



[Noticed last few weeks attendance has been down. There are undulations, but I wonder if the JCC shooting incident April 13, 2014. There is great glory in the restoration of Israel to her covenantal identity in Messiah, but there is also bloody warfare. Be prepared. KC Star article Jacob Bogage. I'm sure most of you have read about the recent ADL report that ¼ of the worlds population has anti-Semitic opinions. Many had never met a Jewish person.]

On May 25, Pope Francis will begin his two-day visit to the Holy Land. It will begin in Bethlehem with a large mass together with PA leader Mahmoud Abbas. Palestinians are already celebrating the visit, saying his choice to begin the trip directly in PA-held Bethlehem is meant to “recognize Palestine,” and “oppose the occupation.”

Hind Khoury, a former PA minister for Jerusalem affairs, has admitted that every detail of the visit “will be highly charged politically.” Already in February, Rabbi Sergio Bergman, a member of the Argentinean parliament and close friend of Pope Francis, said that the pope intends to define himself as the “Che Guevera of the Palestinians” and support their struggle and rights during his visit.

After the mass services in Bethlehem, the pope is to visit a nearby “refugee camp.” Ziyad Bandak, Abbas’s adviser for Christian affairs has explained that the pope “will have a lunch with Palestinians, with families suffering from the occupation ...then he will visit Dheishe refugee camp to witness the suffering of Palestinian refugees...This visit will help us in supporting our struggle to end the longest occupation in history.”

[The status of the Arabs would change tomorrow if they would stop incitement to terror and recognize Israel as a Jewish state. Tomorrow. Today.]

The pope’s limited time in Jerusalem will be equally political in nature. After first visiting with Greek Orthodox Church leaders on the evening of his arrival, the first thing he will do the following morning is, not to go to the Western Wall, but to visit the Temple Mount-or as the Vatican expresses it, “The Esplanade of the Mosques”-accompanied by the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem in a show of approval of Islamic rule over the Temple Mount, Judaism’s most sacred site in the world.

When the pope finally meets with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, he will not do so at the Prime Minister's residence or in the Knesset, but at the Vatican-owned Notre Dame complex! This is also a political statement, declaring in essence: "This land is really not yours but mine!" The Prime Minister might not have to bow to the pontiff, but he might be forced to sit lower than the pope during their meeting.

Maccabi Tel Aviv released an official response Wednesday to the torrent of antisemitic tweets aimed at their Sunday Euroleague victory, saying the team is "shocked" and "disappointed" at the stream of hate expressed in its aftermath. The team's yellow colors were chosen to reflect solidarity with Jews persecuted during the Holocaust.

"Our trademark yellow was adopted by the club in the 1940's as a sign of solidarity with the Jews of Europe who were persecuted by the Nazis and forced to wear a yellow star," Jewish associations in Spain's northeastern region of Catalonia plan to file a legal complaint after recording nearly 18,000 offensive messages posted after the game on the social networking site by supporters of the Spanish side.

["Hitler was right." etc.]

Tomorrow morning, there will be a Torah scroll dedication walk through the neighborhood where this Messianic Synagogue is located in Brussels, Belgium. The neighborhood is 22% Muslim and Rabbi Tzahi Shapira who has brought the scroll to Belgium as a gift, our IAMCS Steering Committee Rabbis in attendance (Rabbis David Schneier, Chernoff, and Kluge) and those in attendance at the conference are NOT ALLOWED by law to sing until they get within 200 meters of the Messianic Synagogue building!

[http://www.livestream.com/bethyeshouachannel?utm_source=lsplayer&utm_medium=ui-play&utm_campaign=click-bait&utm_content=bethyeshouachannel]

If you identify with Israel, there will be the glory of G-d, and there will be bloody warfare.

Halleluyah!

What to do?

Prophetic: move to Israel if Jewish

Priestly/cohanut: subject of this message.

