

Greetings, today our manna is from Genesis 27; Matthew 26; Esther 3; Acts 26.

January 26 – Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: I have added emphasis with underlines, highlights, and [brackets] to Scripture for teaching purposes only.]

Genesis 27

We see the struggle over the blessing of Jacob versus Esau. We see hatred arise in Esau and murder contemplated. **This hatred seethes to this very day!**

Isaac Blesses Jacob

Gen 27:1 And it came to be, when Yitshaq was old and his eyes were too dim to see, that he called Ęsaw his elder son and said to him, “My son.” And he answered him, “Here I am.”

Gen 27:2 And he said, “See now, I am old, I do not know the day of my death.

Gen 27:3 “Now then, please take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt wild game for me.

Gen 27:4 “And make me a tasty dish, such as I love, and bring it to me to eat, in order that my being does bless you before I die.”

Rebekah hears Isaac’s conversation with Esau. We must keep in mind [Gen 25:28](#) And Yitshaq loved Ęsaw because he ate of his wild game, but Ribqah loved Ya’aqob. Yes, Esau was the eldest son; but surely Isaac and Rebekah had discussed the prophesy spoken over Rebekah’s two sons that warred in her womb; the older would serve the younger (Gen. 25:23). Isaac knows his days were ending and as was the custom; the father would pass on his blessings.

Rebekah apparently viewed what Isaac was about to do, to be contrary to YHWH’s prophecy and she intercedes by giving Jacob instructions.

Gen 27:5 And Ribqah heard when Yitshaq spoke to Ęsaw his son. And Ęsaw went to the field to hunt wild game and to bring it.

Gen 27:6 And Ribqah spoke to Ya’aqob her son, saying, “See, I heard your father speak to Ęsaw your brother, saying,

Gen 27:7 Bring me wild game and make me a tasty dish to eat, and bless you in the presence of יהוה before my death.’

Gen 27:8 “And now my son, listen to my voice according to what I command you.

Gen 27:9 “Please go to the flock and bring me two choice young goats, and I make a tasty dish from them for your father, such as he loves.

Gen 27:10 “And you shall take it to your father, and he shall eat it, so that he might

bless you before his death.”

Gen 27:11 And Ya'aqob said to Ribqah his mother, “See, Ėsaw my brother is a hairy man, and I am a smooth-skinned man.

Gen 27:12 “What if my father touches me? Then I shall be like a deceiver in his eyes, and shall bring a curse on myself and not a blessing.”

Gen 27:13 But his mother said to him, “Let your curse be on me, my son. Only obey my voice, and go, get them for me.”

Gen 27:14 And he went and fetched them and brought them to his mother, and his mother made a tasty dish, such as his father loved.

Gen 27:15 And Ribqah took the best garments of her elder son Ėsaw, which were with her in the house, and put them on Ya'aqob her younger son.

Gen 27:16 And she put the skins of the young goats on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck.

Gen 27:17 Then she gave the tasty dish and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Ya'aqob.

Gen 27:18 And he went to his father and said, “My father.” And he said, “Here I am. Who are you, my son?”

Gen 27:19 And Ya'aqob said to his father, “I am Ėsaw your first-born, I have done as you said to me. Please rise, sit and eat of my wild game, so that your being might bless me.”

Gen 27:20 But Yitshaq said to his son, “How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?” And he said, “Because יהוה your Elohim brought it to me.”

Gen 27:21 Then Yitshaq said to Ya'aqob, “Please come near, so that I feel you, my son, whether you truly are my son Ėsaw or not.”

Gen 27:22 And Ya'aqob went near to Yitshaq his father, and he felt him and said, “The voice is the voice of Ya'aqob, but the hands are the hands of Ėsaw.”

Gen 27:23 And he did not recognise him, for his hands were hairy like his brother Ėsaw's hands, and he blessed him.

Gen 27:24 And he said, “Are you truly my son Ėsaw?” And he said, “I am.”

Gen 27:25 And he said, “Bring it near to me, and let me eat of my son's wild game, so that my being might bless you.” So he brought it near to him, and he ate. And he brought him wine, and he drank.

Gen 27:26 And his father Yitshaq said to him, “Please come near and kiss me, my son.”

Gen 27:27 And he came near and kissed him. And he smelled the smell of his garments, and blessed him and said, “See, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field which יהוה has blessed.

