



**“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ and upon finding a single pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.
Mathew 13:45**

04/08/2018

Ekev - On the Heel Of

Deuteronomy 7:12–11:25

Isaiah 49:14–51:3

Romans 8:31–39

Torah Parshah daily study. The Parashah is split into seven readings, one of the ways to study it is for you to read the reading for the day and then discuss it. This can be done during meal times, when everyone is sat together, you can then read it together in the morning and then contemplate it and discuss it as you sit, as you walk, when you rise and when you lay. Thus, fulfilling the command to do so, but also not doing it all in one day. Remember Shabbat is a time to relax and enjoy one’s family, as you spend time together in worship of YHVH.

Therefore, in studying it a bit each day, you can enjoy the blessing of Shabbat and family throughout the week. As it assists in making YHVH the focus while spending time with each other. It also makes studying the Torah enjoyable.

Traditional	Amended
Deut. 7:12-8:10	Duet. 7:12-7:26
Deut. 8:11 – 9:3	Deut. 8:1-8:19
Deut. 9:4-29	Deut. 9:1-29
Deut. 10:1-11	Deut. 10:1-11
Deut. 10:12-11:9	Deut. 10:12 – 11:9
Deut. 11:10-21	Deut. 11:10- 12
Deut. 11:22-25	Deut. 11:13-25

Within this week’s parshah we will look at fear, circumcision and the strategy of the enemy, as we seek to understand the patterns within scripture in an attempt to understand what will take place in the end. For YHVH has revealed what will transpire at the end in what has already happened at the beginning.

last week’s parshah concluded with the following instruction by Moses to the children of Israel.

and when the LORD your God has delivered them over to you, and you have defeated them, then you must destroy them totally. Make no treaty with them, and show them no mercy. ³ Do not intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your

sons, ⁴for they will turn your children away from following me to serve other gods, and the LORD'S anger will burn against you and will quickly destroy you.⁵ This is what you are to do to them: Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles and burn their idols in the fire. ⁶For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. Deut. 7:2-6

Here we see how YHVH admonishes Israel through Moses to not do as the inhabitants of the land but, to put an end to them as a people due to the perverse sin they have done. For YHVH is giving the land to the children of Israel, not because they are more righteous than the people, but because of the evil, the inhabitants of the land have committed. Thus, YHVH does not want the children of Israel following in their ungodly actions. Therefore, YHVH instructs them to put an end to them, to not intermarry and to destroy their pagan shrines. Moses reiterates that they must destroy all pagan shrines and objects in this week's parsha as he states ***The images of their gods you are to burn in the fire. Do not covet the silver and gold on them, and do not take it for yourselves, or you will be ensnared by it, for it is detestable to the LORD your God. ²⁶Do not bring a detestable thing into your house or you, like it, will be set apart for destruction. Regard it as vile and utterly detest it, for it is set apart for destruction.*** Deut. 7:25-26

This is because the children of Israel have been chosen from all the nations of the earth to be YHVH's people and a light to the gentiles. As they set themselves apart as holy unto YHVH and observe His Torah, this will draw the gentiles will be drawn to YHVH as they see His hand on Israel.

See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the Lord my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. ⁶Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." ⁷What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? ⁸And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? Deut. 4:5-8

It is in this context that the parshah commences with Moses reiterating to the children of Israel what is required and what will happen if they disregard the commands. How YHVH will bless them if they walk humbly before Him in obedience to His Torah. ***If you pay attention to these laws and are careful to follow them, then the LORD your God will keep his covenant of love with you, as he swore to your ancestors.*** Deut. 7:12

That as they walk in obedience to His Torah, YHVH will protect them from sickness and will bless them with children. For it through observing the Torah that we show YHVH that we love Him, just as it is written, ***By this we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and keep His commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome,*** 1 John 5:2-3

Let us just look at this for a moment; we show YHVH that we love Him by keeping His Torah, which scripture states further that ***Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*** (1 John 3:4) Therefore, to sin is to not walk in the Torah, which if we reject Torah we show our disregard for YHVH, because we do not submit to His authority and governance. Furthermore, it is as we observe the Torah, that we show YHVH how much we love Him. Thus, if we reject Torah we are showing contempt towards YHVH and not love, but rather that we have not submitted to His will, as we reject His love and guidance. However, it is not the letter of the Torah we keep, but instead, we keep the spirit of the Torah, which is liberty. Liberty not to negate it but to uphold and walk in the precepts of YHVH.