B' Midbar בְּמִדְבָּר

(Numbers) 3.44-48

(from) B' Midbar (In the desert) בְּמִדְבָּר

Bamidbar 3.14-15 ADONI said to Moshe in the Sinai Desert, "Take a census of the tribe of Levi by clans and families. Count every male a month old or over."

[This is BORING. Census data.]

Bamidbar/Nu 3

¹⁷ The names of the sons of Levi were Gershon, K'hat and M'rari.

²¹⁻²² these were the Gershon clans. Of them, 7,500 males a month old and over were counted.

²⁷ K'hat fathered... 8,600 males a month old and over were counted
³³⁻³⁴ M'rari fathered... 6,200 males a month old and over were counted.
[There is a somewhat trivial detail, digression to deal with.]

Gershon 7,500
 K'hat 8,600
 M'rari + 6,200
 22,300

BUT

Bamidbar/Nu 3.39 The total number of L'vi'im whom Moshe and Aharon counted by their clans, all the males a month old and over, was 22,000.

INCONSISTENCY!

[22,000 later in text, so has to be the right number.]

Solutions:

1. There was a scribal error. Gershon 7,500 really was 7,200

Aleph א = 1	Yod י = 10	Koph ק = 100	
Beth ב = 2	Kaph כ = 20	Resh ר = 200	
Gimel ג = 3	Lamed ל = 30	Shin ש = 300	
Daleth ד = 4	Mem מ = 40	Tau ת = 400	
He ה = 5	Nun נ = 50	Koph ק = 500	} Finals.
Vau ו = 6	Samech ס = 60	Mem מ = 600	
Zayin ז = 7	Ayin ע = 70	Nun נ = 700	
Cheth ח = 8	Pe פ = 80	Pe פ = 800	
Teth ט = 9	Tsaddi צ = 90	Tsaddi צ = 900	

ק"ח [7500] miscopied from [7200]
 ק"ח 7,500 should have been 7,200

Gershon 7,500 → 7200
 K'hat 8,600
 M'rari + 6,200
 22,000

Bamidbar/Nu 3.39 The total number of L'vi'im whom Moshe and Aharon counted by their clans, all the males a month old and over, was 22,000.

Alternative, Talmudic, solution to the inconsistency:

The reason why three hundred are left out in the sum total may be, because there were so many firstborn among the Levites, and these could not be exchanged for the firstborn of the other tribes.

[T. Bab. Becoroth, fol. 5. 1. Seems to be too few firstborns among 22,000 guys. Nevertheless]

Bamidbar 3.40-43 ADONI said to Moshe, "Register all the firstborn males of the people of Isra'el a month old and over, and determine how many there are. Then you are to take the L'vi'im for me, ADONI, in place of all the firstborn among the people of Isra'el. So there is to be a one for one exchange.

Bamidbar 3.40-43 The total number of firstborn males registered, a month old and over, of those who were counted, was 22,273. [of the whole nation]

Bamidbar/Nu 3.39 The total number of L'vi'im whom Moshe and Aharon counted by their clans, all the males a month old and over, was 22,000. [Cf 22,000 Leviim]

B'Midbar (Numbers) 3.44

מֹשֶׁה אֶל-יְיָ וַיִּדְבֹר 44
Moses, unto ADONI And spake
לְאמֹר:
saying,

B'Midbar (Numbers) 3.45

קַח אֶת-הַלְוִיִּם תַּחַת כָּל- 45
all instead of the Levites Take
בְּכוֹרֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
the firstborn among the children of Israel,
וְאֶת-בְּהֵמַת הַלְוִיִּם תַּחַת
and the cattle of the Levites instead of
בְּהֵמַתָּם וְהָיוּ-לִי הַלְוִיִּם
their cattle; and shall be mine: the Levites;
אֲנִי יְיָ
I ADONI.

