

The Tabernacle

Exodus 25: 1-9 tells us this, *"Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 'Tell the sons of Israel to take a contribution for Me; from everyone whose heart moves him you shall take My contribution. This is the contribution which you are to take from them: gold, silver, and bronze, violet, purple, and scarlet material, fine linen, goat hair, rams' skins dyed red, fine leather, acacia wood, oil for lighting, balsam oil for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, onyx stones and setting stones for the ephod and for the breastpiece. Have them construct a sanctuary for Me, so that I may dwell among them. According to all that I am going to show you as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, so you shall construct it.'"*

We can not forget that Moses and the people erected the tabernacle, the sanctuary of God, to remind them of their experience at Mt. Sinai. God created man so that He could dwell among them. In Genesis we saw how God would walk with Adam in the cool of the evening. The sanctuary was a replica of the sanctuary in heaven and that sanctuary is still in operation today. Every piece of the sanctuary represented the Messiah and every ritual. It was a foreshadowing of things to come. It truly was God with man, like the Sukkah. The tabernacle was called the Mishkan which means "dwelling place." It was quite an endeavor to build such a thing in the wilderness. It proved that God was with them. The Ark of the Covenant which was between the winged Cherubim, held the covenant, the Ten Commandments. This was placed in the Holy of Holies, behind the curtain. Even though only the high priest could enter once a year by the blood of the goat on Yom Kippur, the ark with its winged Cherubim, could be accessed by the priest. Remember the gate leading into the Garden of Eden was closed and guarded by these same angels with flaming swords. Now God has made access to this holy place once a year on Yom Kippur by the blood of the goat.

Hebrews 13:10-12 says, *"We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the Holy Place by the high priest as an offering for sin are burned outside the camp. Therefore Yeshua also suffered outside the gate, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood."*

Yeshua was the Yom Kippur sacrifice as all the sacrifices represented Yeshua. Today we still have the sanctuary for we are now the temple of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 say, *“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought for a price: therefore glorify God in your body.”*

And of course, we are all part of the body of Messiah as **1 Corinthians 12:12-13** tells us, *“For just as the body is one and yet has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Messiah. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”*

The people of Israel experienced God in so many ways as **Deuteronomy 29: 2-5** says, *“Moses called all Israel together and said, You’ve seen with your own eyes everything that God did in Egypt to Pharaoh and his servants, and to the land itself—the massive trials to which you were eyewitnesses, the great signs and miracle-wonders. But God didn’t give you an understanding heart or perceptive eyes or attentive ears until right now, this very day. I took you through the wilderness for forty years and through all that time the clothes on your backs didn’t wear out, the sandals on your feet didn’t wear out, and you lived well without bread and wine proving to you that I am in fact God, your God.”*

Hebrews 3:8-19 says this, *“So it is just as the Holy Spirit says: ‘If you hear God’s voice today, don’t be stubborn as you were in the past, when you turned against God. That was the day **you tested** God in the desert. For 40 years in the desert, your people saw what I did. But they tested Me and My patience. So I was angry with them. I said, ‘Their thoughts are always wrong. They have never understood My ways.’ So I was angry and made a promise: ‘They will never enter My place of rest. So, brothers and sisters, be careful that none of you has the evil thoughts that cause so much doubt that you stop following the living God. But encourage each other every day, while you still have something called ‘today.’ Help each other so that none of you will be fooled by sin and become too hard to change. We have the honor of sharing in all that the Messiah has if we continue until the end to have the sure faith we had in the beginning. That’s why the*

Spirit said, 'If you hear God's voice today, don't be stubborn as in the past when you turned against God.' Who were those who heard God's voice and turned against Him? It was all the people Moses led out of Egypt. And who was God angry with for 40 years? He was angry with those who sinned. And their dead bodies were left in the desert. And which people was God talking to when He promised that they would never enter His place of rest? He was talking to those who did not obey Him. So we see that they were not allowed to enter and have God's rest, because they did not believe."

So that generation all died in the wilderness. But their children lived to go on and they entered into the Promised Land.