So, what does it mean to be under the law? In reality, those who do not observe the Torah are the ones under the law, because if you break it, you are under it. For example, if I speed down a road and get stopped by the police, then I have broken the law of the land and thus come under its ruling due to my lawless actions. This is the same for those who disregard the Torah. However, the good news is, for those in Messiah we do not come under the condemnation of the Torah, but that does not mean we are permitted or free to transgress it. You see, YHVH's grace is given to those in covenant with Him, to breach the shortfall as we endeavour to walk in accordance with His Torah. Grace nor what Messiah did for us through His death and resurrection give us the right to transgress the Torah. It is only as we humble ourselves to the word of YHVH and submit to His authority that we start to take on the characteristics of Messiah, who is the image of the Father. It is this image we were created, and the one YHVH is seeking to return us back to. That of the relationship and state prior to the fall in the Garden in Eden. The Torah is part of the process of restoration, salvation though comes through Messiah.

Deut. 7:17-24 Do Not Fear.

Moses then continues his address to the children of Israel by encouraging them not to be fearful when they enter the land. ***You may say to yourselves, "These nations are stronger than we are. How can we drive them out?"***¹⁸ ***But do not be afraid of them; remember well what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt.***¹⁹ ***You saw with your own eyes the great trials, the signs and wonders, the mighty hand and outstretched arm, with which the LORD your God brought you out. The LORD your God will do the same to all the peoples you now fear.***²⁰ ***Moreover, the LORD your God will send the hornet among them until even the survivors who hide from you have perished.***²¹ ***Do not be terrified by them, for the LORD your God, who is among you, is a great and awesome God.***²² ***The LORD your God will drive out those nations before you, little by little. You will not be allowed to eliminate them all at once, or the wild animals will multiply around you.***²³ ***But the LORD your God will deliver them over to you, throwing them into great confusion until they are destroyed.***²⁴ ***He will give their kings into your hand, and you will wipe out their names from under heaven. No one will be able to stand up against you; you will destroy them.*** Deut. 7:17-24

We read in the above passages that the children of Israel are not to fear the enemy, as Moses admonishes them to remember what YHVH their Elohim did to Pharaoh and all of Egypt when He delivered their ancestors from oppression. As YHVH defeated all the gods of Egypt through the plagues, along with Pharaoh and his army when He parted the red sea to deliver His people. Moses reiterates this further as he expounds upon this concept in Deut. 20:1-9, as he once again admonishes the children of Israel not to fear but to remember how YHVH delivered them from Egypt.

Moses informs the people that ***The LORD your God will do the same to all the peoples you now fear.***²⁰ ***Moreover, the LORD your God will send the hornet among them until even the survivors who hide from you have perished.***²¹ ***Do not be terrified by them, for the LORD your God, who is among you, is a great and awesome God.*** Deut. 7:19-21

What a promise, that as the children of Israel enter the land and face the giants, they have the promise and assurance that YHVH will deliver them as He defeats those who come against His people. ***When you go to war against your enemies and see horses and chariots and an army greater than yours, do not be afraid of them, because the LORD your God, who brought you up out of Egypt, will be with you.***² ***When you are about to go into battle, the priest shall come forward and address the army.***³ ***He shall say: "Hear, Israel: Today you are going into battle against your***

enemies. Do not be fainthearted or afraid; do not panic or be terrified by them. ⁴ For the LORD your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory.” Deut. 20:1-4

