



***Enter Into the Joy of His Revelation (Simchat Torah)!
Join us Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday for Key
Gatherings!***



Tuesday, October 9, 2012

Dear Lovers of God's Word:

This morning's early prayer in the Tabernacle was just wonderful. We gathered to celebrate "**Simchat Torah**" - *rejoicing in the Torah*. Traditionally, at this time, the Jews complete their reading of Deuteronomy, roll up the scroll that contained Genesis - Deuteronomy, and begin reading anew at the beginning of Genesis. So, this morning we worshiped, prophesied, declared, and danced as we closed the "old" and began the "new" in celebrating the gift of the Word of God. Robert Heidler also taught on the significance of this time and how God's cycles of time allow us to progress in His times and seasons. I am declaring that the Word of God will be a lamp unto your feet and a light upon your path. You will want to set aside an hour to watch the webcast replay that will be available through Saturday evening. Click [HERE](#) to watch it today.

For more information on Simchat Torah, please be sure to read this Prayer update from Israel by Martin and Norma Sarvis. Each week they offer key insights on how pray for the people and land of Israel. If you are not already receiving these weekly updates, you can subscribe by visiting our [website](#) and selecting the blue "*Member Services*" box. This will then provide you the option to subscribe to the Israel Prayerlist directly.

PRAYER UPDATE FROM ISRAEL (October 8, 2012)



Traditionally, the last day of the Sukkot celebration is a time for earnestly asking God for rains in Israel. Ideally, the “former rains” should begin soon and continue until the Passover season in the spring at which time the “latter rains” begin. Last year the former rains were greatly increased over previous years, which was a great blessing—but there were virtually no latter rains at all. **TODAY, THERE WERE UNSEASONABLY HEAVY RAINS IN THE WESTERN AND NORTHERN PARTS OF ISRAEL!!**

We thank Him for this blessing and pray for a strong rainy season in Israel from mid-October through mid-May.

We were thrilled with the strong flow of peoples from so many nations visiting Israel during the fall feasts. Particularly strong were the large groups from Asia—China, Taiwan, Indonesia—who came to pray and praise and intercede and in some cases give generously and sacrificially to the financial needs of the Body of Messiah in our land. At times during the High Praises released by some of these groups, we sensed the very heavens shifting over us.

Please pray that the praises and worship and intercession from the Nations which were released through the Holy Spirit during these weeks would continue to accomplish God’s work, for which they were released. Pray that blessing and prosperity and revelation and discernment would follow all those whom God brought to be with us, as they return to labor on behalf of His holy purposes in their own nations.

SIMCHAT TORAH—THE JOY OF TORAH

(8 October in Israel—9 October in other nations)

**Torah: Deuteronomy 33:1—34:12
Genesis 1:1—2:3**

Haftarah: Joshua 1:1—18

Simchat Torah is the joyous day on which the year-long weekly readings through the five Books of Moses are concluded. It occurs in Israel on the day following the seven days of Sukkot—the eighth day (Leviticus: 23:34-36; 39) which like the first, is also a Sabbath day of rest. Outside of Israel *Simchat Torah* is celebrated on the following ninth day. There is great rejoicing in the synagogues and messianic congregations during this celebration, with song and proclamations and dancing with the Torah scrolls which have been taken out of their “arks”. For the Torah Reading, the poignant last two chapters of Deuteronomy are read. Then the Scroll is rolled back to the beginning—the Book of *Beresheet* (“In the Beginning”—Genesis), and as Chapter One and the first three verses of the Chapter Two are read, the cycle begins again! Finally, the *Haftarah* carries the story on after the death of Moses through the first chapter of the Book of Joshua. A new generation of Israelites are poised to enter the Land and their leader is charged by the LORD: **“Chazak v’Ematz Me’od!—“Be Strong and very Courageous...that you may observe to do according to all the “torah” which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Torah shall not depart from your mouth but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Chazak v’Ematz!—Be strong and of good courage! Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for YHVH your God is with you wherever you go!”** (Joshua 1:7-9).

The word *torah* means a “direction” or “teaching” (Young’s Concordance). Many heavenly directions and teachings were released through the Hebrews as the “oracles of God” (Romans 3:2), and their love for and attentiveness to them is reflected in the Psalms: *“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly...but his delight is in the torah of YHVH—the LORD”* (Psalm 1:1-2); *“The torah of YHVH is perfect, converting the soul”* (Psalm 13:7); *“The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, and his tongue talks of justice. The torah of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide”* (Psalm 37:30-31). In Psalm 119 alone the LORD’s *torah* is mentioned at least 25 times!

“The Torah” usually refers to that “direction and teaching” chronicled by Moses in the first five books of the Bible, sometimes referred to in English as the “Law of Moses.” Although “Law” can be a legitimate translation for the word *torah*, certain perspectives and teachings on the “Law” have resulted in error both amongst Jews and Gentile Christians. There is error in believing that an attempt to keep all of the directives in The Torah will make a person righteous and atone for his sin. The Torah itself teaches that God Himself must provide atonement for His people (Deuteronomy 32:43). Rather than focusing on following rules, His people are to “choose life” in loving and obeying and clinging to *Him* (Deut. 30:19-20). By faith Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness (Gen. 15:6) by the “Righteousness-God” (Psalm 4:1).

