

Opening Scripture Reading/Prayer:

Exodus 31:12-17

The Sabbath

¹² And the Lord said to Moses, ¹³ “You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, ‘Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you . . .’ ¹⁶ Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a covenant forever. ¹⁷ It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.”

Isaiah 56

Salvation for Foreigners

¹ Thus says the LORD:
“Keep justice, and do righteousness,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my righteousness be revealed.
² Blessed is the man who does this,
and the son of man who holds it fast,
who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it,
and keeps his hand from doing any evil.”
³ Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to the LORD say,
“The LORD will surely separate me from his people”;
and let not the eunuch say,
“Behold, I am a dry tree.”
⁴ For thus says the LORD:
“To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose the things that please me
and hold fast my covenant,
⁵ I will give in my house and within my walls
a monument and a name
better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name
that shall not be cut off.
⁶ “And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,
and holds fast my covenant—
⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.”
⁸ The Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
“I will gather yet others to him
besides those already gathered.”

Isaiah 58:13-14

¹³ “If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath,
from doing your pleasure on my holy day,
and call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the Lord honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly;
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the Lord,
and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

Isaiah 66:22-23

²² “For as the new heavens and the new earth
that I make
shall remain before me, says the LORD,
so shall your offspring and your name remain.
²³ From new moon to new moon,

and from Sabbath to Sabbath,
all flesh shall come to worship before me,
declares the LORD.

Ezekiel 20:20

I am the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and keep my SABBATHS holy; and they shall be a SIGN between me and you, that ye may now that I am the LORD your God.

Jesus Lord of the Sabbath

“For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” Matthew 12:8

Shadows

Freedom from Human Rules

“Let no one therefore judge you in eating or in drinking, or in respect of a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths which are a shadow of what is to come but the Body of the Messiah.”

Colossians 2:16-17 (KJV)

Here, he is telling us that the **Appointed Times** (Feast Days) and the Sabbath are a **shadow of things to come**. A shadow is of the same image as what it is portraying. So, doesn't this imply these will be observed in the future kingdom? And note the text says that these commands **ARE** a shadow of things to come, **not** “were a shadow” or “used to be a shadow” of things to come. He then says, **‘let no man judge you’** (in these things: new moon; Sabbath; feasts) **‘but the Body of Messiah.’** The word “is” has been added to the original text and did not appear in the Greek.

The Body of Messiah is to judge each other with regard to these things. A second witness to this can be found in the following verses:

“But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone called ‘a brother,’ if he is one who whores, or greedy of gain, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler – not even to eat with such a one. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge, to pick out by separating, to be of opinion, to judge those who are inside? But Elohim judges those who are outside. And put away the wicked one from among you!” **1 Corinthians 5:11-13**

“not judge” - (*krinō* (2919): to distinguish (to approve what is correct and reject what is wrong - discern).

“to pick out”: choose.

“opinion”: decide.

“to judge”: “bringing to trial” - expressing severe disapproval of (someone or something), typically in a formal statement).

Let's Remember what God told the People to do before they got delivered out of Egypt, which we are reminded to do prior to Christ's 2nd Coming:

1. I Will Provide the Way Out and All the Way Into the Promise Land

Exodus 11:2 - Speak now in the hearing of the people, that they ask, every man of his neighbor and every woman of her neighbor, for silver and gold jewelry.”

2. Know the Times

Exodus 12:1-17 - The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “**This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you.**”³ Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household.

...⁷ “Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it . . .

...¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ “This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast . . .

...¹⁷ And you shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day, throughout your generations, as a statute forever.”

Reflective Scripture:

Psalms 27 presents a clear connection between Sukkot and God's protection of Israel and those who trust in Him:

"For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle [sukkah]; In the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock. ⁶ And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD." (Psalm 27:5-6)

The word translated here as tabernacle is the Hebrew word **sukkah (סוכה)**. **When evil threatens God's people, He will hide them in His sukkah, inaccessible from the enemy on the rock of His presence.**

Now that is a promise we can trust in during these last days!

learn how Sukkot represents the sheltering presence of God. We know you will be blessed, especially in light of current events!

