

Greetings, today our manna is Joshua 9; Psalm 140; 141; Jeremiah 3; Matthew 17.

July 7 – Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: **For teaching purposes only**, underlines, bold font, and highlight emphasis have been used in PDFs.]

Scripture Source: e-Sword TS2009 unless otherwise noted: <https://www.e-sword.net/>

Joshua 9 Opening the Door to Deception

The Gibeonite Deception

Jos 9:1 And it came to be, when all the sovereigns who were beyond the Yardēn, in the hills and in the low country and in all the coasts of the Great Sea toward Leḇanon – the Ḥittite and the Amorite, the Kena'anite and the Perizzite, the Ḥiwuite and the Yeḇusite – heard,

Jos 9:2 they gathered together to fight with Yehoshua and Yisra'ēl with one accord.

Jos 9:3 And the **inhabitants of Gib'on** heard what Yehoshua had done to Yeriḥo and Ai,

Jos 9:4 and they **acted slyly** and went and pretended to be envoys. And they took old sacks on their donkeys, old wineskins torn and mended,

Jos 9:5 and old and patched sandals on their feet, and old garments on themselves. And all the bread of their provision was dry, it was crumbs.

Jos 9:6 And they went to Yehoshua, to the camp at Gilgal, and said to him and to the men of Yisra'ēl, **“We have come from a far land, and now, make a covenant with us.”**

Jos 9:7 But the men of Yisra'ēl said to the Hiwuites, “It could be that you dwell in our midst, so how would we make a covenant with you?”

Jos 9:8 And they said to Yehoshua, “We are your servants.” And Yehoshua said to them, “Who are you, and where do you come from?”

Jos 9:9 So they said to him, **“From a land very far off your servants have come, because of the Name of יהוה your Elohim. For we have heard the report of Him, and all that He did in Mitsrayim,**

Jos 9:10 and **all that He had done to the two sovereigns** of the Amorites who were beyond the Yardēn, to **Sihon** sovereign of Ḥeshbon, and **Og**, sovereign of Bashan, who was at Ashtaroth.

Jos 9:11 “So our elders and all the inhabitants of our land spoke to us, saying, ‘Take food with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say to them, “We are your servants, and now, make a covenant with us.”’

Jos 9:12 “This bread of ours we took hot for our provision from our houses on the day that we left to come to you. But now, see, it is dry and it is crumbly.

Jos 9:13 “And these wineskins which we filled were new, and see, they are torn. And these our garments and our sandals have become old because of the very long journey.”

Jos 9:14 And the men of Yisra'ēl took some of their food, **but they did not ask the mouth of יהוה.**

Jos 9:15 **And Yehoshua made peace with them, and made a covenant with them to let them live, and the rulers of the congregation swore to them.**

Jos 9:16 And it came to be **at the end of three days**, after they had made a covenant with them, **that they heard that they were their neighbors who dwelt near them.**

Jos 9:17 And the children of Yisra'el set out and came to their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gib'on, and Kephirah, and Be'eroth, and Qiryath Ye'arim.

Jos 9:18 But the children of Yisra'el did not strike them, because the rulers of the congregation had sworn to them by יהוה Elohim of Yisra'el. And all the congregation grumbled against the rulers.

Jos 9:19 But all the rulers said to all the congregation, "We have sworn to them by יהוה Elohim of Yisra'el, and we are unable to touch them now.

Jos 9:20 "Let us do this to them: We shall keep them alive, lest wrath be upon us because of the oath which we swore to them."

Jos 9:21 And the rulers said to them, "Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and drawers of water for all the congregation, as the rulers had promised them."

Jos 9:22 **Then Yehoshua called for them, and he spoke to them, saying, "Why have you deceived us, saying, 'We are very far from you,' yet you are dwelling in our midst?"**

Jos 9:23 **"And now you are cursed, and you shall not cease from being slaves, and woodcutters and drawers of water for the House of my Elohim."**

Jos 9:24 **And they answered Yehoshua and said,** "Your servants were clearly told that יהוה your Elohim commanded His servant Mosheh to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you. So we were very much afraid for our lives because of you, and have done this deed.

