

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

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

Prophet – The Hiding of the Face – Class Six

Audio/Video Links:

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

<https://unitedisrael.org/prophet-the-hiding-of-the-face-class-six/> (Link Active 1/10/21)

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=435100964190095>

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 6th class of our series called "Prophet".

-Exo 28: 30 And in the breastpiece of judgment you shall put the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be on Aaron's heart, when he goes in before YHVH. Thus Aaron shall bear the judgment of the people of Israel on his heart before YHVH regularly.

-Lev 8: 8 And he placed the breastpiece on him, and in the breastpiece he put the Urim and the Thummim.

-Num 27: 21 And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the judgment of the Urim before YHVH. At his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he and all the people of Israel with him, the whole congregation."

-Deu 33: 8 And of Levi he said, "Give to Levi your Thummim, and your Urim to your godly one, whom you tested at Massah, with whom you quarreled at the waters of Meribah;

-Where is the Urim and the Thummim? In the Torah, this is associated with the priest and has something to do with the communication between the children of Israel and God.

-Exo 25: 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. 22 There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the testimony, I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel.

-Exo 29: 42 It shall be a regular burnt offering throughout your generations at the entrance of the tent of meeting before YHVH, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there. 43 There I will meet with the people of Israel, and it shall be sanctified by my glory.

-Where is the ark? Here in the Torah are two different methods whereby the God of heaven will communicate with his people. Urim and Thummim are typically translated as lights and perfection. People debate what it is, and we don't have it and we don't know a lot about it. What we do know is that this method whereby God would communicate with his people is no more.

-The ark was one piece of furniture within the holy place where God could communicate with his people through this medium in this place, but where is it? In Deuteronomy we find another method by where God is going to communicate with his people. This event happens after God has communicated his Ten Words from the mountain in an awesome display that scared the people. The people were afraid that if they were to witness this again, they wouldn't survive it.

-Deu 5: 28 "And YHVH heard your words, when you spoke to me. And YHVH said to me, 'I have heard the words of this people, which they have spoken to you. They are right in all that they have spoken. 29 Oh that they had such a heart as this always, to fear me and to keep all my commandments, that it might go well with them and with their descendants forever!

-Here the people requested that they no longer experience God in this way because they think they'll die.

-Deu 18: 17 And YHVH said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. 18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. 19 And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. 20 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'

-Does Deuteronomy 18 point forward to a singular coming figure? A prophet like Moses? Or is this a more general way of saying, a series of prophets?

-Deu 34: 10 And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom YHVH knew face to face, 11 none like him for all the signs and the wonders that YHVH sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, 12 and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

-When was this passage written? The time that this was written makes this either greater or less important. If it's written in the days of Moses, you might say that Moses just passed away.

-Deu 34: 9 And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as YHVH had commanded Moses.

-This is a third person reference to Joshua as well as it being a third person reference to Moses. Someone wrote how Moses laid hands on Joshua, so the people of Israel obeyed him and did as YHVH had commanded Moses. This was probably not written by Joshua. Who wrote it? What about the significance of the status of Moses? There is not yet arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses. Various candidates have been proposed for the prophet like Moses. Is it a historical figure who followed Moses who was that singular prophet like Moses? Some have proposed Joshua as a candidate. Christianity and Islam took it in a different way and looked forward to a singular eschatological figure that is to come. Judaism in some circles did the same. What does scripture indicate? What about Isaiah?

-Isa 51: 12 "I, I am he who comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass, 13 and have forgotten YHVH, your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, and you fear continually all the day because of the wrath of the oppressor, when he sets himself to destroy? And where is the wrath of the oppressor? 14 He who is bowed down shall speedily be released; he shall not die and go down to the pit, neither shall his bread be lacking. 15 I am YHVH your God, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar-- YHVH of hosts is his name. 16 And I have put my words in your mouth and covered you in the shadow of my hand, establishing the heavens and laying the foundations of the earth, and saying to Zion, 'You are my people.'"

-Here we get the impression that YHVH is using the language to Isaiah that describes the prophet in Deuteronomy 18. "I will put my words in your mouth".

-Isa 59: 21 "And as for me, this is my covenant with them," says YHVH: "My Spirit that is upon you, and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouth of your offspring, or out of the mouth of your children's offspring," says YHVH, "from this time forth and forevermore."

-This begins by talking about a group and then switches to the singular. This is important when we are studying prophetic texts, to whom is the word addressed? Sometimes the words switch between singular and plural and sometimes between masculine and feminine. Many English translations are not that accurate. Is Isaiah one of the proposed candidates for a prophet like Moses?

