



*Parasha Beshalach*

January 30, 2021

*Parasha:* Exodus 13:17-17:16

*Haftarah:* Judges 4:4-5:31

*Ketuwim Shlichim:* 1Corinthians 10:1-13

*Shabbat shalom mishpacha!* Our *parasha* this week, *Beshalach*, began with the events immediately after Pharaoh let Israel leave Egypt. But, ADONAI wasn't finished with Pharaoh and He strengthened his heart again to do the evil that he already had in it. When Pharaoh realized that he was letting all that free labor go, he changed his mind and set out after Israel. According to tradition, it was seven days later that he arrived at the Red Sea. If this was true, the sea split on the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It is amazing that after seeing all the destruction of the plagues and Egypt was a shambles, he now believed that he could bring Israel back. How wrong can you be?

The good news was all Israel's. ADONAI caused the sea to close on and drown Pharaoh's army. There is an old spiritual, "Oh Mary Don't You Weep." I think it really should be "Oh *Miryam*" instead of Mary. It goes: "Oh Mary, don't you weep, don't you mourn. Pharaoh's army got drown-ded, oh Mary don't you weep!" *Miryam* was not weeping, she was dancing for joy! Today is known as *Shabbat shira*, the Sabbath of the Song. *1 Then Moses and Bnei-Yisrael sang this song to Adonai: I will sing to Adonai, for He is highly exalted! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea. 2 Adonai is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation. This is my God, and I will glorify Him, my father's God, and I will exalt Him* (Exodus 15:1-2 TLV). This song, of which this is only a part, *Shirat HaYam*, The Song of the Sea, was the beginning of a miraculous journey for Israel, a journey which had the potential to be all good, but some of it turned out to be very bad.

Israel's journey from slavery to Promised Land is very much like our journey as a nation. Here in the United States, we have had some good times and some very bad times, just as Israel did. I think you all know how much I like to draw parallels and I won't disappoint you today. Using our nation's journey from founding time until now, I will compare it with Israel's journey from Canaan to the Promised Land. This is especially relevant right now because of where we find ourselves as a nation and where we find ourselves as a divided body of Messiah.

But, this should not be a surprise to us. We are students of the Bible and we have been watching the signs of the times closely. It is not a surprise to ADONAI. Through Isaiah He said: *9 "Remember the former things of old: For I am God—there is no other. I am God, and there is none like Me— 10 declaring the end from the beginning, from ancient time, what is yet to come, saying, "My purpose will stand, and I will accomplish all that I please"* (Isaiah 46:9-10 TLV). He declared the end at the beginning, knowing what would be happening to us right now. But, this is not a message of doom and gloom. Today is a day of rejoicing. Revival is coming and we have been given the opportunity to be that which we have been preparing for years – to be a light to the nations.

The body of Messiah in the United States has been on a journey of just a bit over 400 years. Having left religious oppression in England, the Christians on board the Mayflower landed on these shores on November 11, 1620. I liken that to Jacob's family leaving Canaan for Egypt. Jacob's family was seeking freedom from famine while the Pilgrims were seeking freedom from religious persecution. After leaving those respective places, there were good times in Egypt for Israel and good times in the Americas for the early settlers.

Then, a pharaoh who did not know Joseph put the Israelites in slavery and King George put our Americans in slavery, taxation without representation, a heavy burden. The next phase was the plagues in Egypt and the plague of war against England, the American Revolution, a war which our ancestors believed was supported by G-d. Pharaoh let Israel go and King George and England surrendered, letting the Americans go. And, the American colonies passed through the Red Sea, the British Redcoats, into freedom.

At Sinai, ADONAI gave His *Torah* to Israel. Attributing their freedom to G-d, the American colonies wrote a *Torah*, a constitution, a document for living, at the American Sinai, Philadelphia. Then, they installed their first president, George Washington, a type of Moses. And, the new nation began their walk in the wilderness. As Rabbi Jonathan Cahn pointed out in "*The Harbinger*," President Washington declared that this nation should follow G-d's laws: "Since we ought to be no less persuaded that the propitious smiles of Heaven, can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained:.." In other words, G-d will not smile on those who disregard the eternal rules of order and right, the Holy Scriptures. But, ADONAI does not judge quickly. He gives ample time, and has given the people of this nation more than two hundred years to live according to His Word, a time that is but a blink of an eye in His time. But, the opposite has happened. During this symbolic period in the wilderness, the nation has slowly moved away from following ADONAI's rules and now scoffs at His Word regarding abortion, homosexuality, perversion and fornication.