But before they crossed over, Moses reminded the people of what God said in **Deuteronomy 29**, *"I am making this covenant with all of your people. I will do amazing things that have never before been done for any other nation on earth. The people with you will see that I, the Lord, am very great. They will see the wonderful things that I will do for you. Obey what I command you today, and I will force your enemies to leave your land. Be careful! Don't make any agreement with the people who live in the land where you are going. If you make an agreement with them, it will bring you trouble. I am God—the jealous Lord. That is My name. My people shall not worship other gods. You must not worship the gods of the people whose land you will live in, nor give your daughters as wives to their sons. Do not make any idols of any kind. Remember you agreed to keep the covenant."*

Then God gives Israel a choice..life or death as we see in **Deuteronomy 30:15-20** *"See, I have placed before you today life and happiness, and death and adversity, in that I am commanding you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, so that you may live and become numerous, and that the Lord your God may bless you in the land where you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away and you will not obey, but allow yourself to be led astray and you worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you will certainly perish. You will not prolong your days in the land where you are crossing the Jordan to enter and take possession of it. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have placed before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the Lord your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding close to Him; for this is your life*

and the length of your days, so that you may live in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."

God's part of the covenant was once again the land that was promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. But also if they obey what God commanded of them that He would force their enemies to leave their land. But God also said, "If you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

The people's part of the covenant was not just simply to say "yes, we will do all that you say", but that we would actually be faithful and obedient in keeping all that the Ten Commandments tells them to do. This covenant is like all the rest, it is still in effect today.

The sign of the covenant is the Sabbath

King David

It was David's heart's desire to build God a permanent sanctuary. But God spoke and said that it would not be him but Solomon. But God did make a covenant with David as we read in **2 Samuel 7: 8-17 and in 1 Chronicles 17: 1-15**, *"Now then, this is what you shall say to My servant David: 'This is what the Lord of armies says: I Myself took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader over My people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have eliminated all your enemies from you; I will also make a great name for you, like the names of the great men who are on the earth. And I will establish a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again, nor will malicious people oppress them anymore as previously, even from the day that I appointed judges over My people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. The Lord also declares to you that the Lord will make a house for you. When your days are finished and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come from you, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. **I will be a father to him and he***

will be a son to Me; when he does wrong, I will discipline him with a rod of men and with strokes of sons of mankind, but My favor shall not depart from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from you. Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.' In accordance with all these words and all of this vision, so Nathan spoke to David."

So we see once again the Lord making a covenant, this time with David and his descendants. Unfortunately God tells David that it will not be him who builds the Temple but knowing what it meant to David God instead tells him that He will build for him a dynasty, a dynasty that will last forever. This will be an eternal covenant or what is referred to as a covenant of salt. We know that salt preserves and the reference to salt in a covenant means that it would be preserved over time, even an everlasting covenant would use the reference of salt to show the preservation or continuance of such a covenant.

As **2 Chronicles 13:4-5** says this, *"Then Abijah stood on Mount Zemaraim, which is in the hill country of Ephraim, and said, 'Listen to me, Jeroboam and all Israel: Do you not know that the Lord God of Israel gave the rule over Israel forever to David and his sons by a covenant of salt?"*

But God says that He will be a father to David's descendants and as a father, even when future kings did evil God kept His promise to be just that, a father.

Chronicles 21:5-7, *"Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned for eight years in Jerusalem. He walked in the way of the kings of Israel, just as the house of Ahab had done, for Ahab's daughter was his wife; and he did evil in the sight of the Lord. Yet the Lord was not willing to destroy the house of David because of the covenant which He had made with David, and because He had promised to give a **lamp** (a light) to him and his sons forever."*

We see here that God did just what He said He would do, He will be a father to them and when they do wrong God will discipline them with the rod and He did. **Proverbs 3:11-12** says, *"My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline, and do not resent His rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those He loves, as a father the son he delights in."*

Many times Israel was punished over the years for their sins, and they even went into exile.

That lamp, that light was the Light of the world, Yeshua.

The Messiah

This brings us to the birth of the Messiah. We will see that Yeshua is the fulfilment of all of God's covenants.