Jos 9:25 **"And now, see, we are in your hands. Do with us as it seems good and right to do to us."**

Jos 9:26 And he did so to them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Yisra'el, and they did not kill them.

Jos 9:27 **And that day Yehoshua made them woodcutters and drawers of water for the congregation and for the slaughter-place of יהוה, even to this day, at the place that He should choose.**

The Gibeonites acted slyly and deceitfully for they feared utter destruction by the Elohim of Israel. In their minds, this was the only way for them to survive; even though it meant becoming servants to the Israelites as woodcutters and drawers of water for the congregation and for the slaughter-place of YHWH.

This story should remind us that deception can come to your very door and be entertained. The enemy can come disguised under false pretenses to achieve their goal. In this case, the local Gibeonites wanted to make a covenant with Israel so that they may live.

Joshua and the leaders of the congregation do not consult YHWH and later acknowledge they had been deceived. They confront the Gibeonites and they submitted to being slaves to Israel as woodcutters and drawers of water.

We will see that the city of Gibeon was one of the great royal cities filled with mighty men. We will read about this in Joshua 10 ~ Jos 10:2 that they feared greatly, because Gib'on was a great city, as one of the royal cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all its men were mighty.

Apparently, this was not the only city under Gibeonite rule because we read:

Jos 9:17 And the children of Yisra'ël set out and came to their cities on the third day. **Now their cities were Gib'on, and Kephirah, and Be'ëroth, and Qiryath Ye'arim.**

Therefore, since Joshua and the elders had made the covenant and swore by YHWH their Elohim; they could not reverse what had been done.

Again, decisions determine our destinies; and affect the destinies of others.

Psalm 140; 141 These psalms in conjunction with what we have already read about in Joshua, affirm that YHWH wants us to be very mindful of how the enemy deceives and deploys traps. It would behoove us all to read aloud these psalms and speak them over our very lives. For we indeed live in the days of great deception; lies; propaganda; and satanic snares and schemes that encompass us. We are a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that have been scattered among pagan cultures all around the world.

YHWH has allowed the tares and the wheat to grow side by side. As we have discussed previously, you cannot tell the difference between tares and wheat until the harvest; because at harvest, the heads of the wheat bow down and the heads of the tares do not. In this way, YHWH has 'hidden' His people, and this has caused great grief to the enemy. We ourselves, have had to become very discerning of others by the fruit each bear.

In order to identify YHWH's people, the enemy has deployed tactics through technology; through spying; through DNA samples; through secret society black listings, through laws, etc. The enemy's final tactic will be to deploy the 'mark of the beast' as the ultimate 'identifier.'

In the meantime, we must be wise as serpents and harmless as doves, because though we have been hidden among our enemies, harvest time draws near. In this segment of time, we should proclaim the words of the psalmist. Soon we will be easily identified by not receiving the 'mark' and we, the wheat being ready for harvest, will bow our heads to

our King and High Priest, Yahusha HaMashiach, and say, ‘Thy will be done’ as we face the end of days.

Deliver Me, O YHWH, from Evil Men

Psa 140:1 Rescue me, O יהוה, from men of evil; Preserve me from men of violence,

Psa 140:2 Who have devised evils in their hearts; They stir up conflicts all day long.

Psa 140:3 They sharpen their tongues like a snake; The poison of cobras is under their lips. Selah.

Jas 3:5 So too the tongue is a little member, yet boasts greatly. See how a little fire kindles a great forest!

Jas 3:6 And the tongue is a fire, the world of unrighteousness. Among our members the tongue is set, the one defiling the entire body, and setting on fire the wheel of life, and it is set on fire by GěHinnom.

