



Yom Kippur Kol Nidre

October 4, 2022

We live in Biblical times, exciting times as we see ADONAI's prophecies being fulfilled around us. Some of the things that we see are not exciting. We see wars, rumors of wars, famine, hurricanes, earthquakes and murder of the brethren. But that's to be expected. Yeshua told His disciples: *29 "But immediately after the trouble of those days, 'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light and the stars will fall from heaven and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.' 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."* (Matthew 24:29-30 TLV). I believe that those days are these days. We will soon see Yeshua coming on the clouds for us. But, we don't know how long "those days" are. The signs are all around us. Israel is a nation again and Jerusalem is once again its capitol. Jerusalem is no longer in the times of the Gentiles, but is now in the times of the Jews. This is the Messianic age. This is not a message of fear, but one of fulfillment, ADONAI's fulfillment of His eternal plan.

As we see these things happening, this is one Scripture that we may think about. *8 You are to count off seven Shabbatot of years—seven times seven years, so that the time is seven Shabbatot of years—49 years. 9 Then on the tenth day of the seventh month, on Yom Kippur, you are to sound a shofar blast—you are to sound the shofar all throughout your land. 10 You are to make the fiftieth year holy, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It is to be a Jubilee to you, when each of you is to return to his own property and each of you is to return to his family. 11 That fiftieth year will be your Jubilee.*" (Leviticus 25:8-11a TLV). Tonight, right now, until sundown tomorrow is *Yom Kippur*, the 10th of *Tishrei*. This is the day that the *shofar* would be blown if it was a Jubilee. We don't know if it is the Jubilee, but we do know that the *sh'mitah* year ended at sundown tonight, the seventh year of the latest cycle of seven years according to Judaism's timeline. That means that this year, 5783, could be the 50th year. But, we don't know ADONAI's time table. The Jubilee has physical benefits, but tonight we are not talking about the physical benefits which ADONAI promised Israel in the Jubilee. We are not thinking about restoration of property, forgiveness of debts and physical provision. We are thinking about the Jubilee in a spiritual way.

What is a Jubilee? It's the 50th year in a cycle of seven, seven year periods. The Hebrew name *Yovel* actually means ram's horn, the instrument used for announcing it. The English name Jubilee means the same thing and is derived from the Latin word for ram's horn. And, the *Yovel* is something that we can get excited about. This past year, 5782, has been a *sh'mitah* year, a year of not planting crops in Israel. For those farmers, today is a release even if it isn't the Jubilee. They have trusted in ADONAI for provision the last year, but are happy to be able to plant and harvest again.

When will the *Yovel* occur? The answer you get depends upon whom you ask and even then, none of the answers may be right. But ADONAI is very serious about Israel

being obedient to the commands which He has given them regarding the *Torah* and the *sh'mitah* year in particular. What happened to Judah and Jerusalem in the 6th century BCE is the prime example. The southern Kingdom of Judah was exiled to Babylon. At the time that Judah was judged, the northern Kingdom of Israel had already been defeated and deported to Assyria and that part of the land of Israel was under the control of others. ADONAI had given Judah more time, possibly because there were a series of righteous kings who tried to be obedient to Him. But eventually their time ran out and G-d sent the people of Judah into exile in Babylon by the hand of a pagan king, Nebuchadnezzar.

Why did ADONAI do this? It was because Judah disobeyed ADONAI. Jeremiah saw the sins of the nation and prophesied their exile: 11 “So this whole land will be a desolate ruin, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon for 70 years. 12 Then it will come to pass, when 70 years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation,” declares Adonai, “the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity, and I will make it ruins forever.” (Jeremiah 25:11-12 TLV). 2Chronicles 36:21 tells us why: 19 They burned the House of God, broke down the wall of Jerusalem, burned all the palaces with fire and destroyed everything of value. 20 He exiled to Babylon those who had escaped the sword and they became slaves to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia—21 in fulfillment of the word of Adonai by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had paid back her Shabbat rests—for as long as it lay desolate—the Shabbat rest was kept till 70 years were complete. (2Chronicles 36:19-21 TLV). What this means is that the seventy years of exile were one year of exile for every seventh year *sh'mitah* which Israel did not keep. It was to pay back to ADONAI the *sh'mitah* years which were not observed. This means that from approximately the time of King David until the time of the exile, Judah did not observe the *sh'mittah* year to release debts and to give the land its rest. 70 years is 10 *sh'mitahs*. Israel failed to observe the *sh'mitah* for 490 actual years. I tell you all this to point out the importance ADONAI places on the obedience of His chosen people, Israel and how important Israel is as a prophetic marker in the world.

