

יום הולדת משיח שמיח
Yom Huledet M'sheekhee Sa-may-akh
A day of Covenant Celebration & Renewal

Thursday message summary [First day of Sukkot] ^{Nekh 8.17} There was very great joy on Sukkot. Why?
Condensed points:

1. Living in huts is strange but sweet. Ignoring perfectly good house...a bit like parachute jumping. Reminds us of the brevity and insecurity of life, but G-d's glory cloud intervention.
2. Hanging out together and worshiping elicits dopamine and oxytocin. Guests and hospitality.
3. Shaking of vegetation is silly. "You shall take *ool'kakhtem lakhem* וּלְקַחְתֶּם לָכֶם" *makes us smile, expresses unity.*
4. We have searched our hearts and repented thoroughly [?] in the 10 Days and on Yom Kippur. Enough already. Enjoy the transformation. Enjoy G-d's forgiveness and grace and power!
5. The water drawing celebrates LIFE physically, and the Ruakh/Spirit. The Talmud states that "one who has not witnessed the Festival of the Water Drawing has not seen joy in his lifetime!"
6. Sukkot is a time of the second tithe. First tithe for cohenim, leviim, second tithe vacation savings!

So there was GREAT joy in Nekh 8.

Very next verses:

Nechemyah (Nehemiah) 9:1-3 On the twenty-fourth day of this month [day after end of Sukkot, ie Oct. 14] the people of Isra'el, wearing sackcloth and with dirt on them, assembled for a fast. [Came back for more: RH, YK, Skt...] Those descended from Isra'el separated themselves from all foreigners; then they stood up and confessed their own sins and the iniquities of their ancestors. Standing where they were, they read in the scroll of the Torah of ADONI their God for one-quarter of the day. For another quarter they confessed and prostrated themselves before ADONI their God.

Why returned for more? Joy of Sukkot → Covenant renewal! Identity of Israel is all about covenant.

Avrahamic: ^{Ber/Gen 12.2-3,7} I will make of you a great nation, I will bless you, and I will make your name great; and you are to be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, but I will curse anyone who curses you; and by you all the families of the earth will be blessed. To your descendants I will give this land."

Moshe: ^{Vayikra/Lev 26.3-4,14,} ""If you live by my regulations, observe my mitzvot and obey them; then I will provide the rain you need in its season, the land will yield its produce, and the trees in the field will yield their fruit...But if you will not listen to me and obey all these mitzvoth...you I will disperse among the nations, and I will draw out the sword in pursuit after you; your land will be a desolation and your cities a wasteland.

Renewed: ^{Yermiyahu/Jer 31.30,32} Here, the days are coming," says ADONI, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'udah...I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my people."

Realized: ^{Lk 1.46-47,54-55} Then Miryam said, "My soul magnifies ADONI ; and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior...He has taken the part of his servant Isra'el, mindful of the mercy which he promised to our fathers, to Avraham and his seed forever. ^{Lk 1.67-68} Z'kharyah was filled with the Ruakh HaKodeshand spoke this prophecy: "Praised be ADONI, the God of Isra'el, because he has visited and made a

ransom to liberate his people...that he might show the mercy promised to our fathers — that he would remember his holy covenant, the oath he swore before Avraham avinu

Messiah's Birth was celebrated the first time, and is celebrated now, because of covenant fulfillment!

My first Dec. as a believer, 1969 “Born is the King of Israel.” Wonder, delight, joy. We seemed so abandoned before the wrath of implacable and unstoppable foes.

Yermiyahu/Jer 31.9-11 Nations, hear the word of ADONI ! Proclaim it in the coastlands far away. Say: “He who scattered Isra’el is gathering him, guarding him like a shepherd his flock.” For ADONI has ransomed Ya’akov, redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They will come and sing on the heights of Tziyon, streaming to the goodness of ADONI.

Acts 3.12-13 Seeing this, Kefa addressed the people: “Men of Isra’el! Why are you amazed at this? Or why do you stare at us as if we had made this man walk through some power or godliness of our own? The God of Avraham, Yitz’chak and Ya’akov, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Yeshua — the same Yeshua you handed over and disowned before Pilate. From Shmoneh Esray?

Ba-rukh a-tah Ah-do-ni כָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ

E-lo-hay-nu vay-lo-hay avo-tay-nu אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ

Eh-lo-hay Av-rah-am Eh-lo-hay Yits-khak Vay-lo-hay Ya-a-kov אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב

Note the covenantal context of praises and wonder-struck worship at His birth.

Shimon, apparently in Pidyon HaBen, Redemption of the Firstborn, Ex. 13.15 From people, you are to redeem every firstborn son. Bamidbar/Nu 4.47 You are to take five *shekels* [two ounces] for each of these.

Lk.2.29-32 “Now may You let Your servant go in peace, O Sovereign Master, according to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples: ‘A light for revelation to the nations’ and the glory of Your people Israel.”

Lk.2.36-38 There was also a prophetess named Hannah Bat-P’nu’el, of the tribe of Asher. She was a very old woman...she was eighty-four...She came by at that moment and began thanking God and speaking about the child to everyone who was waiting for Yerushalayim to be liberated.

[Why consider Messiah’s Birth today? One of several reasons [Priestly order of Aviyah, star charts]:

- The Roman Senate wanted to give Augustus the title, Pater Patraie, “Father of his Country.” Augustus refused unless the people agreed, so this called for a census and a pledge of allegiance from those enrolled.
- The pledge was especially required from anyone in a royal line in any province who might try to claim the crown at some time. This included the line of David in Judea, of which both Joseph and Miriam were a part.
- The decree for the registration and pledge was issued in early August of 3 BCE. and had been completed by the end of the year.
- On February 5, 2 BC, Augustus became Pater Patraie.
- Therefore, Yeshua was born between Aug, 3 BCE [counting down] and Dec. 3 BCE
- Not on Saturnalia, Dec. 25]

Today we’d like to celebrate Messiah’s Birthday as they did the first time, with a covenant renewal, using Nekh 9 as a model.

Sukkot in Nekh 8 great joy. Nekh 9 came back for more! Ro 2.4 God’s kindness leads you to repentance.

1. read and confessed

Nechemyah (Nehemiah) 9:1-3 **On the twenty-fourth day of this month [day after end of Sukkot, ie Oct. 14] the people of Isra'el, wearing sackcloth and with dirt on them, assembled for a fast. [Came back for more: RH, YK, Skt...] Those descended from Isra'el separated themselves from all foreigners; then they stood up and confessed their own sins and the iniquities of their ancestors. Standing where they were, they read in the scroll of the Torah of ADONI their God for one-quarter of the day. For another quarter they confessed and prostrated themselves before ADONI their God.**

2. Acknowledged covenant

Nechemyah (Nehemiah) 9:1 **""You are ADONI, the God who chose Avram, brought him out of Ur-Kasdim and gave him the name of Avraham. Finding that he was faithful to you, you made a covenant with him to give the land of the Kena'ani**

3. Acknowledgement and praise for past deliverance.

Nechemyah (Nehemiah) 9:12 **""In a column of cloud you led them by day, and by night in a column of fire, so that they would have light ahead of them on the way that they were to go.**

4. Covenant affirmation

Nechemyah (Nehemiah) 9.32 **""Now therefore, our God, great, mighty, fearsome God, who keeps both covenant and grace: let not all this suffering seem little to you that has come on us, our kings, our leaders, our cohanim, our prophets, our ancestors, and on all your people, from the times of the kings of Ashur until this very day.**

5. Covenant renewal

Nechemyah (Nehemiah) 9.38, 10.29 **""In view of all this, we are making a binding covenant, putting it in writing and having it sealed by our leaders, our L'vi'im and our cohanim."... swearing an oath, accompanied by a curse [in case of noncompliance], as follows: "We will live by God's Torah, given by Moshe the servant of God, and will perform and obey all the mitzvot, rulings and laws of ADONAI our Lord."**

Messianic community Messiah's Birthday Covenant Renewal?

Rev 3.14-22 **"To the angel of the Messianic Community in Laodicea, write: 'Here is the message from the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the Ruler of God's creation: "I know what you are doing: you are neither cold nor hot. How I wish you were either one or the other!...My advice to you is to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich; and white clothing, so that you may be dressed and not have to be ashamed of your nakedness; and eye salve to rub on your eyes, so that you may see. As for me, I rebuke and discipline everyone I love; so exert yourselves, and turn from your sins! Here, I'm standing at the door, knocking. If someone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he will eat with me. I will let him who wins the victory sit with me on my throne, just as I myself also won the victory and sat down with my Father on his throne. Those who have ears, let them hear what the Spirit is saying to the Messianic communities."""**

Covenant renewal ~Nekh 10 and Rev 3

- 1. Commit to the Word: Torah and B'sorah, Instructions and Empowerment**
- 2. Commit to Shabbat**
- 3. Commit to giving**
- 4. Time with Yeshua: gold, eye salve, insight.**
- 5. Purity: white clothing**
- 6. Eat with Him**
- 7. Sit with Him**