Jas 3:7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind.

Jas 3:8 But no man is able to tame the tongue. It is unruly, evil, filled with deadly poison.

Pro 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those loving it eat its fruit.

Psa 140:4 Guard me, O יהוה, from the hands of the wrong; Guard me from a man of violence, **Who has schemed to trip up my steps.**

Psa 140:5 The proud have hidden a trap for me, and cords; They have spread a net by the wayside; They have set snares for me. Selah.

Psa 140:6 I said to יהוה, “You are my Ėl; Hear the voice of my prayers, O יהוה.

Psa 140:7 “O Master יהוה, my saving strength, You have screened my head in the day of battle.

Psa 140:8 “**Do not grant the desires of the wrong, O יהוה; Do not promote his scheme.** Selah.

Psa 140:9 “Those who surround me lift up their head; The trouble of their lips covers them;

Psa 140:10 “**Let burning coals fall on them; Let them be made to fall into the fire, Into deep pits,** let them not rise again.

Psa 140:11 “**Let not a slanderer be established in the earth; Let evil hunt the man of violence speedily.**”

Psa 140:12 I have known that יהוה maintains The cause of the afflicted, The right-ruling of the poor.

Psa 140:13 Only, let the righteous give thanks to Your Name, Let the straight ones dwell in Your presence.

Give Ear to My Voice

Psa 141:1 יהוה, I have cried out to You; Hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I cry out to You.

Psa 141:2 **Let my prayer be prepared before You as incense, The lifting up of my hands as the**

evening offering.

Psa 141:3 O יהוה, **set a guard for my mouth; Watch over the door of my lips.**

Psa 141:4 Let not my heart be inclined to evil, To practice deeds of wrongness With men working wickedness, And let me not eat of their delicacies.

Psa 141:5 **Let the righteous one smite me Or reprove me in loving-commitment** – It is oil on my head. Let my head not refuse it. My prayer is still against their evil deeds.

Psa 141:6 Their judges have been thrown down By the sides of the rock, But they have heard my words, For they have been pleasant.

Psa 141:7 Our bones are scattered at the mouth of She'ol, As when one ploughs and breaks up the earth.

Psa 141:8 **But my eyes are upon You, O Master יהוה.** In **You I take refuge; Do not pour out my life.**

Psa 141:9 **Guard me from the clutches Of the trap they have laid for me, And from the snares Of the workers of wickedness.**

Psa 141:10 **Let the wrong fall into their own nets, While I pass by.**

Jeremiah 3

Jer 3:1 *Elohim* said, “If a man puts away his wife, and she goes from him and becomes another man’s, does he return to her again? Would not that land be made greatly unclean? **But you have committed whoring with many lovers. And would you return to Me?” declares יהוה.**

Jer 3:2 “Lift up your eyes to the bare heights and see: where have you not lain with men? Besides the ways you have sat for them like an Arabian in the wilderness. **And you made the land unclean with your whorings and your evil.**

Jer 3:3 **“Therefore the showers have been withheld, and there has been no latter rain. You have had a whore’s forehead, you refuse to be ashamed.**

Jer 3:4 “Shall you not from now on cry to Me, ‘My father, You are the guide of my youth?

Jer 3:5 Does one bear a grudge forever? Does one keep it to the end?’ See, you have spoken and done the evils that you could.”

Faithless Israel Called to Repentance

Jer 3:6 And יהוה said to me in the days of Yoshiyahu [Josiah] the sovereign, “Have you seen what backsliding Yisra’el has done? **She has gone up on every high mountain and under every green tree, and there committed whoring.**

Jer 3:7 “And after she had done all these, I said ‘Return to Me.’ **But she did not return. And her treacherous sister Yehudah saw it.**

Jer 3:8 “And **I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Yisra’el had committed adultery, I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce;** yet her treacherous sister Yehudah did not fear, but went and committed whoring too.

