

Greetings, today our manna is from Num. 23; Psalm 64 & 65; Isaiah 13; 1Peter 1.

May 14 – 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/>

Numbers 23

Numbers 23 records the first two oracles given through the mouth of Balaam by YHWH. Each time, seven altars were set up on the ‘high places’ and seven bulls and rams were offered as an ascending offering to ‘Baal’. YHWH has no part in the ‘high places’ of Baal, other than showing He is greater!

In reading Numbers 23, one sees that YHWH protects and blesses the children of Israel. Though this angers King Balak; Balaam continues to repeat to Balak that he could only say the utterances of YHWH. Balak continues to change locations from one ‘high place’ to the next and do ascending offerings but it makes no difference. One cannot continue to do the same thing and expect different results – that is insanity! YHWH gives a message to King Balak as well.

Balaam's First Oracle

Num 23:1 And Bil'am said to Balaq, "Build seven slaughter-places for me here, and prepare seven bulls and seven rams for me here."

Num 23:2 And Balaq did as Bil'am had spoken, and Balaq and Bil'am offered a bull and a ram on each slaughter-place.

Num 23:3 Bil'am then said to Balaq, "Stand by your ascending offering, and let me go on. It might be that יהוה does come to meet me, and whatever He shows me I shall declare to you." And he went to a bare height.

Num 23:4 And Elohim came to Bil'am, and he said to Him, "I have prepared the seven slaughter-places, and I have offered on each slaughter-place a bull and a ram."

Num 23:5 And יהוה put a word in the mouth of Bil'am, and said, "Return to Balaq, and this is what you say."

Num 23:6 And he returned to him and saw him standing by his ascending offering, he and all the heads of Mo'ab.

Num 23:7 And he took up his proverb and said, "Balaq the sovereign of Mo'ab has brought me from Aram, from the mountains of the east. 'Come, curse Ya'aqob for me, and come, rage at Yisra'el!'

Num 23:8 "How do I curse whom Ēl has not cursed? And how do I rage at whom יהוה has not raged?"

Num 23:9 "For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I observe him."

Look, a people dwelling alone, not reckoning itself among the nations.

Num 23:10 “Who shall count the dust of Ya’aqob, and the number of one-fourth of Yisra’el? Let me die the death of the upright, and let my end be like his!”

Num 23:11 And Balaq said to Bil’am, “What have you done to me? I took you to curse my enemies, and look, you have kept on blessing!”

Num 23:12 And he answered and said, “Should I not take heed to speak what יהוה has put in my mouth?”

Balaam's Second Oracle

Num 23:13 And Balaq said to him, “Please come with me to another place from where you see them. You only see the extremity but not all of them. Curse them for me from there.”

Num 23:14 And he took him to the field of Tsophim, to the top of Pisgah, and built seven slaughter-places, and offered a bull and a ram on each slaughter-place.

Num 23:15 And he said to Balaq, “Stand here by your ascending offering while I meet over there.”

Num 23:16 And יהוה came to Bil’am, and put a word in his mouth, and said, “Go back to Balaq, and say this.”

Num 23:17 So he went to him and saw him standing by his ascending offering, and the heads of Mo’ab with him. And Balaq asked him, “What did יהוה say?”

Num 23:18 And he took up his proverb and said, “Rise up, Balaq, and hear! Listen to me, son of Tsippor!”

Num 23:19 “El is not a man, to lie; nor a son of man, to repent! Has He said, and would He not do it; or spoken, and would not confirm it?”

Num 23:20 “See, I have received, to bless. And He has blessed, and I do not reverse it.

Num 23:21 “He has not looked upon wickedness in Ya’aqob, nor has He seen trouble in Yisra’el. יהוה his Elohim is with him, and the shout of a Sovereign is in him.

Num 23:22 “El who brought them out of Mitsrayim, is for them like the horns of a wild ox.

Num 23:23 “For there is no sorcery against Ya’aqob, nor is there any divination against Yisra’el. Now it is said to Ya’aqob and to Yisra’el, ‘What has El done!’

Num 23:24 “Look, a people rises like a lioness, and lifts itself up like a lion; it lies not down until it devours the prey, and drinks the blood of the slain.”

Num 23:25 And Balaq said to Bil’am, “Do not curse them at all, nor bless them at all!”

Num 23:26 And Bil’am answered and said to Balaq, “Have I not spoken to you, saying, ‘All that יהוה speaks, that I do’?”

