

A Doctrine that is sending many to Hell!

In this week's Torah Portion, Parashat Bereshit, we read the following, יא ויאמר אלהים תַּדְשָׁא הַאָרץ דָשָׁא עַשָּׂב מַזָריע זַרע עַץ פּרי עֹשָׂה פּרי לְמִינוֹ אֵשֶׁר זַרְעוֹ-בוֹ עַל-הָאָרֵץ וַיִהִי-כֵן: יב וַתּוֹצֵא הָאָרֵץ דֵּשָׁא עֵשָׂב מַזָרִיעַ זַרע לְמִינָהוּ וְעֵץ עֹשֶׁה-פִּרִי אֲשֶׁר זַרְעוֹ-בוֹ לְמִינָהוּ וַיַּרָא אֱלֹהִים כִּי-טוֹב: יג :יוֹם שָׁלִישִׁי: 1:11 Then God said, 'Let the earth sprout vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them'; and it was so. 1:12 The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good. 1:13 There was evening and there was morning, a third day. (NASB) The creative acts the Lord performs on the third day of creation, speak to us today if we are willing to see, hear, and listen to what the Lord has to say. The commentary Chizkuni on Bereshit / Genesis 1:12 Part 1, states "וְעֵץ עֹשֶׁה-פִרִי, and fruit bearing trees. If you were to argue that there are many trees that do not bear fruit, the answer is that what the Torah really meant was that the fruit that the trees mentioned, were to be fruit matching its species..." The significance of this rabbinic commentary is how the fruit being produced upon the trees

were to match its species. These words speak of a distinction between the righteous and the unrighteous. The fruit of the righteous is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. The fruit of the unrighteous expresses itself in sexual immorality, impurity and indecency; involvement with the occult and with drugs; in feuding, fighting, becoming jealous and getting angry; in selfish ambition, factionalism, intrigue and envy; in drunkenness, orgies and things like these. Paul wrote to the Galatians saying 5:21 "... I warn you now as I have warned you before: those who do such things will have no share in the Kingdom of God!" The Torah is about producing good fruit, the instructions of God for His people in righteousness and truth. When we consider modern theologies that stand against God's Torah, what kind of fruit does it produce? We are reminded of what the author of Hebrews wrote in *Hebrews 10:28 Anyone who has* set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 10:29 How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? (NASB) This speaks to us of how Yeshua spoke of a great multitude of peoples in the last day who stand before the Lord and say, "... Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles? And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness." (NASB, Matthew 7:22-23) The implications of these things is of the church teaching a doctrine that is sending many to hell.

Modern theologies (i.e. Dispensationalism) creates a division between the Church and Israel. According to this view, the Church consists of those trusting Christ, while Israel consists of the physical descendants of Jacob where Israel receives the benefit of the Abrahamic covenant because she is still God's chosen people. The doctrine of dispensationalism essentially creates two separate peoples where one people group lives by faith, the other by works. Scofield wrote in his commentary saying *"The Jew was promised an earthly inheritance, earthly wealth, earthly honor, earthly power. The Church is promised no such thing, but is pointed always to heaven as the place where she is to receive her rest and her reward."* Scofield was a dispensational-

ist and his doctrine produces a confused and torn understanding of the bible where the Lord God in heaven loves two separate peoples with a segregation of the promises given in the Scriptures. The Apostle Paul however emphasized that both the Jew and Gentile become one family as the children of God when he said, *"There is neither Jew nor Greek... for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you be Christ's, then are you Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise"* (*Galatians 3:28-29*). These theologies significantly effect our understanding of the covenants of God as it is related to understanding the place of the Jew and the Gentile in the present day and future eschatological events.

In Parashat Bereshit, we are told of the power and majesty of God in the creation account. The Lord God is all powerful, He created the heavens and the earth tohu u'vohu (ההו וָבֹהוּ), from nothing). He loves His creation and desires for every man, woman, and child to seek Him and His ways. This is the Lord's plan from the beginning. This understanding may be found in *Bereshit / Genesis 2:7-25*.

In this week's Torah portion we will be looking at *Bereshit / Genesis 2:15-25*.

