

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

Prophet – Malakh YHVH – Class Eight (The Defeat of Jericho; Joshua's Curse; Hiel of Bethel Rebuilds Jericho and His Sons Die; The Dark Days of Ahab and Jezebel; Elijah Controls the Rain; Elijah Sustains the Widows Flour and Oil; Elijah Revives the Widows Son from the Dead; Elijah Calls Down Fire from Heaven; Elijah Kills 450 Prophets of Baal; Elijah Flees to Horeb from Jezebel; Malachi – The Second Coming of Elijah; Either or Prophecies; Who is the Messenger That Prepares the Way; The Still Small Voice; As YHVH Lives; Elijah Picks His Replacement; The Spirit of Elijah Rests on Elisha; Manifestations of the Messenger of YHVH to Hagar, Abraham, Moses, Manoah, and Jacob; Bless the Boys; Though Prophecy Tarry – Wait for It)

January 23, 2021 – Ross Nichols

Prophet – Malakh YHVH – Class Eight

Audio/Video Links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PssOmB1FVw>

<https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-malakh-yhvh-class-eight/>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=3961280250562343>

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, "Prophet" where I want to talk about the subject, the people, and the message of that mysterious group of men and women that are biblically referred to as the Prophet. We just completed a 12-part series called "Torah". The primary purpose of that study was to show and teach a method whereby you can determine within the first five books of the bible, Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, the hand of Moses. What is it that Moses wrote? This series was important because it gives us the essential tools to recognize apart from tradition and our beliefs, the voice of Moses in the five books. If we were able to determine the things that Moses said, then our goal in this study on the Prophet is to determine what the mouth of YHVH said from the hands, narrators, characters, people, and voices within the bible.

-The reason that we have prophets and prophecy is that at Horeb / Sinai YHVH spoke in an audible voice, in a day of assembly to an entire group made up of the people of Israel and a mixed multitude who joined with them. There at the foot of Sinai they saw, heard and had an awe-inspiring fearful experience and they were terrified. The people made a request that they not hear again the voice of YHVH their God or see his great fire anymore lest they die.

-Exo 20: 18 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled,

and they stood far off 19 and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let Elohim speak to us, lest we die."

-One of the key things at Sinai was that the people asked for someone who would be between them and the creator. Moses, you go listen to what God says, you come back and tell us, and we will listen, but they didn't listen to this day. The promise was that if another would go to God and bring back his message, they would listen and do it. The biggest problem in the world today is that God's message through his prophets is still not heeded.

-Each of the prophets get their own vision of certain key points in the study of the last days, and much of the material deals with the time at hand. All of the prophets are addressing things that are going on around them, yet at other times they look forward to the days to come. In our study, we will talk about the tribes and various aspects of God that the prophets reveal. These prophets encountered God in a way that most humans never do and never will. We get some great insight into various subject matters and into the nature of God himself. As we focus on the prophets and prophecy, I want to also focus on the words of YHVH, the words of God within the word of God, dealing mainly with the text of the Hebrew Scriptures. We are searching the scriptures for those life giving, flaming inspired words of the Hebrew prophets.

-Deu 8: 1 "The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that YHVH swore to give to your fathers. 2 And you shall remember the whole way that YHVH your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. 3 And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of YHVH.

-Please join us as we journey through our teaching series called, "Prophet".

TEACHING NOTES

-Today we are in the 8th class of our series "Prophet". We are talking about the mysterious people and their words which are actually the words of the creator.

-Jos 6: 26 Joshua laid an oath on them at that time, saying, "Cursed before YHVH be the man who rises up and rebuilds this city, Jericho. "At the cost of his firstborn shall he lay its foundation, and at the cost of his youngest son shall he set up its gates."

-Here is a curse on the person who decides to rebuild Jericho after it's been destroyed. This word is spoken by Joshua and then we don't hear anything about it for a long time. This gives us some context to a very dark period in the time of biblical Israelite history.

