plan of Elohim is to draw a people back to Him from the Nations. He would accomplish that through a covenant made with a man named Abram.

The very hallmark of this man was the fact that he obeyed אַיָּהוָה and his belief in אַיָּהוָה was counted as righteousness.

Here is that Covenant and the promises involved in that Covenant.

"¹ After these things the word of אַיָּהוָה came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."² But Abram said, 'Master אַיָּהוָה, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?'³ Then Abram said, 'Look, You have given me no seed; indeed one born in my house is my heir!'⁴ And behold, the word of אַיָּהוָה came to him, saying, 'This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir.'⁵ Then He brought him outside and said, 'Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.'" And He said to him, 'So shall your seed be.'⁶ And he believed in אַיָּהוָה, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.⁷ Then He said to him, 'I am אַיָּהוָה, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it.'⁸ And he said, 'Master אַיָּהוָה, how shall I know that I will inherit it?'⁹ So He said to him, 'Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.'¹⁰ Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.¹¹ And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.¹² Now when the sun

was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. ¹³ Then He said to Abram: 'Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. ¹⁴ And also the Nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. ¹⁵ Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶ But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.' ¹⁷ And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. ¹⁸ On the same day אַבְרָם made a covenant with Abram, saying: 'To your seed I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates - ¹⁹ the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites, ²⁰ the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, ²¹ the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.'" Genesis 15:1-21

I like to point out that making the preparations for the Covenant ceremony was a lot of work. Do you know how big a three year old heifer is? Abram didn't have cattle panels, crowding tubs and alleys to manage livestock as well as head gates, holders or chutes. He didn't have equipment to haul dead carcasses or running water to clean up. This was a sweaty, smelly and dirty process and the Covenant hinged upon Abram obey and completing his part.

He didn't pass through the parts, which means that he would not be subject to the death penalty for breaking the Covenant, but he was certainly part of the Covenant. And it definitely was a conditional Covenant as we later read about when the children of Yisrael agreed to the Covenant at Sinai and again at Shechem.

Now it's important to point out that Abram's belief was not something just in his mind. It wasn't a fleeting thought or a warm fuzzy feeling

inside. He did not believe Elohim and then turn back to Babylon because he made a decision to accept אָמַן.

In the Hebrew, the word is “aman” (אָמַן) which means “to trust, to be firm in belief, faithful and true.” He did not doubt אָמַן. His belief was demonstrated by the fact that he followed Elohim’s instructions and walked with Elohim. His belief was perfected through his obedience.

He was promised blessings through the Covenant, and his seed could share in those blessings if they continued to obey the terms of the Covenant.

Remember that these promises and this Covenant occurred while Abram was still uncircumcised. That is significant because the ultimate objective of that Covenant was not to stuff a bunch of European Jews into a sliver of Land between the Nile and the Euphrates. Rather, it was for individuals from the uncircumcised Nations to be drawn back to Elohim through a covenant relationship that involved a circumcised heart.

When you consider the promises of the Covenant, both the land boundaries and the multitudes of offspring, we see a fulfillment of those promises during the reign of Solomon. Indeed, the Nations were being drawn to the kingdom to see the King.

This was the ultimate set up and a fulfillment of the Covenant made with Abram. The Nations would come to see the king in Jerusalem, and he would tell them all about the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Right?

Well, sadly, that is not what happened. Instead of directing the Nations to Elohim, Solomon was directed away from Elohim by the Nations.

Even the king was supposed to obey the Torah, and there were specific instructions for the king as follows:

“¹⁴ When you come to the land which אַיִן your Elohim is giving you, and possess it and dwell in it, and say, ‘I will set a king over me like all the Nations that are around me,’ ¹⁵ you shall surely set a king over you whom אַיִן your Elohim chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. ¹⁶ But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for אַיִן has said to you, ‘You shall not return that way again.’ ¹⁷ Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself. ¹⁸ Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this Torah in a scroll, from the one before the priests, the Levites. ¹⁹ And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear אַיִן his Elohim and be careful to observe all the words of this Torah and these statutes, ²⁰ that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Yisrael.” Deuteronomy 17:14-20

So, not a lot of horses, wives or money. Write a scroll, read the scroll so that the king can “learn to fear אַיִן.” Seems simple and understandable. But what about those horses?

In ancient middle eastern cultures kings rode horses into battle and they rode a donkey if they came in peace. Remember when Solomon was anointed King, he rode a mule.

“³² And King David said, ‘Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada.’ So they came before the king.

