

COUNTING The OMER

Omer



WEEK FIVE - COUNTING THE OMER PSALM 67

It has become a tradition to study and meditate on this Psalm over the SEVEN weeks that we take to count the OMER.

Traditions are man-made prophetic statements or actions that are designed to draw people closer to God.

All we know is that God declared that man **MUST** count.

Leviticus 23:15-16 *From the day after the day of rest — that is, from the day you bring the sheaf for waving — you are to **count seven full weeks**, until the day after the seventh week; you are to **count fifty days**; and then you are to present a new grain offering to ADONAI.*



What does this mean?

We are not told why it is important, or what we should do during this time. Clearly, we are meant to prepare for the Feast of Pentecost.

The Holy Spirit will guide us in all things - and so we have some leeway in the actions that we take in order to prepare. However, the intent of the time and the process is clear—we need to be ready to stand before God at Mount Sinai once again.

Remember, it is the words of a **marriage proposal** that we will hear.

God will spell out His LOVE for the people who choose to follow Him wholeheartedly. The children of Israel said: **We will do and we will hear!** (Take note: NO choice!!) But then they refused to move nearer in intimacy.

Please do not make the same mistake. Prepare your heart and be ready for the 100% commitment to this walk of obedience, AND make sure that you are part of the BRIDE of MESSIAH.

It is also clear that each and every individual must count for himself - so while this is a very personal thing, its also a strong community-based event as we all unite in one accord (much the same wording that is used to describe the outpouring of the Holy Spirit).

Acts 2:1-4 *The festival of Shavu'ot arrived, and the believers all gathered together in one place. Suddenly there came a sound from the sky like the roar of a violent wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire, which separated and came to rest on each one of them. They were all filled with the Ruach HaKodesh and began to talk in different languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.*

1.

Psalm 67:5 *Let the peoples give thanks to you, God; let the peoples give thanks to you, all of them.*

Let us look at the most critical of words/concepts here:

You will see that most Bibles translate these words as “bring praise” - this however misses the mark with regard to the intention of the verse - and we should rather be considering the words/concept of thanksgiving.

(a) **Give thanks**

And this is the only word that I want to analyze this time

Interestingly, “thanksgiving” translates into **two Hebrew words**:

What we will see is that these two words form the opposite sides of the same coin.

2.

Psalm 67:5 *Let the peoples give thanks to you, God; let the peoples give thanks to you, all of them.*

(b) **Todah**

Strong's 8426

 Thanksgiving offerings

Leviticus 22:29 When you offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to ADONAI, you must do it in a way such that you will be accepted.

What we see is that this concept of the word thanksgiving, takes us back to the physical act of appearing before God in the tabernacle, and the act of making an animal sacrifice as evidence of our changed heart,

We now longer need animal sacrifices.

But after we have come to the realization that our life work is contrary to Gods will, and if we are truly repentant then we will want to change our ways.

At these moments, we understand in our Spirit-man that God has truly ‘judged’ our past, forgiven us and set us free.

The emotions, and feelings of relief are the foundation of this thanksgiving offering.

And

(2) **Yadah-praise**

Strong’s 3034

In the sense: This is all about THE confession of sin and the recognition that forgiveness has been obtained. We are speaking here about the concept that we will confess to not meeting the standard of Holiness that God desires, and then actively praise Him for receiving this forgiveness.



The praise of “Yadah” is the **expression of our gratitude for this forgiveness, being worship with an extended hand.**

Psalm 18:49 So I give thanks to You, ADONAI, among the nations; I sing praises to Your Name.

Psalm 26:6-7 I will wash my hands in innocence and walk around Your altar, ADONAI, lifting my voice in thanks and proclaiming all Your wonders

Psalm 30:4 Sing praise to ADONAI, you faithful of His; and give **thanks on recalling His Holiness.**

Psalm 92:1 It is good to **give thanks** to ADONAI and sing praises to Your Name, ‘Elyon, to tell in the morning about Your grace and at night about Your faithfulness.

Colossians 1:12 ... giving thanks to the Father for having made you fit to share in the inheritance of His people in the light. He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of His dear Son.

Colossians 3:17 The Word of the Messiah, in all its richness, live in you, as you teach and counsel each other in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude to God in your hearts. That is, everything you do or say, do in the name of the Lord Yeshua, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

(There is another word for PRAISE – *Halal* - **Strong's 1984**.

This is not the same thing that we are speaking of here - and speaks to the joy and happiness of knowing and serving God - words that describe this are: Foolishly joyful – rave - celebrate.)

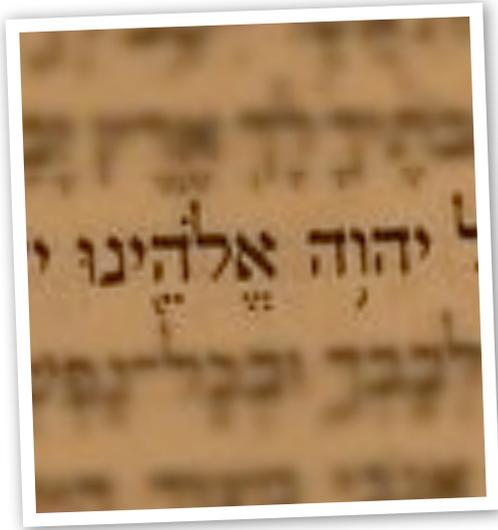
****NUGGET!**** This verse is trying to convey that the **attitude of thanksgiving** is more important that **the words of thanksgiving**...it's a matter of the heart.

SOME PRAYER POINTS THIS WEEK

1. Pray for a heart that is **open to search out** the deepest part of you being, to see exactly where we are not living and walking in the prefect will of God

Give us a willingness to **openly confess** and work to deal with the attitude of pride and self ego, help us to bring a sacrifice of the “old man” so that we can raise up a renewed man.

Give us the desire to ask God to soften our hearts so that we can humble ourselves to make the commitment to walk completely in his ways as we say; **we will do and we will hear.**



BLESSINGS AND SHALOM!!

“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