So, when is the *Yovel*? Some people predicted the Jubilee seven years ago at the end of the *sh'mitah* year 5775 when 5776 dawned. It didn't happen. There are others who have tracked the *Yovels* and believe that the next one will be 2029 plus or minus one year. And there are probably others predicting in between. ADONAI knows when they are, but an actual *Yovel* has not been observed in the land of Israel since several hundred years before the common era, more than two thousand years ago. Judaism observes the *sh'mitah* to a point, but not the Jubilee. Certain of the modern rabbis of Israel teach that Israel should observe the *sh'mitah* year but they do not teach the observance the *Yovel*. They state that *Torah* says that *Yovel* cannot be observed in Israel until all of the tribes of Israel are back in Israel and living in their allotted tribal land areas. What they really mean however, is that certain of the early century's rabbis decided that this was to be the case and this decision is really *halacha*, or Talmudic law and not *Torah*. I have not been able to find in Scripture where ADONAI made a law stating anything of the sort. But it is obvious from His past decisions regarding failure to observe His *Shabbats* for the land that He does take these matters seriously. Will ADONAI proclaim a *Yovel* within the next few years and what will its effect be?

Whenever it does take place the Jubilee year will be announced by *shofar* on *Yom Kippur*, the 10th of *Tishrei*. And I would suspect that the *shofar* will not be blown by a human, but will be a heavenly *shofar*. But there is also other great significance for that coming day of *Yom Kippur* as well. *Yom Kippur*, the Day of Atonement is a type and shadow

of a future day of fulfillment. We know that as types and shadows, the spring Festivals of ADONAI have been fulfilled by Yeshua. *Chag HaMatzot*, the Festival of Unleavened Bread, which includes *Pesach*, Passover, and also *Shavuot*, Pentecost have been fulfilled. We expect that ADONAI will also fulfill the fall events of *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* and the Festival of *Sukkot*, Tabernacles. What exactly will happen on that future Day of Atonement, we don't know and we can only give a good estimate based on our understanding of Scripture.

But, what we're really talking about here is the final judgment after ADONAI's restoration of the Kingdom through King Yeshua, the righteous Judge. In Acts just before Yeshua ascended into heaven, His disciples asked: 6 ..., "Lord, are You restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?" (Acts 1:6b TLV). Their question really was: "when are you coming back to get us out of this terrible situation with the Romans?" Yeshua answered: 7 ..., "It is not your place to know the times or seasons which the Father has placed under His own control." (Acts 1:7b TLV). We don't know the date, but the day was seen by several of the prophets. Joel saw it: 1 *Blow the shofar in Zion! Sound an alarm on My holy mountain! Let all living in the land tremble—for the day of Adonai is coming—surely it is near!* 2 *A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, as blackness spreads over the mountains. A great and mighty people—from antiquity there was never anything like it, nor after it ever again from generation to generation.* 3 *A fire devours before them and behind them flame blazes up. Like the Garden of Eden is the land before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness. Nothing at all ever escapes them.* (Joel 2:1-3 TLV). Isaiah saw it: 1 *The Ruach Adonai Elohim is on me, because Adonai has anointed me to proclaim Good News to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound,* 2 *to proclaim the year of Adonai's favor and the day of our God's vengeance, to comfort all who mourn.* (Isaiah 61:1-2 TLV). The Day of vengeance of our G-d spoken of by Isaiah and the Day of ADONAI spoken of by Joel are one and the same day. It is also the day when Yochanan, John, saw Yeshua: 10 *I was in the Ruach on the Day of the Lord, and I heard behind me a loud voice like that of a trumpet,..* (Revelation 1:10 TLV). The Day of vengeance of our G-d, the Day of ADONAI and the Day of the L-rd are all the same day. It is the day when Yeshua will return with heaven's armies as *Melekh Mashiah*, King Messiah, Son of David, the conquering king and will defeat all His enemies on the earth.

