

Transcript – The Prodigal Son

Chag Semeach! Alright, Shabbat Shalom and Shabbat Shalom to all those with us. Praise Yahweh, another year. And I am blowing the horn because it's Yom Teruah. So I have a message today that is a pretty meaningful message for the day. And the message is called, *The Prodigal Son*.

So I'm going to start off in Luke 15 reading about the prodigal son. And we know these about two sons that are there. Many times we talked about this being about Ephraim and Judah. And that's what I'm going to get into today. So let me start here in verse 11. And it says:

Luke 15:11-13 *And Yahshua would say to them again, A certain man had two sons. And his younger son said to him, My father, give to me the portion that is coming to me from your estate. And he divided to them his possessions. And not many days after, gathering up all things, the younger son went away to a distant country. And there he wasted his property, living (wastefully) lavishly.*

Luke 15:14-17 *But having spent all his things, a severe famine came throughout that country, and he began to be in need. And going, he was joined to one of the citizens of that country. And he sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he longed to fill his stomach from the husks ... and that word in Aramaic is carobs ... which the pigs ate, but no one gave to him. But coming to himself he said, How many servants of my father have plenty of bread, and I am perishing with famine.*

Luke 15:18-20 *Rising up, I will go to my father, and I will say to him, Father, I sinned against Heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me as one of your hired servants. And rising up, he came to his father. But he yet being far away, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. And running, he fell on his neck and kissed him.*

Luke 15:21-24 *And the son said to him, Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before you, and no longer am I worthy to be called your son. But the father said to his slaves, Bring out the best robe and clothe him, and give a ring for his hand and sandals for his feet. And bring the fattened calf, slaughter and let us eat and be merry; for this son of mine was dead, and lives again, and was lost, yet was found. And they began to be merry.*

Luke 15:25-28 *And the older son was in a field. And having come, as he drew near to the house, he heard the sound of singing of many. And having called one of the boys, he inquired what this may be. And he said to him, Your brother came, and your father killed the fattened calf, because he received him back in health. But he was angry and did not desire to go in. Then coming out, his father begged him.*

Luke 15:29-32 *But answering, he said to the father, Behold, so many years I have served you, and I have never transgressed your commandments. And you never gave a goat to me, that I might be merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, the one devouring your living with harlots, you killed the fattened calf for him. But he said to him, My son, you are with me at all times, and everything that is mine is yours. But to be merry and to rejoice was right, for this brother of yours was dead, and lives again; and being lost, he was found.*

So we've talked about this many times of the prodigal son being Ephraim and the brother, the jealous brother, being Judah and Judah not wanting to accept Ephraim into the covenant. And that's a good analogy. It fits in the Bible, it works, its well, a lot of things fit there. But I also studying this, I also realize it can be the other way around because I believe maybe in the first covenant you could say that Judah is the jealous brother and Ephraim is the prodigal son who's coming home. But I think in the New Covenant it could be the other way around. So today I want to go over the prodigal son but I want to go over it with the prodigal son being **Judah** instead of being Ephraim.

Let's go to Genesis 38. I'm going to lay the groundwork for this before we get into the prodigal son coming home. Genesis 38 starting in verse 12. And this is when Judah, one of the sons of Israel, Jacob Israel, when he was literally going out to a prostitute, he didn't know it was his daughter-in-law and the same as we're seeing here like it said about the prodigal son going with harlots. So I'm going to read here in verse 12 to 18 and it says:

Genesis 38:12-13 *And the days were many, and the wife of Judah, the daughter of Shuah, died. And Judah was comforted, and he went up to the shearers of his flocks, he and his friend Hirah of Adullam, to Timnah. And Tamar was told, saying, Behold, your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his flocks.*

Comment: Remember he was supposed to give the younger son because Judah's other son died, who was Tamar's husband and the other son was supposed to be to him. It never happened. So she's going to trick him into bearing seed for the dead son but he doesn't know that.

Genesis 38:14-16 *And she took off her widow's robes from her, and veiled herself with a veil, and disguised herself. And she sat at the entrance of Enaim, which is on the way to Timnah. For she saw that Shelah had grown up and she had not been given to him for a wife. And Judah saw her. And he thought her to be a harlot, because she had veiled her face. And he turned aside to her by the roadway, and said, Come now, let me come in to you. For he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. And she said, What will you give me that you may come in to me?*

Genesis 38:17-18 *And he said, I will send a kid of the goats from the flock. And she said, Will you give me a pledge until you send it? And he said, What pledge shall I give to you? And she said, Your signet ring, and your bracelet and your staff in your hand ... Just like we see the prodigal son when he's coming home, what is he given? A ring on his finger. The signet ring is showing that Judah has the kingship. That is his birthright, is the kingship. The birthright of course is Ephraim's, but his particular right is the kingship. So the staff also showing from the kingship ... And she conceived by him.*

So there we see again, **Judah is using his scepter and the kingship for prostitution** the same way that we saw with the prodigal son. And like Esau, he traded his kingly inherited scepter for one time and what he thought it was a prostitute.