Num 23:27 And Balaq said to Bil’am, “Please come, let me take you to another place. It might be right in the eyes of Elohim that you curse them for me from there.”

Num 23:28 And Balaq took Bil’am to the top of Pe’or, that overlooks the wasteland.

Num 23:29 And Bil’am said to Balaq, “Build seven slaughter-places for me here, and prepare seven bulls and seven rams for me here.”

Num 23:30 And Balaq did as Bil'am had said, and offered a bull and a ram on each slaughter-place.

The following are the 'high places' that King Balak took Balaam. Baal worship was always done on the very top of mountains.

Num 22:41 And it came to be in the morning, that Balaq took Bil'am and brought him up to the high places of Ba'al, and from there he saw the extremity of the camp.

Num 23:14 And he took him to the field of Tsophim, to the top of Pisgah,...

Num 23:28 And Balaq took Bil'am to the top of Pe'or, that overlooks the wasteland.

Meanings:

Baal = "lord" 1) supreme male divinity of the Phoenicians or Canaanites (noun proper masculine)

Zophim = "watchers" **Pisgah** = "cleft"

Peor = "cleft"

1) a mountain peak in Moab belonging to the Abarim range and near Pisgah (noun proper locative)

2) a false god worshipped in Moab; corresponds to Baal (noun proper deity)

Things did not turn out how King Balak had desired. He was probably humiliated in front of all those gathered on the high places and Balak also witnessed the ineffectiveness of his slaughterings to Baal.

King Balak becomes so frustrated by the blessings spoken over Israel by Balaam, that he just wants him to stop speaking until they try another 'high place'!

Num 23:25 And Balaq said to Bil'am, "Do not curse them at all, nor bless them at all!"

Tomorrow we will see the outcome after the 3rd oracle; followed by the final oracle.

Psalm 64 & 65

Psalm 64 speaks of being hid from one's enemies and protected by YHWH. Today, as then, the schemes of the enemy have not changed; the blacklisting; the targeting; the slander; the set-ups. Though YHWH's people may not have full insight to their evil plans,

or full knowledge of the evil people participating in those plans; nothing escapes YHWH. Who sees them? YHWH does! His arrow will come; it will not miss; and it will come suddenly.

Hide Me from the Wicked

Psa 64:1 Hear my voice, O Elohim, in my meditation; **Guard my life from the threats of the enemy.**

Psa 64:2 **Hide me from the secret plans of the evil-doers,** From the tumult of the workers of wickedness,

Psa 64:3 Who sharpen their tongue like a sword, And aim their arrows, a bitter word,

Psa 64:4 **To shoot in ambush at someone blameless,** They shoot at him suddenly and do not fear.

Psa 64:5 **They arm themselves with an evil word; They talk of hiding snares; They have said, "Who sees them?"**

Isa 29:15 Woe to those who seek deep to hide their counsel far from יהוה, and their works are in the dark; they say, "Who sees us?" and, "Who knows us?"

Isa 29:16 How perverse of you! Should the potter be reckoned as the clay? Should what is made say of its Maker, "He did not make me"? And what is formed say of Him who formed it, "He did not understand"?

Psa 64:6 They search out unrighteousnesses, "We have perfected a well searched out plan." For the inward part of man, and heart, are deep.

Psa 64:7 **But Elohim does shoot at them with an arrow; Their wounds shall be sudden.**

Psa 64:8 And they cause one to stumble, Their own tongue is against them; All who see them flee away.

Psa 64:9 And all men fear, And declare the work of Elohim. And they shall wisely consider What He has done.

Psa 64:10 The righteous rejoice in יהוה, And shall take refuge in *Him*, And all the upright in heart praise Him.

Psalm 65 speaks of his loving commitment to us and His watch care over us and all creation.

YHWH, the Elohim of Our Salvation

Psa 65:1 To You, stillness, praise, in Tsiyon, O Elohim; And to You a vow is paid.

Psa 65:2 To You who hears all prayer, all flesh comes.

Psa 65:3 **Crooked matters were mightier than I; As for our transgressions, You do cover them.**

Psa 65:4 Blessed is the one You choose, And bring near to dwell in Your courts. We are satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Your set-apart Hēkal.

Psa 65:5 By awesome deeds in righteousness You answer us, O Elohim of our

deliverance, The Trust of all the ends of the earth, And the distant seas;

Psa 65:6 Who established the mountains by His strength, Being girded with might;

Psa 65:7 Who stills the roaring of the seas, The roaring of their waves, And the uproar of the peoples.

