

December 22, 2012
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Grafted In Fellowship
Parsha: Vayigash / “And came near”

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.

Gen 44:11-12

The 1st cup is the Cup of Sanctification
The 2nd cup is the Cup of Deliverance
The 3rd cup is the Cup of Redemption
The 4th cup is the Cup of Acceptance

Benjamin has the silver cup—the cup of redemption!
Silver represents redemption
Tie-in: Benjamin represents the Messiah-believing tribe (did not reject Joseph)

Ps 116:13
It actually reads in Hebrew, “cup of salvations”!

So Benjamin was thought to be a thief—he had the cup. They were now “among a thief”.
Mt 27:38
Yeshua was “among thieves”

Gen 44:18

And Judah came near (vayigash)
In Hebrew, there are two words for near:
Karav (kaf rosh bet): Lev 9:5
Nagash (nun gimel sheen): Gen 45:4-5
We can see that nagash is the term used since this portion is vayigash!

This leads us to the Steps of Repentance

Admit you are wrong - Gen 42:20-23
Confession – Gen 44:16
A change in behavior – Gen 44:33; Jn 15:13
Judah was willing to lay down his life for Benjamin!
This also ties into why I feel Benjamin represents the “believing Jew” – The typology of the Messiah woven throughout the story, Yeshua is from the tribe of Judah, who is did He lay down His life for? The believer in Him as Messiah!
The Sages state: True repentance has taken place when you are confronted with the same sin and you refrain from committing it again! It shows you have changed!
Why do we accept Yeshua as Savior? Why do we not sin? Many reasons have to do with how we are affected by sin. Have you ever considered how sin affects God? Gen 6:5
We need to react to sin the same way Joseph did when confronted by Potipher’s wife! Gen 39:9

Back to Joseph and Judah:

This is the first recorded act of forgiveness!

Forgiveness transforms human situations;

It provides the possibility that we are not condemned to endlessly repeat the past;

When I forgive, I am showing my actions are not mere reactions (revenge);

Forgiveness breaks the irreversibility of the past—the undoing of what has been done!

Gen 44:30-31

Notice Judah is concerned about his father (my father; our father). Judah is pleading for Jacob's sake—why not Benjamin's sake? Also note, that he wasn't pleading on his own (Judah's) sake.

The Sages say that Judah probably thought Jacob would accept it if he knew Benjamin was a thief, but Judah was afraid Jacob would see that Benjamin was not with them and he would die before he could explain.

Gen 44:32-33

When a slave was found to be a thief, he was usually returned. Judah is perplexed. Why would Joseph want to keep a thief?

Judah is now pleading to Joseph to save the life of his brother Benjamin (type of the Messiah, who is from the tribe of Judah, pleading for the lives of his brothers!)

But we see in the NT the flip side: Rom 9:3, Paul, a Benjamite, is pleading to save Judah!

Benjamin represents the tribe that never rejected Joseph!

How old was Benjamin? Gen 46:21 He had to be in his 30's

[Arutz Sheva, Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Hersh Weinreb](#)

[The Talmud demonstrates that each of their names in some way represent Benjamin's missing brother, Joseph. One child, for example, was named Bela, the Hebrew word for "swallowed up", for Joseph was swallowed up by another people. Another son was called Chupim, because, as Benjamin says, "I did not see his *chupah* \(marital canopy\), and he did not see my *chupah*."](#)

[Imagine Benjamin's life, raising these ten children. Not a day could go by, not even a moment, when he was not vividly reminded of his lost brother Joseph. Every time he addressed any of his children, some aspect of his imprisoned brother would confront him in the very name of the child he addressed.](#)

Gen 45:1-2

Notice that it is after Judah repents that Joseph reveals himself! The same will be true for Yeshua today! He will not come again until Judah repents!

This goes back to the intro verse (Gen 44:18), and Judah was coming slowly to Joseph. We are seeing today that the Jews are slowly coming to Yeshua. Not as their Messiah at this point, but they are starting to study Him as a Torah-observant Jew and study His teachings! For too long, the Jews have been told that Yeshua did away with the Torah, but we are finding more literature proving he was Torah-observant!

Yom Kippur Associations!

-Joseph cleared the room

-His encounter was face to face

-A time of reconciliation after repentance of their sin against their brother

-They drew near

-It was a day of judgment

-They left with joy being forgiven and restored!