-Jer 1: 9 Then YHVH put out his hand and touched my mouth. And YHVH said to me, "Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. 10 See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

-This is language very clearly tied to this message in Deuteronomy 18. What is a prophet? A prophet is a messenger, one who has the words of YHVH in the mouth.

-Jer 5: 14 Therefore thus says YHVH, the God of hosts: "Because you have spoken this word, behold, I am making my words in your mouth a fire, and this people wood, and the fire shall consume them."

-Both of these texts tied to a specific historical person in which we recognize as a prophet fits the bill. The main point of being a prophet is that they have the words of YHVH in their mouth and they speak on behalf of YHVH, thus says YHVH. What follows are literally the words of YHVH. They then fit the description of Deuteronomy 18. Yet there are some texts which seem to look forward to a yet to come individual.

-Mic 7: 14 Shepherd your people with your staff, the flock of your inheritance, who dwell alone in a forest in the midst of a garden land; let them graze in Bashan and Gilead as in

the days of old. 15 As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, I will show them marvelous things. 16 The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might; they shall lay their hands on their mouths; their ears shall be deaf; 17 they shall lick the dust like a serpent, like the crawling things of the earth; they shall come trembling out of their strongholds; they shall turn in dread to YHVH our God, and they shall be in fear of you. 18 Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. 19 He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. 20 You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

-This is looking forward, but it is looking back as well. In verse 15 it says, "I will show them", but in the Hebrew this is taking about a prophetic figure. "I will show him marvelous things". Could this be hinting at a future Moses figure? When we talk about the prophetic figure, or the prophet like Moses, are we speaking of a singular coming eschatological figure or are we talking about a series of messengers who have the word of YHVH in their mouth? Or do the texts allow for both? Could it be that the prophet like Moses represents a series of figures culminating in an ultimate prophet like Moses who is yet to come? It could, but in the mean time we have to consider both.

-Nah 1: 15 Behold, upon the mountains, the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace! Keep your feasts, O Judah; fulfill your vows, for never again shall the worthless pass through you; he is utterly cut off.

-Who is this?

-Isa 52: 7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." 8 The voice of your watchmen--they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of YHVH to Zion. 9 Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for YHVH has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. 10 YHVH has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

-What the prophets repeatedly give us on many occasions are snapshots, these white spaces, sections between the spaces indicate for us, context, like visions of the prophets. We are looking to correlate these pictures in the texts.

-Psa 68: 11 YHVH gives the word; the women who announce the news are a great host:

-Amo 2: 11 And I raised up some of your sons for prophets, and some of your young men for Nazirites. Is it not indeed so, O people of Israel?" declares YHVH.

-YHVH has been faithful to bring forward a series of prophets. On the one hand we get glimpses of a singular coming figure, one who is a prophet like Moses, who perhaps will lead the latter-day children of Israel similarly as in the days of old. Look back, throughout the ages YHVH has spoken through his prophets.

-Amo 3: 7 "For Adonai YHVH does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.

-Before the prophetic clock kicks in and before major events happen, they are announced. Moses desired that all of YHVH's people were prophets.

-Num 11: " 29 But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all YHVH's people were prophets, that YHVH would put his Spirit on them!"

-We do have texts that point to a singular coming prophet like Moses the weight of leadership is distributed when the Spirit of God is on more than one. Moses is right and wanted the weight of responsibility to be shared. He wanted that all God's people would be prophets. Where are the prophets? YHVH spoke the living word of God through the prophets.

-Lam 2: 9 Her gates have sunk into the ground; he has ruined and broken her bars; her king and princes are among the nations; the law is no more, and her prophets find no vision from YHVH.

-We are talking about a period of darkness and destruction when the rulership is gone. The prophets, the ones who are to see and hear the word of YHVH and communicate his word and his will to the people have no vision.

-Psa 74: 9 We do not see our signs; there is no longer any prophet, and there is none among us who knows how long.

-Where is the ark? We don't have a prophet and we don't have a living word directly from God. If would find the ark, maybe we could hear the message? He says, I will speak to you from there.

-Jer 3: 16 And when you have multiplied and been fruitful in the land, in those days, declares YHVH, they shall no more say, "The ark of the covenant of YHVH." It shall not come to mind or be remembered or missed; it shall not be made again.

-We don't have a prophet. We don't have an ark. What the Urim and the Thummim?