33 The king also said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord, and have Solomon my son ride on my own mule, and take him down to Gihon. 34 There let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him king over Yisrael; and blow the shofar, and say, Long live King Solomon!" 35 Then you shall come up after him, and he shall come and sit on my throne, and he shall be king in my place. For I have appointed him to be ruler over Yisrael and Yahudah." 1 Kings 1:32

The primary point was that the king was supposed to be a humble servant. When he rode on a donkey, it was an exercise in humility.

It's no different than the pride and egos of men today. The rich and the prideful often reveal their hearts through their "ride." The world fully expects their favorite sports star to hop into their Lambo or Ferrari after the big game.

Further, אֲדָמָה agreed to fight Yisrael's battles, so the king was not supposed to be elevated in stature and take the credit.

To reinforce all of this, the King of Yisrael was supposed to write his own Torah scroll and read it every day. I wonder if Solomon forgot to do that, because he obviously got sucked into the world. He had to dress to impress all of the kings, rulers and dignitaries that came to visit.

The King of Yisrael was supposed to represent Elohim and not conform to the Nations. Sadly, despite all the gifts of wisdom, knowledge and riches, Solomon's life ended in tragedy because he violated all of the specific Commandments applicable to kings.

It's interesting that they never usually teach that part in Sunday School. As a child, I was always told about King Solomon and his wisdom as if he was the shining example of a king.

He was an example for sure, but he was an example of what not to do.

Here is the end of the story.

“¹ Now King Solomon loved many foreign women, along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, ²from the Nations concerning which אַיָּאָל had said to the people of Yisrael, You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods. Solomon clung to these in love. ³ He had 700 wives, who were princesses, and 300 concubines. And his wives turned away his heart. ⁴ For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to אַיָּאָל his Elohim, as was the heart of David his father. ⁵ For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. ⁶ So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of אַיָּאָל and did not wholly follow אַיָּאָל, as David his father had done. ⁷ Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Molech the abomination of the Ammonites, on the mountain east of Jerusalem. ⁸ And so he did for all his foreign wives, who made offerings and sacrificed to their gods. ⁹ And אַיָּאָל was angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned away from אַיָּאָל, the Elohim of Yisrael, who had appeared to him twice ¹⁰ and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods. But he did not keep what אַיָּאָל commanded. ¹¹ Therefore אַיָּאָל said to Solomon, Since this has been your practice and you have not kept My Covenant and My statutes that I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and will give it to your servant. ¹² Yet for the sake of David your father I will not do it in your days, but I will tear it out of the hand of your son. ¹³ However, I will not tear away all the kingdom, but I will give one tribe to your son, for the sake of David My servant and for the sake of Jerusalem that I have chosen.” 1 Kings 11:1-13

It's hard to imagine that during the reign of one king, things could take such a horrible turn. The guy who built an incredible Temple for אֱלֹהִים actually forgot אֱלֹהִים.

Not only would the Kingdom be divided, Solomon's actions would also result in the removal of peace from the kingdom.

Read what also happened.

"¹⁴ And אֱלֹהִים raised up an adversary against Solomon, Hadad the Edomite. He was of the royal house in Edom. ¹⁵ For when David was in Edom, and Joab the commander of the army went up to bury the slain, he struck down every male in Edom ¹⁶ (for Joab and all Yisrael remained there six months, until he had cut off every male in Edom). ¹⁷ But Hadad fled to Egypt, together with certain Edomites of his father's servants, Hadad still being a little child. ¹⁸ They set out from Midian and came to Paran and took men with them from Paran and came to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt, who gave him a house and assigned him an allowance of food and gave him land. ¹⁹ And Hadad found great favor in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him in marriage the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen. ²⁰ And the sister of Tahpenes bore him Genubath his son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's house. And Genubath was in Pharaoh's house among the sons of Pharaoh. ²¹ But when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers and that Joab the commander of the army was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to my own country. ²² But Pharaoh said to him, What have you lacked with me that you are now seeking to go to your own country? And he said to him, Only let me depart. ²³ Elohim also raised up as an adversary to him, Rezon the son of Eliada, who had fled from his master Hadadezer king of Zobah. ²⁴ And he gathered men about him and became leader of a marauding band, after the killing by David. And they went to Damascus and lived there and made him king in Damascus. ²⁵ He was an adversary of Yisrael all the days of Solomon, doing harm as Hadad did. And he loathed Yisrael

