

פרשה וזאת הברכה / Parashat Vezot Ha'Bracha

Shabbat Tishrei 23, 5769, October 10, 2009
32:1-32:52 MATSATI.COM / Rightly Dividing The Word of G-d
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Be on guard for your faith!

השבועות הזוה קוראים / This Week's Reading

תורה: Deuteronomy 33:1-34:12

הפטרה: Joshua 1:1-18

הברית: Acts 27-28

החדשה

10 How does one determine the meaning of words? The answer may be
simple enough, the meaning of a word is established by the community of
speakers in a given time period. However, this is where it gets a little more
15 complicated. When the words begin to develop a wider range of nuances or
become more specialized and achieve idiomatic status within the community of
speakers trying to understand language and the meaning of words gets more
difficult. While trying to interpret the word within a specific context, one cannot
view the term in isolation, but must be aware of the various contextual and
linguistic factors. This week's parsha, Parashat Vezot Ha'Bracha, words are used
to describe how G-d blesses the children of Yisrael and how they following in His
20 ways. *"The blessing with which Moshe the man of G-d blessed the sons of
Yisrael."* *"He loves the people; All Your holy ones are in Your hand, And they
followed in Your steps."* Being so far removed from the ancient days of the
writing of the scriptures, how the early body of believers lived out their faith,
trying to following in G-d's ways according to the Torah has become a dangerous
25 path especially when the belief that in order to accurately follow in G-d's ways is
achieved by following rabbinic Judaism. Following rabbinic Judaism as a path to
G-d leads to destruction; following in the ways of the Lord by the use of rabbinic
Judaism, one is unknowingly and slowly becoming deceived as the one true path
through faith in the Messiah Yeshua becomes more and more skewed. As we
30 start another year of Torah study, we need to be on guard for our faith in Yeshua.

דברים 33:1-5

ס לַנּוֹצֵאת הַבְּרָכָה אֲשֶׁר בֵּרַךְ מֹשֶׁה אִישׁ הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת־בְּנֵי פֶרֶשׁ
2 יִשְׂרָאֵל לְפָנָי מוֹתָנוּ: וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה מִסִּינַי בָּא וְזָרַח מִשְׁעֵיר
לָמוֹ הוֹפִיעַ מִדֶּר פֶּאֶרְזָן וְאַתָּה מִדְּבַבְתָּ קֹדֶשׁ מִימֵינוּ
3 אֲשֶׁר־תָּ לָמוֹ: אֵף הַכֵּב עַמִּים כָּל־קֹדְשׁוֹ בְּיָדֶךָ וְהֵם
4 תָּבוּ לְרִגְלֶךָ יֵשׂא מִדְּבַר־תִּיבָה: תוֹרָה צִוִּה־לָנוּ מֹשֶׁה
5 מוֹרְשָׁה קְהֵלֶת יַעֲקֹב: וַיְהִי בִישְׁרוֹן מִלֶּךָ בְּהַתְּאֵסֶף
6 רֵאשֵׁי עַם יִחַד שִׁבְטֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְחִי רְאוּבֵן וְאַל־יָמָת וַיְהִי

Devarim / Deuteronomy 33:1-5

33:1 Now this is the blessing with which Moses the man of God blessed the sons of Israel before his death. 33:2 He said, 'The Lord came from Sinai, And dawned on them from Seir; He shone forth from Mount Paran, And He came from the midst of ten thousand holy ones; At His right hand there was flashing lightning for them. 33:3 'Indeed, He loves the people; All Your holy ones are in Your hand, And they followed in Your steps; Everyone receives of Your words. 33:4 'Moses charged us with a law, A possession for the assembly of Jacob. 33:5 'And He was king in Jeshurun, When the heads of the people were gathered, The tribes of Israel together. (NASB)

35 As we enter the New Year, we must be on the defensive against false
teaching for our spiritual well being. Peter says the method of false teaching is
deceptive words, which could also be translated as "cunningly forged arguments."
*2 Peter 1:16 For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to
you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of
His majesty. (NASB)* The Scriptures are quite clear concerning deception, and I
40 have seen in many positions of leadership, HaSatan is deceiving by drawing
believers away from hearing the Lord. How is it possible to draw a believer away
from hearing the Lord? It is possible by minimizing time spent studying the
Word of G-d. We must spend time in the Word of G-d if we want to draw near to
Him. It is imperative that we remain in the word. King David said *Tehelim /
45 Psalms 1:2 Their delight is in ADONAI's Torah; on his Torah they meditate day
and night. (CJB)* How else are we to be instructed in the way of the Lord if we
stop studying the Bible?

We must be very careful, everything we see with our eyes and hear with
our ears, we must compare with the G-d's Word and be careful not to believe
50 those things which do not line up. According to G-d's plan, we learn to get our
guidance through the Ruach HaKodesh (The Holy Spirit), which is only
accomplished when we diligently seek Him and wait on Him. Just as it is written
that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (see *Hebrews 11:6*) and
will not let us down if we patiently wait for him. The key is finding the correct
55 path by which we should walk.

Contextual factors provide us the answer to the question of the correct
path. The bible should be used as our contextual base text for determining the
correct path by which we should be walking. Following the Lord and walking
after Yeshua is much broader than simply adopting Jewish practice. Discipleship
60 should be known as the art of emulation as the scriptures say:

1John 2:5-7

*2:5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been
perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: 2:6 the one who says he
65 abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.
2:7 Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old
commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old
commandment is the word which you have heard. (NASB)*

Luke 6:40

*6:40 'A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been
fully trained, will be like his teacher. (NASB)*

The moment we stop spending time in the Word of G-d is the moment we
75 stop moving forward in or walk with God and the flesh begins to move us
backwards. To stay spiritually in shape, we need to press forward every day in
the Word. If we remain in the Word, we will be upright, and remain strong in our
faith in Yeshua the Messiah. If we are spiritually lazy, we will allow the flesh to
rule us and pull us away from hearing the Lord. In this new year of Torah study,
80 keep in mind how G-d has made a way for redemption for us through the death

and resurrection of His righteous Son, Yeshua the Messiah. Everyone who places faith in Yeshua receives redemption, forgiveness, and salvation. We are promised faith, love, and hope; this is the hope of our faith, the forgiveness of sins through faith in Yeshua.

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Be Blessed in Yeshua our Messiah!

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הללויה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:

Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,

“Yeshua” King Messiah forever and ever