-1Sam 28: 6 And when Saul inquired of YHVH, YHVH did not answer him, either by dreams, or by Urim, or by prophets.

-Saul is desperate to hear from YHVH. God is not speaking to him through his dreams. He's not getting anything through the Urim. He's not getting a word of God through a prophet. This lack of communication from God drives Saul to witchcraft. He is so desperate to connect to the other side that he goes against what he knows is right. Even today, people are so desperate to connect with the divine realm that they are willing to stop at nothing. They think that we should be hearing from God. The reason is that spiritually, mankind needs nourishment. It's not enough to have the physical nature sustained, we truly need a word from God. Where's the word?

-Deu 8: 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.

-Amo 8: 11 "Behold, the days are coming," declares Adonai YHVH, "when I will send a famine on the land-- not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of YHVH. 12 They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of YHVH, but they shall not find it.

-This is the state in which we find ourselves to some degree. Samuel was in the tent and is as close physically as a person can be. He's in the house of YHVH. He's not any more hearing God at this point then we are.

-1Sam 3: 1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to YHVH in the presence of Eli. And the word of YHVH was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. 2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of YHVH, where the ark of God was. 4 Then YHVH called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" 5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said,

"I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. 6 And YHVH called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know YHVH, and the word of YHVH had not yet been revealed to him. 8 And YHVH called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that YHVH was calling the boy. 9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, YHVH, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 And YHVH came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."

-Speak YHVH for your servant is listening. Throughout the Hebrew bible the greatest command that has been repeatedly ignored is listen.

-Deu 6: 1 "Now this is the commandment--the statutes and the rules--that YHVH your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, 2 that you may fear YHVH your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. 3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as YHVH, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey. 4 "Hear, O Israel: YHVH our God, YHVH is one. 5 You shall love YHVH your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

-The problem is that God's servant isn't listening. The Book of Isaiah says the servant is deaf.

-Isa 42: 14 For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. 15 I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. 16 And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. 17 They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." 18 Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! 19 Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of YHVH? 20 He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.

-Who is deaf like my servant? The people who are supposed to hear from God we don't even know where they are, there is no prophet. If there is a prophet, are they really listening to them? The word of YHVH was rare and hard to find. It's precious. The bible presents a separation between God and man that grows wider and wider throughout the revelation of Gods word. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve are walking in the garden in the cool of the day, in the presence, and they can hear the voice of YHVH. Then they are outside the garden and that gap grows wider. The Urim and the Thummim is gone. The ark is gone.

-The bible describes what called the hiding of the face and this is where God disappears in the bible. The idea is that throughout the biblical revelation the distance between God and man grows. It's called the hiding of the face.

-Deu 31: 16 And YHVH said to Moses, "Behold, you are about to lie down with your fathers. Then this people will rise and whore after the foreign gods among them in the land that they are entering, and they will forsake me and break my covenant that I have made with them. 17 Then my anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and hide my face from them, and they will be devoured. And many evils and troubles will come upon them, so that they will say in that day, 'Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?'

-The people's bad behavior and rejection of God and turning to other gods causes God to hide his face from them.

-Deu 32: 20 And he said, 'I will hide my face from them; I will see what their end will be, for they are a perverse generation, children in whom is no faithfulness. 21 They have made me jealous with what is no god; they have provoked me to anger with their idols. So I will make them jealous with those who are no people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.

-Where is the word? Why is it that we are not hearing from God? It's because we are in the phase of the hiding of the face.

-Isa 8: 16 Bind up the testimony; seal the teaching among my disciples. 17 I will wait for YHVH, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him. 18 Behold, I and the children whom YHVH has given me are signs and portents in Israel from YHVH of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.

-Isaiah is saying that during the hiding of the face there are things to be done. Bind up the testimony and seal up the Torah among my disciples / in my learnings.

-Isa 59: 1 Behold, YHVH's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; 2 but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

-Sin has caused this separation between man and God and directly resulted in the hiding of the face.

-Eze 39: 23 And the nations shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity, because they dealt so treacherously with me that I hid my face from them and gave them into the hand of their adversaries, and they all fell by the sword. 24 I dealt with them according to their uncleanness and their transgressions, and hid my face from them.

-The hiding of the face is the cause of the quietness, and the separation. This hiding of the face of YHVH is found throughout the bible.

-Gen 4: 14 Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."

-Cain recognized that his sin caused this separation, and the weight of that sin is almost too much to bear. It's the same today as it was then. We don't listen, we don't obey, we are not following the instructions contained in instructions, and because of that there is a hiding of the face and there is silence. This is separation from God.