and reigned over Syria. ²⁶ Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephraimite of Zeredah, a servant of Solomon, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, also lifted up his hand against the king. ²⁷ And this was the reason why he lifted up his hand against the king. Solomon built the Millo, and closed up the breach of the city of David his father. ²⁸ The man Jeroboam was very able, and when Solomon saw that the young man was industrious he gave him charge over all the forced labor of the house of Joseph. ²⁹ And at that time, when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him on the road. Now Ahijah had dressed himself in a new garment, and the two of them were alone in the open country. ³⁰ Then Ahijah laid hold of the new garment that was on him, and tore it into twelve pieces. ³¹ And he said to Jeroboam, Take for yourself ten pieces, for thus says אֱלֹהִים , the Elohim of Yisrael, 'Behold, I am about to tear the kingdom from the hand of Solomon and will give you ten tribes ³² (but he shall have one tribe, for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen out of all the tribes of Yisrael), ³³ because they have forsaken me and worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the Ammonites, and they have not walked in My ways, doing what is right in My sight and keeping My statutes and My rules, as David his father did. ³⁴ Nevertheless, I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand, but I will make him ruler all the days of his life, for the sake of David My servant whom I chose, who kept My commandments and My statutes. ³⁵ But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand and will give it to you, ten tribes. ³⁶ Yet to his son I will give one tribe, that David My servant may always have a lamp before Me in Jerusalem, the city where I have chosen to put My name. ³⁷ And I will take you, and you shall reign over all that your soul desires, and you shall be king over Yisrael. ³⁸ And if you will listen to all that I command you, and will walk in My ways, and do what is right in My eyes by keeping My statutes and My commandments, as David My servant did, I will be with you and will build you a sure house, as I built for David, and I will give Yisrael to you. ³⁹ And I will afflict the offspring of David because of this, but not forever.

40 Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. But Jeroboam arose and fled into Egypt, to Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon. 41 Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the Book of the Acts of Solomon? 42 And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. 43 And Solomon slept with his fathers and was buried in the city of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.” 1 Kings 11:14-43

Here again, the fact that Solomon sought to kill Jeroboam demonstrates how far he had fallen. He was under a curse and instead of repenting, his solution was to try to thwart the will of Elohim by killing the man that אֱלֹהִים had chosen to take command of the House of Yisrael.

Solomon's actions not only resulted in the dividing of the kingdom of Yisrael, but it also gave rise to a renewed threat from Edom.

Remember the sibling rivalry between Esau and Jacob that started at birth. Jacob later disguised himself as Esau in order to get the blessing of the firstborn from Isaac. Esau hated his brother and that hatred continued through time.

Because of the sin of Solomon, the Edomite threat regained strength through Hadad. During the Hasmonean reign the Edomites were circumcised and the deception of Jacob was finally turned back on him when Herod the Edomite became king over the Yahudim.

When Yahushua arrived as the king from the line of David, He was welcomed by an Edomite king who tried to kill Him as an infant, just like Joab tried to kill Hadad.

Unlike King Solomon though, King Yahushua demonstrated what אֱלֹהִים expected from a King. He was bestowed with even greater wisdom than Solomon, and He had the fear of אֱלֹהִים.

Here is the prophesied expectation of this descendant from Jesse, the father of David.

“¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ² And the Spirit of אֱלֹהִים shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of אֱלֹהִים. ³ And his delight shall be in the fear of אֱלֹהִים. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips she shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder’s den. ⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of אֱלֹהִים as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as za signal for the peoples - of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious. ¹¹ In that day the Master will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea. ¹² He will raise a signal for the Nations and will assemble the banished of Yisrael, and gather the dispersed of Yahudah from the four corners of the earth. ¹³ The jealousy of Ephraim shall depart, and those who harass Yahudah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not be jealous of Yahudah, and Yahudah shall not harass

Ephraim. ¹⁴ But they shall swoop down on the shoulder of the Philistines in the west, and together they shall plunder the people of the east. They shall put out their hand against Edom and Moab, and the Ammonites shall obey them. ¹⁵ And אַיָּאֵל will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt, and will wave his hand over the River with His scorching breath, and strike it into seven channels, and he will lead people across in sandals. ¹⁶ And there will be a highway from Assyria for the remnant that remains of his people, as there was for Yisrael when they came up from the land of Egypt.” Isaiah 11:1-16

Yahushua specifically compared Himself with Solomon and declared that “*a greater than Solomon is here.*”² He surely was greater than Solomon. He did not simply have knowledge and wisdom, all seven Spirits were upon Him.