-1Kin 16: 29 In the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab the son of Omri began to reign over Israel, and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. 30 And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of YHVH, more than all who were before him. 31 And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he took for his wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal and worshiped him. 32 He erected an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he built in Samaria. 33 And Ahab made an Asherah. Ahab did more to provoke YHVH, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him. 34 In his days Hiel of Bethel built Jericho. He laid its foundation at

the cost of Abiram his firstborn, and set up its gates at the cost of his youngest son Segub, according to the word of YHVH, which he spoke by Joshua the son of Nun.

-We are talking about hundreds of years later and we are talking about a dark period of time in the history of the kings of Israel when Ahab takes the throne and is worse than all those who preceded him. This was the fulfillment of an oath that Joshua uttered after the defeat of Jericho. Jericho was to be totally destroyed, nothing was to be taken out, and the person who rebuilds it is under a curse. When Joshua uttered this, it was a word of YHVH. Yet in Joshua 6 it doesn't tell us that Joshua's curse were the words of YHVH. Here in 1Kings 16, looking back, the comment is made that this was the word of YHVH. There are times in scripture where a prophetic utterance such as Joshua's curse might not come to pass for hundreds of years.

-According to tradition, the prophet Jeremiah recorded these annals of the kings that we have preserved in 1 Kings and 2 Kings. I want to establish that things are really bad. We have a wicked king, more wicked than any who had come before. Setting the stage for a really dark period. Ahab takes as his wife, Jezebel, a woman known for her epidemic of evil and wickedness. Jezebel's name in Hebrew means, where is glory and dominion and she probably believes' she is it. During this dark period of evil leadership of Ahab and Jezebel we meet with one of Israel's best-known prophets. Amos said, God does nothing unless he reveals his secret unto his servants, the prophets. You can almost expect that in the best of times and in the worst of times, when God is moving for the good or the bad there will be some manifestation of his word in the midst of the situation.

-Here we have one of Israel's best-known prophets and we know little about him. He doesn't even have a book named after him, but we have a record of some of his acts and words. This prophet operated in the mid-9th century BCE. This prophet is known and revered in the religious texts and traditions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This prophet worked miracles. He was a man like us and yet he could control the rain, starting and stopping it at his word.

-1Kin 17: 1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As YHVH, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word."

-1Kin 18: 1 After many days the word of YHVH came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth." 2 So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe in Samaria.

-1Kin 18: 41 And Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of the rushing of rain." 42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Mount Carmel. And he bowed himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees. 43 And he said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." And he went up and looked and said, "There is nothing." And he said, "Go again," seven times. 44 And at the seventh time he said, "Behold, a little cloud like a man's hand is rising from the sea." And he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.'" 45 And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel.

-In this story Elijah is the rainmaker. Throughout biblical history this tradition of rain making and controlling the weather fits into many of the stories we've inherited. This idea begins with Elijah, he can control the elements and other miraculous things.

-1Kin 17: 8 Then the word of YHVH came to him, 9 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you." 10 So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." 11 And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." 12 And she said, "As YHVH your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die." 13 And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says YHVH, the God of Israel, 'The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that YHVH sends rain upon the earth.'" 15 And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. 16 The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of YHVH that he spoke by Elijah.

-These are miraculous things, she has only enough oil and flour to make a final meal and I and my son will die. Later in the story the widow's son is on the verge of dying and Elijah stretches himself on top of the child and brings him back. The boy is alive. This prophet can also call down fire from heaven. But rumors were beginning to spread of Elijah being in one place and somehow YHVH would transport him to another place. In one story when the famine of the drought was so great, Jezebel is killing the prophets of Israel and Obadiah is trying to save them from her wickedness.

-1Kin 18: 1 After many days the word of YHVH came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth." 2 So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe in Samaria. 3 And Ahab called Obadiah, who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared YHVH greatly, 4 and when Jezebel cut off the prophets of YHVH, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water.) 5 And Ahab said to Obadiah, "Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the valleys. Perhaps we may find grass and save the horses and mules alive, and not lose some of the animals." 6 So they divided the land between them to pass through it. Ahab went in one direction by himself, and Obadiah went in another direction by himself.

-1Kin 18: 7 And as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him. And Obadiah recognized him and fell on his face and said, "Is it you, my lord Elijah?" 8 And he answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here.'" 9 And he said, "How have I sinned, that you would give your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me? 10 As YHVH your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my lord has not sent to seek you. And when they would say, 'He is not here,' he would take an oath of the kingdom or nation, that they had not found you. 11 And now you say, 'Go, tell your lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here.'" 12 And as soon as I have gone from you, the Spirit of YHVH will carry you I know not where. And so, when I come and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill me, although I your servant have feared YHVH from my youth. 13 Has it not been told my lord what I did when Jezebel killed the prophets of YHVH, how I hid a hundred men of YHVH's prophets by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water? 14 And now you say, 'Go, tell your lord, "Behold, Elijah is here"; and he will kill me.'" 15 And Elijah said, "As YHVH of hosts lives, before whom I stand, I will surely show

myself to him today." 16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him. And Ahab went to meet Elijah. 17 When Ahab saw Elijah, Ahab said to him, "Is it you, you troubler of Israel?" 18 And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you have, and your father's house, because you have abandoned the commandments of YHVH and followed the Baals. 19 Now therefore send and gather all Israel to me at Mount Carmel, and the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table." 20 So Ahab sent to all the people of Israel and gathered the prophets together at Mount Carmel. 21 And Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If YHVH is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." And the people did not answer him a word. 22 Then Elijah said to the people, "I, even I only, am left a prophet of YHVH, but Baal's prophets are 450 men.

-Elijah makes this statement three times, I am only left, it's only me. The prophets are forced through the nature of their horrible mission and they're alone. He's convinced that he's the only true prophet. This passage sets the stage for a great showdown between the God YHVH and Baal. Elijah begins to mock Baal and says to Baal's prophets, whoever's God send's fire from heaven, then his God is God. Ultimately these false prophets are destroyed, and the victory is Elijah's as fire comes from heaven and licks up the sacrifice and the water and YHVH is declared the winner. Jezebel says to Elijah, come morning light I'm going to do the same thing to you. I'm going to kill you. Then Elijah flees. In Malachi 4 we find the final words of the prophets. This is the end of the prophetic words in the Bible. A final exhortation and a final prophecy.

-Mal 4: 4 "Remember the law (Torah) of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. 5 "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of YHVH comes. 6 And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

-Remember the Torah of Moses my servant that YHVH commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. Behold Elijah the prophet is coming before the great and terrible day of YHVH. This is the end of the biblical period, the end of prophecy, and they are talking about Elijah is coming back. Not every prophecy has to come to pass. We can call this the Second Coming of Elijah. He came once, he ascended into heaven, and he's coming back. He will return and cause the hearts of the fathers to turn on the sons and the hearts of the sons upon the fathers. This is the first option the second option is, lest I come and smite the land with a curse. When Elijah comes back, these are going to be the options. Is this coming of Elijah the prophet related to the coming messenger?

-Mal 3: 1 "Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me.

-Is Elijah the messenger who is coming to prepare the way? Whoever the messenger is in Malachi 3:1 whose job it is to prepare the way before YHVH. This task is also mentioned in Isaiah 40:3 and Isaiah 57:14 and Isaiah 62:10. Is Elijah the messenger who is coming? Behold I am sending my messenger. Who is the messenger that we're looking for?

-Exo 23: 20 "Behold, I send an angel before you to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. 21 Pay careful attention to him and obey his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for my name is in him. 22 "But if you carefully obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. 23 "When my angel goes before you and brings you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites,

the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I blot them out, 24 you shall not bow down to their gods nor serve them, nor do as they do, but you shall utterly overthrow them and break their pillars in pieces. 25 You shall serve YHVH your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you.

-The final prophetic word declares that Elijah is to be sent. How is that possible for a mid-9th century BCE prophet is to come again? After Jezebel threatens to kill him, in fear and in flight he flees south.

-1Kin 19: 1 Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." 3 Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. 4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, "It is enough; now, O YHVH, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers." 5 And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." 6 And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. 7 And the angel of YHVH came again a second time and touched him and said, "Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you." 8 And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God. 9 There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of YHVH came to him, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 10 He said, "I have been very jealous for YHVH, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." 11 And he said, "Go out and stand on the mount before YHVH." And behold, YHVH passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before YHVH, but YHVH was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but YHVH was not in the earthquake. 12 And after the earthquake a fire, but YHVH was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. 13 And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 14 He said, "I have been very jealous for YHVH, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away."

-We know that the messenger of YHVH meets Elijah and gives him food to sustain him 40 days and 40 nights as he travels to Horeb. Elijah is depicted in this story as another Moses. He's at Horeb and there's the messenger of YHVH in the story as well. Who is addressing him at Horeb, is it the messenger of YHVH? Elijah is then given this strange mission to anoint a king that is not even in Israel, you are going to anoint this king and then you are going to pick your replacement.

-2Kin 2: 1 Now when YHVH was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2 And Elijah said to Elisha, "Please stay here, for YHVH has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As YHVH lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. 3 And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that

today YHVH will take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." 4 Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please stay here, for YHVH has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As YHVH lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. 5 The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today YHVH will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." 6 Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for YHVH has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As YHVH lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. 7 Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 8 Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. 9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." 10 And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." 11 And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. 12 And Elisha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. 13 And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. 14 Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, "Where is YHVH, the God of Elijah?" And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over. 15 Now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him opposite them, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

-The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha. Many people don't pay close attention to these texts. We have stories of the miraculous and the raising of the dead, prophets who touch water and the water parts, and the story of the spirit of a prophet resting upon another person. The spirit can rush upon, the spirit can enter in, but in only one other text in all of the Hebrew bible does the spirit rests in Isaiah 11.

-Isa 11: 1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. 2 And the Spirit of YHVH shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of YHVH.

-Let's go back to the messenger of YHVH, the one who fed Elijah and prepared him for this long trek and these 40 days without food at Horeb.

-Exo 3: 1 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the angel of YHVH appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." 4 When YHVH saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." 5 Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." 6 And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. 7 Then YHVH said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, 8 and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

-The question becomes, who is there with Moses?

-Exo 3: 13 Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" 14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

-Jdg 2: 1 Now the angel of YHVH went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, "I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, 'I will never break my covenant with you, 2 and you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall break down their altars.' But you have not obeyed my voice. What is this you have done? 3 So now I say, I will not drive them out before you, but they shall become thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare to you." 4 As soon as the angel of YHVH spoke these words to all the people of Israel, the people lifted up their voices and wept. 5 And they called the name of that place Bochim. And they sacrificed there to YHVH.

-Here we have the messenger of YHVH saying I brought you out, I did this...

-Jdg 6: 11 Now the angel of YHVH came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. 12 And the angel of YHVH appeared to him and said to him, "YHVH is with you, O mighty man of valor." 13 And Gideon said to him, "Please, my lord, if YHVH is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not YHVH bring us up from Egypt?' But now YHVH has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian." 14 And YHVH turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?" 15 And he said to him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." 16 And YHVH said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man."

-Jdg 6: 20 And the angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them." And he did so. 21 Then the angel of YHVH reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of YHVH vanished from his sight. 22 Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of YHVH. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Adonai YHVH! For now I have seen the angel of YHVH face to face."

-Jdg 13: 3 And the angel of YHVH appeared to the woman and said to her, "Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. 4 Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, 5 for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines."

-Jdg 13: 13 And the angel of YHVH said to Manoah, "Of all that I said to the woman let her be careful. 14 She may not eat of anything that comes from the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, or eat any unclean thing. All that I commanded her let her observe." 15 Manoah said to the angel of YHVH, "Please let us detain you and prepare a young goat for you." 16 And the angel of YHVH said to Manoah, "If you detain me, I will not eat of your food. But if you prepare a burnt offering, then offer it to YHVH." (For Manoah did not know that he was the angel of YHVH.) 17 And Manoah said to the angel of YHVH, "What is your name, so that, when your words come true, we may honor you?" 18 And the angel of YHVH said to him, "Why do you ask my name, seeing it is wonderful?" 19 So Manoah took the young goat with the grain offering, and offered it on the rock to YHVH, to the one who works wonders, and Manoah and his wife were watching. 20 And when the flame went up toward heaven from the altar, the angel of YHVH went up in the flame of the altar. Now Manoah and his wife were watching, and they fell on their faces to the ground. 21 The angel of YHVH appeared no more to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was the angel of YHVH.

-At times, these stories appear to be functioning on human realm, but they are known by those with whom they speak either from the beginning or at some point during the conversation that they are in fact YHVH. At times, throughout the biblical literature these figures, messengers of YHVH, appear as one, born of a woman.

-Hag 1: 12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of YHVH their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as YHVH their God had sent him. And the people feared YHVH. 13 Then Haggai, the messenger of YHVH, spoke to the people with YHVH's message, "I am with you, declares YHVH."

-Somehow this messenger of YHVH is there at times when God is communicating YHVH's word and his will in a human realm. Whenever that takes place, this messenger of YHVH is often there. We first meet the messenger of YHVH in the story of Hagar.

-Gen 16: 6 But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her. 7 The angel of YHVH found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. 8 And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai." 9 The angel of YHVH said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit to her." 10 The angel of YHVH also said to her, "I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude." 11 And the angel of YHVH said to her, "Behold, you are pregnant and shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because YHVH has listened to your affliction. 12 He shall be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen."

-Gen 22: 11 But the angel of YHVH called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called the name of that place, "YHVH will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of YHVH it shall be provided." 15 And the angel of YHVH called to Abraham a

second time from heaven 16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares YHVH, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." 19 So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

-Gen 28: 10 Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. 11 And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. 12 And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! 13 And behold, YHVH stood above it and said, "I am YHVH, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring.

-Gen 28: 16 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely YHVH is in this place, and I did not know it." 17 And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

-Gen 32: 1 Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. 2 And when Jacob saw them he said, "This is God's camp!" So he called the name of that place Mahanaim.

-Gen 32: 22 The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. 23 He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. 24 And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. 25 When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. 26 Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." 27 And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." 28 Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." 29 Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. 30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."

-Hos 12: 1 Ephraim feeds on the wind and pursues the east wind all day long; they multiply falsehood and violence; they make a covenant with Assyria, and oil is carried to Egypt. 2 YHVH has an indictment against Judah and will punish Jacob according to his ways; he will repay him according to his deeds. 3 In the womb he took his brother by the heel, and in his manhood he strove with God. 4 He strove with the angel and prevailed; he wept and sought his favor. He met God at Bethel, and there God spoke with us--

-Gen 48: 8 When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, "Who are these?" 9 Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." And he said, "Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them." 10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not see. So Joseph brought them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them. 11 And Israel said to Joseph, "I never expected to see your face; and behold, God has let me see your offspring also." 12 Then Joseph removed them from his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth. 13 And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him. 14 And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on

the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on the head of Manasseh, crossing his hands (for Manasseh was the firstborn). 15 And he blessed Joseph and said, "The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day, 16 the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys; and in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth."

-Exo 14: 19 Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, 20 coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

-Exo 32: 34 But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; behold, my angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them." 35 Then YHVH sent a plague on the people, because they made the calf, the one that Aaron made.

-Exo 33: 1 YHVH said to Moses, "Depart; go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your offspring I will give it.' 2 I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 3 Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people."

-It's not just in the Exodus in the former days that the messenger of YHVH is mentioned, it's mentioned throughout the bible.

-Isa 63: 8 For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely." And he became their Savior. 9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

-In Genesis 18 are some of the most mysterious passages, we have Abraham in his tent and in the heat of the day he lifts up his eyes and he sees and behold YHVH appears before him and he looks up and he sees three men. Later we have YHVH speaking with Abraham, shall I share with Abraham what I'm about to do for surely, he'll be a great nation. Then in chapter 19 we have the two messengers. Who are they, are they YHVH, are they messengers, or are they messengers of YHVH?

-Gen 19: 24 Then YHVH rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from YHVH out of heaven.

-The Hebrew Bible has some mysterious things. Many are the mysteries in the Hebrew Bible, spoken long ago, are fulfilled hundreds of years later. Though they tarry, wait for it. If it says that Elijah is coming, Elijah is coming. What way is Elijah coming? People are scoffing and saying it's been thousands of years. When the prophetic clock strikes, Elijah will come again just as Malachi says that he will. There are either or prophecies that we have to consider. Mysterious switching back and forth from first person to third person. YHVH is speaking, then Elohim, then YHVH of Hosts, and the messenger of YHVH. Who's in the bush? We have all these mysterious things going on so we must pay attention as we read these passages. The spirit of one resting on another from Isaiah 11, is this one the messiah? Join us next week as we begin to study passages that are called messianic.

Shabbat Shalom, Have a Great Week, See you next Saturday!

(1) Prophet – Hath God Said? – Class One (The Secret of the Torah; The Greatest Question in the Bible – What Hath God Said; Discerning the Words of God; Eve in the Garden – Neither Shall you Touch It; Purified and Refined by Fire – Identifying the Pure Words of YHVH; Talmud Quote – He Who Adds Subtracts; Guarding the Words of YHVH – Do Not Add to or Subtract from It; Horeb – Let Them Hear My Words; The People were Afraid and Asked Moses to Intercede; All That YHVH has Spoken – We will Hear It and We will Do It; Who is a Prophet – He Who Speaks the Words of YHVH and Not His Own; YHVH Does Nothing without Revealing His Secrets to His Servants the Prophets)

November 14, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-hath-god-said-class-one/>

Teaching Notes Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Teaching-Notes-2020.11.14-Prophet-Hath-God-Said-Class-One.pdf>

(2) Prophet – The Word of Jehovah – Class Two (The Word of YHVH; A Lack of Spiritual Food – A Famine of Hearing the Words of YHVH; No Vision is Breaking Through; YHVH’s Word Comes in a Vision; Abraham – The First Prophet; “The Word of YHVH Came To”; Prophets Hear the Word of YHVH; The Spirit of the Holy Gods is in You; Different Types of Prophets – Dreams, Visions, and Interpretation vs. YHVH Communicating Mouth to Mouth and Face to Face with Moses; The Angel of YHVH – Encounters with the Divine; When the Spirit of YHVH Comes – They will Prophecy and Become Another Man; Balaam’s Vision; YHVH’s Words in the Mouth of His Prophets)

November 21, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-the-word-of-jehovah-class-two/>

Teaching Notes Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Teaching-Notes-2020.11.21-Prophet-The-Word-of-Jehovah-Class-Two.pdf>

(3) Prophet – Ehyeh / I Will Be – Class Three (Prophet – The Sanctioned Office of YHVH’s Messengers; God’s Words in the Mouth of His Prophets; Once Chosen – There is No Excuse for Nonobedience; I Will Be with Your Mouth to Teach My People; Receiving the Burning Words of YHVH; Prophets Must Speak the Words of YHVH; The Calling of God is Without Repentance; Prophets Don’t Ask to be Prophets; Ehyeh – I Will Be; I Will Be With You; God’s Covenant – You Shall be My People and I Will Be Your God; YHVH’s Prophet’s Speak – For God and as God; Servants Within the Servant; A Heart to Understand, Eyes to See, and Ears to Hear)

December 5, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-ehyeh-i-will-be-class-three/>

Teaching Notes Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Teaching-Notes-2020.12.5-Prophet-Ehyeh-I-Will-Be-Class-Three.pdf>

(4) Prophet – The Unheard Words – Class Four (This Great Thing – When YHVH Spoke He Added No More; We Will Listen and We Will Do It; Fear YHVH and Keep / Guard His Commandments; A Heart to Know YHVH – Oh That They Had Such a Heart as This; Return Wholeheartedly and Listen to the Voice of YHVH; Faithless Israel & Treacherous Judah; Hearts of Understanding, Eyes to See, and Ears to Hear; YHVH Sent His Servants the Prophets But the People Did Not Listen; A Move to Silence and Kill the Prophets; In Josiah’s Day Everything was Great, Then Came Destruction; YHVH Tells His Prophets to Speak My Words Whether They Choose to Hear Them or Not; Ultimately the Wisdom of the Wise Shall Perish; Isaiah’s Vision is Like the Words of a Book That is Sealed)