Psa 65:8 And they who dwell in the farthest parts, Are afraid of Your signs; You make the outgoings of the morning and evening rejoice.

Psa 65:9 You have visited the earth and watered it, You greatly enrich it; The river of Elohim is filled with water; You provide their grain, For so You have prepared it.

Psa 65:10 Its ridges have been filled, Its furrows have been deepened, You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth.

Psa 65:11 You have crowned the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with fatness.

Psa 65:12 The pastures of the wilderness drip, And the hills are girded with rejoicing.

Psa 65:13 The meadows are dressed in flocks, And valleys are covered with grain; They shout for joy and sing.

Isaiah 13

Isaiah's prophecies were fulfilled within a few centuries of being spoken, but [Isaiah's prophecies also apply to future fulfillments in the end of days](#). For us, we learn from these times that have passed, as we prepare for the end of days that lay ahead. We know, that in the 7th millennium Yahusha will return; we know the general season, though we do not know the day or the hour. He has not left us without knowledge of what will take place. He has told us so we will not slumber nor be caught off guard.

Isaiah will prophesy Judah's exile to Babylon, but YHWH also wants Judah to know that their enemy will not go unpunished. Here in Isaiah 13, he prophesies that the Medes and Persians will conquer Babylon. [In our day, mystery Babylon, will be destroyed likewise](#). Matter of fact, Isaiah 13 seems to speak more strongly to our time period!

The Judgment of Babylon

Isa 13:1 The message concerning Babel which Yeshayahu son of Amots saw.

Isa 13:2 "Lift up a banner on the high mountain, raise your voice to them; wave your hand, let them enter the gates of the nobles.

Isa 13:3 "I have commanded My set-apart ones; I have also called My mighty men for My displeasure, My proudly exulting ones."

Isa 13:4 The noise of an uproar in the mountains, like that of many people! A noise of uproar of the reigns of nations gathered together! הוה of hosts is gathering an army for battle.

Isa 13:5 They are coming from a distant land, from the end of the heavens, even **יהוה** and His weapons of displeasure, to destroy all the earth.^a Footnote: ^aAlso see [Isa 24:1-23](#), [Isa 34:1-17](#), [Isa 63:1-19](#) and [Isa 66:1-24](#).

Isa 13:6 **Howl, for the day of יהוה is near!** It comes as a destruction from the Almighty.

Isa 13:7 Therefore all hands go limp, every man's heart melts,

Isa 13:8 and they shall be afraid. Pangs and sorrows take hold of them, they are in pain as a woman in labor; they are amazed at one another, their faces aflame!

Isa 13:9 See, the day of **יהוה** is coming, fierce, with wrath and heat of displeasure, to lay the earth waste, and destroy its sinners from it.

The cosmic disturbances in the day of YHWH will be of a magnitude like none other. All His creations in the universe are available and ready to obey His every command.

Isa 13:10 For the **stars of the heavens and their constellations do not give off their light. The sun shall be dark at its rising, and the moon not send out its light.**

Isa 13:11 “And I shall punish the world for its evil, and the wrong for their crookedness, and shall put an **end to the arrogance of the proud, and lay low the pride of the ruthless.**”

Isa 13:12 “I shall make mortal man scarcer than fine gold, and mankind *scarcer* than the gold of Ophir.

Isa 13:13 “So I shall **make the heavens tremble, and the earth shall shake from her place**, in the wrath of **יהוה** of hosts and in the day of the heat of His displeasure.

What part of making earth shake from her place do we not understand? What part of making the heavens tremble do we not understand? Do we comprehend the magnitude of cosmic disturbances coming our way? Do we not ponder the paths of disturbances throughout biblical history, also being associated with such cosmic disturbances? Do we see that other planetary bodies such as Planet 7X have and will cause future disturbances? What else might one propose to make the earth shake from her place? What else might one propose to make the heavens tremble? What would be your answer? YHWH is King of the universe; and as we read in Psalm 65, all creation responds to Him and are at His disposal and at His beckon call. **There will ONLY BE SALVATION IN HIM!**

Isa 13:14 “And it shall be as the hunted gazelle, and as a sheep that no man takes up – every man turns to his own people, and everyone flees to his own land.

Isa 13:15 “Whoever is found is thrust through, and everyone taken falls by the sword.

