



Parasha Ha'azinu

October 8, 2022

Torah: Deuteronomy 32:1-32:52

Haftarah: 2Samuel 22:1-51

Ketuvim Shlichim: Romans 10:14-11:8

Shabbat shalom Mishpacha! Our *Parasha* this week is *Ha'azinu*, הָאָזִינוּ. This word begins the Song of Moses, a prophecy of Israel's sins and coming punishment and ADONAI's promise to ultimately redeem them. *Ha'azinu* means, "give ear," or, "listen" to his words. Israel's future sins have been prophesied in our last two *parashiot*, the future sins of Israel have also been prophesied as they are about to enter the Land of Canaan and face these temptations. Moses' song is actually a poem with a theme, a very important theme as we will see.

The song in *Ha'azinu* is one of two Songs of Moses in the *Torah* and there is also a psalm of Moses, which is said to be a prayer and not a song. The first song is sung after Pharaoh's army has drowned in the Red Sea and Israel was safely on the other side. It is called *Az Yashir Moshe*, The Song of Moses, but also *Shirat HaYam*, the Song of the Sea. This song is so important to us that we sing a portion from it each *Shabbat*, It is *Mi Khamocha*, "Who is like You, ADONAI, among the gods." The song in today's *parasha* is also called The *Az Yashir Moshe*. The Song of Moses.

Even as the Song of Moses is in the beginning of Israel's walk with ADONAI in *Torah*, we also find it in the last Book of the Bible. It's found in the last revelation of Yeshua to His disciple *Yochanan* in the Book of Revelation. The first mention of the Song of Moses is a picture of Yeshua's followers who have fought the world system and overcome: *2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had overcome the beast and his image and the number of his name standing by the sea of glass, holding the harps of God. 3 And they are singing the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and wonderful are Your deeds, Adonai Elohei-Tzva'ot! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations! 4 Who shall not fear and glorify Your name, O Lord? For You alone are Holy. All the nations shall come and worship before You, for Your righteous acts have been revealed"* (Revelation 15:2-4 TLV)! There are two songs of Moses in *Torah*, but which one is referred to in Revelation? Some say that this verse is referring to the Song of Moses in Exodus 15 declaring ADONAI's triumph over Egypt and also refers to the Song of the Lamb as Yeshua's triumph over Babylon. That's a possibility, but my belief is that the Song of Moses in the Book of Revelation refers to being obedient to the Word of G-d, the truth of *Torah*, and is about those who hold to it. So, it's not necessarily about either Song of Moses. I believe it's about the *Torah*, Genesis to Deuteronomy. In a similar manner, the Song of the Lamb is the testimony of Yeshua and is about those who walk in it. There are seven other very similar statements found in the Book of Revelation. This one is the 7th of 8. While they don't all say "Song of Moses" or "Song of the Lamb," they all do carry the same message.

Here is the first one: Revelation 1:1-2 says: *1 The revelation of Yeshua the Messiah, which God gave Him to show to His servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending His angel to His servant John, 2 who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Yeshua the Messiah—to everything he saw* (TLV). The angel was sent to show John the things which must happen, but John is the one who testified to the Word of G-d and the testimony of Yeshua. This means to me that John testified of the truth of *Torah* with its meaning of teaching and instruction and referring to Genesis through Revelation. But, not really Genesis to Revelation at that time. There may have been a few letters in circulation, but not the writings of the *Sh'lichim*, Yeshua's emissaries. It would have to have been the *Tanakh*, the Hebrew Bible, the only Scripture at that time. The testimony of Yeshua is that He is the Lamb that was slain from before the foundation of the earth. (Revelation 13:8), the sin sacrifice which gives eternal redemption. As we noted in our *Yom Kippur* message, He is also the two *Yom Kippur* goats, the goat for the sin offering and the Scapegoat.

Revelation 1:9 says: *9 "I, John, your brother and fellow partaker with you in the tribulation and kingdom and patient endurance that are in Yeshua, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Yeshua* (TLV). This repeats what we read in verse 2, but this time, John tells us that he is imprisoned on Patmos because he was faithful to both. He believed the *Torah* was proclaimed the testimony of Yeshua.

Revelation 6:9 says: *9 When the Lamb opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those slaughtered for the sake of the word of God and for the witness they had* (TLV). These are the martyrs who died because they trusted in the word of G-d and because of their witness. They are both Christian and Messianic, Jews and Gentiles. John was the only Messianic Jew who did not die as a martyr for Yeshua. Perhaps Yeshua saved him for a purpose, the writing of this Revelation. Even though he died of old age, he suffered persecution, including, reportedly being boiled in oil. We are told in other sources that he was boiled in oil. Can you imagine what his body of scars would have looked like?

