<u>Lesson No. 123 – The Seven Parts of ELOHIM's Creation, Part Four</u> (Continued)

Hosted by Donald Croswell December 20, 2019

Part 4 – Moses and the Vineyard of YAHWEH (Continued)

This lesson continues to focus on the fulfillment of the first blessing promised to Abraham, the Vineyard of YAHWEH, that was led out of Egypt by its intercessor, Moses.

Last week we read of the transition from Moses to Yoshua after the Children of Yisrael (COY) crossed over the River Jordan and kept its second Passover observance. We also read of the second mass circumcision of the COY, which clearly confirmed it was a required protocol/commandment to partake in YAHWEH's Passover. All of this prepared us to see how the COY were established as the next phase in ELOHIM's creation.

This continuation will complete Moses' successor while transitioning to YAHWEH's vineyard in the promised land with its judges, its kings, and its prophets.

As the COY prepared to enter into the land flowing with milk and honey, they would meet one of the bravest persons we will read about in ELOHIM's WORD.

- Heb 11:30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days. Heb 11:31 **By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not**, when she had received the spies with peace.
- Jos 2:1 And <u>Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho</u>. And <u>they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab</u>, and lodged there.

• Jos 2:2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of Israel to search out the country. Jos 2:3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country. Jos 2:4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were: Jos 2:5 And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them.

This woman had to know that lying to the king could mean her life.

• Jos 2:6 But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof. Jos 2:7 And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate. Jos 2:8 And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof;

What an act of courage. Now, let's read why she did these actions.

• Jos 2:9 And she said unto the men, <u>I know that the LORD hath given</u> <u>you the land</u>, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. Jos 2:10 For <u>we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you</u>, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that *were* on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. Jos 2:11 And as soon as we had heard *these things*, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for <u>the LORD your God</u>, he *is* God in heaven <u>above</u>, and in earth beneath.

This woman heard of YAHWEH of ELOHIM's feats and believed in HIM and HIS omnipotence. Not only that, she wanted to serve HIM.

Her story sends a message to all of us. The establishment of Abraham's seed in the land flowing with milk and honey was assisted by a non-Yisraelite harlot, as the COY prepared to cross the river Jordan. Unlike the COY that crossed the Red Sea who had actually seen HIS power up close and personal, this woman simply heard of YAHWEH's greatness and acted. This is why, because of her faith, she received a good report with YAHWEH of ELOHIM (Hebrews 11:39) and her name is in the LAMB's Book of Life.

While we will not read all of the story, notice what happened just before the city of Jericho fell to the COY.

• Jos 5:13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?

Yoshua was prepared to fight this man for his people, the people of YAHWEH of ELOHIM. He was in for a great surprise.

• Jos 5:14 And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? Jos 5:15 And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

What does this teach us? Remember how that the angel that was in the burning bush also likewise commanded Moses about the ground where he stood (Exodus 3:3-5)?

Based on a brief study of ELOHIM's WORD, these appear to be the only two times a person faced one of YAHWEH's angels and were commanded to remove their shoes because they were standing on holy ground. Perhaps this was the very same angel, seeing that there were great feats performed in both circumstances. Later in the story of the vineyard of YAHWEH, we read the following:

• 2Ki 6:15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

This host was the Syrian army that sought to capture Elisha because of his counsel to the King of Yisrael. Elisha answered his servant in this manner.

• 2Ki 6:16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. 2Ki 6:17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. 2Ki 6:18 And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

The servant was allowed to see YAHWEH's heavenly host, prepared to do battle. The Household of Faith must understand that this is how ELOHIM, in all HIS omnipotence, protecting HIS servants.

Yoshua was privileged to meet the captain of this heavenly host face to face as YAHWEH was about to give Jericho into his hands. The Household of Faith knows this story. Yoshua was commanded to encircle Jericho with the men of war for six days (Yoshua 6:3). And then.

• Jos 6:4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

Here we see seven priests with seven trumpets that are to blow these seven trumpets on the seventh day, after the men of war have encompassed the city for seven times. These actions may be both prophetic and metaphoric of what will happen as YAHWEH of ELOHIM prepares to redeem this earth from its wicked ways. Here the COY have just been delivered from their affliction in Egypt and are preparing to enter into the land promised to the fathers Abraham, Isaac and Yacob. Let's take a quick look at the future.

• Rev 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Rev 7:15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. Rev 7:16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. Rev 7:17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

This is metaphoric language regarding those who have endured and are now being delivered from the tribulation of spiritual Sodom and Egypt (Revelations 11:8), which is certainly a major form of affliction that will occur on the earth as CHRIST is preparing to return to the earth. There will be seven seals opened. And when the seventh seal is opened, we learn the following:

• Rev 8:1 And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. Rev 8:2 And <u>I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets</u>.

• Rev 8:6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

With the blowing of each of these trumpets, the earth will be further cleansed of the wickedness and filth that has must be cleansed for YESHUA and HIS saints. Men will die (Revelation 8:10-11 and 9:14 and 18). The prophets of YAHWEH gave us details of all of these future events, including the following:

• Zec 10:10 I will bring them again also out of the land of Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria; and I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon; and place shall not be found for them. Zec 10:11 And he shall pass through the sea with affliction, and shall smite the waves in the sea, and all the deeps of the river shall dry up: and the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, and the sceptre of Egypt shall depart away. Zec 10:12 And I will strengthen them in the LORD; and they shall walk up and down in his name, saith the LORD.

It will be at this time that the COY will once again be delivered to return to their ancestral land. So, the seven trumpets blown by the seven priests at Jericho was in part metaphoric of the future deliverance of the COY from spiritual Egypt.

We know that when the priests blew these seven trumpets and the people shouted, the walls of Jericho fell. The city was given into Yoshua's hands and Rahab and her family were spared and delivered. There were other lessons for us to heed in this great story.

• Jos 6:18 And ye, in any wise keep *yourselves* from the accursed thing, lest ye make *yourselves* accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. Jos 6:19 But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, *are* consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.

The COY were commanded to not take any form of accursed items in their triumph. This too is our lesson as we are delivered from our afflictions by ELOHIM. As we have previously learned, Yisrael was and continues to be stubborn.

• Jos 7:11 <u>Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff. Jos 7:12 <u>Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies</u>, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you.</u>

Is it any wonder why the COY in modernity, as a nation scattered amongst the nations, cannot stand before these nations? Is it because it has immersed itself into the things amongst these nations that are "accursed" before YAHWEH of ELOHIM in modernity?

In the very next battle at Ai, the COY were defeated because of this before Yoshua could correct it.

• Jos 7:19 And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide *it* not from me. Jos 7:20 And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done: Jos 7:21 When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they *are* hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.

This is how the story of the YAHWEH's vineyard began. Sadly, even until this day in modernity, the COY have not learned the lessons of its past.

The commandments given to the COY as it approached Jericho could not have been clearer. This teaches us how YAHWEH desires each of us to walk, free of the accursed things all about us in this world. This is why we have been given HIS appointed times (Leviticus 23rd chapter), to teach and strengthen us in times of temptations, to help us remove the leavenous and accursed thoughts and acts for the seasons of life. HE does not want this to plague HIS people. Achan paid a terrible price.

• Jos 7:25 And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones.

It is interesting that after they were stoned, they were also burned with fire. It appears that all trace of them had to be removed from memory as if they had never existed.

As Joshua and the COY continued on their journey we read of interesting moments, such as what happened when the King of Yerushalem conspired with four other kings to punish the city of Gibeon for making a treaty of peace with the COY. Yoshua learned of this and came to Gibeon's rescue.

• Jos 10:12 Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. Jos 10:13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day. Jos 10:14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel.

We have read how YAHWEH fights for HIS people.

These five kings were found hiding in a cave and hung on a tree after Yoshua prayed to suspend the normal acts of the sun and the moon. Finally, we read the following about how Yoshua and the COY were given the land.

• Jos 12:7 And these are the kings of the country which Joshua and the children of Israel smote on this side Jordan on the west, from Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon even unto the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir; which Joshua gave unto the tribes of Israel for a possession according to their divisions; Jos 12:8 In the mountains, and in the valleys, and in the plains, and in the springs, and in the wilderness, and in the south country; the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites:

In total, there were thirty-one kings smote by Yoshua and the COY. Eventually, all of the tribes of the COY except for Levi were assigned and distributed their allotments of the land.

As I was preparing this lesson something came to my attention regard Yoseph and his two sons Ephraim and Manasseh We previously read the prophecy regarding Yoseph's sons (Genesis 48th chapter) that has become so controversial in modernity. One of the sons was to become a great people and the other a multitude of nations. Most of our European Brethren have been taught, and so teach others that these prophesies have been fulfilled in modernity through the greatness of Great Britain and the United States of America. This is what I noticed.

- Jos 17:14 And the children of Joseph spake unto Joshua, saying, Why hast thou given me but one lot and one portion to inherit, seeing I am a great people, forasmuch as the LORD hath blessed me hitherto?
- Jos 17:16 And the children of Joseph said, The hill is not enough for us: and all the Canaanites that dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both they who are of Bethshean and her towns, and they who are of the valley of Jezreel.

• Jos 17:17 And <u>Joshua spake unto the house of Joseph</u>, *even* to <u>Ephraim and to Manasseh</u>, saying, Thou *art* a great people, and <u>hast great power: thou shalt not have one lot *only*:</u>

These verses teach us that there were special considerations given to Yoseph and his two sons. As such, it appears probable that their prophecy may have been fulfilled when they were assigned their allotments in the land. One thing is for certain, we will learn that once the COY were scattered throughout the nations, there is no prophecy of them becoming a great people or a multitude of nations in the lands wherein they will be scattered.

Now, once Yoshua had accomplished his commission before YAHWEH, the COY settled into their new land and were prepared to enter into the times of its judges.

- Jos 24:1 And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.
- Jos 24:19 And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he *is* an holy God; he *is* a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. Jos 24:20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good. Jos 24:21 And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the LORD.
- Jos 24:25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

Once again, the COY vowed to obey YAHWEH of ELOHIM. And yet, after Yoshua's death the COY broke their covenant.

• Jdg 2:11 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim:

Jdg 2:12 And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger. Jdg And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth. Jdg 2:14 And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies. Jdg 2:15 Whithersoever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed. Jdg 2:16 Nevertheless the LORD raised up judges, which delivered them out of the hand of those that spoiled them. Jdg 2:17 And yet they would not hearken unto their judges, but they went a whoring after other gods, and bowed themselves unto them: they turned quickly out of the way which their fathers walked in, obeying the commandments of the LORD; but they did not so. Jdg 2:18 And when the LORD raised them up judges, then the LORD was with the judge, and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge: for it repented the LORD because of their groanings by reason of them that oppressed them and vexed them. Jdg 2:19 And it came to pass, when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them; they ceased not from their own doings, nor from their stubborn way.

As we conclude Part 4 – Moses and the Vineyard of YAHWEH, we sadly will read how that despite YAHWEH's ongoing attempts to persuade this vineyard to follow in HIS commandments, they will choose to whore after the gods of the nations about them. In YAHWEH's mercy and compassion, HE raised up judge after judge to protect and guide them back to HIM.

Amongst these judges we can read of Deborah in the 4th chapter, delivering them from the Canaanites. There was the sword of Gideon. Gideon was called upon to deliver Yisrael from the Mideonites. He assembled an army.

• Jdg 7:2 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that *are* with thee *are* too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.

The army he assembled was too great. YAHWEH wanted the glory and only allowed Gideon 300 men, whom he divided into 3 groups, on hundred each.

• Jdg 7:19 So Gideon, and the hundred men that *were* with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that *were* in their hands. Jdg 7:20 And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow *withal:* and they cried, **The sword of the LORD, and of Gideon**. Jdg 7:21 And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

There was Jephthah in the 11th chapter, who made a vow that caused his daughter to live out her life never knowing a man. This is why ELOHIM' WORD throughout warns us of making vows, particularly if we cannot or will not honor our vows.

Of course, there was Samson in chapters 13-16, who judged the COY 20 years, and defeated the Philistines. There was Ruth the Moabite and her husband Boaz, the great grandparents of David. And we finally have Samuel, called as a child to serve a valuable commission, as the second and third phase of the establishment of the COY was implemented. Samuel was both a judge and a prophet.

• 1Sa 3:19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. 1Sa 3:20 And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel *was* established *to be* a prophet of the LORD. 1Sa 3:21 And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the LORD

It was during this period that the Philistines took the ark of the covenant (4th chapter) before realizing its power and returning it (5th chapter). Samuel grew in statute.

• 1Sa 7:1 And the men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched up the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD. 1Sa 7:2 And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjathjearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD. 1Sa 7:3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines. 1Sa 7:4 Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.

So, for a moment, the COY seemed to have come to their senses. And then, they rejected their true KING, just as they do even until this day, even though they sing wonderful songs of the season about the KING.

• 1Sa 8:4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, 1Sa 8:5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. 1Sa 8:6 But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD.

• 1Sa 8:7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

They rejected YAHWEH of ELOHIM, their true KING, so that they could be like the other nations.

• 1Sa 8:8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. 1Sa 8:9 Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.

Samuel did as he was commanded by YAHWEH, and Saul, a Benyamite, was selected by YAHWEH. Consider this for a moment. Saul was a Benyamite. Remember, it was prophesied that the scepter shall not depart from the tribe of Yehudah.

• 1Sa 13:8 And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel *had appointed:* but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. 1Sa 13:9 And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering. 1Sa 13:10 And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. 1Sa 13:11 And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and *that* thou camest not within the days appointed, and *that* the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash; 1Sa 13:12 Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.

• 1Sa 13:13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel forever. 1Sa 13:14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him *to be* captain over his people, because thou hast not kept *that* which the LORD commanded thee.

As we read about Saul, his rule didn't last very long and he had to be removed. Perhaps Saul was chosen by YAHWEH only to fulfill what HE instructed Samuel to tell the COY as they rejected HIM.

• 1Sa 8:10 And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king. 1Sa 8:11 And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. 1Sa 8:12 And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. 1Sa 8:13 And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. 1Sa 8:14 And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive yards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. 1Sa 8:15 And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. 1Sa 8:16 And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. 1Sa 8:17 He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants. 1Sa 8:18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day.

Tis was what the COY's request to be like the other nations would yield them.

As Samuel's life was coming to an end, he spoke these words.

- 1Sa 12:20 And Samuel said unto the people, Fear not: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart; 1Sa 12:21 And turn ye not aside: for *then should ye go* after vain *things*, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they *are* vain. 1Sa 12:22 For the LORD will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people.
- 1Sa 12:24 Only <u>fear the LORD</u>, and serve him in truth with all <u>your heart</u>: for consider how great *things* he hath done for you. 1Sa 12:25 <u>But if ye shall still do wickedly</u>, <u>ye shall be consumed</u>, <u>both ye and your king</u>.

Such a grave warning. It was by Samuel that we first learn one of the most hidden and misunderstood facts of ELOHIM's WORD. Verse 22 teaches that it pleased YAHWEH to make the COY HIS people. And in so doing, HE placed HIS name in them. This is the first Biblical reference to "HIS name's sake". Samuel encourages them to repent of their wickedness, for YAHWEH would not forsake them. However, Samuel now had to anoint another king. And a valuable lesson is learned here for those who choose to see. This would lead to David, of the tribe of Yehudah, being selected King of Yisrael.

• 1Sa 16:11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all *thy* children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. 1Sa 16:12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he *was* ruddy, *and* withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this *is* he. 1Sa 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

David was a Yehudan, of whom the Apostle Paul had this to say.

• Act 13:22 And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found **David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will**.

David is now anointed as the king of Yisrael. The Spirit of YAHWEH came upon HIM. What is this Spirit of YAHWEH?

• 1Sa 16:14 But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him. 1Sa 16:15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee. 1Sa 16:16 Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well.

So, we have the Spirit of YAHWEH coming upon David and leaving Saul, while at the same time, an evil spirit from ELOHIM began to trouble Saul. This evil spirit replaces the Spirit of YAHWEH. We know that an evil spirit is also referred to as a demon. Later, we see this drama play out with King Ahab.

• 1Ki 22:19 And he said, Hear thou therefore the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left. 1Ki 22:20 And the LORD said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner. 1Ki 22:21 And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will persuade him. 1Ki 22:22 And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so.

• 1Ki 22:23 Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil concerning thee.

Based on what we are reading, it certainly appears that during the days of the kings of Yisrael, there was clarity on what these spirits were. Modernity has seen the age when much of the contents of ELOHIM's WORD is not taught, and, often is not believed even when it is taught.

Now, we know the story of the next two kings of Yisrael, David and Solomon. David, a man after YAHWEH's own heart, was a warrior. We know of his survival of Saul's attempts to kill him. We know of his valor against Goliath and the Philistines. He also had many wives. Yet, he also took Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite, and covered it up by sending her husband to the front of the battle to be killed. She became with child. Nathan the prophet let David know that YAHWEH was disappointed in him. The child was killed. And as David reigned, there was constant strife between his sons Absalom and Amnor. Absalom killed Amnor and wanted to kill David. David was then moved by YAHWEH because HE was angry at Yisrael.

• 2Sa 24:1 And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah.

Now, there is a lesson for us in all that ELOHIM's WORD provides. Here YAHWEH moved David against the COY. ELOHIM's WORD also teaches how that YAHWEH accomplished this.

• 1Ch 21:1 And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

Here we learn that Satan, the foremost of all the evil spirits stood up against Yisrael and provoked David to number Yisrael.

We now see how that YAHWEH of ELOHIM used Satan to accomplish HIS desire to move David against Yisrael to number them. Satan was commanded to do this so that YAHWEH of ELOHIM could accomplish the following.

• 1Ch 21:7 And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel. 1Ch 21:8 And David said unto God, I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing: but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

We read David's same sentiments in 2 Samuel.

• 2Sa 24:10 And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

He didn't immediately understand that YAHWEH caused him to do this in order to punish Yisrael. David was given three choices of punishment and chose pestilence.

• 2Sa 24:15 So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beersheba seventy thousand men. 2Sa 24:16 And when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD was by the threshing place of Araunah the Jebusite. 2Sa 24:17 And David spake unto the LORD when he saw the angel that smote the people, and said, Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly: but these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, be against me, and against my father's house.

In this time of modernity, many in the Household of Faith fail to recognize or accept how ELOHIM shows HIS omnipotent power through HIS angels.

David was a very repentant king. We know of the Psalms of David, which showcase him not only as a psalmist, but also as a prophet of YAHWEH. His prophesies will be very important as we discuss Part 5 next week.

• 1Ki 2:1 Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying, 1Ki 2:2 I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man; 1Ki 2:3 And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself: 1Ki 2:4 That the LORD may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.

These were David's words to Solomon upon his death. He will play a prominent role in the history of the COY even after his death.

Now, we have all read and/or heard the stories that describe both the wisdom and of the wealth of Solomon, and how he built the first temple before YAHWEH. We know that he gained great favor of YAHWEH by only requesting wisdom from HIM.

• 1Ki 10:23 So king Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth for riches and for wisdom. 1Ki 10:24 And all the earth sought to Solomon, to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart.

We ofttimes receive ELOHIM's rich material blessings and forget from whence came these blessings through disobedience. After receiving this great wealth and wisdom, we read the following: • 1Ki 11:1 But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; 1Ki 11:2 Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods:

Even in modernity, I have known those who have stood in their faith while being married to spouses they were spiritually unevenly yoked. However, this can result in our becoming as Solomon.

• Solomon clave unto these in love. 1Ki 11:3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. 1Ki 11:4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, *that* his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as *was* the heart of David his father.

And here is the vital lesson from Solomon about understanding what is accursed unto ELOIHIM.

• 1Ki 11:5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 1Ki 11:6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. 1Ki 11:7 Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. 1Ki 11:8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

Wow! Every time I read this I'm dismayed. This was the beginning of Yisrael's fall in the land flowing with milk and honey.

• 1Ki 11:33 Because that they have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon, and have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in mine eyes, and to keep my statutes and my judgments, as did David his father. 1Ki 11:34 Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes: 1Ki 11:35 But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten tribes. 1Ki 11:36 And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there. 1Ki 11:37 And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel.

Here we see that after Solomon's reign, YAHWEH promised to split the Nation into two kingdoms, the House of Yisrael and the House of Judah (Yehudah). The House of Yisrael was actually given nine tribes, while the House of Yehudah was given three tribes(Yehudah, Benyamin and the majority of Levy). This division remains even until this day. Also, even though both still possessed the land given it, in spirit they were still nothing but sojourner nations. Why? Neither house appeared to ever grasp its calling to become a priest nation.

We need to take a step back to see what caused YAHWEH of ELOHIM so much anger with this nation as compared to the other sinful nations of the earth. Consider this, between the 2 kingdoms there were a total of 39 kings (1 was a queen) after the reign of Solomon. Only 9 (23%) of these 39 kings (including the 1 queen) were obedient to YAHWEH. That's only 23% obedience! The prophets that YAHWEH raised up during the times of these kings would tell us all that we needed to understand about these amazing statistics. Of HIS prophets, YAHWEH had this to say.

• Amo 3:6 Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it? Amo 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. Amo 3:8 The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?

In verse 7, the Prophet Amos teaches us of one of the primary commissions of the prophets of Yisrael. If these words were taught sufficiently, much of the differences we have today would not exist. So important to any discussion of the parts of ELOHIM's creation as it relates to YAHWEH's vineyard were the prophets, beginning with Isaiah.

• Isa 1:3 The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider. Isa 1:4 Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

Verse 3 is such a powerful testimony of the state of the COY. YAHWEH compares the COY to beasts of burden, who know their owner and their master's crib. Sadly, these two verses sum up the story of the COY, as they resided in the land flowing with milk and honey. They were created by YAHWEH of ELOHIM. HE gave them their name. HE gave them a choice land and protected them from their enemies. And yet, the ox and the ass were considered smarter that the COY. Its prophets constantly cried out for their repentance while predicting in absolute unison the consequences. It was a prophet of YAHWEH that taught us the following:

• Isa 46:9 Remember the former things of old: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else; *I am* God, and *there is* none like me, Isa 46:10 **Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times** *the things* **that are not** *yet* **done**, saying, **My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure**:

YAHWEH of ELOHIM has declared to the Household of Faith the end from the beginning. Remember how we learned recently how there is a faction within the Household of Faith that does not accept that the COY will again implement the law of sacrifices when it is gathered from the nations where they are scattered today? Well, it was YAHWEH of ELOHIM who gave the Prophet Ezekiel those predictions beginning with Ezekiel's chapters 37 through 48. That is a lot of declaration to somehow determine that it will not happen, as written, because of the blood of the MESSIAH. Well, shouldn't "called-out ones know beyond a shadow of doubt that it is ONLY the Household of Faith that will under the blood of the LAMB of ELOHIM at that time?

We remember that the Prophet King David informed how that the two members of the family of ELOHIM took "sweet counsel together" (Psalms 55:14) to create this plan of salvation. Did they somehow lie or make a mistake? In verse 10, the Prophet Isaiah was led to inform us that ELOHIM's counsel shall stand. In the midst of the rebellion of the COY from its beginning until its future end, our responsibility in modernity is to believe in and have faith in ELOHIM's counsel, which YAHWEH of ELOHIM has made known to us in the entirety of ELOHIM's WORD.

• Isa 46:11 Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, <u>I have spoken it</u>, <u>I will also bring it to pass</u>; <u>I have purposed it</u>, <u>I will also do it</u>. Isa 46:12 Hearken unto me, ye stouthearted, that *are* far from righteousness: Isa 46:13 I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and <u>I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory</u>.

These are messages for all times, especially to us in modernity. The COY in modernity, who sing and play these wonderful sounding songs of this season, have no clue how far they are from righteousness. Yet, it is right in their face. This reference to salvation is full of duality, because YAHWEH will bring the COY back to Zion in a form of physical salvation.

At the same time, we will read how HE will resurrect HIS saints and bring them to Zion in a form of spiritual salvation.

The prophets tell us all that we need to know to truly understand ELOHIM's WORD, like the identification of YAHWEH's vineyard.

- Isa 5:1 Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: Isa 5:2 And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.
- Isa 5:5 And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; *and* break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down: Isa 5:6 And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briers and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. Isa 5:7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

This prophecy by the Prophet Isaiah identifies the vineyard of YAHWEH and teaches us its fate. It will not be pruned because it produced wild grapes.

This is incredulous. Yet these are the cold-hearted facts. There really is no further discussion or explanation needed here to confirm the futile stupidity of a people promised and shown such greatness as may have never existed before. Over and over this people consistently turned their backs on YAHWEH, who over and over showed mercy unto them. That is, until he had had enough.

• Isa 8:1 Moreover the LORD said unto me, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen concerning Mahershalalhashbaz.

• Isa 8:2 And I took unto me faithful witnesses to record, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah. Isa 8:3 And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the LORD to me, Call his name Mahershalalhashbaz. Isa 8:4 For before the child shall have knowledge to cry, My father, and my mother, the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria shall be taken away before the king of Assyria.

Samaria was the capital of the nine tribes of the Kingdom of Yisrael. Yerushalem was the capital of the three tribes of the Kingdom of Yehudah. In the Hebrew, Mahershalalhashbaz basically means "swift is the booty, speedy is the prey". The Prophet is prophesying of the capture of the booty, Samaria, by the Assyrians who will prey upon them.

- 2Ki 17:6 In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor *by* the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.
- 2Ki 17:20 And the LORD rejected all the seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight. 2Ki 17:21 For he rent Israel from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drave Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a great sin. 2Ki 17:22 For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them; 2Ki 17:23 Until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day.

This is what YAHWEH caused the Prophet Isaiah to "call the end from the beginning". And regarding verse 23, "unto this day" is not referring to today in modernity. We know that Assyria was also punished and many of those Yisraelites scattered, even though as we shall see, a remnant will remain there until YESHUA returns a future second time.

One would think that while all of this was happening to the Kingdom of Yisrael, the Kingdom of Yehudah would think wow, this could happen to me as well. Assyria in its arrogance would also come up against Yehudah. We remember how that the Assyrians settled into Samaria, worshipping their own gods until YAHWEH sent lions there, and the Assyrians had to bring back a priest of Yisrael to teach them YAHWEH's commandments (2 Kings 17:4-27). And then YAHWEH taught Assyria a lesson when it came up against Yehudah.

- 2Ki 19:5 So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah. 2Ki 19:6 And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say to your master, Thus saith the LORD, Be not afraid of the words which thou hast heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.
- 2Ki 19:15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth. 2Ki 19:16 LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God. 2Ki 19:17 Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands, 2Ki 19:18 And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them. 2Ki 19:19 Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God, even thou only.
- 2Ki 19:32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it. 2Ki 19:33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD.

• 2Ki 19:34 For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. 2Ki 19:35 And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses. 2Ki 19:36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh. 2Ki 19:37 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

YAHWEH answered Hezekiah's prayer of protection from the Assyrians. And as HIS custom was and is, YAHWEH sent HIS angel to accomplish HIS will. However, it would not be long before the Kingdom of Yehudah will also be punished in like manner.

• 2Ki 25:1 And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, in the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he, and all his host, against Jerusalem, and pitched against it; and they built forts against it round about. 2Ki 25:2 And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah. 2Ki 25:3 And on the ninth day of the fourth month the famine prevailed in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land. 2Ki 25:4 And the city was broken up, and all the men of war *fled* by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden: (now the Chaldees were against the city round about:) and the king went the way toward the plain. 2Ki 25:5 And the army of the Chaldees pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho: and all his army were scattered from him. 2Ki 25:6 So they took the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon to Riblah; and they gave judgment upon him. 2Ki 25:7 And they slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Babylon.

• 2Ki 25:8 And in the fifth month, on the seventh *day* of the month, which *is* the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem: 2Ki 25:9 And he burnt the house of the LORD, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem, and every great *man's* house burnt he with fire. 2Ki 25:10 And all the army of the Chaldees, that *were with* the captain of the guard, brake down the walls of Jerusalem round about. 2Ki 25:11 Now the rest of the people *that were* left in the city, and the fugitives that fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carry away.

This would prompt another of Yisrael's prophets to write the following:

• Jer 50:17 <u>Israel is a scattered sheep; the lions have driven him</u> away: first the king of Assyria hath devoured him; and last this <u>Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath broken his bones</u>. Jer 50:18 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, as I have punished the king of Assyria. Jer 50:19 <u>And I will bring Israel again</u> to his habitation, and he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan, and his soul shall be satisfied upon mount Ephraim and Gilead. Jer 50:20 In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found: for I will pardon them whom I reserve.

These words serve as a lesson of the COY's end in the land of milk and honey, and their eventual restoration to the land of milk and honey.

However, the prophets would teach us also of that phase of ELOHIM's creation that must occur before the COY shall be returned to their land. And as usual, the Prophet Isaiah first foretells it.

• Isa 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isa 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

The Prophet let's us know that there is a phase between Yehudah's capture by Babylon and YAHWEH's plan to actually sit on the throne of David. A child of great importance must be born while the COY are removed from their land. We know that there was a remnant of the House of Yehudah that was returned to the. It was amongst this remnant that this child will be born. Another prophet spoke of this.

• Mic 5:1 Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek. Mic 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Mic 5:3 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel. Mic 5:4 And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

The Prophet Isaiah spoke of this.

• Isa 42:1 <u>Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles</u>.

- Isa 42:2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. Isa 42:3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. Isa 42:4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.
- Isa 42:6 I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; Isa 42:7 To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.
- Isa 53:1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? Isa 53:2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, *there is* no beauty that we should desire him.

These verses speak to the next part of ELOHIM's creation.

- Psa 132:8 Arise, O LORD, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength. Psa 132:9 Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy. Psa 132:10 For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed. Psa 132:11 The LORD hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.
- Psa 132:17 There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed. Psa 132:18 His enemies will I clothe with shame: but upon himself shall his crown flourish.

And finally, it was a prophet that spoke specifically how this transition would occur.

Mal 3:1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. Mal 3:2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: Mal 3:3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. Mal 3:4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years. Mal 3:5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

YAHWEH will send a messenger to prepare HIS coming to the remnant to purify HIS message to HIS people. This message has become so polarizing, even within the Household of Faith, as we shall read next week.

As we close Part Four, I want to share something. This study is occurring while the world all about us is full of revelry. Why are we all here reading the words we are reading? I believe that it is because we have this one thing in common. We believe in ELOHIM's WORD. Here we have read of the COY's lukewarmness towards YAHWEH of ELOHIM.

As I was preparing this lesson, I was listening to my favorite jazz station, which showcases the beautiful musical talents of the descendants of slavery, and I heard a jazzy version of the First Noel. As I heard that song, I was hit with an epiphany. Hearing it as I was writing about YAHWEH's vineyard really struck me. The song states "born is the king of Yisrael". I wondered, is there anyone that loves this song that understands what they are singing?

If the subject of their song was born as the King of Yisrael, why haven't they and why don't they observe the commandments the KING of Yisrael gave to the COY.

Yes, I know that there is a lot of ignorance, and yet, as I listened, I was simply saddened because of what is written of in ELOHIM's WORD. Before Moses died, the COY were given both blessings and curses in the 28th chapter of Deuteronomy. In verses 64 thru 68 Moses describes how the COY would be taken again into Egypt, by ships. This is metaphoric of the nations in which they would become scattered, where they would serve other gods which their fathers did not know. We will read where the COY remain I this scattered state today in modernity.

As we got to the judges of the COY, we continually read of the disobedience and then we read of the same level of disobedience under the kings of the COY. Eventually, we know that the curses were placed upon this vineyard. It is with even deeper sadness that the COY of modernity have assimilated into the cultures of these nations, wherein we are scattered and accept these nations' gods, rather than YAHWEH of ELOHIM, rejecting the very one that they sing so magnificently about.

We will grow in our understanding of this KING who came to restore us back to ELOHIM in Part 5.

Shalom!