It further states that YHVH will send the hornet among them until even the survivors who hide will have perished. What a promise that YHVH will search out the enemies of Israel and destroy them for them. We read in Exodus 23:28 ***I will send the hornet ahead of you to drive the Hivites, Canaanites and Hittites out of your way.***

And Joshua 24:12 ***I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you—also the two Amorite kings. You did not do it with your own sword and bow.***

However, this is not just a promise for Israel past, but for Israel future. Scripture informs us that during the time of Jacob’s Trouble, YHVH will once again guide His people Israel, that of the House of Judah and the House of Israel, which includes believers in Messiah who have been grafted in, into the wilderness of the people. As He gathers His people during a time of Trouble and leads them into the Promised Land (Ezekiel 20:33-40). This is what is referred to by some as the Greater Exodus or Second Exodus.

What we need to understand is that what we see in the events of the children of Israel leaving Egypt and entering the Promised Land, is a pattern. One which will be repeated during the time of Jacob’s Trouble. Let me briefly explain.

What we see in the historic account is how YHVH delivers the children of Israel out of Egypt while at the same time YHVH judges Egypt for holding captive His people, the children of Israel. That YHVH defeats the gods of Egypt and Pharaoh, who is considered to be a living god, during which time YHVH reveals Himself to Israel and the nations.

During the time of Jacob’s Trouble, YHVH will again deliver Israel (House of Israel and House of Judah) out of Egypt, that of the Babylonian global system, which incorporates the economic, political, and religious systems of the global government and One World Order. That as YHVH leads/delivers his people out of the end times Babylonian system, He will judge the nations for the sins they have committed against Him, while at the same time revealing Himself to Israel and the nations. That YHVH will defeat the antichrist and his armies just as He defeated Pharaoh and his army.

During this period, the cry will go forth, “come out of her my people. Otherwise, you will receive the punishment being poured out upon Babylon.” For many this will be a time of great fear, yet, YHVH repeatedly states within His word, “do not worry, do not fear.” For, during this time we are to trust in YHVH with all we are.

It is during this period, which the “church” has informed people that we are to be so frightened of, because no one will survive. Scripture does inform us that YHVH has made this time short otherwise no one would survive. However, we MUST understand YHVH is in control of what is taking place. Thus, if we make YHVH our refuge, He will defend us. Ps 91. For we are not to fear what is coming upon the world. Yes, it will be a time like no other, nor will be again, but YHVH has also promised to protect many during this period in humanities history.

Just as YHVH promised to deal with the enemies of Israel and send hornets to search the people out, so too will YHVH during the time of Jacob’s Trouble. We read some of this in Revelation 9, which the end of chapter 8:13 states ***As I watched, I heard an eagle that was flying in midair call out in a loud***

voice: "Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!"

We then read in Rev.9:1-12 the following

The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. ² When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss. ³ And out of the smoke locusts came down on the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth. ⁴ They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads. ⁵ They were not allowed to kill them but only to torture them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion when it strikes. ⁶ During those days people will seek death but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them.

⁷ The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces. ⁸ Their hair was like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth. ⁹ They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle. ¹⁰ They had tails with stingers, like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months. ¹¹ They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer).

¹² The first woe is past; two other woes are yet to come.

We see in the above passage that the pit is opened; this is She'ol where the fallen angels have been placed in chains until the appointed time. What we must remember is that YHVH always uses the enemies of Israel to bring judgment, then when Israel repents YHVH judges the enemies of Israel. Thus, during the end times, the fallen angels will be loosed upon humanity as a judgment, but what we see is that these demonic forces cannot harm those who have the seal/mark of YHVH upon their foreheads. However, everyone else they can attack, with the sting of their tails which torments people for five months, during which the people seek death, but it will elude them.