-The end of things, there seems to be within scripture the opposite of the hiding of the face, a revelation of God. Perhaps a reinstatement of God's word coming into his people? Moses asked that all God's people would be prophets. What's lacking today? It's the Spirit of God.

-Joe 2: 28 "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. 29 Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

-At some point there will be an outpouring of the Spirit of God which will result in the realization of Moses dream all along. That all of Gods people will have this communion with the creator. We are talking about a change where this is remedied.

-Isa 54: 7 For a brief moment I deserted you, but with great compassion I will gather you. 8 In overflowing anger for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you," says YHVH, your Redeemer.

-As we get into text where God says he's going to restore mercy. What doe's that mean? Here is says what mercy is. You have to understand that the prophets are given glimpses. When God has mercy on his people, this will be the reversal of the hiding of the face.

-Eze 39: 25 "Therefore thus says Adonai YHVH: Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel, and I will be jealous for my holy name. 26 They shall forget their shame and all the treachery they have practiced against me, when they dwell securely in their land with none to make them afraid, 27 when I have brought them back from the peoples and gathered them from their enemies' lands, and through them have vindicated my holiness in the sight of many nations. 28 Then they shall know that I am YHVH their God, because I sent them into exile among the nations and then assembled them into their own land. I will leave none of them remaining among the nations anymore. 29 And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares Adonai YHVH."

-Sin brought the hiding of the face, a withdrawal of God. The separation was forced through sin and rebellion. What's going to be the reversal of that is God is going to restore his people, he's going to pour his Spirit upon them and no more will he hide his face. Hiding of the face is with rebellion. The restoration involves not hiding the face and an outpouring of the Spirit of YHVH.

-Eze 36: 22 "Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says Adonai YHVH: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. 23 And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am YHVH, declares Adonai YHVH, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. 24 I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. 25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. 28 You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. 29 And I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. And I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you. 30 I will make the fruit of the tree and the increase of the field abundant, that you may never again suffer the disgrace of famine among the nations. 31 Then you will remember your evil ways, and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves for your iniquities and your abominations. 32 It

is not for your sake that I will act, declares Adonai YHVH; let that be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel.

-Not only will the reversal of the hiding of the face involve an outpouring of the Spirit but that sustaining food of hearing the word of God. Presently there is a famine in the land, not of bread and water, but of hearing the words of YHVH. Ezekiel 37 has two parables one is about the valley of dry bones and the other is about the two sticks. This is about a restoration of his people.

-Eze 37: 1 The hand of YHVH was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of YHVH and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. 2 And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. 3 And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Adonai YHVH, you know." 4 Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of YHVH. 5 Thus says Adonai YHVH to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am YHVH." 7 So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8 And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. 9 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says Adonai YHVH: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." 10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. 11 Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' 12 Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says Adonai YHVH: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. 13 And you shall know that I am YHVH, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. 14 And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am YHVH; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares YHVH."

-Eze 37: 15 The word of YHVH came to me: 16 "Son of man, take a stick and write on it, 'For Judah, and the people of Israel associated with him'; then take another stick and write on it, 'For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with him.' 17 And join them one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand. 18 And when your people say to you, 'Will you not tell us what you mean by these?' 19 say to them, Thus says Adonai YHVH: Behold, I am about to take the stick of Joseph (that is in the hand of Ephraim) and the tribes of Israel associated with him. And I will join with it the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, that they may be one in my hand. 20 When the sticks on which you write are in your hand before their eyes, 21 then say to them, Thus says Adonai YHVH: Behold, I will take the people of Israel from the nations among which they have gone, and will gather them from all around, and bring them to their own land. 22 And I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. And one king shall be king over them all, and they shall be no longer two nations, and no longer divided into two kingdoms. 23 They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols and their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions. But I will

save them from all the backslidings in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. 24 "My servant David shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd. They shall walk in my rules and be careful to obey my statutes. 25 They shall dwell in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children shall dwell there forever, and David my servant shall be their prince forever. 26 I will make a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore. 27 My dwelling place shall be with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 28 Then the nations will know that I am YHVH who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary is in their midst forevermore."

-We understand about the two sticks that Judah is already in the hand, meaning that Judah is in the land. Then Ephraim, the House of Israel is not. But the two will become one in the hand, in the land. The restoration involves an outpouring of the Spirit. Any move of God requires the Spirit of God or it's dead. In Ezekiel 37 there are bodies there, bone to bone and skin to skin but there's no life. The bones begin to come together when the word of God goes forth and the people start gathering. All they need now is for the Spirit to come in. Prophecy to the Spirit, breath upon these slain.

