

GATES TO ZION MINISTRIES

(SHA'ARIM L' TZIYON)

Presents

The Foundation Series

The Fellowship Of The Mystery: Who Is Yeshua HaMashiach? An In Depth Study Of YHWH's Manifestation In The Flesh

Part Two

*"And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ."
(Ephesians 3:9 KJV)*

Rav Shaul tells us here that Abba YHWH has called us into *the fellowship of the mystery*. He further tells us that this mystery has been hidden in YHWH our Elohim from the very beginning of the world. As we said earlier, the understanding of *mystery* within a Hebraic context is not grounds for confusion or contradiction. It simply means that YHWH has *hidden* certain aspects of Himself and His purposes not *from* us, but *for* us¹. In time these things will be revealed to those who take the initiative to search Him out. The Hebraic mind takes a proactive stance of *trusting faithfulness* until that time comes. In Colossians 2:2 Rav Sha'ul tells us that this *mystery* is in reality not a thing, but it is our blessed Master Yeshua Himself! We are not striving for some new theological precept or philosophical understanding or mere mental facts. Our goal is to come into a deeper spiritual intimacy both with the One, our Abba YHWH, who created this *mystery*, and His Son who is Himself the personification and very revelation of this mystery,

"That their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and {attaining} to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, {resulting} in a true knowledge of God's mystery, {that is,} CHRIST {HIMSELF,} (Colossians 2:2 NASB- emphasis mine)

Please understand I am not taking this idea of *mystery* as a means to eject myself out of the responsibility to logically (under the revelatory guidance of the Ruach HaKodesh) come to a clear understanding of what we are discussing. The mystery CAN be understood. However, the mental prowess of man, even religious man, is useless here. The mystery is purposefully hidden in Elohim. YHWH will reveal it to those who truly desire to know, not it, but HIM, through our blessed Mashiach Yeshua! He desires that all of His children come into the fellowship of this mystery. The key is allowing Him to teach us by His Ruach. It is a work of the Spirit in our spirit. It is seeing with the eyes of our heart, before we understand with our brain. Revelation knowledge is much like crude

oil. When oil is first gathered, it cannot be used right away. It must be refined by numerous processes. Even so, when the Ruach HaKodesh teaches us by revelation, our spirit may know, but we cannot intelligently explain it to some one else at first. Many times, it takes a process of experience before we can explain what we know in our spirit so that others may intelligently understand what we desire to communicate to them.

Master Yeshua laid down this very principle to His own talmidim. He asked them who do men say I am? Each said one thing, and some another. But, then Kefa/Peter sort of blurted out the answer,

"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:20 NASB)

Master Yeshua blessed Kefa for his response. Yet, He explained that Kepha's answer was not from himself. It was not attained by the process of the intelligent deduction of his brain. It came from another Source...Abba YHWH! It was revelation knowledge. Then, Master Yeshua said this,

"I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it." (Matthew 16:20 NASB)

Master Yeshua did not say that He would build His *ekklesia* upon Kefa, but on the power of what he had just experienced...*revelation knowledge*. The ultimate power of which is seen by the fact "*the gates of hell*" (literally the *counsels* thereof) would not be able to overpower it!

Beloved, what argument can build. Argument can tear down. If at the end of this discourse all I have done is given you ammunition to wage debate, then I have failed. Many times the wisdom of this world seems so much stronger and powerful than the wisdom of YHWH. However, the power of revelation knowledge is not in its ability to win arguments. Its power is in its ability to manifest the kingdom of heaven. In the realm of spirit, the power of human wisdom and intellect is useless. Only that which comes out of the Ruach HaKodesh through our spirit is sufficient.

Does that mean we should never stand up for the truth? No. It means that we wait for Abba YHWH to fill our heart with His Words by His Ruach HaKodesh. Men may fight what we know. They can never overcome WHO speaks through us!

The revelation knowledge of the mystery of our Mashiach will bring peace to your heart. It will unify your spirit and mind. Why is Christianity so fragmented? Because it has forsaken its Hebraic heritage. It has replaced it with the trinitarian doctrine inspired by the Greek mind. The result is fragmentation. Why does Judaism fall short and stumble? Its light cannot overcome the darkness because it fails to embrace the fullness of YHWH's revelation of Himself in Mashiach Yeshua. When we truly begin to see the Oneness of YHWH expressed through Yeshua, then the unity of eye will bring forth

unity of heart. May Abba give us the dove's eye spoken of by Shlomo/Solomon. (Shir HaSharim/Song Of Songs 1:15- doves can only see ONE object at a time) Redeemed/ReNewed Covenant Israel is destined to see YHWH our Elohim with this ONE eye of the spirit. The resulting unity of spirit will manifest in a restored outward unity as YHWH's ONE nation. Then, we will be able to bind the strong man (hasatan) and spoil the goods of his house. (the earth and its fullness)²

The Eternals Of YHWH And The Brit Chadashah (ReNewed Covenant)

There is a good reason that the Newer Testament Scriptures are a necessity. It is through the revelations given to these writers, especially the writings of Rav Sha'ul, that we understand that there were events that happened of which we have no knowledge. Why? Because we weren't there. They happened in the eternals of Elohim. YHWH dwells beyond our time/space continuum. He dwells in eternity. For our sake we may refer to certain events that happened before time as the eternal past. It is here that Rav Sha'ul gives us a peek at the activity of YHWH.

"Blessed {be} the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly {places} in Christ, just as He chose us in Him BEFORE the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love." (Ephesians 1:3-4 NASB- emphasis mine)

Just as Abba YHWH was actively planning, what Rav Shaul calls, *the eternal purpose*,³ even so there was activity within the very Being of YHWH Himself. All of these activities we would be ignorant of if it were not for the revelations given to us in the Brit Chadashah. Abba YHWH WANTS us to know about these things. While we may not completely understand all of the nature of YHWH until we are in the Millennial Kingdom or maybe on into eternity, He has given us enough to have a clear picture at present. It takes the Ruach HaKodesh to put it all into perspective, but the mystery CAN be known. Rav Shaul has told us that it is Abba YHWH's pleasure to make His will known, and to privilege us to enter into the fellowship of the mystery through His Son.

YHWH Brings Forth A Manifestation Of Himself In Eternity Past

We must realize how important it is that we recover the Hebraic roots of our faith. The Scriptures must be held underneath the Hebraic light by the Ruach HaKodesh in order for us to have our minds renewed to see what Abba has hidden for us. Yochanon/John in his Gospel understands, and is inspired by the Ruach HaKodesh, to use a phrase that gives us a revelation into a most astounding event in the history of our Creator.

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
(Yochanon/John 1:1 NASB)*

Now we are coming closer to the revelation of the mystery. In eternity past the Word of YHWH existed. The Word was with Elohim. The Word was Elohim. Yochanon further identifies Mashiach Yeshua as the Word of YHWH.

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (Yochanon/John 1:14 NASB)

What Yochanon is revealing to us is that the Word of YHWH was pre-existent with Himself. The Word of YHWH existed ALWAYS even at the beginning of creation. There NEVER was a time when the Word of YHWH was not. Why? Because YHWH and His Word are ONE! Abba YHWH used His Word to create all things.

" All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being." (Yochanon/John 1:3 NASB)

Those who pervert, either through ignorance or by deceitfulness, the pre-existence of Mashiach Yeshua as the Word of YHWH in eternity past are blind to the glory of YHWH's great love. YHWH had a wonderful plan. Rav Sha'ul calls this *the eternal purpose*. It existed before the need for mankind's redemption. It existed before creation. Redemption is a recovery plan. As wonderful and necessary as it is, redemption is a secondary plan to the eternal purpose of YHWH. The plan of redemption fills the chasm created by Adam's rebellion, resulting in the entry of sin and death into Elohim's creation. As YHWH devised His eternal purpose He made provision for the possible failure of man to follow through in loving sacrificial obedience to His will. There in the eternal past, YHWH decided that He would become mankind's Redeemer should that event become necessary. That is why Mashiach Yeshua is referred to in the book of Revelation as,

"...the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." (Revelation 13:8b KJV)

The TaNaKh confirms this revelation from the Brit Chadashah to be true.

"(Our Redeemer, the LORD of hosts is His name, The Holy One of Israel." (Isaiah 47:4 NASB)

YHWH is the Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. Something so important could not be left to any one but YHWH Himself! Yet, how would this be accomplished? We have Yochanon to thank for providing us with a glimpse into how this glorious action took place.

