

Greetings, today our manna is Joshua 7; Psalm 137; 138; Jeremiah 1; Matthew 15.

July 5 – 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 7

Anecdotal Story: One day there was a carpenter working on a doctor's house, and the doctor in passing 'cracked an awkward joke' saying, 'Well one thing about it; when carpenters make mistakes, the painters can cover them up.' The carpenter didn't take kindly to that, and told the doctor, 'Yes, just like a No. 2 shovel can cover up the mistakes of a doctor.'

The Valley of Akor:

Decisions determine our destiny. Yahusha gives us free choice, but those in Him, should make their decisions or choices in alignment with His Word for best possible outcomes. Akan decided contrary to YHWH's Word, even after Joshua had given a prior 'ban' warning.

Jos 6:18 "And you, **by all means guard yourselves from that which is under the ban**, lest you come under the ban when you take of that which is under the ban, and make the camp of Yisra'el a curse, and shall trouble it.

Israel Defeated at Ai

Jos 7:1 But the children of Yisra'el **committed a trespass regarding that which is under the ban**, for **Akan** son of Karmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, **of the tribe of Yehudah**, took of that which is **under the ban**. And the displeasure of יהוה burned against the children of Yisra'el.

Jos 7:2 Now Yehoshua sent men from Yeriho to Ai, which is beside Bēyth Awen, on the east side of Bēyth Ēl, and spoke to them, saying, "Go up and spy out the land." And the men went up and spied out Ai.

Jos 7:3 And they returned to Yehoshua and said to him, "Let not all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and strike Ai. Do not make all the people toil up there, for **the people of Ai are few.**"

Jos 7:4 And about three thousand men went up there from the people, but they fled before the men of Ai.

Jos 7:5 And the men of Ai struck about thirty-six men, for they pursued them from before the gate as far as Shebarim, and smote them on the descent. So the hearts of the people melted and became like water.

Jos 7:6 And Yehoshua tore his garments, and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of יהוה until evening, both he and the elders of Yisra'el, and they put dust on their heads.

Jos 7:7 And Yehoshua said, "Oh Master יהוה, why have You brought this people over the Yardēn at all, to give us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? If only we had been content to stay beyond the Yardēn!

Jos 7:8 "O יהוה, what do I say when Yisra'el turns its back before its enemies,

Jos 7:9 and the Kena'anites and all the inhabitants of the land hear, and shall surround us, and cut off our name from the earth. What then do You do for Your great Name?"

The Sin of Achan

Jos 7:10 And יהוה said to Yehoshua, "Rise up! Why are you lying on your face?"

Jos 7:11 "Yisra'el has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. And they have even taken some of that which is under the ban, and have both stolen and deceived, and also put it among their own goods.

Not only do our decisions determine our destiny; but our decisions effect those around us, and in this account determined the destiny of 36 men; Akan's family; and his possessions and livestock.

We are only as strong as our weakest link. Akan was a weak link. A similar account is told of in the Book of Acts Chapter 5 with Ananias and Sapphira. It is bad enough to lie and steal; but it is completely another matter to lie and steal from YHWH.

Jos 7:12 "And the sons of Yisra'el shall not be able to stand before their enemies. They are going to turn their backs before their enemies, for they have become accursed. I am not with you any more, unless you destroy that which is under the ban from your midst.

Jos 7:13 "Rise up, set the people apart, and you shall say, 'Set yourselves apart for tomorrow, because thus said יהוה Elohim of Yisra'el. That which is under the ban is in your midst, O Yisra'el. You are not able to stand before your enemies until you put away that which is under the ban out of your midst.'"

Jos 7:14 And you shall be brought near in the morning, according to your tribes. And it shall be, the tribe which יהוה takes comes according to clans. And the clan which יהוה takes comes by households. And the household which יהוה takes comes by men.

Jos 7:15 And it shall be that he who is taken with that which is under the ban is burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of יהוה, and because he has committed wickedness in Yisra'el.'"

Jos 7:16 So Yehoshua arose early in the morning and brought Yisra'el by their tribes, and the tribe of Yehuda was taken,

Jos 7:17 and he brought the clan of Yehuda, and he took the clan of the Zarḥites. And he brought the clan of the Zarḥites by men, and Zabdi was taken.

Jos 7:18 And he brought his household by men, and Achan son of Karmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Yehuda, was taken.

Jos 7:19 Then Yehoshua said to Achan, "My son, now give esteem to יהוה Elohim of Yisra'el, and make confession to Him. And please declare to me what you have done, do not hide it from me."

Jos 7:20 So Akan answered Yehoshua and said, “Truly, I have sinned against יהוה Elohim of Yisra’ël, and this is what I did:

Jos 7:21 “When I saw among the spoil a lovely garment from Shin’ar, and two hundred sheqels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty sheqels, I coveted them and took them. And see, they are hidden in the ground in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.”

Jos 7:22 And Yehoshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent. And see, it was hidden in his tent, with the silver under it.

Jos 7:23 And they took them from the midst of the tent, brought them to Yehoshua and to all the children of Yisra’ël, and laid them out before יהוה.

Jos 7:24 Then Yehoshua, and all Yisra’ël with him, took Akan son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his donkeys, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had, and they brought them to the Valley of Akor.

Jos 7:25 And Yehoshua said, “Why have you troubled us? יהוה does trouble you today!” Then all Yisra’ël stoned him with stones. And they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones.

Jos 7:26 And they raised over him a great heap of stones, which remains to this day. Then יהוה turned from the fierceness of His displeasure. Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Akor to this day.

Psalm 137; 138 Continue to proclaim aloud His Word. His Word changes the atmosphere around you and your loved ones.

How Shall We Sing YHWH's Song?

Psa 137:1 By the rivers of Babel, There we sat down and we wept As we remembered Tsiyon.

Psa 137:2 We hung our lyres Upon the willows in the midst of it.

Psa 137:3 For there our captors Asked us for the words of a song, And our plunderers for rejoicing, *saying*, “Sing to us a song of Tsiyon!”

Psa 137:4 How could we sing the song of יהוה On foreign soil?

Psa 137:5 If I forget you, O Yerushalayim, Let my right hand forget.

Psa 137:6 Let my tongue cleave to my palate, If I do not remember you, If I do not exalt Yerushalayim Above my chief joy.

Psa 137:7 Remember, O יהוה, against the sons of Edom The day of Yerushalayim, Who said, “Lay it bare, lay it bare, To its foundation!”

Psa 137:8 O daughter of Babel, who are to be destroyed, Blessed is he who repays you your deed, What you did to us!

Psa 137:9 Blessed is he who shall take And dash your little ones against the rock.

Give Thanks to YHWH

Psa 138:1 I give You thanks with all my heart; Before the mighty ones I sing praises to You.

Psa 138:2 I bow myself toward Your set-apart Hēḵal, And give thanks to Your Name For Your loving-commitment and for Your truth; For You have made great Your Word, Your Name, above all.

Psa 138:3 On the day I called You did answer me, You made me bold with strength in my being.

Psa 138:4 Let all the sovereigns of the earth Give thanks to You, O יהוה, When they shall hear the words of Your mouth.

Psa 138:5 And let them sing of the ways of יהוה, For great is the esteem of יהוה.

Psa 138:6 Though יהוה is exalted, He looks on the humble; But the proud He perceives from a distance.

Psa 138:7 Though I walk in the midst of distress, You revive me; You stretch out Your hand Against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand saves me.

Psa 138:8 יהוה does perfect for me. O יהוה, Your loving-commitment is everlasting. Do not forsake the works of Your hands.

Introduction to Jeremiah by F.B. Meyer

[Note: Jeremiah was a prophet to the southern kingdom.]

Jeremiah was of **priestly descent**, and born at Anathoth, a Levitical city a few miles northeast of Jerusalem. His commission was given him in **very early life**, and continued through the reigns of **five kings for forty troubled years**. He had neither wife nor child. His love was concentrated on his people, who ill requited it. The men of Anathoth sought his life. He was assailed with misrepresentation, bitter persecution, and murderous hate. He nearly lost his life under the displeasure of the King and princes, at whose command he was cast into a miry dungeon. He lived to see a faint gleam of returning prosperity overcast by the crimes of Ishmael and his fellow-conspirators.