Revelation 12:11 says: *11 "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives even in the face of death* (TLV). To put this in context, we look at the preceding verse: *10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Anointed One, for the accuser of our brothers and sisters—the one who accuses them before our God day and night—has been thrown out.* (Revelation 12:10 TLV). Him in verse 11 is *HaSatan*, the Accuser of the brothers and sisters of Israel, Yeshua's Jewish followers, what we know as the righteous remnant. Verse 9, which we didn't read, describes how *HaSatan* and his angels were thrown down from heaven. His being "thrown out" in verse 10 does not refer to that time, but to one of two other statements about his judgment in the Book of Revelation. It could be a reference to *HaSatan*'s final casting into the lake of fire found in chapter 20, verse 10. But, I believe that it more likely refers to his being cast into the abyss as found in chapter 20, verse 3. *HaSatan*'s being "thrown out" into the abyss was something which happened when Yeshua died on the cross. Our recent teaching on the Millennium gives details.

Revelation 12:17 says: *7 So the dragon became enraged at the woman and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring—those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Yeshua* (TLV). What leads up to this verse is found beginning in 12:1. The dragon is *HaSatan*. The woman represents Israel, the twelve tribes, and her offspring is Yeshua. Regarding the woman, Israel, we read: *6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness,*

where she has a place prepared by God so they might take care of her for 1,260 days. (Revelation 12:6 TLV). Reverend Ellis Skolfield gives us this understanding: The woman, Israel, was taken care of in the wilderness for 1,260 days by ADONAI, that is, preserved in a place outside of the land of Israel for 1260 days. At the time Revelation was written, the Roman calendar was in use. John was using a solar calendar like ours. 1260 days is 1,260 years. What happened after 1260 years? The woman came out of the desert, the wilderness. It was in the year 1948 when the modern State of Israel was founded. In other words, Israel was preserved in a place outside of the Land of Israel for 1260 days. At the time this was written, the Roman calendar was in use. John was using a solar calendar like ours. 1,260 days is 1,260 years. What happened after 1260 years? The woman came out of the desert in the year 1948 when the modern state of Israel was founded. When did the 1260 years begin? Subtract 1,260 years from 1948 and you arrive at 688CE, the time of the construction of the Dome of the Rock and Islamic influence over Jerusalem and Israel. Where was the woman in the wilderness for those 12560 years? She was in all the nations of the earth where ADONAI had scattered the Jews. Verse 17 refers to “the rest of Israel’s offspring,” Yeshua’s Gentile followers. They are: *those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Yeshua*. The Scripture says “keep” the commandments of G-d.

Revelation 14:12 says: *12 “Here is the perseverance of the kedoshim—those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Yeshua”* (TLV). We understand this by going back to the beginning of the chapter: *6 And then I saw another angel flying high in the sky, having a timeless message of good news to proclaim to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation and tribe and tongue and people. 7 He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come. Worship the One who made heaven and earth and sea and springs of water.”* (Revelation 14:6-7 TLV). This is future. Yeshua has returned to the earth. Babylon the great, the world system has fallen and the hour of Yeshua’s judgment has come. We spoke about this on *Yom Kippur*. At the sounding of the *Shofar HaGadol*, the Great *Shofar* on that future *Yom Kippur*, Yeshua will begin His judgement. *12 “Here is the perseverance of the kedoshim—those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Yeshua”* (Revelation 14:12 TLV). Verse 12 refers to us and all who have kept their linen clean. We are the *kedoshim*, the holy ones, the ones set apart to faithfully follow Yeshua. This, again, says “keep the commandments of G-d.” What are the commandments of G-d? We have had many teachings on that. It is up to every follower of Yeshua to make sure that his or her way of following the commandments of ADONAI is what He requires. But, it is clear that He commands obedience. As ADONAI’s holy ones, we have kept the faith of Yeshua, trusting in His sacrificial death for the forgiveness of our sins and faithfully following Him as our *moreh*, our teacher and guide.

Revelation 15:2-3 says: *2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had overcome the beast and his image and the number of his name standing by the sea of glass, holding the harps of God. 3 And they are singing the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying, “Great and wonderful are Your deeds, Adonai Elohei-Tzva’ot! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations”* (TLV)! This is another picture of the overcomers who have died and gone to be with ADONAI. They are testifying to the truth of the *Torah* of ADONAI which they have kept and of their faithfulness to the testimony of Yeshua, the Lamb. It says: *Just and true are Your ways, O King of the nations.”* We must ensure that that the ways that we follow are really His ways and not the traditions of man.

