

February 22, 2025

He Heard Their Cry

We have been talking about prayer quite a bit lately as we, Jeri and I have been preparing you for what we are in the midst of, pursuing a building that this congregation can call home.

This pursuit really didn't start in January when we were at Rabbi's conference, but many years before. I believe Adonai was preparing us for this time now. Over the years, we would drive around looking at land, buildings, locations, every possibility. Yet we would look. We would look at each other and realize...

No, this isn't it.

We would go in spurts, yet never really engaging with an agent because deep down we knew we were not there financially.

Year after year our prayers wouldn't cease. We continued.

It started with being out of our home in 9 months, not having out grown our home, but knowing we needed to be someplace else in order to grow.

That was the school.

My original vision was that we would have a building within 5 years.

13 years later, we are still here, yet...

within the time frame of a little over a month, God has moved at lightening speed...

He prepared our hearts to pursue a building as both Jeri and I decided it was now time to interview for realtors

We would witness signs and messages that were directed to us as confirmation. And we believed now was the time that Adonai would order our footsteps and thus our path.

One Realtor lead to another and ultimately the one we chose. The sign, his ex wife was Jewish. A further sign – He investigated what Messianic Judaism is, in order to better understand who we are and try to assess our needs.

We looked at a property that we knew wasn't for us but it further strengthened our connection with our realtor.

Jeri found a property online that was down the road from us on Spurwink. It took a couple of days for me to embrace it, but when it is the focus of your thoughts as you pray...Could this really be figuratively in our back yard. This was different.

We had driven all over the place, and this building is just down the road from us, going on the market around the same time we are at Rabbi's conference and starting to take that first step of faith.

There is no word in Hebrew for coincidence. I do not believe in fate either.

I believe in Adonai and the plan that He has for us. His timing is much better than mine because I believe we have gone through our growing pains initially and are a mature congregation now with a foundation of believers who are faithful in many ways.

Exo 2:23 Sometime during those many years the king of Egypt died, but the people of Isra'el still groaned under the yoke of slavery, and they cried out, and their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God.

Exo 2:24 God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya`akov.

Exo 2:25 God saw the people of Isra'el, and God acknowledged them.

Over the past weeks I have shared a number of examples of God's faithfulness in hearing the prayers of His people.

The dedication of the Temple and Solomon's prayer, leading to God's glory filling the Temple, affirming his prayer and ultimately this further affirmation...

2Ch 7:11 Thus Shlomo finished the house of Adonai and the royal palace. Everything that Shlomo had set his heart on making in the house of Adonai and in his own palace he accomplished successfully.

2Ch 7:12 Adonai appeared to Shlomo by night and said to him, "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.

2Ch 7:13 If I shut up the sky, so that there is no rain; or if I order locusts to devour the land; or if I send an epidemic of sickness among my people;

2Ch 7:14 then, if my people, who bear my name, will humble themselves, pray, seek my face and turn from their evil ways, I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin and heal their land.

2Ch 7:15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears will pay attention to the prayer made in this place.

2Ch 7:16 For now I have chosen and consecrated this house, so that my name can be there forever; my eyes and heart will always be there.

In both Exodus 2:24 and 2 Chronicles 7:14, it is the same word...

שמע

shâma'

shaw-mah'

A primitive root; **to h intelligently** (often with implication of attention, obedience, etc.; causatively to *tell*, etc.): - X **attentively**, call (gather) together, X carefully, X certainly, consent, consider, be content, **declare**, X **diligently**, **discern**, give ear, (cause to, let, make to) hear (-ken, tell), X indeed, listen, make (a) noise, (be) **obedient**, obey, **perceive**, (make a) **proclaim** (-ation), publish, regard, report, shew (forth), (make a) sound, X surely, tell, **understand**, whosoever [heareth], witness.

Total KJV occurrences: 1158

As He instructs us...

Deu 6:4 "Sh'ma, Yisra'el! Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai echad [*Hear, Isra'el! Adonai our God, Adonai is one*];

Deu 6:5 and you are to love Adonai your God with all your heart, all your being and all your resources.

Deu 6:6 These words, which I am ordering you today, are to be on your heart;

Deu 6:7 and you are to teach them carefully to your children. You are to talk about them when you sit at home, when you are traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Deu 6:8 Tie them on your hand as a sign, put them at the front of a headband around your forehead,

Deu 6:9 and write them on the door-frames of your house and on your gates.

So, Adonai practices what he preaches.

He will listen to us with intention as we are to listen to Him with intention and do as we have heard.

He has heard our prayers though tout the years. He knew our hearts and our needs. Yet just like with Israel in Egypt, there was a time when He would respond.

Psa 22:3 Nevertheless, you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Isra'el.

Psa 22:4 In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted, and you rescued them.

Psa 22:5 They cried to you and escaped; they trusted in you and were not disappointed.

2Ch 30:1 Then Hizkiyahu sent to all Isra'el and Y'hudah, and wrote letters also to Efrayim and M'nasheh, summoning them to the house of Adonai in Yerushalayim, to keep the Pesach to Adonai the God of Isra'el.

2Ch 30:2 For the king, his officials and the entire Yerushalayim community had agreed to keep the Pesach in the second month.

2Ch 30:3 They had not been able to observe it at the proper time because the cohanim had not consecrated themselves in sufficient number; also the people had not assembled in Yerushalayim.

2Ch 30:4 The idea had seemed right to the king and to the whole community;

2Ch 30:5 so they issued a decree that it should be proclaimed throughout all Isra'el, from Be'er-Sheva to Dan, that they should come to keep the Pesach to Adonai the God of Isra'el at Yerushalayim; for only a few had been observing it as prescribed.

2Ch 30:26 So there was great joy in Yerushalayim; for since the time of Shlomo the son of David, king of Isra'el, there had been nothing like it in Yerushalayim.

2Ch 30:27 Then the cohanim, who were L'vi'im, stood up and blessed the people; [*Adonai*] heard their voice, and their prayer came up to the holy place where he lives, heaven.

Why do I share this passage with you?

As we are progressing, I believe it is possible that we can be there by Passover.

I don't know if I am speaking prophetically and I would not admit to it if I were, yet what do we know about Passover.

God moves.

After He had heard their cries. After the means by which Adonai would deliver them from bondage...

Exo 12:40 The time the people of Isra'el lived in Egypt was 430 years.

Exo 12:41 At the end of 430 years to the day, all the divisions of Adonai left the land of Egypt.

Exo 12:42 This was a night when Adonai kept vigil to bring them out of the land of Egypt, and this same night continues to be a night when Adonai keeps vigil for all the people of Isra'el through all their generations.

Adonai watches over Israel on this night specifically (Originally, the watch kept on the night before a feast.)

During the Passover, the time just before their exodus, Adonai would watch over His people.

This is a very special and intimate moment that is revealed to us. It conveys the bond through the covenant that they are His people and He is their God.

Exo 6:6 "Therefore, say to the people of Isra'el: 'I am Adonai. I will free you from the forced labor of the Egyptians, rescue you from their oppression, and redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.

Exo 6:7 I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am Adonai your God, who freed you from the forced labor of the Egyptians.

Thus I am saying see what happens.

I have told our realtor, to do what he does and allow Adonai to do what He does.

I have told our banker, to do what she does and allow Adonai to do what He does.

I am saying the same to you.

What is that?

Pray

Pray for what Jeri has shared with you about next Shabbat.

Because on next Shabbat I will go into greater detail about parshah Terumah.