

**RaYBaSH's Torah Thoughts**  
**Parashah #7 Vayetzei "He went out"**  
**B'reshit (Gen.) 28:10-32:3**  
**By: Yehudah ben Shomeyr**

**Summary:**

Chapter 28: Ya'akov's (Jacob's) departure and his vision of the ladder at Mt. Moriah.

Chapter 29: Ya'akov meets Rachel. Ya'akov contracts 7 years of labor to marry Rachel, and is deceived by Laban and given Leah on the wedding night instead Rachel. He finishes his marriage week with Leah and immediately takes Rachel in, in exchange for another 7 years of service to Laban.

Chapter 30 Rachel, like Sarah is barren and she has children through Bilhah her handmaid. Leah has children of her own, then has children through her handmaid Zilpah. Leah has 3 more children. Rachel finally has a child of her own Yosef (Joseph).

Chapter 31 Ya'akov packs up his wives, children and possessions and flees while Laban pursues. Laban catches up with and confronts Ya'akov. They end up making a peace treaty.

Chapter 32 Ya'akov and Laban go their separate ways.

**Commentary:**

**Jasher 30:15 And in the second year of Jacob's dwelling in Haran, that is in the seventy ninth year of the life of Jacob, in that year died Eber the son of Shem, he was four hundred and sixty-four years old at his death.**

Ya'akov was 79 years old when his teacher; Shem and Eber and the teacher of all the Patriarchs died.

**Gen.28:10-19 And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran. And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he**

took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of. And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not. And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it. And he called the name of that place Bethel: but the name of that city was called Luz at the first. (KJV)

According to Legends of the Bible Ya'akov's stone pillow that he used was actually the 12 stoned altar that Yitzhak lay upon that miraculously fused together into one huge stone as a divine sign that the 12 tribes would come through Ya'akov. He later used this stone as the pillar he stood up and anointed and called, Beyt-El (Bethel).

Not only did Ya'akov dream of the ladder, but he was also shown the entire history of the Jewish people and that the Temple would be on the very spot that he was at, that is also why he called the place Beyt-El meaning, "House of God."

**Genesis 29:1-11** Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east. And he looked, and behold a well in the field, and, lo, there were three flocks of sheep lying by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks: and a great stone was upon the well's mouth. And thither were all the flocks gathered: and they rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone again upon the well's mouth in his place. And Jacob said unto them, My brethren, whence be ye? And they said, Of Haran are we. And he said unto them, Know ye Laban the son of Nahor? And they said, We know him. And he said unto them, Is he well? And they said, He is well: and, behold, Rachel his daughter cometh with the sheep. And he said, Lo, it is yet high day, neither is it time that the cattle should be gathered together: water ye the sheep, and go and feed them. And they said, We cannot, until all the flocks be gathered together, and till they roll the stone from the well's mouth; then we water the sheep. And while he yet spake with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep; for she kept them. And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of

**Laban his mother's brother. And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept. (KJV)**

According to the Book of Jasher and Legends of the Bible Ya'akov wept when he met Rachel because he remembered Eleazar getting his mother Rivakh (Rebecca) for his father Yitzhak (Isaac) and how Eleazar had many camels laden with gifts for Rivkah as an engagement gifts to her and her folks, and here he had nothing to give Rachel or Laban because he just got mugged by Esau's son Eliaphaz and his men!

**Gen 29:15-30**And Laban said unto Jacob, Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what shall thy wages be? And Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured. And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter. And Laban said, It is better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man: abide with me. And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her. And Jacob said unto Laban, Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her. And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him; and he went in unto her. And Laban gave unto his daughter Leah Zilpah his maid for an handmaid. And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me? And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years. And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also. And Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her maid. And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years. (KJV)

So how did Laban pull it off, given Ya'akov Leah instead of Rachel and Ya'akov not having a clue?

According to the Book of Jasher and Legends of the Bible:

1. Rachel and Leah were twins.
2. Laban keeps the lights extinguished.

3. Leah was covered from head to toe in something similar to what Muslims women wear today called a burkah.
4. Rachel hid in the bed chamber and spoke for Leah.
5. Laban got Ya'akov a little drunk.
6. This was considered a Biblical form of "karma" for Ya'akov pretending to be Esau in front of Yitzhak his father to receive the blessing. Yet the wedding guests sang a song with a refrain "Halia" in hopes Ya'akov would understand it as, "This is Leah." Ya'akov passed it off as a tradition wedding song of that region and people.
7. Also Rachel's handmaid was given to Leah to further make it look as if he were marrying Rachel.

