

This week's Audio, Video, and Teaching Notes are posted here.

Torah – The Discovery – Class Five (Where's the Moses Scroll; The Purpose of the Box; David Brings the Ark of God to Jerusalem; Solomon Builds a House for the Name of God; The Ark of God – Housed in the Most Holy Place; What Happened to the Scroll of Moses; Jehoash Repairs the Temple; The Temple Falls into Disrepair Again; A Great King is Born to the House of David; Josiah Appointed King; Hilkiyah Discovers the Scroll of YHVH Written by the Hand of Moses; Shaphan the Scribe Reads the Scroll before Josiah; Josiah Tears His Cloths; Huldah the Prophetess says Gods Wrath is Coming; Josiah Reforms Judah; Content found in Deuteronomy; With All Your Heart and Soul; Josiah's Passover; With All Your Strength/Everything; Where is Jeremiah the Prophet)

September 5, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Torah – The Discovery – Class Five

Audio/Video/Dialogue Links:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zxym_IFKSoA

<https://unitedisrael.org/torah-the-discovery-class-five/>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=346193446566270>

TODAY'S INTRODUCTION

-Welcome to United Israel World Union, this is our Sabbath morning scripture study coming to you live from the United Israel Center in Saint Francisville, Louisiana. Many of you are in your own place today, alone, Shabbat Shalom and thank you for joining us this morning. We need one another to help us go through what the world is going through today. I pray that all of you and the ones that you care for remain healthy today and throughout the coronavirus.

-We are currently in a new teaching series called, "Torah" where I want to talk about everything Torah. My intention with this series is to go where I've never gone before in a teaching series. I want to bring to light much of what I've been studying for the past several years, because this group can handle this subject matter. Though it's not a traditional series on the Torah, there will be some of that. This will be an in-depth study of Torah. In "The Ten Words" series, <https://unitedisrael.org/category/the-ten-words/>, we looked at textural inconsistencies, comparing Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 side by side and we will continue this in our "Torah" series. UIWU has an educational outreach and our purpose is to provide good, solid, informative exegesis of the text of the Bible. All of us are here because we are deep students of scripture.

-Our "Torah" study has turned to a search for the authentic scroll written by Moses. The hand of Moses being apparent in the text of what is traditionally known as the works attributed to him, the Moses material (Genesis 1:1 - Deuteronomy 34:12). What does evidence bring forth to clearly show, what did Moses write? We are talking about authorship. I'm not questioning the authenticity, or the inspiration, or the divine nature of the other material, our study will get to that. In this series I want to discern a single hand that belongs to Moshe Rabbeinu. What did Moses write? The search must take place within the pages of the bible initially along with other sources as necessary, like the Dead

Sea Scrolls. We will look at the text in the bible, from the words, in connection with the words, and on-the-basis-of the words.

-In our "Torah" study, we're currently looking for what Moses' hand wrote on leather / parchment. In previous classes, I presented evidence that Moses did indeed write a little scroll, whether rolled or folded, based on several third person accounts within the Moses material. In Deuteronomy 31:24-26 we learned through a third person account where Moses finished writing the scroll to the very end and he handed it to the Levites who carry the ark, yet we still have three chapters left in Deuteronomy. The Torah was to be written on plastered stones and the five books would have been too much. When Ezra stands on a wooden platform and the scroll of Moses is read in the hearing of the people we get a clear indication it took from morning to mid-day, yet today it takes about 25 hours to read the five books. As such, I've proposed that the Moses Scroll is a smaller document. Please join us as we continue in our teaching series called, "Torah".

TEACHING NOTES

-Today we are in our fifth class on our series on the Torah and today's class is called "The Discovery". Today we will focus on a remarkable discovery that happened historically and is recorded in the Hebrew Bible. We are on a quest to find out and show forth from scripture, what did Moses write? Does scripture provide us with clues that can help us pinpoint what comes from the hand of Moses? Where is the Moses Scroll? Has the scroll that Moses wrote become like one of the books mentioned in scripture that we no longer have? Is the Moses Scroll one of those books or can we find it with any degree of certainty and what is contained therein?

-Deu 31: 24 When Moses had finished writing the words of this law in a book to the very end, 25 Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of YHVH, 26 "Take this Book of the Law and put it by the side of the ark of the covenant of YHVH your God, that it may be there for a witness against you.

-We might say in English, put it beside the ark. If we can find the ark, we should be able to find the scroll that Moses wrote. Where is that last place the Book of the Law was seen? Today the ark is missing and it's one of the great mysteries of biblical history and there are numerous theories about finding this golden box. I'm more interested in the scroll that's near the box, that's what I want to find, but we don't know where the box is. What is the purpose of the ark?

-Deu 10: 1 "At that time YHVH said to me, 'Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and come up to me on the mountain and make an ark of wood. 2 And I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets that you broke, and you shall put them in the ark.'

-Exo 25: 16 And you shall put into the ark the testimony that I shall give you. 21 And you shall put the mercy seat on the top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you.

-The testimony, biblically speaking are the two stone tablets. The purpose of the box is to hold the two stone tablets which are written on with the finger of God. In the box we have that which is written by God and on the outside of the box we should have with it, that which is written by Moses. The ark plays a major part in the biblical story. It's with Israel in the wilderness throughout the journeys. It's with Israel when they cross over into the land and presumably along with it is the scroll of Moses. It's mentioned in numerous

stories and battles throughout the early history of Israel and the ark is there and we assume the scroll of Moses is with it. After David conquers the Jebusite city, called Jerusalem, he determines to bring the ark up. I'm not going to go through every trace of following the ark, but I want to get to a certain point.

-2Sam 6: 15 So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of YHVH with shouting and with the sound of the horn. 16 As the ark of YHVH came into the city of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before YHVH, and she despised him in her heart. 17 And they brought in the ark of YHVH and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it. And David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before YHVH.

-David desired to bring the ark into Jerusalem which was to be the capital of the United Kingdom under his reign. When he sets up Jerusalem, he sets up the tent in a special place and this tent houses the ark.

-2Sam 7: 1 Now when the king lived in his house and YHVH had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, 2 the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." 3 And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for YHVH is with you."

-David in his luxurious home looks out and he sees a tent and feels that in order to make things right it wasn't appropriate that the God of Israel should be dwelling in a tent, he needed a house and gets it set in his mind to build a house.

-1Chr 28: 1 David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the officials of the tribes, the officers of the divisions that served the king, the commanders of thousands, the commanders of hundreds, the stewards of all the property and livestock of the king and his sons, together with the palace officials, the mighty men and all the seasoned warriors. 2 Then King David rose to his feet and said: "Hear me, my brothers and my people. I had it in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of YHVH and for the footstool of our God, and I made preparations for building. 3 But God said to me, 'You may not build a house for my name, for you are a man of war and have shed blood.'

-David desired to build a house, but God told him that he would not build a house, but that his son would build a house because David's life was committed to securing peace in the land and as a result of that his hands were covered in blood. Solomon whose name means peace would be the one to build a house for the name of the God of Israel.

-1Kin 6: 19 The inner sanctuary he prepared in the innermost part of the house, to set there the ark of the covenant of YHVH.

-Within the temple was a special place set aside for the ark, called the Holy of Holies. Within the ark are the two tablets of stone written with the finger of God. What we know from the Torah is that near that ark was a scroll that Moses wrote. I begin to wonder within the Holy of Holies, is that where you would find the scroll of Moses? It's interesting that we haven't heard anything about the scroll of Moses when the ark was brought up, but there's no mention.

-1Kin 8: 2 And all the men of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the feast in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. 3 And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark. 4 And they brought up the ark of YHVH, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. 5 And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be

counted or numbered. 6 Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of YHVH to its place in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the Most Holy Place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. 7 For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles. 8 And the poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the Holy Place before the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside. And they are there to this day.

-We believe that this is proof contrary to those scholars that would suggest that all this is made up later. This was written at a time before the destruction of the first temple. If someone were writing this after the destruction of the temple they would dare not say, you can see it to this day. This is evidence it was written while the first temple was still standing and you could still see the poles still extending, but there's no mention of the scroll of Moses. Maybe it was inside the ark?

-1Kin 8: 9 There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses put there at Horeb, where YHVH made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt.

-Nothing is in the ark except the two tablets of stone. Where is the scroll of Moses? Someone should have mentioned the scroll of Moses being near the ark, it's an important object. What happened to the scroll? It should have been mentioned but it's not. From this point forward through the biblical history, a hundred years till Solomon completes the building of the temple, there's no mention to the scroll of Moses. We don't see people adhering to it. People tend to picture idealized, the children of Israel are living righteously according to the Torah, but anyone who reads scripture knows that that's not the case. After the temple is built, we see a series of bad wicked kings not living to the standard of David and bad things happening as a result. Roughly one hundred- and forty-years pass, and no repairs are mentioned on the house and then we get to someone by the name of Jehoash. In 2Kings 12 Jehoash made repairs to the temple and it seems like a major renovation.

-1Kin 12: 1 In the seventh year of Jehu, Jehoash began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Zibiah of Beersheba. 2 And Jehoash did what was right in the eyes of YHVH all his days, because Jehoiada the priest instructed him.

-It seems that we have a righteous king and a righteous priest during this time roughly 140-years after the building of Solomon's temple and it does seem like a major renovation.

-1Kin 12: 5 let the priests take, each from his donor, and let them repair the house wherever any need of repairs is discovered."

-Then it's roughly 200-years before the next major renovations, the temple is basically not being maintained for all these major time periods. In roughly 350-years we have two restorations of the house.

-2Chr 34: 11 They gave it to the carpenters and the builders to buy quarried stone, and timber for binders and beams for the buildings that the kings of Judah had let go to ruin.

-Not only do the kings of Judah in these intervening years fail to maintain the house and the property, but at times they even work towards its destruction. This scripture seems to suggest they are pulling beams from these holy buildings to use for other things. The temple is in a total state of disrepair, but things are about to change. There would be one who would come who would seek to remedy this problem.

-When Solomon dies the kingdom divides officially. Rehoboam is Solomon's son over the south, the Kingdom of Judah. We have Jeroboam over the north and he doesn't want the people to go and rejoin with the house of David because he's starting his own thing in the north and wants to keep the people there. He immediately goes into apostasy and commits major crimes against the way.

-1Kin 12: 32 And Jeroboam appointed a feast on the fifteenth day of the eighth month like the feast that was in Judah, and he offered sacrifices on the altar. So he did in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves that he made. And he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places that he had made. 33 He went up to the altar that he had made in Bethel on the fifteenth day in the eighth month, in the month that he had devised from his own heart. And he instituted a feast for the people of Israel and went up to the altar to make offerings.

-1Kin 13: 1 And behold, a man of God came out of Judah by the word of YHVH to Bethel. Jeroboam was standing by the altar to make offerings. 2 And the man cried against the altar by the word of YHVH and said, "O altar, altar, thus says YHVH: 'Behold, a son shall be born to the house of David, Josiah by name, and he shall sacrifice on you the priests of the high places who make offerings on you, and human bones shall be burned on you.'"

-Out of this prophets' mouth, 300-years before this promised child of David is born, he announces by name, the coming of a great king. This is the greatest son of David mentioned in scripture and was to come around the year 640 BCE. The king of Judah at that time was a man by the name of Amon. King Amon was assassinated in the palace by a group of conspirators who took him out.

-2Kin 21: 23 (2Chr 33:24-25) And the servants of Amon conspired against him and put the king to death in his house. 24 But the people of the land struck down all those who had conspired against King Amon, and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his place.

-Amon is killed and his son assumes the throne. His son is a boy by the name of Josiah. 2Kings 22 and 23 tell the story of King Josiah and of his reign. His story is also told in 2Chronicles 34 and 35. Quite often the stories are reported very differently in Chronicles and Kings and it's important that we look at both. 2Kings and 2Chronicles tell us a lot of similar details about King Josiah. We know that he's 8-years old when he began to reign. When he was born, his Dad was 16. Josiah is 8-years old when he takes over.

-2Chr 34: 3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet a boy, he began to seek the God of David his father, and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherim, and the carved and the metal images.

-According to Chronicles, Josiah begins to seek God when he's 16-years of age and at 20 he begins a purge of Judah. If you read the Chronicles and Kings accounts side by side during Josiah reign, you'll find that Chronicles puts the beginning of the purge early, whereas Kings doesn't say Josiah starts the purge until a remarkable discovery. They report it differently. They do agree that in the 18th year of his reign, 622 BCE, he begins a restoration of the temple. Josiah is 26-years old at the time and he dispatches a group to go to YHVH's house and begin a restoration.

-2Kin 34: 14 While they were bringing out the money that had been brought into the house of YHVH, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of YHVH given through Moses. 15 Then Hilkiah answered and said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the

Book of the Law in the house of YHVH." And Hilkiyah gave the book to Shaphan. 16 Shaphan brought the book to the king, and further reported to the king, "All that was committed to your servants they are doing.

-This group of people are working in the temple and they are cleaning it out. Remember in 2Chronicles 34:11 it mentions that the temple has fallen into disuse and had been for decades. Josiah's reform goes in to clean the place up and remove idols and all sorts of wickedness. In English it says that Hilkiyah found a Book of the Torah of YHVH given by Moses. A Book of the Torah in the House of the LORD. I found the Scroll – Can you imagine? Hilkiyah doesn't just say any old scroll, he describes that he found a Scroll of the Torah of YHVH. He further qualifies it as, given by Moses. Shaphan probably said; You found the Scroll of YHVH by the hand of Moses! This is the Scroll! If the Exodus was roughly 1450 BCE and the Scroll of YHVH is found in 622 BCE, it's been hundreds of years. Shaphan, I've found the Scroll of YHVH written by the hand of Moses. By the hand of Moses occurs 31 times in scripture, but never in the Book of Deuteronomy.

Within Deuteronomy is that which is written by the hand of Moses. The reason that Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers use written by the hand of Moses is because the hand of Moses is Deuteronomy. Hilkiyah's wording indicates he believes the scroll he's discovered was not just some scroll of teaching but the very scroll that Moses himself wrote and he gives the scroll to Shaphan the scribe and Shaphan takes it to the king.

-2Chr 34: 18 Then Shaphan the secretary told the king, "Hilkiyah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan read from it before the king. 19 And when the king heard the words of the Law, he tore his clothes.

-2Kin 22: 10 Then Shaphan the secretary told the king, "Hilkiyah the priest has given me a book." And Shaphan read it before the king. 11 When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his clothes.

-This so strikes the King Josiah that he tears his cloths. We tend to think that the people of Israel are all packing around their Torah going to synagogue on the Sabbath. No, they are not living holy and righteous at all. They're living un-righteously. This king is a righteous man and has never even heard this before. King Josiah doesn't know Torah, this is brand new. Do you think that Shaphan read to King Josiah Genesis 1:1 through Deuteronomy 34:12? After King Josiah hears the scroll read, he sends an entourage to a prophetess named Huldah.

-2Chr 34: 21 "Go, inquire of YHVH for me and for those who are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that has been found. For great is the wrath of YHVH that is poured out on us, because our fathers have not kept the word of YHVH, to do according to all that is written in this book."

-Do you know why? They didn't know it. The Book of the Torah written by the hand of Moses is not known. It's been lost, hidden, and wasn't revealed.

-2Chr 34: 22 So Hilkiyah and those whom the king had sent went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tokhath, son of Hasrah, keeper of the wardrobe (now she lived in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter) and spoke to her to that effect. 23 And she said to them, "Thus says YHVH, the God of Israel: "Tell the man who sent you to me, 24 Thus says YHVH, Behold, I will bring disaster upon this place and upon its inhabitants, all the curses that are written in the book that was read before the king of Judah. 25 Because they have forsaken me and have made offerings to other gods,

that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands, therefore my wrath will be poured out on this place and will not be quenched.

-The king sends the entourage, including Hilkiah the priest to Huldah the prophetess and she says wrath is coming based upon the book that you read, it's coming. You read about it and now you know it's coming, but because the King humbles himself, she gives a different word of him. Can we determine based on the narrative of this discovery, what was in that scroll? It said this is the Scroll of YHVH written by the hand of Moses, that's what I'm looking for. What's written in the scroll? We know it had to have curses in it based upon what Huldah the prophetess says.

-What's the first thing that Josiah does when they report back to him? We're going to look for clues in Josiah's reform to tell us what was it that he read. What was in that scroll that Shaphan read to him that caused him to rip his garments?

-2Chr 34: 29 Then the king sent and gathered together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. 30 And the king went up to the house of YHVH, with all the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the priests and the Levites, all the people both great and small. And he read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant that had been found in the house of YHVH.

-He reads it in the ears of all the people. This is only commanded in one place, Deuteronomy 31:11-13 which it says that the Torah is to be read in the hearing, in the ears of all the people. I believe that Josiah had learned that it must be read in the ears of all the people because of the scroll that Shaphan read to him and he said now we must comply, and that's what he did. He didn't get that from anywhere but Deuteronomy.

-Deu 31: 11 when all Israel comes to appear before YHVH your God at the place that he will choose, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing. 12 Assemble the people, men, women, and little ones, and the sojourner within your towns, that they may hear and learn to fear YHVH your God, and be careful to do all the words of this law, 13 and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear YHVH your God, as long as you live in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess."

-2Chr 34: 31 And the king stood in his place and made a covenant before YHVH, to walk after YHVH and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant that were written in this book.

-There are a few points in this that convince me that Josiah has heard the book of the content. Content was read to him from the Scroll of YHVH's teaching by the hand of Moses that included language we see here. The phrase to walk after YHVH is only found in the Pentateuch, in Deuteronomy. The writer of Kings and Chronicles are using language that points to Deuteronomy. To walk after YHVH, to guard his commandments his testimonies and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul. That phrase occurs 9 times in the Pentateuch, but only in Deuteronomy.

-Deu 4: 29 But from there you will seek YHVH your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul.

-Deu 6: 5 You shall love YHVH your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

-Deu 10: 12 "And now, Israel, what does YHVH your God require of you, but to fear YHVH your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve YHVH your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

-Deu 11: 13 "And if you will indeed obey my commandments that I command you today, to love YHVH your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,

-Deu 13: 4 You shall walk after YHVH your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him.

-Deu 26: 16 "This day YHVH your God commands you to do these statutes and rules. You shall therefore be careful to do them with all your heart and with all your soul.

-Deu 30: 2 and return to YHVH your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul,

-Deu 30: 6 And YHVH your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love YHVH your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

-Deu 30: 10 when you obey the voice of YHVH your God, to keep his commandments and his statutes that are written in this Book of the Law, when you turn to YHVH your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

-With all his heart and all his soul. The reason this is underscored in the reformation of Josiah's time is because the Scroll of the Teaching of YHVH written by the hand of Moses was read in his ear and in the ears of the people was content found in Deuteronomy.

-Since 2 Chronicles has more to say of a reform before the discovery of the scroll, if you read it you'll take away that Josiah was a righteous young man and started doing all these great things to get the bad out of the land. The 2 Kings account says that Josiah's reform is based on the discovery of the Scroll of YHVH written by the hand of Moses. Josiah hears the scroll and he knows what to do to restore the land to proper and true worship and he does so according to language from the scroll. That's the account that I go with and I can prove it.

-2Kin 23: 4 And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second order and the keepers of the threshold to bring out of the temple of YHVH all the vessels made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron and carried their ashes to Bethel.

-It talks about burning these objects associated with bad worship. If you study the Pentateuch, you will not find the command to burn such objects in Exodus, Leviticus, or Numbers, but you will find these commands in Deuteronomy.

-Deu 7: 5 But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and chop down their Asherim and burn their carved images with fire.

-Deu 7: 25 The carved images of their gods you shall burn with fire. You shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them or take it for yourselves, lest you be ensnared by it, for it is an abomination to YHVH your God.

-Deu 12: 3 You shall tear down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and burn their Asherim with fire. You shall chop down the carved images of their gods and destroy their name out of that place.

-The reason Josiah burns these things is because the Scroll of YHVH's teaching by the hand of Moses said, burn it.

-2Kin 23: 6 And he brought out the Asherah from the house of YHVH, outside Jerusalem, to the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron and beat it to dust and cast the dust of it upon the graves of the common people. 7 And he broke down the

houses of the male cult prostitutes who were in the house of YHVH, where the women wove hangings for the Asherah.

-2Kin 23: 6 And he brought out the Asherah from the house of YHVH, outside Jerusalem, to the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron and beat it to dust and cast the dust of it upon the graves of the common people.

-2Kin 23: 12 And the altars on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars that Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of YHVH, he pulled down and broke in pieces and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron.

-2Kin 23: 15 Moreover, the altar at Bethel, the high place erected by Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin, that altar with the high place he pulled down and burned, reducing it to dust. He also burned the Asherah.

-In each of these passages, objects associated with unlawful worship are beaten to dust. That language is only used in Deuteronomy.

-Deu 9: 21 Then I took the sinful thing, the calf that you had made, and burned it with fire and crushed it, grinding it very small, until it was as fine as dust. And I threw the dust of it into the brook that ran down from the mountain.

-2Kin 23: 24 Moreover, Josiah put away the mediums and the necromancers and the household gods and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might establish the words of the law that were written in the book that Hilkiyah the priest found in the house of YHVH.

-Deu 18: 9 "When you come into the land that YHVH your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations. 10 There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer 11 or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, 12 for whoever does these things is an abomination to YHVH. And because of these abominations YHVH your God is driving them out before you. 13 You shall be blameless before YHVH your God, 14 for these nations, which you are about to dispossess, listen to fortune-tellers and to diviners. But as for you, YHVH your God has not allowed you to do this.

-The reason that Josiah focused on these reforms is because the content of the Scroll of YHVH written by the hand of Moses said to, and it's only found in Deuteronomy. Other Deuteronomy language that's mentioned in Josiah's reformatory actions include...

-2Kin 23: 4 And the king commanded Hilkiyah the high priest and the priests of the second order and the keepers of the threshold to bring out of the temple of YHVH all the vessels made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron and carried their ashes to Bethel. 5 And he deposed the priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to make offerings in the high places at the cities of Judah and around Jerusalem; those also who burned incense to Baal, to the sun and the moon and the constellations and all the host of the heavens.

-2Kin 23: 11 And he removed the horses that the kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun, at the entrance to the house of YHVH, by the chamber of Nathan-melech the chamberlain, which was in the precincts. And he burned the chariots of the sun with fire.

-Here there is mention of the host of heaven cult and this is only mentioned in Deuteronomy.

-Deu 4: 19 19 And beware lest you raise your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the host of heaven, you be drawn away and bow down to them and serve them, things that YHVH your God has allotted to all the peoples under the whole heaven.

-Deu 17: 2 "If there is found among you, within any of your towns that YHVH your God is giving you, a man or woman who does what is evil in the sight of YHVH your God, in transgressing his covenant, 3 and has gone and served other gods and worshiped them, or the sun or the moon or any of the host of heaven, which I have forbidden, 4 and it is told you and you hear of it, then you shall inquire diligently, and if it is true and certain that such an abomination has been done in Israel, 5 then you shall bring out to your gates that man or woman who has done this evil thing, and you shall stone that man or woman to death with stones.

-2Kin 23: 7 And he broke down the houses of the male cult prostitutes who were in the house of YHVH, where the women wove hangings for the Asherah.

-Deu 23: 18 You shall not bring the fee of a prostitute or the wages of a dog into the house of YHVH your God in payment for any vow, for both of these are an abomination to YHVH your God.

-There is more because following this great reformation there is a Passover that Josiah leads the people in, and Chronicles and Kings tells of this event.

-2Kin 23: 21 And the king commanded all the people, "Keep the Passover to YHVH your God, as it is written in this Book of the Covenant." 22 For no such Passover had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, or during all the days of the kings of Israel or of the kings of Judah. 23 But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was kept to YHVH in Jerusalem.

-Not just any Passover, this Passover was more aligned with the scripture of the Book of the Covenant than any since the time of the Judges.

-2Chr 35: 16 So all the service of YHVH was prepared that day, to keep the Passover and to offer burnt offerings on the altar of YHVH, according to the command of King Josiah. 17 And the people of Israel who were present kept the Passover at that time, and the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days. 18 No Passover like it had been kept in Israel since the days of Samuel the prophet. None of the kings of Israel had kept such a Passover as was kept by Josiah, and the priests and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel who were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

-The writer of Chronicles and Kings tell us that there has never been a Passover like this since the days of Samuel the prophet and the days of the Judges. What makes it different? How do we know the Passover was great because it was based on Deuteronomy and not any other book of the Torah? We know this based on language.

-2Chr 35: 13 And they roasted the Passover lamb with fire according to the rule; and they boiled the holy offerings in pots, in cauldrons, and in pans, and carried them quickly to all the lay people.

-This is what the English says, but in the Hebrew it says, and they boiled the Passover lamb. Some may argue this means they cooked the Passover lamb. What ever it means, boiled or cooked, Exodus 12 says don't do it that way.

-Exo 12: 8 They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts.

-In the Hebrew, here it says to eat the flesh at night and not to do it the way it mentions to do it in 2Chronicles 35:13. Where did they get the idea that the Passover was not roasted in fire but cooked/boiled instead.

-Deu 16: 7 And you shall cook it and eat it at the place that YHVH your God will choose. And in the morning you shall turn and go to your tents.

-In Hebrew this is the same root described for the way that they cooked it in 2Chronicles 35. This Passover was unlike any other. In 622 BCE a priest by the name of Hilkiah found what was reported to be the Scroll of YHVH's Instruction written by the hand of Moses. Josiah reads it aloud and brings the people into the bond of the Covenant with all their heart and all their soul and conducts a sweeping reform. Every bit of Josiah's reform is built upon language that is exclusive to Deuteronomy which culminates in a great Passover that also points us to the language of Deuteronomy.

-2Kin 22: 1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath. 2 And he did what was right in the eyes of YHVH and walked in all the way of David his father, and he did not turn aside to the right or to the left.

-That language is exclusive to Deuteronomy. We are talking about upright behavior, right in the sight of, walked in the way, and turned not to the right or to the left; all that points us to Deuteronomy.

-2Kin 23: 25 Before him there was no king like him, who turned to YHVH with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him.

-That phrase in English translated "with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might" in Hebrew, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your everything – that's Josiah. Where does that language come from? That phrase is only found in one text in all the Hebrew Bible, and is found in Deuteronomy 6.

-Deu 6: 5 You shall love YHVH your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

-With all your everything. Where it says, no one has arisen like him, it's like the language at the end of Deuteronomy. I have a question, where is the ark? At the beginning of today's class, we saw the ark, but we didn't see the scroll. Now we have a great discovery, the temple is in ruins, a great restoration is going on, Hilkiah says to Shaphan, I found the Scroll of the Torah of YHVH written by the hand of Moses, but nobody is talking about the ark. Where is the ark? Isn't it strange that the arks not mentioned?

-Where is Jeremiah in all of this? Jeremiah should be all in this story. Scripture says that the word of YHVH came to Jeremiah in the days of King Josiah, the son of Amon, King of Judah in the thirteenth year of his reign. In the eighteenth year of his reign the great discovery of the scroll happened. Five years prior to that Jeremiah steps on the scene. He is a prophet during the reign of Josiah and had been a prophet during that king's reign five years prior to the discovery of the scroll. When the scroll is discovered Josiah doesn't say, Hilkiah go to Jeremiah, he says to go to Huldah the prophetess. Who is Huldah and why doesn't he say to go to Jeremiah? Does he even know Jeremiah? Can we connect Jeremiah to the scroll of Moses that was discovered? Did Jeremiah see the scroll? I think he did.

-Jer 8: 8 "How can you say, 'We are wise, and the law of YHVH is with us'? But behold, the lying pen of the scribes has made it into a lie.

-What did Jeremiah see that made him say that there was something not true in the Torah? Next week we will talk about Jeremiah's role in the discovery. Who was Jeremiah? And how does he connect to the scroll?

Shabbat Shalom, Shavua Tov, See you next week!

(1) Torah – The Journey Begins – Class One (Seekers of Truth Awaken; Under the Law – What Were We Told; The Fundamentalist View; Reading the Book – A Positive View of Torah; An Introduction to Torah Faith; The Torah Class Syllabus; An Honest Assessment of Torah; Burning Questions; Fundamentalism – Then & Now; Taking the Hard Road – An Obligation to Share Biblical Truth and Reach Sound Conclusions; Torah Means Direction; This is the Torah Of; Torah in the Heart; Rejecting the Torah of YHVH; What Does the Torah Say vs What People Say it Says; What Did Moses Write)

August 8, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Links: <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-the-journey-begins/>

Teaching Notes Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Teaching-Notes-2020.8.8-Torah-The-Journey-Begins1.pdf>

(2) Torah – Authors – Class Two (Associating Our Lives with the Ancient Texts; Going Inside the Scriptures; Letting the Authors Speak for Themselves; The Psalms of David; The First-Person Words of Daniel, Isaiah, and Jeremiah; The Distinction Between Scribe (Third-Person) and Prophet (First-Person); Applying the Same Method to the Moses Material – The Five Books of Moses; What Did Moses Write – Discerning the Hand of Moses; The Third-Person Narratives of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers; Deuteronomy's First-Person Narratives; Moses Constructs an Ark; Moses Spoke Beyond the Jordan – Examples of Late Biblical Editors; The Scroll of Moses)

August 15, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-authors-class-two/>

Teaching Notes: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Teaching-Notes-2020.8.15-Torah-Authors-Class-Two.pdf>

(3) Torah – What Moses Wrote – Class Three (The Five Books of Moses – The Pentateuch; Seven References to Moses Writing Something; Blotting Out the Memory of Amalek; Writing the Commands of YHVH Associated with the Covenant; YHVH's Travelogue – Journeys in the Wilderness; This Torah; The Book / Scroll of This Torah and It's Content; References to the Scroll / Torah of Moses – The Man of God; Content Within Deuteronomy; Walking in the Ways of YHVH; Cooking the Passover Lamb – Roasted vs. Boiled; Remember the Torah of My Servant Moses; What Did Moses Write)

August 22, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/torah-what-moses-wrote-class-three/>

Teaching Notes: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Teaching-Notes-2020.8.22-Torah-What-Moses-Wrote-Class-Three1.pdf>

(4) Torah – The Moses Scroll – Class Four (What Did Moses Write; The Moses Scroll – A Smaller Document; Excluding Things from the Moses Scroll; Third Person Material – A Different Hand than Moses; Biblical References Pointing to Context in Deuteronomy; Missing Books Quoted in the Bible; The Damascus Document – A Quote About the Scroll of Moses; One Woman One Man; David and Solomon Multiply Wives; Joshua and the Sealed Scroll of the Torah in the Ark; The Torah of the King – Deuteronomy 17:14-20; A King “Like the Nations”; Samuel is Displeased; Rejecting YHVH as King; Jotham’s Parable; Allowing Statutes that are Not Good; A Polemic Against the Monarchy; Inserting Anachronistic Texts Which Come Later)

August 29, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Link:

<https://unitedisrael.org/torah-the-moses-scroll-class-four/>

Teaching Notes: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Teaching-Notes-2020.8.29-Torah-The-Moses-Scroll-Class-Four1.pdf>

THIS WEEK IN TORAH

SEPTEMBER 5, 2020

This week’s Torah Portion KiTavo: “When You Enter” (Deuteronomy 26:1 – 29:8) Offerings of firstfruits and tithes, Confession of the tithes, God and Israel are inseparable, The new commitment, Blessings and curses, The altar on Mount Ebal, Curses from Mount Ebal, Blessings for fulfilling the commandments, Curses for disobedience, Moses final charge to the people, The covenant renewed in Moab. “This Week in Torah” FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/571648826269105/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

-Blossoming Rose Israel Tours (2020 - 2021): <https://blossomingrose.org/>

-Connect to Israel Tour – (2020): Clayton – Young; November 1 – 13, 2020;

<https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/connect-to-israel-tour-2020/>

-Walking the Ancient Paths – (2021): Tabor – Nichols Israel Tour February 26-March 9, 2021; <https://blossomingrose.org/2021-walking-the-ancient-paths/>;

<https://www.facebook.com/unitedisrael/videos/1519585374879147/>;