[Isaac blesses Jacob.](#)

Gen 27:28 And Elohim give you of the dew of the heavens, of the fatness of the earth,

and plenty of grain and wine.

Gen 27:29 Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. **Be master over your brothers, and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be those cursing you, and blessed be those blessing you!**

Gen 27:30 And it came to be, as soon as Yitshaq had finished blessing Ya'aqob, and Ya'aqob had hardly left the presence of Yitshaq his father, that Ęsaw his brother came in from his hunting.

Gen 27:31 And he too had made a tasty dish and brought it to his father, and said to his father, "Let my father rise and eat of his son's wild game, so that your being might bless me."

Gen 27:32 And his father Yitshaq said to him, "Who are you?" And he said, "I am your son, your first-born, Ęsaw."

Gen 27:33 Then Yitshaq trembled exceedingly, and said, "Who was it then who hunted wild game and brought it to me? And I ate all of it before you came, and I have blessed him. Yes, he is blessed."

Gen 27:34 When Ęsaw heard the words of his father, he cried with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to his father, "Bless me, me too, O my father!"

Gen 27:35 And he said, "Your brother came with deceit and took your blessing."

Gen 27:36 And Ęsaw said, "Was his name, then, called Ya'aqob? For he has caught me by the heel these two times. He took my birthright, and see, now he has taken my blessing!" And he said, "Have you not reserved a blessing for me?"

Jacob had not 'taken' Esau's birthright. Esau sold his birthright for stew. Some may view the plan devised by Rebekah as conniving, but at the same time, YHWH had told Rebekah that the older son would serve the younger. We must ponder then, who was truly being disobedient Isaac or Rebekah and Jacob?

Once, both Abraham and Isaac had asked Sarah and Rebekah to declare themselves as their sister respectively; therefore, this method of deception for protection was practiced within their family. Regardless, YHWH's divine prophesy does come to pass; Esau would serve his younger brother Jacob, but Esau also would be blessed.

Gen 27:37 Then Yitshaq answered and said to Ęsaw, "See, I have made him your master, and all his brothers I have given to him as servants. And I have sustained him with grain and wine. And what, then, shall I do for you, my son?"

Gen 27:38 And Ęsaw said to his father, "Have you only one blessing, my father? Bless me, me too, O my father!" And Ęsaw lifted up his voice and wept.

Gen 27:39 And Yitshaq his father answered and said to him, "See, your dwelling is of the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of the heavens from above."

Gen 27:40 **And by your sword you are to live, and serve your brother. And it shall be, when you grow restless, that you shall break his yoke from your neck.**

Gen 27:41 And Ęsaw hated Ya'aqob because of the blessing with which his father

blessed him, and Ėsaw said in his heart, “The days of mourning for my father draw near, then I am going to kill my brother Ya’aqob.”

Gen 27:42 And the words of Ėsaw her older son were reported to Ribqah, and she sent and called Ya’aqob her younger son, and said to him, “See, your brother Ėsaw comforts himself concerning you, to kill you.

Gen 27:43 “And now, my son, listen to my voice, and rise, flee to my brother Laḃan in Ḥaran.

Gen 27:44 “And stay with him a few days, until your brother’s wrath turns away,

Gen 27:45 until your brother’s displeasure turns away from you, and he forgets what you have done to him. And I shall send and bring you from there. Why should I be bereaved of you both in one day?”

Gen 27:46 **And Ribqah said to Yitshaq,** “I am disgusted with my life because of the daughters of Ḥěth. If Ya’aqob takes a wife from the daughters of Ḥěth, like these who are the daughters of the land, what is my life to me?”

We must not forget that Esau had already taken foreign wives who were descendants of Ishmael. Esau’s name means Edom and Seir.

Gen 26:34 And when Ėsaw was forty years old, he took as wives Yehuḃith the daughter of Be’ěri the Ḥittite, and Basemath the daughter of Ėlon the Ḥittite.

Gen 26:35 And they were a bitterness of spirit to Yitshaq and Ribqah.

Matthew 26

In Matthew 26, it goes from bad to worse; but everything unfolds within the divine plan of YHWH. It is difficult to comprehend how much evil can exist in mankind and at the same time see how much love exists in Him. Praise Yah that He is our beloved and we are His.

He demonstrated His love for us; in that while we were yet sinners, He died for us and arose the 3rd day. Now we can rejoice and sing ‘worthy is the Lamb’ to open the scroll!

Rev 5:8 And when He took the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of the set-apart ones.