During this time, the people of the earth will be in disarray; they will not be concerned with the people of Israel who are being led by YHVH through the wilderness of the people to the Promised Land. We will see during this time, the light of YHVH in believers shine so brightly, both spiritually and physically as a witness to the nations. For it is during the darkest period that the smallest light shines the brightest. Yet, we read in scripture that one of the judgments is that darkness comes upon the earth, yet, just as when Egypt was plunged into a dark, and the children of Israel had light, so too will it be in the end times. That as the nations are plunged into total physical darkness, the light of YHVH will shine within the various camps of Israel. Thus, showing His protective hand upon His people and reveal who He is and who His people are.

Can you imagine total darkness upon the earth, darkness which you cannot see anything? However, amongst the people of YHVH perfect light, as YHVH manifests His presence in the midst of Israel. what a sight and sign this will be of the awesomeness of YHVH.

The church teaches that the time of Jacob's Trouble is so awful it is something to fear, which it is for those who are not walking with YHVH. However, for those who have made YHVH their habitation, their Lord and Master, He will guide and be with them. Yes, we know many believers will lose their lives, others will be imprisoned, yet, many more will be guided through the wilderness by YHVH just as He did Israel of old. Even in that event, many died, in fact, all apart from two who left Egypt died

in the wilderness. But, why did they die? They died because of sin and disbelief; thus, if we seek YHVH and draw close to Him, He will defend us. The reality is many believers during this time, will not leave the perceived safety of their homes, or will be deceived through false doctrines. However, for those who come out of Babylon and submit wholeheartedly to YHVH, I believe they will be protected and make it to the end. Yet, we also know that scripture informs us that they overcome the dragon through the blood of the lamb, the word of their testimony and not loving life. Thus, many will lay down their lives to share the Gospel during this period, as they make the ultimate sacrifice. The question is would you?

Regardless if we die or we survive we will all be caught up to be with Messiah when He returns. Then He will take us all into the Promised Land, which is our inheritance, during this time Messiah will not make any covenant with the nations. Just as YHVH instructed Joshua, for what we see in the instructions given to Joshua are a pattern for how the Messiah will take His people into the land. Thus, the Messiah along with His people will go and cleanse the land and put to death the inhabitants who will not bow the knee to Him. Then Messiah will establish His Kingdom, as He reigns from Zion and proclaims the word of YHVH, the Torah from Jerusalem.

I have only given a very brief overview so that you see the pattern. However, I encourage you to study this further and look at the pattern. For YHVH has revealed the end in the beginning.

Deut. 10:12- 22

¹² And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD'S commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

¹⁴ To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. ¹⁵ Yet the LORD set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations—as it is today. ¹⁶ Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. ¹⁸ He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. ¹⁹ And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. ²⁰ Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. ²¹ He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes. ²² Your ancestors who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

As I have previously stated, we show YHVH that we love Him by humbling ourselves to His word and observing His Torah. Not that our salvation is through our observance, for salvation is only through Messiah, and not by works so no one can boast. But, once we have accepted Messiah as our Lord and Saviour, as we seek to worship YHVH in Spirit and in Truth, then we are to do the good works He has preordained. That being we walk in His precepts, His Torah, as we bring our desires into submission to the word of YHVH. As we commit to working out our salvation in fear and trepidation of YHVH, for fear of YHVH is the start of wisdom. It is as we do this the Torah is being inscribed upon our hearts, as it is being circumcised. The prophet Jeremiah writes the following.

***“If you, Israel, will return,
then return to me,”
declares the LORD.***

***“If you put your detestable idols out of my sight
and no longer go astray,
²and if in a truthful, just and righteous way
you swear, ‘As surely as the Lord lives,’
then the nations will invoke blessings by him
and in him they will boast.”***

³This is what the LORD says to the people of Judah and to Jerusalem:

***“Break up your unplowed ground
and do not sow among thorns.***

***⁴Circumcise yourselves to the LORD,
circumcise your hearts,
you people of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem,
or my wrath will flare up and burn like fire
because of the evil you have done—
burn with no one to quench it.* Jeremiah 4:1-4**