Here in Jeremiah 3:8, we see YHWH’s divorcement of Israel recorded. Judah turns out to be much worse, and eventually is exiled and burned to the ground. We understand that the only way YHWH would be able to take Israel back would be by laying down His life.

and taking it back up again.

The laws of divorcement were written in the Book of the Law (Deut. 24:1-4); and as we have discussed Yahusha was born under the Book of the Law during the reign of the Aaronic Levitical priesthood.

Deu 24:1 “When a man takes a wife and shall marry her, then it shall be, if she finds no favour in his eyes because he has found a matter of uncoveredness^a in her, and he shall write her a certificate of divorce, and put it in her hand, and send her out of his house, Footnote: ^aProof that she is not a maiden, indicating that she had previously been fornicating. See also [Mat 5:32](#) and [Mat 19:9](#).

Deu 24:2 and if she left his house and went and became another man’s wife,

Deu 24:3 and the latter husband shall hate her and write her a certificate of divorce, and put it in her hand, and send her out of his house, or when the latter husband dies who took her to be his wife,

Deu 24:4 then her former husband who sent her away is not allowed to take her back to be his wife after she has been defiled, for that would be an abomination before יהוה. And do not bring sin on the land which יהוה your Elohim is giving you as an inheritance.

Jer 3:9 “And it came to be, through her frivolous whoring, that she defiled the land and committed adultery with stones and wood.

Jer 3:10 “And **yet for all this her treacherous sister Yehudah has not turned to Me with all her heart, but falsely,” declares יהוה.**

Jer 3:11 And יהוה said to me, “**Backsliding Yisra’el has shown herself more righteous than treacherous Yehudah.**

Jer 3:12 “**Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say,** ‘Return, O backsliding Yisra’el,’ declares יהוה, ‘I shall not look on you in displeasure, for I am lovingly-committed,’ declares יהוה, ‘and I do not bear a grudge forever.

Jer 3:13 Only, acknowledge your crookedness, because you have transgressed against יהוה your Elohim, and have scattered your ways to strangers under every green tree, and you have not obeyed My voice,’ declares יהוה.

Jer 3:14 “**Return, O backsliding children,” declares יהוה, “for I shall rule over you, and shall take you, one from a city and two from a [clan](#),^a and shall bring you to Tsiyon.**

Footnote: ^aSee [Isa 27:12](#).

The words Jeremiah proclaims in Jer. 3:12-14, have echoed through time to our very generation. [We are the back-sliding Israel](#) spoken of, that were scattered around the world after Israel’s northern exile to Assyria. Today, many of us have heard His voice and have started to be gathered, [one from a city and two from a clan](#).

We strive to set-aside anything that hinders us from returning to our Beloved. We have acknowledged our crookedness and our transgressions against YHWH and have repented. We have turned away from doing things by the worldly paganistic man-made traditions with their cleverly disguised gods; and have ran back to our Groom, back to our first Love, back to communing with Him on Shabbats and His moedim, back to being betrothed to Him through the New Blood Ratified Covenant; we have vowed, ‘yes’ and we partake with Him in the covenant confirming meal. We rejoice knowing our Beloved draws nigh to us.

Jer 3:15 “And I shall give you shepherds according to My heart, and they shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Jer 3:16 “And it shall be, when you have increased, and shall be fruitful in the land in those days,” declares יהוה, “that they no longer say, ‘The ark of the covenant of יהוה.’ Neither would it come to heart, nor would they remember it, nor would they visit it, nor would it be made again.

Jer 3:17 “At that time Yerushalayim shall be called the throne of יהוה, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the Name of יהוה, to Yerushalayim, and no longer walk after the stubbornness of their evil heart.

Jer 3:18 “**In those days the house of Yehudah shall go to the house of Yisra’ēl, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that I have given as an inheritance to your fathers.**”

Here we see the two sticks, Judah and Israel, coming together as the ‘one new man’; Israel! YHWH has been faithful and has sent us shepherds such as, but not limited to, Dave Perry and Matthew Nolan, by teaching us who we are!

