

ECLIPSE HITS SEVEN SALEM'S IN THE USA AND A LUNAR ECLIPSE IN ISRAEL – ANY SIGNIFICANCE?

Today my wife and I had the pleasure of watching the total eclipse of the sun that crossed the United States in the period of about three hours. We set up a table in our front yard with my wife's laptop computer. We called our daughter in Israel so that she and the kids could watch the event. As the sun went into totality, we heard clapping and applause from people in the neighborhood and as soon as it had started it then ended. We were right on the cusp of totality so our eclipse was quite short.

About two weeks ago I decided to look up some information on the then-upcoming eclipse because I wanted to find out how long it would last and I needed to determine whether we would have to change locations to see the event with a longer totality. I found a link on google that pointed to a website that offered some interesting data. This website made the claim that there would, in fact, be seven cities or towns named Salem that would be impacted by totality during this eclipse. This interested me a great deal, much more than the "supposed" event that will happen in the sky in September, which I addressed in my last Journal entry. The eclipse event could have all the markers of a harbinger or portend for what might happen in our nation in the days to come.

So, as the event was happening today and we spoke with our daughter in Israel she told us that they had a full eclipse of the moon back on 27 July. What she was alluding to was the fact that the Gentile world is based on a solar calendar and the Jewish world is based on a lunar calendar. Cultures other than Jewish culture that tend to revere the moon revere a full moon whereas the first day of every month is based on when a New Moon ends and the first sliver of the moon can be seen rising in the sky. This day is known as Rosh Kodesh, translated to mean "Head of the Month." Frankly, I think that Yahweh caused we Jews to celebrate the New Moon because it is in opposition to those who celebrate(d) the full moon because during a full moon is when the pagans would conduct orgies, wild rituals and in addition, human sacrifice.

There are two types of Eclipse's, solar and lunar. In a lunar eclipse, the earth comes between the moon and the sun whereas during a solar eclipse the moon blocks the light of the sun. Personally, I believe that people are in awe of solar eclipses not because they are rare, but that it is an event when the sun had supremacy over the sun, the lesser is mightier than the

greater. From a spiritual standpoint, I do believe that there is significance in solar eclipses in that so many people, most of the world, in fact, revere the sun in almost a worshipful manner. This makes the sun an idol in the eyes of many and when a lesser celestial body overcomes a greater one it shows Yahweh's grace in that he finds humility and contriteness in the lesser things and people and he can use a humble and contrite person to put to shame those who consider themselves to be greater than others. In the order of creation, he made the sun first and brightest, and second, he made the moon which is less bright. When Yahweh brought out people out of Egypt, he put to shame the animals and forces that the Egyptians revered, so much so that his counselors begged Pharaoh to let Israel go because they recognized that only the creator of all things could control all of the natural forces, and He was on Israel's side.

The eclipse of the moon that occurred in Israel blotted out the light of the moon, a full moon that is, basically showing Israel again who is really in control of things. The eclipse that occurred today here in The United States was for the same reason, to tell the sun worshippers that He can use the lesser to take away from the greater. He has done this repeatedly in scripture. He gave the promise of salvation to run through the line of Abraham's second son, Isaac rather than Ishmael. He chose Jacob over Esau and when Israel was blessing his sons, just before his death, he had Israel place his right hand on the head of Ephraim, Joseph's second born rather than on Manasseh, Joseph's firstborn. The list goes on, but we have time restraints.

We are told in Scripture, by Rabbi Paul himself that Jerusalem will be trodden by the Gentiles until the time of the Gentiles is fulfilled. I find it quite interesting that today's eclipse is just 20 days before Yom Teruah (Feast of Trumpets) and 30 days before Yom Kippur. It is interesting that twice in the Tanakh, Israel is called a "light," and in the Brit Hadasha believers in Yeshua are referred to lights, the first being the lesser light and the latter the brighter light. However, as I mentioned before, many times when Yahweh does things, he uses the lesser to humble the greater. Could there have been a meaning for the lunar and solar eclipse being nary twenty days apart? Could the extinguishing of the moon's light in Israel be a sign that Israel will go through hard times for a brief period? Could it mean that the earth's passing in front of the moon and making it dark for a short time signifies that the system of this world will come against Israel, but that Israel will light up again, maybe even greater than before? Would that signify that Israel would overcome the shadow of this world and aspire to greatness? Perhaps it means just that. Could the solar eclipse be a harbinger that the "Time of The Gentiles" is over?