Our focus at this time now shifts from the United States to the Body of Messiah in the United States. This past November 3<sup>rd</sup>, twelve spies were sent out to reconnoiter the land by casting their votes. Ten of them returned an evil report, voting for abortion, homosexuality and socialism. That evil report has caused ADONAI to decree that we must remain in the wilderness until the evil is purged, a symbolic period of forty years. The old generation, those who deny His word and follow perversion, must die out before we can enter the Promised Land. The new generation, Yeshua's true followers, are especially now, called to birth children into the new generation, the generation which will enter the Land. The good news is that the old generation can be reborn. No one has to die spiritually. And, ADONAI has called the Joshua's and Caleb's of the new generation to take the lead in proclaiming the *Besorah*, the Good News, to our nation. We have been given an opportunity to do what we failed to do before.

What just happened here in the United States? We just got real notice that we are in the last days. Only a small part of Yeshua's body even believes that we are in the last days. We cannot not ignore the signs of the times, signs which also include the fulfillment of major prophecies about Israel. Right now, the secular Nation of Israel is in about as bad shape politically as the United States. There is growing resentment there against the ultra-orthodox and the Chief Rabbi has said that they are nearing civil war. ADONAI knows all this about Israel and He knows what is going on in our nation. It is we who must recognize what is going on and act accordingly.

As a body, we have been preparing for many years and now is the time to actively take the *Besorah*, the Good News of Yeshua, to those around us. His Good News also includes teaching them what He taught us. 19 *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, immersing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Ruach ha-Kodesh, 20 teaching them to observe all I have commanded you”* (Matthew 28:19-20a TLV). Regarding our doing this, Yeshua said: 16 *“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves”* (Matthew 10:16 TLV). We must have the wisdom of the Word coupled with the guidance of the *Ruach* in order to be wise. We can’t go forward without knowing the Word. It’s the truth that sets people free! And, we must also be innocent of the ways of the world. While we don’t do the big things, the big sins, we must guard against the smaller things. This includes the words that come out of our mouths or what we put in print online. Facebook, Twitter and the other forms of social media are avenues for *lashon hara* and *lashon hara* is rampant in our nation and even among Yeshua’s followers. David said in Psalm 34: 14 *“Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking treachery”* (Psalm 34:14 TLV). To be as innocent as doves we must guard our tongues against the evil tongue, *lashon hara*. We can’t be effective for Yeshua if we’re hypocrites.

What more is there to say? Now, it is what we must do. And, we must proclaim the Word in its purest form to those around us. This includes not only leading people to a saving knowledge of Yeshua, but also teaching them what He has taught us. Today, it has become very clear that Babylon is the world system, a system of which our nation is very much a part. But, we shouldn’t weep for what has just been lost. We press onward to our goal, revival and the return of Yeshua. Ultimately, the world will weep saying: 10 ... *“Alas, alas, O great city— O Babylon, the mighty city! For in a single hour your judgment has come”* (Revelation 18:10b TLV). We will not weep with them nor should we weep for what has just been lost. Today, as sweeping social changes are taking place, we must realize as Job did: 21 .... *Adonai gave and Adonai has taken away; blessed be the Name of Adonai”* (Job 1:21b TLV). But, after it was taken away from Job, ADONAI gave him so much more than he had before. And, that is what we can expect; much more than we had before. Not necessarily material things, but spiritual ones; revival and the return of Yeshua.

The people who came to the Americas have symbolically gone from Canaan to Egypt and slavery. And, out of it, we have been given a nation by ADONAI, the United States, and an opportunity to live and walk in it in His ways. We have failed ADONAI’s final test and have been left in the wilderness to continue wandering. But, it was the next generation of Israelites who were being perfected and so it is with us. Just as Israel had to physically fight in the wilderness, so we, the body of Yeshua in the United States must fight. We must be Joshua’s and Caleb’s and even Pinchas’s. Our battle is not physical combat, but it is physical. Physical effort is required. We are called to be witnesses. And it is also spiritual. And, as we recognize that it is against spiritual wickedness in high places, ultimately, *HaSatan*, we combat him not only by prayer, but also by making disciples for Yeshua, bringing new warriors into the battle.