Rev 5:9 And they sang a renewed song, saying, **“You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals, because You were slain, and have redeemed us to Elohim by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,**^c Footnote:

^cThis fact is given in 6 other texts in the Book of Revelation.

Rev 5:10 **and made us sovereigns and priests to our Elohim, and we shall reign upon the earth.**^d Footnote: ^dDan 7:18-27.

One of my greatest personal revelations, occurred while reading Rev. 5:8-10 in the Book of Revelation. It is worth repeating right now.

Who is singing this song? The four living creatures and the 24 elders.

Who are they?

- They are the ones that Elohim has redeemed
- They have been redeemed by His blood of every tribe, tongue, people, and nation.
- They are the ones He has made sovereigns and priests to our Elohim
- They shall reign upon the earth!

My revelation was that the **4 living creatures** represented the redeemed souls of all those that had died in Him; and now await their resurrected bodies. They are the redeemed and they are singing the ‘song of the redeemed.’ They are depicted by the lead banners of the four head tribes of the wilderness encampments: the lion, the ox; the man; and the eagle. They each have six wings meaning, each quadrant had three tribes! Their wings are covered with eyes depicting millions upon millions of souls. The 4 living creatures are believers that have died in Yahusha up until that time! This is my present understanding.

Please ponder these possibilities. Read those verses again and answer who is singing? We know the 24 elders are probably the 12 Patriarchs and the 12 Apostles. If that is the case, then John the Revelator possibly saw himself as one of the elders. Remember, he had been taken into the future; the day of YHWH, and into the heavenly throne room!

Mat 19:28 And יהושע said to them, “Truly I say to you, when the Son of Ađam sits on the throne of His esteem, you who have followed Me in the rebirth, shall also **sit on twelve thrones**, judging the twelve tribes of Yisra’ěl.

The Plot to Kill Yahusha

Mat 26:1 And it came to be, when יהושע ended all these words, He said to His taught ones,

Mat 26:2 “You know that after two days the Pěsaḥ takes place, and the Son of Ađam is to be delivered up to be impaled.”

Mat 26:3 Then the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people came together at the court of the high priest, who was called Qayapha,

Mat 26:4 and **plotted to seize יהושע by trickery and kill Him**.

Mat 26:5 But they said, “Not at the festival lest there be an uproar among the people.”

Yahusha Anointed at Bethany

Mat 26:6 And when יהושע was in Běyth Anyah at the house of Shim'on the leper,

Mat 26:7 a woman came to Him, having an alabaster flask of costly perfume, and she poured it on His head as He sat at the table.

Mat 26:8 And when His taught ones saw it, they were much displeased saying, “To what purpose is this waste?”

Mat 26:9 “For this perfume could have been sold for much and given to the poor.”

Mat 26:10 However, when יהושע noticed it, He said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a good work toward Me.

Mat 26:11 “For you always have the poor with you, **but Me you do not have always.**

Mat 26:12 “For in pouring this perfume on My body, **she did it for My burial.**

Mat 26:13 “Truly, I say to you, **wherever this Good News is proclaimed in all the world, what this woman has done shall be spoken of also, to her remembrance.**”

The enemy has worked his way inside the camp and weaved himself closely to the sovereign, the King of kings, Yahusha HaMashiach. Judas gives his flesh over to sa_tan and chooses to make the grave mistake of ‘selling the righteous’ for silver! To add insult to injury, Judas also betrays him with a kiss. Though there was a time that the disciples said they would never deny Yahusha; when the heat is turned up, they all flee.

Judas to Betray Yahusha

Mat 26:14 Then **one of the twelve**, called **Yehudah from Qerioth [Judas of Iscariot]**, went to the chief priests,

Mat 26:15 and said, “What would you give me to deliver Him to you?” And **they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver.** [Zec 11:12.](#)

Mat 26:16 And from then on he was seeking an occasion to deliver Him up.

The Passover with the Disciples

Mat 26:17 And on the first day of Unleavened Bread the taught ones came to יהושע, saying to Him, “**Where do You wish us to prepare for You to eat the Pěsaḥ?**”

Mat 26:18 And He said, “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘**The Teacher says, “My time is near. I am to perform the Pěsaḥ at your house with My taught ones.”**’ ”

Mat 26:19 And the taught ones did as יהושע had ordered them, and prepared the Pěsaḥ.

Mat 26:20 And when evening came, He sat down with the twelve.

