

## MESSIAH'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Or HaOlam Messianic Synagogue

October 17, 2020

- I. THE BIRTH OF THE MESSIAH IS AN INCREDIBLY SIGNIFICANT DAY IN WORLD HISTORY
  - A. What a **privilege** it is to deliver the message on such a **significant day in WORLD history**, not just for those in the Kingdom of G-d!
  - B. Our whole country acknowledges the birth of the Messiah and most businesses are closed (that's a good thing, Amen).
  - C. The calendar is dated from this date. We are in year **2020 in the year of our L-RD**.
  - D. **We date things "B.C."**
  - E. The birth of the Messiah was WORLD CHANGING!
  - F. **Christmas is celebrating the birth of a Jewish rabbi! One day my Jewish people will celebrate the birth of the Messiah of Israel!**
    - i. **I will rejoice over that regardless of the day they choose to celebrate it.**
- II. **Summary of This Message:**
  - A. Incredible Significance to the World of Messiah's Bday!
  - B. I suggest we not let our different rituals, DOBs and opinions divide us—can do more harm than good.
  - C. The important thing is Yeshua was **born of a virgin**, died for the sins of the world, and He is risen.
- III. **3 incredibly important world and life-changing events each occurred on Jewish holidays/Biblical Festivals.**
  - A. **G-d could have chosen ANY day for these events but chose Jewish holidays. Coincidence or was He trying to communicate something to us?**
  - B. Yeshua was Crucified on Passover, Yeshua rose on Firstfruits, and the Ruakh HaKodesh/Holy Spirit was sent on Shavuot (Pentecost)—It seems pretty clear to me it is Jewish to follow Yeshua.

- a. **And 4<sup>th</sup> hugely significant event arguably on Sukkot—His birth, that we are celebrating today!**
- b. Side Note: Not to mention that a Rosh HaShanah **shofar blast** about a month ago will announce the **RETURN of our King** and He is the **Yom Kippur blood sacrifice**—an animal blood sacrifice that is no longer possible due to the destruction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple in 70 AD.
- c. 😊 And if I may **stay adrift** (for a few more minutes) from Messiah’s b-day theme: This is interesting as well to say the least: ANCIENT JEWISH LITERATURE (COMPRISED OF MANY ADVERSE WITNESSES) CONFIRMS 3 MIRACLES RELATIVE TO YOM KIPPUR ANIMAL SACRIFICES THAT POINT TO YESHUA BEING THE MESSIAH! Following Yeshua's death, the animal sacrifices in the Temple were rejected by G-d. This was evidenced by the **"for the scapegoat"** (vs for the L-RD) lot being drawn and the **scarlet thread** not turning white (white indicated the sacrifice was accepted by G-d) . This happened for **40 CONSECUTIVE YEARS! Imagine the odds!** Why were the sacrifices rejected? Because a perfect blood sacrifice by Yeshua. And the **Temple doors** remained open for 40 years—perhaps because all now have open access to G-d, not just the High Priest.
- d. Staying **somewhat adrift** for a moment but it ties back to Yeshua’s virgin birth: 😊 When the **Jewishness of the Gospels** is recognized it gives a **rich understanding** to many passages of Scripture\_ Exh A: Yeshua is (represented) in ALL of the festivals—3 spring festivals represent His 1<sup>st</sup> coming, 3 fall festivals represent His 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. And the 7<sup>th</sup>, Shabbat, represents the rest He brings.
- e. In fact, **Dr. Daniel Boyarin**, perhaps the world’s leading Talmudic scholar (and an adverse witness, as well) has authored a book, **“The Jewish Gospels.”** He wrote:
  - i. “Many Israelites at the time of Jesus were expecting a Messiah who would be **divine and COME to earth in the form of a human**” (as Yeshua did that 2000 years ago)
  - ii. “The Messiah-Christ existed as a Jewish idea long before the baby Jesus was born in Nazareth. That is, **the idea of a second G-d as viceroy (deputy) to G-d the Father is one of the oldest of theological ideas in Israel...** these ideas were not new ones at all by the time **Jesus appeared** on the scene.” (as Yeshua did 2000 years ago)

#### IV. Why do we think His birth is around Sukkot?

A. Again, 1<sup>st</sup> and foremost: Let's **not let this divide us**.

B. **In short/overview**, because of what we know about Yeshua's conception and its connection to Elizabeth announcing she was **6 months pregnant** with the **John the Baptist, a Jew (I love that)** so really John/Yochanan **THE JEWISH Baptist (or Baptizer), or Yochanan the Immerser**. And the Word seems to indicate "John the Jewish Baptist" born on Passover, April'ish then Yeshua born 6 months later—October'ish.