He was a sensitive, delicately organized man, to whom it must have been a matter of peculiar trial to be called upon to play so prominent a part in those dark and stormy times, and to be “as an iron and brazen wall against the whole land.” But he is an evidence of what may be done by a man in whom the Spirit of God resides in mighty, living force. Tradition states that he died in Egypt, stoned by his fellow-countrymen. It has been often said that there are few Old Testament saints who afford more points of likeness to our Lord than does Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 1

Jer 1:1 The words of Yirmeyahu [Jeremiah] the son of Hīlqiyahu [Hilkiah], of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Binyamin,

Jer 1:2 to whom the word of יהוה came in the days of Yoshiyahu [Josiah] son of Amon, sovereign of Yehudah, **in the thirteenth year of his reign.**

Jer 1:3 And it came in the days of Yehoyaqim [Jehoiakim], son of Yoshiyahu [Josiah], sovereign of Yehudah, **until the end of the eleventh year** of Tsidqiyahu [Zedekiah], son of Yoshiyahu [Josiah], sovereign of Yehudah, **until the exile of Yerushalayim in the fifth new moon.**



	Josiah (31) 1	2Ki 22:1	Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah , the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath.
	31		
Jehoahaz (3m) 3 months		2Ki 23:31	Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal , the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.
Jehoiakim (11) 1		2Ki 23:36	Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebudah , the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.
Jehoiachin Co-regency		2Ch 36:9	Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.
	11		... 10 years later ...
Jehoiachin (3m) (Official reign starts) 3 months		2Ki 24:8	Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name was Nehushta , the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.
		2Ki 24:12	And Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his officers: and the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign.
	Zedekiah (11) 1	2Ki 24:18	Zedekiah was twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hamutal , the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.
	11	2Ki 25:2	And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah .

http://www.complete-bible-genealogy.com/judah_israel_kings.htm

The Call of Jeremiah

Jer 1:4 Now the word of יהוה came to me, saying,

Jer 1:5 **“Before I formed you in the belly I knew you, and before you came out of the womb I did set you apart – I appointed you a prophet to nations.”**

Jer 1:6 And said I, “Ah, Master יהוה! See, I do not know how to speak, for I am a youth.”

Jer 1:7 **And יהוה said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’ but go to all to whom I send you, and speak whatever I command you.**

Jer 1:8 **“Do not fear their faces, for I am with you to deliver you,” declares יהוה.**

Jer 1:9 **Then יהוה put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and יהוה said to me, “See, I have**

put My words in your mouth.

Jer 1:10 “See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the reigns, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Jeremiah was close to YHWH’s own heart. He had formed him in his mother’s womb, and He had specific and great plans for Jeremiah. Jeremiah had been set-apart to YHWH. YHWH puts forth His hand and touches Jeremiah’s mouth and put His words in Jeremiah’s mouth.

Yahusha gives us a similar message when He tells us:

Luk 12:11 “And when they bring you to the congregations and rulers and authorities, do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say,

Luk 12:12 for the Set-apart Spirit shall teach you in that very hour what you should say.”

Jer 1:11 And the word of יהוה came to me, saying, “What do you see, Yirmeyahu?” And I said, “I see a branch of an almond tree.”

Jer 1:12 And יהוה said to me, “You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to do it.”

Jer 1:13 And the word of יהוה came to me a second time, saying, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a boiling pot, and it is facing away from the north.”

Jer 1:14 And יהוה said to me, “Out of the north evil is set loose on all the inhabitants of the land.”

Jer 1:15 “For look, I am calling all the clans of the reigns of the north,” declares יהוה. “And they shall come and each one set his throne at the entrance of the gates of Yerushalayim, against all its walls all around, and against all the cities of Yehudah.”

Jer 1:16 “And I shall pronounce My judgments against them concerning all their evil, because they have forsaken Me, burned incense to other mighty ones, and bowed themselves to the works of their own hands.”

His Judgements against them (these same judgments could stand in our day).

- The people had forsaken Him
- Burned incense to other mighty ones
- Bowed themselves to the works of their own hands

Jer 1:17 “Now, gird up your loins and arise, and speak to them all that I command you. Do not break down before their faces, lest I break you before them.

Jer 1:18 “For look, I have made you this day a walled city and an iron column, and bronze walls against all the land, against the sovereigns of Yehudah, against her heads, against her priests, and against the people of the land.”

Jer 1:19 “And they shall fight against you, but not prevail against you. For I am with you,” declares יהוה, “to deliver you.”

In the end of days, YHWH will bestow similar strengths to the two witnesses [the two olive trees; the two lampstands] spoken of in Revelation 11.

Matthew 15

Traditions and Commandments

Mat 15:1 Then there came to יהושע **scribes and Pharisees** from Yerushalayim, saying,

Mat 15:2 “Why do Your taught ones transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.”

Mat 15:3 But He answering, said to them, “Why do you also transgress the command of Elohim^a because of your tradition? Footnote: ^aSee footnote [Mat 5:20](#).”

Mat 15:4 “For Elohim has commanded, saying, ‘**Respect your father and your mother,**’ [Exo 20:12](#), [Deu 5:16](#), ‘**He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.**’ [Exo 21:17](#), [Lev 20:9](#).

Mat 15:5 “But you say, ‘Whoever says to his father or mother, ‘Whatever profit you might have received from me has been dedicated,’

Mat 15:6 is certainly released from respecting his father or mother.’ **So you have nullified the command of Elohim by your tradition.**

Mat 15:7 “Hypocrites! Yeshayahu [Isaiah] rightly prophesied about you, saying,

Mat 15:8 ‘This people draw near to Me with their mouth, and respect Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me.’

Mat 15:9 ‘But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as teachings the commands of men.’^b [Isa 29:13](#). Footnote: ^b [Mar 7:7](#), [2Ki 17:19](#).”

The scribes and the Pharisees were all about ‘looking’ and ‘speaking’ as if they were godly; but their hearts were far from Him. We read the same in Luke.

[Luk 20:46](#) “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the market-places, and the best seats in the congregations, and the best places at feasts,

[Luk 20:47](#) who devour widows’ houses, and for a show make long prayers. They shall receive greater judgment.”

What Defiles a Person

Mat 15:10 And calling the crowd near, He said to them, “Hear and understand:

Mat 15:11 “Not that which goes into the mouth defiles the man, but that which comes out of the mouth, this defiles the man.”

Mat 15:12 Then His taught ones came and said to Him, “Do You know that the Pharisees stumbled when they heard this word?”

Mat 15:13 But He answering, said, “Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted shall

be uprooted.

Mat 15:14 **“Leave them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both shall fall into a ditch.”**

Mat 15:15 **And Kēpha answering, said to Him, “Explain this parable to us.”**

Mat 15:16 And יהושע said, **“Are you also still without understanding?”**

Mat 15:17 “Do you not understand that whatever enters into the mouth goes into the stomach, and is cast out in the sewer?”

Mat 15:18 “But what comes out of the mouth comes from the heart, and these defile the man.

Mat 15:19 **“For out of the heart come forth wicked reasonings, murders, adulteries, whorings, thefts, false witnessings, slanders.”**

Mat 15:20 **“These defile the man, but to eat with unwashed hands^c does not defile the man.”**

Footnote: ^cThis refers to the mistaken belief that demons entered the person eating bread with “unwashed hands”.

Yahusha explains. What comes out of the mouth comes from a person’s heart, and this defiles a person. For out of the heart, the mouth speaks.

Heb 9:10 only as to foods and drinks, and different washings, and fleshly regulations imposed until a time of setting *matters* straight. [Until Yahusha]

Heb 13:8 יהושע Messiah is the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

Heb 13:9 **Do not be borne about by various and strange teachings.^b For it is good for the heart to be established by favour, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.** Footnote: ^b Eph 4:14.

Heb 13:10 We have a slaughter-place from which those serving the Tent have no authority to eat.

Heb 13:11 For the bodies of those beasts whose blood is brought into the Set-apart Place by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp.

Heb 13:12 And so יהושע also suffered outside the gate, to set apart the people with His own blood.

Heb 13:13 Let us, then, go to Him outside the camp, bearing His reproach.

Heb 13:14 **For we have no lasting city here, but we seek the one coming.**

Yahusha was ushering in the days when His Word would be written on our hearts. We would be a kingdom of priests under the Melchizedek Order. We would become living stones making up the ‘temple man’; the one new man consisting of many parts and wearing the multi-colored coat representing believers of every tongue, tribe, people, and nation. Yahusha is the head and we are the body. Col. 1:18.

The Faith of a Canaanite Woman

Mat 15:21 And יהושע went out from there and **withdrew to the parts of Tsor and Tsidon.**

Mat 15:22 And see, **a woman of Kena'an** came from those borders and cried out to Him, saying, “Have compassion on me, O Master, Son of Dawid! My daughter is badly demon-possessed.”

Mat 15:23 But He did not answer her a word. And His taught ones came and asked Him, saying, “Send her away, because she cries after us.”

Mat 15:24 And He answering, said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Yisra’ël.”^d Footnote: ^dSee Mat 10:6.

Mat 15:25 But she came and was bowing to Him, saying, “Master, help me!”

Mat 15:26 And He answering, said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.”

Mat 15:27 But she said, “Yes Master, for even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.”

Mat 15:28 **And יהושע answering, said to her, “O woman, your belief is great! Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that hour.**

Persistent faith prevails much. Even those considered to be far from Him, moved Him to compassion by their belief.

Yahusha Heals Many

Mat 15:29 And moving from there, **יהושע** came toward the Sea of Galil, and going up on the mountain, He was sitting there.

Mat 15:30 And large crowds came to Him, having with them those who were lame, blind, dumb, crippled, and many others. And they laid them down at the feet of **יהושע**, and He healed them,

Mat 15:31 so that the crowd marveled when they saw the dumb speaking, the crippled well, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they praised the Elohim of Yisra’ël.

There had been a long period of silence, approximately 400 years, between the last words of the prophets and writings until the coming of Yahusha. Now, Yahusha was preparing the soil of their hearts to receive the Good News, the New Covenant Confirming Gospel message.

The people were believing again. The people started having hope. The people had cause for rejoicing. The people had miraculous healings. Yahusha was the Messiah. He was [YHWH in Son], and some received Him, yet others just wanted a miracle.

Yahusha Feeds the Four Thousand

Mat 15:32 And **יהושע**, having called His taught ones near, said, “I have compassion on the crowd, because they have now continued with Me **three days** and do not have whatever to eat. And I do not wish to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way.”

Mat 15:33 And His taught ones said to Him, “Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to

satisfy such a large crowd?”

Mat 15:34 And יהושע said to them, **“How many loaves do you have?”** And they said, **“Seven, and a few little fish.”**

Mat 15:35 And He commanded the crowd to sit down on the ground,

Mat 15:36 and taking the seven loaves and the fish, giving thanks, He broke them and gave to His taught ones, and the taught ones to the crowd.

Mat 15:37 And all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up what was left over of the broken pieces – seven large baskets, filled.

Mat 15:38 And those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children.

Mat 15:39 And dismissing the crowd, He went into the boat, and came to the borders of Maḡdala.

We will understand more about the feeding of the 5,000 and the feeding of the 4,000 in Matthew 16.

Mat 16:9 “Do you still not understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you picked up?

Mat 16:10 “Or the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you picked up?

Mat 16:11 “How is it that you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread, *but* to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees?”

Mat 16:12 **Then they understood that He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.**

Yesterday we share that the 5 loaves represented the first five books of the Torah. In the feeding of the 4,000, we see 7 loaves represented. These extra loaves represent the ‘added leaven’ or the ‘added teachings’ of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

To this day we should guard ourselves from feeding on other things rather than His Word. We are to clean our homes and libraries of such leaven that adds to or takes away from His Word.

Only 7 baskets of leftovers were picked up after the blessing and feeding of 7 loaves; yet 12 baskets of leftovers were picked up after the blessing and feeding of the 5 loaves. When leaven is added to His Word, it may still produce but it will not produce abundantly and will lack nourishment, because it has been modified. The 5 loaves were His unadulterated Word which produced a maximum yield.

~ Shalom ~ Libby