Mat 26:21 And while they were eating, He said, “**Truly, I say to you, one of you shall deliver Me up.**”

Mat 26:22 And they **were deeply grieved**, and began to say to Him, each of them, “Master, is it I?”

Mat 26:23 And He answering, said, “He who has dipped his hand with Me in the dish, he shall deliver Me up.”

Mat 26:24 “Indeed, the Son of Adam goes as it has been written concerning Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Adam is delivered up! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.”

Mat 26:25 And **Yehudah – he who delivered Him up – answering, said, “Rabbi, is it I?”** He said to him, **“You have said it.”**

Institution of the YHWH's Supper – This is the institution of the New Covenant confirming meal. It consisted of the bread, representing His body; the wine, representing the blood ratification of the new covenant; the acceptance and partaking by those that say ‘yes’ to His proposal; followed by the priestly foot washing of those set-apart to Him. The first mention of the elements of bread and wine in the Bible, is the meeting between Melchizedek, King of Salem and Priest to the Most High El and Abraham [Gen.14].

Mat 26:26 And as they were eating, יהושע took bread, and having blessed, broke and gave it to the taught ones and said, “Take, eat, this is My body.”

Mat 26:27 And taking the cup, and giving thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you.

Mat 26:28 **“For this is My blood, that of the renewed covenant, which is shed for many for the forgiveness of sins.”**

Mat 26:29 **“But I say to you, I shall certainly not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on till that day when I drink it anew with you in the reign of My Father.”**

Yahusha Foretells Peter's Denial

Mat 26:30 And having sung a song, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Mat 26:31 Then יהושע said to them, **“All of you shall stumble in Me this night**, for it has been written, **‘I shall strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered.’**^a [Zec 13:7](#). Footnote: ^aAlso see [Mar 14:27](#), [Joh 16:32](#).

Mat 26:32 **“But after I have been raised, I shall go before you into Galil.”**

Mat 26:33 And Kēpha answering, said to Him, “Even if all stumble in You, I shall never stumble.”

Mat 26:34 יהושע said to him, **“Truly, I say to you that this night, before the cock crows, you shall deny Me three times.”**

Mat 26:35 Kēpha said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I shall not deny You!” All the taught ones said the same too.

The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. As Yahusha stated, they all would stumble in Him that night. They would grieve like never before; yet, we know everything changes when Yahusha sends the Comforter! His disciples rise to the occasion and are shown faithful even unto death.

Yahusha Prays in Gethsemane

Mat 26:36 Then יהושע came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the taught ones, **“Sit here while I go over there and pray.”**

Mat 26:37 And He took with **Him Kēpha and the two sons of Zabdai**, and **He began to be grieved and deeply distressed.**

Mat 26:38 Then He said to them, “My being is exceedingly grieved, even to death. **Stay here and watch with Me.**”

Mat 26:39 And going forward a little, He fell on His face, and prayed, saying, **“O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Yet not as I desire, but as You desire.”**

Yahusha was not asking His Father not to be crucified; He was asking His Father not to let him die prematurely in the garden. We know this to be the case because he had already rebuked sa_tan working through the flesh of Peter in speaking against His impending death. He told Peter, for this reason, He had come. He was grieved exceedingly in the garden, even to death. Remember, he even sweated great drops of blood, a condition we know as Hematidrosis.

Hematidrosis is a condition in which capillary blood vessels that feed the sweat glands rupture, causing them to exude blood, occurring under conditions of extreme physical or emotional stress.^[4] Severe mental anxiety activates the sympathetic nervous system to invoke the stress-Fight-or-flight response to such a degree as to cause hemorrhage of the vessels supplying the sweat glands.^[5] It has been suggested that acute fear and extreme stress can cause hematidrosis.^[6] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hematidrosis>

Mat 26:40 And He came to the taught ones and **found them asleep**, and said to Kēpha, **“So, were you not able to watch with Me one hour?”**

Mat 26:41 **“Watch and pray, lest you enter into trial. The spirit indeed is eager, but the flesh is weak.”**

Mat 26:42 **Again He went away, a second time**, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if it is impossible for this to pass unless I drink it, let Your desire be done.”

Mat 26:43 And He came and **found them asleep again**, for their eyes were heavy.

Mat 26:44 And He left them, went away again, and prayed **the third time**, saying the same words.

