

WATER OF HIS WORD



BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS: WEEKLY
SCRIPTURE READING

---Roly Buys---

Amanda Buys' Spiritual Covering

This is a product of *Kanaan Ministries*, a non-profit ministry under the covering of:

- Roly, Amanda's husband for more than thirty-five years.
- Pastor Edward Gibbens
Vanderbijlpark
South Africa

*There is no copyright on this material. However, no part may be reproduced and/or presented for **personal** gain. All rights to this material are reserved to further the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ **ONLY**.*

For further information or to place an order, please contact us at:

P.O. Box 15253
Panorama
7506
Cape Town
South Africa

27 John Vorster Avenue
Platteklouf Ext. 1
Panorama 7500
Cape Town
South Africa

Tel: +27 (0) 21 930 7577
Fax: 086 681 9458
E-mail: kanaan@iafrica.com
Website: www.kanaanministries.org

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 3 PM

Kanaan International Website

Website: www.eu.kanaanministries.org

Parashah B'resheet - week 1

Let's walk in unity and give GOD the Glory

Our portion to study this week is found in **Genesis 1:1 - Genesis 6:8; Isaiah 42:5-21 and Revelation 21:1-5.**

SUMMARY

The portion covers: the creation of this universe, man's role and mandate to rule over the animals / birds / fish and plants (but not to rule over our fellow-man). The incident with the snake, and our exile from the Garden of Eden; as well as the very first marriage ceremony.

Whilst there are many themes within the portion that we can focus on, what stands out for me this year is the principle that GOD (YHVH) does not want mankind to be alone, lonely, and or disconnected.

It seems that we are made to be fitted / joined together. We will see later on that all twelve Tribes were needed around the Tabernacle to complete the scene so that GOD (YHVH)'s Cloud of Glory would appear, and later on we will see that the Body of Messiah is revealed in the rich tapestry of Living Stones that collectively contain all of the gifts of the Spirit.



Romans 12:4-8 "4 For just as in one [physical] body we have many parts, and these parts do not all have the same function or special use, 5 so we, who are many, are [nevertheless just] **one Body in Christ**, and individually [we are] parts one of another [mutually dependent on each other]. 6 Since we have **gifts** that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to use them accordingly: if [someone has the gift of] **prophecy**, [let him speak a new message from God to His people] in proportion to the **faith** possessed; 7 if **service**, in the act of serving; or he who **teaches**, in the act of teaching; 8 or he who **encourages**, in the act of encouragement; he who **gives**, with generosity; he who **leads**, with diligence; he who shows **mercy** [in caring for others], with cheerfulness."

A. THAT WHICH GOD MAKES - IS ALWAYS GOOD!!

Part of man's emotional intelligence is the security of knowing that GOD (YHVH) has expressed a blessing - words of affirmation over him.

We all want to feel good about ourselves. We feel this way when we have the self-confidence about our position in society and our acceptance in the broader community .

We receive this confidence when we are affirmed in our value, uniqueness. GOD (YHVH) understood that principle. In the creation of the Universe, and especially of the Garden and mankind, He takes great care to confirm His appreciation of value with the words: *its is good, or it is very good*. It's important to stop and consider these words more carefully. Please note that by GOD (YHVH)'s nature, anything that He makes will be good. And all that He makes is created by the 'spoken Word'. The Torah says that GOD (YHVH) 'saw' that it was good !!! Implicit in this DECLARATION is a principle. GOD (YHVH) says that by this proclamation, He is putting into place the TRUTH that His Will will sustain all that He makes.

And it's the use of these words that confirm something just as important. GOD (YHVH) says: "*I have an ongoing, eternal involvement in everything that man does.*" As we renew our character, as one moves from one level of righteousness to the next, we are taking part in a form of the creation.

While we transform towards greater levels of "goodness" we are CREATING. GOD (YHVH)'s Words are that we are made in His Image. It's only when we create that we reflect His Image

Many years later, we will see a repeat of the principle. Y'shua will meet with John the Baptist, and be baptized in the River Jordan. GOD (YHVH) will send a dove as a sign of HIS LOVE, but we will also hear these words:

"THIS IS MY SON IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED."

