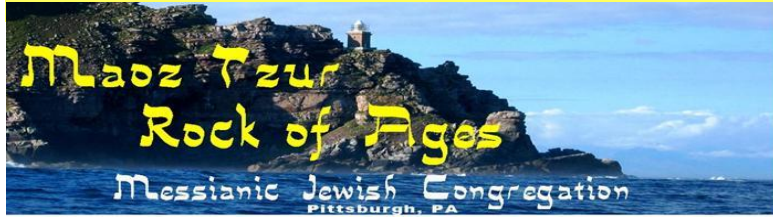


Growing a Community of Followers of Yeshua, Bringing Him to Jewish Pittsburgh and beyond.



- PROCLAIM -
My **Abba (Father)**
my **El (God)**,
and **Tzur (Rock)** -
my **Yeshua (Salvation)**
- Psalms 89:26 -

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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

LESSONS FROM SCRIPTURE and JEWISH HISTORY

PENTECOST MEANT SOMETHING 1400 YEARS BEFORE ACTS 2

If God wrote a sermon illustration - how good would it be?

Each of the Biblical/Jewish Feasts of the Lord was designed by God to tell us something about Yeshua - Jesus and why we need Him. The Feasts are practical illustrations showing the realities of a Promised Messiah and why we need Him. The Feasts of Israel are “Sermon” illustrations about Yeshua - Jesus - written by God. And, they offer concrete material and actions to make God’s meaning clear.

So what does Pentecost say about Yeshua?

Did you know Pentecost was an important day for 1400 years before the disciples were filled with The Holy Spirit as related in The 2nd Chapter of Acts? Did you know the date for Pentecost is based on events in Passover?

We just came through the Passover season and many readily see the connection between the lamb in Egypt and the Lamb of God. In both cases, those who “hid” behind the blood are spared judgment.

God commanded Feast of Firstfruits (Lev. 23:9-14) to fall on the first day after the Sabbath in the week of Passover. Like Passover, Firstfruits was instituted 1400 years before the birth of Yeshua. While Passover pictures Yeshua’s sacrifice and His blood, Firstfruits pictures life springing forth from the ground - God taking what was dead - and making LIFE out of it.

God told the Jewish People to count 7 weeks (in Hebrew (Shavuot) plus a day - or 50 days from the Feast of Firstfruits. This would be The Feast of Pentecost (Pentecost is Greek for 50).

According to Leviticus 23:15-21, part of celebrating the Feast of Pentecost included “waving” two loaves of bread before God. The special thing about these two loaves is that God commanded these loaves be made WITH leaven (yeast). Yeast in the Bible is many times a picture of pride which “puffs” up. Other offerings to God were without leaven, but the offering God desired for Pentecost? - TWO loaves, and both with leaven. The two loaves are “waved” -

“ the Good News [of Yeshua - Jesus] ... as a matter of priority is for Jewish people first ”
- Romans 1:16 -

they are lifted up by the priest and presented before God - in a sense so longer “stuck” on Earth, ... but still connected to Earth.

This is a picture of Jew and Gentile - people who fall short of the Glory of God - but by the actions of THE Priest (Yeshua) are fit to be offered to God, presented to Him and now acceptable. And, because of His Power applied to us, although still a part of the physical world, we are lifted up and are not limited by this physical world.

How do we operate in this Power? “As many as believe and receive Him - to them He gave the Power to be recognized as the children of God - John 1:12.” First we believe Him for Salvation. Then we need to recognize we cannot walk His way unless He gives us His power to do so - we need to “receive” Him.

God spoke ... and in His awesome power all of Creation came to be. Then God spoke to Moses at Mt. Sinai. His Word showed Israel how, while still living as part of humankind, to be separated from wicked man and as they conformed their lives to that Word the Jewish people reflected the nature and character of God - connected to Earth but now “lifted up.”

Exodus 19 tells us that when God gave the Jewish People His Word (in written form) there was fire on the mountain, and the sound of might rushing wind like trumpets, and that the entire mountain quaked.

When Yeshua gave up His spirit - when God gave us His Son, the Living Word - there was a tremendous earthquake (Matthew 27:51).

How do we form words? With our breath. In Jeremiah 31:31-34 God promised in The New Covenant that He would put His Word in our hearts. In Acts 2:1-4 and Acts 4:31 - just as The Word was given before - there was fire, and rushing wind, and quaking . Only this time The Word was not written on stone tablets or scrolls of sheepskin - but the very Breath of God - His Holy Spirit of Truth - was placed in God’s people.

God confirmed the importance of The Word He gave us - at Sinai ... at the Cross ... at Pentecost with powerful outward signs but more importantly through changed lives. Peter and the others were filled with a boldness to share the Good News of Yeshua.

Now, the very Breath that brought all creation to be lives inside of those of us who “believe and receive” Him. Consider what Power God wants to display in and through your life! Ask Him to glorify Himself in you in such a way that Yeshua is exalted, and all men - Jewish and Gentile - are drawn to Him.

Paul said “The Law (where we find all the commands for The Feasts) is a tutor that points us to The Anointed One - Gal. 3:24.” Jesus said, “The Scriptures [Old Testament] ...speak of Me - John 5:39.” Yeshua and Paul expected that we would find out the truth about Messiah Yeshua by hearing what is spoken of Him in the pages from Genesis to Malachi.

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you, as you read the Old Testament, just what He wanted us to hear regarding Yeshua. You will find The Feasts of Lord, such as Pentecost, as well as every other page in the Jewish Scriptures, has something to say to help us know “the One who loved us and gave Himself for us.”

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