Bereshit / Genesis 2:15-25

2:15 Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. 2:16 The Lord God commanded the man, saying, 'From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; 2:17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.' 2:18 Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.' 2:19 Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. 2:20 The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him. 2:21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed

up the flesh at that place. 2:22 The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. 2:23 The man 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.' 2:24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. 2:25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. (NASB)

טו וַיָּקַח יְהוָה אֱלֹהִים אֶת-הָאָדָם וַיַּנָּחֵהוּ בְגַן-עֵדֶן לְעָבְדָה וּלְשָׁמְרַה: טז וַיִצַו יִהוָה אֱלֹהִים עַל-הָאַדָם לֵאמֹר מִכּל עֵץ-הַגָּן אַכֹל תֹאכֵל: יז וּמֵעֵץ הַדַּעַת טוֹב וַרַע לא תֹאכַל מִמֵּנוּ כִּי בִּיוֹם אַכַלְךָ מִמֵּנּוּ מוֹת הַמוּת: יח וַיֹּאמֶר יִהוָה אֱלֹהִים לא-טוֹב הֵיוֹת הָאַדָם לְבַדּוֹ אֵעֵשָה-לּוֹ עֵזֶר כִּנָגְדּוֹ: יט וַיִּצֶר יִהֹוֶה אֱלֹהִים מִן-הַאָּדַמָה כָּל-חַיַת הַשָּׂדֵה וָאֶת כָּל-עוֹף הַשִּׁ־ מַיִם וַיָּבֵא אֶל-הָאָדָם לִרְאוֹת מַה-יִקְרָא-לוֹ וְכֹל אֲשֶׁר יִקְרָא-לוֹ הָאָדָם נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה הוּא שְׁמוֹ: [שלישי] כ וַיָּקָרָא הָאָדָם שֵׁמוֹת ּלְכָל-הַבְּהֵמָה וּלְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּלְכֹל חַיַּת הַשָּׂדֶה וּלְאָדָם לֹא-מַצַא עָזֶר כְּנֵגִדּוֹ: כא וַיַפֵּל יִהוֶה אֱלֹהִים | תַּרְדָמַה עַל-הַאַדָם וּיִישֵׁן וַיִּקָּח אָחָת מַצַּלְעֹתֵיו וַיָּסָגֹר בַּשֵׂר תַּחָתֵּנַה: כב ויבן יִהֹנָה אֵלהִים | אֶת-הַצֶּלַע אֵשֶׁר-לַקַח מִן-הָאָדָם לָאִשָּׁה וַיִבָאָה אֶל-הַאַדַם: כג וַיֹּאמֶר הַאַדַם זֹאת הַפַּעַם עֵצֶם מֵעַצַמֵי וּבַשָּׂר ַמְבָּשַׂרִי לְזֹאת יִקָּרָא אָשֵׁה כִּי מֵאִישׁ לְקָחָה-זֹאת: כד עַל-ַכּן יַעַזַב-אִישׁ אֶת-אַבִיו וְאֶת-אָמוֹ וְדָבַק בָּאָשָׁתוֹ וְהָיוּ לְבָשָׂר אָתָד: כה וַיִּהְיוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם עֲרוּמִים הָאָדָם וְאִשְׁתּוֹ וְלֹא יִתְבּשָׁשׁוּ:

In Bereshit chapter 2, we read of the Lord God creating man. According to the Torah, *Bereshit / Genesis 2:7*, הָאָדָם אֶת-הָאָדָם אֶלהִים אֶת-הָאָדָם יַוִיּפָי חַיָּים וַיִיּט בייָם יַוִיּכָי הָאָדָם יַוּיָפָש חַיָּה: *ווייַצר יָהוָה אָלהִים אָת-הָאָדָמָה וַיִּפָּח הָאַרָּמָה וַיִּפָּח הָאַדָּמָר חַיִּים וַיִהי הָאָדָם יָנָפָשׁ חַיָּה: the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." (NASB)* The descriptions of the Lord God in chapter 1 and 2 of the book of Genesis, provide us with the awesome power of the Creator who loves

