

## Torah Focus

### Elul #3 Class Notes, "To your own self, be true".

Shir = Song Ha Shirim = The Songs translated The Song of Songs

Son 6:3 I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine. He browses among the lilies,

Song of Songs (aka Song of Solomon) is written in a Shakesperian style...

Where has your beloved gone, you fairest among women? Where has your beloved turned, that we may seek him with you? Beloved My beloved has gone down to his garden, to the beds of spices, to feed in the gardens, and to gather lilies. I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine. He browses among the lilies, (Son 6:1-3 HNV)

The imagery and ideals that come from this book are very very spiritual in nature.

From last week: Ani v'dodi v'dodi li (translated "I am to my beloved and my beloved is to me"). Sages say it teaches that the two lamed in this verse are standing face to face and these two letters create a HEART shape. This also references a specific TIME...Yom Kippur is the day of Face-To-Face...meeting with HaShem

Review of the last few weeks on topic of Teshuvah - Repent

Root word is Shuv, so Teshuvah...means it is related to YOU. H7725 שׁוּב shûb BDB Definition: 1) to return, turn back 1a) (Qal) 1a1) to turn back, return 1a1a) to turn back 1a1b) to return, come or go back 1a1c) to return unto, go back, come back 1a1d) of dying 1a1e) of human relations (figuratively) 1a1f) of spiritual relations (figuratively) 1a1f1) to turn back (from God), apostatise 1a1f2) to turn away (of God) 1a1f3) to turn back (to God), repent 1a1f4) turn back (from evil) 1a1g) of inanimate things 1a1h) in repetition 1b) (Polel) 1b1) to bring back 1b2) to restore, refresh, repair (figuratively) 1b3) to lead away (enticingly) 1b4) to show turning, apostatise 1c) (Pual) restored (participle) 1d) (Hiphil) to cause to return, bring back 1d1) to bring back, allow to return, put back, draw back, give back, restore, relinquish, give in payment 1d2) to bring back, refresh, restore 1d3) to bring back, report to, answer 1d4) to bring back, make requital, pay (as recompense) 1d5) to turn back or backward, repel, defeat, repulse, hinder, reject, refuse 1d6) to turn away (face), turn toward 1d7) to turn against 1d8) to bring back to mind 1d9) to show a turning away 1d10) to reverse, revoke 1e) (Hophal) to be returned, be restored, be brought back 1f) (Pual) brought back

Remember the letter BET can also be a VET...shub or shuv

Perfect example of Teshuvah is Shaul or Paul. He repented, turned around or away, from his opposition to Messiah Y'Shua, but NEVER turned away from HaShem or his stance on Judaism. In our context of Teshuvah, we are focusing on turning around TOWARDS HaShem

Peshitta is the Aramaic translation of the Scriptures and it means "simple"

Other excellent references are the Chumash and Targums of Yonatan and Onkelos. These Targums become very important to us because they tell us about the concepts and understandings of the 1st

G-d, having in the past spoken to the fathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, has at the end of these days spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom also he made the worlds. (Heb 1:1-2 HNV)

The Book of Hebrews starts the same way that the Targum Yonatan does

Tov means GOOD. In Aramaic you say TOB for GOOD. In Hebrew "AV" is FATHER, in Aramaic it is "ABBA". Remember, in Hebrew a BET (b) can also be a VET (v)

H977 בחר bâchar BDB Definition: 1) to choose, elect, decide for 1a) (Qal) to choose 1b) (Niphal) to be chosen 1c) (Pual) to be chosen, selected

The whole point of Teshuvah is to understand that we were chosen and existed as perfect and pure BEFORE the foundation of the world....and we are to understand that we will RETURN to this state of existence

Tikkun - repair...repair what? OURSELVES. THEN we work on our relationship with HaShem, and our relationship with our brothers (and sisters). This is where we begin to repair the world, or TIKKUN OLAM

Jer 1:5 Before I formed you in the belly I knew you, and before you came forth out of the womb I sanctified you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Some words we have discussed on this topic are Da'at - KNEW (with knowledge); Bachar - chosen; Eklegos; Saints - Agios (not of this world); Olam - World;

Another way to name this class on Teshuvah and election is "To your own self, be true". There are (3) books we can fall into (1) Book of Righteous [elect]; (2) Book of Wicked (3) Book of Undecided. We choose if we will RETURN to our original state of purity and perfection or will we be written into one of the other books. Eventually ALL will fall into either the Book of The Righteous OR The Book of The Wicked

H3427 ישב yâshab BDB Definition: 1) to dwell, remain, sit, abide 1a) (Qal) 1a1) to sit, sit down 1a2) to be set 1a3) to remain, stay 1a4) to dwell, have one's abode 1b) (Niphal) to be inhabited 1c) (Piel) to set, place 1d) (Hiphil) 1d1) to cause to sit 1d2) to cause to abide, set 1d3) to cause to dwell 1d4) to cause (cities) to be inhabited 1d5) to marry (give an dwelling to) 1e) (Hophal) 1e1) to be inhabited 1e2) to make to dwell

Yasav or Yashab means to sit. YESHEVA (college) comes for the word SIT. Context here is to sit at the feet of another and learn.