Exodus 32 and verse 8 because in the day and age we live in today a lot of times because what the Father is doing in redeeming Israel and it is a wonderful thing. I've talked about it for the last 30 years and it is joyful that Yahweh is doing it. But unfortunately at this point our brother Judah in the land of Israel is not taking that calling and they're not taking that blessing. And we see in Scripture from almost the very beginning of the Bible all the way up to today that Judah was very stubborn in their ways. So Exodus 32 and verse 8 says:

Exodus 32:8-10 *they have quickly turned off from the way which I commanded them; they have made for themselves a casted calf and have bowed to it, and have sacrificed to it. And they have said, These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt. And YAHWEH said to Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a **stiff-necked people**. And now leave Me alone that My anger may glow against them, that I may consume them. And I will make you a great nation.*

So, I think sometimes in the Evangelical world where, yes, we want to support Israel, yes, we believe in Israel because it's part of prophecy but not necessarily everything Israel does. And unfortunately until Israel does change and until Israel, particularly Judah, when I say Israel the nation, of Israel that where the Jews are living today - Judah. The blessing of Yahweh is not going to be there the way it could be. And that's why I believe they are more like the prodigal son. They are more the way-ward one. As we're going to see, they're the only one that is not in covenant relationship at this point. And that's why I believe they fit more of the prodigal son than the son who was there.

Numbers 14 we see the same thing. We see the pride, the stubbornness of Israel. Numbers chapter 14 verse 1 through 12.

Numbers 14:1-3 *And all the congregation lifted up their voice and cried; and the people wept during that night. And all the sons of Israel murmured against Moses, and against Aaron. And all the congregation said to them, Oh that we had died in the land of Egypt, or in this wilderness, oh that we had died! And why is YAHWEH bringing us into this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and our infants have become a prey. Is it not good for us to return to Egypt?*

Numbers 14:4-7 *And they said each to his brother, Let us give a leader and return to Egypt. And Moses and Aaron fell on their face before all the assembly of the congregation of the sons of Israel. And Yehoshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who spied out the land, tore their garments. And they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, The land into which we passed, to spy, is an exceedingly good land.*

Numbers 14:8-10 *If YAHWEH has delighted in us, then He will bring us into this land and will give it to us, a land which is flowing with milk and honey. Only, do not rebel against YAHWEH. And you, do not fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their defense has turned away from them; and YAHWEH is with us; do not be afraid of them ... but did Israel listen? ... And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. And the glory of YAHWEH appeared in the tent of meeting, to the sons of Israel.*

Numbers 14:11-12 *And YAHWEH said to Moses, Until when will this people despise Me? Until when will they continue not to believe in Me for all the signs I have done in its midst? I shall strike it with pestilence and dispossess it. And I will make you a nation greater and mightier than that ... verse 20.*

Numbers 14:20-24 *And YAHWEH said, I have forgiven according to your word; but as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of YAHWEH; for all the men who are seeing My glory, and My miracles which I have done in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tried Me these ten times, and have not listened to My voice, they shall not see the land which I have sworn to their fathers. Yea, not one of those who provoked Me shall see it. And My servant Caleb, because there is another spirit in him, and he is fully following Me, I shall bring him into the land into which he has gone, and his seed shall possess it.*

So we see only two people, twenty and above, went into the Promised Land. We go to the book of Judges. Wow, I am going to go over these quite a few scriptures here very quick because in the book of Judges throughout almost the whole book the people were obstinate, they were prideful, they were stubborn and were not obeying Yahweh. Judges 3 verse 4 through 8.

Judges 3:4-6 *And they existed to test Israel by them, to know whether they would listen to the commands of YAHWEH, which He had commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses. And the sons of Israel lived among the Canaanites, the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. And took their daughters to themselves for wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and they served their gods ... the false deities.*

Judges 3:7-8 *And the sons of Israel did that which was evil in the sight of YAHWEH, and forgot YAHWEH their Elohim, and served the Baals and the Asherahs. And the anger of YAHWEH glowed against Israel. And He gave them over into the hand of Chushan-Rishathaim, king of Mesopotamia. And the sons of Israel served Chushan-Rishathaim eight years.*

We go to Judges 6 in verse 1:

Judges 6:1 *And the sons of Israel did evil again in the sight of YAHWEH, and YAHWEH gave them into the hand of Midian seven years.*

Judges 8, 33 through 35:

Judges 8:33-35 *And it happened, when Gideon was dead, the sons of Israel rebelled and went whoring after the Baals, and appointed Baal-Berith for a Elohim for themselves. And the sons of Israel did not remember YAHWEH their Elohim who had delivered them out of the hand of all their enemies all around; nor did they act with kindness on the house of Jerubbaal, Gideon, according to all the good which he did with Israel.*

Go to Judges 10, 6 and 7:

Judges 10:6-7 *And the sons of Israel did evil in the sight of YAHWEH again, and served the Baals, and the Ashtoroth, and the gods of Syria, and the gods of Sidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the sons of Ammon, ... just like they're serving the gods, the g-o-d's today ... and the gods of the Philistines. And **they forsook YAHWEH** ... they forsook YAHWEH for these false deities ... and did not serve Him. And the anger of YAHWEH glowed against Israel. And He sold them into the hands of the Philistines, and into the hand of the sons of Ammon ... That's Ammon, Jordan today.*

Judges 13 and verse 1:

Judges 13:1 *And the sons of Israel did **evil again** in the sight of YAHWEH, and YAHWEH gave them into the hands of the Philistines forty years.*

And then the last verse in the book of Judges, Judges 21:25:

Judges 21:25 *In those days there was no king in Israel. Each man did that which was right in his own eyes.*

And basically we see the same today. We are living in the Laodicean era. People are against judicial order and basically people are just doing, everyone is doing right what's in their own eyes and their heart is evil and they are not following Torah. So let's specifically go into Judah's sins that even got them kicked out of the Land. Jeremiah chapter 2 ... Jeremiah chapter 2 verse 11 through 13. It says:

Jeremiah 2:11-13 *Has a nation changed its Elohim, and they were not Elohim? But My people have changed My Glory without profiting. Be amazed at this, O heavens, and be horrified; be completely desolated, declares YAHWEH. For My people have done two evils: they have forsaken Me, the Fountain of living waters, to hew out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.*

And just like the Temple Mount. They've given up the real sanctuary of Yahweh that was in the Tabernacle of David that was in the City of David for Fort Antonio which has 37 broken cisterns up there. So wow, is this scripture really, really fitting in the days we're living in? And like I said, it's so amazing that here it is, if the 2530 years Israel is a nation again, where has this ever happened?

