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Tue, May 27, 2025 1:39PM • 28:32

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Judgment, God's holiness, eternal life, Messiah Yeshua, salvation, Passover, First Samuel, Eli, ark of God, New Jerusalem, New Heaven, New Earth, sin, repentance, Philistines.

SPEAKERS

Intro Voice, Baruch Korman

Intro Voice 00:03

Shalom and welcome to via hafte, Israel, a Hebrew phrase, which means you shall love Israel. We hope you'll stay with us for the next 30 minutes, as our teacher, Dr Baruch shares his expository teaching from the Bible. Dr Baruch is the senior lecturer at the Zara Avraham Institute based in Israel. Although all courses are taught in Hebrew at the institute, Dr Baruch is pleased to share this weekly address in English. To find out more about our work in Israel, please visit us on the web@loveisrael.org That's one word, loveisrael.org Now here's Baruch with today's lesson.

Baruch Korman 00:41

Our God is a God of judgment, and why does God judge? Because He's holy, righteous and faithful, and God's word reveals very clearly that the one who sins, that one will die. But there's good news, there is a way to avoid that eternal punishment, that judgment, that death, and experience eternal life. But be very clear about something, there is only one way to receive that eternal life, and that is through that gospel message that focuses in on the only Savior. We need to realize that there are not many ways that lead into the kingdom of God, but only one way through one Savior, and that savior is Messiah, Yeshua, what the world calls Jesus Christ. He is the Savior. And how did he do the work of salvation? He laid down His life on the cross. In other words, he took all the punishment that should have been placed upon all of humanity. He took it upon himself, and God testifies that that work was sufficient, that that work was enough, that it doesn't have to be maintained, because when Messiah cried out shortly before he died, It is finished. That word it is finished also means it is perfect. So what Messiah did is sufficient. It is perfect, and it purchased for us His blood, eternal redemption. So we don't need to doubt we will not lose our salvation because of the sufficiency of Messiah's work, specifically on that cross on the day of redemption, which is Passover. Well, take out your Bible and look with me to First Samuel, chapter four. Now we're going to see that judgment came on the day that we're going to study, and that day was a day of judgment for the leader of Israel. You'll recall that we're speaking about a priest by the name of Ellie, and Ellie was not a faithful man. In fact, he was weak. He did not discipline his sons, and we're going to see that judgment came on that day upon the house of Ellie. And we're going to see that the glory of God, that God wanted to share with his people, that he wanted to be manifested among the people, that the glory of God, as the word of God says, went into exile, and exile is never a good thing. It shows God's displeasure, first with Ellie and his sons, who were

unrighteous, ungodly and evil, and then secondly, with the people, because they did not surrender to the truth of God. That is wisdom when we surrender to the truth of God and bringing ourselves submissively and humbly unto the word of God, well, let me ask you a question before we open up this passage, and that is, where are you going to spend eternity? Now normally, people will answer that question in one of two ways. They will say, for eternity, someone is either going to be in heaven or in hell. And did you know that that answer is totally incorrect from a biblical perspective. Why is that? Well, first of all, the Scripture says in the book of Revelation that there's going to be a new heaven and a new earth. It's speaking about what Judaism calls the second. Creation, and that second creation relates specifically to the kingdom of God. Now, remember what I just said, there's going to be a new heaven and a new earth, and that new creation is called in the book of Revelation, the New Jerusalem. So if we have received redemption through that gospel message, then we will be for eternity, not in heaven, but in that new Jerusalem, which is that final state of the kingdom of God. And you will want to be there. It is a place of holiness righteousness, where the goodness and the promises and the blessings of God are found. But there's only one way to get there, and that is through that gospel message, by believing and accepting that gospel message that focuses in on the one and only savior that is Messiah, Yeshua, or whom the world calls Jesus Christ. Now we see something many people wrongly teach that there are many ways into the kingdom of God. That is false. There is only one mediator between man and God, and that is indeed Messiah, Yeshua, Jesus. Well, the second thing I want us to realize is in the same way that Heaven is not eternal, neither is hell. Now, don't get overly excited that Hell's not forever, because what the Bible says, again, in the book of Revelation, is that hell all those who are going to be there, it says they will be cast into that lake that burns with fire and brimstone. So realize it's not an improvement. In fact, it is a worse situation. So what is eternal, the New Jerusalem, the kingdom of God, or that lake that burns with fire and brimstone, if you don't want to be deposited in that lake of fire and brimstone, the only way to avoid that, and I want to emphasize that the only way to avoid that is through the gospel message, by putting your faith, your trust and your hope in this one, Yeshua, the Messiah, the Savior of the world, and what exactly did he do? Well, it's very clear we were all guilty humanity because of that first sin in the Garden of Eden, all of humanity is guilty. We see that humanity failed and what happened? We see that all were born into sin. We have naturally that sinful nature, that sin will manifest itself through a variety of ways. But be assured, sin will manifest itself in humanity. The only solution we've already talked about it is to become that new creation, to be born again, to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit, whereby we through the Holy Spirit, His leadership, his provision, his anointing, will give us the power to walk in faith. And when we walk in faith, as Paul says in Romans 8 we fulfill the righteousness of the law. We demonstrate God's character in us. Well, again, I open up this message by saying that our God is a God of judgment, and Ellie and his household is going to experience judgment on this day. Look with me, as I said to First Samuel, chapter four, and we're ready now for verse 12. It says, here