20:4 says: *4 Then I saw thrones, and people sat upon them—those to whom authority to judge was given. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their*

testimony for Yeshua and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image, nor had they received his mark on their forehead or on their hand. And they came to life and reigned with the Messiah for a thousand years. (TLV). Verses 1-3 describe HaSatan being chained for a symbolic thousand year period. He was chained when Yeshua died on the stake until sometime just before or on the re-establishment of Israel as a nation. This means that he has been set free for a little while as verses 7-8 say: *7 When the thousand years has ended, satan shall be released from his prison, 8 and he shall come out to deceive the nations at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for the battle.* (Revelation 20:7-8 TLV). He has been released and is deceiving the nations as we can see in the world today. Verse 4b again: *4...And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Yeshua and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image, nor had they received his mark on their forehead or on their hand. And they came to life and reigned with the Messiah for a thousand years.* (Revelation 20:4b TLV). Here, again, we see overcomes martyred for their faith. They were slain for following Yeshua and obeying the Word of G-d. They came to life in heaven and reigned there with Yeshua during the symbolic thousand year period after His death until He returns again.

Looking at these eight statements, we see a continuity. All eight contain something about *Torah*: 4 times it's the word of G-d, 2 times it's the commandments of G-d and 2 times, the Song of Moses. All 8 relate to following G-d's word. Then we find: the testimony of Yeshua 4 times, the faith of Yeshua 1 time, the faith of Yeshua 2 times and the Song of the Lamb 1 time. These 8 mean some combination of actively following Yeshua and being a witness for Him. The overcomers pictured in Revelation had two things in common: while they were on the earth, they had been obedient to ADONAI's *Torah* and they had kept the faith of Yeshua. The second part refers to walking in Yeshua's footsteps and being a witness for Him. These two things taken together are our testimony. We are His radical followers, seeking to be all that ADONAI has called us to be. This position is not popular among the backslidden part of the body of Messiah. Many are not backslidden, but, a large group definitely is. And, our position is not popular among the godless ones in our nation today. But, in ADONAI's heaven, it is the politically correct thing. So, don't worry about being politically correct down here on the earth. Every follower of Yeshua is responsible for his own actions. We should not be ashamed of our walk with Yeshua and we are not.

We read in Revelation 15:2 about those who: *those who had overcome the beast.* There is a lot of speculation about this beast. Those who follow Dispensationalism look at this being as the Anti-Christ. But, is it? You here know that I don't believe that there is a physical Anti-Christ. We have a lot of teaching on that. There is a very good possibility that this beast is the Fourth Beast in Daniel's vision of chapter 7 which is paralleled in Daniel chapter 11. *7 "After this in my vision at night, I looked and behold there was a fourth beast—terrifying, frightening, tremendously strong, with large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed—and anything that was left it trampled with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that came before it; it had ten horns"* (Daniel 7:7 TLV). This is history, not super, spooky theory. These ten horns can all be identified as the kings of the Darian dynasty; that is, those who followed Darius the 1st, the Persian king known as Darius the Great. In history, he is followed by nine other kings. That means that these "beasts" are kings.

Next verse: *8 "While I was pondering the horns, behold, another horn, a small one, sprang up between them, and three of the first horns were uprooted from before it. And behold, this horn had eyes resembling human eyes and a mouth speaking boastfully"* (Daniel 7:8 TLV). This "little horn" is believed by many to be the Anti-Christ, but that is not what it represents.

The little horn was none other than Alexander the Great who uprooted or plucked up three horns. He did that by defeating Darius III, the last of the ten horns in Daniel 7:7. He defeated him three times and ended the reign of the Persian Empire. Check it out in *Daniel Unsealed*.

Daniel chapter 11 describes those who divided Alexander's kingdom after he died an untimely, young death. We know his death from other sources. Possibly he had appendicitis or maybe he was poisoned. But, he died young at the peak of his power. His four generals each took a part of his kingdom. The general Selucas got territory including Israel. After several generations, his descendant Antiochus became Israel's ruler. Antiochus Epiphanes, as he was known, brought in pagan, Hellenistic worship and many Jews became enamored with it and abandoned the faith of ADONAI. This brought about resistance to his rule. We know the story of the Maccabees well, the story of *Chanukkah*. The Maccabees fought against Antiochus Epiphanes' army and with ADONAI's help, defeated it. Antiochus is the "despicable person" in Daniel 11:21: 21 *"Then in his place will arise a despicable person, on whom royal honor has not been conferred."* (Daniel 11:21 TLV). He arose in the place of his ancestor, Selucas, one of Alexander's four generals. In verse 28, this "despicable" person, Antiochus, sets his heart against the "holy covenant:" 28 *The king of the north* (the descendant of another one of Alexander the Great's three other generals) *will return to his own land with great wealth, but his heart* (his, referring to the king of the south, Antiochus, his heart) *will be set against the holy covenant.* (Daniel 11:28 TLV). Antiochus attacked ADONAI's covenant by forbidding *Torah* study, circumcision and many other things. Some Jews even had a surgical revision of their circumcision. None of these beasts or horns are the Anti-Christ.