us. In these verses (2:7), Moshe speaks of two opposing forces within the human soul, the the neshamah (נשמה, divine soul) as opposed to the nefesh (UDJ, the physical soul connected to the body). It is also important to note the Torah does not use the word רוה here meaning "wind," "breath," or "spirit." The Scriptures speak of the Lord God of Israel making Adam a combination of spirit and flesh. Judaism teaches that man possesses two souls, a "divine" soul called the neshamah (נשמה) and the "animal or physical" soul called the nefesh (UDI). Both the nefesh and the neshamah are mentioned in Bereshit / Genesis 2:7 (Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath {neshamah, נשמה} of life; and man became a *living being {nefesh, USJ}.*) The rabbis interpret the word neshamah (נשמה) in *Bereshit / Genesis 2:7* as a reference to the divine soul by reason that the Lord God of Israel breathed heavily into man, imparting a part of Himself, which is the part that fulfills the statement of being created after His image. The word neshamah is used here to place emphasis upon the Lord putting more effort into the creation of man as opposed to the other creatures of this earth. This is the reference to the part of man that has the desire to draw near to the Lord and to seek His ways. Note how there is no distinction that is made between men, women, or children according to these Scriptures and there is no distinction between Jew and Gentile either. All of mankind, each individual has been given this duality in spirit and body (flesh).

In the Apostolic Writings, the neshamah (נשמה) is referred to as the "*spirit*" of a man. According to the doctrine of Paul, this spirit within a man is dead until it has been made alive by salvation through faith in the Messiah, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit of God. King Solomon said in *Ecclesiastes 12:7 "Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it,*" so the idea is that the neshamah (the divine soul) is created and leaves its abode in heaven to dwell in the human body, whereby the death of the body, the spirit will return to God. This is one of the source texts for Judaism's interpretation that at death our spirit will return to the Lord God in heaven. Our being, who we are, it is the combination of the neshamah and the nefesh that produce the personality of each individual on this earth. David said in his Psalm, א בֵּרָכִי נֵכָּשִׁי אֶת-יָהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֶרָיָהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אָרָיָהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אָרָיָהוָה אָלֹהֵי אָרָיָהוּ

ַמָאָד הוֹד וְהַדַר לְבַשְׁתַּ: ב עֹטֶה אוֹר כַּשֵּׁלְמָה נוֹטֶה שֵׁמַיִם כַּיָריעַה: A Psalm of David 104:1 Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great; You are clothed with splendor and majesty, 104:2 Covering Yourself with light as with a cloak, Stretching out heaven like a tent *curtain.* (*NASB*) Note how David speaks to his soul telling his soul to bless the Lord using the word נפשי as opposed to רוה meaning "wind," "breath," or "spirit" or as opposed to using the word neshamah (נשמה), the divine soul). The Aramaic Targum states the same thing saying, **X** בריכי נפשי ית שמא דיהוה יהוה אלהי איתגדלתא לחדא שבחא ושבהורא אלבישתא: ב דמיתעטף נהורא היך סדינא דמתח שמיא היך יריעתא: A Psalm of David 104:1 Bless, O my soul, the name of the Lord. O Lord my God, you are greatly exalted; you have put on praise and splendor. 104:2 Who wraps himself in light like a sheet, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain. (EMC) David used the words בריכי בַּרַכִי נַפִּשִׁי) (נפשי) making reference to the non-spiritual aspect of his soul, calling out to his "animal or physical" soul to bless the Lord God of Israel. David calls to his physical being (soul) to magnify the Lord God in heaven, and to recognize His majesty and splendor because He is the creator of all things. The calling of this aspect of the soul to the service of worship is very significant because it speaks of faithfulness in our lives and should be a daily aspect of our lives to give glory to the Lord in heaven, not only in our thoughts, but also in our deeds, in our physical bodies. Notice how this is connected to the mitzvot (commandments) and God's Torah.

אשא מצלהבא: ה די מיסד ארעא עלוי בסיסה דלא תזוע לעלמי עלמין: 104:3 Who covers his chambers with water like a building with beams; who placed his chariot, as it were, upon swift clouds; who goes on the wings of an eagle. 104:4 Who made his messengers as swift as wind; his servants, as strong as burning fire. 104:5 Who lays the foundation of the earth upon its base, so that it will not shake for ages upon ages. (EMC) David states in the best way that he can and in the way that he understands, the Lord is the creator. In addition, He speaks of the Lord making the winds His messengers who are as flaming fire. It is interesting how he uses the word רוח (ruach) is used in reference to God's messengers. The Hebrew word ruach means "wind," "breath," or "spirit" and "truth" and is the manner in which Job used this word saying, "As long as I have life within me, the breath (ruach) of God in mv nostrils" (Job 27:3). The word rûach (רוּהַ), the traditional Jewish interpretation is "wind," and "spirit," as it is related to God's messengers of fire. If we consider the NT (Apostolic Writings) connection, the ruach may also be used as a reference to the neshamah, the divine soul. This is how Job appears to be speaking of the rûach (רוּה) in *Job* 27:3. David is speaking of the Lord setting on fire this aspect of man, his Neshamah, his divine soul, that part that has come from God, as His ministers. This is related to a distinctive change at the center of a persons life that is connected to one's relationship with God. A parallel thought may be found in the act of obedience to the command as it is related to sin, Teshuvah (Repentance), and the Mikvah (baptism). The Mikvah is a physical demonstration of a believers faith to turn his life over to the Lord, of his death to sin, and his returning to the way, the commands of God, and to walk in newness of life. This is the testimony of each believer, to be changed by Lord in a unique way and to live a life that has overcome sin by the power of God. These things are related to the New Covenant that we have in the Messiah, as Yohanan HaMatbil (John the Baptist) said in Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:8, and Luke 3:16.

Matthew 3:11

3:11 "As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize

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you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (NASB)

Mark 1:8

1:8 "I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (NASB)

Luke 3:16

3:16 John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (NASB)

John speaks of a time when the Messiah will come, in which he will baptize us with the Holy Spirit of God and with fire. Note the connection to the neshamah (נשמה) the divine soul, to our relationship with God, seeking Him and His will for our lives, and our relationships with others. The baptism of the Holy Spirit, this setting on fire comes by seeking first the kingdom of heaven and His righteousness (*Matthew* 6:33). Could this be the underlying principle in regard to how the Lord will be working in our lives, reviving and raising us from the dead by the renewing of the *neshamah*, געמה, which then causes us to have the desire to live according to God's Word? Could the power of God be held back because of these things being lacking in the modern Church theologies of today? (i.e. The fallacy of the Faith alone doctrines)

Isaiah said in *Isaiah 4:4 When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and purged the bloodshed of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning (NASB)* Here he mentions the pride of Israel and a day coming when the Lord will bring the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning upon the people. What is the spirit of judgment and burning? Could this be a conviction of heart and soul concerning sin as it is related to the indwelling of God's Holy Spirit? The Lord by His Spirit will work in our lives bringing to our attention our sin which leads us to repent and turn back to His ways.

Rambam on the *Mishnah Sanhedrin 10:1 Part 1* has the following to say concerning these things.

Rambam on Mishnah Sanhedrin 10:1 Part 1

"... Rather, there are those that say that the sun will approach them and burn them, and their proof to this is from that which is stated (Malachi 3:19), "behold [the sun of] the day is coming, burning like a furnace." And there are some that say that a strange heating up will begin in their bodies and burn them, and their proof to this is from that which it states (Isaiah 33:11), "your spirit is fire, it shall consume you." And the revival of the dead is from the main fundamental principles of Moshe, our teacher - peace be upon him. And there is no religion and no attachment to the Jewish religion for the one who does not believe [in] this. But it is [only] for the righteous, and so [too] is [this found in] the language of Bereishit Rabbah, "The power of rain is for the righteous and for the evildoers, but the revival of the dead is only for the righteous." And how should the evildoers be revived - as they are dead even in their lifetime? And so [too] did they say (Berakhot 18b), "Evildoers are called dead even in their lives, righteous people are called living even in their death." And you should know that man, per force, must die and decompose and return to what he is composed of. The days of the Messiah, however, is the time when rulership will return to Israrel and that they will go back to the land of Israel and that this king will be very great, and the seat of his rulership will be in Zion (Jerusalem)..."

Note how Rambam states the resurrection (revival) of the dead is a fundamental principle of Moshe our teacher. Rambam is essentially saying that the Torah teaches us of the resurrection of the dead. It is interesting how the Torah is understood as producing an expectation of resurrection. Have you ever thought about that before? Where in the Torah does Moshe teach resurrection? Moshe brought the Torah to Israel, the holy Word of God , which was to produce in the people a turning from sin. This turning from sin is equated to the resurrec-

tion (revival) of the dead at the mountain of Sinai (See the rabbinic interpretations on Midrash Tehillim 62-72 for more on Sinai and the resurrection.). The turning from sin is equated to the revival of the dead because of the renewing of the *neshamah*, π , which causes us to have the desire to live according to God's Word leading to what we do in the body (nefesh, \Im). Isaiah said the Lord's Spirit is fire, and for the one whom the Lord dwells, the Holy Spirit will set his life on fire and with power. This fire is the excitation of the faith and life of someone to live for and bring glory to God by the way one lives his or her life. This is what it means to bear the testimony of God in our lives. This is the significance of the duality of man as a combination of Neshamah (Π) and Nefesh (\square), where the Lord has the capability of doing these things for all who would draw near and believe in the Lord and in His Word.

The effect of disobedience by Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden is the legacy that was left to all mankind. It is this duality of man that is at war within the members of the body (*Romans 7:23*). The Covenant the Lord made with Adam and Even is found in *Bereshit / Genesis* 1:26-30 and 2:16-17. The details of this covenant include the following:

- Mankind (male and female) created in God's image.
- Mankind's dominion (rule) over all the Earth.
- The mitzvah to procreate (to reproduce and inhabit the entire Earth).
- Forbid eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (with death as the stated penalty).

As the narrative proceeds, Eve was tempted to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It was not wrong for Adam and Eve to want to be "god-like," in the sense to mirror God's characteristics, which is a good and worthy goal. But having the desire to become a god and take His place as sovereign king in our lives is rebellion against the Lord God in heaven and sin. What had happened was Adam and Eve had entered into a family relationship with God through a Covenant, as God our Father and we His children. Having family is very important, where the Lord Recognized that being alone is not good

(*Bereshit / Genesis 2:18*). It was for this reason the Lord created a woman as a wife (אָשָׁה) for Adam.

Bereshit / Genesis 2:22-25

2:22 The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. 2:23 The man 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.' 2:24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. 2:25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. (NASB, רָאָדָם: כג וִיֹאמֶר הָאָדָם כַב וַיָּכָן יְהָוָה אֶלֹהִים | אֶת-הַצָּלַע אֲשֶׁר־ לְזֹאת יִקָּרָא אִשָּׁה כִּי לָקַח מִן-הָאָדָם לֵצָצָמֵי וּבָשֶׂר מִבְּשָׁרִי לְזֹאת יִקָּרָא אָשָׁה כָּי זֹאת הַפַּעַם עָצָם מֵעֲצָמֵי וּבָשָׂר מָבְּשָׂרִי לְזֹאת יִקָרָא אָשָׁה כָּי מָאִישׁ לֵקֵחָה-זֹאת: כד עַל-כֵּן יַעָזָב-אִישׁ אֶת-אָבִיו וָאֶת-אָמוֹ מָאִישׁ לֵקֵחָה-זֹאת: כד עַל-כֵּן יַעָזָב-אִישׁ אֶת-אָבִיו וָאֶת-אָמוֹ וָדָבַק בְּאָשָׁתּוֹ וְהָיוּ לְבָשָׂר אֶחָד: כה וַיִּהְיוֹ שְׁנֵיהֶם עֲרוּמִים

Adam said she is bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh. There was an intimacy that was established as Adam accepted and took her to be his wife. Note how the world seeks to pervert the definition of the family that God had designed from the beginning. A family was created, which is the reason the Scriptures say, 2:24 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. (NASB, כד עַל-כֵּן יַעֲזָב-אִישׁ אֶת-אָבִיו וְאֶת-אָמוֹ וְדָבַק (בְּאֹשָׁתוֹ וְהֵיוּ לְבַשֵׂר אָחָד:) When the Lord brought all the animals before Adam so he could name them, he did not find a suitable helper (2:19). Consider how looking to the world produced no results for companionship. Notice how unhappiness and discontentment are found in worldly and fleshly things (i.e. homosexual relationships, money, etc). Companionship requires an act of God as a man and woman. The Lord God created a family for intimacy, support, and help. The Lord does not want you to be a loner in relationship or in doctrine. Note how this is exactly what happened with the separation of the church from Israel!

This separation of the church from Israel has resulted in new doc-

trines being developed as opposed to the rabbinic teachings of Yeshua, the disciples, and Paul, the church looks to a more worldly interpretation. The product of this approach is what we are seeing today in the wide spread acceptance of homosexuality, living in sin, and massive churches and wealth of pastors (i.e. Joel Osteen). The church has deemphasized maasim tovim (good deeds, faithfulness to God) as opposed to faith. In fact, when it is related to salvation, the church places at odds faith and faithfulness to God by the teaching of faith alone. An additional parallel may be considered from *Bereshit / Genesis 2:22-24*, where a man leaves his family to be with his wife to produce a new family? Is this what the Church did leaving the mother and the father (Israel) by the interpretation of being married to Christ in the doctrine of dispensationalism?

It is important to be in a local community of believers, for support, help, and the study of God's Word. When Adam and Eve decided to eat of the tree, they were essentially violating the covenant agreement and choosing to step outside of the family God had established, which resulted in their realization of being naked which decreased the level of intimacy they had previously enjoyed. The effect of *"leaving family"* is significant because it was coupled to the destruction of their relationship with God and with one another.

These things relate to the splitting away from family that God has established. (Israel) The natural conclusion is that interpretation is also an act of God and shouldn't be on an individual basis. (*i.e. dispensationalism and the church as a separate entity.*) Note how the Lord recognized the need for the unification of the people as a community and family based on Sforno's interpretation of *Bereshit / Genesis 2:24*.

Sforno on Bereshit / Genesis 2:24 Part 1

על כן, seeing that on this first occasion G'd had aimed to make Adam's wife as much part of him as possible, so that he even used Adam's personal body as Chavah's basic skeleton, יעזוב איש את אביו ואת אמו ודבק באש־, it is appropriate that a man leave the home of his parents in order to acquire a wife who is compatible with him, and who is a suitable mate for him to live with on a permanent basis. The Torah teaches here also

that the expression דיבוק, "cleaving," being in a state of true union, is not possible between two people who are not alike in their common purpose in life. Parents and children do not have the same tasks and challenges. Man and his wife do have to master the same challenges, hence the word "union" can be applied to their union, whereas the same word would be inappropriate for describing the relationship between father and son, or mother and son. By living together they will become of one mind on how to deal with their lives' challenges.

Part 2

והיו לבשר אחד, they are to work together in such close union as if there were in fact only one of them. (This had been the idea behind creating man as both male and female in the first place.)

The significance here is of the Lord having created man and woman to be in unity in a miraculous way. They are to work together to solve life's challenges. This is the significance of the duality of all men as a Combination of Neshamah (\mbox{IWCR}) and Nefesh (\mbox{LCR}), where the Lord is showing us that faith and faithfulness go hand in hand. His Torah is related to both faith in God, and faithful living before God, and this is for all peoples (see *Isaiah 2*). And consequentially, the covenant He has made in the Messiah Yeshua, is also for all peoples. The necessity of Yeshua being centric to our faith and to the covenant is found in the words of Isaiah who spoke of the righteous one the Lord has chosen,

Isaiah 42:6-7

42:6 "I am the Lord, I have called You in righteousness, I will also hold You by the hand and watch over You, And I will appoint You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations, 42:7 To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the dungeon And those who dwell in darkness from the prison. (NASB)

Notice how the prophecy speaks of the Lord calling the One he had

chosen in righteousness. These scripture state there will be a covenant the Lord will make with the people (Israel) and as a light to the nations (Goyim) that are "*in*" this righteous servant. As a result, in order to remain in a covenant with God today, we must remain in the Messiah Yeshua. This is alluded to in the opening chapters of the creation account in *Bereshit / Genesis 1-2*, as the Lord created man as a combination of Neshamah (בשמה) and Nefesh (שמה), stating that he will work in the lives of both the Jew and Gentile through His Messiah, Yeshua for faith and faithful living. The Lord gave us His Torah to draw together, in the sense that to recognize the integral relationship of faith and faithfulness. When we live by faith, we will live in faithfulness to God. What does it mean to live in faithfulness to God? This is found in the commands of God, to humble our lives unto God's Word, to seek His righteous and holy ways, and seek the help of the Messiah to accomplish this in our lives as a testimony to all the world.