Through these shepherds we have gained knowledge and understanding of Covenant Torah and the Melchizedek Priesthood. Our dry bones have come to life through His Word being rightly divided and scriptural truths imparted.

Living water once again flows and we rejoice and are connected to our brothers and sisters all around the globe of every tongue, tribe, people, and nation. We are one with Him, a coat of many colors; Israel, His first born. A beautiful tapestry of His loving commitment to us; knowing He never gave up! We long for the day when we tabernacle with Him in his very presence.

Jer 3:19 “But I said, ‘How would I put you among the children and give you a pleasant land, a splendid inheritance of the hosts of nations?’ “And I said, ‘Call Me, “My Father,” and do not turn away from Me.’

Jer 3:20 “But indeed as a wife betrays her husband, so have you betrayed Me, O house of Yisra’ēl,” declares יהוה.

Jer 3:21 A voice was heard on the bare heights, weeping supplications of the children of

Yisra'el, because they have perverted their way, they have forgotten יהוה their Elohim.

Jer 3:22 “Return, O backsliding children, I shall make your backslidings cease.” “See, we have come to You, for You are יהוה our Elohim.

Jer 3:23 “Truly, delusion comes from the high hills, the noisy throng on the mountains. Truly, in יהוה our Elohim is the deliverance of Yisra'el.

Jer 3:24 “For shame has devoured the labor of our fathers from our youth, their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters.

Jer 3:25 “We shall lie down in our shame, while our reproach covers us. For we have sinned against יהוה our Elohim, we and our fathers, from our youth even to this day, and have not obeyed the voice of יהוה our Elohim.”

Matthew 17

The Transfiguration

Mat 17:1 And after six days יהושע took Kēpha, and Ya'aqob, and Yoḥanan his brother, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves,

Mat 17:2 and He was transformed before them, and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as the light.

Mat 17:3 And see, Mosheh and Ēliyahu appeared to them, talking with Him.

Mat 17:4 And Kēpha answering, said to יהושע, “Master, it is good for us to be here. If You wish, let us make here three booths: one for You, one for Mosheh, and one for Ēliyahu.”^a Footnote:

^aSee footnote [Mar 9:4](#).

Mat 17:5 While he was still speaking, see, a bright cloud overshadowed them. And see, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, **“This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I did delight. Hear Him!”**

Mat 17:6 And when the taught ones heard, they fell on their faces and were much afraid.

Mat 17:7 But יהושע came near and touched them and said, “Rise, and do not be afraid.”

Mat 17:8 And having lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but יהושע only.

Mat 17:9 And as they were coming down from the mountain, יהושע commanded them, saying, **“Do not mention the vision to anyone until the Son of Adam is raised from the dead.”**

This transfiguration that took place before Peter, James, and John; fulfilled the scripture spoken in Matthew 16:28.

Mat 16:28 “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death at all until they see the Son of Adam coming in His reign:”^e Footnote: ^eSee [Mat 17:2-5](#).

Adam and Eve were once clothed in light before they sinned and were placed in flesh. Peter, James, and John were given the open vision of seeing Yahusha in His glory; with the witnessing voice of the Father, YHWH. Yahusha's face shone like the sun and His

garments became as white as light. This was a glimpse of Yahusha in His High Priestly reign.

Mat 17:10 And His taught ones asked Him, saying, “Why then do the scribes say that Ēliyahu has to come first?”

Mat 17:11 And יהושע answering, said to them, “Ēliyahu is indeed coming first, and shall restore all.^b Footnote: ^bSee Mar 9:12 and Act 3:21 in particular.

Mat 17:12 “But I say to you that Ēliyahu has already come, and they did not recognize him but did to him whatever they wished. In this way the Son of Adam is also about to suffer by them.”

