

February 3, 2024  
Ephesians 3:1-4  
Painful Apostleship

Coming soon to a street near you!



Some of us know  
Captain Obvious  
all too well!

IDF wedding during wartime. V  
Bridal gown in khaki green. [I was sent the mp4  
and couldn't find my friend's source. This one is  
similar] <https://youtu.be/XKz-mRCPya4>



Chopped liver statue of a swan,  
from the glory days of the Catskills.

Speaking of food ...



In the kitchen stove as of Wed., Jan. 31 or so. I went over to see, maybe to do the self-cleaning cycle. Runs 3 hours, so I decided to try elbow grease with a green scrubby. 10:06 p.m. Thursday night till 10:58 p.m. 52 minutes.



Please be careful about use of the facilities.

**PAINFUL  
APOSTLESHIP**  
**EPHESIANS 3:1-4**  
Rabbi Shmuel Wolkenfeld

February 3, 2024 | 24th of Sh'vat, 5784  
ב"ד בשבט תשפ"ד

**OR HAOLAM**  
MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

Eph.3.1-3 It is a **consequence of this that I, Sha'ul, am a prisoner of the Messiah Yeshua on behalf of you Gentiles.** I assume that you have heard of the work God in his grace has given me to do **for your benefit**, and that it was by a revelation that this secret plan was made known to me. I have already written about it briefly,

In consequence of what?

- A Single new humanity
- Killing the Enmity
- Acceptance of Gentiles

*[A new race, sort of (not replacing Israel's calling)]*

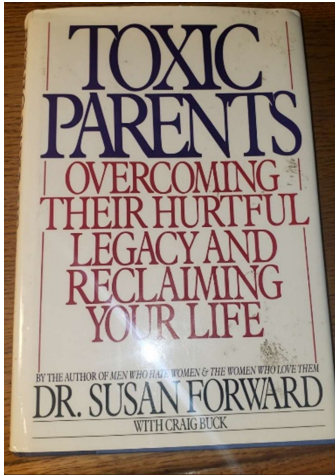
- I, Sha'ul, am a prisoner of the Messiah Yeshua on behalf of you Gentiles
- to do for your benefit

*[Shaul/Paul did a LOT for them. Ruakh downloaded a message to me such as in no commentary. Fasten seat belt?]*



The Jewish mother—that nervous, guilt-inducing, overbearing creature exaggerated and popularized by Philip Roth and Woody Allen

*[<https://slate.com/human-interest/2016/08/the-redemption-of-the-jewish-mother.html>]*



Parents who cause us emotional or physical pain. Parents who ignored our needs or overburdened us with guilt.

How many Jewish mothers does it take to change a light bulb?

An infinite number.

They'd all rather sit in the dark and make their children feel guilty.

From 1998 to 2006 there was Bobbi (Debbie Reynolds), Grace's narcissistic, shallow, performance-loving mother on *Will & Grace*. She once told her daughter, "Honey, just tell me what you want me to criticize and I'll do it. I want you to be happy."

*[<https://www.tabletmag.com/sections/community/articles/jewish-mothers-on-tv>]*

A son phones his Jewish mother.

"Mom, How are you. It's been a month since we talked."

"Not too good."

"Why not?"

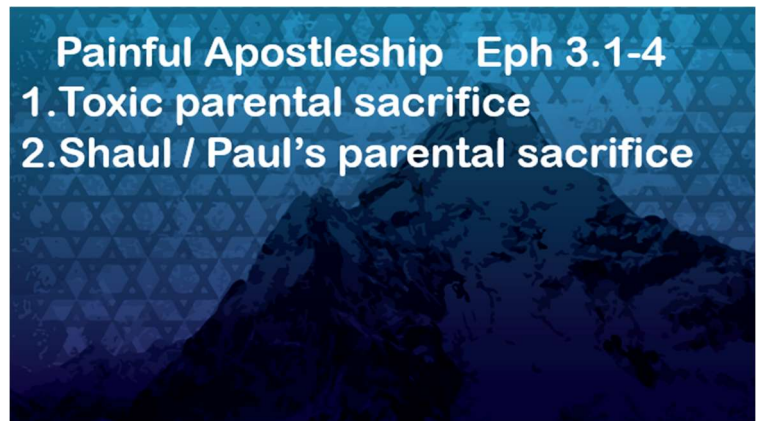
"I haven't eaten in a month so my mouth wouldn't be full to talk when you called."

