

February 2, 2013
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Grafted In Fellowship
Parsha: Yitro / “Jethro”

NOTE: The following are the general notes used for the teaching. They were primarily meant for reminders of the topic I wanted to cover, and do not include all that was said during the teaching.

What’s in a name?

Mountain Climber!

Slide 43

Nothing in the narrative specifically mentions Moses’ descent.

Slide 55

Obviously, this is the true first trip up Mt. Sinai (Mt. Horeb).

So there were 7 trips up and down after the crossing, plus the one trip prior.

Pentecost!

Slide 72

Third day = Third Millennia

2 Pet 3:8 - But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

Ps 90:4 - For a thousand years in Your sight *Are* like yesterday when it is past, And *like* a watch in the night.

Slide 92

Each year, as part of the preparation for Pentecost, the Jews stay up all night long reading portions of the Torah.

The portions include the following sections from Ezekiel.

This is what the disciples were reading the night prior to Pentecost! They **KNEW** the Feast cycles—they understood what happened on the **FIRST** Pentecost 1500 years prior!

Slide 97

Final Note: In Exodus, the sages say that the “voices” of God was spoken in all 70 languages so all the multitude could understand what God was saying! This ties in with what happened in Acts 2:6 - And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.

Halachah

Slide 98

Halachah refers to how one “walks” out their Torah life.

Slide 101

As humans, when we blow the shofar, we start strong and end weak because we are out of breath. Not so for God! He is Almighty! He is not limited by our human standards!

Slide 104

Have we read this before? How about Gen 3:8-10

End Times in Exodus?

Slide 112

Remember they had to wash their clothes! Ex 19:10 - Then the Lord said to Moses, “Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them **wash their clothes**.”

Slide 113

This ties right back to Ex 19:5-6 - 5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. 6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”

Slide 114

Ex 19:16 - Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, **and a thick cloud** on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who *were* in the camp trembled.

Slide 115

Just like everyone at Sinai saw YHVH, we too shall see Yeshua coming on the clouds!

Slide 119

NKJV reads, noises.

YLT reads, voices.

This is Ex 19 that is happening! We can't fully understand Revelation unless we FULLY understand the Torah! This is a Pentecost event!

What Commandments?

Slide 121

This is where God actually speaks the Ten Words!

Before they ever get the commandments on stone, they hear them! Everyone is hearing God speaking!

Slide 123

What is the purpose of God speaking the words?

Slide 124

The Ten Words tells us that God's heart is filled with His love, and this is how we are to honor His love!

God has spoken in the past to individuals but now to a whole nation all at once! He wants to let them know it was He who set them free! He loves them, and wants to tell them about His kingdom and His righteousness. Each individual Torah (teaching/instruction) is a reflection of Himself! If you were the Almighty God Who created everything, What would you say? What does this tell us about God? Does He bring candy to bribe your love, or Laws? Laws! Are they good laws? But, every law is a reflection of a Law-giver! Examples: Nevada laws, Muslim laws—what does that tell you about that government? God's laws are expressions of Him!

Why do people reject these Words, especially when they are coming from God's heart?

Slide 125

The legalist versus the lawless:

Think of the least of the laws: let mom bird go before taking the baby birds. (Deut 22:6-7)

Legalist: God didn't say anything about cats!

Lawless: I can be mean to birds now! That's been done away with!

We can't go and say that we can do what we want because the Torah has been done away with—that is Lawlessness. That is the Anti-Christ -- He is lawless!

We are not legalists either.

We are looking at the heart of God and say, what does this teach us about God?

Slide 126

So back to what does God say—He starts by telling them He is the one Who set them free! Notice He didn't say because I'M THE BOSS! Or Because I said so! Or, Because I created everything and I bought you fair and square, you are now my slaves!

The whole purpose of Torah is to define love! He is telling us what love is!

Slide 127

How do we treat God?

But understand this, It is not the wrath of God that leads people to repentance, it is the goodness of God!

Slide 128

Once you are redeemed, you are in God's family and now have a relationship. As we know, we don't spank the neighbor's kids.

Slide 130

MERCY! In the OT? Really?

Mercy is chesed (loving kindness)

Slide 131

Why does He need to show mercy to those who keep the commandments?

Keep does not mean "do". Keep means to guard and protect.

There are a lot of commandments we can't do—judges, farmers, women, etc.

All the commandments are keepers! We need to watch, guard all of them, but we can't do all of them.

Slide 132

Guard and protect my commandments!

Slide 134

Walk – halachah! We are to WALK WITH GOD!

This is what He told us IN THE BEGINNING!

No Commandments?

Slide 138

Blood Libel is what is taught by Arab/Muslim nations against Israel. The basic premise is that Jews kill Christian children in order to make Matzot for Passover.

Slide 140

We make assumptions because that is the way we were raised, but it is not true!

Most Christians think the Jews have to keep the commandments in order to go to Heaven—basically, legalism.

Slide 150

Do you know what tzevet and tzofthah mean?

Slide 151

God wants to team up with us, join with us as a friend! That is what the mitzvot are! We see it as legalism/law. NO! God is saying He wants to team up with us!

The very purpose of the mitzvot is not to get us into the next world, but to connect us to God in this world!

Slide 152

Do you know Mt 11:29 is quoting Jer 6:16?

Slide 153

A better translation for mitzvot is “my ways”!

Slide 154

Did you catch it?

Slide 155

Did you catch it?

Not behind, but WITH Him!

And yet we say, NO! to His Words!

Slide 156

We will find rest when we walk with Him because He is the one carrying the yoke!

To connect with God in the deepest way, we do as He asks of us in this world so we might learn His ways and not just His acts.

Slide 157

The Torah doesn't really describe heaven or hell. It is mentioned (Jacob's Ladder, He created the heavens, the heavens have birds flying around in it, rain falls from it), but there is no description of what Heaven will be like.

The reason why is that we were created for THIS world! We shouldn't lose focus!

Too many Christians think that once they are saved, "Whew! I made it...who cares about anyone else!"

The mitzvot were not given as means of getting into the next world, but how to connect with God in THIS world!

We don't follow Torah, or see obeying the mitzvot as legalism (a way to earn salvation), but they are the connection to God that creates the spark that activates the current between God and us in this world! This is the training ground for living in the next world!

Resources:

El Shaddai Ministries (www.elshaddaiministries.us)

First Fruits of Zion (www.ffoz.org)

Gateways to Torah, Rabbi Russell Resnik

Partners in Torah (www.partnersintorah.org)

Chumash

Tikkun

Judaism 101 (<http://www.jewfaq.org/index.htm>)

Chabad of Pierce County (www.chabadpiercecouny.com)

Saltshakers (<http://www.hebrewroots.com>)

<http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/8620-jethro>

<http://www.biblestudysite.com/answers15.htm#4>

<http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Jethro>