Greetings, today our manna is from Genesis 2; Matthew 2; Ezra 2; Acts 2

January 2 - Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: I have added emphasis with underlines, highlights, and [brackets] to Scripture for teaching purposes only.]

Genesis 2

The Seventh Day, Elohim Rests

Gen 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their array.

Gen 2:2 And in the seventh day^a Elohim completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. Footnote: ^aIn (not 'by' or 'on') the seventh day - Hebrew: Bayyom haShbi'i.

Gen 2:3 And Elohim blessed the seventh day and set it apart, because on it He rested from all His work which Elohim in creating had made.

The Creation of Man and Woman

Gen 2:4 These are the births of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that יהוה Elohim made earth and heavens.

Gen 2:5 Now no shrub of the field was yet on the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for יהוה Elohim had not sent rain on the earth, and there was no man to till the ground,

Gen 2:6 but a mist went up from the earth and watered the entire surface of the ground.

Gen 2:7 And יהוה Elohim formed the man out of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils breath of lives. And the man became a living being.

Gen 2:7 And the <u>LORD</u> God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the **breath of life**; and man **became a living soul**.

The breath of life and becoming a living being or a 'living soul' go hand in hand. If there is 'no breath of life' there is no living soul within the body.

Gen 2:8 And יהוה <u>Elohim planted a garden in Eden, to the east, and there He put the man whom He had formed.</u>

Tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Gen 2:9 And out of the ground rain Elohim made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, with the tree of life in the midst of the garden and the tree of

the knowledge of good and evil.

Gen 2:10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided and became four heads.

- ❖ Gen 2:11 The name of the <u>first is Pishon</u>, it is the <u>one surrounding the entire</u> <u>land of Ḥawilah, where there is **gold**</u>.
 - Gen 2:12 And the gold of that land is good. <u>Bdellium</u> is there, and <u>the</u> shoham stone.
- ❖ Gen 2:13 And the name of the <u>second river is Gihon</u>, it is the one surrounding the entire land of Kush.
- ❖ Gen 2:14 And the name of the **third river is Hiddegel**, it is the one which goes toward the east of Ashshur.
- ❖ And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

Gen 2:15 And יהוה <u>Elohim took the man and put him in the garden of Eden</u> to work it and to guard it.

Satan's background:

Eze 28:13 "You were in Eden, the garden of Elohim. Every precious stone was your covering: the ruby, topaz, and diamond, beryl, shoham, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald and gold. The workmanship of your settings and mountings was prepared for you on the day you were created.

Eze 28:14 "You were the anointed kerub that covered. And I placed you, you were on the set-apart mountain of Elohim. You walked up and down in the midst of stones of fire.

In Gen. 4:16, we will see Cain depart from the presence of YHWH to the land of Nod on the east of Eden.

Gen 4:16 So Qayin went out from the presence of יהוה and dwelt in the land of Nog on the east of Eden.

Gen 2:16 And יהוה Elohim commanded the man, saying, "Eat of every tree of the garden,

Gen 2:17 but do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for in the day that you eat of it you shall certainly die."

Gen 2:18 And יהוה Elohim said, "It is not good for the man to be alone, I am going to make a helper for him, as his counterpart."

Gen 2:19 And from the ground יהוה Elohim formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called each living being, that was its name.

Gen 2:20 So the man gave names to all livestock, and to the birds of the heavens, and to every beast of the field. But for the man there was not found a helper for him, as his

counterpart.

Gen 2:21 So יהוה Elohim caused a deep sleep to fall on the man, and he slept. And He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

Gen 2:22 And the rib which יהוה Elohim had taken from the man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

BDB Definition: H6763 rib - tsêlâ' / tsal'âh

- 1) side, rib, beam
 - 1a) rib (of man)
 - 1b) rib (of hill, ridge, etc)
 - 1c) side-chambers or cells (of temple structure)
 - 1d) rib, plank, board (of cedar or fir)
 - 1e) leaves (of door)
 - 1f) side (of ark)

Like the woman made from the rib of Adam; the bride of Yahusha is a sub-section, like a rib, that is set-apart within the body of believers. YHWH had created the man and woman on the 6th day and on the 7th day He rested.