I want to pose a question to you regarding circumcision. We read in Ezekiel 44 which is a Messianic prophecy, one which will be fulfilled when Messiah returns. In this passage it states, ***Say to rebellious Israel, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Enough of your detestable practices, people of Israel! ⁷In addition to all your other detestable practices, you brought foreigners uncircumcised in heart and flesh into my sanctuary, desecrating my temple while you offered me food, fat and blood, and you broke my covenant. ⁸Instead of carrying out your duty in regard to my holy things, you put others in charge of my sanctuary. ⁹This is what the Sovereign LORD says: No foreigner uncircumcised in heart and flesh is to enter my sanctuary, not even the foreigners who live among the Israelites.*** Ezekiel 44:6-9

What does it mean when it states, no one who is not circumcised in the flesh and heart will be permitted into the sanctuary of YHVH to minister before Him?

Now, I am not advocating circumcision for salvation, as this is the whole discussion in the book of Galatians and that of the first Jerusalem Council Acts 15, but how do we understand this? Maybe you can look at this and seek YHVH.

Deut. 11:1-12

Love the LORD your God and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always. ²Remember today that your children were not the ones who saw and experienced the discipline of the LORD your God: his majesty, his mighty hand, his outstretched arm; ³the signs he performed and the things he did in the heart of Egypt, both to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his whole country; ⁴what he did to the Egyptian army, to its horses and chariots, how he overwhelmed them with the waters of the Red Sea as they were pursuing you, and how the LORD brought lasting ruin on them. ⁵It was not your children who saw what he did for you in the wilderness until you arrived at this place, ⁶and what he did to Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab the Reubenite, when the earth opened its mouth right in the middle of all Israel and swallowed them up with their households, their tents and every living thing that belonged to them. ⁷But it was your own eyes that saw all these great things the Lord has done.

⁸Observe therefore all the commands I am giving you today, so that you may have the strength to go in and take over the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, ⁹and so that you may live long in the land the LORD swore to your ancestors to give to them and their descendants, a land

flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ The land you are entering to take over is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you planted your seed and irrigated it by foot as in a vegetable garden. ¹¹ But the land you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of is a land of mountains and valleys that drinks rain from heaven. ¹² It is a land the LORD your God cares for; the eyes of the LORD your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end.

What an inheritance the Promised Land is, yet what most do not comprehend is that as believers in Messiah, they are adopted/grafted into the commonwealth of Israel and as such have an inheritance in the land. That when Messiah returns, we will live in the Promised Land with our Messiah. That at present most of Israel, the House of Judah and the House of Israel are in exile, scattered throughout the nations. The nations we live in our not our home, yes, we may have been born there, have citizenship in that nation, but our home is in the Promised Land. Our King is Messiah Yeshua, the one who has redeemed us and who is coming to end our exile. The sad reality is many believers do not know who they are in Messiah; they have an identity crisis. Yet, the reality is this is a prophecy concerning the House of Israel. However, it is something YHVH is bringing clarity about in these latter days.

The day is fast approaching when we will enter the land and take possession of it. A day when the two Houses will be united by the Messiah when He returns. Then brother will dwell together in unity, as the twelve tribes of Israel are once again in the land, as YHVH reigns over His people from Zion.

Deut. 11:13-15 here we read the second part of the Shema. The first part was previously mentioned in Deut. 6:4-9 and the third part in Numb. 15:37-41. Together they state ***Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.*** Deut. 6:4-9

So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul— ¹⁴ then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and olive oil. ¹⁵ I will provide grass in the fields for your cattle, and you will eat and be satisfied.