**Gen.29:17 Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured. (KJV)**

What does it mean that Leah was, "tender eyed"? Is that anything like being a "tender foot"? I always imagined Rachel as the hot sister and Leah as the chubby sister with the coke bottle glasses. This is very enigmatic and it was very hard to track down the meaning of this phrase, but to the best of what I could gather, originally it was agreed upon by Rivkah and Laban who were brother and sister, that their children would marry each other, and that Esau would marry Leah, and Ya'akov would marry Rachel. When Leah heard this she wept until her eyelashes fell out on account of that she heard what a villainous and wicked man Esau was.

In all honesty, I believe, according to the Hebrew that Leah's father Laban was albino, as Noah was. Laban means "white." I believe Leah inherited some albinistic traits from her father, one of which is having blue instead of the dominant brown eyes of middle eastern people, and that her eyes were "tender" on sensitive to light due to the albinism.

Now Genesis 29-30 talks about the whole baby making contest between Rachel and Leah.

In short let me sum things up:

**Leah had:**

- **Re'uven (Reuben):** His name means to 'see behold, perceive, discern, or know a son'.

- **Shimon (Simon)**: The name of Simeon means to hear or to discern. It also implies obedience, content, understanding, and witness.
- **Levi**: Meaning to join or be joined.
- Yehudah (Judah) the name Judah which means Praise of Yah and denotes the expression of praise.
- **Yissachar (Issachar)**: The name of Issachar means reward or to hire for payment.
- **Zevulen (Zebulun)**: The name Zebulun means dwelling, habitation, abiding, continuing, to reside or dwell with.
- **Dinah**: (the daughter)

#### **Rachel had:**

- **Yosef (Joseph)**: Yosef means to add, as in add to me another son after this one.
- **Benyamin (Benjamin)**: The birthing of Benjamin brought the death of his mother and in her final moments, Rachel (soul) called him 'Benoni' (son of my sorrow), but Israel (spirit) called him Benjamin, meaning the son of my right hand (Gen 35:18).

#### **Zilpah had:**

- **Gad**: The name of Gad which means to crowd upon, attack, invade, overcome.
- **Asher**: Asher means blessed, happy, prosper, straight, honest, go, guide, lead, and relieve.

#### **Bilhah had:**

- **Dan**: The name of Dan means to judge, to minister judgment or to plead a cause.
- **Naftali (Naphtali)**: The name Naphtali means to be obtained by wrestling.

**Gen 30:14-16 And Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest, and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them unto his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, Give me, I pray**

**thee, of thy son's mandrakes. And she said unto her, Is it a small matter that thou hast taken my husband? and wouldest thou take away my son's mandrakes also? And Rachel said, Therefore he shall lie with thee to night for thy son's mandrakes. And Jacob came out of the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him, and said, Thou must come in unto me; for surely I have hired thee with my son's mandrakes. And he lay with her that night. (KJV)**

According to the commentary in the Stones Edition of the Tanak it says:

**“The dudaim (mandrakes). The incident of the dudaim is most puzzling. What were they? Why were they so important to Rachel, Leah, and Reuben? Why does the Torah relate the puzzling episode? It is obvious that the episode is filled with mysteries of the Torah. Indeed, the Sages and commentators found many teachings in these cryptic verses, among them insights into the noble character of the people involved – and even the statements or deeds which they were reprimanded are indicative of their greatness, for only people of very high stature can be held to such high standards.**

**Among the possible translations of this word are jasmine, violets, mandrakes, and basket of figs. Some of these were reputed to induce fertility and others were fragrant and capable of inducing good feelings.**

**The Torah stresses G-d responds to her prayers, not that there was some magical power in the dudaim. Children are a gift from G-d (Radak).”**

**Gen.30:27 And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake.(KJV)**

Also according to Legends of the Bible, on account of Ya'akov being a Torah observant Jew, the blessings God had bestowed on him, had a residual effect on Laban and his household, and because of this God gave Laban three sons, and made him a rich man.

**Gen.31:2-3, 17-19 And Jacob beheld the countenance of Laban, and, behold, it was not toward him as before. And the LORD said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and I will be with thee... Then Jacob rose up, and set his sons and his wives upon camels; And he carried away all his cattle, and all his goods which he had gotten, the cattle of his getting, which he had gotten in Padanaram, for to go to Isaac his father in the land of Canaan. And Laban went to shear his sheep: and Rachel had stolen the images that were her father's. (KJV)**

Here is a description of Laban's household gods:

**Jasher 31: 41** And this is the manner of the images; in taking a man who is the first born and slaying him and taking the hair off his head, and taking salt and salting the head and anointing it in oil, then taking a small tablet of copper or a tablet of gold and writing the name upon it, and placing the tablet under his tongue, and taking the head with the tablet under the tongue and putting it in the house, and lighting up lights before it and bowing down to it.