Yet for many evangelical Christians “The Law” or “The Torah” have become negative words because of teachings which seem to imply that because of the work of Messiah, the teachings within the Torah do not even pertain to us anymore. This also contains error. Many of the types and ceremonies and rituals and sacrifices necessary for Israel to walk in fellowship with her God were indeed fulfilled and superseded by the work of Yeshua the Messiah. But the “directions and teachings” of the “Law of Moses” regarding the nature of God and of Humankind, of the nature of sin, of God’s desire to dwell with us, and of His promises to the Fathers remain as relevant for us all in knowing the Father and His Son today as they ever were. For the Law—the Torah—is filled with our Lord Yeshua (Jesus). They are part of the Scriptures which testify of Him (John 5:39); “*For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me*” (John 5:46); “*And beginning at Moses...He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself*” (Luke 24:27); “*There are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Torah of Moses...concerning Me...And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures*” (Luke 24:44-45).

Please pray that Jews who genuinely rejoice in the Torah will be moved by the Holy Spirit to read more of its teaching themselves, unaided by their commentaries—that they would humble themselves to ask God to interpret as they read and to reveal to them His truth and salvation.

8-13 October 2012

A NEW CYCLE BEGINS!

This week the cycle through the Torah begins anew. The reading for this weekend is called *B’resheet*—“*In the Beginning*”.

TORAH: Genesis 1:1—6:8

HAFTARAH: Isaiah 42:5—43:10

As we open to the first chapter of this God-breathed Book, God—*Elohim* (a plural, used grammatically as a singular) is simply *there*--creating. The *Spirit* of *Elohim* is there (vs. 2). And as God speaks, His living *WORD* is there. Within a few verses “The *Adam*” is created (1:27), created in *Elohim*’s own image—masculine and feminine (1:27). By the end of Chapter 3 that image is marred and what had received the breath of life is already dying. In 4:2 the man and woman have begun to reproduce, and their sons are bringing offerings to the LORD. In 4:8 there is murder committed, and Abel, a good man who pleases God, becomes the first man to die. It is interesting that Abel’s name in the Hebrew is spelled the same as the Hebrew word for “vapor” or “vanity” (This word both begins and permeates the book of Ecclesiastes which we have been reading during the feast of Sukkot. Life is but a vapor which is here and passes away, and the life of Abel, the good, as well as that of Cain, the evil, are both temporary. By Genesis 6 the earth is corrupted through sinful man in conjunction with rebellious angelic beings. “*Then YHVH saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually...So YHVH said, ‘I will destroy the man (Hebrew: the adam) whom I have created from the face of the earth (Hebrew: the adamah).’ But Noah*

found grace in the eyes of the LORD” (6:5,7a, 8). This is an expression which, in modern Hebrew, still means “to bring pleasure to.”

PLEASE PRAY: that “as it was in the days of Noah,” besides a rising evil on the earth, a multitude of latter-day “Noahs” will also arise who bring pleasure to their LORD, who “*find grace in His eyes.*”



Martin & Norma Sarvis
Jerusalem

[The readings for next week (14-20 October) will be called *Noah*. TORAH: Genesis 6:9—11:32; HAFTARAH: Isaiah 54:1—55:5]

Join Us Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday!

Wednesday Night Gathering: A Time to Shift!

Tomorrow night we will have another special gathering in the Tabernacle. Anne Tate will be leading a time of prayer and activation for the major shifts in God’s Kingdom plan for the year ahead. This will begin at 7 PM and will include worship, teaching and activation for the shifts that must occur. If you are not able to join us onsite, you can webcast.

Saturday Night Firstfruits Celebration for Cheshvan!

Please be sure to join us on Saturday night for our Firstfruits Weekend when we celebrate the Hebraic blessings associated with the month of *Cheshvan* - a month reserved for the **anointing**. This can make it an easy month or a hard month -- because for the LORD to draw a new anointing out of you, He must first press it out of you! Make plans to join us at 7 PM on Saturday.

Chili Cookoff with Exciting Celebrity Judge – Holly Squier of the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders

On Sunday morning I look forward to ministering on “*You Have a Shout of Glory: Let It Form!*” After the service we will have a special **Chili Cookoff!** Last year’s Cookoff was a blowout, and this year we expect things to get even hotter! Plus this year we have a special guest judge ... Holly Squier of the Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders. She was last year’s “Rookie of the Year” and will be one of our all-star team of judges this year.

We still need many of you to bring a chili entry, as well as others of you to be onsite to eat some great chili! Following the Chili Cookoff lunch, we will also have a Dessert Auction so you can take home something sweet to eat! If you are willing to bring chili and enter the Cookoff, we need you to sign up so we can best prepare. Please call the office at (940) 382-7231 and ask for Heidi or Lisa to save your spot ... and your chance to be our next Chili Cookoff Grand Champion!

Blessings,

Chuck D. Pierce