1. The Spirit of אַיָּאֵל
2. The Spirit of wisdom
3. The Spirit of understanding
4. The Spirit of counsel
5. The Spirit of might
6. The Spirit of knowledge
7. The Spirit of the fear of אַיָּאֵל

This is the pattern of the Menorah in the Temple, and that is why the lamps were always to remain lit. It represented the seven spirits before the Throne in the Heavens that we read about in Revelation.

“And from the Throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of Elohim.” Revelation 4:5³

² Luke 11:31

³ See also Revelation 1:4, 3:1 and 5:6

The Kingdom after Solomon was divided and both houses were exiled, all beginning with failed leadership. In fact, King Jeroboam was no better than Solomon. He ended up establishing a false system of worship involving golden calves, of all things.

אֱלֹהִים was supposed to be their King, but the people wanted a man to rule over them, like the Nations around them. Their Kings failed to lead them according to the ways of אֱלֹהִים.

That is why אֱלֹהִים sent His Son in the flesh, and that is why Yahushua said “Follow Me.” He led by example and He lived quite the opposite of King Solomon. He obeyed the Torah, taught the Torah and lived the Torah because He was the living Torah. He did it all for the love of a future wedding to a future Bride.

So, this is an important distinction that we must all consider as we read the instructions daily. We don’t just read and memorize facts and information. We live the instructions.

It is the difference between the head and the heart.

I’m sure you’ve heard the expression that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. To a certain extent, that is correct.

People may think good thoughts and have wonderful desires all day long. They may know all the mysteries of the universe and all about אֱלֹהִים. None of that matters if they are not known by the Master.⁴

He tells the “lawless” to depart from Him because He does not know them. The reason He does not know them is because they are not living according to His ways.

⁴ See Matthew 7:21-23

Well, here is a gift from King Yahushua. He taught that the Torah and the Prophets distilled down to two Commandments.

“³⁷ You shall love אַיִן your Elohim with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the first and great Commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Torah and the Prophets.”
Matthew 22:37-40

Both of these are Commandments are found in the Torah. Yahushua didn't make up some new teaching or invent new Commandments for a new religion. He was simply condensing the Torah and prioritized the Commandments.

If we want to be part of the family of Elohim we must first love אַיִן with everything we have and then we love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

That's easy to remember but not so easy to live out daily.

How do we love אַיִן? It starts with obedience. Yahushua said *“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”*⁵

Just like any child shows their love and respect for their parents through honoring and obeying their instructions, the children of Elohim do the same for their Father.

So, we express our love of אַיִן through our actions, and obeying the simple Torah instructions is just the beginning.

The first Commandment quoted by Yahushua is also known as “The Shema.”

⁵ John 14:15

Here is that Commandment in context.

"¹ Now this is the commandment, and these are the statutes and judgments which אַתָּאֵל your Elohim has commanded to teach you, that you may observe them in the land which you are crossing over to possess, ² that you may fear אַתָּאֵל your Elohim, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. ³ Therefore hear, O Yisrael, and be careful to observe it, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as אַתָּאֵל of your fathers has promised you - "a land flowing with milk and honey." ⁴ Hear, O Yisrael: אַתָּאֵל our Elohim, אַתָּאֵל is one! ⁵ You shall love אַתָּאֵל your Elohim with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. ¹⁰ So it shall be, when אַתָּאֵל your Elohim brings you into the land of which He swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give you large and beautiful cities which you did not build, ¹¹ houses full of all good things, which you did not fill, hewn-out wells which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant - when you have eaten and are full - ¹² then beware, lest you forget אַתָּאֵל who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. ¹³ You shall fear אַתָּאֵל your Elohim and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name. ¹⁴ You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are all around you ¹⁵ (for אַתָּאֵל your Elohim is a jealous אַתָּאֵל among you), lest the anger of אַתָּאֵל your Elohim be aroused against you and destroy you from the face of the earth. ¹⁶ You shall not tempt אַתָּאֵל your Elohim as you tempted Him in Massah. ¹⁷ You shall diligently keep the commandments of אַתָּאֵל your Elohim, His testimonies, and His statutes which He has commanded you. ¹⁸ And you shall do what is right

and good in the sight of אֱלֹהִים, that it may be well with you, and that you may go in and possess the good land of which אֱלֹהִים swore to your fathers, ¹⁹ to cast out all your enemies from before you, as אֱלֹהִים has spoken.” Deuteronomy 6:1-19

It is almost as if this was written for Solomon, because he did not have understanding to go with his wisdom and knowledge. He also forgot אֱלֹהִים and lacked the fear of אֱלֹהִים.

