

Rabbi's Reflections - Friday, April 3, 2026
(Early) Shabbat Shalom {{firstName}},

Psalms
Psalm 50:7-15 – Part 9

Psalm 50:7 “Hear, My people, and I will speak, O Israel, and I will testify against you: I am God, your God. 8 I do not rebuke you for your sacrifices, for your burnt offerings are continually before Me. 9 I have no need of a bull from your house nor goats from your pens. 10 For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. 11 I know every bird of the mountains. Everything moving in the field is Mine. 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you—for the world is Mine and all it contains! 13 Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats 14 Offer God a sacrifice of thank offerings, then fulfill your vows to Elyon. 15 Call upon Me in the day of trouble. When I rescue you, you will honor Me.”

This is the third day in a row that I'm writing on these same nine verses. In them, God first commands us to listen to what He is saying. Then He challenges our intentionality regarding our vows and sacrifices, reminding us that He is beyond any physical need. Today, let's examine the final two verses which form a positive invitation to the spiritual and covenantal side of our relationship with God, speaking of “thank offerings” and “vows.”

“Who ya gonna call?” (Hint: it's not ghost busters.) The final admonition is to call upon God when you're in trouble. Then there is a promise; we will be saved (rescued). This is followed by God's expectation that our response will be to “honor” Him. After all, God IS our Heavenly Father.

1Corinthians 8:6 Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Yeshua the Messiah, through whom are all things, and we exist through Him.

The same Hebrew word for honor is used as in the fifth commandment when we are told to honor our father and mother. The Hebrew word is “Kavod,” meaning “heavy,” so the connotation is to treat God (our heavenly Father) as well as our parents (earthly father and mother) with gravity, in other words, give their wisdom weighty consideration. Lastly, neither is optional. Obedience is a commandment.

God will never tell you to disobey Himself. **Mark 3:24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.**

Your earthly parents, however; are not perfect. Obey your father and mother on earth unless they tell you to disobey God. Then we must use discernment, and at the same time, we must always give them honor, just as David honored Saul, even though Saul was hunting him down to kill him.

One last comment on honor... **Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.** Who are your “parents in the Lord?” If you don’t have any, (which is unlikely) make it a matter of prayer. Ask God to give you spiritual parents. Once you know who your spiritual parents are, be sure to give them honor and thus please God. The kingdom of God is made up of family. Shalom shalom.

Daily Bread, reading plan by Lars Enarson (<https://www.thewatchman.org/>)

Fri 3-Apr-2026 16th of Nisan, 5786

Pesach II

Le 22:26-23:44, Nu 28:16-252 Ki 23:1-9, 21-25 Mk 16:1-14