

Ekev (Because)

Deuteronomy 7:12-15. "Because you are listening (or as a result-Ekev) to these rulings, keeping and obeying them, ADONAI your God will keep with you the covenant and mercy that he swore to your ancestors. ¹³ He will love you, bless you and increase your numbers; he will also bless the fruit of your body and the fruit of your ground - your grain, wine, olive oil and the young of your cattle and sheep - in the land he swore to your ancestors that he would give you. ¹⁴ You will be blessed more than all other peoples; there will not be a sterile male or female among you, and the same with your livestock. ¹⁵ ADONAI will remove all illness from you - he will not afflict you with any of Egypt's dreadful diseases, which you have known; instead, he will lay them on those who hate you.

Israel's compliance and obedience to God's mitzvah's and commands ushers in a great, supernatural blessing upon both the people and the land! Israel experiences explosive fruitfulness in the Land!!! No household will suffer bareness or lack grain, oil, cattle, or sheep, and they will experience great wealth! Supper obedience multiplies God's blessings beyond belief. The dreadful disease that afflicted Israel while enslaved in Egypt will not touch us if we are obedient to God and His Mitzvot's!

Obedience transforms the nature of the moral universe. All creation was created in and serves God's Glory. Obedience thereby removes all illness from among them (99% of all illness is sin related) not one will be afflicted with Egypt's dreadful diseases if obedient to God. If we had one generation of monogamist relationships ALL thirty plus Sexual Transmitted Disease would be gone!

We also witness obedience with other well-known figures such as Abraham, Moses, and God Himself. In the story of the Akedah, the binding of Isaac, where Abraham is instructed to offer his only son whom he loves, Isaac, unto God as a sacrifice in Genesis 22 Abraham uses a very curious phrase when God first called to him:

Genesis 22:1. After these things, God tested Avraham. He said to him, "Avraham!" and he answered, "Here I am." "**Hineni**"

Here I am in Hebrew is "Hineni". English does not properly translate this complex Hebrew phrase which means readiness, alertness, attentiveness, receptivity, responsiveness and obedience to instruction. Moses replies in the same exact manner when God called out to Him from the burning bush:

Exodus 3:4. When ADONAI saw that he had gone over to see, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moshe! Moshe!" He answered, "Here I am."

And in a very interesting twist, Adonai Himself uses this term numerous times in Isaiah to both Jews and Gentiles:

Isaiah 65:1. "I made myself accessible to those who didn't ask for me, I let myself be found by those who didn't seek me. I said, 'Here I am! Here I am!' (**Hineni-Hineni**) to a nation not called by my name.

Adonai positively responds in the same fashion to our obedience, both Jew and Gentile, with His own readiness, alertness, attentiveness, receptivity, and responsiveness. We will reap as we sow in the Kingdom of God! Hineni serves as the foundational key in our relationship with God! Hineni must be our answer unto Him when He speaks to us, when he calls upon us! We must be postured, ready, alert, attentive, receptive, responsive and obedient when He calls upon us but we must be aware that He has a specific call, a specific destiny for us-a Royal Priesthood which began with Israel (to the Jew first) in:

Exodus 19:5-6. (TLV) Now then, if you listen closely to My voice, and keep My covenant, then you will be My own treasure **(Segulah: Private property of the King, treasure, a thing of extreme value)** from among all people, for all the earth is Mine. ⁶ So as for you, you will be to Me a kingdom of kohanim and a holy nation.' These are the words which you are to speak to Bnei-Yisrael."

Shema is to Hear, to listen (Many, many people hear but they don't listen. Listening is a character trait the must be developed in our life, particularly regarding the voice and word of the Adonai), pay attention, heed, to understand, willing to obey by deed, by action, to respond to Adonai in deed, by action to do Adonai's will, Mitzvahs, and instructions! If we do this, we will be His own special treasure, Segulah!

Adonai owns the cattle on a thousand hills; He created all and owns all things! The Kingdom belongs to the King! If we, Israel accept His covenant promise He will cherish us because of His unique, personal, intimate relationship us, His special treasure! If we obey His covenant, if we Shema, we will be His kingdom of kohanim (Priests) and a holy nation!

The "Kingdom" is an organized community (Kehila), a major territorial unit, a theocracy form of government headed by a king; the eternal kingship of God; the realm in which God's will is fulfilled. The King's (Adonai's) sovereignty is absolute. Sovereignty is possessing, retaining supreme power, one that exercises supreme authority, the acknowledged leader. God is sovereign!

Cohanim is Hebrew for priest. A principal officer, chief ruler, priest-king such as Melchizedek a foreshadow of Messiah Yeshua. Levitical priests, priests of T'zadock, Aaronic priests, direct descendants of Aaron who are the high priest by birthright. We must look back to the beginning to define and understand exactly what a priest was and is. Adonai Himself chose the tribe of Levi to serve as priests in Israel, ministering to Him in the tabernacle and later, the temple.

The Levites, priests were viewed as belonging to Adonai, set apart, considered holy.

Numbers 3:12. (TLV) "See, I have taken the Levites from among Bnei-Yisrael in place of the firstborn who open the womb among Bnei-Yisrael. The Levites will be Mine,"

Adonai took from among the first born of Israel the Levites to be His own! Yet His words in Exodus 19:6 states ALL Israel would be a Kingdom of Priests, His own special treasure, an entire nation set apart for this very purpose! But what is the purpose of a priest, what are the duties, what does it mean to minister unto Him? Numbers 1 states the Levites were to maintain care for the Tabernacle and Temple! Set it up, take it down prepare the oil for the menorah, the Matzah for the Table of Shew bread, and make and burn the incense for the altar and perform the sacrifices and place them on the Altar!

The Levites also provided musical accompaniment, worship along with the sacrifices, vocally and with musical instruments. They also acted as gate keepers and guards. Levites also served a role as teachers, as spiritual examples through their relationship with Adonai! Therefore, the service of the Levite is service in the spirit. The Levites throughout history were able to rise to the occasion to fight for biblical, Kingdom, truth and values when required, as in the case of Hanukkah where they led the Jewish struggle against Greek, Hellenistic influence.

What's not scripturally mentioned regarding Levitical duties and responsibilities are religion, rituals, dogma, or any other institutionalized religious practice. We're simply commanded to submit to and obey Adonai's word, not rewrite it, altar it, ignore it, or proclaim half of it's done away with! There is no command for the Levites to make up their own denominational rituals, practices, holidays, or religion! They were to be obedient and do what Adonai instructed, commanded and be loyal unto Him alone! Yet some become involved in idolatry, the extreme admiration, love, reverence, and excessive devotion of anything else vice Adonai! Ezekiel records that some Levites had failed in their duties, straying, apostatizing from Adonai, many had fallen into Ba'al worship:

Ezekiel 44:10-12. "'Rather, the L'vi'im, who went far away from me when Isra'el went astray, going astray after their idols - they will bear the consequences of their guilt, ¹¹ but they are to serve in my sanctuary. They will have charge of the gates of the house and of serving in the house; they will slaughter the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people; and they will attend and serve them. ¹² Because they served them in the presence of their idols and became an occasion of sin for the house of Isra'el, I am raising my hand against them,' says Adonai ELOHIM, 'and they will bear the consequences of their guilt.

This is a strong rebuke from Adonai directed towards the Levites had acted wickedly in the sanctuary. The Lord says that they will be removed from their ministerial duties and not allowed to approach Him in a priestly role. Essentially,

the Lord is purging the priesthood of those who have defiled their holy office through their sinful actions. And He is doing so today!

Adonai's actions here serve as a powerful reminder of the importance of purity and holiness in serving God. The priesthood held significant responsibility in representing the people before God, offering sacrifices, and maintaining the sanctity of the temple. Those who were found to be engaging in sinful behavior were not only dishonoring themselves but also bringing shame upon the sacred office they held.

The Lord's decree here reinforces the message that God expects those who serve Him to do so with integrity, righteousness, and reverence. Furthermore, the cleansing of the priesthood described in Ezekiel can also serve as a reminder to each individual believer today. We are called to examine our own lives, repent of any sin, and strive for holiness in our service to Him. Adonai demands purity in the priesthood in Ezekiel's time and desires the same purity and dedication from all His followers throughout history today. This verse serves as a call to personal and corporate holiness, reminding us that God requires integrity and faithfulness in those who serve Him.

The Levites will bear the consequences for their guilt, but Adonai will keep His covenant with them, they will still serve in His house and serve the people but will not serve or minister in the Presence of Adonai Himself!! This is a strong word of caution, a warning for clergy, congregation leaders, ministries today who continue to stray, who are in apostasy from Adonai! Adonai is profoundly speaking today but very few are listening. God is sovereignly moving in these dark days of trials and tribulations! He has clearly spoken in many places His desire for restoration, for the salvation of His people Israel, for Jew and Gentile reconciliation! For the Church to align itself with the Messianic Movement, Messianic Jews and start walking out the One New Man, One New Humanity of Ephesians 2:15! It's our mandate as a congregation!

Adonai is sovereignly moving in an apostolic, end time movement within the greater body today! It started with the modern reemergence of the Messianic Movement! We are years into this! Lou Engle, an international intercessory prayer warrior profoundly shared at the 2018 Messiah Conference a prophetic shift of restoration to the Messianic movement and the salvation of all Israel! Many Pastors have had and are having supernatural God encounters, open visions, slain by the spirit, directly communicating with Adonai and Yeshua! What's shocking is that not all are being obedient to what Adonai is sharing and commanding! Can we imagine Sha'ul's Road to Damascus Encounter then hearing a few years later he quit the ministry? Time and time again I have patiently watched as God has given revelation, mandates to church leaders, even mega churches who either reject it or try to put this new wine revelation into old, religious wine skins which won't work! We must comprehend and understand that this was Adonai's plan and desire 2,000 years ago and still is today to include the Gentiles along with our Jewish people:

Ephesians 2:13-15. But now, you who were once far off have been brought near through the shedding of the Messiah's blood. ¹⁴ For he himself is our shalom - he has made us both one and has broken down the m'chitzah which divided us ¹⁵ by destroying in his own body the enmity occasioned by the Torah, with its commands set forth in the form of ordinances. He did this in order to create in union with himself from the two groups a single new **(kainos {kahee-nos'}: new, recently made, fresh, recent, unprecedented, unheard of)** humanity **(Anthropos {anth'-ro-pos}: a human being, whether male or female, generically, to include all human individuals)** and thus make shalom,

The course of human history has been profoundly shaped and driven by culture and language, which have acted as the primary lenses through which societies have understood themselves, interacted with others, and established their identities over time.

Throughout human history, societies have developed distinct cultural systems—sets of shared beliefs, values, norms, and practices—that have often led to separation and interaction between groups. These cultural boundaries have influenced political organization, economic systems, religious beliefs, and artistic expression. These cultural frameworks have persisted, evolved, or clashed, shaping the course of history. Here in Ephesians two Adonai says no more division, no more barriers!

Adonai sent His son Yeshua Who died, who shed His blood to make us, Jew and Gentile, all these various cultures, echad, one! He created in union with Himself from the only true two people groups in the world Jew and Gentile a kainos, a new, fresh, unheard of Anthropos-humanity, both male and female! What I've experienced and seen is a sovereign move of Adonai who is pouring out this One New Humanity mandate, this mantel, upon the Body of Messiah to restore and realign it with the Kingdom, to bring about the salvation of Israel the land and people! Yet many have rejected His prophetic and written word to maintain the religious institutions made by man vice God! Those who do receive this often attempt to place this new wine, this New Humanity into the old wine skin, the Church model which won't work as Yeshua said:

Matthew 9:17. Nor do people put new wine in old wineskins; if they do, the skins burst, the wine spills and the wineskins are ruined. No, they pour new wine into freshly prepared wineskins, and in this way both are preserved."

We must become the new wine skin, the Kainos Anthropos, the New Humanity! We are in a time period of a radical paradigm shift IN THE BODY OF MESSIAH, a major shift in the spirit realm the likes of which we haven't seen, witnessed or experienced since the outpouring of the Ruach HaKodesh on Shavuot 2,000 years ago! We are at ground zero, the One New Humanity prayer here at our founding! Jamestown! The harbingers of Isaiah 9 unfold in New York because it was our first capitol! If the church doesn't receive this, if it doesn't transform itself, it

will be in direct disobedience of Adonai, of Yeshua as Eze; 44 states, they will bear the consequences of their guilt! Sha'ul revealed a One New Humanity mystery in:

Ephesians 4:21-24. If you really listened to him and were instructed about him, then you learned that since what is in Yeshua is truth, ²² then, so far as your former way of life is concerned, you must strip off your old nature, because your old nature is thoroughly rotted by its deceptive desires; ²³ and you must let your spirits and minds keep being renewed **(ananeo {an-an-neh-o'-o}: renew, renovate, reform)**, ²⁴ and clothe yourselves with the new nature **(Kainos Anthropos)** created to be godly, which expresses itself in the righteousness and holiness that flow from the truth.

This is a supernatural revelation yet back to the basics! Those who profess trust and faith in Jesus, Yeshua! If you REALDY LISTENED TO HIM you learned what is in Yeshua is truth! As He said in Matthew 5: "Don't think that I have come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete. ¹⁸ Yes indeed! I tell you that until heaven and earth pass away, not so much as a yud or a stroke will pass from the Torah -- not until everything that must happen has happened. ¹⁹ So whoever disobeys the least of these mitzvot and teaches others to do so will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But whoever obeys them and so teaches will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven". **As Sha'ul Paul shared we must strip off our old nature, both Jew and Gentile, the One New Humanity and let both our spirits and minds be renewed, renovated, reformed which is change!! Do not keep playing the same old church routine, the same old Synagogue routine! We must renovate and clothe, put on the Kainos Anthropos** "which expresses itself in the righteousness and holiness that flow from the truth"! **What a profound revelation, a mystery revealed! We become sons and daughters of righteousness, Zadok, able to minister too and be in Adonai's presence.....**

Ezekiel 44:15-16 (TLV). So the Levitical kohanim, the sons of Zadok who kept charge of My Sanctuary when Bnei-Yisrael wandered from Me, will draw near to Me to minister to Me. They will stand before Me to offer Me the fat and the blood"—it is declaration of ADONAI. ¹⁶ "They are ones who will enter My Sanctuary and draw near to My table to minister to Me. They will keep My charge **(mishmereth {mish-meh'-reth}: safeguard, function, observance, duty, obligation, service, watch, preserving, office, root word is: Shamar: Keep, protect, guard, observe, give heed, retain, treasure up, celebrate, perform, preserve, regard, protect)**

This reference is of course to Righteous, Messianic Jewish people who haven't strayed from Adonai! The Gentiles were brought in with us through Yeshua's shedding of blood:

Ephesians 2:19. So then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers. On the contrary, you are fellow-citizens with God's people and members of God's family.

This is why antisemitism within the church is so perverted! Through the blood of Yeshua Gentiles have become fellow citizens with Gods people! We are in a

supernatural time of reformation, renovation, of renewing, of becoming the One New Humanity which allows us through Yeshua to minister before Adonai in His presence and to teach the people:

Ezekiel 44:23-24 (TLV). "They will teach My people the difference between the holy and the common and explain to them the difference between the unclean and the clean. ²⁴ In a lawsuit, they will stand to judge, and judge in accordance with My ordinances. They will keep My laws and My statutes in all My moadim and keep My Shabbatot holy.

Ezekiel 44 is the prophetic! We're going back to the future, what then are we, clothed with the Kainos Anthropos, that expresses itself in the righteousness and holiness that flow from the truth?

I Peter 2:9-10 (TLV). But you are a chosen people, a royal **(Basileos: royal, kingly, regal)** priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the One who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were "not a people," but now you are "God's people." You were shown "no mercy," but now you have been shown "mercy."

