



Message 3-30-19
Shemini-Eighth
Leviticus 9:1-11:47
Ezekiel 36:33-38
Luke 24:50-53

Introduction

Moses teaches them why they will sacrifice when he says, “This is what the Lord has commanded that you do, that the Presence of the Lord may appear to you.” Aaron and his sons follow the instructions of Moses. Then Aaron lifts his hands and blesses the people. God’s Presence appears to all the people, and a fire from God consumes the burnt offerings. The people respond by rejoicing and worshipping.

Leviticus 9:22-24

22 Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. ²³ And Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting, and when they came out, they blessed the people, and the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people. ²⁴ And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces. (ESV)

Here is where we have the first Aaronic benediction that would be given by Aaron as High Priest. He would stand as the intermediary between God and man in order to be the example for future High Priests, but as long as Moses lived, he acted as the intermediary who brought the Torah to the people of Israel. It would be later in the book of Deuteronomy that we are told Moses finished writing the Torah and gave it to the priests to place alongside the ark of the covenant to stand as a witness against Israel. After Moses, it would fall to the priests to teach the Children of Israel the Torah as given by God to Moses. We know from what Yeshua said concerning divorce that Moses was given some leeway in the interpretation of Torah because Yeshua said God hated divorce, but our society thinks nothing of it, and marriages fall by the wayside for “irreconcilable differences”, whatever that may be. As Torah is a covenant, so is marriage. There will always be the good and bad in a marriage relationship which mirrors our relationship with Yeshua and His Father.

In our Torah portion this week, we see where first Aaron blessed the people and came down from the altar, where the sin and burnt offering, along with the peace offerings, had been placed. Then Moses and Aaron went into the Tent of Meeting, and when they came out, they both blessed the people. Then the glory of the Lord appeared, and from Him

came fire that consumed the burnt offering and the pieces of fat. When the people saw this, they shouted and fell on their faces. How many times would we see this in Scripture only to see man fall back into his sinful ways while his Creator did all He could to pull them back onto the right path to walk?

Judges 6:21 Then the angel of *ADONAI* reached out with the stick he was holding, touched the meat and *matzot*, and fire shot up out of the rock and burned up the meat and *matzot*. Then the angel of *ADONAI* disappeared before his eyes. ²² Gid'on realized that he was the angel of *ADONAI* and said, "Oh no! My Lord! *ADONAI*! Because I've seen the angel of *ADONAI* face-to-face!" ²³ But *ADONAI* reassured him, "*Shalom* to you, don't be afraid, you won't die!" (CJB)

Here we have a similar event taking place like in our Torah portion, but it was offered by Gideon. He offered up meat and unleavened bread. The angel of the Lord reached out, touched the offering with a stick he was holding, and fire went up out of the rock and consumed the offering. Then the angel of the Lord disappeared. Gideon realized he was an angel of the Lord and was afraid he would die, but he was told he would not. I believe this angel of the Lord was none other than Messiah Yeshua in another preincarnate appearance. The rabbis would say otherwise because they have been blinded to the truth, as have most of the Jewish people. The day is coming when the blinders will be removed, and Judah, and those who have joined with them, will have an opportunity to acknowledge Yeshua as their Messiah before it is too late.

Ezekiel 36:33-38

33 "Thus says the Lord GOD: On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places shall be rebuilt. ³⁴ And the land that was desolate shall be tilled, instead of being the desolation that it was in the sight of all who passed by. ³⁵ And they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.' ³⁶ Then the nations that are left all around you shall know that I am the LORD; I have rebuilt the ruined places and replanted that which was desolate. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it. ³⁷ "Thus says the Lord GOD: This also I will let the house of Israel ask me to do for them: to increase their people like a flock. ³⁸ Like the flock for sacrifices, like the flock at Jerusalem during her appointed feasts, so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of people. Then they will know that I am the LORD." (ESV)

One day the Holy One will cleanse us from our iniquities, and the Promised Land will become like *Gan Eden*, the Garden of Eden. The Lord did not choose Israel because they were the largest nation on the earth. They are not. There have always been larger nations than Israel, but none that have vanished from the face of the earth have ever been brought back as the nation of Israel was. The Lord has His hand on Israel, and they are His special treasure out of all the nations that have ever existed upon the face of the earth, my friends. The day is coming when Messiah will return, the people of Israel will be brought back to the land to dwell with Him in peace, and into the nation He will bring all those who believe in the God of Israel, accept Yeshua as Messiah, and walk in covenant, Torah, with Him.

Luke 24:50-53

50 And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them.
⁵¹ While He was blessing them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²
And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple **praising** God. (NAU)

<2127> εὐλογέω *eulogeo*

Meaning: to speak well of, praise

Origin: from 2095 and 3056

Usage: bless (9), blessed (25), blessing (3), giving a blessing (1), praise (1), praising (1), surely*(1).

Psalms 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears our burden, the God *who* is our salvation. Selah. (NAU)

<03444> יְשׁוּעָה *yeshuah* (447b)

Meaning: *salvation*

05542 סֵלָה *celah* {seh'-law}

Meaning: to lift up, exalt, Selah, a technical musical term probably showing accentuation, pause, interruption

Messiah Yeshua is our High Priest who blessed His Disciples before departing them to return to His Father. He did so as Aaron did when He became the first High Priest of Israel. However, Yeshua is the greater High Priest because He is not from the line of Aaron, a High Priest from the tribe of Levi. Yeshua is from the tribe of Judah entitled to sit on the throne to rule over mankind, but as a Priest after the order of Melchizedek, who as king of Salem, blessed the wine and the bread. Abraham gave him a tenth of what he had taken in freeing his nephew Lot and his family when they were captured. Tithes are mentioned in the Torah as being given to the Levites, who in turn gave a tithe to the Levitical Priests, who in turn would give a tithe to their Creator.

Whether we choose to bless or praise our Creator, it is all the same if we offer the blessings and praises to the Father as Yeshua taught us to.

John 4:21 Yeshua said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, **when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.** ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Moshiach). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶ **Yeshua said to her, "I who speak to you am he."** (ESV)

Yeshua is salvation sent by the Father, and all worship belongs to the Father. To this we say *Selah*, exalting the Son as our Redeemer and the Father who sent Him showing His love for us through His Son Yeshua, whose very name is salvation.

I'll close with this: *Torah Man* says: "For every action, there is an equal and opposite criticism."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend Judaic Studies Institute, for Yeshua based Judaic Studies. Drop us a line at for more information. You can earn an approved Certificate or Diploma and take classes at your own pace to help you grow in your understanding.