Did you notice how this was so intimately focused on the Land? The Covenant people needed to diligently obey when they were in the Covenant Land. Their tenancy was conditional on their obedience.

This is such a fundamental principle in the Scriptures, but most Christians completely fail to see it because they have been taught by lawless shepherds.

While we need to read the words, write the words and speak the words, the ultimate goal is to have the words in our hearts.

We bind them as a sign upon our hands. A sign is something that can be seen, and people are supposed to see the words through our actions – the things we do with our hands. Frontlets between our eyes represents our minds, our thoughts and the words that we utter from our mouths.

This, of course, hearkens to the New Covenant promised by Jeremiah. *“But this is the Covenant that I will make with the אֱלֹהִים-House of Yisrael after those days, says אֱלֹהִים: I will put My אֱלֹהִים-Torah in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” Jeremiah 31:33*

We know that the Messiah came for the lost sheep of the House of Yisrael and it is interesting that only the אֱלֹהִים-House of Yisrael is

mentioned here. That is because we need the ✠-Torah in our minds and on our hearts, not on parchment or sheepskin. It takes both the mind and the heart and that only happens through the Spirit.

So, while we want to be included among the wise virgins who make it to the wedding and are known by the Master,⁶ ultimately wisdom must flow through a circumcised heart. That is the only way that we can truly love אַיִן אֵל.

And how do we love our neighbor? It was simply stated by Yahushua as follows: *“Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Torah and the Prophets.”* Matthew 7:12

I often hear people during tragedies say that “our thoughts are with you and your family.” אַיִן אֵל does not require thoughts, He requires action. When asked about the issue of loving your neighbor, Yahushua gave the Parable of the Good Samaritan. It involved a person spending time, effort and money on behalf of a person who likely hated Him.⁷

He expounded further by stating: *“⁴³ You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? ⁴⁸ Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”* Matthew 5:43-48

⁶ See Matthew 25:1-11

⁷ Luke 10:25-37

So, there you have it. While King Solomon spent his gifts, talents, time and energy loving many women and pursuing selfish pleasures, King Yahushua taught us the ways of the Kingdom.

King Solomon, the son of David, failed to get his priorities straight, and that led to the division and exile of Yisrael. To be fair, if it wasn't Solomon, it would have been another king, as we see from the history of Yisrael and Yahudah.

The efforts of men are doomed to fail in the end, and that is why all of the talk about making America great and building another temple is futile and completely missing the point.

אֱלֹהִים sent His Son as the Son of David and Son of Adam specifically because men fail. That is why no one can work their way to redemption, deliverance or salvation. Yahushua was the only one Who could correct the failures of the Covenant that originated with Abram, and that is why He suffered the penalty of death.

Yahushua fulfilled the function of the King, and He came to unite the Kingdom that was divided because of Solomon. Instead of being seated in Jerusalem as the Nations are drawn to Him, He chose to first die for His subjects.

He came in peace bringing shalom. That is why He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey during the last week of His life.⁸ What an amazing King!

Since He had to die, that is why He trained His disciples and sent His servants into the Nations to spread the Good News of the Kingdom.

⁸ Matthew 21:1-11

That's where we find ourselves now, in service of the King, and anticipating His return. Instead of a donkey, He will be riding a white horse because He is coming to claim what belongs to Him.

"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war." Revelation 19:11

Yahushua invested His life in you and me and He will be expecting a return on that investment when He comes to examine His flock.⁹ We are not simply supposed to be spending all of our time pursuing our own pleasures like King Solomon. We are supposed to be learning, teaching and living the Kingdom until King Yahushua returns.

That is why it is important that we remember these lessons from Kings.

Berakhot

Todd

www.shemayisrael.net

Would you please join me in prayers for healing concerning a precious brother named Mike? He is having certain prostate issues and he is trusting אֱלֹהֵינוּ to heal him completely. We know that we serve a Master Who heals and so let's petition Him together for Mike.

Shema Yisrael (Hear O Yisrael) are the words that Yahushua spoke when asked what was the First Command.

"The first of all the Commandments is: 'Hear, O Yisrael,

⁹ Matthew 25:13-30

אֵלֶּיךָ our Elohim, אֵלֶּיךָ is one.”
Mark 12:29

“He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”
Matthew 11:15