"No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained {Him.}" (Yochanon/John 1:18 NASB)

The way this verse is translated here by the New American Standard Bible is quite interesting. It clearly declares the deity of Mashiach Yeshua. Another interesting point is Yochanon's use of the word *begotten*. The word used by Yochanon in this verse and in other verses in this first chapter of his Gospel/Besorah, is different than that used by the other writers of the Newer Testament Scriptures. He employs the Greek word, "*monogenes*". It comes from the composition of two other Greek words meaning a) *The only one*, and b) *to bring forth*. So we are told that Mashiach Yeshua was *brought forth* in a manner that was *completely unique* to Himself alone. The reason this *bringing forth* was so unique is, IT WAS NOT A CREATION EVENT. It may *seem* as a creation event, but it was not. It was a *TRANSITION*. Also, Yochanon is not pointing to this event in the context of His being begotten in the womb of Miriam/Mary. This is what the other writers of the ReNewed Covenant are pointing to. The word they use for *begotten* have to do with His physical birth, and as such, point to a particular point in time as a beginning. There is a sense of *creation* in their use of the word. Created only in the sense that it points to that place in time when the Word of YHWH entered onto the human stage clothed in humanity. However, Master Yeshua, as the Word of YHWH, was NEVER created. As we have stated, He pre-existed in eternity past forever. There was NEVER a point that He was not.

Yochanon understands the Hebraic principle of "*being brought forth*" before the act of being "*begotten*" into the world. He calls Master Yeshua *the only brought forth of the Father*. Now as I have pointed out above we too must understand this pivotal point. Before the Word was *begotten* into the world, it was *begotten* or *brought forth* in eternity past. The two acts are not the same. One was a *transition*. The other was a *creative miracle* within the womb of Miriam/Mary. One happened in eternity past. The other happened in time as the world knows it. Thus we come back to Yochanon's meaning in the above verse.

YHWH in eternity past is about to assume the role of Abba/Father. But, first He takes on the role of a Mid-Wife (YHWH does have maternal characteristics), and He reaches deep inside Himself. Yochanon calls it His *bosom*. He *begets* or *brings forth* a *manifestation*⁴ of Himself that is completely and utterly unique. He casts Himself into a new *manifestation* of Himself. The Word of YHWH, which had existed ETERNALLY as an INTERNAL part of Himself, is *begotten* or *brought forth* in an entirely new mode of existence...EXTERNALLY! The Word of YHWH is now outside of Himself, and YHWH takes on the role of Abba/Father, and renames the pre-existent internal/eternal Word...The Son. Now, the Word of YHWH exists externally WITH Himself. Together Abba YHWH and His new *manifestation* of Himself as The Son, move in complete harmony. Each is dependent upon the Other. Each requires the Other to exist.

The Principle Of YHWH's Manifestations

***"And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live."
(Exodus 33:20 KJV)***

The entrance of sin into the world changed everything. The pure holiness of YHWH makes it impossible for man in his fallen state to come into direct contact with Him. It was impossible even for Moshe, who was probably one of the most holy of men on the earth at that time, to see YHWH in His fullness. The holiness of YHWH would consume his flesh. This is exactly what happened to the Bethshemites when the ark was returned from Philistia. They rejoiced when they saw the ark on the cart the Philistines had prepared to carry it back to Yisrael. It came to rest in the field of Yehoshua/Joshua. The Levites were summoned and they rightly lifted the ark and sat it down. What happened next spelled certain disaster. The lid of the ark was raised and the people looked down inside it. The holy presence of YHWH broke out upon them.

"And he smote the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the LORD, even he smote of the people fifty thousand and threescore and ten men: and the people lamented, because the LORD had smitten many of the people with a great slaughter." (1 Samuel 6:19 NASB)

So this is the problem that was faced. YHWH could not allow any human to have direct contact with Himself. The end result would be immediate death. But, if He manifested Himself into another *mode of existence*, then He could allow men to be in His presence.

Paul speaks to this very issue in his letter to the Colossians,

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation." (Colossians 1:15 NASB)

The above is actually a poor translation of this verse from the original. The word *firstborn* is from the Greek *prototokos*. It comes from a combination of words meaning, *chief* and *that which is brought forth*. The phrase *of all creation* was taken at liberty by the translators who invariably were under the influence of the trinitarian slant of the Catholic church. This makes Master Yeshua as the *chief of that which was brought forth* wrongly point toward the creation of which He was the Creative Source. When in fact, the *chief of that which is brought forth* should in reality point toward the invisible Elohim, Abba YHWH; of Whom He is the perfect image. So, the verse could read,

"He is the image of the invisible God, the chief manifestation of the Father, the Primal Source of all creation" (see notes The Worrell New Testament pg. 292)

The apostle Yochanon writing in the Revelation calls Master Yeshua,

"...the Beginning of the creation of God..." (Revelation 3:15b NASB)

The word *beginning* again means, *chief* and points to the fact that Master Yeshua is the *chief and primary source of all that the Father is and He (Yeshua) is chief of all*

that proceeds in succession from the Father. Further, we must realize that *first-born* in Hebraic usage is a title. In most instances it is used to denote the son that is born first of a father. However, as a title it can be given by the father at his bequest to a son other than the one who is first by birth. (see Genesis 48:17-20- Jacob blesses Joseph's son Ephraim as the first-born before Manasseh who was first by birth) Master Yeshua as the First-born should not be taken to mean that He was such because He was *created* first. Instead, Abba YHWH bestowed this *title* on Him because it was out from Master Yeshua as the Word of YHWH that all that was created came into being. The pre-existence of Mashiach Yeshua must ALWAYS remain a constant truth. Otherwise, His deity will be compromised. If this is allowed to happen, then our redemption is negated, and our salvation is a lie!

All of this has been said to make this point. The *Originator* is always greater than His *manifestation*. This is why Master Yeshua said many times, "*...for the Father is greater than I.*" (Yochanon/John 14:28) We must remember that we are dealing with a *manifestation* of YHWH when we touch Yeshua. He is the *Chief of all YHWH's manifestations*. *Plurality of manifestations* is not the same as *plurality of Persons*. This is the error of Christianity. It is also the error of Judaism. Master Yeshua, as the *Chief Manifestation of YHWH*, is not a second Person. He is not a separate Elohim from YHWH. The Father, Son, and Ruach HaKodesh are all ONE collective unity of divinity, only ONE Elohim. Even as a Man, begotten by the Father through the Ruach HaKodesh in Miriam's womb, Master Yeshua is simply the *physical manifestation* of the invisible Elohim. He is YHWH Elohim in the flesh! He is "*...the exact representation of His nature...*" (Hebrews 1:3b) Nothing changed in YHWH's essence. Only that part of Himself as the *Word of YHWH* changed in its *mode of existence*. YHWH continued to exist outside of His new mode of existence, as well as within His new mode of existence. Like the air inside a balloon is the same air that exists outside that balloon; so YHWH began to exist both outside and inside His fleshly manifestation. All was in essence still YHWH!

So in all of this, we are establishing the fact of the principle of YHWH *manifesting* Himself. What cannot happen with YHWH in the pure essence of His holiness, can happen when He *manifests* Himself into a physical/fleshly mode of existence. The manifestation of The Word of YHWH, which He renamed The Son, and gave Him the personal name of Yeshua, is the *Chief of all His manifestations*. When The Son was sent forth as the Apostle of our faith (Hebrews 3:1) from eternity past, He took upon Himself a new degree of *manifestation*. He was *brought forth (begotten in Yochanon's usage)* in eternity past in order to be *begotten (as used in the other writings of the Brit Chadashah)* physically into the earth to be the Kinsman Redeemer of mankind.

***“God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,
in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things,
through whom also He made the world.
And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and
upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins,
He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,” (Ivrim/Hebrews 1:1-3 NASB)***

This is the revelation of the *fellowship of the mystery*. YHWH has manifested Himself at many times. However, the *Chief of all His manifestations* is in His *manifestation* as The Word made flesh. It was totally unique and the ONLY time it has or will occur. YHWH is both Father and also in essence The Son. He *transitioned* a part of Himself to a setting outside Himself. He cast Himself into a perfect image of Himself, an exact representation of His very nature. This solved the problem of His being able to draw near to man without destroying him. Many times when you see the term "*angel of the LORD*" in the Older Testament Scriptures, it was a pre-incarnate visitation of The Son as YHWH's manifestation. It happened with Ya'acov/Jacob when he wrestled with the angel, and to Moshe at the burning bush to name a few instances. It was almost certainly the case when Moshe was called to the top of Mt. Sinai and received the Ten Words from the Angel of YHWH.

Understanding this principle of YHWH casting Himself into another *manifestation* of Himself is the key to unlocking the *fellowship of the mystery* we are called into. Without this, we are left to stumble around in the darkness of religious dogma. If we allow the Ruach to open the eyes of our understanding, then we will see clearly the nature of our YHWH Elohim.

Joe Snipes
Gates To Zion Ministries
Sha'arim L'Tzion

¹ See Mishle/Proverbs 25:2- "*It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter.*"

² Luke 11:21-23 NASB- *When a strong {man,} fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are undisturbed. But when someone stronger than he attacks him and overpowers him, he takes away from him all his armor on which he had relied and distributes his plunder. He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters."*