Opening Scripture Reflection:

"Behold, **I make a covenant: before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the Lord: for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.**" (Exodus 34:10)

¹¹ "Observe what I command you this day. Behold, I will drive out before you the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ¹² Take care, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you go, lest it become a snare in your midst. ¹³ You shall tear down their altars and break their pillars and cut down their Asherim ¹⁴ (for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God), ¹⁵ lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and when they whore after their gods and sacrifice to their gods and you are invited, you eat of his sacrifice, ¹⁶ and you take of their daughters for your sons, and their daughters whore after their gods and make your sons whore after their gods.

¹⁷ "You shall not make for yourself any gods of cast metal . . .

²³ Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the LORD God, the God of Israel. ²⁴ For I will cast out nations before you and enlarge your borders; no one shall covet your land, when you go up to appear before the LORD your God three times in the year. (Exodus 34:11-24)

In this special Sukkot reading, Moses asks that God's presence would go with Israel, and God agrees.

Encouraged by this positive response, Moses also asks to see God's glory. Once again, God graciously complies with his request and invites Moses to ascend **Mount Sinai** with two newly hewn stone tablets so that He can re-carve the **Ten Commandments**.

On the mountain, God reveals His glory to Moses in such a fearsome spectacle of power that God must protect Moses from being destroyed by it.

"There is a place near Me where you can stand on a rock. When My glory passes by, I will put you in an opening in the rock. **I will cover you with My hand until I have passed by.** Then I will remove My hand. You will see My back. But My face must not be seen." (Exodus 33:21-23)

It's clear that Moses, having experienced the power of the presence of God, understands that **His presence is more than sufficient against any threat Israel might encounter** inside or outside of the Promised Land.

Yeshua fulfilled the Prophetic Water Pouring Ceremony of Sukkot!

Imagine each morning as Yeshua woke up during the festival of Sukkot; He was in the midst of tens of thousands of people who came to worship the Lord at the Temple. The place was filled with a sense of awe. It was a holy place during a special time!

Halfway through the festival, Yeshua went into the Temple Courts and began to teach. Some of the people asked if He was the Messiah. Others said, "**We know where this man is from; when the Messiah comes, no one will know where he is from.**" Still, many in the crowd put their faith in Him.

They said, "**When the Messiah comes, will he do more miraculous signs than this man?**" Some believed and others did not.

Each morning a procession of priests would go down to the **Pool of Siloam** accompanied by men and women dancing to the Lord with music and much rejoicing.

When they arrived at the Pool, **a priest drew water** using a golden pitcher.

While the priest drew the water, all of the other priests recited the following verse from Isaiah 12:3, "**You shall draw forth water in joy from the wellsprings of salvation (Ushavtem mayim b'sason mimayney haYeshuah).**" These words have been popularized by a Jewish circle dance called *Mayim, Mayim (Water, Water)*.

The Pool of Siloam symbolized the “wells of salvation,” and the Hebrew word for **Salvation** is very close to the name of our Messiah *Yeshua*.

Back at the Temple, thousands were waiting for the procession to return from the **Pool of Siloam**.

Announced by a three-fold trumpet blast, the priest with the golden pitcher approached the altar and **poured out his water offering**. The musicians played on their holy instruments, and everyone began singing the *Hallel* (Psalms 113–118).

Psalm 118:22 is actually a **Messianic Prophecy** that says:

“The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone.”

John 7:37 says that *Jesus* was right there with everyone else during the Water Pouring Ceremony, and He declared in a loud voice:

“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” (John 7:37–38)

Each day during Sukkot, the Hallel is still sung in synagogues here in Israel and around the world. Unfortunately, as the Jewish people sing Psalm 118:22 this year, they have no clue that this Scripture is a **Messianic Prophecy** referring to *Yeshua*!

THE DAY AFTER, *Jesus* proclaimed that He was the fulfillment of **Psalm 118:22**, He healed a man blind from birth. And guess where the man was healed?

Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. Then *Jesus* said to him, **“Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam.”**

This is the pool of water where the priest drew the holy water, and where the priests recited: **“With joy you shall draw water from the wells of salvation.”**

So the man went and washed, and came home seeing! *Jesus* healed him physically, and then his eyes were spiritually opened when he believed *Jesus* was the Messiah of Israel:

John 7

Jesus at the Feast of Booths

¹ After this *Jesus* went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. ² Now the Jews’ Feast of Booths was at hand. ³ So his brothers said to him, “Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. ⁴ For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world.” ⁵ For not even his brothers believed in him. ⁶ *Jesus* said to them, “My time has not yet come, but your time is always here. ⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil. ⁸ You go up to the feast. I am not^[e] going up to this feast, for my time has not yet fully come.” ⁹ After saying this, he remained in Galilee.