-I believe we are living in a time when the prophetic clock is now once again beginning to tick. Isaiah spoke of a sealed scroll that couldn't be read. This sealing of the Torah was caused by insincere worship which is still plaguing people today. What is that insincere worship?

-Isa 29: 13 And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, 14 therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

-When people do draw near with their mouth and with their lips, they are just saying what they learned. They are not motivated by the Spirit.

-Isa 29: 18 In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.

-At some point the deaf will hear the words of a book and out of obscurity the eyes of the blind will see. What could cause deaf ears to open and blind eyes to see? The outpouring of the Spirit of God which is what scripture said would happen. In the meantime, we will wait for YHVH.

-Isa 8: 16 Bind up the testimony; seal the teaching among my disciples. 17 I will wait for YHVH, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him. 18 Behold, I and the children whom YHVH has given me are signs and portents in Israel from YHVH of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.

-But Judah is in the land and the clock is ticking. God is moving. The miraculous birth of the State of Israel, the Jewish people are back just as the prophets said they would be.

-Isa 44: 1 "But now hear, O Jacob my servant, Israel whom I have chosen! 2 Thus says YHVH who made you, who formed you from the womb and will help you: Fear not, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen. 3 For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. 4 They shall spring up among the grass like willows by

flowing streams. 5 This one will say, 'I am YHVH's,' another will call on the name of Jacob, and another will write on his hand, 'YHVH's,' and name himself by the name of Israel."

-This says that when the Spirit of God is poured upon the dry ground as water to water this dry ground, something is going to happen. Guess what's going to spring up? Those that were lost. The descendants who were scattered, the one to whom that face was hidden will in that place, that dry place, spring up. Do you know what they are going to say? I think I'm Israel. What's happening now? It can't be proven by DNA. To what father are you tracing to? What's happening when these people begin to wake up. What do the prophets say will happen? If the group that's waking up now, who says I think I'm Israel and are beginning to stop eating pork, they are saying it's because YHVH said don't eat it. These people are waking up all over the place. It what's happening now is not an indication of what the prophets declare people from all over the place are feeling this pull, this draw, this identity crisis. If all of this is fake, then the one that's real is going to look just like it.

-The fullness of the promise is yet before us. We're not there yet. We are still not out of the hiding of the face as it's described in scripture. In terms of hearing from God, right now it's a silent period. It's not my place to question what people have had in personal experiences. Who am I? I'm suggesting that what is before us is even greater than what behind us. But the one who hears me, the one who has begun a work in this earth, by bringing the people of Judah back against all odds in a miraculous way and established a homeland which he promised thousands of years ago to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The one who has begun that work will complete that work. The one who spoke through the prophets can certainly be trusted to bring the rest home.

-2Chr 20: 20 Believe in YHVH your God, and you will be established; believe his prophets, and you will succeed."

-Believe in YHVH and in his prophets! As we move forward, we are going to look at the words of the prophets for every indication. Just like while we wait, we are going to seal those instructions. We are going to learn about YHVH by the ones who knew him best. We are going to look at YHVH through the eyes of the prophets.

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 Prophesy 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>

THIS WEEK IN TORAH

JANUARY 9, 2021

This week’s Torah Portion Shemot: “Names” (Exodus 1:1 - 6:1) Israel increases greatly in Egypt; The generation passes; Pharaoh’s plot/oppression; The birth of Moses; Moses identifies with his people; Moses flees to Midian; Moses marries; God concludes that the time of salvation has arrived; God hears Israel’s groaning; Shepherd and liberator; The burning bush; Moses doubts and God’s reassurance; The names of God; The request to the Egyptians; Moses doubts the people’s faith; Moses desperate plea; God’s response; Moses given powerful signs; Moses objections are overridden; Moses returns to Egypt; Zipporah circumcises her son; Moses and Aaron come to Pharaoh; Making bricks without straw; Egyptian taskmasters and Jewish foreman; Protesting in vain; the Jews complain to Moses and Aaron; Moses complains to God; Portent for the future.

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-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/>

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<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 Vador:
<https://www.truth2u.org/author/admin/>
<https://truth2u.org/category/james-tabor/> (Gleanings from Genesis, with Tabor/Nichols)
<https://israelnewstalkradio.com/news-anchor-jono-vador/>
<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.youtube.com/results?search_query=nehemia+gordan