What will happen after that? In the Scriptures we see three judgments. The first is Matthew 25:31-34, the judgment of the sheep and the goats. The second is found in 2Corinthians 5:10, a judgment of believers' works often referred to as the "judgment seat of Messiah." And, the third is called "the great white throne judgment found in Revelation 20:11-15. Some teach that these three are separate events and some teach that all three are the same one.

Let's consider Matthew first. The first part of chapter 25 is two parables describing the Kingdom of Heaven. The faithfulness of five of the ten virgins and the faithfulness of two of three who were given talents to manage lead into Yeshua's judgment on His throne. 31 *Now when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them from one another, just as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And He will put the sheep on His right, but the goats on His left. 34 Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'* (Matthew 25:31-24 TLV). Some call this

the judgment of the nations because we are told that the nations are assembled before Yeshua, but the context is not of nations, but of individuals. These verses mean that He will separate people, not nations. Sheep and goats can be of the same flock, and Yeshua was making the comparison that the sheep have done His will but the goats have not done His will. This is borne out in the next two verses: 35 *“For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger and you invited Me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.”* (Matthew 25:35-36 TLV). The Great Shepherd knows His flock and only He can separate them. He will say to the goats: 41 ... *“Go away from Me, you cursed ones, into the everlasting fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.”* (Matthew 25:41b TLV). But, it will be different regarding the sheep: 34 *“Then the King will say to those on His right, “Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world”.* (Matthew 25:34 TLV). Yeshua’s choosing of the sheep has nothing whatsoever to do with “good works.” We know that salvation is by faith through grace alone. Our obedience to Yeshua and *Torah* does not contribute to salvation. Yeshua makes it clear that He knows who His sheep are. He said: *“Come, you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”* Our salvation is from before the foundation of the earth because ADONAI is the master of time and space and He always knew what decision you and I would make regarding Yeshua’s atoning sacrifice. This means that in Yeshua’s parable about the virgins and the talents, the good works talked about are not the cause of the sheep being chosen. The works that they were doing were actually the result of their salvation. Sheep obey their shepherd. It was because of their salvation that the faithful virgins served and because of their salvation that the faithful servants with the talents served. Faithful sheep desire to serve their shepherd.

Regarding what is referred to as “the Judgment Seat of Messiah” in 2Corinthians, Sha’ul spoke about our earthly bodies. He tells us that when we are here in our earthly bodies we are away from the permanent body which ADONAI has prepared for us when we go to be with Him. This judgment is only about those who are “in Messiah,” those who have trusted in Yeshua. This appearance will be required for every one of us: 10 *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Messiah, so that each one may receive what is due for the things he did while in the body—whether good or bad.”* (2Corinthians 5:10 TLV). This means that everyone who appears at “Messiah’s court of judgment” is a sheep. Only those whose names are written in “the Lamb’s Book of Life” will be there. At that time, each of us will receive our punishment, but also our reward for service. That is where obedience to Yeshua in this life comes in. The good things we have done become “stars in our crown” as the old song says.

Some believe that the “Great White Throne Judgment” will occur at the end of the millennium, what some teach as the thousand years of peace. This is said to be the judgment of unbelievers in which they are judged according to their works and sentenced to everlasting punishment in the lake of fire. 11 *“Then I saw a great white throne, and the One seated on it. The earth and heaven fled from His presence, but no place was found for them.”* 12 *“And I saw the dead—the great and the small—standing before the throne. The books were opened, and another book was opened—the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what was written in the books, according to their deeds.”* 13 *“The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Sheol gave up the dead in them. Then they were each judged, each one of them, according to their deeds.”* 14 *“Then death and Sheol were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death—the lake of fire.”* 15 *“And if anyone was*

not found written in the Book of Life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:11-15 TLV). The Book of Revelation is full of symbolism. Whether or not there is an actual lake of fire or if it will be eternal separation from ADONAI and Yeshua, we don't know. We do know that we will not be a part of that judgment.