The one new man 'Israel', with the bride as a subset of the body, may also follow that pattern of being complete on the close of the 6th day. We are at that point. We are at the close of the 6th millennium and are about to enter the 7th millennium when we will Sukkot or 'Tabernacle' with our Groom.

Gen 2:23 And the man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. This one is called 'woman,' because she was taken out of man."

Gen 2:24 For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Gen 2:25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, yet they were not ashamed.

At this point Adam and Eve had **glorified bodies of light**. Eve, the bride, was a remnant of the body of man or Adam.

Matthew 2

The Visit of the Wise Men

Mat 2:1 And יהושע having been born in Běyth Leḥem of Yehudah in the days of Herodes the sovereign, see, Magi from the east came to Yerushalayim,

Mat 2:2 saying, "Where is He who has been born Sovereign of the Yehudim? For we saw His star in the East and have come to do reverence to Him."

The Magi mentioned here were 'wise men' or astronomers from the east. This would have been in the region of Babylon and later Medes-Persia. It is very possible that these Magi were acquainted with Daniel through his writings and prophecies yet to come. We see this concept in the below excerpt.

The prophet Daniel must have been assigned to this high office. Perhaps the fraternization of Daniel with the early Magi in Babylon helps to explain why those in the Magian profession expected a Jewish king to arrive near the end of the 1st century. This is the very thing that Daniel prophesied would happen. Recall that Daniel prophesied the rebuilding of Jerusalem after the Babylonians destroyed it in the 6th century B.C.E. He also said that 490 years would pass from a command to rebuild Jerusalem until a world-embracing messianic kingdom would emerge on the earth in the region of Palestine. http://www.askelm.com/star/star002.htm

Yahusha was born in the days of Herod the Great. The Magian arrived in Jerusalem with much pomp. It is strongly supported that there were not just 'three wise men' but a whole caravan traveling together. They had also brought with them many valuables of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, which had very possibly been set aside for this prophetic event.

When they arrived, they asked a logical question: 'Where is He who has been born Sovereign of the Yehudim?' They probably were expecting a prompt simple answer. Afterall, they were just arriving and surely the local people were aware of such a great event. They go on to share that they had seen His star in the East and have come to do reverence to Him.

- Mat 2:3 And Herodes the sovereign, having heard, was troubled, and all Yerushalayim with him.
- Mat 2:4 And having gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.
- Mat 2:5 And they said to him, "In Beyth Lehem of Yehudah, for thus it has been written by the prophet,
- Mat 2:6 'But you, Běyth Leḥem, in the land of Yehudah, you are by no means least among the rulers of Yehudah, for out of you shall come a Ruler who shall shepherd My people Yisra'ěl.' " Mic_5:2.

The Magian seeking news of where a 'Sovereign of the Yehudim' had been born, troubled King Herod greatly; after all He was king! So, the phishing begins. Herod gathers key officials and inquiries are made as to where the Messiah would be born. The chief priests and scribes answer and tell Herod the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem based on Micah 5:2.

Mat 2:7 Then Herodes, having called the Magi secretly, learned exactly from them what time the star appeared.

Mat 2:8 And having sent them to Beyth Lehem, he said, "Go and search diligently for the Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, so that I too might go and do reverence to Him."

Mat 2:9 And having heard the sovereign, they went. And see, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, until it came and stood over where the Child was.

Mat 2:10 And seeing the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

These Magian were experiencing an astronomer's 'dream event.' This was a onetime prophetic astronomical event signifying the birth of the Messiah, and they were living it out! They heard what Herod had to say and they moved on. They continue to follow this astronomical star that led exactly to where the Child was located! Can you imagine the excitement! Not only had they been following this star on their entire journey from the east; not only had they been searching for this event for years; not only had they studied the writings and knew of the prophecies of Daniel; but now, they are seeing all that had been prophesied come to past! They were there! They not only saw the 'star' but most importantly they laid eyes on the Child, the Sovereign of the Yehudim!

