

Parshat Vayechi
Genesis 47.28 - 50.26

For until Shiloh comes...
By Dr. Akiva Gamliel Belk

Our Torah Discussion is in the loving memory of Channah bat Sarah, Michael ben Sarah, Martha bat Sarah, Idah bat Chavah, Will been Chavah, George ben Idah, Ethel Channah bat Channah, Stephen been Martha, Carrie bat Brachah Rivkah. May they rest in peace. May they be elevated in the Heavens. May their memory be for good.

Dear Ones, as always there are many Torah subjects in this weeks Parshat. A few are:
The days and years of Yaakov's Life...

Yaakov's request / demand to yoseif - Do not bury me in Egypt, bury me with my fathers.

Yaakov takes Ephraim and Menasheh as his sons.

Yaakov Blesses Ephraim and Menasheh

Yaakov Teaches the method of blessing - He placed his hand on their head and said, In you shall Israel bless, saying, God Make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh

Yaakov draws his son near to share the 'End of Days' with them. He Blesses them and gives each instruction. This is 2,315 From Creation.

In Yaakov's instruction to Yehudah he says, 'Until Shiloh comes.' Our Rabbis point to this statement as the first Verse in Ha Torah's portion of the Bible which points to the Messiah coming. This does not mean those living prior to Yaakov were unfamiliar with the Coming of Messiah. This is the first time Messiah is mentioned. **As we will discover this prophecy is mystical in nature. THE ONLY WAY we observe Messiah in these four Word is through Jewish Mysticism.** Jewish Mysticism is one form of Bible interpretation.

Genesis 49.10

לֹא יִסּוּר שֵׁבֶט מִיְהוּדָה וּמַחֲקֵק מִבֵּין רַגְלָיו
עַד כִּי־יָבֹא שִׁילֹה וְלוֹ יִקְהַת עַמִּים:

עַד כִּי־יָבֹא שִׁילֹה
For until Shiloh comes...

Within the Word **שילה** are a composition of Letters that the Sages Teach, שי and לו meaning [peoples will] bring to him a gift.

Psalms 76.12 Make a vow, and pay to the Lord your God; let all who are around him bring presents to him who is to be feared.

Isaiah 18.7

In that time shall a gift be brought to the Lord of hosts, by a people tall and smooth, and from a people terrible from their beginning onward; a nation mighty and conquering, whose land the rivers divide, to the place of the name of the Lord of hosts, the Mount Zion.

Sforno comments that within the Word **שילה** are the Letters שלה which is the root Word for **שְׁלוֹה** **שילה** meaning happiness and **שְׁלוֹם** meaning peace.

From this we learn that the Messiah will bring happiness and peace.

Our Parshat concludes with Yoseif approaching Pharaoh to request that he be allowed to bury his father in Eretz Canaan. Our Sages point to the wording Yoseif used. This was a sign to Pharaoh. Originally when Yoseif was selected to be Viceroy he was tested by Pharaoh in his knowledge of the seventy languages. Yoseif knew them all. Pharaoh did not know Hebrew. Even though he tried to learn Hebrew he could not. He made Yoseif take a vow not to reveal this to anyone. Yoseif took the vow. Yoseif told Pharaoh that his father made him take a similar vow. Pharaoh knew that if he required Yoseif to break the vow with his father then his vow with Yoseif could also be broken. He would loose his position as Pharaoh because he did not know all seventy languages.

Near the conclusion of the Book of Genesis we read these Words.

Genesis 49.18

לִישׁוּעָתְךָ קוֹיִתִּי יְהוָה:

For your salvation Ooh Lord I do long.

The last Parshat concludes with Yoseif reassuring his brother of his good intents after their father had passed on.

Yoseif dies at 110. Levi remains alive.

Chazk

May our study be for good!

Blessings, Love and Peace,

Dr. Akiva Gamliel Belk