I'm reading about the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Philistines and the Amorites and the Moabite's. Where are these people? These people are only in history books but Israel, this little tiny people of Israel, the Jewish nation that hasn't been there for more than 2000 years is there again, they have a homeland again, the land of Israel is there again. And are they following the Torah? Is the Torah their constitution? Absolutely not! They want to be like Western society, they want demon-ocracy and like the prodigal son, they are going out and doing their own thing. Drop down to verse 19.

Jeremiah 2:19-20 *Your own wickedness shall correct you, and your apostasies shall reprove you. Know, then, and see that your forsaking YAHWEH your Elohim is evil and bitter; and My fear is not in you, declares Adonai YAHWEH of Hosts. For long ago you broke your yoke and tore up your bonds. And you said, I will not transgress, when on every high hill and under every green tree you lay down like a harlot.*

Jeremiah 2:21-24 *Yet I planted you a choice vine, wholly a true seed. How then have you turned into the deteriorating shoots of a foreign vine to Me? Though you wash yourself with potash, and multiply soap for yourself, your iniquity is stained before Me, declares Adonai YAHWEH. How can you say, I am not defiled; I have not gone after Baals? See your way in the valley; know what you have done! You are a swift camel crisscrossing her ways; a wild donkey used to the wilderness. In the passion of her desire she snuffs up the wind in her time. Who can turn her away? All those who seek her will not tire themselves; in her month they will find her.*

Jeremiah 2:25-26 *Withhold your foot from being bare and your throat from thirst. But you said, It is hopeless! For I love strangers, and after them I will go. As the thief is ashamed when he is found, so is the house of Israel ashamed. They, their kings, their princes, and their priests, and their prophets are saying to a tree, You are my father; and to a stone, You gave us birth. For they turned their back to Me, and not the face. But in the time of their evil, they will say, Arise, and save us!*

Jeremiah 2:28-30 *But where are your gods that you have made for yourselves? Let them arise, if they can save you in the time of your evil; for according to the number of your cities are your gods, O Judah. Why do you contend with Me? All of you, you have rebelled against Me, says YAHWEH. In vain I have stricken your sons; they received no correction. Your own sword has devoured your prophets, like a destroying lion.*

Wow. So this is Judah's sin. If we continue in Jeremiah 23, starting in verse 10, just like today the people of the same believing in the false prophets, believing in the false g.o.d's and not following Yahweh or the Torah. Jeremiah 23 in verse 10:

Jeremiah 23:10-12 *For the land is full of adulterers. For the land mourns because of a curse. The pastures of the wilderness are dried up. And their course is evil, and their might is not right. For both prophet and priest are wicked; yea, I have found their evil in My house, says YAHWEH. So their way shall be to them as slippery places in the darkness; they shall be driven out and fall by it. For I will bring evil on them, the year of their judgment, says YAHWEH.*

Jeremiah 23:13-14 *And I have seen folly among the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied by Baal and led astray My people Israel. I have also seen a horrible thing among the prophets of Jerusalem; they commit adultery and walk in falsehood. And they make the hands of evildoers strong, so that not a man returns from his evil. They are all of them like Sodom to Me, and those living in her like Gomorrah.*

Jeremiah 23:15-16 *So YAHWEH of Hosts says this concerning the prophets: Behold, I will feed them wormwood, and make them drink poisonous water, for wickedness has gone forth from the prophets of Jerusalem into all the land. So says YAHWEH of Hosts, Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you; they make you vain; they speak a vision of their own heart, not out of the mouth of YAHWEH ... So here it is. They are not following Yahweh. They are not following the Torah but these prophets are prophesying falsely.*

Jeremiah 23:17-20 *They say to those who despise Me, YAHWEH has said, You shall have peace. And they say to everyone who walks in the stubbornness of his own heart, Evil shall not overtake you. For who has stood in the counsel of YAHWEH, and has seen and heard His Word? Who has listened to His Word and heard? Behold, the whirlwind of YAHWEH has gone forth in fury, even a whirling storm. It will whirl on the head of the wicked. The anger of YAHWEH shall not turn back until He has executed, and until He has set up the purposes of His heart ... And when is this for? ... In latter days you will understand it perfectly.*

So this is for the latter days. And this is the time where the people believed in the false prophets and not the Word of Yahweh as we are seeing today. Then of course Yahshua came. Yahshua came to them. And of course they rejected

Yahshua who basically fulfilled every messianic prophecy that was there, did everything that the Messiah was prophesied to do. And yet they still rejected Him. John 1:11:

John 1:11 *He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him ... He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.*

And why was that? Matthew 13 verse 13 through 15 ... Matthew 13 verse 13 through 15, says:

Matthew 13:13-15 *Because of this, I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. And the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled on them, which says, "In hearing you will hear and in no way understand, and seeing you will see yet in no way perceive. For hardened is the heart of this people, and with their ears they were hard of hearing, and their eyes are blinded that they should not see with their eyes and hear with their ears and should understand in their heart and return and I heal them."*

And it's really amazing when you think about it because, yes, for 2000 years the rabbis have tried to hide the New Testament from Jewish believers. They tell them don't read it, don't go near it. And I've had the blessing of when we were in Israel of meeting even some Orthodox that were baptized that said how did they come to faith - simply by reading the New Testament and seeing it's not anti-Semitic. And everything that the rabbis said that the Messiah would do was right there in the New Testament.

But like the prodigal son, as a people, Judah are blinded to this, they can't see it. They can't see that Yahshua was Jewish. He fulfilled all the prophecies and He came for them. He came for them as one of their own and unfortunately they rejected Him. So what happened to Judah? Matthew 23 and verse 29 ... Matthew 23 verse 29. This is Yahshua speaking. He says:

Matthew 23:29-32 *Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and adorn the tombs of the righteous. And you say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. So you witness to yourselves that you are the sons of those who murdered the prophets. And you fill up the measure of your fathers.*

Matthew 23:33-35 *Serpents! Offspring of vipers! How shall you escape the judgment of Gehenna? Because of this, behold, I send to you prophets and wise ones and scribes. And some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and will persecute from city to city; so that should come on you all the righteous blood poured out on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Berechiah whom you murdered between the Holy Place and the altar.*

Matthew 23:36-39 *Truly I say to you, All these things will come on this generation. Jerusalem, Yerushalem, the one killing the prophets and stoning those sent to her. How often I desired to gather your children in the way a bird gathers her chicks under her wings! And you did not desire it. Behold, "your house is left to you desolate." ... They're the only tribe that's not part of the New Covenant. That's why I said, they're like the prodigal son. They're like the way-ward son that is away ... For I say to you, In no way shall you see Me from now on, until you say, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of YAHWEH."*

So they are not totally lost but until that time ... we are going to read it shortly where they have to come to faith and come home. Come back to the ... like it says, for the word picture for Shabbat "to come back to the house of the covenant".

Acts 7 in verse 42 this is Stephen when he is giving that powerful sermon to the people in the book of Acts and it's really such an amazing story and how he tells it. And look what happens from there. Acts 7 verse 42. So this is Stephen speaking says:

Acts 7:42-43 But Elohim turned and gave them over to serve the host of the heaven, as it has been written in the book of the Prophets: "Did you bring slain beasts and sacrifices to Me forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel? And you took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, the figures which you made" "In order to worship them. And I will remove you beyond" Babylon ... That is what was happening in the book of Jeremiah.

Acts 7:44-47 The tabernacle of the testimony was among our fathers in the wilderness, as He who spoke to Moses commanded to make it according to the pattern which he had seen, which also was brought in, our fathers having received with Yehoshua, in the taking of possession of the nations, whom Elohim drove out from the face of our fathers, until the days of David, who found favor before YAHWEH and asked to find a tabernacle for the Elohim of Jacob; the Tabernacle of David which was found about ten years ago.

Acts 7:48-51 But the Most High does not dwell in sanctuaries made by hands, as the prophet says, "Heaven is My throne, and the earth a footstool of My feet; what house will you build Me," "Says YAHWEH," "Or what the place of My rest?" "Did not My hands make all these things?" Oh stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and in the ears! You always resist the Ruach H'Chodesh. As your fathers did, you do also.

Acts 7:52-55 Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And your forefathers have killed those who foretold about the coming of the Righteous One, He whom you delivered up and whom you killed! Who received the Torah by the command of cherubs and did not keep it. And when they had heard these (things), they were filled with anger ... not repentance, but anger ... within themselves and they were gnashing their teeth against him. But being full of the Holy Spirit, (the Ruach H'Chodesh) looking intently into the heaven, he saw the glory of Elohim, and Yahshua standing at the right of Elohim ... Wow, what a sight that must have been.

Acts 7:56-60 And he said, Behold, I see the heavens having been opened, and the Son of man standing at the right of Elohim! And crying out with a loud voice, they held their ears and all of them rushed upon him. And they seized him and took him outside of the city and they were stoning him, and those who testified against him laid their garments at the feet of a certain young man who was called Shaul (the Apostle Paul). And they were stoning Stephen while he prayed, and he said Our Master Yahshua receive my spirit. And after he kneeled down, he cried in a loud voice and said, Our Master, do not cause this sin to stand against them! And having said this, he fell asleep ... he died.

So, wow. So we see amazingly when Stephen comes he's like a prophet to them and he shares with them what they're doing wrong and were their hearts convicted, did they change? No. Just like the prodigal son. For a while he was out there doing everything his way, doing everything the wrong way and everything was going wrong for him. And it wasn't until it was a dire desperate situation where he came to the realization I need to go home ... I need to go home.

And Judah will, the day will come. But right now Judah has, they have a pride there. They have arrogance. And even what's going on now, the war that's going on for two years and all the wars before this. We were there in the war in 2006. We were living in Kibbutz Ginosar and they actually turned the kibbutz into like a military base and about half of the people of that kibbutz left.

And there was like 400, 450 soldiers every few days coming from the front lines of Lebanon coming down there. But through these wars Israel they ... I've never once heard anybody tell me, "Oh, cry out! We need Elohim's help! And pray to Elohim". It's always, "We can defend ourselves ... we can defend ourselves"— us and the IDF.

And until that day comes where Judah sees and humbles himself and sees that they can't do it themselves. That they see their sin, it's not going to change. But as we'll see here soon, it will, they will see that. But here's Daniel, and Daniel 4, and like I said, I've used this scripture before for President Trump who is these days is very close with Bibi Netanyahu and

the nation of Israel and pretty much following along with a lot of the Israeli mandate that's going on. But the arrogance here could also be said for what I'm saying about Israel. He says,

Daniel 4:27-30 *So, O king, let my advice be pleasing to you: Even break off your sins by righteousness, and your iniquities by pitying the poor, whether there will be duration to your prosperity. All this came on the king, Nebuchadnezzar. At the end of twelve months, he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon. The king spoke and said, Is this not great Babylon that I have built for the house of the kingdom, by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?*

Daniel 4:31-32 *The word was still in the king's mouth when a voice fell from the heavens, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: The kingdom has been taken from you! And you shall be driven from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. You will be fed with the grass like oxen, and seven times shall pass over you until you know that the Most High is Ruler in the kingdom of men, and that He gives it to whomever He desires.*

So, Judah cannot sustain themselves. You know there are 500 million Muslims, there's only around 8 million Jews. Israel is the size of New Jersey roughly and the Muslim nations around them are 100 times bigger. So, we see what's happening and we see really what's going on. And I do believe we're in the time of Jacob's trouble. And even though, praise Yahweh, Judah has won some of these wars that are temporarily taken out people like Hezbollah, and at least neutralize Iran, they haven't taken them out but at least neutralize them to a point. There may be more war coming with that.

But in doing so, in the last two years they have turned the whole world against them. And as I'm speaking, the United Nations just this week has been voting **unanimously**, like 90% of the people of the countries around the world voting for a Palestinian state to be made; which actually from the book of Joel will bring Yahweh's wrath on the earth. So, and we can see where this is going. We can see where Israel will fight it. We can see where the armies that were going to come to Israel eventually and try to enact the Palestinian state. So, it's amazing how as we're watching this unfold, everything is fulfilling exactly as prophecy says. It's just a matter of Yahweh's timeline as these things are coming.

So Judah is pridefully saying they don't need anyone. They can conquer their enemies, but we know this is not true and because of their pride the refusal of the New Covenant. But be honest if anybody's hearing this, who sometimes people don't want to admit it. I'm a hundred percent supportive of Israel. I lived there 20 years. I was blessed to be invited to the Knesset about 25 times going around as an ambassador for Israel. And there's nobody loves the nation of Israel more than I do but that doesn't mean I'm going to support the government of Israel when they're doing things that are not in the will of Yahweh.

And if you think that this is a blessing what's going on in Israel just honestly think to yourself since 1948 ... 1945 was the beginning of the end times, and you can really say, let's say since the beginning of war, to since 1937 let's say and the starting of the modern state of Israel, there has not been a nation on earth or people on earth that has gone through more war suffering, terrorism and sorrow than Jews and the nation of Israel. That's just a fact.

The Holocaust and everything that they've gone through, this tiny little nation that has basically been secularist and just trying to be on their own and when you look at how many Jews are in the world and how much they've contributed, as far as how the modern technology and the modern science and the things that the Jews have brought to the world. For the amount of Jews that are on the earth is amazing compared to, relatively speaking. And yet, at the same time ... at the same time they ... like I said, there has not been any nation or any people that have gone through more suffering, sorrow, terrorism than the Jews have. Romans 10 verse 18 ... Romans 10 verse 18 says:

Romans 10:18 *But I say, Have they not heard? Yes, rather, "into all the earth their voice went out, and to the ends of the world their words."*

Right? So the New Testament, the Brit Chadashah, the New Covenant, it's not something that's being hidden. It's gone all throughout the world, Judah just hasn't accepted it.

Romans 10:19-21 *But I say, Did not Israel know? First, Moses says, "I will provoke you to jealousy by a non-nation, by an unwise nation I will anger you." But Isaiah is very bold and says, "I was found by those not seeking Me; I became known to those not inquiring after Me." But to Israel He says, "All the day I stretched My hands to a disobeying and contradicting people." ... so that's what He says to Israel. All day He's stretching His hand to a disobeying and contradicting people.*

Romans 11 ... let's go to Romans 11 because sometimes I've seen where brethren, or Christian people, be really against Israel and say, "Oh the New Covenant is for Gentiles" which it's not. It's Ephraim, Gentiles can join the New Covenant but they have to join it. It's not a covenant of Gentiles. And yet, they must not be reading Romans 11 because Romans 11 is very, very straight with telling us don't get too prideful against Judah, our brother, just like the in the prodigal son, the brother that was angry when the way-ward brother came home. Don't be too prideful against your brother because we would be in the same spot as them if Yahweh didn't have mercy on us. So we should have mercy on them the same way that Yahweh had mercy on us. So let's read chapter 11 of Romans, he says:

Romans 11:1-4 *I say then, Did not Elohim thrust away His people? Let it not be! For I also am an Israelite, out of Abraham's seed, of the tribe of Benjamin. "Elohim did not thrust away His people" whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture said in Elijah, how He pleaded with Elohim against Israel, saying, YAHWEH, "they killed Your prophets, and they dug down Your altars, and only I am left, and they seek my life." But what does the Divine answer say to him, "I reserved to Myself seven thousand men who did not bow a knee to Baal."*

Comment: So you know sometimes, and I feel the same way, sometimes I feel like, wow, are we the only ones out there? But never forget this scripture like Yahweh said there's always seven thousand others that haven't bowed the knee to Baal.

Romans 11:5 *Even so, in this present time a remnant is preserved, elected by grace and has come into being.*

Comment: And he's talking about from the nation. And we do have Messianic Jews in Israel. I'm friends with a good number of them, wonderful loving people that are there. But I think what He's talking about this remnant; He's also talking about Jews that are there, probably mostly secular Jews that are living there today that are going to come to faith. He says:

Romans 11:6-7 *But if by grace, no longer is it of works; else grace no longer becomes grace. But if of works, it is no longer grace; else work is no longer work. What then? What Israel seeks, this it did not obtain, but the election obtained it, and the rest were hardened;*

Comment: Right? So we should be thankful that Yahweh, only by His mercy and only by His grace, not by our goodness, did we accept the message. Right? I'm an Israelite but I come from a Gentile background because my great, great, great, great, great granddaddy years and years and years, thousands of years ago, whether his name was Dan ... which I believe ... he went a wrong way and I wound up growing up as a Gentile, and only by Yahweh's mercy and grace and pity did He call me back.

Romans 11:8-10 *even as it has been written, "YAHWEH gave to them a spirit of slumber, eyes not seeing and ears not hearing" until this day. And David said, "Let their table become for a snare and a trap, and for a stumbling block," and a repayment to them; "let their eyes be darkened, ... which Judah is today ... not to see, and their back always bowing." ... Just take a look at the Western Wall and that's what you see, their back is always bowing to a Roman wall.*

Romans 11:11 *I say, then, Did not they stumble that they should fall? Let it not be! But by **their slipping away came salvation to the nations, to provoke them to jealousy.***

Comment: So Yahweh allowed Ephraim to go into Diaspora. He called them back after all the years, right? He called Gentiles, real Gentiles, from all nations, China and India, and all over the world, to bring our brother Judah to jealousy just like the brother in the prodigal son. He was jealous of his brother and that's why Yahweh called these people from all over the world so that they would be jealous of him. So they would they would be jealous of us, rather.

Romans 11:11-15 *I say, then, Did not they stumble that they should fall? Let it not be! But by their slipping away came salvation to the nations, to provoke them to jealousy. Now if their (if Judah) slipping away is the riches of the world, and their condemnation the riches of the nations, how much more their restoration? ... This is end time, right? So their restoration means something ... For I speak to you, the nations, since I am an apostle of the nations, (I glorify my ministry), **if somehow I may provoke to jealousy my flesh**, ... the nation of Israel, the Jews ... and may save some of them. For if their casting away is the reconciliation of the world, ... Right? Having the gospel go out to all nations - made salvation open to anyone of any race or creed, or kind anywhere in the world ... So if they're casting your away was the reconciliation of world, what will their restoration be, except life from the dead?*

Comment: Wow! So the calling back of Ephraim and the seed of Judah, having a seed of Judah come to faith shows that the resurrection is right around the corner.

Romans 11:16-18 *Now if the first-fruit is holy, so also the lump. And if the root is holy, so also the branches. But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree were grafted in among them, ... so he's talking about the nation and Judah being broken off and us being a wild olive tree being grafted in ... and became a sharer of the root and the fatness of the olive tree, **do not boast against the branches.** But if you do boast, it is not you that bears the root, but **the root bears you** ... Right? So we were just branches that were grafted in. We are not the root of the tree and that's why he says not to boast ... You will say then, The branches were broken off that I might be grafted in ... Right? The nation was cast away for Ephraim and the Gentiles to come back.*

Romans 11:20-22 *Well! For unbelief they were broken off. And you stand by faith. **Do not be high minded, but fear.** For if Elohim did not spare the natural branches, fear that it may be He will not spare you either ... and we are in the time where Yahweh is separating the wheat from the chaff. I am going to talk about this at Sukkot. So don't get too high-minded on this, but be thankful and fear ... Behold, then, the kindness and severity of Elohim: On those having fallen, severity. But on you kindness, if you continue in the kindness. Otherwise, you too will be cut off.*

Comment: Right? It's not, once saved, always saved. So we have to endure and continue until the end or we also will be cut off. It's a great falling away in the end time, that's what it is. Not a great revival. There is a revival of some but it's more of a falling away.

Romans 11:23-24 *And those also, if they do not continue in unbelief, ... talking about the Jews, the nation, now ... will be grafted in. For Elohim is able to graft them in again. For if you were cut out of the natural wild olive tree, and against nature were grafted into a good olive tree, how much more these being according to nature will be grafted into their own olive tree?*

Comment: So, I've always said, what's really amazing about this scripture is, whether you're the Jew that was cut out of your own tree and getting grafted back in, or Ephraim, or even a Gentile, what is he saying? **We're all from an olive tree;** which shows this is talking about Israelites. It's not talking about Gentiles primarily, although some Gentiles do get grafted in. It's mostly talking about the house of Ephraim and the house of Judah.

Romans 11:25 *For I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be wise within yourselves, **that hardness in part has happened to (the nation) to Israel (to the Jews)** until the fullness of the nations comes in;*

Comment: And who is the fullness of the nations? Go to **Genesis 48**, right? *Ephraim is the fullness of the nation*. So as we are coming to our fullness, which is really close, then Yahweh will call a remnant of Judah back into the faith.

Romans 11:26-27 *and so all the tribes of Israel will be saved, ... all tribes of Israel will be saved; all twelve tribes - not everybody of every tribe but all twelve tribes. As I said, up until now only eleven tribes are in the New Covenant and Judah's house is left to them desolate but they also will come into the New Covenant before it ends ... even as it has been written, "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away iniquity from Jacob. And this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins." Indeed, according to the good news, they are enemies toward you, but according to election, they are beloved for the sake of the patriarchs. For Elohim does not withdraw His free gift and His calling. For as you then also disobeyed Elohim, but now have obtained mercy by the disobedience of these, ... Right? If they didn't disobey, we wouldn't have had this opportunity.*

Romans 11:28 *so also these now have disobeyed, so that they also may obtain mercy by your mercy.*

Comment: We don't want to be like that son in the prodigal son story. The son that's jealous when the prodigal son is coming back. We want to welcome Judah with open arms. We want to hug them and thank them and welcome them.

Romans 11:29-36 *For Elohim has shut up all into unbelief, that He may show mercy to all ... Praise Yahweh ... O the depth of the riches and of the wisdom and the knowledge of Elohim! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! "For who has known the mind of YAHWEH? Or who became His counselor?" "Or who first gave to Him, and it will be repaid to him?" Because of Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen.*

I mean wow, what a great chapter that is and how that brings everything into perspective. And wow, it's almost like that whole chapter is the prodigal son story all over again, right? Just really stretched out and praise Yahweh we have to make sure that we are the brother who's accepting our brother back with open arms. And when the father kills the fatted calf when Judah comes back into the covenant that we are there rejoicing with him because of that. Judah has hope like the prodigal son by the grace of Yahweh.

Zechariah 12 in verse 8 ... Zechariah 12 in verse 8. Zechariah's amazing! 14 chapters, end time book of the prophets, of prophet Zechariah, but amazing book that's here ... probably good to do that for Bible study some time. Zechariah 12 and verse 8 through 10 says:

Zechariah 12:8-10 *In that day YAHWEH shall protect around those living in Jerusalem. And it will be, he who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like Elohim, like the Messenger of YAHWEH before them. And it shall be in that day, I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour on the house of David, and on those living in Yerushalem, the Spirit of grace and of prayers. And they shall look on Me whom they have pierced; ... this is talking about Yahshua ... and they shall mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they shall be bitter over Him, like the bitterness over the first-born.*

So when Judah realizes what they did, when they realized that the Messiah came to them, that they had first cracked the New Covenant and not only did they reject Him, but they crucified Him. There's going to be a great mourning there. And that's when the prodigal son is coming home to the New Covenant. And it's not that far away.

Chapter 13 ... but there is a great ... the day of Jacob's trouble which has started; a great purifying that Israel and Judah is going to have to go through. Zechariah 13 in verse 2:

Zechariah 13:2 *And it shall be in that day, I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall be remembered no more, says YAHWEH of Hosts. And I also will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land.*

Right? The Orthodox Judaism, a lot of the Orthodox, not all of them, there's some really good Orthodox religious but a lot of the Orthodox is a religion of witchcraft. They're into kabbalah and all kinds of bad stuff and Yahweh has to get that out of there. He's got to. Drop down to verse 8 and 9, look what's going to happen. There is going to be unfortunately war there.

Zechariah 13:8-9 *And it shall be in all the land, says YAHWEH, two parts in it shall be cut off and perish, but the third shall be left in it. And I will bring the third part through the fire, ... Right, baptism of fire ... and I will refine them as silver is refined. And I will try them as gold is tried. They shall call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say, It is My people, and they shall say, YAHWEH is my Elohim.*

So that's the point, that's sad. The good news is Judah will be redeemed. The bad news is two thirds of them are going to die and the last third only a remnant will come through the fire. So they will be purified through the baptism of fire but at least a remnant will be saved, praise Yah. And like we read in Romans all twelve tribes will be saved.

Zechariah 14, so this is definitely end time because remember there were no chapters when this was written and right after this was does he say?

Zechariah 14:1-3 *Behold, the day of YAHWEH comes, and your spoil shall be divided among you. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Yerushalem. And the city shall be captured, and the houses plundered, and the women raped. And half the city shall go into exile and the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city. And YAHWEH shall go out and fight against those nations, like the day He fought in the day of battle ... praise Yahweh!*

Zechariah 14:4 *And His feet ... the feet of Yahshua ... will stand in that day on the Mount of Olives, which is before Yerushalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives shall divide from its middle, from the east even to the west, a very great valley. And half of the mountain shall move toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

Praise Yahweh, it's coming ... it's coming! Yahshua will return to save Israel. It will not be America, or the IDF. Matter of fact, America is going to turn on Israel and that's one of the things that's going to bring Babylon's demise. And we will see ... we will see in the days ahead. Jeremiah 23 and verse 5 says:

Jeremiah 23:5 *Behold, the days come, says YAHWEH, that I will raise to David a righteous Branch, and a King will reign and act wisely, and He shall do justice and righteousness in the earth.*

Wow, we know who that King is. That King is Yahshua. King Yahshua, He is going to come. He's coming back and He will reign from Jerusalem. And the good news is, we will be reigning with Him **if we endure to the end, if we're bearing fruit and if we are righteous**. And we will be there with our brother. So we will be there to kill the fatted calf and to do the great wonderful celebration for Judah when they come back around, if we continue and if we are part of the New Covenant.