However, the thing that I wanted to get to in this newsletter is that something quite unusual occurred during today's eclipse. As I mentioned earlier, seven towns in the United States

fell into the shadow of totality during the eclipse, and it happened in succession as the eclipse raced across the sky, and all of them are named Salem. They were:

- Salem Oregon
- Salem Idaho
- Salem Wyoming
- Salem Nebraska
- Salem Missouri
- Salem Kentucky
- Salem South Carolina

At this time I'd like to post the text from Chapter 14 of Bereshit (Genesis) to sort of get a feel of the first mention of Salem in Biblical Scripture:

1 And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations;

2 That these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which is Zoar.

3 All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea.

4 Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

5 And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that were with him, and smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzims in Ham, and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim,

6 And the Horites in their mount Seir, unto Elparan, which is by the wilderness.

7 And they returned, and came to Enmishpat, which is Kadesh, and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazezontamar.

8 And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same is Zoar;) and they joined battle with them in the vale of Siddim;

9 With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings with five.

¹⁰ And the vale of Siddim was full of slimepits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain.

¹¹ And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

¹² And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

¹³ And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these were confederate with Abram.

¹⁴ And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

¹⁵ And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus.

¹⁶ And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

¹⁷ And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale.

¹⁸ And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

¹⁹ And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

²⁰ And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

²¹ And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

²² And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the Lord, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

23 That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

24 Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion. Bereshit 14

In a nutshell, a king named Chedorlaomer had subjugated lands east of the Jordan river and after a time vassal kings of that area rebelled against him. Interestingly, this chapter says that King Chedorlaomer battled against many tribes/nations that were probably Nephilim in nature which makes me seriously assert that the cities of Sodom, Gomorrah and the other Cities of The Plain were infested with Nephilim and their offspring. Knowing this, and that Lot chose to live in the city of Sodom makes one want to award Lot with the “bad parent of all time” award. It also answers the question of why his other children would not leave the city, they were married to Nephilim. Perhaps the Nephilim wouldn’t allow them to leave, or they found the attributes of the Nephilim men too good to give up. I cannot think of a better way to put that last thought.

I know, I ran into another rabbit hole with that last paragraph, but they are things that needed to be said and that we need to ponder. The important thing is that before returning to Sodom, Gomorrah and the other cities, Abraham made a stop at Salem (later called Yerushalayim) to give thanks and to offer one tenth of what he had acquired in riches that he had plundered from the kings and armies that he slew. If you would allow me one more rabbit hole, I’d like to look a little at Melchizedek and his association with “peace”:

1 For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him;

2 To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

3 Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

4 Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. Hebrews 7:1-4

This is exciting. Abraham comes back from war and gives a tenth of all that he acquired from the battle to someone called Melchizedek who is the king of Salem and priest of the Most High God. As we read further into this scripture, we find that Melchizedek had no father or

mother and that he had no ancestors and, that he had no beginning of days or end of life. It sounds to me like he was not a corporeal being, but a supernatural being, perhaps a theophany of Yeshua before his incarnation some two thousand years after Abraham's life. Most scholars agree that Salem was located in what later became Yerushalayim (Jerusalem) and that this is also the place where Abraham was put to the test to sacrifice Yitzhak, where those words were uttered, Yahweh will provide the Lamb, which Yahweh did two thousand years later. The puzzle fits together well, the king of Salem (Salem means peace), would be born to a virgin to become the prince of peace, who would die to bring his followers peace and will someday return to establish true world peace.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this. Isaiah 9:6-7

The King of Peace in Salem was born the Prince of Peace a little more than 2000 years ago and upon his obedience to Torah and Yahweh's Commandments, he became the King of Peace in the heavenlies.

I think that it is quite interesting and most probably a portent to upcoming events that all of these Salem's are being overshadowed, even for just a brief time. I go any further I think that it is important to see the biblical definition of the word "Salem," and where it fits into scripture. The word "Salem," has three meanings that are all related because one is a noun, one is an adjective and the third is a verb. As I have stressed in the past, when we look at Hebrew words, we need to research all meanings of a word that is spelled the same.

Salem as a noun: Strongs H8004

שָׁלֵם Shâlêm, shaw-lame'; the same as H8003; peaceful; Shalem, an early name of Jerusalem:—Salem.

Salem as an adjective: Strongs H8004

שָׁלֵם shâlêm, shaw-lame'; from H7999; complete (literally or figuratively); especially friendly:—full, just, made ready, peaceable, perfect(-ed), quiet, Shalem (by mistake for a name), whole.