**Jasher 31:44** And Rachel stole these images which were her father's, in order that Laban might not know through them where Jacob had gone.

**Gen.30:32-35** With whomsoever thou findest thy gods, let him not live: before our brethren discern thou what is thine with me, and take it to thee. For Jacob knew not that Rachel had stolen them. And Laban went into Jacob's tent, and into Leah's tent, and into the two maidservants' tents; but he found them not. Then went he out of Leah's tent, and entered into Rachel's tent. Now Rachel had taken the images, and put them in the camel's furniture, and sat upon them. And Laban searched all the tent, but found them not. And she said to her father, Let it not displease my lord that I cannot rise up before thee; for the custom of women is upon me. And he searched but found not the images. (KJV)

Legends of the Bible says that Ya'akov lost Rachel to death in her giving birth to Benjamin because of what he said to Laban, "Whoever has the gods shall not live." Little did he know though at the time that Rachel was sitting on them!

**Jasher 31:54-67** Laban breaks his covenant with Ya'akov by sending his son secretly to Esau so that Ya'akov may fall into his hands. Esau with 400 men set out to seek and destroy Ya'akov. He lies to Esau and tells him how Ya'akov cheated him out of his riches.

**Gen. 31:53** The God of Abraham, and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge betwixt us. And Jacob sware by the fear of his father Isaac. (KJV)

In making the treaty with Laban, Ya'akov says the God of Abraham, but not Yitzhak because God never unites His Name with a living person. So instead he said, "The Fear of Yitzhak."

Jasher 31:69-70 speaks of Laban's messengers going and telling Rivkah (Ya'akov's mother) what they did and Rivkah sends 72 of her servants to help Ya'akov.

**Genesis 32:1-3 And Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. And when Jacob saw them, he said, This is God's host: and he called the name of that place Mahanaim. And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother unto the land of Seir, the country of Edom.**

**Jasher 31:71-77 And Rebecca hastened and sent seventy two men from the servants of Isaac to meet Jacob on the road; for she said, Peradventure, Esau may make war in the road when he meets him. And these messengers went on the road to meet Jacob, and they met him in the road of the brook on the opposite side of the brook Jabuk, and Jacob said when he saw them, This camp is destined to me from God, and Jacob called the name of that place Machnayim. And Jacob knew all his father's people, and he kissed them and embraced them and came with them, and Jacob asked them concerning his father and mother, and they said, They were well. And these messengers said unto Jacob, Rebecca thy mother has sent us to thee, saying, I have heard, my son, that thy brother Esau has gone forth against thee on the road with men from the children of Seir the Horite. And therefore, my son, hearken to my voice and see with thy counsel what thou wilt do, and when he cometh up to thee, supplicate him, and do not speak rashly to him, and give him a present from what thou possessest, and from what God has favored thee with. And when he asketh thee concerning thy affairs, conceal nothing from him, perhaps he may turn from his anger against thee and thou wilt thereby save thy soul, thou and all belonging to thee, for it is thy duty to honor him, for he is thy elder brother. And when Jacob heard the words of his mother which the messengers had spoken to him, Jacob lifted up his voice and wept bitterly, and did as his mother then commanded him.**

Angels here in Hebrew can also be translated as messengers. Hence, the human household messengers Rivkah sent. And Ya'akov being all alone about to be attacked by his brother Esau and his men, I'm sure they did look like angels to him!

Again we stop at a cliff hanger!

This week's commentary was more of a teaching time rather than drashing (sermon) time. I hope you learned many things that you didn't know before and that the Scriptures are clearer to you as well.

Shabbat Shalom and Shavuah Tov!  
-- Yehudah ben Shomeyr

**RaYBaSH's Haftarah Hashings**  
**Parashah #7 Vayetzei**  
**Hosea 12:13-14:10 (12:12-14:9 KJV)**  
**By: Yehudah ben Shomeyr**

**Commentary:**

**Hosea 12:12** And Jacob fled into the country of Syria, and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep.

V. 12 reminds us of Ya'akov (Jacob) and that for a wife he tended sheep.

**13** And by a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved.

This is referring to Moshe (Moses) who brought Israel out of Egypt and gave them the Torah.

Moshe became like shepherd of shepherds children, remember Ya'akov the father of the nation of Israel, his children's occupation was tending sheep.