Mat 2:11 And coming into the house, they saw the Child with Miryam His mother, and fell down and did reverence to Him, and opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Mat 2:12 And having been warned in a dream that they should not return to Herodes, they departed for their own country by another way.

After giving their reverence to Him and their gifts, they are warned in a dream not to return to King Herod. Therefore, they return to their country another way.

On their return journey, we cannot imagine how elated and joyous they must have been. Surely, they were traveling on 'cloud nine' as we would say, all the way back to their country. This was an astronomical event of a lifetime and they got to see the divine beauty of it unfold!

The Flight to Egypt

Mat 2:13 And when they had left, see, a messenger of יהוה appeared to Yoseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Mitsrayim, and remain there until I bring you word, for Herodes is about to seek the Child to destroy Him."

Mat 2:14 And rising up, he took the Child and His mother by night and departed for Mitsrayim,

Mat 2:15 and remained there until the death of Herodes, to fill what was spoken by יהוה through the prophet, saying, "Out of Mitsrayim I have called My Son." $\frac{\text{Exo}}{4:22-23}$, Hos_11:1, Rev_21:7.

Not only did the Magian receive warning in a dream but so did Joseph. Joseph was to take the Child and Miryam and flee to Egypt and he did so immediately upon rising. They left in the cover of night and they would remain in Egypt until further word of the death of Herod.

It is believed that Yahusha was nearing 2 years of age by the time the Magian had arrived. The impression that Yahusha was an infant and that there were only three wisemen is incorrectly portrayed by nativity scenes.

Herod Kills the Children

Mat 2:16 Then Herodes, having seen that he was fooled by the Magi, was greatly enraged, and he sent forth and slew all the male children in Beyth Lehem and in all its borders, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had exactly learnt from the Magi.

Mat 2:17 Then was filled what was spoken by Yirmeyahu the prophet, saying,

Mat 2:18 "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and weeping, and great mourning – Raḥěl weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they were no more." Jer 31:15.

Herod was greatly enraged believing he had been fooled by the Magian; but better than that, Herod was circumvented by YHWH. Sadly, Herod does give the command to slay all male children in Bethlehem and in all its borders, from two years old and under, based on the time of when the Magian first spotted the 'star.' Thereby, fulfilling yet another prophesy in Jer. 31:15 'Rachel weeping for her children.' Rachel was buried near Bethlehem – see following commentaries.

Ellicott's Commentary: Genesis 35:16

And they journeyed from Bethel; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour.

(16) But a little way.—Heb., and there was still a "chibrath" of land to come to Ephrath. This word occurs four times in the Old Testament: here, in <u>Genesis 48:7</u>, in <u>2Kings 5:19</u>, and in <u>Amos 9:9</u>, where it is used in the sense of a sieve. Many of the Rabbins, therefore, translate "in the spring-time," because the earth is then riddled by the plough like a sieve; and the Targum and Vulgate adopt this rendering. The real meaning of the word is lost, but probably it was a measure of distance; and the Jewish interpreters generally think that it meant a mile, because Rachel's traditional tomb was about that distance from Bethlehem.

Ephrath (the fruitful) and Beth-lehem (the house of bread) have virtually the same meaning, but the latter name would be given to the town only when its pastures had given place to arable lands, where corn was sown for bread.

<u>David Guzik's Commentary:</u> 3. (19-20) The death and burial of Rachel.

So, Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that *is*, Bethlehem). And Jacob set a pillar on her grave, which *is* the pillar of Rachel's grave to this day.

a. **Rachel died and was buried**: Rachel's death was a tragic fulfillment of the curse Jacob himself pronounced on the one who stole the idols of Laban (<u>Genesis 31:32</u>).

i. In <u>Genesis 30:1</u>, Rachel pleaded with Jacob, *Give me children, or else I die!* As it happened, both became true. She had children and she died as a result.

The Return to Nazareth

Mat 2:19 And Herodes having died, see, a messenger of יהוה appeared in a dream to Yosěph in Mitsrayim,

Mat 2:20 saying, "Arise, and take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Yisra'ěl, for those seeking the life of the Child are dead."