¹⁶ Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. ¹⁷ Then the LORD'S anger will burn against you, and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the LORD is giving you. ¹⁸ Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ¹⁹ Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ²⁰ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, ²¹ so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth. Deut. 11:13-21

The LORD said to Moses, ³⁸ "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'Throughout the generations to come you are to make tassels on the corners of your garments, with a blue cord on each tassel. ³⁹ You will have these tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the LORD, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by chasing after the lusts of your own hearts and eyes. ⁴⁰ Then you will remember to obey all my commands and will be consecrated

to your God. ⁴¹ I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt to be your God. I am the LORD your God.” Numbers 15:37-41

What many do not understand is that the opening to the Shema is a prophetic statement, **Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the Lord is one.** For Zechariah 14:9 states **Then YHVH will come to be King over the entire earth. In “that day YHVH shall come to be one, and His name one.** Here Zechariah is speaking of the Day of YHVH when the Messiah has come and reigns from Zion, that at this time YHVH will be King in Zion. Many coming from a “church” point of view will not fully understand the depth of this passage, what we need to understand is that YHVH fragmented Himself so that He could reveal Himself to humanity and thus redeem them. That, once YHVH has accomplished this, when humanity and creation are restored back to how they had been created, YHVH will then be one. However, YHVH is already one because He exists outside of time, but in this dimension, He is still fragmented. It is only when the heavenly and the physical dimensions merge and become one, that being a New Heaven and Earth will the full reality of this passage become apparent and fulfilled. What we see during the millennium period, the Daytime period of the Day of YHVH is the coming together of this event, which will be completed on the eighth day.

Can you imagine what a day this will be when we will be able to see YHVH and fully comprehend the depth, the awesomeness of who YHVH is? The simplicity of this is that YHVH is the Messiah, the one who spoke to Moses and gave the Torah to him just as scripture states.

**For the LORD is our judge,
the LORD is our lawgiver,
the LORD is our king;
it is he who will save us.** Isaiah 33:22

There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbour? James 4:12

However, the truth is, Israel only sees who YHVH is in part, for the House of Judah sees YHVH as the one who gave the Torah and redeemed them from slavery, but it is the House of Israel who knows Him as the Messiah, the King, the one who walked in the garden. Therefore, it is during the time of Jacob’s Trouble when Israel (both Houses) wrestle with who YHVH is, that He reveals to them who He is as the veil is removed from Israel, after which they will never walk the same again. For the two sticks will have become one and brother will once again walk in unison together with YHVH.

Maybe you can look at this concept further in the coming week.

Friends what we see in this week’s parshah are themes which run throughout scripture, that of YHVH delivering His people while judging the nation who come against His people, while also revealing Himself to the nations and Israel. That the people of YHVH are not to fear any situation which they find themselves in, but instead they are to hold fast and focus upon YHVH and allow Him to guide them through whatever is taking place. For YHVH will defeat the enemies we face if we only submit to His authority. Therefore, the first step we must take when we come against an enemy is, check ourselves, our walk, then repent of any transgression as we make YHVH our refuge and fortress through humbling ourselves to His word and instructions.

We further see how YHVH promises to defend Israel and defeat her enemies, by sending hornets against them. As I have stated, we see this being played out during the day of YHVH, during Jacob’s Trouble. Yet, let me ask, what promises has YHVH made with you? Has He fulfilled them? Are you continuing to stand upon them? So often within our lives, we do not see the full outworking of what YHVH has promised us because we allow the enemy to steal what YHVH has given. Thus, when

HaSatan robs us of specific promises, He brings death to areas of our lives, as we allow his lies to take root. Often these are areas we have hurt and pain or have doubt. The antidote to this is to repent, humble ourselves before YHVH as we allow His perfect love to come in and minister to our pain, our hurt, our rejection.

I encourage you this week to seek YHVH, to allow the Holy Spirit to minister in the areas of your life you have placed barriers because the hurt is too intense. Allow the Holy Spirit to come and remove the muck as He cleans out the infection and brings healing. Then once this process has taken place, stand firm upon the word and ask YHVH to restore what the enemy has stolen and make recompense according to the Torah. Then stand resolute upon the promises of YHVH and remain focused upon Him as you commit to walking humbly before YHVH in obedience to His word.

May YHVH bless and keep you

Shabbat Shalom

Nathan co-founder of Arrows of Ephrayim Ministries

www.arrowsofephrayim.com