Torah Thought of the Month
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Gan Eden (Garden of Eden) Series

The New Year?
B'resheet (Genesis) 2:7; Yechezk'el (Ezekiel) 37:1-14;
I Corinthians 15:51-54; I Thessalonians 4:14-17

This month's newsletter will be brief to explain in summary, why Judaism refers to this day of Yom Teruach as a "New Year".

When Judaism refers to this day as "the New Year" many believers in the messianic realm misunderstand this to mean that it is a "New Year" in place of the "Aviv/Passover" new year. That is, as if the 7th moon is really being treated as the 1st moon. But this is not what Judaism means when it declares this day as "Rosh Hoshanna" the "Head of the Year".

Jews understand that this is the 7th moon, and not the 1st. They also understand that the "Aviv/Passover" moon is also the 1st New Moon of the year. So then you will ask, Why then do they call Yom Teruach "Rosh Hoshanna"?

In messianic circles there appears to be a mistaken belief that there is only one new year in Scripture, however, the Scriptures themselves actually portray for us 3 new years, each new year representing a unique aspect of our Heavenly Father's plan for His people.

The 1st one begins with the Aviv/Passover moon; Shemot (Exodus) 12:2; 13:4, which represents the "Redemptive Calendar". That is, it represents our Heavenly Father's plan of Salvation for His people through the death and resurrection of His Son Yeshua as the ultimate "Pesach Lamb" - Anointed One of Israel.

The 2nd one is the one most commonly misunderstood; but its message is actually quite profound, for this is the day that Judaism believes the King Messiah will be coronated as King over the earth to rule the earth for 1000 years. Sound familiar?; Revelation 20:4-6. But yet this theme of the Brit Chadasha (New Testament) is what has been believed by Judaism since before the Brit Chadasha (New Testament) was ever given.

You see, because Adam was created from the dust of the earth; B'resheet (Genesis) 2:7 as king over the earth, they believed that when King Messiah comes to raise us from the dust of the earth; Yechezk'el (Ezekiel) 37:1-14 to rule with Him as kings on the earth with Him, that it would take place on the same day as Adam's creation. And what day do they believe Adam was created? Yom Teruach. Rosh Hoshanna. That is, on the same day that the kings of Judah were coronated when ascending the throne.

And what happens when a king ascends the throne? He arises with his army to eliminate all His enemies and to subdue all threats to his kingdom. We have a picture of this with the walls of Jericho that fell when the Messiah like figure Joshua ben Nun, took over the Promised Land. And when did this take place? At the sound of the "Last
Joshua 6:4-20. And when are we resurrected? At the sound of the "Last Trump"; I Corinthians 15:52; I Thessalonians 4:16. And what are we resurrected as? As a mighty army; Yechez'el (Ezekiel) 37:10; Mizmor (Psalm) 149:5-9. And what does that mighty army do? Like Joshua, it conquers and takes the land that Elohim has given to them as their inheritance. This brings us to the 3rd new year of Scripture.

The 3rd one is the Jubilee year. The Jubilee year only occurs once every 50 years, but when it comes, it begins on Yom Kippur; V'yikra (Leviticus) 25:8,9. The reason for this is because this is the year when all the land is restored to the original inheritors; V'yikra (Leviticus) 25:10, so it is important that this year begins upon immediate completion of the prior summer's harvest.

This is important, because if the Jubilee year were to begin in the 1st month of the redemptive calendar during Passover, when the barley crop must be harvested, then you would end up with the previous lease holder of that land planting the barley crop, only to end up with the original owner harvesting that crop for themselves at Passover. But by beginning the Jubilee year on Yom Kippur - after the last of the harvest has come in, thus causing the leased lands to be restored to the original owners by Sukkot - before the next planting season, it ensures that the one who harvests the next year's crop is the same person who planted it.

But what is the Messianic picture here? It is the picture of the earth being restored to the righteous among Adam's descendants.

So in the 1st new year our redemption through Yeshua's death and resurrection is introduced.

In the 2nd new year, we are introduced to how He is going to raise up all of those who have been redeemed by Him from the time of Adam to present as a mighty army to conquer the earth, and to dwell in His presence as an immortal people in the earth.

And the 3rd new year is where we see the restoration of the Land of Israel, and ultimately in due time, of the whole earth (of the original inheritance), to the righteous descendants of Adam who have been redeemed.

He has so abundantly enriched us with so many hints, and clues, about His plans for us embedded in His holy days and holy years and calendars; but we so often miss them believing that the feasts have been done away, or that the church has replaced Israel, or that His law is no longer relevant, that we have come to believe that the whole plan of Elohim today is just to believe that Yeshua exist so that you can go to heaven.

What a dead and empty faith that reduces His rich plans for us, and His promises to Avraham, Yitz'chak, and Yaaqov, and ultimately to Israel, to just a simplistic plan to get sinners into heaven, and then just throw away the earth as one crumples up a piece of paper to dispose of it in the trash so that He can start over with a plan B, because His plan A somehow was defective.

No. Our Father in Heaven is the Elohim of restoration, not of destruction; and the Elohim who keeps His promises, not a god that needs to change his plans and promises every time a group of people he selects fail to go along perfectly with his plan.

Know who you serve, and know the greatness of His plans, and rejoice in this "2nd" new year of His calendar of prophetic events and symbolisms.

Until next time. Shalom.

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