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a man of Benjamin, and this would be the tribe of Benjamin ran from. And we have a word here, which means the battlefield where the war was taking place. And notice that he went and he arrived at what place he came to, Shiloh. And notice there's a very important expression now, when I was going over this with my wife, her Bible says the same day. That's not what it says in Hebrew. There is that familiar expression, be Yom Ha, who, which means that day. And scholars tell us that that term, be Yom Ha, who that day relates to judgment that. Term bayo mahu gives us a contextual clue that this passage is

about judgment. And it says that this one who came from the battlefield. It says that his his clothes, and that word may mean his uniform, his his war clothes were torn, and there was was dirt upon his head. Now this may show his dirt upon his head may show repentance, sorrow, grief, mourning because of what had happened. Because not just was Ellie and his son's judge will come to that in a moment. But we see that there was judgment upon the nation of Israel. Move on to the next verse, verse 13, we read, and he came, and behold, that word, behold, is in the text. Again, as I was going over this with my wife in her Bible, it simply ignored it. And again, I don't know why. So often translators just ignore scripture. That's shameful and it is confusing to the reader, because this term, behold, means to pay attention something significant is going to happen. So this one, who came from the battlefield, he came and behold and notice what it says, Ellie, that is the priests, is sitting upon the throne near the way. So he was there sitting upon that throne in that location, by the way, we might say. And notice what he was doing. He was watching for his heart was was trembling concerning the ark of God. Now in this passage, there's going to be an emphasis also in the next chapter, on the ark of God. And this ark of God related to the presence of God, the power of God, the truth of God. And what we find is under the leadership of Ellie and his sons, Israel was not walking in truth. They were rebellious. There was not a righteous people, a holy people, a committed people. And therefore judgment was going to visit Israel and the house of Ellie on that day. It says here that he heart was trembling concerning the ark of God. And the man came to tell in the city and notice what happened. He told what had happened. We haven't read that yet, but he has. And it says, Keep reading all the city and it literally says, screamed so they heard the news. We'll hear it in a moment about what happened that day in regard to the judgment of God. Look now to verse 14, and Ellie heard the sound of the screaming, and he said, What is the sound? And we have a word for for a large sound, a great sound. And it's speaking about the multitude of people who were screaming at this news. And it says this same man from Benjamin that came from the battlefield. It says the man hurried and he went and he told to Ellie, so now we're going to see within, without any uncertainty, what happened on that day? What was that judgment that that term be Yom ha who foreshadows. Well, look at the next verse, verse 15. And Ellie was 98 years old, and his eyes, and we have a word, his eyes, some Bibles will say fixed, but it probably speaks about his eyes being dimmed, that they weren't able to focus, they weren't able to see properly. And that's what it says at the end of the verse, beloye hole, they wrote, and he could not see. And what that says is he wasn't leading from a godly perspective. He didn't see things correctly. He was blind spiritually. In other words, look at verse 16, and the man said to Ellie, I am the one that has come from the battlefield, and I from the battlefield. Had. Have escaped today, and he says, What is this thing? My son? So Elie knew that there was a message to be shared. He wanted to know what happened during this battle, this war between the Philistines and the children of Israel, and we're going to find out what happened upon that day. Look at verse 17. Now there's an unusual word that appears here. Believe most Bibles will translate it the messenger. But if we look at the word in Hebrew, it's the word ha meva ser. Now usually meva ser means to proclaim something that is good, and what the scripture is revealing to us with the use of that word is God's judgment is good. Judge God's God's got judgment is appropriate, and therefore this foreshadows that God is doing this in order to bring the people to change. And we're going to see what is the outcome. Because God, he's a holy God, righteous God, and if the people are not reflecting his character, then the goodness of God, the blessings of God, the promises of God, are not going to be received by the people. Look, if you would, to verse 17. Now, Ellie wants to know, what is it, my son, tell me what has happened? Verse 17. The messenger answered, and he said, Israel has fled before the Philistines and also and here, again,

many Bibles will say a slaughter or a massacre, but that's not the Hebrew word, if we look here, it's the word magafa That is a plague. Now, why is that important? Because this word informs the reader that means you and me, that that what happened was from God. He was the author of it. Why? He's holy, He's righteous. He's a God of truth. And when there is sin in the camp, God who is faithful, He's faithful to judge. So this informs us that God is the source of this. The people are the cause. But this day of tragedy, this Day of Judgment, originated from God because of the sinfulness, the rebelliousness and the disobedience of the people, so it says. And also a great plague was against the people. And also notice this, your two sons have died, Hophni and Pinchas. These two sons of Ellie did not return. They died. And then notice the next thing that is said, and the ark of God was taken, taken by who the Philistines taken to where? Well, we'll find out next week, a city, a very important city among the Philistines, called Ashdod, and what we're going to learn is that there's going to be God's righteous presence through that Ark of the Covenant, the ark of God, that is going to be manifested. And we're going to see that it is going to either bless or curse. That's what God does. God looks at you. He looks at me, and he sees our behavior. He sees whether we have faith or not, and if we don't have faith, we won't behave in a way that's pleasing to Him. And what can we expect? We can expect judgment. Keep reading. He says, your two sons also have died, Hophni and Pincus. And the ark of God was taken Look at Verse 18,