There is something else that you and I can learn from this portion, and this concept... GOD (YHVH) only MAKES GOOD THINGS!!! The Bible says that you and I are created at the moment of conception. If GOD (YHVH) is involved in my creation, and all that He makes is GOOD / VERY GOOD, then it implies that I have the seed of goodness inside of me, to become the One New Man. I have the potential to be someone who has allowed my spirit to rule over the "old man" to such a degree that GOD (YHVH) will say...

"THIS IS MY SON..."



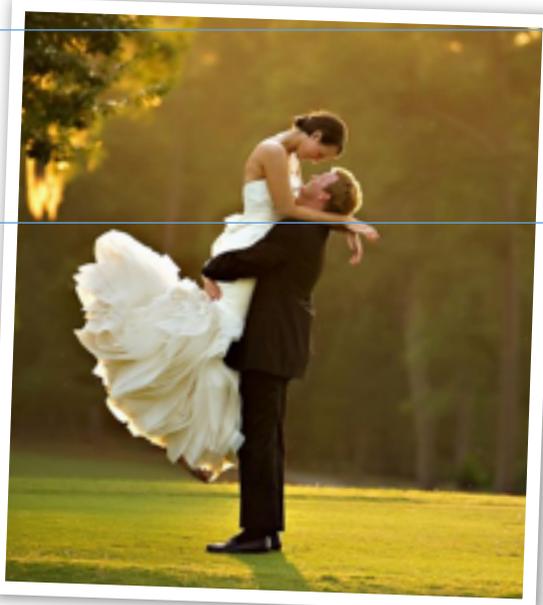
As we come to grips with this realization we can:

- ☑ Build a vision of ourselves as people who are Holy / clean.
- ☑ Develop the strategy for entering into our Land.
- ☑ Go to war against any form of attack that would want to remove us from the Covenant boundaries.
- ☑ Accept the calling to be priests in the Living Stone Tabernacle.

C. MAN AND WIFE ARE MEANT TO BE TOGETHER.

However it is in this portion that GOD (YHVH) defines this close *connectedness* of mankind, in the form of a **marriage**.

Genesis 2:18 Now the Lord God said, “It is **not good** (beneficial) for the man to be **alone**; I will make him a helper [one who balances him—a counterpart who is] **suitable and complementary for him.**”



Everything that GOD (YHVH) makes is good, and since man is made in His Image, man must have the capability to be a *giver*... GOD (YHVH) gives life through creation. GOD (YHVH) gives the capacity to think, feel, and to make choices with all of the opportunities that he is faced with.

But we can only experience the full sense of power, joy and sadness, if we are able to influence others. In the same way that GOD (YHVH) gives mankind the potential to live life to the uttermost, so too can we only enjoy this feeling if we can express this with the same act of **giving**.

And it's in this portion that we are introduced to the words “*eizer k'negdo*” - the verse quoted above.

The two words have lead to much interpretation. “*Eizer*” means “assistance” from which we get the concept of *helper*. “*K'negdo*” means “against”.

So how can we be against, and yet assist. And it's in this very complicated phrase that we reach a new level of understanding.

All of man kind, BOTH male and female are EQUAL. But men and women are opposites. GOD (YHVH) has determined that both male and female have unique attributes, and it's the combination of these, working in HARMONY that will produce the full expression of the Glory of GOD (YHVH).

The human world view tends to see MANKIND as creation divided into two distinct human beings that are fully able to achieve anything in their own right.

Which is why we also see the world concept of total sufficiency as opposed to GOD (YHVH)'s view of connectedness. GOD (YHVH) however, separates mankind into two unique halves, where each half has unique but different attributes - something which is self evident today... The world talks of men are from Mars and women from Venus.

While I am not sure I like the comparison, the idea is to highlight the huge differences. Reading from Genesis, we understand that mankind contained the sum total of all of these attributes. So the sages have come to the conclusion that the most appropriate translation is:

WOMAN IS MAN'S OPPOSITE EQUAL.



C. GOD GAVE EVERYTHING.

Men and women together, can find the same sense of “*it is good*” when they both give everything to each other in the bounds of a Covenantal relationship.

Mankind is desperate for social connectedness. All you have to do to verify this is look around and watch people as they continually scan the face of their smart phone to check on the latest post on Facebook. Not only do we want to know that is going on around us, but to a larger degree we want to share our life experiences with others. This behavior, I do not believe is so sound, nor Biblical, but it gives us insight into the deep longing of mankind to *connect*. The risk with this type of connectedness, is that we live in a broken world with hurt and wounded people. It makes this type of sharing extremely risky and an opening to abuse.

The ultimate connectedness is having an “equal-opposite” mate who can share both the joys and the hardship of our walk on earth. Someone who will support you when you are walking in GOD (YHVH)'s Will, and someone who will oppose you when you are walking away from the paths of righteousness.

Consider the concept of EQUAL = OPPOSITE again. We know that we will face many different circumstances / trials / tribulations. If you are connected fully to your life mate, then you will know that between the two of you, you have every single attribute / talent that you need to overcome that which is before you.

Adam was not an “equal-opposite” when Eve looked at the forbidden fruit and remained silent. Adam had heard the words first-hand - *you must guard and keep the Garden*. He had taken part in the “job” to name all of the animals, this implies that he had a capability to look closely at the animal in front of him, and “SEE” the character attributes that define that animal. Just as he saw the attributes that define a lion, or a sheep, so too would he have been able to see the deceit / misrepresentation / rebellion of the “snake”.

And it is exactly because of the weakness in Adam, where man remains silent when he should speak - he withdraws during the circumstances when he should stand and that causes GOD to speak to Joshua before the battle to encourage him to be “strong and take courage”.

Even while we have a longing to be closely connected to a life partner, those who are adopted sons of Abraham have a similar desire to serve his fellow man, simply because we are grafted into the Vine which is Messiah. And it’s because GOD gave us His Breath, we give GOD the Glory when we radiate His Light to the “Goyim” (Goyim is a *Hebrew word, meaning Gentile and also Nation*).

Isaiah 42: 5-6 *5 This is what God the Lord says, He who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its produce, Who gives breath to the people on it And spirit to those who walk on it 6 “I am the Lord, I have called You (the Messiah) in righteousness [for a righteous purpose], I will also take You by the hand and keep watch over You, And I will appoint You as a covenant to the people [Israel], As a light to the nations (Gentiles).”*

Our sense of being alone ... of loneliness, is **over** the day we *belong to someone else*, and when we are *part of a community*.

- You and I are born alone
- You and I will die alone

In between we have been created to be joined to a loved one.

Genesis 2:23 *23 Then Adam said, “This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.” 24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall be **joined** to his wife; and **they shall become one flesh**. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed or embarrassed.*

GOD desires the exact same sense of connectedness. He describes it in the form of a marriage... This marriage begins in the Garden of Eden, and is revealed in the giving of the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai, and is fulfilled in the Marriage of the Lamb. This picture of the marriage becomes the turning point of GOD (YHVH)’s relationship with man. Many times we look at marriage as some legal commitments, as a set of traditions that must be maintained.

Consider how important GOD (YHVH) sees the marriage, every time the the children of Israel turn away from GOD (YHVH), the prophets use the IMAGE of a *broken marriage*, as an unfaithful wife, and so on. Every time that there is reconciliation, we see the image of the BRIDE.

Let us look at the Ten Commandments, not as s “rules of life”, but as a marriage proposal. Let us try to imagine ourselves as saying--

WE WILL DO!



Brides prepare. Brides spend time to focus on the detail of the event. Brides make sure that the wedding robe is perfect. Brides have an anticipation of the ultimate connection. How much time are we spending on this aspect of being **ready** to meet with GOD (YHVH)?

Revelation 21:1-4 1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away (vanished), and there is no longer any sea. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, arrayed like a bride adorned for her husband; 3 and then I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “See! **The tabernacle of God is among men, and He will live among them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them [as their God,]** 4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be death; there will no longer be sorrow and anguish, or crying, or pain; for the former order of things has passed away.”

D. WILL YOU BE A PEACEMAKER?

Within this portion we find a tragic story. We read of this first “war” between brothers. The portion gives us little to go on. The first word of note is “arise” **Strong’s Hebrew 6965** with the meanings:

- 🕒 to arise - hostile
- 🕒 to arise become powerful,
- 🕒 to arise - to impose

What is important here is to understand that we rise up against someone of reciprocal relationship, against others of similar resemblance. Why is this an issue? The first war is between family, between members of the Body of Messiah. We can easily imply that satan was part of the problem, but in fact it *freedom of choice*.

****NUGGET!**** THE BATTLES WHICH WOUND OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD (YHVH) THE MOST, ARE THOSE BETWEEN FELLOW BELIEVERS.

Genesis 4:8 *Kayin had words with Hevel his brother; then one time, when they were in the field, Kayin turned on Hevel his brother and killed him.*

This internal family fighting must stop. We are called to be peacemakers.

Genesis 4:9 *Adonai said to Kayin, “Where is Hevel your brother?” And he replied, “I don’t know; am I my brother’s guardian?”*

Am I my brother’s guardian? THE ANSWER IS **YES!!!!**

So what do peacemakers do? We have two verses to use as markers.

- *Actively take steps to make peace*
- *Bless those who have harmed us.*

Matthew 5:9 *How blessed are those who make peace! for they will be called sons of God.*

Matthew 5:21-26 *21 You have heard that our fathers were told, ‘Do not murder,’ and that anyone who commits murder will be subject to judgment. 22 But I tell you that anyone who nurses anger against his brother will be subject to judgment; that whoever calls his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing!’ will be brought before the Sanhedrin; that whoever says, ‘Fool!’ incurs the penalty of burning in the fire of Gei-Hinnom! 23 So if you are offering your gift at the Temple altar and you remember there that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift where it is by the altar, and go, make peace with your brother. Then come back and offer your gift. 25 If someone sues you, come to terms with him quickly, while you and he are on the way to court; or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer of the court, and you may be thrown in jail! 26 Yes indeed! I tell you, you will certainly not get out until you have paid the last penny.*

Matthew 5:43-45 *You have heard that our fathers were told, ‘Love your neighbors — and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! Then you will become children of your Father in heaven. For he makes his sun shine on good and bad people alike, and he sends rain to the righteous and the unrighteous alike.*

James 3:17-18 *But the wisdom from above is, first of all, pure, then peaceful, kind, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. And peacemakers who sow seed in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.*

E. THE CONNECTEDNESS OF SHABBAT.

Whilst the concept of Shabbat is still to be defined as a day of rest for mankind, we are introduced to the concept here. GOD (YHVH) as the Creator, defines that it is protocol to rest after creation, and He sets the pattern of rest in place every seven days. Man must GRAB HOLD of the principle of becoming connected

- ➔ to our Creator,
- ➔ to each other,
- ➔ to our life partners,
- ➔ to the creation itself,

Man sees the time as his to use as he wills. What man does not really know, is how much of that 'time' DO WE ACTUALLY HAVE?

Recently, a dear friend of ours suddenly got sick, the medical staff struggled to come up with a plan of action, and he got worse... Finally an operation was under way. But in that time of waiting, the doubts and uncertainty of the future transformed an active mind to one of fear and depression... AND it is the fruit of 'keeping' the shabbat that keeps us focused on GOD (YHVH)... and on His faithfulness.

Genesis 2:2-3 *On the seventh day God was finished with His work which He had made, so He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. God blessed the seventh day and separated it as holy; because on that day God rested from all His work which He had created, so that it itself could produce.*

F. FINAL THOUGHT.

GOD (YHVH) created us with a purpose. GOD (YHVH) created us to meet His expectations... we are GOOD. GOD (YHVH) shows us that He expects us to "connect" - firstly in marriage unity, but then in the community where we make up the Bride of Messiah.

Let us take every opportunity that arises to show that we connect and care.

- 🕒 Extend generosity at every opportunity.
- 🕒 Be open to reason: listen first, seek to understand everyone's position, and live by the standard of the TORAH.
- 🕒 Walk in morale purity, be washed by the WORD.
- 🕒 Show that you want peace by being the example of someone who does not make war.
- 🕒 Show empathy for the elderly, and sick.
- 🕒 Show justice and mercy, seek the truth and strive for impartiality in all judgements.

- 🎧 Stop to listen to a child's story, go the extra mile to understand those considered the least in the Kingdom.
- 🎧 And be gentle, by forgiving those who hurt you, unconditionally, over and over again...

Connect and radiate your light!

“Y’varekh’kha YHVH v’yishmerekha.
May YHVH bless you and keep you.

Ya’er YHVH panav eleikha vichunekka.
May YHVH make His Face shine on you and show you His favour.

Yissa YHVH panav eleikha v’yasem l’kha shalom.
May YHVH lift up His Face toward you and give you peace.

In this way they are to put My Name on the people of Israel, so that I will bless them.”

--Numbers 6:24-27

Shalom!!