Isa 13:16 “And their children are dashed to pieces before their eyes, their houses plundered and their wives ravished.

Isa 13:17 “See, I am stirring up the Medes against them, who do not regard silver, and

as for gold, they do not delight in it.

Isa 13:18 “And bows dash the young to pieces, and they have no compassion on the fruit of the womb, their eye spares no children.

Isa 13:19 “And Babel, the splendor of reigns, the comeliness of the pride of the Kasdim, shall be as when Elohim overthrew Sedom and Amarah.

Isa 13:20 “She shall never be inhabited, nor be settled from generation to generation; nor shall the Arabian pitch tents there, nor shepherds rest their flocks there.

Isa 13:21 “But wild beasts of the desert shall lie there, and their houses shall be filled with owls. And ostriches shall dwell there, and wild goats frolic there.

Isa 13:22 “And hyenas shall cry in their citadels, and jackals in their pleasant palaces. And her time is near to come, and her days are not drawn out.”

1Peter 1

Peter and Paul were chosen by YHWH to impart the Good News; Peter was to spread the Good News among the circumcised, and Paul to the uncircumcised. We read about their designations written by Paul in Galatians; however, they were not limited to those people groups.

Peter and Paul were both 1st Century (C.E.) believers given the task to articulate the transference back from the Book of the Law under the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood to Covenant Torah under the Melchizedek Priesthood. Yahusha had fulfilled the death penalty arm of the Promise made in Genesis 15. Now, through the New Covenant ratified with His precious blood, the Melchizedek Priesthood reigned once again with Yahusha as High Priest.

This was a huge undertaking and the Good News needed to be shared with accuracy, because the enemy and false teachers wasted no time infiltrating and spreading false doctrine. The false teachers wanted to once again enslave them under the Book of the Law, in addition to their Talmudic writings and oral traditions. They lorded over the laity the sorely corrupted Aaronic Levitical Priesthood and leavened doctrines. It had been so corrupted, that through that very system, they accused Yahusha of blasphemy! It can't get any more corrupt than that! That same Sanhedrin mindset is once again rearing its head, as they have been re-established since 2004 and are once again pushing their false doctrine which has grown much worse. Now, their beliefs almost entirely encompassed their Satanic Talmud; which even elevates their opinions above YHWH!

Gal 2:4 But as for the false brothers, sneakingly brought in, who sneaked in to spy out our freedom which we have in Messiah יהושע in order to enslave us,

Gal 2:5 to these we did not yield in subjection, not even for an hour, so **that the truth of the Good News remains with you.**

Gal 2:6 But from those who were esteemed to be whatever – what they were, it makes no difference to me, Elohim shows no partiality – **for those who were esteemed contributed naught to me.**

Gal 2:7 But on the contrary, when **they saw that the Good News to the uncircumcised had been entrusted to me, even as Kēpha to the circumcised –**

Gal 2:8 **for He who worked in Kēpha to make him an emissary to the circumcised also worked in me for the nations.**

The persecution of the first century believers began before the death, burial, and resurrection of Yahusha; though at that time, Yahusha and John the Immerser, took the brunt of their persecutions. Afterwards, the persecution heated up on the apostles and believers after the day of Pentecost, when they received the Holy Spirit. The gathering nations were present for the feast of Pentecost and heard the set-apart ones speaking in their own tongue, their own language.

In Acts 2, Peter shares the New Covenant Gospel message and 3,000 are saved; whereas, after the sin of the golden calf and being placed under the tutor of the Book of the Law, 3,000 died! (Ex. 32:28) Yahusha, once again, elevated the Melchizedek Priesthood to its previous reigning position once and for all. By faith in Yahusha and by entering Covenant with Him, He has made us into a kingdom of priests of every tongue, tribe, people, and nation! (Rev. 5:9-10) That is the Good News He ushered in! He not only redeemed those that believe in Him, but He also redeemed the land and all creation!

Many circumcised brethren were scattered among the surrounding nations by heavy persecutions. Paul, himself, before his conversion, played a zealous role in that wrongful persecution, until his call and conversion experience on the road to Damascus. It is believed Paul never quite got over being present at the stoning of Stephen. Paul would proclaim he had been the chief among sinners, in hopes of calling others to repentance.

