

**Ulises Acosta drash ..... Ki Tavo.....September 1, 2018**

v'haya ki tavo "when you enter"... וְהָיָה כִּי־תָבֹא

"v' haya" same as "v' yehi"

v'yehi – negative / v'haya – positive

Why a positive tone with 98 "curses?" Because they are for our good!

Why? To abstain from sin prevents evil results, sin brings evil results.

Bechukotai – "by my decrees" (Lev26.3–27.34) similar theme, blessings for obeying, curses for disobeying

Bechukotai – before Shavuot Ki Tavo – before Rosh HaShanah

Holidays – associated with giving of first-fruits

- Passover: Lev 23.10
- Passover/Feast of Weeks (Shavuot): Num28.26
- Tabernacles (Sukkot): Exo23.16
- Passover lambs: sacrificed on Nisan 14
- Nisan 15: first day of Passover
- Feast of first-fruits: Nisan 16
- First-fruits portion at Passover was called the "omer." It was forbidden to eat from the crop until this portion had been offered (Lev23.14)

Read: Deut26.1-11

For Israel to enter into joy "in every good thing which God was giving" they were to:

- take first-fruits of the ground to the place where God's presence dwelt, offer it back to Him
- this act was supported by a verbal confession recognizing the grace and mercy of God, who brought them from slavery to prosperity
- make a confession of God's faithfulness to hear and act when they were in trouble as promised
  - this would be a confession giving YHVH credit for their prosperity, in gratitude Israel would recognize that and offer the first-fruits back to Him from whom it had all come

Hebrew translated “praise” is used for the worship of the God of Israel – L’ishtajavot (Root: shacha; Strongs #7812)

- literally, “to bow down” – it has to do with humbling ourselves in expressing love, devotion and dependence in YHVH, who is good, faithful and just
- implication – this celebration is not automatic, it requires heart, will (passion)

Deut26.5. “You shall answer and say before YHVH your God, ‘My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down to Egypt and sojourned there ...’”

- a reference to Gen25.20 & 28.5 these identify Rebekah’s father Betu’el as an Aramean. He was the son of Abraham’s brother Nahor & Jacob serving under Laban

Deut26.12-15 When you finish tithing the full tenth of your produce in the third year

- part of the “tithe set aside” of all their fruits was set aside for those who were ministering on their behalf (Levites)
- part of the tithe was to assist the alien living in the land, a portion was to go to the fatherless and widows
  - Jacob1.27 Pure and undefiled religion before our God and Father is to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world

Deut27-28 Israel is given further instructions. Once in the land, they must go to the two mountains outside Shechem, near the place where YHVH appeared to Abram when he first entered Canaan (Gen12.7)

- Curses for specific sins listed in 27.14-26. Promises of blessings for obedience in 28:1-15. Curses for disobedience begin in 28:15 to vs. 68
- Because you did not serve YHVH your God with joy and gladness ... for the abundance of everything ... you shall serve your enemies (vs47).
  - Note: serving with joy in abundance

Sadly, they choose to walk away from joy, gladness ... (eventually turning down the source of blessings, Messiah)

- Dan9.11 Yes, all Israel has transgressed Your instructions and turned away, not obeying Your voice. Therefore, the curse and sworn judgment written in the Torah of Moses the servant of God has been poured out upon us, for we have sinned against Him
- Yet, even under that curse, there is a promise based in an “everlasting love” which has “kept watch” over Israel during so many centuries ...
  - Jer31.2-3 “From afar YHVH appeared to me.” “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love. Therefore I have drawn you with loving-kindness. Again I will build you, so you will be rebuilt, virgin Israel! Again you will take up your tambourines as ornaments, and go out to dances of merry-makers.

The Haftarah, Isa60 foretells that awakening!

What should be our attitude? Rom9.1 – I tell the truth in Messiah, I do not lie, my conscience assuring me in the Ruach HaKodesh that my sorrow is great and the anguish in my heart unending. For I would pray that I myself were cursed, banished from Messiah for the sake of my people, my own flesh and blood who are Israelites. To them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the Torah, the Temple service and the promises. To them belong the patriarchs and from them, according to the flesh, the Messiah, who is over all ...

Is it unfair that God makes such promises to Israel after their failures?

- Rom9.14 What shall we say then? There is no injustice with God, is there? May it never be! For to Moses He says, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”
- Have we done any better?

Deu27.15-26 “And all the people shall answer and say, ‘AMEN!’”

- Twelve times the people are called to say Amen. This isn’t a mere ‘period’ at the end of a prayer!
- In Hebrew “amen” is made up of three letters, which also form the root for the words trust, faithfulness, belief, and to believe.
- To say “Amen!” means, “I have faith in this”; “I believe this to be true”

Should we consider these prohibitions obsolete, replace them because we don't live in the land or are under a so called "new covenant?" If not, what fruit can we offer then?

How about the following? Gal5.22 But the fruit of the Ruach is

1. love
2. joy
3. peace
4. patience
5. kindness
6. goodness
7. faithfulness
8. gentleness, and
9. self-control, against such things there is no law.

Now those who belong to Messiah have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Side note: Who inspired Moshe, the Prophets?

- Num11.25 He took some of the Ruach that was on him and placed it on each of the 70 elders ...
- 2Tim3.16 All scripture (not part) is inspired by God, profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, training ... that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work
- 2Pet1.20 no prophecy of scripture comes about from personal interpretation. For no prophecy was ever brought forth by human will; rather, people spoke from God as they were moved by the Ruach Ha-Kodesh

What is to walk by the Spirit?

- Gal5.16 But I say, walk by the Ruach, (begin with us) and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Ruach, but the Ruach sets its desire against the flesh, for these are in opposition to one another, so that you cannot do what you want.
  - (this is a reality, like as law)
- Rom7.14-15 For we know that the Torah is spiritual; but I am of the flesh... For I do not understand what I am doing, for what I don't want, this I practice; but what I hate, this I do.
- Gal5.13 ...you were called to freedom (like Israel) but don't let your freedom become an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole Torah can be summed up in a single saying: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (quote from Torah)
- Gal5.18-23 if you are led by the Ruach you are not under law. the deeds of the flesh are clear: sexual immorality, impurity, indecency, idolatry,

witchcraft, hostility, strife, jealousy, rage, selfishness, dissension, factions, envy, drunkenness, partying, and things like these. I'm warning you... as I warned you before...those who do such things will not inherit God's kingdom (curses). But the fruit of the Ruach is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, against such things there is no law. (blessings) ... those who belong to Messiah have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires

- (not Torah) because Rom7.14 says we know that the Torah is spiritual)

**Our offering of first-fruits begins here!**

- 2Kefa1.3-11 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and virtue. Through these things He has given us His precious and magnificent promises (made to Israel) so that through them you (nations) may become partakers of the divine nature, since you have escaped the corruption that evil desires have brought into the world ... for this very reason, making every effort (thru actions) add to your faith (isn't faith enough) virtue; (strength, efficiency) and to virtue, knowledge ... to knowledge, self-control; to self-control, patience; to patience, godliness; to godliness, brotherly love; to brotherly love, love. For if these qualities are in you and increasing, they keep you from becoming idle and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah. But anyone who lacks these qualities is blind, nearsighted because he has forgotten his cleansing from past sins Therefore, make all the more effort to make your calling and election certain for if you keep doing these things (by faith only?) you will never stumble. For in this way entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Messiah Yeshua, will be richly provided for you.