#### C. **Divine Arithmetic:**

- i. **Simply put:** Luke 1:26, 36 and 37 say Elizabeth was 6 months pregnant with John the Jewish Baptist when Yeshua was conceived so John is 6 months older than Yeshua. If John the Jewish Baptizer is born in April/Passover as the Scripture says, the Yeshua born in Oct (Sukkot-Feast of Tabernacles).
- ii. A study of the time of the conception of John the Jewish Baptist reveals he was conceived about Sivan 30, the 11th week (Luke 1:8-13, 24). One can determine this time based upon Zechariah's Temple service. Adding 40 weeks, for a normal pregnancy reveals that John the Jewish Baptist was born on or about Passover (Nisan 14). Six months after John's conception, Mary/Miriam conceived Yeshua.

Luke 1:26-33: "Now in the 6th month the angel Gabriel was sent by G-d to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, 'Rejoice, highly favored one, the L-rd is with you; blessed are you among women! But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with G-d. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Yeshua. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the L-rd G-d will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."")

- iii. \*\*\*More Jewish connection stuff. The HANUKKAH CONNECTION!  
Therefore, Yeshua would have been conceived six months after Sivan 30 in the month of Kislev— Hanukkah. **\*\*\*Was the "light of the world," conceived on the festival of lights** (a/k/a the Feast of Dedication)? Starting at Hanukah, which begins on Kislev 25 and continues for 8 days, and counting through the 9 months of Mary's pregnancy, one arrives at the approximate time of the birth of Yeshua at the Festival/Feast of Tabernacles/Sukkot.
- iv. When Gabriel visited Miriam/Mary in Nazareth he told her two things. **"You've been chosen by G-d to give birth to the Messiah AND your relative Elizabeth is six months with child."** Luke 1.26-33 (At the sound of Miriam's greeting, John the Jewish Baptist leapt for joy in Elizabeth's womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.) Miriam returned home 3 months later, after the birth of John which would have been the 9<sup>th</sup> month of the solar calendar year which is around Sukkot. **(At the time the angel Gabriel also appeared to Zechariah announcing the coming conception of John the Jewish Baptizer who would be the forerunner of Yeshua (Luke 1:8-22). Yochanan conceived (Luke 1:23-25). So Yochanan born 40 weeks later on Passover. (Nissan or April).**
- v. Even the wording of John 1:14, confirms this. **"The Word became flesh and tabernacled among us."** **which arguably also a reference to Sukkot.**
- vi. If this is not enough, we also have to consider the **type of dwelling** in which Yeshua was born. Had it not been for the inconvenience caused by the census, He would have been born in a house like all other children. But He wasn't, He was born in a type of Sukkah where servants of a household slept, or where they kept sheep and cattle. **Luke uses the Greek word for "manger" but because Yeshua was Jewish, and it was most likely the festival of Sukkot as the text probably describes a Sukkah.**
- vii. And more Jewish roots/festival (albeit Hanukah is a minor festival but Yeshua celebrated it, so it is important) stuff: **Hanukkah was the time of conception for the Light of the World**

i. The period of human gestation is 40 weeks. The number 40 is extremely noteworthy in the Scriptures, appearing nearly 40 times. It

symbolizes complete development. Counting back 40 weeks (280 days) from Tishrei 15, we arrive at the first day of the month of Tevet. Tevet 1, always came 280 days before Tishrei 15, (except on leap years). Remarkably, Tevet 1 is the seventh day of Chanukah.

viii. **What an incredible Hanukkah visual!** Young Miriam, lighting the 8 lamps as the sun was setting on Tevet 1, to usher in the last day of the Festival of Lights. But there is a glow in the room that is greater than that emanating from the flames dancing on their wicks in the little pools of oil. "The Holy Spirit came upon her, and the power of the Most High overshadowed her," and Yeshua was conceived within her womb. Forty weeks later, on the Feast of Tabernacles, He exited His mother's womb to "tabernacle among us." (By Moshe Morrison)

iii. **The year of His birth! Daniel 9:26: The Messiah would come before destruction of 1<sup>st</sup> Temple!** And again, the #40 is used by G-d as He came died approximately 40 years before the destruction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple. (After the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.) (Daniel 9:26 predicted that the Messiah would "be cut off" (die) and then the "city" (Jerusalem) and "sanctuary" (Second Temple) would be destroyed. As noted by Tacitus in the above writing, Yeshua was crucified during the "reign of Tiberius... by the procurator Pontius Pilate." As you will recall, in Chapter 4 we discussed that a stone has been discovered, verifying Pontius Pilate ruled around 30 CE. Thus, Tacitus has confirmed that Yeshua was crucified in approximately 30 CE as the gospels have recorded. Again, the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Second Temple in 70 CE. ) Since Yeshua was executed in approximately 30 CE, He died before the destruction of the Second Temple. The above referenced messianic prophecy in Daniel claims that the Messiah would die before the destruction of the Second Temple. Again, the life and death of Yeshua is consistent with Old Covenant prophecies

iv. All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all of our righteous acts are like **filthy rags**; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away, (Isaiah 64:6).

- A. **John 3:16**. Perhaps the best-known verse in scripture: Love: "For G-d so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."
- B. **Mary and Joseph loved G-d and trusted Him** despite her out of wedlock pregnancy. **Do you and I similarly trust Him** despite bizarre circumstances?

## V. Virgin birth

- A. If you were making up a story would you come up with a virgin birth unless it were true?
- B. **Isaiah 7:14**: "Therefore, the L-RD Himself **will give you a sign**: Behold, the virgin will conceive. When she is giving birth to a son, she will call his name Immanuel (G-d with us)."
- C. Simple logic: Born of a Virgin (young maiden would not be a SIGN; and Dan Gruber has written a great scholarly article on how the Hebrew word used meant virgin and not simply young maiden)
- D. Some of the other many prophecies Yeshua fulfilled: in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) , enter on a donkey (Zech 9), rejected by His own (Is 53 and Ps 118), heal the blind, lame, deaf and dumb (Is 35), die for sins of the world (Isaiah 53), b4 destruction of 2nd Temple (Daniel 9 above), and now no place for blood sacrifice, be crucified (Ps 22), resurrected (Ps 16)
- E. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanu-El - which means, "G-d is with us." (Matt. 1:23, quoting from Yishaiyahu (Isaiah) 7:14).

VI. Let's return to our theme: Don't let our different rituals and opinions divide us. The important thing is He was born of virgin, died for the sins of the world, and He is risen.

- A. One new man (Eph 2:15), let the wall of separation come down. Love into the kingdom one heart at a time. **Let's symbolically lock arms united as one.**

**B. If you disagree with the Sukkot Birth, that is fine. It has nothing to do with salvation. Salvation comes if we believe in our hearts and confess with your lips that Yeshua is L-RD**

**Romans 10:9: For if you confess with your mouth that Yeshua is L-rd, and believe in your heart that G-d raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.**

C. So, let's not get too upset about people celebrating this world changing event on 12.25. "Forgive them Father, they know not what they do."

F. **His birth gives Bible credibility** because of its **prophecies** and historicity.

**G. Billions of changed lives (including MINE) give more credibility!**

**H. Our love for one another, even those we disagree with give it more credibility.**

**I. We all need each other.**

J. Can't imagine a world without Jews. Or Without Gentiles. Without women. Without men.

VII. **We are at a tipping point.** Beatles: "All we need is love." Sort of true. What we actually need is the source of that love because He embodies love.

A. **No matter who is elected, no matter what happens with Roe v. Wade,** we need the hearts of Americans to change, to be more united, to be more loving, even of those we deplore. If we only love those who love us, we aren't loving, we are liking/agreeing.

**B. Let your love be non-negotiable. Yeshua was a unifier, not a divider. A lover of all.**

VIII. Marty Goetz's beautiful song, *Prince of Peace* (unto us a child is born)

IX. Last song today was *Vayikra Shmo* (His Name Shall be Called) by Steve McConnell.

A. Isaiah 9:6 (For to us a **child is born**, a son will be given to us, and the government will be upon His shoulder. His Name will be called Wonderful Counselor, **Mighty G-d** My Father of Eternity, Prince of Peace)

B. Isaiah 53:3, 5: "He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief... Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our pains. ...The chastisement for our shalom was upon Him!

C. Lyrics:

A Son is given to us  
All authority shall be on Him  
He is our Messiah, Our Salvation, King of Yisrael  
And His name shall be  
Wondrous Counselor  
Mighty G-d, Eternal Father  
Prince of Peace  
Despised and rejected  
A man of sorrows  
He was acquainted with grief  
Pierced for our transgression  
Bruised for our sins  
Punished for our peace  
And His name shall be  
Wondrous Counselor  
Mighty G-d, Eternal Father  
Prince of Peace