My Mom: "Hitler killed our bodies. You are killing our souls." *[Toxic unappeasable guilt.]*

Parental relationship is supposed to be:

2 Cor 12:14 Look, I am ready this third time to come and visit you; and I will not be a burden to you; for it is not what you own that I want, but you! **Children are not supposed to save up for their parents, but parents for their children.**

*[Book I just showed you is NOT Yeshua based, but it's a good descriptive. Sent to me by my sister. Yeah, we have the same parents. Healing, processing, ministry, counselling done and more. You may have work to do on your inner life to arrive at a sense of worth and nurture.]*



Acts.9.15-16 But the Lord said to him, “Go, because this man is my chosen instrument to carry my name to the Goyim, even to their kings, and to the sons of Isra’el as well. For I myself will show him how much he will have to suffer on account of my name.”

*[Go serve implies suffer. Really?]*

Acts 26.16-18 But get up, and stand on your feet! I have appeared to you to appoint you to serve and bear witness to what you have already seen of me, and to what you will see when I appear to you in the future. **I will deliver you from the People and from the Goyim.** I am sending you to open their eyes; so that they will turn from darkness to light, from the power of the Adversary to God, and thus receive forgiveness of sins

*[“Deliver” implies adversity, difficulty]*

Acts 26.16-18 and a place among those who have been separated for holiness by putting their trust in me.

Ro 15.15-16 I have written you quite boldly by way of reminding you about them, because of **the grace God has given me to be a servant of the Messiah Yeshua for the Gentiles,**

*[Grace needed for difficulties.]*

Ro 15.15-16 with the **priestly duty** of presenting the Good News of God, so that the Gentiles may be an acceptable offering, made holy by the Ruach HaKodesh.

Col 1.23-24 This is the Good News that has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven; and I, Sha’ul, have become a servant of it. I rejoice in **my present sufferings on your behalf!** Yes, I am completing in my **own flesh what has been lacking of the Messiah’s afflictions,** on behalf of his Body, the Messianic Community.

Gal 2.19-20 My dear children, I am **suffering the pains of giving birth to you all over again** — and this will go on until the Messiah takes shape in you. I wish I could be present with you now and change my tone of voice. I don’t know what to do with you.

**[It DOES take real suffering love to be a parent, physically and spiritually.]**

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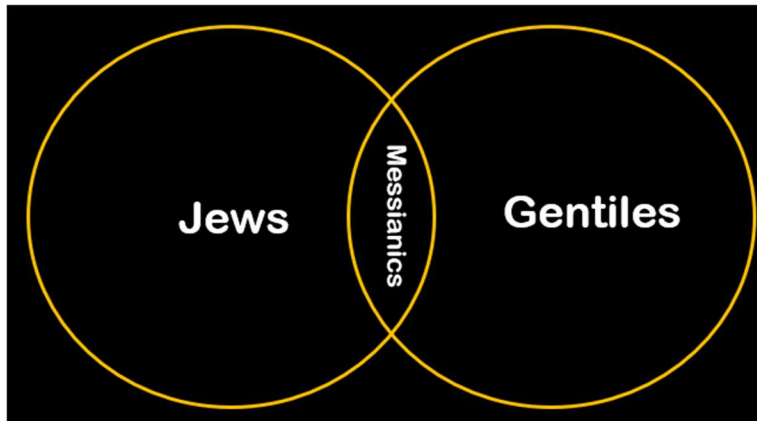
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**OR HAOLAM**  
 MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

**Painful Apostleship Eph 3.1-4**  
 1. Toxic parental sacrifice  
 2. Shaul / Paul's parental sacrifice  
 3. Benefits the Ephesians received.

All in this section of Eph ch 2.  
 This is WHY Shaul labored for them, to give them ...



Eph 2.15 from the two groups a single new humanity and thus make **shalom**,  
*[Single body ~ marriage, unity one flesh, yet still know who you are.]*

Venn Diagram.  
 I don't claim proportionality by area, only the concept.

Eph 2.18 Through him we both have **access** in one Spirit to the Father.

Eph 2.19 **Fellow-citizens** with God's people  
*[DMW vote ~Nov 2018 Also Joelle]*

Eph 2.20 built on the **foundation** of the emissaries and the prophets, with the cornerstone being Yeshua the Messiah himself.

Eph 2.21 the whole building being **fitted together**

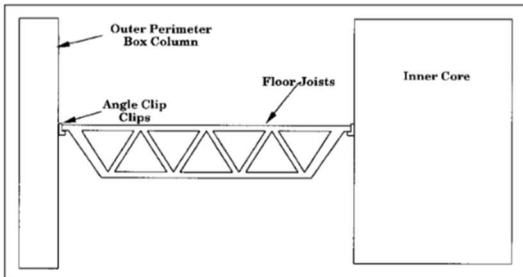
*[We are dependent on Messiah and the Word, and then also on each other as a body. I had a home on 73<sup>rd</sup> St. Foundation started to cave in. It took I-beams inside, membrane and French drain outside.]*



# New York World Trade Center

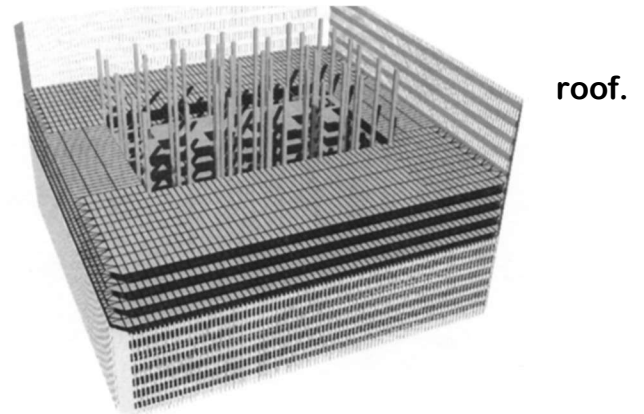
Well designed for storms and fires. Built well, but not well enough for the exceptional attack ...

I visited a friend who worked there ~1969, no pillars. And in the summer of 2001 my kids and I were on the Ate Nathan's Kosher Hot dogs and knishes.



Structural system of the World Trade Center buildings

Beams were softened, then twisted due to uneven heating.



Structural Steel of the World Trade Center buildings

The main incident during the impact of the airplane was the explosion of 10,000 US gallons of fuel. This explosion ignited the fire inside the buildings. The weight of the fuel was one-third of the weight of the aircraft, the structure could have survived the impact of aircraft but the fire worsened its condition.

[<https://theconstructor.org/case-study/world-trade-center-reasons-failure-9-11/221718/>]



Eph 2.21b-22 and it is growing into a holy temple in union with the Lord. Yes, in union with him, you yourselves are being built together into a spiritual dwelling-place for God!

*[In union with the L-rd and each other, we can bear ANY attack. And it will come, in surprising ways. Accusations, wounds, disrespected. Reason we need small groups, accountability. Are you accountable to anyone? Knows your inner life and sins and struggles? Your kishkas, Yiddish term. More small group leaders needed. Youth group, Lo Kashish, Men's Group, Ladies Havurah. Not for entertainment, for growth.]*

The Torah states (Ex. 19:2):

וַיִּסְעוּ מִרְפִּידִים וַיָּבֹאוּ מִדְבַּר סִינַי וַיַּחֲנוּ בְּמִדְבַּר וַיִּחַן שָׁם יִשְׂרָאֵל נֹגֵד הָהָר.

"And they traveled from Rephidim and came upon the Sinai Desert, and they camped in the desert, and it camped there, Israel, opposite the mountain."

[Note: Anomaly, plural form of verb to singular. Ulpan Or.]

Rashi addresses this issue by commenting that Israel at that point in the journey was:

"as one being, with one heart." *[If we are in unity, we will receive revelation, and do great things.*

*Jeremy's great message on the halakha of love.]*

The source of all these blessings in this section, Eph ch 2 ...

Eph 2.13 ... brought near through the shedding of the Messiah's blood.

Eph 2.14 Within His flesh He made powerless the hostility

Eph 2.16 ... reconcile to God both in a single body by being executed on a stake as a criminal

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1. Toxic parental sacrifice
2. Shaul / Paul's parental sacrifice
3. Benefits the Ephesians received.
4. Our duty to pay it forward.

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1 Yn 3.16-18 The way that we have come to know love is through his having laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers! If someone has worldly possessions and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how can he be loving God? Children, let us love not with words and talk, but with actions and in reality!

Mishlei/Prov 24.10-12 If you slack off on a day of distress, your strength is small indeed. Yes, rescue those being dragged off to death — won't you save those about to be killed? If you say, "We knew nothing about it," won't he who weighs hearts discern it? Yes, he who guards you will know it and repay each one as his deeds deserve.

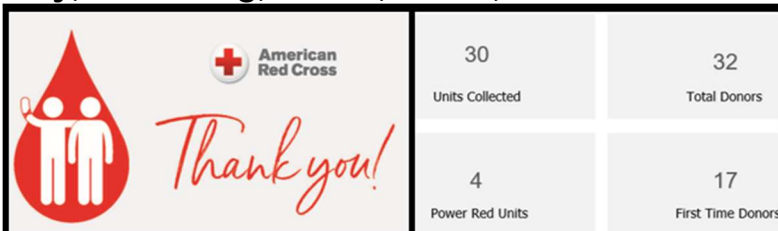
How can we pay forward the benefits and blessings given, sometimes at great sacrifice, to us?

**FIRST:**



Or HaOlam Red Cross Blood Drive,  
Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024

Jim Adler suggested it years ago. Linda Elser, Lori,  
Amy, Eric Poling, Louise, Sheila, Jim

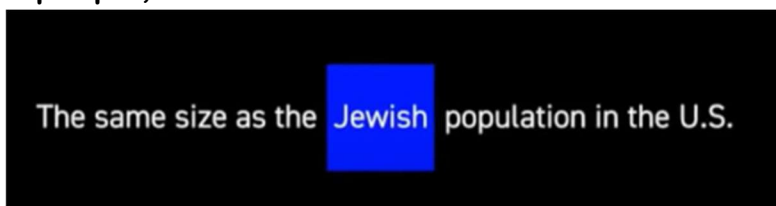


The American Red Cross team said,  
“You all crushed your goal!! This was  
an amazing drive. No first-time venues  
had that kind of success.”

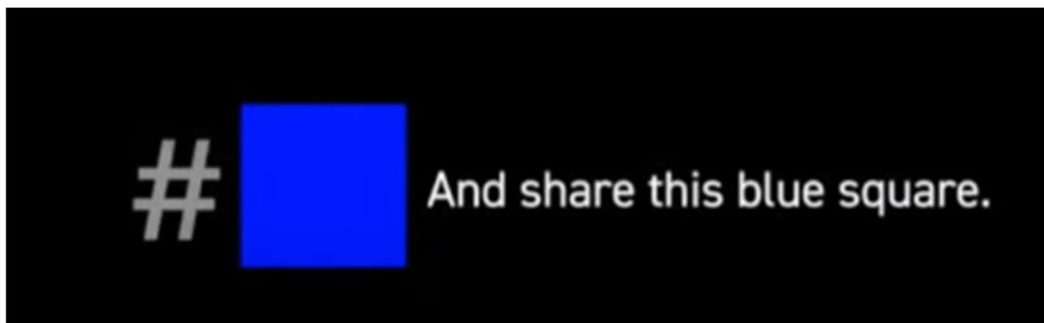
Mitzvah, blessing to community health.  
Plus 3 communication tours of the  
sanctuary 4 people. Good conversations.  
Do again? 16 weeks minimum. Yearly or 2x/year.

**SECOND:**

Helping Jewish people, and Israel



Size, that is proportion.



Pins on the literature table. Take one and wear it and remember those two numbers. Conversation starter. 2.4% and 55%. Or approximate. 2% and 50% communicates the idea.





Billboard on I-435 by Culture House in support of Israel. \$5000 / mo. Got 2 months.

What are we doing to support Israel?  
We will give some of our recent end of year surplus. Individually?

**THIRD, BE MINDFUL THAT MESSIAH IS RETURNING SOON!**

From Israel Pochtar, leader of Messianic Cong in Ashdod.

“These days I’ve had the privilege of taking part in a conference in Jerusalem organized by the International Christian Embassy at Jerusalem (ICEJ).

During the conference, one of the attendees met a rabbi in the same hotel where the conference was taking place. The rabbi happened to be part of a larger group of Israelis that were evacuated from the town of Sderot, bordering with Gaza, and were temporarily staying at the same hotel of the conference. The Rabbi got excited to see all



the nationalities come to support Israel, and asked to give an expression of thanks. He didn't speak English.”

<https://www.beithallel-israel.org/video/a-rabbis-powerful-testimony-jews-and-christians-waiting-together-for-the-messiah/>



1. Do you KNOW Yeshua and drinking the water of LIFE?
2. Are you hearing daily from His Word?
3. How are you applying what you heard?
4. Are you offering that water of life to anyone?