We often think of the Torah as a set of rules – a list of legal and moral dogmas. However, long before the Torah was written down by Moses at Sinai, the books of Exodus thru Deuteronomy, we have a clear example of forgiveness, grace and mercy in Genesis! God has always been about forgiveness and mercy! It has been our misunderstanding that has led us to believe otherwise!

Gen 45:1-2

Notice that Joseph revealed himself to his brothers FIRST! The Gentiles did not reveal Joseph to the brothers! This has huge significance to us today! It is Yeshua Who will reveal Himself to His brothers—not the Gentiles!

Last week, I mentioned that the Egyptians knew Joseph was a Hebrew. This may have been true when Joseph was first taken from prison, but after years of being in power, the Egyptians of his house were not aware of his past. Just like Christianity today, in the beginning we knew Yeshua was Jewish! But after all this time, we do not recognize His “Jewish-ness”! We are not going to be the ones to open the eyes of the Jews to Yeshua as the Messiah! It will be Yeshua Himself! Only God can open the eyes and ears !

Prov 20:12

Just as we aren't the ones to open the eyes of the Jews to Yeshua, we are not the ones to open the eyes of the Gentiles to the Jewish Yeshua! Don't argue Hebrew Roots with others. If you explain and they don't accept it—pray for them and move on! It is not your job to convince them, it is God's! Just as with witnessing to unbelievers, our job is to “spread the seed”. Who knows who will be the harvester, but it is all in God's timing!

Do you know that the Muslims believe in the second coming of Yeshua? He will return as a Muslim and kill the Christians and Jews who don't convert. Christians believe in the second coming, and believe He will kill the Jews and Muslims who don't convert! Either way, the Jews really don't want Yeshua to return—they are going to die! Bottom line, when Yeshua presents himself to the world, the Jews are going to exclaim, “You're a Jew!”. And the Christians are going to exclaim, “You're a Jew!”. A LOT of people are going to be surprised when He returns and He will be keeping Torah!

Read from Chumash, Page 253 Keep in mind, this is coming from Jewish thought!

When Joseph said, “I am Joseph,” God's master plan became clear to the brothers. They had no more questions. Everything that had happened for the last twenty-two years fell into perspective. So, too, will it be in the time to come when God will reveal Himself and announce, “I am HaShem!” The veil will be lifted from our eyes and we will comprehend everything that transpired throughout history (*Chafetz Chaim*).

Their understanding of Who Yeshua is, is radically changed! They no longer see Him as a Gentile, but they see Him in a Hebraic context. They no longer see Him just as the Savior of Gentiles, but first and foremost as the savior of Israel.

Deut 17:15

The king has to be Jewish!

Deut 17:18-19

In order for Jesus to fulfill the requirement He had to write a copy of the Law [Torah] (in truth, He is the Living Torah), AND He has to keep all the words of the Law [Torah]!

It just doesn't make sense that the Torah was done away with. He came to properly interpret the Torah...not to do away with it!

Jn 19:19

King of the Jews!

The other thing to mention, the Pharisees were very upset about the sign above the cross. The reason why is because the first letters of the words formed God's name: yood hey vav hey. Of course, you only see this in Hebrew. The sign was written in three languages. But the sign read:

Yeshua

HaNazaret (of Nazareth)

V'HaMelek (and the King of)

HaYehudeim (the Jews)

You will notice that the first letters spell out God's name: the Yod Hey Vav Hey. Right above the cross is the very name of God!

Maimonides wrote a list of Jewish expectations for the messiah based on scriptures:

- Be from the House of David,
- a King who studies Torah,
- and occupies himself with the commandments as David did,
- has everyone follow Torah,
- and fights the wars of the Lord.
- Also he must rebuild the temple where it belongs and gather the exiles of Israel.

According to this list, Yeshua can't be the Messiah—you can understand why they don't accept Him as Messiah!

Gen 45:3

"troubled" – the Hebrew word is palpitations

Remnant

Gen 45:7

Rom 11:5

Is 37:31-32

Hurry!

Gen 45:9, 13

When Yeshua reveals Himself, things will happen quickly!

Rev 22:20

Gen 45:26-28

Last week, I mentioned how the sages said that the Ruach left Jacob when Joseph was taken to Egypt. Notice this week that the Ruach returns (his spirit revives!).

Also, do you ever notice how Jacob was renamed Israel, but he is still referred to as Jacob after the name change? If you notice, when he is acting in faith, he is referred to as Israel. When he falls back to his human tendencies, he is referred to as Jacob!