WE SEAT AT THE FEET OF THE TEACHER

The Day the Earth Stood Still! Har Sinai is a picture of THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL. Shamayim = Sham (there), we are THERE, at Mt. Sinai, when HaShem came to us...we are moving to THERE...sitting at HaShem's feet to learn Torah.

Teshuvah = returning to the state of Purity (Kodesh...holiness, sanctification, set-aside/apart, saints). The point of SITTING...or no movement...is that we have reached our GOAL. We are THERE.

Could you in a few words repeat what the students in the room say or ask? Or may be put a microphone in the room so that we can hear

Exactly, How can I return to a place or to a state I do not know? I am not even sure that I understand or know what "purity" is.

Ha Ma = The WHAT (Ma means WHAT in Hebrew), sometimes in order to get to the depth of the knowledge we need (and often we don't even know what the question is), we need to ask a question that BRINGS a question...like THE WHAT. Remember, we are returning to a state of perfection that we were in BEFORE we came into this body. HOW do we do this...return to this state of purity that we had before we came to this body? What was it like? What do we want to become? We need to know what that state of purity was like and how we get back to it or there is no point in it for us.

We need to know the character of the Neshama, because the character of Neshama is HOLY...set apart...from the body (or the yetzer hara). There is a war going on between the flesh and the spirit.

How do we return to a place we do not know or understand? We NEED the data, information...understanding to get BACK to the character of Neshama...Holiness

Sages say when Messiah comes (returns) He will not only teach us the meaning of the letters of Torah, but will also explain the WHITE SPACES between the letters.

How do we have an experience with HaShem? It is NOT the body...it is The Neshama...the TRUE part of you...that interacts with HaShem

Neshamah Spiritual part of human beings. It is viewed as capable of surviving death. In the Bible three words are translated as 'soul': nefesh, ruach" and neshamah. The Bible connects the soul and life itself, speaking of the soul as the means by which the body is animated. After death the soul has only a shadow existence in SHEOL. During the HELLENISTIC age the concept of the soul existing independently of the body became a central feature of the Jewish faith. The soul was viewed as originating in HEAVEN and believed to join the body at birth. In KABBALISTIC sources METEMPSYCHOSIS (gilgul) was an important doctrine.

Inside of our bodies, somehow, there is The Breath of HaShem (Neshama) and the Chayim (Lives) of HaShem...the internal part of us (Neshama) is ETERNALLY ALIVE (chayim). We start with a puff of air (ruach) breathed into us, when it came in the interaction of the ruach into us caused the animation of man

Breath is cyclic - it is also a picture of Teshuvah...getting rid of the bad and drawing in the good. We want to mimic the character of holiness and righteousness of HaShem...as we were created in the Image, Likeness and Character of HaShem. The idea is like taking a rubber stamp (your seal) and stamping a piece of paper. This leaves an impression of the STAMP on the paper. Let us say that the Stamp is HaShem...when HaShem stamps us...we then carry the impression of HIM. When we look at Messiah we see the clearest picture (stamp) of HaShem.

How can we get an understanding of the Neshama...its character...it is LIKE HaShem. We He created man...He made him somehow LIKE HaShem. How do we know what our internal being (Neshama) looks like? Paul said "we will be known as we are known". 1Co 13:12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, even as I was also fully known.

The clothes conform to the body wearing them. A dead body does not look (or act) the same as a living body because the dead body no longer carries the NESHAMA...the true self

The question is WHAT IS HASHEM LIKE? So to understand our Neshama...we need to understand the character and likeness of HaShem. So, WHERE can we find the character and nature of HaShem? TORAH. Torah is a LIVING expression of HaShem. It has the LIFE of HaShem in it. Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living, and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Devar Elohim = The WORD of G-d...the ruach, the breath of HaShem. Inspired has to do with inspiration (greek theopneustia), which is the breath of G-d...as it is spoken out. In other words, when HaShem breathed into Adam a 'piece' of HaShem was spoken into Adam.