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and it came about when the ark of God was mentioned by him. What happened, it says, And he fell from this throne, from his seat, backwards. By what place? By the gate. Now, again, this is a most informative word, by the gate. Why? Because, biblically speaking, a gate is a place of judgment. So when we look here, we have three clues. We have that expression be yo mahu, which announces judgment. We have the term magafa, which is a plague that originates from God. And then the third. Third, we have that term gate, which also relates to judgment. So over and over, this passage is telling you and me, the reader, that this is a day of God's judgment. Why? Because if people were rebellious, they would not walk in truth. We find that Ellie didn't discipline his sons. His sons were evil and would do very poor things, very evil things. And therefore judgment on that day visited the children of Israel. And Eliot says he fell backwards from his seat, from that throne, and we find that His neck was broken and he died because he was old. This man was old and this man was heavy, but we are told, and he judged Israel for 40 years. Well, the number 40, if we studied in the Bible, it's a number of transition. It's a number of change. And that's what God wants, and that's what his judgment brings about. God judges not because he hates the people God loved, the children of Israel. God loves you, but he judges you because he wants a change. He wants that punishment, that discipline, to produce a change in your life. Look, if you would, to verse 19. Now notice what it says here and his daughter in law, the wife of Pinchas. She had conceived and she was near to birth, and it says, when she heard the report the news. What was said that the ark of God had been taken and the death of her father in law and her husband? What happens? It says that she bent and she gave birth. And notice this because her, and this is word for labor pains, were brought upon her, so she heard the news, and immediately she went into labor. But notice the outcome, verse 20. During this birth, she died. How do I know that? Look at Verse 20, and it says, And at that time, she died, and the women who were standing by her, they spoke, and they said to her, Do not fear for a son you have borne but she had died, it says she did not answer and she did not pay attention, meaning none of this spoke to her. And the most likely reason is because she had died verse 21 and she called the young child, the one who had been born, e Kavod.

What does ikavod? Your bibles will say Ichabod, but ichavod means no glory. Why? It was said that the glory went forth from Israel into exile. There's a word here, galah. This is a word that relates to going into exile. So the glory departed from Israel and it went into exile. Why? Because the Ark of the Covenant was taken and because of the death of her father in law and her husband. Look now to verse 22 it said again. Now, whenever something is repeated in the Scripture, it's repeated to be emphasized, this is important, and we see God's judgment did something. It just didn't bring about pain and suffering. That was the purpose for it. It was to get the attention of the people, because our God, the God of Israel, the God of Scripture. He is holy, and therefore he, because of his character, who he is, he will not tolerate sin and rebelliousness and Faithlessness among the people when God and it's his timing which is perfect when God deems it appropriate to punish or to discipline or to judge, God will do so, and when he does so, there's going to be a change, a change which is not good for the people, but. That change will bring about, also a change among his people. They need to realize something, how they were living, how they were thinking, how the leadership was leading was not in a way that God would bless, that God was going to support. And therefore, look at our last verse, verse verse 22 where it says, and she said, The glory from Israel has went into exile. Why? Because the ark of God was taken. And what we're going to see is this God is a God that wants all people, even the Philistines, to come to faith. And God is going to show his power. He is going to show His truth. He is going to show his identity, even to the Philistines, because what are they going to do? They're going to take the ark of God, and they are going to put it in a pagan place. And we're going to learn something about worship next week. We're going to learn something about the character of God, that God because of who he is, that he is great, he is marvelous. He is wonderful. God is going to manifest himself to people for who He truly is, and why does he do that? So people will respond. They will know who he is, and then they need to make a decision with God being manifested to them. Are they going to receive him? Are they going to respond to him as Avraham did with faith in order that they might become righteous? Or are they going to reject and not believe and not surrender unto Him? God is powerful. God, through this ark, is going to make known to the Philistines just how powerful he is, that he is a God of authority and wisdom. Is this wisdom is when we as a human being, we recognize the authority of God. Not just Yes, God is almighty, Yes, God is sovereign, but because of that, we come before him submissively. We come before him humbly, and we begin to have God change us through faith in order that we can have the privilege of participating in the things of God. That's what wisdom. That's what living a blessed life is all about participating in the things of God until next time, shalom.

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Well, we hope you will benefit from today's message and share it with others. Please plan to join us each week at this time and on this channel for our broadcast of love israel.org, again, to find out more about us, please visit our website, love Israel. Dot O, R, G, there you will find articles in numerous other lectures by Baruch. These teachings are in video form. May download them or watch them in streaming video until next week, may the Lord bless you in our Messiah, Yeshua, that is Jesus as you walk with Him, Shalom from Israel. You.