11 and verse 13. And the vexation between Ephraim and Judah, remember? All the way going back to King Rehoboam after Solomon passed away. From that time there's been this vexation between the house of Israel, the northern tribes, and the house of Judah, the southern tribe. And look what it says in Isaiah 11:13:

Isaiah 11:13 *And the envy of Ephraim shall turn off; and Judah's foes shall be cut off. Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not trouble Ephraim.*

Right? So today Judah does not want to open its arms. They do not want to let Ephraim into the Land. They do not like believers and there's a lot of trickery going on in the land of Israel but very soon in this day that will change, right? The two brothers will love each other, they'll hug, and they'll both be in the kingdom together. They'll both be serving Yahshua and like it says, *there will be no more vexation between Judah and Ephraim and Judah will not trouble Ephraim anymore either.*

So in that day, it will all be over just like with the prodigal son. The brothers will be together again. Last scripture is the book of Joel ... book of Joel chapter 2 because what is this going to take for it to happen? It's not just like waving a wand and this thing just happens. No, there has to come a repentance. There has to come a change that has to come. It's not an easy answer that's there but there has to come a **real repentance and a real change of heart**. Joel 2 verse 1 through 3:

Joel 2:1-3 *Blow a ram's horn in Zion, ... we just did that at the beginning of the message, at least we tried ... Blow a ram's horn in Zion, and shout an alarm in My holy mountain. Let all those living in the land tremble. For the day of YAHWEH approaches; it is near ... This is Yom Teruah. Here we are another year has gone by. We're one year closer to this coming to pass. One year closer to Yahshua coming and the **real trumpet** being blown in Heaven ... It is a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ... the Day of Yahweh - a day of clouds and thick darkness ... as the dawn spread out on the mountains, a great and a strong people. There has never been the like, nor shall there ever be again to the years of generations to generations; ... That's why the Bible says it's the worst time the world will ever know, ever will be, **Matthew 24.***

Joel 2:3 *a fire devours before it, and a flame burns behind it. The land is the Garden of Eden before them and behind them is a desolate wilderness; yea, also there is no escape to them.*

Wow, so this is why there has to be repentance, or the ones who don't repent are going to perish during this time when Yahshua returns. Drop down to verse 11:

Joel 2:11-14 *And YAHWEH shall give His voice before His army, for His camp is very great. For **he who does His Word is strong**. For the day of YAHWEH is very great and fearful, and who can endure it? Even now turn to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, ... We'll be fasting pretty soon on Yom Kippur ... and with weeping, and with wailing, declares YAHWEH. Yea, tear your heart, and not your robes; and turn to YAHWEH your Elohim. For He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and He pities concerning the evil. Who knows if He will turn and have pity and leave a blessing behind Him, a food offering and a drink offering for YAHWEH your Elohim?*

Joel 2:15-16 *Blow a shofar in Zion, ... here we are Yom Teruah ... Blow a shofar in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly ... (Elder Don blowing the shofar) ... Blow a shofar in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly. Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, gather the elders, gather the children, and those who suck the breasts. Let the bridegroom go out of his room, and **the bride out of her bridal chamber.***

Wow, did you ever catch that He's saying **at this time on Yom Teruah when Yahshua's returning, the bridegroom is coming out of His room**, right? Because Yahshua is returning and **the bride is coming out of her bridal chamber**. Where is that? Sela Mountain! So this is the time where it's all coming together and He's telling the people to change, to repent, to get ready for this. And like it says in **Revelation 19**, I'm not going to go there, but we got to get out every spot wrinkle. Last two verses here, verse 18 and 19:

Joel 2:18-19 *Then YAHWEH will be jealous for His land and have pity on His people ... so until that time until Judah turns and changes their heart and cries out to Him, Yahweh's not going to have pity for it. He's going to have to let them go through what they're going through because they're causing it themselves ... Yea, YAHWEH will answer and say to His*

people, Behold, I will send you grain, and wine, and oil, ... these are all the harvest fruits – the grain, the wine, the oil ... and you shall be satisfied with it. And I will no more make you a disgrace among the nations.

Right? Right now Israel is a disgrace among the nations. They are the most hated nation on earth and it's only getting worse day by day what's going on. And our footnote says: the grain for bread, the oil for healing and light, and the wine for blessing and happiness. All three of these elements in Scripture show Yahweh's completeness caring for His people. In the New Covenant, the grain and the wine represents the Passover symbols, and the bread and wine and the oil represents the Ruach H'Chodesh. So we must humble ourselves and realize our human nature is evil and allow Yahweh to change it. And only Yahweh's good, just like Yahshua said - only Yahweh is good.

We must get ready as Yom Teruah is when the bride and the bridegroom are showing themselves. Are you ready to show yourself? Or like it says in the book of Revelation, or you're naked because you don't have a covering? Do you have your wedding garment? And is it spotted and wrinkled? Or is it clean?

The story is not over. Judah has rejected Yahweh from old times but they have hope in Yahshua. They will be redeemed just like the story of the prodigal son is true. Every Yom Teruah we are one year closer to Yahshua's return and Judah's redemption and the bridegroom, should be one step closer to being ready for the Wedding Supper, praise Yahweh! Chag Semeach! I pray that you are getting ready like scripture says, and letting the bride come out of her chamber.

Yahweh bless, Shabbat shalom!