

Calgary L'chaim Bible Fellowship
Teaching Notes on Parasha 7 (Tri-Cycle Reading)
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Torah portion: Genesis 8:15- 9:17
Haftarah (Prophets): Isaiah 42: 7-21
Apostolic Writings: 2 Timothy 2:1-19

HaShem's Rainbow

Introduction:

The flood's double effect- For the generation of the flood, the waters was a punishment, but for the world, the waters were a blessing, since it was cleaned through it. (see verse 12 and verse 17) contrasting rain as a blessing; and torrential flood waters as judgment.

The flood is a mirror to the original creation: Noah saw a "New" or "Renewed World."

1. The gathering of the waters (1: 6-9 vs 8:2-5)
2. The placing of the birds (1: 20-23 vs 8: 6-12)
3. The establishment of dry ground (1: 9-12 vs 8:13)
4. The animals and man and the command to multiply (1:24 -27 vs 8:16-19)
5. The blessings (1:28-30 vs 9:1-3)

In the same manner the book of Matthew 24 narrates a resemblance of the days of Noah that sets the stage of the final cleansing of this world. Malachi 4:1 referenced it to be the "Day of the Lord."

Genesis 9:11 mention that Adonai said "Never Again" that He would bring such a humongous event to destroy the world (see also Isaiah 54:9).

Main Outline:

As a sign of this promise, this covenantal promise – HaShem gave Noah a sign ---**The Rainbow!**

Scientifically the appearance of the rainbow is caused by the refractive dispersion of sunlight in drops of rain or mist, and that the colours are seen by this refraction of light in water. When light intersects with the airborne moisture, this moisture causes the light to refract (bounce) splitting into multiple beautiful colours.

This text in Gen 9:11 described that "the bow (the rainbow) will be seen in the cloud" – a display of God's glory!

When the heavenly Word intersects on man, it refracts into a beautiful manifestation of God's glory on earth, The prophet Ezekiel likens the glory of HaShem to the magnificence of the rainbow in Chapter 1:28 , like the rainbow Yeshua reflects the radiance of the glory of God (Hebrews 1:3) !

Practical Significance of the Rainbow:

1. A sign of Judgment ; it reminds us of the fate of the generation of Noah.
2. A sign of Adonai's Covenant of Shalom ; God's universal covenant with all living things.

Interesting picture to consider- The Bow (Rainbow) has the same Hebrew word for the Bow (an instrument of war) – *heb: qeshet*. The Arch of the bow is usually angled away from the bowman, a sign of peaceful moderation with the earth.

Connecting the Dots: What is the Sign of Man, and how will we see Him coming? See Genesis 9:14 then progress to Matthew 24:30 and finally Revelation 4:3.

Take Away Torah Lessons to learn from Rainbows:

1. *Stop a while and appreciate the things around you that matters most...*

Rainbows don't stay for a long time; they reveal their beautiful colours for only a short span of time.

Life is short, don't delay in noticing the most important things in life , or we might end up missing the chance to appreciate it.

2. *The best things in life are surprisingly not things...*

Realize that we cannot touch the rainbow or find where it ends ...but we certainly know that we see it, we feel it.

Celebrate life's rare and special occasions, capture it in your heart, because like a rainbow, they don't come along often.

3. *At many times we can't see the full length of the Rainbow...*

From our viewpoint we only see the half of the rainbow...or sometimes just a part of it.

Life is not always perfect, but the sun is always there, we can find something good and know that Adonai is always there for us.

4. *Everything is not what it appears to be...*

No two people sees the rainbow the same. We see things differently even if we are looking at the same thing.

We understand life in different angles. We walk in this life in different stages ..some ahead of us, some lagging behind us.

As we have said before being Torah pursuant is a way of life...we progress as we walk in it ..

As we are constantly reminded in Ephesians 2 *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, This is not your own doing; It is the gift of God."*

Conclusion : let us read 2 Timothy 2:12-19 and take it what it is.

Amein! Shabbat Shalom v' Baruch HaShem in Yeshua Mashiach L'chaim!

Bro Louwell

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