G4151 πνεῦμα pneuma Thayer Definition: 1) the third person of the triune God, the Holy Spirit, coequal, coeternal with the Father and the Son 1a) sometimes referred to in a way which emphasises his personality and character (the \\Holy\\ Spirit) 1b) sometimes referred to in a way which emphasises his work and power (the Spirit of \\Truth\\) 1c) never referred to as a depersonalised force 2) the spirit, i.e. the vital principal by which the body is animated 2a) the rational spirit, the power by which the human being feels, thinks, decides 2b) the soul 3) a spirit, i.e. a simple essence, devoid of all or at least all grosser matter, and possessed of the power of knowing, desiring, deciding, and acting 3a) a life giving spirit 3b) a human soul that has left the body 3c) a spirit higher than man but lower than God, i.e. an angel 3c1) used of demons, or evil spirits, who were conceived as inhabiting the bodies of men 3c2) the spiritual nature of Christ, higher than the highest angels and equal to God, the divine nature of Christ 4) the disposition or influence which fills and governs the soul of any one 4a) the efficient source of any power, affection, emotion, desire, etc. 5) a movement of air (a gentle blast) 5a) of the wind, hence the wind itself 5b) breath of nostrils or mouth

Act 2 - they saw tongues of fire. It is said that when HaShem spoke the Torah to Moshe on Har Sinai that the letters were made of fire, both black and white fire, and the firey letters danced on the stone while etching their impression on the tablets

Gal 3:1 O senseless Galatians! Who has put you under a spell, not to obey the truth – before whose eyes יהושע Messiah was clearly portrayed among you as impaled? Gal 3:2 This only I wish to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by works of Torah, or by the hearing of belief?

Are you so senseless? Having begun in the Spirit, do you now end in the flesh? Have you suffered so much in vain – if indeed in vain? Is He, then, who is supplying the Spirit to you and working miracles among you, doing it by works of Torah, or by hearing of belief? (Gal 3:3-5 The Scriptures 1998+)

Emet - TRUTH: H571 אמת 'emeth BDB Definition: 1) firmness, faithfulness, truth (noun feminine) 1a) sureness, reliability 1b) stability, continuance 1c) faithfulness, reliability 1d) truth 1d1) as spoken 1d2)

of testimony and judgment 1d3) of divine instruction 1d4) truth as a body of ethical or religious knowledge 1d5) true doctrine 2) in truth, truly (adverb)

Amen comes from Emunah (faith) which comes from Emet (truth) H529 אֱמוּנָה 'êmûn BDB Definition: 1) faithfulness, trusting 1a) faithful, trusty (as adjective)

Did you receive the Shekinah (in-dwelling spirit) by works (choqot) or by truth (emunah)? Do these verse in Galatians mean to throw the choqot (works) out? NO. So, the question is...how do we get this spirit?

Eze 36:26 "And I shall give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you. And I shall take the heart of stone out of your flesh, and I shall give you a heart of flesh,

Eze 36:27 and put My Spirit within you. And I shall cause you to walk in My laws and guard My right-rulings and shall do them. Footnote: 1See 11:19-20, 37:6-14, 39:29.

How do we get the Spirit? Thru EMUNAH...which will cause us to WALK in SPIRIT....or to keep Torah. We keep the choqot (Torah/Works of Torah) BECAUSE we have the Shekinah...the In-Dwelling SPIRIT!

Because we have the Spirit of HaShem, we KNOW HaShem and want to do HIS WORKS. We seek out ways to please Him...to be obedient to HIM...to be nearer to Him...to be LIKE HIM. Kodesh...Holy...which is our original nature...which IS HaShem's nature.

Emunah means CONFIDENCE...which IS Faith. Heb 11:6 But without belief it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to Elohim has to believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who earnestly seek Him

Keeping Torah does NOT make you Righteous...it has the ability to transform you if you use it properly. The physical motions of keeping Torah do not mean anything...except maybe a lifestyle...but when it is used as a tool to clean us it can take us back to a state of purity...animating us (via the Shekinah...in-dwelling presence) to our walk in our original state of holiness/purity..KODESH. Torah is an expression and nature of HaShem...it is also an expression and nature of the Neshama...our true nature. So when we keep Torah we are being TRUE TO OUR OWN SELVES...to OUR OWN NATURE...Our ORIGINAL NATURE, which IS HOLY.

Class question - what does scripture mean that Messiah Y'shua had to LEARN obedience? It means that He had to learn Torah. Scripture says that at 12 yrs old Y'shua OVERTHEW their theology in discussion Pesach. This is when Messiah died...at Pesach. He had a revelation and understand of Torah, and of this festival, at 12 years old that overthrew the understanding of the Torah Teachers of his day.

Were the disciples and Messiah Y'shua unlearned? NO.

OPINION is yes, because when Torah goes into you it has an ability to transform your life...whether you agree with it and/or realize it or not. Eventually, after studying much, many will end up coming to a place of Torah observance. Sometimes it may depend upon the character of the person, but scripture says it will not return void.

Notes by Touvania  
Thanks Touvania