¹⁰ But after his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly but in private. ¹¹ The Jews were looking for him at the feast, and saying, “Where is he?” ¹² And there was much muttering about him among the people. While some said, “He is a good man,” others said, “No, he is leading the people astray.” ¹³ Yet for fear of the Jews no one spoke openly of him.

¹⁴ About the middle of the feast *Jesus* went up into the temple and began teaching. ¹⁵ The Jews therefore marveled, saying, “How is it that this man has learning,^[d] when he has never studied?” ¹⁶ So *Jesus* answered them, “My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me. ¹⁷ If anyone’s will is to do God’s^[e] will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. ¹⁸ The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood. ¹⁹ Has not Moses given you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why do you seek to kill me?” ²⁰ The crowd answered, “You have a demon! Who is seeking to kill you?” ²¹ *Jesus* answered them, “I did one work, and you all marvel at it. ²² Moses gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. ²³ If on the Sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because on the Sabbath I made a man’s whole body well? ²⁴ Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.”

THE DAY AFTER, *Jesus* proclaimed that He was the fulfillment of **Psalm 118:22**, He healed a man blind from birth. And guess where the man was healed?

“The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone.”

John 9

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

¹ As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ *Jesus* answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷ and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰ So they said to him, “Then

how were your eyes opened?"¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight."¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.¹⁵ So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.²¹ But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself."²² (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.)²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner."²⁵ He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses."²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."³⁰ The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind.³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."³⁴ They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you."³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?"⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt;⁴² but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains.

Week 53: Simchat Torah ("Rejoice with the Torah") – Deuteronomy 33:1–34:12 **"The Beginning of the End"**

*** Joy of Torah Celebration – 9/29/2021 ***

Rejoice with us, the evening following the Seventh Day of the Feast of Tabernacles, known as the "Great Day of Salvation" (the day Jesus was brought into the Temple, following the 40 days of purification (following Mary's birth of Jesus) to be dedicated to the Lord (as read in Luke 2:22-38 – "Jesus Presented at the Temple" with Simeon and Anna waiting for the promised "consolation of Israel" or "the redemption of Jerusalem"). Monday @ 6pm to Tuesday @ 6pm during the day known as "**Rejoice with the Torah**" (Simchat Torah)!

This weekend, **the synagogues here in Israel were packed** as the people of God, Israel, read the last pages of *Deuteronomy* (33:1-34:12) and the beginning of *Genesis*.

The reading of the yearly **Torah cycle comes to an end with the blessings that Moses pronounces** before his death over each of the twelve tribes of Israel.

These blessings echo Jacob's blessings over his 12 sons five generations earlier. **With them Moses prepares each tribe with its role within Israel.**

Gog and Magog: Challenging the Restoration of Israel

"This is what will happen in that day: When Gog attacks the land of Israel, My hot anger will be aroused." (*Ezekiel 38:18*)

In the Haftarah (prophetic portion) for this Shabbat Chol Hamoed (intermediate day of the festival) of Sukkot, the Hebrew prophet Ezekiel describes an **end-time scenario in which formidable armies from the north, under the leadership of Gog, will challenge the restoration of Israel.**

The nations mentioned in Ezekiel 38 will unite and come upon Israel "like a cloud that covers the land" for the purpose of looting the wealth that she has amassed in what was a desolate land only fifty years ago.

Yet, God will not abandon His People. He will utterly destroy the coalition forces of Gog so that all nations will come to know the holiness of the Lord (*Ezekiel 38:18-23*).

Sukkot and the Protective Covering of God

Why do we read about this end-time battle during Sukkot?

According to Rabbinic tradition, this **war will be waged during the month of Tishri**, the month in which the holiday of Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles) falls.

Interestingly enough, the war that is described in Ezekiel is similar to the war described in the 14th chapter of Zechariah, the Haftarah reading on the first day of Sukkot. And in Zechariah we learn that the **Gentiles** who survive the war against Israel will be required to **keep Sukkot annually** by coming up to the Holy City of Jerusalem to worship the Lord.

"Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles [Sukkot]. If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, they will have no rain." (Zechariah 14:16-17)

Psalms 27 presents a clear connection between Sukkot and God's protection of Israel and those who trust in Him:

"For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle [sukkah]; In the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock." (Psalm 27:5)

The word translated here as tabernacle is the Hebrew word **sukkah** (סֻכָּה). When evil threatens God's people, He will hide them in His **sukkah, inaccessible from the enemy on the rock of His presence.**

Now that is a promise we can trust in during these last days!

In this Torah portion for Simchat Torah, which is called "and this is the blessing", Moses ascends Mount Nebo. From that summit, he is allowed to see the Promised Land, but not enter. **He dies in the Land of Moab, and to this day, only God knows where he is buried.**

Though Moses is not allowed to enter the Promised Land, this Scripture reading testifies to the high calling of Moses:

"Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face... For no one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel." Deuteronomy 34:10, 12

Immediately following the conclusion of the Torah cycle, we begin a new one. **Hallelujah!** Though we cycle through the study of Scripture every year, it always remains fresh and exciting.

"Rejoice with the Torah" (Simchat Torah) services last about three hours, as the men and women delight in the Book given to our people by God Himself through Moses – the most treasured Book in the world – **the Torah** (Five Books of Moses).

In every synagogue throughout Israel Tuesday morning, the men will joyfully **danced around the bema (raised platform for reading the Torah), proudly and joyously holding the sacred Torah Scrolls.**

As the Rabbi and cantor sang from the Holy Word of God, the whole congregation gathered in one accord singing in Hebrew.

All the men took turns reading from the Torah. And the faces of the children, women, and men were beaming with smiles, **rejoicing in the honor of the Holy Book that the One God of Israel entrusted to His Chosen People.**

The wonderful holiday of **Simchat Torah** begins at sunset Monday night at the conclusion of **Shmini Atzeret** (Eighth Day of Assembly), a Biblically mandated assembly celebrated the day after Sukkot ends:

"For seven days present food offerings to the LORD, and on the eighth day hold a sacred assembly and present a food offering to the LORD. It is the closing special assembly; **do no regular work.**" (Leviticus 23:36)

"Oh, how I love Your Torah (Law); It is my meditation all the day. You through Your commandments, have made me wiser than my enemies . . . Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:97-98, 105)

"Rejoice with the Torah" (Simchat Torah) is a joyous holiday when the Jewish People express their gratitude to God for giving us His great gift of the Torah.

John 1

The Word (lógos) Became Flesh

¹In the beginning was the **Word (lógos)**, and the **Word (lógos)** was with God, and the **Word (lógos) was God.** ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

3056 /lógos ("word") is preeminently used of *Christ* (Jn 1:1): the personal (*hypostatic* – relating to the persons of the Trinity) wisdom and power in union with God, his minister in the creation and government of the universe, the cause of all the world's life both physical and ethical, which for the procurement of man's salvation put on human nature in the person of Jesus the Messiah and shone forth conspicuously from his words and deeds. The Hebrew equivalent of this Greek work is "Torah", a walk with God, the teaching and instruction of God, hitting the Mark (oppose to "Sin" which is defined as missing the Mark). Therefore, "Rejoice with the Torah" (Simchat Torah) is also defined as "**Rejoice for Yeshua the Messiah, Jesus, the Word of God**"

Luke 2:8-21

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of GREAT JOY that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace among those with whom he is PLEASE!"

("without faith in God it is impossible to PLEASE God," Hebrews 11:6)

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they were amazed, but when they had heard the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus (*Yeshua/Joshua*: "I AM SALVATION"), the name given by the angel before he was *conceived in the womb*.

On **“Rejoice with the Torah”** (Simchat Torah), ALL of the ornately decorated Torah scrolls are taken out of the Ark in which they are safeguarded, in contrast to Shabbat and regular holidays when only two are removed from the Ark.

In the country, **the Jewish People will parade these precious Torah scrolls around their synagogues** in circles called **hakafot**, accompanied by joyful singing and dancing.

In many congregations, the celebrations will spill out of the sanctuary into the street, where participants will dance and sing while carrying the scrolls.

“Rejoice with the Torah” (Simchat Torah): **The Beginning and Ending of the Reading Cycle**

“Day after day, from the first day to the last, Ezra read from the Book of the Law of God. They celebrated the festival [sukkot] for seven days, and on the eighth day, in accordance with the regulation, there was an assembly.” (Nehemiah 8:18)

The Jewish People have diligently preserved the Word of God for more than 3,000 years, and **“Rejoice with the Torah”** (Simchat Torah) gives **jubilant expression to the Jewish People’s love of the Torah.**

Besides rejoicing, another central theme to this special day is the completion of the annual cycle of weekly Torah readings.

***** Joy of Torah Celebration – 9/29/2021 *****

Today, the last portion of Deuteronomy 34 will be read.

But as soon as we end the cycle, we begin anew, and a portion from the first chapter of Genesis is read immediately afterward.

This serves to remind us that our study of the Torah never ends. It also reminds us that each of us are capable of new beginnings, of leaving following after our own ways and instead following after Adonai.

Torah Points in the Right Direction

What is Torah?

This Hebrew word **Torah** is often translated in English Bibles as Law; however, this is a rather poor translation.

The word **Torah** comes from the roots **yarah**, which means to shoot, aim, or point to, and **morah**, meaning teacher **(or combined, a walk with your teacher).**

Torah = “A Walk with your Teacher”

“Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.” I John 2:4-6

Therefore, the Torah is God’s instruction to His people. **These instructions teach us how to live on this earth and point us to eternal life through Yeshua (Jesus).**

So, why do we have a special day just to rejoice in the Torah of God?

The Torah contains all the wisdom and instruction we need to live healthy, happy, successful, prosperous lives.

****** “Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions [Torah] Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do.”**

“Study this Book of Instruction [Sefer haTorah] continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.” (Joshua 1:7–8) ****

Jesus’ (Yeshua’s) Teaching About the Law

God initially chose to reveal His Torah to the nation of Israel, and He gave them the mission to spread its light and teachings to every nation of the earth.

While Jesus (Yeshua) fulfilled the Torah, God’s moral guidelines for mankind to live in righteousness, He also makes it clear that He did not come to abolish it.

“Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the Torah of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to fulfill (walk it out as it was intended to be walked out) their purpose. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God’s Torah will disappear until its purpose is fulfilled.”

“So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do the same, you will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God’s Torah and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.” (Matthew 5:17–19)

Although Jesus (Yeshua) did not abolish the Law of Moses, he did walk it out as it was intended to be walked out, as well as the prophecies concerning His first coming. (See Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 53; Micah 5:2; Daniel 9:25–26 and hundreds more.)

Because of Jesus (Yeshua), the light of the Word of God has spread across the globe.

And yet, despite this, almost every Jewish person here in Israel (99%) still does not recognize Jesus (Yeshua) as the Messiah who fulfilled the writings of the Prophets.

Torah is an eternal inheritance

Deuteronomy 33-34

Deuteronomy 33:1-29 – **Commissioned**
Moses' Final Blessing on Israel

**To Inherit the Land, Israel Must Be Obedient and Trust in God's Commands.
They do not get special treatment.**

This is the blessing of the Womb of His Impregnated Promise He has Spoken for us to See Manifest in our Lives today and on into Eternity, as we Walk in Our Promised Land of God's:

¹ **This is the blessing** with which Moses the man of God blessed the people of Israel before his death.

² "The Lord came from Sinai . . . with **FLAMING FIRE** (with His fiery/purifying/refining teaching and instruction or *burning commandments*) at his right hand.

He came with the "Flaming Fire" of the power, means, and direction of His strength, that we can now "GO" with His power, means, and direction as our strength and "Can Do", through the "Flaming Fire" of God's fiery, purifying, refining teaching and instruction; His "burning commandment":

1. His "burning commandment" that **He loves His people, all those who walk in His way, following in His steps, receiving our direction from Him. (v. 3)**

³ Yes, he loved his people, all his holy ones were in his hand; so **they followed in your steps, receiving direction from you (followed and received the direction of His "burning commandment")**, ⁴ when Moses commanded us a law, as a possession for the assembly of Jacob.

2. His "burning commandment" that **He is King, the Word Incarnate, the Torah itself for those His followers, His Little Straight Ones (or little Torah(s) – lights to the nations). (v. 5)**

⁵ **Thus the Lord became king** (this king is the Torah itself – there is a law and it is the king) **with in Jeshurun** (my little straight one), when the heads of the people were gathered, all the tribes of Israel together. ⁶ "Let Reuben live, and not die, but let his men be few."

3. His "burning commandment" that **He is Messiah, Salvation, who laid down His life for those who choose to follow Him, with the promise to Help them toward Victory against their adversaries. (v. 7)**

⁷ **And** this he said of **Judah**: "Hear, O Lord, the voice of Judah, and bring him in to his people. With **your hands** (a hand (the open one – indicating power, means, direction, etc.)) contend for him, and **be a help** against his adversaries."

4. His "burning commandment" that **He is Discernment, for those who observe His word and keep His covenant. (v. 8-9)**

⁸ And of **Levi** he said, "Give to Levi your *Thummim, and your Urim* (discernment/the gift of the Holy Spirit) to your godly one, whom you tested at Massah, with whom you quarreled at the waters of Meribah; ⁹ **who** said of his father and mother, 'I regard them not'; **he disowned his brothers and ignored his children. For they observed your word and kept your covenant.**

5. His "burning commandment" that **We Teach His Rules, Laws, and Commandments, and bring our whole life devotion to serve and intercede as our daily act of Worship. (v. 10)**

¹⁰ **They shall teach** *Jacob your rules* and *Israel your law*; they shall put *incense* (prayer) before you and whole *burnt offerings* (service and devotion) on your altar.

6. His "burning commandment" that **We Accept the Work of His Power, Means, and Direction of His Strength, that He might Crush the strength of the adversaries of those who hate His people, and they not rise again. (v. 11)**

¹¹ **Bless**, O Lord, **his substance**, and **accept the work of his hands** (a hand (the open one – indicating power, means, direction, etc.)); **crush the loins of his adversaries, of those who hate him, that they rise not again.**"

7. His "burning commandment" that **He Inhabits His People, by surrounding His people all day long, as they obey His commandments, resulting in their abiding in His love, causing His commandments to be Easy and their burdens Light. (v. 12)**

¹² Of **Benjamin** he said, "*The beloved of the Lord dwells in safety. The High God surrounds him all day long, and dwells* (abide; those who obey my commandments, abide in my love) **between his shoulders** (strength, yoke (instruction), balance)."

8. His "burning commandment" that **He will Impregnate His People in His designed Dark Times in their lives with the Promise of Wherever their Foot is placed, God will Birth New Beginnings, as His People give their very Best of their very Best of this world and in their abundance of this world, as Agents of Deliverance in this world, with the promise to multiply His People in their afflictions, and promise to cause His people to forget their afflictions; truly becoming Marvelous Lights in the midst of Darkness. (v. 13-17)**

¹³ And of **Joseph** he said, "**Blessed** (womb – pregnant) **by the Lord be his land** (wherever his foot is placed, God will give), with the choicest gifts of heaven above, and of the deep that crouches beneath . . . ¹⁶ **with the BEST GIFTS of the earth and its fullness** and the favor of him who dwells in the bush, **May these rest on the head of Joseph**, on the pate of him who is prince among his brothers. ¹⁷ **A firstborn bull** (this is Joshua) – he has majesty, and his horns are the horns of a wild ox; with them he shall gore the **peoples** (the kings of the Land – everyone wants a stake in the Land – its power), all of them, to the ends of the earth; *they are the*

ten thousands of **Ephraim** (God will multiply you in your affliction), and *they are the thousands of **Manasseh*** (God will cause you to forget your affliction).”

9. **His “burning commandment”** that **We Rejoice in our acquisition of Truth and in knowing God’s Appointed Times to draw people back to God. (v. 18)**

¹⁸ And of **Zebulun** he said, “**Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out,** and **Issachar, in your tents.**”

10. **His “burning commandment”** that **We Sustain Ourselves with the Abundance of His Buried and Resurrected Truth of Eternal Peace and Security. (v. 19)**

¹⁹ They shall call peoples to their mountain; there they offer right sacrifices; for they **draw** (to suck, causatively, to give milk, nurse (-ing mother), give, make to suck (-ing child)) **from the abundance** of the seas and **the hidden treasures** of the sand.”

11. **His “burning commandment”** that **He Impregnate the Vision of Extending the Tent Pegs of His Conceived Promises. (v. 20)**

²⁰ And of **Gad** he said, “**Blessed** (womb – pregnant) be he **who enlarges **Gad!** **Gad**** crouches like a lion; he tears off arm and scalp.

12. **His “burning commandment”** that **He will Cause you to Walk Righteously in His Ways, His Truths, and His Life. (v. 21)**

²¹ He (**Gad**) chose the best of the land for himself, for there a commander’s portion was reserved; and he came with the heads of the people, with Israel **he (**Gad**) executed the justice of the Lord**, and his judgments for Israel. ²² And of **Dan** he said, “Dan is a lion’s cub that leaps from Bashan.”

13. **His “burning commandment”** that **He will Satisfy any Appetite or Desire Fully, with the fruit of many New Beginnings. (v. 23)**

²³ And of **Naphtali** he said, “O **Naphtali**, **sated** (to satisfy (any appetite or desire) fully; to fill to excess) with favor, **and full of the blessing of the Lord**, possess the lake and the south.”

14. **His “burning commandment”** that **We Walk in the Anointing (or Covering and Power) of the Teaching and Instruction of the Lord, that we become a Sweet Aroma of Hope and Purpose to a world of Hopelessness and No Purpose. (v. 24)**

²⁴ And of **Asher** he said, “Most blessed of sons be **Asher**; **let him be the favorite of his brothers**, and let him **dip his foot in oil**.

15. **His “burning commandment”** that **We Live Securely and Speak Boldly God’s Teaching and Instruction of Our Messiah’s Power, Means, and Direction of His Strength, that we might too Live Securely and Speak Boldly in Our Messiah’s Power, Means, and Direction, as He gives us Strength. (v. 25)**

²⁵ Your (**Asher**) bars shall be **iron and bronze**, and as your (**Asher**) days, **so shall your strength be**.

16. **His “burning commandment”** that **He is the God above all gods, who Causes His Ways to Assist and Support His People in times of Hardship and Distress, for His Glory and Redemptive Purposes. (v. 26)**

²⁶ “**There is none like **God**. O **Jeshurun**, who rides through the heavens to your help, through the skies in his majesty.**”

17. **His “burning commandment”** that **He, our Eternal God, is His People’s State of Living, under both His Political and Military Authority, to Defend and Protect His People. (v. 27)**

²⁷ **The eternal God is your dwelling place** (habitation – the state of living), and **underneath are the everlasting arms**. And he thrust out the enemy before you and said, ‘Destroy.’

18. **His “burning commandment”** that **He is our Refuge and Confidence, as we wrestle with Him and Man, as well as, Our Freedom from Attack, as He Changes our Name and Destiney. (v. 28)**

²⁸ So **Israel** lived in safety, **Jacob** lived alone, in a land of grain and wine, whose heavens drop down dew.

19. **His “burning commandment”** that **We be Pregnant with All of His Promises and Purpose today and in the Promise Land to Come. (v. 29)**

20. **His “burning commandment”** that **He, and no other, Will Save His People in Battle and Cause them to be Victorious. (v. 29)**

21. **His “burning commandment”** that **He, and no other, Will Be His People’s Protector to Assist and Support them in times of Hardship and Distress. (v. 29)**

22. **His “burning commandment”** that **He, and no other, Will Be His People’s Excellence and His Glory in the earth, by His Spoken Word, made evident through their faith and obedience of His Spoken Word. (v. 29)**

23. **His “burning commandment”** that **We shall Overtake, through Battle, the Exulted Places of the world, with the Exulted Rules, Laws, and Commandments of our God, that He calls Holy and Clean, resulting in God’s Promise that Our enemies will begin to display exaggerated flattery and affection towards His Followers. (v. 29)**

²⁹ **Happy** (blessed – womb – pregnant) **are you**, O **Israel!** Who is like you, a people **saved** by the Lord, the **shield** of your help, and the **sword** of your triumph! *Your enemies shall come fawning* (displaying exaggerated flattery or affection) to you, and you shall **tread** (overtake, bend like a bow) upon their **backs** (**high places**).”

high places, as places of worship, at first on hills and mountains, later on artificial mounds or platforms, under green trees, and in cities; still later for the chapels erected thereon, and once apparently for a portable sanctuary Ezekiel

16:16 (“You took some of your garments and made for yourself colorful shrines, and on them played the whore. The like has never been, nor ever shall be . . .”²³ “And after all your wickedness (woe, woe to you! declares the Lord GOD),²⁴ you built yourself a vaulted chamber and made yourself a lofty place in every square.²⁵ At the head of every street you built your lofty place and made your beauty an abomination, offering yourself²⁶ to any passerby and multiplying your whoring.²⁶ You also played the whore with the Egyptians, your lustful neighbors, multiplying your whoring, to provoke me to anger.²⁷ Behold, therefore, I stretched out my hand against you and diminished your allotted portion and delivered you to the greed of your enemies . . .”). The ancient worship of Israel was conducted on these high places. In the times of Samuel and David they ascended to them, descended from them, and offered sacrifices on.