And, if *Yom Kippur* is a shadow of a future fulfillment by Yeshua, we also must consider the possibility that these three judgment events are different pictures of one and the same judgment which will occur after Yeshua has defeated all His enemies. This we see as the spiritual fulfillment of ADONAI's final Jubilee. At the sounding of the *shofar* on the eve of *Yom Kippur* to signal the *Yovel*, the Jubilee, the battle is over, and now each must stand before King Yeshua, our righteous Judge. Just as the seventh year *sh'mitah* was a year of release, so too is the fiftieth year *yovel*. The Jubilee year has been described as a year of *Shabbats*, a time of great *shalom*. The Prophet Isaiah describes ADONAI's final victory for us: 8 "He will swallow up death forever. my Lord Adonai will wipe away tears from every face. He will remove His people's reproach from all the earth. For Adonai has spoken. 9 It will be said in that day: "Behold, this is our God, We waited for Him—He will save us. This is Adonai—we waited for Him. We will rejoice and be glad in His salvation." (Isaiah 25:8-9 TLV). Isaiah continues: 1 In that day, this song will be sung in the land of Judah: "We have a strong city. He appoints salvation as its walls and ramparts. 2 Open the gates! Let the righteous nation enter—one that keeps faith. 3 You keep in perfect peace one whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. 4 Trust in Adonai forever, for the Lord Adonai is a Rock of ages. (Isaiah 26:1-4 TLV). If our desire rests on Him, He will preserve us in perfect peace. This verse in the *Mechon Mamre* Hebrew Bible says: *Yetzer samud, titzor shalom shalom: ki vedah, batucha.* The doubling of the word *shalom*, which means peace, is the way the Hebrew language adds the adjective perfect to a word; in this case, perfect peace. *Shalom, shalom* is perfect peace, the peace which passes all understanding.

After their last Passover meal Yeshua was teaching His disciples. He said: 27 "*Shalom I leave you, My shalom I give to you; but not as the world gives! Do not let your heart be troubled or afraid. 28 You've heard Me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.'*" (John 14:27-28a TLV). His *shalom* comes to us by His Holy Spirit. Many in the body of Messiah today have great fear. If you are filled with fear, you are not filled with Yeshua's *Ruach*. There is much evil in the world, but there is a coming day when the *shofar* will sound to signal the *Yovel*. Torah says: 10 "*You are to make the fiftieth year holy, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It is to be a Jubilee to you,...*" (Leviticus 25:10a TLV). Consider the possibility that when that *shofar* sounds, we will immediately be in eternity. Consider that there is no actual one thousand years coming, no millennium, but a direct entry into eternity. You have my past teachings on "the Millennium and know my beliefs regarding it." Looking at it this way, the final *Yovel* is also a symbolic picture of eternity with ADONAI and with Yeshua our King. Daniel had a vision and saw the King: 13 "*I was watching in the night visions. Behold, One like a Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days, and was brought into His presence. 14 Dominion, glory and sovereignty were given to Him that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will never pass away, and His kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.*" (Daniel 7:13:14 TLV). Yeshua's dominion, His rulership, is over us, those who have answered His call to become His *talmidim*, His disciples, now from heaven, but soon on the earth. The earth is our final resting place, not heaven. Those who have died in Messiah have had a

temporary resting place in heaven, but when Yeshua comes with His Kingdom, it will be on the earth, the new heavens and earth.

We who know Yeshua will not be surprised when that day comes. *Rosh Hashana* and *Yom Kippur* are focused on repentance and we should be too. This is not a message of fire and brimstone; all of us here are saved and serving Yeshua. Our repentance and return must be about how we may serve Him even better. Repentance must be an ongoing thing and not just once per year. It's all about Yeshua and His forgiveness. Our goal is to become more and more like Him. I don't know everyone's heart, but if there is anyone here tonight who has taken repentance to heart and has not previously trusted in Yeshua, what better time could there be to know Him than right now! Receive the *shalom, shalom* of knowing in your heart, your circumcised heart, that your name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Yeshua said that we should pray: "*Our Father in heaven, sanctified be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*" (Matthew 6:9b-10 TLV). His Kingdom is coming soon! *Shana tovah!*