We now witness a profound transformation, a Kingdom shift! It's no longer just our Jewish people who are the Kings special treasure! Gentiles we're "not a people," but now you are "God's people." Are part of the Royal Priesthood!" We've discussed priesthood extensively but now another term is added here: "Royal". Being Royal means belonging to the King, a member of His family. Royalty comes with power, provision, and protection. Royalty must adhere to and live by a constant strict set of rules of conduct (holiness-Torah). It's a profound understanding and revelation of our identity, who we are in Yeshua!! The children of Monarchs are raised with Royal identity-they know they are different! We must learn to identify as Royalty!!

In Yeshua we become part of the Kings Royal Priesthood! We have royal identities as sons, as daughters, as Royal Priests of Adonai the King. We are heirs of Yeshua's reward! As royalty we've been delegated the King's authority to issue decrees and proclamations in the Kingdom! We're empowered by Royal Decree to do Adonai's Kingdom purpose and business on the earth like His Son Prince Yeshua did. As royalty we are under the full protection of the Theocracy! As Royal Priests we have diplomatic immunity! Other dominions and principalities have no authority or influence over us as we are marked as royalty, belonging to the King! NO weapons formed against YOU shall prosper! As Royalty we have unrestricted access to the Kings and kingdoms wealth which is beyond measure and comprehension!

As we started, Because you are listening (Ekev) to these rulings, keeping and obeying them, ADONAI your God will keep with you the covenant and mercy that he swore to your ancestors. Those who are listening, those who will renovate, change, and tear off their old nature and cloth themselves with the Kainos Anthropos, the New Humanity will be a chosen people, a royal, Kingly priesthood!

We will minister to the King and teach the people! This is a divine, apostolic call for you to join with us! You online, you on our radio family, shut ins, we invite you to join us! Every nation, every tribe, every tongues! Jew, Gentile, Indigenous peoples, Black, White, Asian, Hispanic, every culture and language has equal seating in the Royal Priesthood! This is the last great move and restoration before Yeshua's return! We will declare the praises of Yeshua who snatched us out of the darkness and brought us to the light! This is very clear in the end:

Revelation 19:6-8. Then I heard what sounded like the roar of a huge crowd, like the sound of rushing waters, like loud peals of thunder, saying, "Halleluyah! ADONAI, God of heaven's armies, has begun his reign! ⁷ "Let us rejoice and be glad! Let us give him the glory! For the time has come for the wedding of the Lamb, and his Bride has prepared herself - ⁸ fine linen, bright and clean has been given her to wear." ("Fine linen" means the righteous deeds of God's people.)

There is only one bride mentioned, not two separate brides, one for a Christian wedding and another for a Jewish wedding! It is a divine mandate upon us as a "One New Humanity" congregation to be a standard of truth, to be the messenger of change and begin the preparation for the return of the Groom for His bride, one bride! People will fall into apostasy when they discover that most of their hallowed traditions have nothing to do with the Bible and the Kingdom of Heaven!

This is a divine, apostolic calling, a divine mandate to do, perform, walk out God's will and desires. We are called as Messianic Believers, Messianic Jews and Messianic Gentiles to be a Royal Priesthood, a chosen nation unto Him! Choose you this day whom you shall serve. As a Royal Priesthood Adonai has commissioned us to pursue revival and salvation for Israel, both the people and the land, to make talmidim of the nations, and to Change our World. As a Royal Priesthood we are to challenge all false secular, Hellenistic religious practices (the sins of Jeroboam) of our society and of the Nations. We are commissioned to be the moral conscience of our society and ourselves because we held to a higher standard than the world!

Those who move in the royal Kingdom power and authority drive out demons, speak in tongues, aren't injured if they handle snakes or drink poison, and heal the sick by laying hands on them in His name (Mark 16:17-18). Wherever two or three are assembled in my name, I am there with them (Matt 18:20) The crippled walk in His name (Acts 3:6, 3:16, 4:10). Salvation comes in his name (Acts 4:12, Rom. 10:13). We are to "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, immersing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Ruach ha-Kodesh", (Matt. 28:19). We are made holy and justified in the name of the Lord Yeshua (I Cor. 6:11). Everything you do or say, do in the name of the Lord Yeshua (Col. 3:17). But, it is praying to the King, Adonai in Yeshua's name that the most crucial and profound! Yeshua implored, urged, commanded us to pray in his name which is the full power and authority of the Kingdom that releases the supernatural