Mat 17:13 Then the taught ones understood that He had spoken to them about Yoḥanan the Immerser.

We know prophesy usually has 2-3 cycles of fulfillment. We have read about Elijah, and we have seen the ‘spirit of Elijah’ also work mightily through Elisha. We have also seen John the Immerser functioning in the ‘spirit of Elijah’ preparing the way for Yahusha. Yet, the ‘spirit of Elijah’, is to manifest once more.

We will see this manifestation with the two witnesses written about in Revelation 11. The two witnesses could appear as individuals such as Moses and Elijah; the two witnesses could appear as the two lampstands of Smyrna and Philadelphia; or the two witnesses could be a combination of two individuals leading the larger group of set-apart witnesses.

Yahusha Heals a Boy with a Demon

Mat 17:14 And when they came to the crowd, a man came up to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying,

Mat 17:15 “Master, have compassion on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers badly, for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.

Mat 17:16 “And I brought him to Your taught ones, but they were unable to heal him.”

Mat 17:17 And יהושע answering, said, “O generation, unbelieving and perverted, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him here to Me.”

Mat 17:18 And יהושע rebuked the demon, and he came out of him. And the child was healed from that hour.

Mat 17:19 Then the taught ones came to יהושע by Himself and said, “Why were we unable to cast him out?”

Mat 17:20 And יהושע said to them, “Because of your unbelief, for truly, I say to you, **if you have belief as a mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it shall move. And no matter shall be impossible for you.**

Mat 17:21 **“But this kind does not go out except through prayer and fasting.”**

Though there are some excellent teachers on the topics of spiritual warfare and deliverance; they are somewhat hard to find. Accurate teaching on spiritual warfare and deliverance are limited and one should delve into this area slowly and with caution. Without proper understanding, one could do more harm than good.

Pastor Bob Strachan has some excellent YouTube teachings on this topic and serves as a resource among deliverance ministries. His website is

<http://www.scotlandbaptist.com/> and his YouTube channel starting with the basics about spiritual warfare is:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlmbWwneaSoBM4Dy2oL9iZUvUazp_cY_9D

Also, Pastor Neil T. Anderson, has some excellent YouTube video teachings and his website is: <https://ficm.org/>

Yahusha Again Foretells Death, Resurrection

Mat 17:22 And while they were staying in Galil, יהושע said to them, “**The Son of Adam is about to be delivered up into the hands of men,**

Mat 17:23 and they shall kill Him, and **the third day He shall be raised up.**” And they were deeply grieved.

As the end of days draw near, the birth pangs will increase, as well as the beginning of sorrows. We read in Matthew 17:23 that the disciples were deeply grieved.

We must prepare ourselves for experiencing deep grief and sorrows as the end of days approach. We must strongly stay in His Word and proclaim His words of life into our lives and the lives of others. His Word is life and will uplift us through challenging times and tribulation. His Word will give us protection and also direction.

Mat 24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

The Temple Tax

Mat 17:24 And when they came into Kephrah Naḥum, those who received the tax came to Kēpha and said, “**Does your Teacher not pay the tax?**”

Mat 17:25 He said, “Yes.” And when he came into the house, יהושע spoke to him first, saying, “What do you think, Shim'on? From whom do the sovereigns of the earth take toll or tax, from their own sons or from the strangers?”

Mat 17:26 Kēpha then said to Him, “From the strangers.” יהושע said to him, “Then the sons are

exempt.

Mat 17:27 **“But, lest we cause them to stumble, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you shall find a [stater](#).^C Take that and give it to them for Me and you.”** Footnote: ^CA coin.

Though we belong to His holy nation, we live scattered among earthly nations. For this reason, we follow the laws of the land as long as they do not conflict with His Covenant Torah. We pay taxes and abide lest as Matt. 17:27 says, we should cause someone to stumble.

~ Shalom ~ Libby