Matthew 1:1 begins like this, *"The record of the genealogy of Yeshua the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham."* The Scriptures make sure that we understand that Yeshua was not only from the Davidic line but that He was also considered a son of Abraham as **Matthew 1:2-6** says,

"Abraham fathered Isaac, Isaac fathered Jacob, and Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers. Judah fathered Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez fathered Hezron, and Hezron fathered Ram. Ram fathered Amminadab, Amminadab fathered Nahshon, and Nahshon fathered Salmon. Salmon fathered Boaz by Rahab, Boaz fathered Obed by Ruth, and Obed fathered Jesse."

Jesse fathered David, the king from which Yeshua was born from the tribe of Judah. The covenants to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were all about the land and a nation of people too many to count. Abraham was a prince among men and so were all of the Patriarchs. They had wealth and livestock and servants. We saw that Sarah's name even meant princess and along with the other Matriarchs, they are considered to this day the foundation of all that is called Israel. Even, Joseph was a prince, he was in line to be Pharaoh, just like Moses who was a prince in line to be Pharaoh. Then we have King David whose dynasty will live on forever. Then the Messiah was born, Yeshua, who is the Prince of Peace, the King who will sit on David's throne forever.

The time came when God was going to fulfill His promises. It begins with the angel appearing to Mary in **Luke 1:28-38**, *"The angel came to Mary and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favored. The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women.' When she saw him, she was troubled by his words, and considered in her mind what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Listen, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son and shall call His name Yeshua. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest. And the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever. And of His kingdom there will be no end.' Then Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I do not know a man?' The angel answered her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you. Therefore the*

Holy One who will be born will be called the Son of God. Listen, your cousin Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age. And this is the sixth month with her who was declared barren. For with God nothing will be impossible.’ Mary said, ‘I am the servant of the Lord. May it be unto me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.”

Yeshua, like many others before Him, was a miraculous birth, and of course, needless to say, a very big surprise to Joseph.

Matthew 1:20-23 speaks to us about Joseph’s doubts. *“But while he thought on these things, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for He who is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. She will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Yeshua, for He will save His people from their sins.’ Now all this occurred to fulfill what the Lord had spoken through the prophet, saying, ‘A virgin shall be with child, and will bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is interpreted, “God with us.””*

Luke 2:1-14 tells us this, *“Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all the people were on their way to register for the census, each to his own city. Now Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary, who was betrothed to him, and was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock at night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood near them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. And so the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is the Messiah the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in clothes and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly army of angels praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among people with whom He is pleased.”*

God was all about giving signs because this way no one can make a mistake about the truth. There was the child just as it was spoken to them. Here was Mary and Joseph in their temporary dwelling, their Sukkah, actually dwelling with the Son of God. Remember, it is believed that Yeshua was born during Sukkot. Could no room in the inn be God's sign telling us that it was Sukkot? Here was another sign, shepherds would not have been out with their sheep in December. God loves shepherds and so the angels appear to them first and why not, Yeshua was the Precious Lamb of God. These shepherds were watching over the precious lambs that one day would become the Temple sacrifices, and one day, Yeshua would become our sacrifice. Once again we see God choosing shepherds tending their flock to be the ones to receive this message Remember the door of the ark that God shut?

John 10:1-9 says this, *"Truly, truly I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the sheepfold, but climbs up some other way, is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name, and he leads them out. When he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them. And the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will never follow a stranger, but will run away from him. For they do not know the voice of strangers."*

Yeshua told them this parable, but they did not understand what He was telling them. Then Yeshua said to them again, "Truly, truly I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters through Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture."

Yes, those who entered the door of the ark were saved because the ark was Yeshua (salvation) and He was the door that they entered by.

John 10:11-16 says this, *"I am the Good Shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. But he who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep, and runs away. So the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because he is a hired hand and does not care about the sheep. I am the Good Shepherd. I know My sheep and am known by My own. Even as the Father knows Me, so I know the Father. And I lay*

down My life for the sheep. I have other sheep who are not of this fold. I must also bring them, and they will hear My voice. There will be one flock and one shepherd."

Psalm 100:3 tells us, *"Know that the Lord, He is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture."*

This is important to God because we are His sheep. So where does the name pastor come from? Yes, pasture. Every pastor is responsible for his flock and in so doing must care for his sheep like a shepherd.