B'Midbar (Numbers) 3.46

וְאֵת 46 פְּדוּיָי
And for those that are to be redeemed of
וְהַשְּׁבַעִים וְהַשְּׁלֹשָׁה
and threescore thirteen
273
וְהַמֵּאתָיִם וְהָעֶרְפִּים עַל-
the two hundred and which are more than

הַלְוִיִּם מִבְּכֹרֹת בְּנֵי
 the Levites; of the firstborn of the children of
 יִשְׂרָאֵל:
 Israel,

B' Midbar (Numbers) 3.47

וְלָקַחְתָּ חֲמִשָּׁת חֲמִשָּׁת
 47 Thou shalt even take
 אַפְּסָה חֲמִשָּׁת חֲמִשָּׁת
 apiece five apiece
 וְלִגְלוּלָהּ לְגִלְגָּלָהּ שֵׁקֶלִים
 after the shekel of by the poll, shekels
 וְלִקְדָשׁ תִּקַּח עֶשְׂרִים
 the sanctuary shalt thou take twenty
 גֵּרָה הַשֵּׁקֶל:
 (the shekel gerahs:)

[skull, ie head count.]

B' Midbar (Numbers) 3.48

וַיִּתְּתָהּ הַכֶּסֶף לְאַהֲרֹן 48
 And thou shalt give the money, unto Aaron
 וְלִבְנָיו פְּדוּיָי
 and to his sons. to be redeemed,
 הָעֹדְפִים בָּהֶם:
 the odd number wherewith of them

[The practice continued.]
Replacement of the firstborn with the Levites.]

Bamidbar/Nu 18.15-16 "Everything that comes first out of the womb, of all living things which they offer to ADONI, whether human or animal, will be yours. However, the firstborn of a human being you must redeem, and the firstborn of an unclean beast you are to redeem. The sum to be paid for redeeming anyone a month old or over is to be five shekels of silver [two ounces]
*[One month define by our people as 30 days. Actually lunar month is the time between two identical syzygies (new moons or full moons) 29.53059 days (29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes and 3 seconds).
 Ceremony for all except descendents of Aaron/Aharon to this day. I am a firstborn, done for me.]*

[Five Shekels. Govt of ישראל special coin.]



*שֵׁם זִוּיִן מְטָבֵעַ
coin ; currency*



*[JJ and Ali Castillo at birth of Dominic
I'm a firstborn. Mom had a jewelry draw with coins. Asked and told that my
redemption coins. ???
When Mom died all jewelry → sister, but never found coins.]*

Why such a big deal, to exchange firstborn for Leviim

- One for one originally
- 5 shekels each for short
- 5 shekels forever

Sea change in the method of redemption/access to G-d.

[Real subject of this message.]

^{T`hillim/Ps 49.8-9} **No one can ever redeem his brother or give God a ransom for him, because the price for him is too high...to have him live on eternally and never see the pit.**

We can't just do redemption/access to G-d as we might like.

^{Mes. Jews/Heb 5.1-4} **For every cohen gadol taken from among men is appointed to act on people's behalf with regard to things concerning God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins...And no one takes this honor upon himself, rather, he is called by God, just as Aharon was.**

[We can't just do redemption/access to G-d as we might like.]

¹ Tim. 2.5-6 For God is one; and there is but one Mediator between God and humanity, Yeshua the Messiah, himself human, who gave himself as a ransom on behalf of all, thus providing testimony to God's purpose at just the right time. *[Way to G-d is holy, designated, restricted. Look at redemptive history.]*

First access point to G-d :

In Gan Eden, mankind needed no redeeming mediator.

Beresheet/Gen 3.8 They heard the voice of ADONI, God, walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze. *[Open unhindered, unclouded fellowship]*

Second type of redeemers, access to G-d: After the Fall of the Human Race, we each were our own redemptive mediators/priest/cohen.

Ber/Gen 4.3-5 In the course of time Kayin brought an offering to ADONI from the produce of the soil; and Hevel too brought from the firstborn of his sheep, including their fat. ADONI accepted Hevel and his offering but did not accept Kayin and his offering.

[Sin must have it's penalty, it's remediation. But the right one. Kayin/Cain brought a sacrifice without death/blood/atonement.

This doesn't stop. We have to continue our own cohanut/priesthood. Every day before Him. We're going to see several forms of redemption. Cumulative.

So, are you your own cohen? Priest. Offering daily?

"I never sin, so I don't need to."

Believers are not perfect, but forgiven...seeking perfection.]

Third type of redeemers: Then G-d empowered fathers as the redemptive mediators/priest/cohen.

Ber/Gen 12. 6-7 Avram passed through the land to the place called Sh'khem, to the oak of Moreh. The Kena'ani were then in the land. ADONI appeared to Avram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So he built an altar there to ADONI, who had appeared to him.

[This also doesn't stop: Fathers, husbands, friends.]

Ber/Gen 13.2-4 Avram went up from Egypt - he, his wife and everything he had, and Lot with him - into the Negev. Avram became wealthy, with much cattle, silver and gold. 3 As he went on his travels from the Negev, he came to Beit-El, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Beit-El and 'Ai, where he had first built the altar; and there Avram called on the name of ADONI.

Ber/Gen 13.14-18 ADONI said to Avram, after Lot had moved away from him, "Look all around you from where you are, to the north, the south, the east and the west. All the land you see I will give to you and your descendants forever, and I will make your descendants as numerous as the specks of dust on the earth - so that if a person can count the specks of dust on the earth, then your descendants can be counted. Get up and walk through the length and breadth of the land, because I will give it to you." Avram moved his tent and came to live by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron. There he built an altar to ADONI.

Ber/Gen 25.29-34 One day when Ya'akov had cooked some stew, 'Esav came in from the open country, exhausted, and said to Ya'akov, "Please! Let me gulp down some of that red stuff - that red stuff! I'm exhausted!" Ya'akov answered, "First sell me your rights as the firstborn." "Look, I'm about to die!" said 'Esav. "What use to me are my rights as the firstborn?"

[Firstborn was the cohen/priest redemptive agent.]

Ber/Gen 25.29-34 Ya'akov said, "First, swear to me!" So he swore to him, thus selling his birthright to Ya'akov. Then Ya'akov gave him bread and lentil stew; he ate and drank, got up and went on his way. Thus 'Esav showed how little he valued his birthright.

Iyov/Job 1.5 After a cycle of banquets, Iyov would send for them to come and be consecrated; then he would get up early in the morning and offer burnt offerings for each of them, because Iyov said, "My sons might have sinned and blasphemed God in their thoughts." This is what Iyov did every time.

[Implies possibly a worship service of some kind WITH his sons.]

Fourth type of redeemers: Just before Sinai revelation

Shmot/Ex 19.5-6 Now if you will pay careful attention to what I say and keep my covenant, then you will be my own treasure from among all the peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you will be a kingdom of cohanim for me, a nation set apart.

[Shma. This is Israel's call. Still doing it to a certain extent. Bringing Torah and all the scripture to humanity.]

Shmot/Ex. 20.18-20 All the people experienced the thunder, the lightning, the sound of the shofar, and the mountain smoking. When the people saw it, they trembled. Standing at a distance, they said to Moshe, "You, speak with us; and we will listen. But don't let God speak with us, or we will die."

[Might be the saddest words in the Bible. Good and bad to this.]

Moshe answered the people, "Don't be afraid, because God has come only to test you and make you fear him, so that you won't commit sins.

[Good and bad to this.]

Fifth type of redeemers:

B'Midbar (Numbers) 3.45a

כָּל־	תַּחַת	לְלוֹוִיִּם	אֶת־	קַח	⁴⁵
all	instead of	the Levites		Take	
יִשְׂרָאֵל		בְּבָנָי		בְּכוֹר	
Israel,	among the children of			the firstborn	

[This actually worked great at times. We sing Ps 133, actually about Levitical priesthood.]

T'hilim 1331-3 Oh, how good, how pleasant it is for brothers to live together in harmony. It is like fragrant oil on the head that runs down over the beard, over

the beard of Aharon, and flows down on the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon that settles on the mountains of Tziyon. For it was there that ADONI ordained the blessing of everlasting life.

