

Give Us Pure Hearts

"³Who may go up on the mountain of Adonai? Who may stand in His holy place? ⁴One with clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted his soul in vain, nor sworn deceitfully. ⁵He will receive a blessing from Adonai, righteousness from God his salvation.(Ps. 24:3-5)"

"³But to this day Adonai has not given you a heart to know, or eyes to see, or ears to hear... (Deut. 29:3)"

וְלֹא־נָתַן יְהוָה לָכֶם לֵב לְדַעַת וְעֵינַיִם לִרְאוֹת וְאָזְנִים לִשְׁמָעַ עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה

Before we stand (next week in *Parashat Nitzavim*) we must (1) receive a heart transplant, i.e., a heart to know (*Lev Lada-at*), (2) and cataract surgery to see Him (*V'einaim lirot*) and (3) cochlear implants surgery to (*shema*) i.e., to hear and obey His Word. In the current Hebrew Month of *Elul*, we quickly become aware that we are approaching the *Fall High Holidays*. We have to make a determination (*teshuva*) that we are lacking, receive a new heart to get intimate with Him (the Great I AM) and commit to keep His Word and do what He has said.

There are no shortcuts and we do not have a new formula to stand before *Adonai* during His High Holidays. In the text above, the Hebrew words are familiar to me, so I did not need a dictionary to translate them. *Lev* (לֵב) means *heart* and *Lada-at* (לְדַעַת) is the infinitive of the verb *yodea* (יָדַע), which means *to know intimately*. *Ve-einaim* (וְעֵינַיִם) means *and eyes* and *lirot* (לִרְאוֹת) is the infinitive of the verb *roeh* (רָאָה) *to see*. *Ve-oznaim* (וְאָזְנִים) means *and ears* and *lishmoa* (לִשְׁמָעַ) is the infinitive of the verb *sh'ma* (שָׁמַע) which means *to hear and obey*. *Ad hayom haze* (עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה) means *until this day*. *Ve-lo natan Adonai* (וְלֹא־נָתַן יְהוָה) means *Adonai has not given*. But what does *lachem* (לָכֶם) mean? That one is easy. It means literally *to you all (to us)*. The TLV correctly translates verse 3 (see above). BTW, the *Name of The Almighty* with vowel markings is pronounced *Yehováh*.

In His High Holidays we are getting ready to go up to the *Mountain of Adonai* (so to speak) and maybe we have not considered that there are preparations necessary enter *His Place, the abode of a King*. In *Psalms 24* we are told we need clean hands and a pure heart. An in *Deut. 29:3* maybe until today *Adonai* has not given you that type of heart. What has been keeping you (us) from having that kind of heart? Sin, of course. How do we get rid of sin? We repent. To repent we also have to forgive because it is written that *we will receive forgiveness in the same manner we ourselves forgive*. So we call on the *Name of Yeshua* and plead *His Blood*. We can *call on Him*, we can *trust Him*, we can *love Him*, we can be *forgiven because of Him*, we can be *healed because of His scourging*, we ask and be filled with *His Spirit*, and we can *activate by asking*, even now, for a heart that is routinely *intimate with Him*. While most people in the Body of Messiah are not listening and their heart is neither intimate nor attentive (there is no *heart to know, or eyes to see, or ears to hear*), the moon, the sun and the firmament are speaking loudly. Few are paying attention. Do you hear their voice (*kol*) or sound? Listen!

During this season of Repentance (*T'Shuvah*) we Messianic Jews along with all Jews evaluate (introspectively) our lives and, hopefully, we all come to realization that we in *desperate need of forgiveness* so we can return. We need *a heart to know, or eyes to see, or ears to hear (sh'ma)*.

T'Shuvah speaks to all people. Messianic Believers are called to examine their lives and see where they have departed from *Adonai*. For us it is a call to carefully re-examine the Scriptures and weigh the evidence that *Messiah Yeshua* was who He said He was. Is *Messiah Yeshua* king of your life and your heart yet? *The Almighty* has always warned people before He proclaims judgment. He warned the people before the flood, and Nineveh before it was ruined. He does not want anyone to receive the wrath of His judgment, He is warning us today. We need an awakening from the sleep induced by sin so that the power of the *Holy Spirit* is allowed to *work in the heart* Believers who trusts in *Yah's* salvation through *Yeshua* and who asks for: *a heart to know, or eyes to see, or ears to hear*. *T'Shuvah* is *a gift from the Lord*. Do you want it? Many of you (us) are operating in various degrees of unbelief – it is time to stop it! By His *Ruach we rebuke our unbelief*.

{*Give Us Clean Hands*, Chris Tomlin, *Pour Over Me*, 2001, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fm1L3wDfPKQ>}