The goal for Israel was the Promised Land. Our promised land is the return of Yeshua and the eventual peace of The World To Come. But, there is much to do before that will happen. We must both work and pray for revival, even as we proclaim the Good News. And, we need the help of Israel, the Jews of the world, in leading revival and we excitedly wait upon G-d’s promise to save all Israel and fulfill Zechariah 8: 23 *Thus says Adonai-Tzva’ot, “In those days it will come to pass that ten men from every language of the nations will grasp the corner of the garment of a Jew saying, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is*

*with you*” (Zechariah 8:23 TLV). Sometime after that, this will happen: 30 “*Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the land will mourn, and they will see ‘the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven’ with power and great glory. 31 He will send out His angels with a great shofar, and they will gather together His chosen from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other*” (Matthew 24:30-31 TLV). This is the Promised Land which we have been striving to reach. We don’t know how long it will take and our focus shouldn’t be on how long. Our focus is on the task before us, to make disciples for Yeshua. In this nation, we are citizens of the United States and we should do our civic duty by voting and obeying her laws. As followers of Yeshua, we are commanded to pray for those in governmental authority over us, President Biden, Vice President Harris and the congress. Our goal as followers of Yeshua is not to make this nation, the government of it, a nation, that follows ADONAI. Our goal is to make this nation a nation of people who follow ADONAI. There is a difference. If the hearts of the citizens are turned to ADONAI, it will then be reflected in the character of the nation. Our goal is to make this nation a nation of people who follow ADONAI; and not just in name only.

After Israel emerged on the other side of the Red Sea, they sang: *Mi kamocha ba'elim Adonai?* “Who is like You among the gods ADONAI?” All of the gods of Egypt had just been defeated. None is like You among the gods, ADONAI! The United States emerged on the other side of her Red Sea after England surrendered and she began her life of freedom. About this same time, these words were written: “...God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect God is just, that his justice cannot sleep forever.” Who do you think wrote these words? It was the person that many people claim did not believe in G-d. It was Thomas Jefferson. He said, “G-d is just and His justice cannot sleep forever.” In other words, “how long can ADONAI not react to injustices against His truth? While those of us today cannot understand how Thomas Jefferson and George Washington could own human beings, especially in light of their proclaimed faith in G-d, we cannot dispute their other words about G-d. Slavery is wrong and these men and our other slave owning founding fathers were wrong and were sinning against the laws of G-d. Although Washington was blind in this area, his faith in G-d was strong. The ending of slavery by Abraham Lincoln about a hundred years later is a positive in the life of our United States government. But, she has since added other abominations to her list of sins, abortion, homosexuality, adultery and fornication without remorse.

This is not a time for mourning over what has been lost in the nation. It is a time to move forward in the power of ADONAI’s Spirit. Being the second generation in the wilderness is a great place to be if you, as a part of it, remain in the center of the will of the G-d of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Every battle will be won as this body of believers moves forward in unity with committed believers throughout the world and together we move steadily toward the Promised Land.

Just as ancient Israel found peace under the leadership of King David in the place where ADONAI placed His name, Jerusalem, so will the generation coming out of the

<b>Israel</b>	<b>United States</b>
<b>1</b> Canaan to Egypt- under Joseph	<b>1</b> England to America
<b>2</b> Israel under Pharaoh	<b>2</b> Americans under King George
<b>3</b> Plagues in Egypt	<b>3</b> American plague- war
<b>4</b> Pharaoh lets go ( <i>Parasha Beshalach</i> )	<b>4</b> King George lets go (surrenders)
<b>5</b> ADONAI gives Torah at Sinai	<b>5</b> Americans write constitution
<b>6</b> Israel enters the wilderness	<b>6</b> The United States enters wilderness
<b>7</b> Twelve spies; ten returned evil report	<b>7</b> Election day; ten spies returned evil
<b>8</b> Forty years in the wilderness	<b>8</b> Body of Messiah in wilderness
<b>9</b> Israel enters the Promised Land	<b>9</b> Yeshua comes on the clouds
<b>10</b> Israel worships ADONAI in Jerusalem	<b>10</b> Israel worships Yeshua in Jerusalem

Then, the Israel of G-d under the kingship of ADONAI's son Yeshua will be the place which Isaiah described. *2 "It will come to pass in the last days that the mountain of Adonai's House will stand firm as head of the mountains and will be exalted above the hills. So all nations will flow to it. 3 Then many peoples will go and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of Adonai, to the House of the God of Jacob! Then He will teach us His ways, and we will walk in His paths." For Torah will go forth from Zion and the word of Adonai from Jerusalem. 4 He will judge between the nations and decide for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning knives. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war any more"* (Isaiah 2:2-4 TLV). *Shabbat shalom!*