[Robes and work were anointed with the smell of heaven, the love of great camaraderie in the Ruakh. There were rich times in the Temple days, worship, glory, joy, love.

That's why to this day, the Temple Mount and Jerusalem is special to Jews and to all people of Biblical faith.

*Wed. May 28 is Jerusalem Day. Special speaker the night before in Teerosh. Pope Francis is going to the "Esplanade of the Mosques" !!!!!!!
However, by Yeshayahu/Isaiah's time:]*

Yeshayahu/Is 1.11-15 **"Why are all those sacrifices offered to me?" asks ADONI. "I'm fed up with burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fattened animals! I get no pleasure from the blood of bulls, lambs and goats! Yes, you come to appear in my presence; but who asked you to do this, to trample through my courtyards? Stop bringing worthless grain offerings! They are like disgusting incense to me! Rosh-Hodesh, Shabbat, calling convocations - I can't stand evil together with your assemblies! Everything in me hates your Rosh-Hodesh and your festivals; they are a burden to me - I'm tired of putting up with them! "When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; no matter how much you pray, I won't be listening; because your hands are covered with blood.**

Zekh 6.12-13 **ADONI-Tzva'ot says: "There is coming a man whose name is Tzemach [Sprout]. He will sprout up from his place and rebuild the temple of ADONI. Yes, he will rebuild the temple of ADONI; and he will take up royal splendor, sitting and ruling from his throne. There will be a cohen before his throne; and they will accept each other's advice in complete harmony.**

Mes Jews/Heb 7.24-27 **Because he lives forever, his position as cohen does not pass on to someone else; and consequently, he is totally able to deliver those who approach God through him; since he is alive forever and thus forever able to intercede on their behalf. This is the kind of cohen gadol that meets our need - holy, without evil, without stain, set apart from sinners and raised higher than the heavens; one who does not have the daily necessity, like the other cohanim g'dolim, of offering up sacrifices first for their own sins and only then for those of the people; because he offered one sacrifice, once and for all, by offering up himself.**

1 Kefa 2.9-10 But you are a chosen people, the King's cohanim, a holy nation, a people for God to possess! Why? In order for you to declare the praises of the One who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; before, you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Cohanut of believers:

1. Direct Access to God Mes Jews/Heb 10

So, brothers, we have confidence to use the way into the Holiest Place opened by the blood of Yeshua. He inaugurated it for us as a new and living

way through the parokhet, by means of his flesh. We also have a great cohen over God's household.

Therefore, let us approach the Holiest Place with a sincere heart, in the full assurance that comes from trusting - with our hearts sprinkled clean from a bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

[<http://tifwe.org/resources/the-priesthood-of-all-believers/>

Well might Mary, Queen of Scots say, "I fear John Knox's prayer more than an army of ten thousand men." - See more at: <http://tifwe.org/resources/the-priesthood-of-all-believers/#sthash.DfDvjf4k.dpuf>]

2. Spiritual Sacrifices

"Through him let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name." Above all, believers can be confident that God will accept their sacrifice.

3. Prophetic Role

^{1 K 2.9} But you are a chosen people, the King's cohanim, a holy nation, a people for God to possess! Why? In order for you to declare the praises of the One who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

[Different kinds of prophetic proclamation: announce, explain, say, testify, persuade, confess, charge, rebuke, admonish, exhort, etc. Everyone can and should bear witness to Messiah in some way—according to their gifts.]

4. Agent of Reconciliation

1 Timothy 2:1 says that believers should offer prayers, supplications, and intercessions for all men, particularly for rulers.

1. Edenic access
2. Individual cohanut/priesthood.
3. Patriarchal cohanut by birthright
4. All Israelis
5. Leviim
6. Messiah as Cohen HaGadol/High Priest, all of us as cohaneem in Messiah. All you are, all you do, is ministry.