To Inherit the Land, Israel Must Be Obedient and Trust in God’s Commands. They do not get special treatment.

POINT: In essence, transforming the mundane into the Holy. Suddenly eating, sleeping, and living becomes the Promise Land. Not building an alternate existence where you can leave the world and get in contact with the Sacred, but rather we set apart the things of this world that we have been given. It is specifically through the physical that we achieve our mission to walk into the Promise Land, today and on into Eternity.

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

The Death of Moses

¹ Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to *Mount Nebo* (a primitive root: to pierce; to be hollow, or (figuratively) foolish – hollow, vain; or hollow, hollow – of altar of tabernacle), **to the top** of Pisgah, which is **opposite Jericho**. And **the Lord showed him** all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, ² all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, ³ the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. ⁴ **And the Lord said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, ‘I will give it to your offspring.’ I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there.”** ⁵ **So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab,** according to the word of the Lord, ⁶ and **he (God) buried him in the valley** in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; **but no one knows the place of his burial to this day.** ⁷ **Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated.** ⁸ **And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days.** Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

⁹ **And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him.** So the people of Israel **OBEYED HIM and DID AS THE LORD HAD COMMANDED** (Faith = Obedience + Doing) Moses. ¹⁰ **And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face** (A New Prophet like Moses: “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers – it is to him you shall listen,” Deuteronomy 18:15 – So this could not have been Joshua who our Jewish Brothers say was the fulfillment of this prophecy, but rather a Future Promised Joshua who would come to be the One and Only True Prophet, Yashua/Joshua, “I Am Salvation”, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, the One who will take us into the Promised Land of Eternity – Prophecy of Deuteronomy 18:15 “FULFILLED”). ¹¹ none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the Lord sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, ¹² and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

And therefore in the Spirit of the “Eighth Day” (“Rejoice with the Torah” – “The Great Day of Salvation” – (Simchat Torah) also defined as “Rejoice for Yeshua the Messiah, Jesus, the Word of God”) of the Feast of Tabernacles, we continue into New Beginnings, with the Reading of a New Cycle of Readings through the Scriptures of the Reading of Genesis 1:1-5:

New Beginnings, the “Eighth Day”:

Shemini Atzeret - The Eighth Day

The “eighth day” stands as an oddity in the “appointed times” of the Lord. It is **connected to Tabernacles** but *technically not part of it because the “appointed time” of Tabernacles lasts for only seven days*. However, the “eighth day” is a **Sabbath** day.

The mystery of the “eighth day” is this. The **number eight represents a new beginning**. In six days God created the heavens and the earth and on the seventh day God rested from all His work of creation. The number seven represents the completion of a cycle; therefore the number eight represents the beginning of a new cycle. Also when the number 8 is laid on its side (∞) it becomes the symbol for **infinity** (eternal or without end).

While the feast of Tabernacles represents the future reign of Jesus Christ on earth for a 1000-year period (The millennial reign of Christ on earth is the 7th 1000-year day from Adam), the eighth day begins with the Great White Throne Judgment when heaven and earth pass away and ends with God creating a new heaven and earth. Jesus spoke of this day. **“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.”** Matthew 24:35-36

Sukkot - The Feast Of Tabernacles

The Millennial Kingdom

^{REV 20:4} Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ^{REV 20:5} The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. ^{REV 20:6} Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

The Eighth Day - A New Heaven and Earth

^{REV 21:1} Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.

^{REV 21:2} And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. ^{REV 21:3} And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,” ^{REV 21:4} and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.” ^{REV 21:5} And He who sits on the throne said, “Behold, I am making

all things new.” And He said, “Write, for these words are faithful and true.” ^{REV 21:6} Then He said to me, “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. ^{REV 21:7} “He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. ^{REV 21:8} “But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part *will be* in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

The New Jerusalem

⁹ Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal . . . ²² And **I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.** ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ By its light (the teaching and instruction of God) will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵ and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. **Revelation 21:9-11, 22-27**

The River of Life

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, **for the Lord God will be their light**, and they will reign forever and ever. **Rev. 22:1-5**

READ:

Genesis 1

The Creation of the World

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” ²¹ So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² And God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. ²⁵ And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” ²⁹ And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Next Week's Reading:

Week 1 - BEREISHEET (In the Beginning)
Genesis 1:1–6:8; Isaiah 42:5–43:10; John 1:1–18