Mat 2:21 And rising up, he took the Child and His mother, and came into the land of Yisra'ěl.

Mat 2:22 But hearing that Archelaos was reigning over Yehudah instead of his father Herodes, he was afraid to go there. And having been warned in a dream, he departed to the parts of Galil,

Mat 2:23 and came and dwelt in a city called Natsareth – thus to fill what was spoken^a by the prophets, "He shall be called a Natsarene." Footnote: ^aSpoken (not written) by the prophets (plural).

Joseph later has another dream and is given a message to take the Child and Miryam back to the land of Israel, for those seeking the Child's life were dead. Upon returning and hearing Archelaos [Herod's son] was reigning over Judah, Joseph is again warned in a dream and settles in Galilee in a city called Nazareth; thus, fulfilling the prophecy that he would be called a Nazarene.

Yahusha fulfilled so many prophecies that it is indisputable as to His identity. He is the Messiah!

Ezra 2

Ezra 2 records the sons of the province who had been exiled and were now returning from Babylonian captivity to Jerusalem and Judah.

The Exiles Return

- **Ezr 2:1** And these are the sons of the province who came back from the captivity of the exiles, whom Nebukadnetstsar the sovereign of Babel had exiled to Babel, and who returned to Yerushalayim and Yehudah, each to his own city,
- Ezr 2:2 who came with Zerubbabel: Yěshua, Neḥemyah, Serayah, Re'ělayah, Mordekai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigwai, Reḥum, Ba'anah. The number of the people of Yisra'ěl:
- Ezr 2:3 sons of Parosh, two thousand one hundred and seventy-two;
- Ezr 2:4 sons of Shephatyah, three hundred and seventy-two;
- Ezr 2:5 sons of Araḥ, seven hundred and seventy-five;
- Ezr 2:6 sons of Paḥath-Mo'aḇ, of the sons of Yĕshua and Yo'aḇ, two thousand eight hundred and twelve;
- Ezr 2:7 sons of Eylam, one thousand two hundred and fifty-four;
- Ezr 2:8 sons of Zattu, nine hundred and forty-five;
- Ezr 2:9 sons of Zakkai, seven hundred and sixty;
- Ezr 2:10 sons of Bani, six hundred and forty-two;
- Ezr 2:11 sons of Běbai, six hundred and twenty-three;
- Ezr 2:12 sons of Azgad, one thousand two hundred and twenty-two;
- Ezr 2:13 sons of Adonigam, six hundred and sixty-six;
- Ezr 2:14 sons of Bigwai, two thousand and fifty-six;
- Ezr 2:15 sons of Adin, four hundred and fifty-four;
- Ezr 2:16 sons of Ater of Hizgiyah, ninety-eight;
- Ezr 2:17 sons of Bětsai, three hundred and twenty-three;
- Ezr 2:18 sons of Yorah, one hundred and twelve;
- Ezr 2:19 sons of Hashum, two hundred and twenty-three;
- Ezr 2:20 sons of Gibbar, ninety-five;
- Ezr 2:21 sons of Beyth Lehem, one hundred and twenty-three;
- Ezr 2:22 men of Netophah, fifty-six;
- Ezr 2:23 men of Anathoth, one hundred and twenty-eight;
- Ezr 2:24 sons of Azmaweth, forty-two;
- Ezr 2:25 sons of Qiryath Arim, Kephirah, and Be'eroth, seven hundred and forty-three;