-UNCC Mt. Zion Archaeological Project, Dig Mt. Zion (2021): June/July 2021;

<https://digmountzion.uncc.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/digmountzion/>

-Limited Mobility Israel Tour – (2021): Nichols – Young; October 18 – 28, 2021;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyUGXC4fUvU> & <https://blossomingrose.org/israel-tours/limited-mobility-israel-tour-2021/>

UNITED ISRAEL WORLD UNION (UIWU) WEBSITES

-UIWU Official Website / YouTube Website / Facebook Website:

<https://unitedisrael.org/> (UIWU Main Website)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq31WAlio9zC1eXDzrEVzlg> (YouTube Videos)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/unitedisraelworldunion/> (UIWU Facebook)

-UIWU Founder, United Nations Correspondent, Author, (1903 – 2003) David Horowitz:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Horowitz_\(author\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Horowitz_(author))

<https://jamestabor.com/the-extraordinary-life-of-david-horowitz-documented-at-last/>

<https://unitedisrael.org/remembering-david-horowitz/>

-UIWU President, Biblical Scholar/Professor at UNCC, Tabor Blog, Dr. James D. Tabor:

<https://jamestabor.com/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Tabor

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=james+tabor

-UIWU Executive Vice-President, Historian, Researcher, Author, Ralph Buntyn:

<https://unitedisrael.org/category/remembering-david-horowitz/>

<https://www.amazon.com/Book-David-Horowitz-Nations-Founder/dp/1630515833>

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=ralph+buntyn

-UIWU Vice-President, Weekly Teaching and Study Sessions, Ross Nichols:

<https://unitedisrael.org/author/rknichols/>

<https://rossknichols.com/about-ross-nichols/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq31WAlio9zC1eXDzrEVzlg>

-UIWU Vice-President, Temple Beth Shalom, Hickory, NC, Rabbi Dennis Jones:

<https://www.hickoryjewishcenter.com/index.html>

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hickory-Jewish-CenterTemple-](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hickory-Jewish-CenterTemple-Beth/125461817509689)

[Beth/125461817509689](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hickory-Jewish-CenterTemple-Beth/125461817509689) & <https://unitedisrael.org/faith-without-borders/>

-UIWU Ministers/Board Directors, UI Center Northeast, Rome, NY, Dave & Patty Tyler:

<https://www.facebook.com/UIWUNortheast>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BsCXrGttxo> (The Song of Moses by Patricia Tyler)

-UIWU Historical Research Specialist, Weekly Teachings, Author, Jodell Onstott:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=jodell+onstott

<https://www.amazon.com/YHWH-Exists-Jodell-Onstott/dp/0975337505>

-UIWU Audio/Visual Technical Support, Weekly Teachings/Meals, Dave & Sherry Cole

-UIWU UI Minister, Weekly Teachings, UI Bulletin Contributor, Ronnie Fulcher

-UIWU Board Director, United Israel Bulletin Contributor, Betty Givin

-UIWU Music Minister, Weekly Teachings, Glenn Chatterton

-UIWU Scribe, Weekly Teaching Notes, This Week in Torah FB, John “Baruch” Perry

-A 95 Page Summary of UI “Weekly Teaching Notes” (April 2007 to May 2020)

<https://unitedisrael.org/a-summary-of-ui-teachings-by-john-baruch-perry/>

-This Week in Torah / Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/571648826269105/>

FRIENDS OF UNITED ISRAEL WORLD UNION

-Blossoming Rose, Official Curator of UI Biblical Tamar Park, Dr. DeWayne Coxson:

<https://blossomingrose.org/>

https://www.facebook.com/groups/97078180601/?ref=group_browser

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLCdRzFRy90> (Biblical Tamar – 7 Periods)

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=biblical+tamar+park+israel

-Kol Yehuda, Facebook United 2 Restore, Israeli Tour Guide, Hanoch Young:

<https://www.kolyehuda.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/470824226357829/>

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=hanoch+young+israel

-Truth2U, Tanakh Tours, The Kingdom Chronicles, Talk Radio Host, Jono Vandor

<https://www.truth2u.org/author/admin/>

<https://israelnewstalkradio.com/news-anchor-jono-vandor/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Truth2Uorg-116835708352238>

-Film Director, Producer, Freelance Journalist, Author, Simcha Jacobovici:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/57979546982/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simcha_Jacobovici

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Simcha+Jacobovici

-Archaeologist, Professor of Practice at UNCC, Dr. Shimon Gibson:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=shimon+gibson

<https://history.uncc.edu/people/dr-shimon-gibson>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shimon_Gibson

-Nehemia's Wall, Uncovering Ancient Hebrew Sources of Faith, Nehemia Gordan

[https://www.nehemiaswall.com/;](https://www.nehemiaswall.com/)

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=nehemia+gordan