

Understanding Torah

Let us pray.

BAR-CHU et Adonai ham'vorach. Baruch Adonai ham'vorach l'olam vaed. Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha-olam, asher bacher banu mi-kol ha'amim, v'natan lanu et Torato. Baruch Atah, Adonai, notein ha Torah.

BLESS ADONAI who is blessed. Blessed is Adonai who is blessed now and forever. Blessed are You, Adonai, our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has chosen us from among the peoples, and given us the Torah. Blessed are You, Adonai, who gives the Torah.

Amen.

Isaiah 40:3 A voice of one calling in the wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord".

We are in the very last of days. The days of preparation before the coming of Messiah and God's kingdom on Earth. To be prepared for Messiah we need to understand Jesus, and to understand Jesus we need to understand Torah.

It begins with God. Who God is. He is the sovereign ruler of the universe because He created the universe. We can see from His creation complete order. So, we know He is a God of order. He created the world and the universe with his word. And so His word is the law that holds the world and the universe together. God's Word is His Law. God abides by His Word. God upholds His Word. God is Righteous and cannot go against His Word.

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

God's Word was his Son. And God took His Word and gave it to His people through Moses in a written format called the Torah. The Word tells the people how to live as God's people. A Holy people, a separate people, chosen from among the nations for God to dwell with in a temple. The Word instructs the people how to do this. How to build the temple, care for and maintain the temple, how to keep the temple pure for God, and how to keep the people pure for God also. Because God cannot dwell with the impure or corrupt.

And so, God's Word was the Torah, and the Torah was given to the Jews. But God had bigger plans in mind.

Isaiah 49:6 He says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

And God also had in His plans a Living Torah.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was

a husband to them,” declares the Lord. “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘know the Lord’, because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

And so, Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a pure life, performed miracles, preached to thousands and at the Last Supper He said:

Luke 22:20 In the same way, after the supper he took the cup saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you”

Jesus, The Word become Flesh (John 1:14), the Living Torah was the new covenant that Jeremiah the prophet spoke about and it is through him that the Torah is written on our hearts and put into our minds. So, Jesus was the Torah, and the Torah is Jesus.

Let us pray,

BARUCH atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech ha-olam, asher natan lanu Torat emet, v’chayei olam nata b’tocheinu. Baruch Atah, Adonai, notein ha Torah.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has given us a Torah of truth, implanting within us eternal life. Blessed are You, Adonai, who gives the Torah.

Amen.

Thank You,

A Voice in The Wilderness