- Ezr 2:26 sons of Ramah and Geba, six hundred and twenty-one;
- Ezr 2:27 men of Mikmas, one hundred and twenty-two;
- Ezr 2:28 men of Běyth Ěl and Ai, two hundred and twenty-three;
- Ezr 2:29 sons of Nebo, fifty-two;
- Ezr 2:30 sons of Magbish, one hundred and fifty-six;
- Ezr 2:31 sons of the other Eylam, one thousand two hundred and fifty-four;
- Ezr 2:32 sons of Harim, three hundred and twenty;
- Ezr 2:33 sons of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred and twenty-five;
- Ezr 2:34 sons of Yeriho, three hundred and forty-five;
- Ezr 2:35 sons of Sena'ah, three thousand six hundred and thirty.
- Ezr 2:36 The priests: sons of Yedayah, of the house of Yeshua, nine hundred and seventy-three;
- Ezr 2:37 sons of Immer, one thousand and fifty-two;
- Ezr 2:38 sons of Pashhur, one thousand two hundred and forty-seven;
- Ezr 2:39 sons of Harim, one thousand and seventeen.
- Ezr 2:40 The Lewites: sons of Yeshua and Qadmi'el, of the sons of Hodawyah, seventy-four.
- Ezr 2:41 The singers: sons of Asaph, one hundred and twenty-eight.
- Ezr 2:42 Sons of the gatekeepers: sons of Shallum, sons of Atěr, sons of Talmon, sons of Aqqub, sons of Ḥatita, sons of Shobai, one hundred and thirty-nine in all.
- Ezr 2:43 The Nethinim: sons of Tsiha, sons of Hasupha, sons of Tabba'oth,
- Ezr 2:44 sons of Qěros, sons of Si'aha, sons of Padon,
- Ezr 2:45 sons of Lebanah, sons of Ḥaḡaḇah, sons of Aqqub,
- Ezr 2:46 sons of Ḥaḡaḇ, sons of Shamlai, sons of Ḥanan,
- Ezr 2:47 sons of Gidděl, sons of Gaḥar, sons of Re'ayah,
- Ezr 2:48 sons of Retsin, sons of Neqoda, sons of Gazzam,
- Ezr 2:49 sons of Uzza, sons of Pasěaḥ, sons of Běsai,
- Ezr 2:50 sons of Asnah, sons of Me'unim, sons of Nephusim,
- Ezr 2:51 sons of Baqbuq, sons of Ḥaqupha, sons of Ḥarḥur,
- Ezr 2:52 sons of Batsluth, sons of Meḥida, sons of Ḥarsha,
- Ezr 2:53 sons of Barqos, sons of Sisera, sons of Těmaḥ,
- Ezr 2:54 sons of Netsiyaḥ, sons of Ḥatipha.
- Ezr 2:55 Sons of Shelomoh's servants: sons of Sotai, sons of Sophereth, sons of Peruda,
- Ezr 2:56 sons of Ya'ala, sons of Darqon, sons of Gidděl,
- Ezr 2:57 sons of Shephatyah, sons of Ḥattil, sons of Pokereth of Tsebayim, sons of Ami.
- Ezr 2:58 All the Nethinim and the children of Shelomoh's servants were three hundred and ninety-two.

Ezra also shows that some that came up were unable to show their father's house, and their seed, whether they were of Israel. Though they sought to be registered among those counted by genealogy, they are barred from the priesthood as defiled.

Under the Book of the Law and the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood in which they currently lived; it was mandatory to be able to prove genealogy. Today, under the Melchizedek Priesthood with our High Priest as Yahusha HaMashiach, there is neither male nor female; Jew nor Greek; slave or free. No one needs to prove their mother / father genealogy for we are born anew from above through Yahusha HaMashiach from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation. We do not have to prove mother / father genealogy. Believers have been registered in heaven.

Heb 12:22 But you have drawn near to Mount Tsiyon and to the city of the living Elohim, to the heavenly Yerushalayim, to myriads of messengers,

Heb 12:23 to the entire gathering and assembly of the first-born having been enrolled in heaven, and to Elohim the Judge of all, and to the spirits of righteous men made perfect,

Heb 12:24 and to יהושע the Mediator^d of a new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling which speaks better than *the blood* of Hebel. Footnote: ^dSee Heb_8:6.