Paul tells us this in **1 Timothy 3:1-7** *"It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires to do. An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, skillful in teaching, not overindulging in wine, not a bully, but gentle, not contentious, free from the love of money. He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), and not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into condemnation incurred by the devil. And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he will not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil."*

Act 20:28 says, *"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to the entire flock, over which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd (pastor) the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."*

You see the Jewish people had been waiting for their Messiah as we read in **Luke 2:25-32**, *"And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. And he came by the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Yeshua to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, then he took Him in his arms, and blessed God, and said, 'Now, Lord, You are letting Your bond-servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation (Yeshua), which You have prepared in the presence of all the peoples: A light for revelation for the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.'"*

You see the Good News of the angels was to the Jewish people. They had been waiting for their Messiah. Many thousands of Jewish people accepted their Jewish Messiah. Yeshua fed the five thousand in **Matthew 14:15-21**, and the four thousand, in **Matthew 15:32-38**, and at Pentecost three thousand of the diaspora came to their Messiah. In **Acts 2:46-47** and in **Acts 4:4** it says this, *"But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand."*

You see the Gentile Age had not yet started, not until after Yeshua ascended back to the Father. But this does not mean that the Gentiles replaced Israel. How could this be? That would mean that God broke His covenants with the Jewish people.

Romans 11: 17-18 makes it all clear. *"Israel's people are like an olive tree that a farmer has planted. But God has broken off some of that tree's branches. Then he has taken a branch from a wild olive tree. He has put that wild branch into the farmer's tree, to become part of that tree. You Gentiles are like the wild branch. Now you receive food from the root of the farmer's tree, to make you strong. Israel's people are like the branches that God broke off. But you must not think that you are better than those branches. Remember that you are still only a branch. You do not make the root strong. No, it is the root that holds you up and makes you strong."*

Because the Gentile believers had been grafted into Israel through their faith in the Messiah the Abrahamic covenant was being fulfilled. Now all the nations of believers became the descendants of Abraham, the father of many nations and now his descendants would be more numerous than the stars.

Yes, through Yeshua even the covenant with Abraham was being fulfilled.

Matthew 21:5-9 says this, *"Say to the daughters of Zion, Behold your king is coming, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey. So the disciples went and did just as Yeshua had instructed them, and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid their cloaks on them; and He sat on the cloaks. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them on the road. Now the crowds going ahead of Him, and those who*

followed, were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!'"

Why were they cutting branches of the trees? Because they knew that the Messiah would come during the Feast of Tabernacles, Sukkot. This is what

Zechariah 14:16-17 says about the day of the Lord, *"Then it will be that all the nations who have come against Jerusalem and survived will go up each year to worship the King, the Lord of Hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. And it will happen that if any of the families of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of Hosts, then there will not be rain for them. If the family of Egypt does not go up and enter in, they shall have no rain. This will be the plague with which the Lord strikes the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. This will be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations who do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. On that day "HOLY TO THE LORD" will be engraved on the bells of the horses. And the pots in the house of the LORD will be as the basins before the altar. And every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD of Hosts so that all who come to sacrifice will take from those pots and boil the meat in them. And on that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the Lord of Hosts."*

Shouldn't we all be celebrating this Appointed Time (**Leviticus 23**) of God now?

Remember the two Messiah's, the son of Joseph and the son of David.

Well, even though Yeshua came as the suffering servant, He was still recognized as a son of David in His day, even as the king who was to ride on a colt of a donkey.

Luke 1:32-33 says, *"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His Kingdom will have no end."*

The Messiah is the fulfillment of the Davidic's Covenant. The Messiah, the son of David, the Son of God, will fulfill every Word of God. Even though we have to wait for the return of the coming Messiah in the end days, we know that He will fulfill the covenant of sitting on David's throne for eternity because He is the son of David. Yeshua also fulfilled the covenant with David. The Messiah will usher in the final Davidic kingdom.