**Hosea 12:14** Ephraim provoked him to anger most bitterly: therefore shall he leave his blood upon him, and his reproach shall his LORD return unto him. (KJV)

**Hosea 13:1 When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died.**

**2And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.**

**3Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.**

**4Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me.**

**5I did know thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought.**

**6According to their pasture, so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted; therefore have they forgotten me.**

Ephrayim ( Ephriam: the “lost” 10 tribes of Israel) act like Laban, so wrapped up in and concerned with his idols and his gods. Ephrayim in his prosperity arrogantly forgets ADONAI and all that He has done for him in the past.

**Hosea 13:7 Therefore I will be unto them as a lion: as a leopard by the way will I observe them:**

**8I will meet them as a bear that is bereaved of her whelps, and will rend the caul of their heart, and there will I devour them like a lion: the wild beast shall tear them.**

**9O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help.**

**10I will be thy king: where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes?**

**11I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath.**

ADONAI, as a curse will leave Ephrayim Shepherdless!

**Hosea 13:12 The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is hid.**

**13The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children.**

**14I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.**

**15Though he be fruitful among his brethren, an east wind shall come, the wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels.**

**16Samaria shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword: their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be ripped up.**

Death is the only thing that awaits an idolatrous nation.

**Hosea 14:1 O israel, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity.**

**2Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.**

**3Asshur shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses: neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, Ye are our gods: for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy.**

ADONAI appeals for Ephrayim to make Teshuvah (Repentance).

**Hosea 14:4 I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.**

**5I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.**

**6His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon.**

**7They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.**

**8Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found.**

**9Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the LORD are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.**

Repentance leads to rejuvenation and life. If Ephrayim (Lost 10 Tribes, we can also say in part at least; the Christian Church) he will become prosperous like Ya'akov was, as opposed to Laban.

Shabbat Shalom and Shavuah Tov!  
-- Yehudah ben Shomeyr

**RaYBaSH's Brit Chadashah Connections**  
**Parashah #7: Vayetze: "He went out"**  
**John 1:19-51, Matt. 15:16**  
**By: Yehudah ben Shomeyr**

**Intro:**

- We can nuke popcorn in 2-5 minutes.
- Pizza delivered to our door in about 30 minutes.
- Eyeglasses made in about an hour.
- Internet downloads in mere seconds.
- Human gestation in 9 months or less.

We live in a society of convenience and instant gratification, and the victim is our patience. Even when we read Scriptures days, weeks, months, and years pass by in a few sentences.

**Gen.31:38 "This twenty years have I been with thee; thy ewes and thy she goats have not cast their young, and the rams of thy flock have I not eaten."(KJV)**

In Gen. 31:38, twenty years Ya'akov (Jacob) was with Laban and Ya'akov's oldest boy is about 12-13 years old and in this amount of time; he has had 12 sons.

Israel didn't become a people or a nation overnight. It took hundreds for the 12 tribes to reach the numbers given in Exodus.

In John 1 we see Yochanan (John) Yeshua's cousin preparing the way for Him and passing the baton to him along with a couple of his own Talmidim (Disciples).

**John 1:35-51** “Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou? He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone. The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me. Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph. And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see. Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee. Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.”(KJV)

**Luke 5:27-28** “And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me. And he left all, rose up, and followed him.” (KJV)

**Luke 6:13-16** “And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles; Simon, (whom he also named Peter,) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes, And Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor.” (KJV)

In other words Yeshua didn't obtain his 12 Talmidim overnight, Just as the 12 tribes didn't grow up overnight.

**John 6:48-66** "I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat? Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever. These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum. Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you? What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before? It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him." (KJV)

Yeshua even lost some Talmidim along the way.

In the same way people will not come to Yeshua and follow the Torah in droves overnight. Just as it takes time for an infant to grow into an adult, so a spiritual infant will not grow up overnight.

I came to Yeshua at a very early age, at 6, yet I totally missed the significance of Torah until I was in my 20's. From there it took me about 10 years to become the Torah Observant Jew, that walks in the footsteps of the Messiah, and I am still learning and growing. I still have SO much further to go.

You have most likely heard the saying, “Good things come to those who wait.” Well, it may be a cliché, yet it is nonetheless true. We have lost, or at least have a VERY underdeveloped virtue of patience in this rush about modern world, where 24 hours never seems to be enough to do all we must do in one day. We must learn from Job, Ya’akov, Yeshua, and the great Rebbe’s of the past who all suffered in the face of adversity with inexhaustible patience.

**John 1:51 “And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.” (KJV)**

Ya’akov had a vision at Beyt El (Bethel: House of God) of things to come which manifested in Yeshua Messiah, and like Him let us be walking Beyt El’s and draw people to Him and His Torah.

Shabbat Shalom and Shavuah Tov,

-- Yehudah ben Shomeyr