- Ezr 2:59 And these were those who came up from Těl Melaḥ, Těl Ḥarsha, Kerub, Addan, Imměr; but they were unable to show their father's house, and their seed, whether they were of Yisra'ěl:
- Ezr 2:60 sons of Delayah, sons of Tobiyah, sons of Neqoda, six hundred and fifty-two;
- Ezr 2:61 and of the sons of the priests: sons of Ḥaḇayah, sons of Qots, sons of Barzillai, who took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gil'adite, and was called by their name.
- Ezr 2:62 These sought their register among those who were counted by genealogy, but they were not found, so they were barred from the priesthood as defiled.
- Ezr 2:63 And the governor said to them that they should not eat of the most setapart gifts until there stood up a priest with the Urim and Tummim.
- Ezr 2:64 The entire assembly was forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty,
- Ezr 2:65 besides their male and female servants these were seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven. They also had two hundred men and women singers.
- Ezr 2:66 Their horses were seven hundred and thirty-six, their mules two hundred and forty-five,
- Ezr 2:67 their camels four hundred and thirty-five, donkeys six thousand seven hundred and twenty.
- Ezr 2:68 And some of the heads of the fathers' houses, when they came to the House of יהוה which is in Yerushalayim, offered voluntarily for the House of Elohim, to establish it in its place.

Ezr 2:69 They gave according to their ability to the treasury for the work sixty-one thousand gold drachmas, and five thousand minas of silver, and one hundred priestly garments.

Ezr 2:70 And the priests and the Lewites, and some of the people, and the singers, and the gatekeepers, and the Nethinim, dwelt in their cities, and all Yisra'el in their cities.

Acts 2

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Act 2:1 And when the Day of the Festival of Shabu'oth^a had come, they were all with one mind in one place. Footnote: ^aWeeks.

Act 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from the heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

Act 2:3 And there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and settled on each one of them.

Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Set-apart Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them to speak.

As promised, the Ruach HaKodesh comes as Yahusha had told them. They had been obedient and had stayed in Jerusalem; they were of one mind; and they were in one place; and they were filled with the Set-apart Spirit and began to speak with other tongues.

This occurred on YHWH's prophetic appointed time of Shavuot, the Festival of Weeks or Pentecost. Fifty days prior, His crucifixion had taken place on Passover and Yahusha had ascended on the 3rd day, the feast of First Fruits. From that point, He had made full atonement on the heavenly altar with His precious blood and afterwards appeared for 40 days to more than 500 people including His disciples.

What does this mean? This means that the Set-apart Spirit now dwells in believers. This means that <u>we are</u> living stones of the Temple of YHWH. This means that we are brought together by one mind in Him and are gathered into one place; the body of believers! This means we are made into a kingdom of priests of every tongue, tribe, people, and nations; a set-apart people, a holy nation.

The Promise, the Comforter had come! Greater things could now be done because <u>His Spirit now dwelt in believers</u> who serve as His Royal Ambassadors and carry out the Great Commission all around the world!

- Act 2:5 Now in Yerushalayim there were dwelling Yehudim, dedicated men from every nation under the heaven.
- Act 2:6 And when this sound came to be, the crowd came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.
- Act 2:7 And they were all amazed and marveled, saying to each other, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?
- Act 2:8 "And how do we hear, each one in our own language in which we were born?
- Act 2:9 "Parthians and Medes and Eylamites, and those dwelling in Aram Naharayim, both Yehudah and Kappadokia, Pontos and Asia,
- Act 2:10 both Phrygia and Pamphulia, Mitsrayim and the parts of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Yehudim and converts,
- Act 2:11 "Cretans and Arabs, we hear them speaking in our own tongues the great deeds of Elohim."
- Act 2:12 And they were all amazed, and were puzzled, saying to each other, "What does this mean?"
- Act 2:13 And others mocking said, "They have been filled with sweet wine."

There had been a great influx of people from across the world gathering in Jerusalem for the Feast of Shavuot [Festival of Weeks or Pentecost]. This Shavuot was like none other. The Promise, the Comforter had come!

Those that received His Spirit spoke in tongues; and the people that had traveled in from every nation heard them speaking in their own language about the great deeds of Elohim. This was a very powerful witness that all those visiting would take back to their countries.

