

## Yeshua Took Our Curse

This week's Torah reading is *Ki Tetzei, Deut. 21:10-25:19* which can be translated: "*when you go out.*" Near the end of *Deut. 21* we have a very significant *mitzvah* (command) for us as believers in *Yeshua*:  
*22 "Suppose a man is guilty of a sin with a death sentence and he is put to death, and you hang him on a tree.  
23 His body is not to remain all night on the tree – instead you must certainly bury him the same day, for anyone hanged is a curse of Elohim. You must not defile your land that Adonai your Elohim is giving you as an inheritance" (Deut. 21:22-23).* Having a dead body placed on public display, even if only during daylight hours, was the highest form of disgrace in Bible days. This is true because the person who sinned was made a public spectacle. In addition, they were *cursed of Elohim* because their sin could no longer be hidden – *they died in their sin.*

The Apostle Paul reminds us of what *Yeshua* our Messiah (in like manner) did for us when it states: "*13 Messiah liberated us from Torah's curse, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree" (Galatians 3:13).* In case you did not know that Paul got this from today's reading.

Therefore, we can unequivocally say *Yeshua* is our curse bearer. We too were once sinners and our sin separated us from *Yah*. But *Yah* cannot look upon sin as Isaiah stated: "*Rather, your iniquities have made a separation between you and your Elohim. Your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear" (Isaiah 59:2).* As sinners we were deserving of death, and we deserved to be *accursed of Yah*. But *Yah* did not want to leave us that way: "*But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he has committed, and keep all My statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die" (Ez. 18:21).* *Yeshua* bore the curse of our sin upon Himself. He became accursed for us that we might live.

In fulfillment of this mitzvah Joseph of Arimathea asked for the body of *Yeshua* the Messiah so that he may bury Him prior to sundown. As we know he laid Him to rest in his own sepulcher: "*31 It was the Day of Preparation, and the next day was a festival Shabbat. So that the bodies should not remain on the execution stake during Shabbat, the Judean leaders asked Pilate to have the legs broken and to have the bodies taken away... 38 After these things, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate if he could take Yeshua's body away. Joseph was a disciple of Yeshua, but secretly for fear of the Judean leaders. Pilate gave permission, so Joseph came and took the body away. 39 Nicodemus, who had first visited Yeshua at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. 40 Then they took the body of Yeshua and wrapped it in linen with the spices, as is the Jewish burial custom. 41 Now in the place where He was executed, there was a garden. In the garden was a new tomb where no one had yet been buried. 42 Because it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Yeshua there."* (John 19:31, 38-42)

We see in today's reading that criminal or not *Yah* has respect for the human body. A timely and proper burial was and is a way of showing respect. Did you ever notice that *Nicodemus* showing respect for *Yeshua's* body covered Him with spices in the tomb. *It was a male who actually did this*, so *Myriam* and the other women were NOT the first attempting to do so, albeit unsuccessfully. The fact is that *Nicodemus*, the man who got the revelation of becoming born-again, with Joseph of Arimathea anointed *Yeshua's* body and attempted with all their might and strength to give *Yeshua's* body a proper burial!

You may think that you are righteous because you attend a church, mosque or synagogue. You may be thinking that you are not a sinner because of your good works. After all you may be saying to yourself, *I never killed anyone, I do not sell drugs, and I am basically a good person.* However, *Yah* tells us in Scripture that: "*For all of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteousness is like a filthy garment, and all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities carry us away, like the wind" (Isaiah 64:6).*

There is nothing you can do to save yourself or to remove your sins from yourself! Because of our sin we are worthy of death and destined to be cursed. There is only one way for your sins to be paid for:

*<sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief,  
One from whom people hide their faces.  
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.*

*<sup>4</sup> Surely He has borne our griefs  
and carried our pains.*

*Yet we esteemed Him stricken,  
struck by Elohim, and afflicted.*

*<sup>5</sup> But He was pierced because of our  
transgressions,  
crushed because of our iniquities.*

*The chastisement for our shalom was upon Him,  
and by His stripes we are healed.*

*<sup>6</sup> We all like sheep have gone astray.*

*Each of us turned to his own way.*

*So Adonai has laid on Him the iniquity  
of us all.*

*Isaiah 53:3-6 TLV*

*<sup>3</sup> He is despised and rejected of men;  
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief:  
and we hid as it were our faces from him;  
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.*

*<sup>4</sup> Surely he hath borne our griefs,  
and carried our sorrows:*

*yet we did esteem him stricken,  
smitten of God, and afflicted.*

*<sup>5</sup> But he was wounded for our  
transgressions,  
he was bruised for our iniquities:*

*the chastisement of our peace was upon him;  
and with his stripes we are healed.*

*<sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray;*

*we have turned every one to his own way;*

*and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity  
of us all.*

*Isaiah 53:3-6 KJV*

Receive *Yeshua* as your personal redeemer, even today, right now. Invite Him into your life in this moment. He is *HaGoel Yisrael*, The Redeemer of Israel. *Shabbat Shalom!* Let us pray...