Mat 26:45 Then He came to His taught ones and said to them, “Still sleeping and taking rest? **See, the hour has come near, and the Son of Adam is delivered up into the hands of sinners.**”

Mat 26:46 “Rise, let us go. See, he who delivers Me up has come near.”

We must not forget the season was Passover [not ‘Ishtar’ Easter]. We too are reminded to watch and pray during the Passover rehearsal. In Exodus 12, this feast is referred to as the **‘night of watches’** but it is also known as the **‘feast of fleeing’**; and fleeing they did. We are to be ready and watching for our Groom to arrive; for no one knows the day or hour except for YHWH. Therefore, we should vigilantly keep His rehearsals, His moedim and not the man-made traditions of men and cultures.

Exo 12:42 **It is a night of watches unto יהוה** for bringing them out of the land of Mitsrayim. This is that night of watches unto יהוה, for all the children of Yisra’el throughout their generations.

Betrayal and Arrest of Yahusha

Mat 26:47 And while He was still speaking, see, Yehudah [Judas], one of the twelve, with a large crowd with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and elders of the people.

Mat 26:48 And he who was delivering Him up gave them a sign, saying, “**Whomever I kiss, it is He, seize Him.**”

Mat 26:49 And going straight up to יהושע he said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed Him.

Mat 26:50 And יהושע said to him, “Friend, why have you come?” Then they came and laid hands on יהושע and seized Him.

Mat 26:51 And look, one of those with יהושע put out his hand and drew his sword, and striking the servant of the high priest he cut off his ear.

Mat 26:52 Then יהושע said to him, “Return your sword to its place, for all who take the sword shall die by the sword.

Mat 26:53 “Or do you think that I am not able to pray to My Father now, and He shall provide Me with more than twelve legions of messengers?”

Mat 26:54 **“How then would the Scriptures be filled that it has to be this way?”**

Mat 26:55 In that hour יהושע said to the crowds, “Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to arrest Me? Daily I sat with you, teaching in the Set-apart Place, and you did not seize Me.

Mat 26:56 **“But all this came to be, so that the Scriptures of the prophets might be filled.”** Then all the taught ones left Him and fled.

Yahusha Before Caiaphas and the Council

Mat 26:57 And those who had seized יהושע led Him away to Qayapha the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were gathered together.

Mat 26:58 But Kēpha followed Him at a distance to the courtyard of the high priest, and he went in and sat with the servants to see the end.

Mat 26:59 And the chief priests, and the elders, and all the council were seeking false witness against יהושע to put Him to death,

Mat 26:60 but found none. Although many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward,

Mat 26:61 and said, “**This one said, ‘I am able to destroy the Dwelling Place of Elohim and to build it in three days.’**”

Mat 26:62 And the high priest stood up and said to Him, “Have You no answer to make? What do these witness against You?”

Mat 26:63 But יהושע remained silent. So the high priest said to Him, **“I put You to oath, by the living Elohim that You say to us if You are the Messiah, the Son of Elohim.”**

Mat 26:64 יהושע said to him, “You have said it. Besides I say to you, from now on you shall see **the Son of Ađam sitting at the right hand of the Power,** [Psa_110:1](#) and **coming on the clouds of the heaven.**” [Dan_7:13](#).

When Caiaphas put Yahusha under oath, Yahusha had to answer or else break Leviticus 5:1 under the Book of the Law; which would have been a sin.

Lev 5:1 ‘And when a being sins in that he has heard the voice of swearing, and is a witness, or has seen, or has known, but does not reveal it, he shall bear his crookedness.

Then Yahusha goes on to quote Psalm 110:1.

Psa 110:1 יהוה said to my Master, “Sit at My right hand, Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”

Psa 110:2 יהוה sends Your mighty sceptre out of Tsiyon. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

Psa 110:3 Your people volunteer in the day of Your might, In the splendours of set-apartness! From the womb, from the morning, You have the dew of Your youth!

Psa 110:4 יהוה has sworn and does not relent, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Malkitseđeq.”

And then onto Daniel 7:13:

Dan 7:13 “I was looking in the night visions and saw One like the **Son of Enosh,^a** coming with the clouds of the heavens! And He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. **Footnote: ^aSon of Enosh - This Aramaic term is similar to the Hebrew ‘Ben Ađam,’ (Son of Ađam) but not the exact equivalent of it.**

Mat 26:65 Then the **high priest tore his garments**, saying, “He has blasphemed! Why do we need any more witnesses? See, now you have heard His blasphemy!”