Revelation is extremely difficult to understand. No one has a complete understanding of its meaning, and certainly not me. But, we have to continue to study both Daniel and Revelation to try and understand which are references to events which have already happened and which are events which are yet to come. To assign most of the events of Revelation to the time of the end is an error in Dispensationalism. The answers regarding many of the events of Revelation are to be found in the Book of Daniel and are explained in the book *Daniel Unsealed* by Daniel Bruce (www.prophecysociety.org). According to Bruce, the events prophesied in the entire Book of Daniel end at 638 CE just prior to the Islamic capture of Jerusalem. They do not extend into our time period or our future as Dispensationalism says. And, I believe him! His conclusions are unbiased and scholarly. And, I believe that ADONAI called him to write this book, a book that most of Yeshua's body has not heard of, but I pray that they will. 46 ... *"Put in your hearts all the words that I call as witness against you today—that you may command your children to keep and do all the words of this Torah. 47 For it is not an empty thing for you, because it is your life! By this word you will prolong your days on the land, which you are crossing over the Jordan to possess"* (Deuteronomy 32:46-47 TLV). To see what ADONAI had prepared for Israel, we go to the time of Solomon's grandson, King Abijah of Judah. When he was attacked by King Jereboam of the pagan northern Kingdom of Israel, he said to Jereboam: 5 *"Don't you know that Adonai, God of Israel, has given kingship over Israel to David forever—to him and his sons by a covenant of salt"* (2Chronicles 13:5 TLV)? A covenant of salt is an everlasting covenant. ADONAI made an everlasting covenant with David that one of his sons would always be on the throne. That covenant of salt is the basis of Yeshua's Kingship as Son of David.

Those of us who have trusted Yeshua are also members of a covenant of salt, the New Covenant. It is an everlasting covenant between ADONAI and Israel. 32 *"But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days" —it is a declaration of Adonai— "I will put My Torah within them. Yes, I will write it on their heart. I will be their God and they*

will be My people. 33 No longer will each teach his neighbor or each his brother, saying: 'Know Adonai,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest." it is a declaration of Adonai. "For I will forgive their iniquity, their sin I will remember no more" (Jeremiah 31:32-33 TLV). I believe that the last portion of this reading refers to the salvation of all Israel which we pray will happen soon. "They will all know ADONAI." Yeshua, our *Kohen Gadol*, is the mediator of this covenant. This New Covenant is ADONAI's provision for Israel in the flesh, the Jews of today. 25 For I do not want you, brothers and sisters, to be ignorant of this mystery—lest you be wise in your own eyes—that a partial hardening has come upon Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;.. (Romans 11:25 TLV). The fullness of the Gentiles is near and ADONAI's salvation of all Israel could come at any time. Sha'ul was quoting Isaiah regarding this salvation when he said: 26 "The Deliverer shall come out of Zion. He shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob. 27 And this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins." 28 "Concerning the Good News, they are hostile for your sake; but concerning chosenness, they are loved on account of the fathers" (Romans 11:26b-28 TLV). ADONAI, Himself, will take away Israel's sins. We pray that this will take place soon.

The Land of Israel is waiting to become the prophesied "Israel of G-d" when all Israel turns back to their Creator and David's greater son, Yeshua, comes to establish His Kingdom on earth. We are living in the days of fulfilled prophecy. We prayed during our *Yom Kippur* fast this week for the salvation of all Israel. Pray daily for that. The coming great revival will be initiated by the salvation of millions of Jews. And, they will be zealous for ADONAI and follow after their *goel*, their Kinsman Redeemer, *Yeshua HaMashiach*.

This world can't be repaired by human means. The global coalition or whatever world-wide group is trying to bring about the "great reset" cannot repair our world. Our hope is only in Yeshua who will come right on schedule. In the meantime, each of us must hold to our testimony. It is composed of two things. We sing the Song of Moses by walking faithfully in ADONAI's covenant and *Torah*. And, we sing the Song of the Lamb by following Yeshua and bearing witness of Him to others. Yeshua was speaking to the Congregation at Smyrna but He is also speaking to us: 10 "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life." (Revelation 2:10b TLV). Yeshua is calling us to be faithful until our life on earth ends. We pray that it will be natural and we won't be a martyr for Yeshua, but our walk with Him is that serious. We can't be "halfway believers." We must be faithful to receive Yeshua's crown of life, His acknowledgement to us that we have fought the good fight and won. *Shabbat shalom!*