Peter is writing his first letter to his circumcised brethren scattered among the nations; as well as to associated believers among them. His brethren had foreknowledge of YHWH and now they had been sprinkled by the blood of Messiah, who ushered in the new blood ratified covenant with His own precious blood. The Comforter came at Pentecost and now they would never be the same; nor should they ever desire to turn back.

No commentary can improve on the heart felt words divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit that Peter spoke in Acts 2 or in 1Peter 1. Read his inspired words about the great gift they had received through being born anew and how they were now set-apart. Read how Peter shares with his audience that the Torah, the Prophets, and the Writings foretold of all that had just been fulfilled. This truth was undeniable.

Like James, Peter reminds those reading his letter that life fades as the grass, and the most important truth anyone can ever possess had been received by them. This gift was not to be taken lightly then nor now. **Those that have knowledge and receive the Way, the Truth, and the Life are truly blessed.**

Greeting

1Pe 1:1 Kěpha, an emissary of יהושע Messiah,

- ✚ to the chosen,
- ✚ strangers of the dispersion in Pontos, Galatia, Kappadokia, Asia, and Bithunia,
- ✚ 1Pe 1:2 *chosen* according to the foreknowledge of Elohim the Father,
- ✚ set apart by the Spirit unto obedience^a
- ✚ and sprinkling of the blood of **יהושע** Messiah:
- ✚ Favor and peace be increased to you. Footnote: ^aObedience is also stressed in 1Pe 1:14 and 1Pe 1:22.

Born Anew to a Living Hope

1Pe 1:3 **Blessed be the Elohim and Father of our Master יהושע Messiah, who according to His great compassion has caused us to be born again to a living expectation through the resurrection of יהושע Messiah from the dead.**

- ✚ 1Pe 1:4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and unfading, having been kept in the heavens for you,
- ✚ 1Pe 1:5 who are protected by the power of Elohim through belief, for a deliverance ready to be revealed in the last time,
- ✚ 1Pe 1:6 in which you exult, even though for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by manifold trials,
- ✚ 1Pe 1:7 in order that the proving of your belief – much more precious than gold that perishes, and proven by fire – might be found to result in praise and respect and esteem at the revelation of יהושע Messiah,
- ✚ 1Pe 1:8 whom having not seen, you love; in whom you exult with unspeakable and esteemed joy, yet not seeing, but believing,
- ✚ 1Pe 1:9 obtaining the goal of your belief: a deliverance of lives.

1Pe 1:10 **Concerning this deliverance the prophets have sought out and searched out, prophesying concerning the favor for you,**

1Pe 1:11 searching to know what, or what sort of time, the Spirit which was in them was pointing out concerning Messiah, when it was bearing witness beforehand the sufferings of Messiah, and the esteems that would follow,

1Pe 1:12 to whom it was revealed that they were serving, not themselves, but you, in these matters which now have been announced to you through those who brought the Good News to you by the Set-apart Spirit sent from heaven – **into which messengers long to look into.**

Called to Be Holy

1Pe 1:13 **Therefore,**

✚ having girded up the loins of your mind, being sober, set your expectation perfectly upon the favor that is to be brought to you at the revelation of יהושע Messiah,

✚ **1Pe 1:14** as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts in your ignorance,

✚ **1Pe 1:15** instead, as the One who called you is set-apart, so you also should become set-apart in all behavior,

✚ **1Pe 1:16** because it has been written, **“Be set-apart, for I am set-apart.”** Lev 11:44, Lev 19:2.

1Pe 1:17 And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, pass the time of your sojourning in fear,

1Pe 1:18 knowing that **you were redeemed from your futile behavior inherited from your fathers, not with what is corruptible, silver or gold,**

1Pe 1:19 **but with the precious blood of Messiah, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless.**

1Pe 1:20 foreknown, indeed, before the foundation of the world, but manifested in these last times for your sakes,

1Pe 1:21 **who through Him believe in Elohim** who raised Him from the dead and gave Him esteem, so that your belief and expectation are in Elohim.

1Pe 1:22 Now that you have cleansed your lives in obeying the truth through the Spirit to unfeigned brotherly love, **love one another fervently with a clean heart,**

1Pe 1:23 **having been born again – not of corruptible seed, but incorruptible – through the living Word of Elohim, which remains forever,**

1Pe 1:24 because **“All flesh is as grass, and all the esteem of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away,**

1Pe 1:25 **but the Word of Elohim remains forever.”** Isa 40:6-8 And this is the Word, announced as **Good News to you.**

Shalom ~ Libby

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