By Caiaphas tearing his priestly garment; he disqualified himself as High Priest and was worthy of death. It is for this reason, that Yahusha, already having been mikvah'd by the true High Priest, John the Immerser; is prepared to officiate as High Priest after the order of Melchizedek over His own crucifixion, the crucifixion of the spotless Lamb of Elohim.

Mat 26:66 “What do you think?” And they answering, said, “He is liable to death.”

Mat 26:67 Then they spat in His face and beat Him, and others slapped Him,

Mat 26:68 saying, “Prophecy to us, Messiah! Who is the one who struck You?”

Peter Denies Yahusha

Mat 26:69 And Kěpha sat outside in the courtyard, and **a servant girl came to him**, saying, “And you were with יהושע of Galil.”

Mat 26:70 But **he denied it** before them all, saying, “I do not know what you say.”

Mat 26:71 And as he was going out into the porch, **another girl saw him** and said to those there, “And this one was with יהושע of Natsareth.”

Mat 26:72 But again **he denied with an oath, “I do not know the Man!”**

Mat 26:73 And after a while **those who stood by came to him and said to Kěpha**, “Truly you are one of them too, for even your speech gives you away.”

Mat 26:74 Then **he began to curse and to swear, saying, “I do not know the Man!” And immediately a cock crowed.**

Mat 26:75 And Kěpha remembered the word of יהושע who had said to him, “Before a cock crows, you shall deny Me three times.” **And going out, he wept bitterly.**

We can all relate to failures in our lives. This was one of Peter's epic failures; but even that failure was foreknown by Yahusha. Peter was broken hearted; but praise Yah, He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Peter's broken heart is later healed, and he becomes a mighty witness to Yahusha even unto death on a cross. It is said that Peter requested to be crucified upside down, for he didn't feel worthy to be crucified right side up as His Savior. His desire was to exalt Yahusha; and humbly lay down his life for Him. We know Peter finishes the race, and he finishes well! Praise Yah!

There is so much more that could be said, but we will close and keep all these things close to our hearts.

Esther 3

With anger and fury aroused in Haman, we see him suggest to the sovereign a decree of annihilation, not only against Mordecai; but against the Hebrew Israelites throughout the reign covering 127 Provinces!

We see the sovereign make several grave mistakes. **The mistake of blind trust; the mistake of ‘selling the righteous’ for silver; and the mistake of turning over ‘authority’ to the enemy – by giving him the sovereign’s signet ring.** The Jezebel spirit works through the flesh of individuals, both male and female; and always vie for the position closest to the highest authority. This is the case we see in Haman.

Haman Plots Against the Jews

Est 3:1 After these events Sovereign Ahashwërosh promoted Haman, son of Hammedatha the Aġaġite, and exalted him and seated him higher than all the princes with him.

Est 3:2 And all the sovereign’s servants who were in the sovereign’s gate bowed and did obeisance to Haman, for so the sovereign had commanded concerning him. **But Mordecai would not bow or do obeisance.**

Est 3:3 And the sovereign’s servants who were in the sovereign’s gate said to Mordecai, “Why do you disobey the sovereign’s command?”

Est 3:4 And it came to be, when they spoke to him daily and he would not listen to them, that they told Haman, to see whether the words of Mordecai would stand – for he had told them that he was a Yehudi.

Est 3:5 And when Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow or do obeisance, Haman was filled with wrath.

Est 3:6 But it was despicable in his eyes to lay hands on Mordecai alone, for they had informed him of the people of Mordecai. **Therefore Haman sought to destroy all the Yehudim who were throughout all the reign of Ahashwërosh, the people of Mordecai.**

Est 3:7 In **the first new moon, which is the new moon of Nisan, in the twelfth year of Sovereign Ahashwërosh,** someone cast Pur – that is, the lot – before Haman from day to day, and from new moon to new moon, until it fell on the twelfth month, which is the new moon of Adar.

Est 3:8 **Haman then told Sovereign Ahashwërosh,**

- ❖ “There is a certain people scattered and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of your reign, whose laws are different from all people, and they do not do the sovereign’s laws. Therefore it is not in the sovereign’s interest to let them remain.

- ❖ **Est 3:9** “If it pleases the sovereign, let a decree be written to destroy them, and let me pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those who do the work, to bring it into the sovereign’s treasuries.”