These Spirit filled believers were now His kingdom of priests powerfully witnessing to the nations gathered for Pentecost.

This great outpouring of His Spirit will happen again in the end of days through the two witnesses we have previously discussed. These witnesses will proclaim the great deeds of Elohim and do mighty signs and wonders for 3 ½ years, just as those did at the coming of the Ruach HaKodesh.

Now we see Peter address those that were mocking this blessed event.

Peter's Sermon at Pentecost

- Act 2:14 But **Kěpha, standing up with the eleven**, lifted up his voice and said to them, "Men of Yehudah and all those dwelling in Yerushalayim, let this be known to you, and listen closely to my words.
- Act 2:15 "For these men are not drunk, as you imagine, since it is only the third hour of the day.
- Act 2:16 "But this is what was spoken by the prophet Yo'el:
- Act 2:17 'And it shall be in the last days, says Elohim, that I shall pour out of My Spirit on all flesh. And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams,
- Act 2:18 and also on My male servants and on My female servants I shall pour out My Spirit in those days, and they shall prophesy.
- Act 2:19 'And I shall show wonders in the heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: blood and fire and vapour of smoke.
- Act 2:20 'The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and splendid day of יהוה.
- Act 2:21 'And it shall be that everyone who calls on the Name of יהוה shall be saved.'b Joe 2:28-32 Footnote: bRom 10:13.
- Act 2:22 "Men of Yisra'ěl, hear these words: יהושע of Natsareth, a Man from Elohim, having been pointed out to you by mighty works, and wonders, and signs which Elohim did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know,
- Act 2:23 this One, given up by the set purpose and foreknowledge of Elohim, you have impaled and put to death through the hands of lawless men –
- Act 2:24 "Him Elohim raised up, having loosed the pangs of death, because it was impossible that He could be held in its grip.
- Act 2:25 "For Dawid says concerning Him, 'I saw יהוה before me continually, because He is at my right hand, in order that I should not be shaken.
- Act 2:26 'For this reason my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad, and now my flesh shall also rest in expectation,
- Act 2:27 because You shall not leave my being in She'ol, nor shall You give Your Lovingly-committed One to see corruption.

David rejoiced knowing that his soul would not be left in the comfort side of Sheol; but Yahusha would set the captives free.

- Act 2:28 'You have made known to me the ways of life, You shall fill me with joy in Your presence.' Psa_16:8-11.
- Act 2:29 "Men and brothers, let me speak boldly to you of the ancestor Dawid, that he died and was buried, c and his tomb is with us to this day. Footnote: CSee Act 2:34.

Act 2:30 "Being a prophet, then, and knowing that Elohim had sworn with an oath to him: of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, to raise up the Messiah to sit on his throne.

Act 2:31 foreseeing this he spoke concerning the resurrection of the Messiah, that His being was neither left in She'ol, nor did His flesh see corruption.

David knew that:

- 1. His soul or being would not be left in Sheol nor
- 2. Would his flesh see corruption.

Yahusha is the <u>Resurrection AND the Life</u>. Those that believe in Him though they die they live and those that are living and believing in Him shall never die at ALL!

Joh 11:25 יהושע said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he dies, he shall live.

Joh 11:26 "And everyone that is living and believing in Me shall never die at all. Do you believe this?"

Through the death, burial, and resurrection of Yahusha, He opened the door in Revelation 4:1. Now, since that time, those that die, their souls no longer go to Abraham's bosom in the comfort side of Sheol; but now go to be in His heavenly presence.

We are tripartite beings made up of Spirit, soul, and body.

- 1. Our spirit, His Ruach HaKodesh, returns to Him in heaven.
- 2. Our soul is also caught up to heaven for Yahusha is the Life.
- 3. Our body is buried in the grave and awaits corruptible to put on incorruptible by receiving our new glorified body at the resurrection.
- Act 2:32 "Elohim has raised up this יהושע, of which we are all witnesses.
- Act 2:33 "Therefore, having been exalted to the right hand of Elohim, and having received from the Father the promise of the Set-apart Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.
- Act 2:34 "For Dawid did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself said, 'יהוה' said to my Master, "Sit at My right hand,
- Act 2:35 until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet." 'Psa_110:1.

No one had ascending into heaven BEFORE Yahusha. Yahusha defeated Satan by laying down His life and taking it back up again. Yahusha had defeated Satan by pouring out His Ruach HaKodesh upon all believers. Yahusha descended before ascending to proclaim fulfillment of the prophecies to the faithful ones that had passed on previously; He had fulfilled YHWH's Promise. It is my understanding, that he gathered these souls captive in Abraham's bosom, and brought them with Him as he had torn down the partition of separation from YHWH. He was the only One that could open the Door in Revelation 4:1.

Now, the spirit and souls of believers could be joined with Him and would later receive their glorified bodies <u>upon the resurrection in the last day</u>. This is my understanding to date; you may disagree but again this is my understanding of what the Scriptures say.

Mar 12:25 "For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but <u>are as messengers</u> in the heavens.

Mar 12:26 "And concerning the dead, that they rise – have you not read in the book of Mosheh, at the bush, how Elohim spoke to him, saying, 'I am the Elohim of Abraham, and the Elohim of Yitshaq, and the Elohim of Ya'aqob'? Exo 3:6.

Mar 12:27 "He is not the Elohim of the dead, but Elohim of the living. You, then, go greatly astray."

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Yisra'ěl know for certain that <u>Elohim has made</u> this יהושע, whom you impaled, both Master and Messiah."

Act 2:37 And having heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Kěpha and the rest of the emissaries, "Men, brothers, what shall we do?"

Act 2:38 And Kěpha said to them, <u>"Repent, and let each one of you be immersed in the Name of יהושע Messiah for the forgiveness of sins.</u>d <u>And you shall receive the gift of the Set-apart Spirit.</u> Footnote: dAlso see Act_2:40, Act_3:19, Act_3:26.

Act 2:39 "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are far off, as many as יהוה our Elohim shall call."

Act 2:40 And with many other words he earnestly witnessed and urged them, saying, "Be saved from this crooked generation." Footnote: ^e Jer_51:6, Php_2:15, Rev_18:4.

Act 2:41 Then those, indeed, who gladly received his word, were immersed. And on that day about three thousand beings were added to them.

I pray everyone who reads this devotional, heeds the words of Peter. Yahusha was YHWH 'in Son'; He came in the 'likeness' of flesh from the heavens. He laid down His life and took it back up to make a way for mankind to repent; to be redeemed; and to be washed by the blood of the Lamb. While a person has breath, it is never too late!

As believers we are to partake in His Moedim; partake in His Covenant Confirming meal; be washed by Him, the Word, through immersion, Baptism or Mikvah. Then daily walk in a set-apart lifestyle according to Covenant Torah which is the process of sanctification. Our lifestyle is directed by Him; not us.

That day of Pentecost, 3,000 beings were saved; unlike after the sin of the golden calf when 3,000 beings died. Now, in the New Covenant, we are saved through grace by faith; not of works, lest any man should boast. Yet, we do good works, from the overflow of our hearts and love for Him and His Word.

Eph 2:8 For by favor you have been saved, **through belief**, and that <u>not of yourselves</u>, **it is the gift of Elohim**,

Eph 2:9 it is not by works, so that no one should boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are His workmanship, <u>created in Messiah יהושע unto good works, which Elohim</u> <u>prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.</u>

The Fellowship of the Believers

Act 2:42 And they were continuing steadfastly in the teaching of the emissaries, and in the fellowship, and in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.

Act 2:43 And fear came upon every being, and many wonders and signs were being done through the emissaries.

Act 2:44 And all those who believed were together, and had all in common,

Act 2:45 and sold their possessions and property, and divided them among all, as anyone might have need.

Act 2:46 And day by day, continuing with one mind in the Set-apart Place, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

Act 2:47 praising Elohim and having favour with all the people. And the Master added to the assembly those who were being saved, day by day.

~ Shalom ~ Libby

Devotional Reading Plan Link: http://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf