

Notes: March 8, 2025

Start: 10 AM

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: Living Shalom Through Ruach Ha Kodesh

A world that appears to be falling apart, seems to be in a transformative state once again. A fallen world that is moving ever faster away from its creator. The apostasy, the falling away from Adonai seems to be occurring with greater magnitude every day. Yet there seems to be another reprieve like what we experienced back in 2016 as I shared with you Pew's recent results of a slight uptick in church attendance.

https://www.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/20/2025/02/PR_2025.02.26_religious-landscape-study_report.pdf

You are not alone in a world that is against its creator.

You are not alone in a world where self and the accomplishments of self are elevated above Adonai.

Yeshua, when He was here conveyed to His talmidim, even though I am leaving, I will not leave you alone.

You will not be comfortless.

You will have shalom...

Joh 14:24 Someone who doesn't love me doesn't keep my words—and the word you are hearing is not my own but that of the Father who sent me.

Joh 14:25 "I have told you these things while I am still with you.

Joh 14:26 But the Counselor, the Ruach HaKodesh, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything; that is, he will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Joh 14:27 "What I am leaving with you is shalom—I am giving you my shalom. I don't give the way the world gives. Don't let yourselves be upset or frightened.

So, this world we remain in may be falling apart but I want you to consider this...

Hebraic /Scriptural thought, in other words what I call the Jewish mindset views the world as good, even though it was fallen and needed redemption, Adonai, who called it good, had created it (Genesis 1:31 - *God saw everything that he had made, and indeed it was very good. So there was evening, and there was morning, a sixth day.*). Therefore, Adonai had created the world for man and for his good. This was to be his habitation or home. It was IN THE WORLD that man could fellowship, commune, worship, and serve Adonai.

There is no dualism, a Greek perspective of the world whereby two opposing forces, in this case good and evil are at odds and thus are a means to explain the world's situation to the Hebrew mind. The body and soul were ONE single unity, as were the material and immaterial worlds. The Yisraelite was called to serve Adonai with his whole being which included his heart, soul, and might. It was within THIS world where he could obey and perform the mitzvot. He COULD have his body (flesh) obey his soul's desire to please Adonai by the Torah. Through the mitzvot he could develop and improve his soul as he performed the commands in obedience. Consider Sha'ul's inspired words to those in Philippi:

Php 2:5 Let your attitude toward one another be governed by your being in union with the Messiah Yeshua:

Php 2:6 Though he was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God something to be possessed by force.

Php 2:7 On the contrary, he emptied himself, in that he took the form of a slave by becoming like human beings are. And when he appeared as a human being,

Php 2:8 he humbled himself still more by becoming obedient even to death—death on a stake as a criminal!

Php 2:9 Therefore God raised him to the highest place and gave him the name above every name;

Php 2:10 that in honor of the name given Yeshua, every knee will bow—in heaven, on earth and under the earth—

Php 2:11 and every tongue will acknowledge that Yeshua the Messiah is Adonai—to the glory of God the Father.

Php 2:12 So, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed when I was with you, it is even more important that you obey now when I am away from you: keep working out your deliverance with fear and trembling,

Php 2:13 for God is the one working among you both the willing and the working for what pleases him.

Php 2:14 Do everything without kvetching or arguing,

Php 2:15 so that you may be blameless and pure children of God, without defect in the midst of a twisted and perverted generation, among whom you shine like stars in the sky,

Php 2:16 as you hold on to the Word of Life. If you do this, I will be able to boast, when the Day of the Messiah comes, that I did not run or toil for nothing.

Yeshua could make an impact on his world IN THE NOW of life! To the Jewish mindset, through observance of the commandments in the Torah he would be involved in pulling the "spiritual" DOWN to the earth into the world of his work and social interaction, so that the pursuit of them no longer were a distraction to him in his pursuit of Adonai, but it became a full part of them. This is the Scriptural pattern or tabnit. His pursuit of material goods and his social life was not to detract from his pursuit of Adonai, but to be an integrated into that pursuit of spirituality.

We see this concept through the term Tikkun Olam (restoration / repair of the world) whereby through our life we are intended to return the world through our actions according to Adonai's mitzvot back to its origin. We see this through Yeshua's actions and words as His purpose was to come for the lost sheep of Israel...

Mat 15:24 He said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Isra'el."

Joh 10:5 They never follow a stranger but will run away from him, because strangers' voices are unfamiliar to them."

Joh 10:6 Yeshua used this indirect manner of speaking with them, but they didn't understand what he was talking to them about.

Joh 10:7 So Yeshua said to them again, "Yes, indeed! I tell you that I am the gate for the sheep.

Joh 10:8 All those who have come before me have been thieves and robbers, but the sheep didn't listen to them.

Thus for the purpose of reconciling them back to Adonai is for the purpose of the Kingdom.

This message would be further carried out by His talmidim when they were instructed to take the Gospel to the world...

Mat 28:18 Yeshua came and talked with them. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Mat 28:19 Therefore, go and make people from all nations into talmidim, immersing them into the reality of the Father, the Son and the Ruach HaKodesh,

Mat 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember! I will be with you always, yes, even until the end of the age."

So, we are in this world, yet not off this world, with a purpose, His purpose.

We are His witnesses.

We reside in a world that hates Him...

Speaking to His talmidim, Yeshua conveys...

Joh 15:18 "If the world hates you, understand that it hated me first.

Joh 15:19 If you belonged to the world, the world would have loved its own. But because you do not belong to the world—on the contrary, I have picked you out of the world—therefore the world hates you.

Joh 15:20 Remember what I told you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you too; if they kept my word, they will keep yours too.

Joh 15:21 But they will do all this to you on my account, because they don't know the One who sent me.

Yeshua conveys this to them after he tells them He will be leaving but will leave them with shalom.

What...you are leaving us defenseless against this angry mob that because of you we will be

hated?

How many of you would have signed on for this had you heard it for the first time?

Yet, no one leaves as Yeshua continues...

Joh 15:23 Whoever hates me hates my Father also.

Joh 15:24 If I had not done in their presence works which no one else ever did, they would not be guilty of sin; but now, they have seen them and have hated both me and my Father.

Joh 15:25 But this has happened in order to fulfill the words in their Torah which read, 'They hated me for no reason at all.'

Joh 15:26 "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send you from the Father—the Spirit of Truth, who keeps going out from the Father—he will testify on my behalf.

Joh 15:27 And you testify too, because you have been with me from the outset.

They are to continue to testify about Yeshua and His message in a world that is hostile towards Him. These were the initial challenges within Y'hudah where the Gospel would originate. Yet the world, the Roman empire would not take to the message of Messiah right away. There would be persecution. There would be confrontation.

In a way, we are starting to experience these things, though not in the extreme and violent manner that occurred 2000 years ago. That time will come, just not yet.

Yet this is a message of hope, encouragement, empowerment.

Yeshua promised not to leave us alone, comfortless.

Our efforts are not of our own strength yet are of the Spirit of Truth, the Ruach Ha Kodesh.

If the power of the Ruach Ha Kodesh is able to continue to testify about Yeshua through us, then what else is possible?

Joh 16:1 "I have told you these things so that you won't be caught by surprise.

Joh 16:2 They will ban you from the synagogue; in fact, the time will come when anyone who kills you will think he is serving God!

Joh 16:3 They will do these things because they have understood neither the Father nor me.

The time would come for Yeshua's talmidim when they would not be looked upon favorably because of Yeshua. He prepared them for the time that was to come. Yet, He offered them with much more than just a warning...

Joh 16:4 But I have told you this, so that when the time comes for it to happen, you will remember that I told you. I didn't tell you this at first, because I was with you.

Joh 16:5 But now I am going to the One who sent me. "Not one of you is asking me, 'Where are you going?'

Joh 16:6 Instead, because I have said these things to you, you are overcome with grief.

Joh 16:7 But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I don't go away, the comforting Counselor will not come to you. However, if I do go, I will send him to

you.

When the Ruach Ha Kodesh comes...

Joh 16:8 "When he comes, he will show that the world is wrong about sin, about righteousness and about judgment—

Joh 16:9 about sin, in that people don't put their trust in me;

Joh 16:10 about righteousness, in that I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me;

Joh 16:11 about judgment, in that the ruler of this world has been judged.

Joh 16:12 "I still have many things to tell you, but you can't bear them now.

Joh 16:13 However, when the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own initiative but will say only what he hears. He will also announce to you the events of the future.

Joh 16:14 He will glorify me, because he will receive from what is mine and announce it to you.

Joh 16:15 Everything the Father has is mine; this is why I said that he receives from what is mine and will announce it to you.

We have been fully equipped with all that Adonai has. The creator of the world has equipped us with the very power that brought the world into existence. The very power that created life through a single breath. Ruach also means breath for which resides in us today.

Thus we are able to speak life when we speak. This is power.

Couple that with the Word of Adonai.

We have been given immense power yet we are not fully living in that power.

Consider the many things that occurred to Yeshua and His Talmidim...

Rejection, persecution, isolation, name calling, degradation.

And yet it wasn't through their own power that Yeshua's talmidim would bring forth the Gospel to the world, a paradigm shifting moment in time. Out of a small nation under Roman rule one man would lead a group of men that would come to transform the world with the light of Adonai.

Gamli'el was confronted by his colleagues regarding Yeshua and His followers to which He replied.

Act 5:38 So in the present case, my advice to you is not to interfere with these people, but to leave them alone. For if this idea or this movement has a human origin, it will collapse.

Act 5:39 But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop them; you might even find yourselves fighting God!" They heeded his advice.

This is of Adonai. You reside in this movement of Adonai, thus it is from Him and has not collapsed to this day. It may have experienced challenges from the world, experienced self inflicted wounds yet this very movement of Adonai still remains to this day and will continue to do so because it is from Him.

It is here I believe Yeshua's talmidim had their ahah moment...

Joh 16:28 "I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and returning to the Father."

Joh 16:29 The talmidim said to him, "Look, you're talking plainly right now, you're not speaking indirectly at all.

Joh 16:30 Now we know that you know everything, and that you don't need to have people put their questions into words. This makes us believe that you came from God."

You already know this or you wouldn't be here now.

Joh 16:31 Yeshua answered, "Now you do believe.

Joh 16:32 But a time is coming—indeed it has come already—when you will be scattered, each one looking out for himself; and you will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone; because the Father is with me.

Joh 16:33 "I have said these things to you so that, united with me, you may have shalom. In the world, you have tsuris (troubles). But be brave! I have conquered the world!"

If Yeshua was left alone yet did not acknowledge He was alone then He wasn't alone.

He instructs His talmidim to be brave, to have courage.

Power comes through acknowledgment.

Acknowledgment:

Rom 10:8 What, then, does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart."—that is, the word about trust which we proclaim, namely,

Rom 10:9 that if you acknowledge publicly with your mouth that Yeshua is Lord and trust in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be delivered.

Rom 10:10 For with the heart one goes on trusting and thus continues toward righteousness, while with the mouth one keeps on making public acknowledgement and thus continues toward deliverance.

Acknowledgment:

1Jn 1:7 But if we are walking in the light, as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of his Son Yeshua purifies us from all sin.

1Jn 1:8 If we claim not to have sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1Jn 1:9 If we acknowledge our sins, then, since he is trustworthy and just, he will forgive them and purify us from all wrongdoing.

Acknowledgment:

Pro 3:5 Trust in Adonai with all your heart; do not rely on your own understanding.

Pro 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge him; then he will level your paths.

Thus through Acknowledgment comes shalom because we are united with the one who is Shalom.

Joh 16:33 "I have said these things to you so that, united with me, you may have shalom. In the world, you have tsuris (troubles). But be brave! I have conquered the world!"

This was never meant to be a message like a self help seminar whereby you pay X number of dollars to come to realize everything that was said, you already know.

Consider the Wizard of Oz when all Dorothy wanted to do was go home. She had the ability with her all the time. She just needed to be made aware.

What did she do?

She acknowledged "there is no place like home"

We are made to believe that the power was through the ruby slippers. Yet that power was untapped. It required a catalyst.

What was the catalyst...Dorothy's acknowledgement..."there's no place like home"

Combined, Dorothy returned to the shalom of her home and her family.

So to...You have always had the ability to live a life of shalom powered by the Ruach ha Kodesh...you just need to acknowledge it.