Est 3:10 **And the sovereign took his signet ring from his hand and gave it to Haman, son of Hammedatha the Aqāqite, the enemy of the Yehudim.**

Est 3:11 **And the sovereign said to Haman,**

- ❖ “The silver and the people are given to you, to do with them as seems good to you.”
- ❖ **Est 3:12** And the sovereign’s scribes were called on the **thirteenth day of the first new moon**, and **a decree was written according to all that Haman commanded** – to the viceroys of the sovereign, and to the governors who were over each province, and to the officials of all people, to every province according to its writing, and to every people in their language. It was written in the name of Sovereign Ahashwērosh, and **sealed with the sovereign’s signet ring.**

Est 3:13 **And the letters were sent by the runners into all the sovereign’s provinces, to cut off, to kill, and to destroy all the Yehudim, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth new moon, which is the new moon of Adar,** and to plunder their possessions.

Est 3:14 A copy of the writing, **to be made law in every province,** was published for all people, to be ready for that day.

Est 3:15 The runners went out, hastened by the sovereign’s command, and the decree was given out in the citadel of Shushan. **The sovereign and Haman then sat down to drink, but the city of Shushan was in confusion.**

Confusion comes from sa_tan. This decree was extremely lethal. A similar decree has been given today as well. It was signed into law as U.S. Public Law 102-14. The law is disguised by the name ‘U.S. Education Day’ but within this seemingly benign ‘named’ law; lies the sa_tanic Talmudic Seven Noahide Laws. Congressman Bill Dannemeyer was there and his account can be read at <http://www.spingola.com/Dannemeyer.html>. It is worthy to be read in its entirety.

The sovereign’s scribes completed the writing of the decree on the 13th day of the 1st month. This normally would have been during the ‘inspection’ phase of the lamb prior to Passover. However, most of the Hebrew Israelites in exile, did not observe YHWH’s moedim since they were no longer in Jerusalem.

Acts 26

It is Paul's turn to once again face the 'accuser of the brethren.' Despite resistance, times have changed since the transference between priesthoods and laws. Paul is walking in the power of the resurrection because Yahusha fulfilled the Scripture to take back authority. Yahusha holds the key of David. Yahusha now rules and reigns as High Priest of the Melchizedek order. The very disciples that fled in the Book of Matthew, were 'born from above' on the day of Pentecost; now the Ruach HaKodesh dwells within! Now, followers of Yahusha are the Temple!

We know after Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus, he was eventually taken into the fold of the disciples and all were bold in proclaiming the **New Covenant Confirming Gospel message**; even a boldness unto death. They all walked in the power and authority of Yahusha HaMashiach's fulfillment of YHWH's Promise to Abraham. To this very day, we do the same.

Paul is about to give his defense, and everyone is in place. One could probably hear a 'pin drop.' YHWH's prophetic words over Paul are unfolding. Paul is about to share his personal testimony and the Covenant Gospel Message before kings, governors, commanders, and eminent attendees.

Paul's Defense Before Agrippa

Act 26:1 And Agrippa said to Sha'ul, "You are allowed to speak for yourself." Then Sha'ul stretched out his hand and made his defense:

Paul begins:

Act 26:2 "I think myself blessed, Sovereign Agrippa, because today I shall make my defense before you concerning all of which I am accused by the Yehudim,

Act 26:3 you being most of all an expert, knowing of all practices and questions which have to do with the Yehudim. So, please hear me patiently.

Paul knew Agrippa's history. He knew his dad's relationship with the Yehudim and how he had been raised with a strong Jewish identity.

Act 26:4 "Truly, then, all the Yehudim know my way of life from youth, which I led from the beginning among my own nation at Yerushalayim,

Act 26:5 since they have known me from the first, if they wish to witness, that I lived as a Pharisee according to the strictest sect of our observance.

Act 26:6 "And now I stand and am judged for the expectation of the promise made by Elohim to our fathers,

Act 26:7 to which our twelve tribes, earnestly serving Elohim night and day, expect to

attain. Concerning this expectation, O Sovereign Agrippa, I am accused by the Yehudim.

Act 26:8 “Why is it considered ‘unbelievable’ among you if Elohim raises the dead?”

Act 26:9 “Therefore, indeed, I thought within myself that I ought to do much against the Name of יהושע of Natsareth,

Act 26:10 which also I did in Yerushalayim, and

- I shut up many of the set-apart ones in prison, having received authority from the chief priests.
- And when they were put to death, I gave my vote against them.
- Act 26:11 “And punishing them often in all the congregations,
- I compelled them to blaspheme.
- And being **exceedingly enraged against them, I persecuted them** even to foreign cities.