December 12, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-unheard-words-class-four/>

Teaching Notes Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Teaching-Notes-2020.12.12-Prophet-The-Unheard-Words-Class-Four.pdf>

(5) Prophet – End From Beginning – Class Five (I Am God and There is No Other; Parallelism; The Prophets Describe Things Yet to Be; The Torah, The Prophets, and The Writings – Studying the Prophets Wherever They Are; Daniel’s Study of Jeremiah’s 70-Week Prophecy; God Fulfills His Word – Come Let Us Go Up; Look Into the Word and Consider the Vision; Destruction is Decreed from YHVH; Similar Words and Phrases Between the Prophets; Isaiah – In That Day; Daniel’s Vision for the Time of The End; Shut Up the Words and Seal the Book Until the End; The Deaf Shall Hear and The Blind Shall See; In The Latter Days You Shall Understand This; Who is the Servant of Isaiah)

December 19, 2020 – Ross Nichols

Audio Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-end-from-beginning-class-five/>

Teaching Notes Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Teaching-Notes-2020.12.19-Prophet-End-From-Beginning-Class-Five.pdf>

(6) Prophet – The Hiding of the Face – Class Six (How God Communicates with His People; The Urim and the Thummin; Above the Ark; At the Mountain of God; God will Raise Up a Prophet Like Moses; To Whom is the Word Addressed; Thus Says YHVH; From the Days of Old; Those Who Announce Good Tidings; A Series of Prophets; Where are the Prophets; Prophets Without Vision; Samuel - Speak YHVH for your Servant is Listening; Servants Who Don’t Hear; The Hiding of the Face; Restoration and the Outpouring of the Spirit; The Valley of Dry Bones and the Two Sticks; Insincere Worship; The Deaf Shall Hear and the Blind Shall See; Believe in YHVH; Believe in His Prophets)

January 9, 2021 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-the-hiding-of-the-face-class-six/>

Teaching Notes Link: <https://unitedisrael.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Teaching-Notes-2021.1.9-Prophet-The-Hiding-of-the-Face-Class-Six1.pdf>

(7) Prophet – The Messenger – Class Seven (Intricate Aspects of Bible Study; How to Better Understand Scripture; Sealed Until the Time of the End; The Fierce Anger of YHVH; Words, Phrases, and White Spaces; Behold, I Send My Messenger; Who is the Messenger and What is Their Task; Malachi 3:1 – Burning Questions; Isaiah 40:3 – A Voice Cries in the Wilderness – Prepare the Way of YHVH; Who is the Voice; The Mission of the Messenger: Comfort Ye, Comfort Ye My People; Build Up, Build Up the Highway; Pass Through, Pass Through the Gates)

January 16, 2021 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Links:

<https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-the-messenger-class-seven/>

Teaching Notes Link: TBD

THIS WEEK IN TORAH

JANUARY 23, 2021

Additional pictures depicting this week's Torah Portion Bo: "Come" (Exodus 10:1 – 13:16) The eighth plague/locusts; The ninth plague/darkness; Duration of the plague; Pharaoh's offerings; Pharaoh's final intransigence; Warning of the plague of the firstborn; The new status of the Jews; Rosh Chodesh; The Pesach offering; God himself will carry out the plague; The Pesach festival; The Pesach offering; The Passover; The tenth plague/death of the firstborn; Pharaoh's surrender; Passover instituted; The Exodus; The duration of the Egyptian exile; Additional laws of the Pesach offering; Leaving Egypt; Remember the Exodus; Consecration of the firstborn; The feast of unleavened bread; Tefillin and the Exodus.

Shavua Tov" and Have a Great Week!

"This Week in Torah" FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/571648826269105/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

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

-Walking the Ancient Paths – (2021): Tabor – Nichols Israel Tour October 1-12, 2021;

<https://blossomingrose.org/2021-walking-the-ancient-paths/>;

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

-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

-UIWU Teaching Notes Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/UIWU-Teaching-Notes-103999335011360>

-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_browse

<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://truth2u.org/category/james-tabor/> (Gleanings from Genesis, with Tabor/Nichols)

<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