Revelation 20: 4 says this, *"Then I saw thrones, and sitting on them were those who had been given the right to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony about Yeshua, for proclaiming the Word of God, and who had not worshiped the Creature or his statue, nor accepted his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They had come to life again and now they reigned with the Messiah for a thousand years."*

God was all about giving signs because this way no one can make a mistake about the truth. There was the child just as it was spoken to them. Here was Mary and Joseph in their temporary dwelling, their sukkah, actually dwelling with the Son of God. God loves shepherds and so the angels appear to them first and why not, Yeshua was the precious Lamb of God, These shepherds were watching over the precious lambs that one day would become the Temple sacrifices, and one day, Yeshua would become our sacrifice.

So the last time we saw angels was at the gate of the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve were sent out of the Garden and the angels blocked the gates. But now the angels rejoice because the way back to God was about to be made. Let's go back to the Garden. Adam and Eve ate from the forbidden tree, the Tree of Knowledge.

Genesis 2:16-17 tells us, *"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat, but of 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."*

You see they could eat from any other trees, even the Tree of Life all they wanted.

Proverbs 3:13-18 says this, *"Happy is the man who finds wisdom, and the man who gets understanding; for her benefit is more profitable than silver, and her gain than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies, and all the things you may desire are not to be compared with her. Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and happy is everyone who retains her."*

This is talking about none other than the Word of God. It goes on to say in

Proverbs 3:19-20, *"The Lord by wisdom has founded the earth; by understanding He has established the heavens; by His knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew."*

James 3:13-18 says, *"Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peace-loving, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, free of hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."*

1 Corinthians 3: 18-23 says, *"Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool so that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, 'He catches the wise in their craftiness,' and again, 'The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are futile.' So let no one boast in men. For all things are yours."*

But the Tree of Knowledge, why wasn't that just as good to eat? Let's say it was a real eye opener.

1 Corinthians 8:1 says, *"We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge produces arrogance, but love edifies. So if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, this one is known by Him."*

Adam and Eve lived in a world without sin. The Tree of Knowledge now opened their eyes to see good and evil, something they did not know even existed.

2 Peter 2: 20-22 tells us this, *"For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Messiah Yeshua they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. It has happened to them according to the true proverb, 'A dog returns to its own vomit' and, 'A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire.'"*

You see Adam and Eve would now be responsible for all their actions and words and deeds. And God knew that if now they would eat from the Tree of Life they would be eternally held in their sin which they already committed by disobeying God. So God only had one thing He could do and that was to bar them from the Garden. But as we saw, God first made an atonement for them when He slaughtered the animal(s) for their clothing.

Leviticus 17:11 says, *"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life."*

Hebrews 9:22 also says, *"Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins."*

We read that God cursed the serpent who deceived them. *"God said, 'I will make enemies of you and the woman, and of your offspring and her descendant, he shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.'"*

This was a reference to the Messiah who would come and crush Satan's head and Satan would crush Him on the heel as we will soon see.

One day the Messiah was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after He had fasted for forty days and forty nights, the devil came and tempted Him over and over, but He resisted the devil, not like Adam and Eve who fell victim to his lies and schemes. So the devil left Him and the angels came to serve Him. Why is this so important? Because the devil came and tempted Adam and Eve and they fell but Yeshua was tempted and He won. (**Matthew 4:1-11**),

"The people came from all over to hear Him speak about God. But there were those who were jealous of Him, for sure the descendants of the serpent. As the Messiah says to them, 'If God were your Father, you would love Me, for He sent Me. You do not understand what I am saying because you cannot listen to My Word. You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I say the truth, you do not believe Me. The one who is of God

hears the Words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God.” (John 8:44-47)

“ From that time on the Messiah began to point out to His disciples that it was necessary for Him to go to Jerusalem and to suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and to be killed, and to be raised up on the third day. And yet Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, ‘God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You! But He turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God’s purposes, but men’s.’”

(Matthew 16:21-23)

“Then the Messiah said to His disciples, ‘If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what good will it do a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what will a person give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every person according to his deeds.’”

(Matthew 16:24-27)

The Messiah did many signs and wonders and miracles like healing people and even feeding thousands on only a few fish. But the stage was set for the Messiah to accomplish His main mission and that was to fulfill God's promises and our salvation.