Paul Tells of His Conversion



Act 26:12 “While thus engaged, as I was journeying to Dammeseq with authority and commission from the chief priests,

Act 26:13 at midday along the highway, O sovereign, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and those who journeyed with me.

Act 26:14 “And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice speaking to me, and saying in the Hebrew language,^a ‘Sha’ul, Sha’ul, why do you persecute Me? It is

hard for you to kick against the prods.’ Footnote: ^aSee Act 21:40, Act 22:2.

Act 26:15 “And I said, ‘Who are You, Master?’ **And He said, ‘I am יהושע, whom you persecute.**

Act 26:16 But rise up, and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, **to appoint you a servant and a witness both of what you saw and of those which I shall reveal to you,**

Act 26:17 delivering you from the people, and the nations, to whom I now send you,

Act 26:18 to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light,^b and the authority of Satan to Elohim, in order for them to receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are set-apart by belief in Me.’ Footnote: ^b Isa 42:6-7, Isa 60:2-3, Rev 21:24.

Act 26:19 “Therefore, Sovereign Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,

Act 26:20 but declared first to those in Dammeseq and in Yerushalayim, and in all the country of Yehudah, and to the nations, that they should repent, and turn to Elohim, and do works worthy of repentance.^c Footnote: ^cSee footnote Mat 16:27.

Act 26:21 “That is why the Yehudim seized me in the Set-apart Place and tried to kill me.

Act 26:22 “Therefore, having obtained help from Elohim, to this day **I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other than what the prophets and Mosheh said would come –**

Act 26:23 **that the Messiah would suffer, would be the first to rise from the dead, He would proclaim light to the people and to the nations.**”

Festus takes offense to this Truth. Spiritual warfare raises its head when truth is spoken.

Act 26:24 And while saying this in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, **“Sha’ul, you are mad! Much learning is turning you to madness!”**

Act 26:25 But Sha’ul said, **“I am not mad, most excellent Festus, but I speak words of truth and sense.**

Act 26:26 **“For the sovereign, before whom I also speak boldly, knows these matters.** For I am persuaded that none of these are hidden from him, for this has not been done in a corner.

Act 26:27 **“Sovereign Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you do believe.”**

Act 26:28 And Agrippa said to Sha’ul, **“With a little you might persuade me to become a ‘messianist’!”**

Act 26:29 And Sha’ul said, “Much or little, I pray to Elohim that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become such as I also am, except for these chains.”

The powers that be retreated to discuss what they had just heard.

Act 26:30 And having said this, **the sovereign stood up, as well as the governor and Bernike and those sitting with them,**

Act 26:31 **and having withdrawn, they spoke to each other, saying, “This man is doing none at all deserving death or chains.”**

Act 26:32 And Agrippa said to Festus, **“This man could have been released if he had not appealed to Caesar.”**

Yes, Paul could have and should have been released; however, with the threat of Festus sending Paul to ‘Jerusalem’; Paul divinely chose to appeal to Caesar. Though Paul was in captivity; YHWH had given him a platform for the Covenant Confirming Gospel Message.

Festus apparently doesn’t find much help in what he should write in Paul’s appeal to Caesar.

Thankfully, we do know what took place by Luke's faithful writing of both Luke and Acts.

Today, we are living in similar times. The Scriptures show **that generation after generation** has had to face this very same enemy; the 'accuser of the brethren.' The enemy is active in deception and seeks the death of the righteous and the innocent. In 2019 we heard of the atrocity legislation in New York, condoning and even celebrating the ability to terminate pregnancies at any gestation; yet at the same time, they voted to take away the death penalty for convicted criminals. **Woe to those that call good evil and evil good!**

If we think we were not born to **STAND for Yahusha HaMashiach for such a time as this**, we are gravely mistaken. He has already warned us of the wickedness in these last days and He has told us what to do. Will we gather or will we scatter? Will we stand watch, or will we slumber? Will we ride the fence or decide as Joshua did, as for me and my house we will serve YHWH? The line has been drawn as well as the sword.

Deuteronomy 32:35 Vengeance is Mine, and repayment, At the time their foot slips; For near is the day of their calamity, And the *matters* prepared are hastening to them.'

~ Shalom ~ Libby

Devotional Reading Plan Link: <http://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf>