

Week 10: December 28, 2024

Shabbat Message

Miketz / *At the End* / מִקֵּץ

Genesis 41:1-44:17

My Way or Yah's Way

Stay Out of the Sun

Introduction

In this Torah portion we are going to see Joseph is not 30 years old and becomes the top ruler of Egypt right under Pharaoh only the throne separated them. Next we see a terrible famine in Canaan and it drove the brothers of Joseph down to Egypt to buy grain for their starving families the only brother that didn't go but stayed behind with their Father Yaakov was Benjamin the

youngest son of Rachel. We then see Joseph set a trap for them to see if they were still just as prideful and deceitful as they were when he was sold into slavery when he was 17. He finds out that they still fight between each other and blame each other in Hebrew even though he can understand them. Joseph then holds Simeon as collateral and sends for his brother Benny...sorry for the little Jewish Joke. The twelve sons return to Canaan with all the money they paid only to return with Benjamin and Jacob had to concede to trusting Yehovah to protect the rest of His sons. Back to Joseph. Joseph has now an Egyptian name by the name of Zaphnath Paaneah ("Then God said, Let Him Live) and He was given a wife by the name of Asenath whose name means She Who belongs to the goddess Neith or it can mean Gift of the sun god). She was a war goddess, goddess of creation, mother goddess who invented birth, and funerary goddess who cared for and helped to dress the souls of the dead. Her cult center was at Sais in the Nile Delta and she continued as the most popular goddess of Lower Egypt even after her attributes were largely given to Isis and Hathor and those goddesses became more popular in Egypt. Neith continued to be honored as the patron goddess of Sais throughout Egypt's history as she was considered a great protector of the people of the land and the most effective mediator between humanity and the gods. The question I want to discuss is how do live a Torah Obedient lifestyle in a family that doesn't follow Torah...that's the million dollar question...How do you navigate the holidays, Kosher, and all of the other things that go along with your Messianic faith and some you I can say your new found Messianic Walk.

Genesis 41:45

1. Yeshua is now temporarily named an Anglicized Gentile name and dressed in Roman or Western clothing. Can the average Christian recognize the Hebraic Yeshua? A lot of Christians don't even know that He was Jewish.
2. Yeshua's Hebraic identity is temporarily hidden from His people and even from Gentiles for that matter.
3. One day the world will recognize Yeshua as the rightful Son of David who will sit on His Throne in Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:10;14).

Genesis 41:45

1. Asenath was the daughter of On who was the Priest of Ra (the sun god). He was the leader of all sun worship of Egypt.
2. Asenath joined the covenant of Abraham through the marriage of Joseph. They probably had a tricky family life too. How would you like to have your father in law as the priest of all sun worship in Egypt? Did he pressure his kids? We don't know. On the other hand how would you like to have a father in law that is Priest of Yehovah in the priesthood of Melchizedek which is the Highest priesthood of all!
3. This comes down to the Scripture that say choose whom today you will serve...either serve Yehovah or serve other gods. The question is how do you navigate these issues...because we have all had these issues before.

Matthew 10:37

1. I start out with this verse first because we need to have a foundation as to why we are to be diligent in our faith.
2. He laid out a plan for us and also a mandate for us to follow. He was very clear if you do not love Him more than your family then you are not worthy of Him. That is very clear cut...Do you love Yeshua more than your family.
3. When we realize that this secret everything else will fall into your place....you won't have to struggle with Shabbat or the Festivals. Why do you do those feast? Those feasts aren't for us anymore because Jesus took care of them when He was here.

Luke 9:62

1. Yeshua paralleled follow him to putting your hand to the plow. He who puts his hand to the plow but looks back is NOT fit for the Kingdom of Elohim!
2. What is looking back? Wavering on the Shabbat, Wavering on the Festivals, compromising with food etc.
3. Looking back could be falling away for the faith all together, becoming lukewarm in your faith of Yeshua, getting to comfortable with the world.

Matthew 10:34-36

1. What happens when you have your family or friends say..."I don't see the big deal if you just go here or celebrate this" After all God knows my heart! That's not what that means

today. How about when Jesus died on the cross that all changed now. Jesus did it all now so don't have to do it!

2. Be prepared for persecution! vs. 36 your enemies will be your very own household. It's not easy being a disciple of Yeshua...He asks for hard things sometimes.
3. If you avoid all of the world's trappings and stick to Yeshua and follow His Torah you will have stayed out of the sun and not get sun burnt! (Revelation 18:4;2 Corinthians 6:17; Isaiah 35:8).

Take Away

1. Yosef was disguised in Egyptian clothing but will eventually be recognized by Israel and the nations.
2. Asenath represents the believer who has come out of sun worship and started following Torah in light of Yeshua.
3. We can live a completely free Messianic Faith if we know how to defend our faith boldly.

Application

1. I will continue to follow Yeshua everyday as I daily walk in Him.
2. Yeshua is the living Torah and we follow Him wherever we go.
3. Just remember you have joined a bigger family as you continue to walk with Yeshua and

follow His commandments....you are not alone!!

Beth Ohr Messianic Congregation

Torah Cycle 2024-2025