Salem as a verb: Strong's H7999

שָׁלַם shâlam, shaw-lam'; a primitive root; to be safe (in mind, body or estate); figuratively, to be (causatively, make) completed; by implication, to be friendly; by extension, to reciprocate (in various applications):—make amends, (make an) end, finish, full, give again, make good, (re-) pay (again), (make) (to) (be at) peace(-able), that is perfect, perform, (make) prosper(-ous), recompense, render, requite, make restitution, restore, reward, surely.

It is quite easy to see that as a noun, adjective and verb the word “Salem” is indicative of peace, concord and soundness of mind. In our current day, Jerusalem is anything but a city of peace and calm, and though it is a dangerous place now it will get worse before it gets any better, and true peace will only come when the King of Peace returns to establish peace with an iron rod. For the most part, we can equate some degree of peace with The United States. There are those who could rightfully argue that the United States has at times taken peace away from various parts of the world in the name of freedom and liberty. However, the land of the United States itself has been relatively peaceful in that in most places people do not fear for their lives, but that seems to be changing and I do believe that what happened yesterday in the sky is a portent of what will soon befall America.

Now we have to look at the Hebrew word for darkness, because for the period of three hours yesterday darkness fell over places that are called Salem, meaning that they are named “peaceful.”

The man Job in Scripture describes darkness perfectly:

Before I go whence I shall not return, even to the land of darkness and the shadow of death; A land of darkness, as darkness itself; and of the shadow of death, without any order, and where the light is as darkness. Job 10:21-22

Now let us look at the two words in that scripture that describe darkness. The first word is only mentioned twice in scripture. The second word is mentioned many times, the last three times that darkness is mentioned in this verse in fact:

The first “Darkness” as Noun: Strong's H5890

חֹשֶׁךְ 'êyphâh, ay-faw'; feminine from H5774; obscurity (as if from covering):—darkness.

The first “Darkness” as a Verb: Strong's H5774

עָנַף 'ûwph, oof; a primitive root; to cover (with wings or obscurity); hence (as denominative from H5775) to fly; also (by implication of dimness) to faint (from the darkness of swooning):—brandish, be (wax) faint, flee away, fly (away), × set, shine forth, weary.

The verb definition denotes equates to H5775 which is a masculine noun that denotes a covering like a shadow that a bird would cast by covering with its wings.

The second Darkness, mentioned three times:

Darkness as Noun:

לָפֶתַח 'ôphel, o'fel; from the same as H651; darkness, gloom spiritual unreceptivity, calamity (fig.)

Darkness as an Adjective:

לָפֶתַח 'âphêl, aw-fale'; from an unused root meaning to set as the sun; dusky:—very dark.

It is easy to see that in Hebrew darkness is not a good thing. Darkness is almost always equated with evil and/or doom. So, the other day, when the lesser dominated the greater and brought darkness to seven cities named after peace there has to be a significance to the event. Darkness (evil) covered light, or you could say that darkness or evil dominated peace seven times over. The eclipse covered 6 Salem's in states that were contiguous, they all touched each other. Yes, Tennessee does have an unincorporated town named Salem, but it did not fall into the path of the total eclipse, in fact, it just missed by a mile or two. The number seven figures heavily into Yahweh's plans, and it does so all throughout scripture. Yahweh created all that exists in six days and rested on the seventh day. I find it interesting that six states touched each other in succession but then there was a two-state hiatus (Tennessee and North Carolina) after which the eclipse darkened Salem, South Carolina, the seventh Salem.

So how could this figure into some sort of sign for our nation? Many are waiting for a civil war to start in our nation. I've got news for you; the civil war has been alive for eight plus years in the form of a cold civil war. The powers that want to destroy the United States have grown in power and are funded by men who have been quite vocal about destroying the US so

that they can implement the New World Order. The Civil War in our nation is about to go hot and many will die as communists fight fascists while placing innocent people in the center, forcing us to pick one side or the other. All semblance of peace will leave America. The cities will become bastions of liberal occupation while the rural areas will house traditional Americans. In the meantime, wars and rumors of wars will rage overseas, causing our leaders to forsake any attempt at peace in our land as they send our troops to police the world once more. The communists along with Islamists will appeal to the UN to police our nation and the UN will gladly accept the cry for help and the UN, filled with communists and Islamists will war against traditional Americans.

How long will it last? Nobody knows for sure. Will the fact that peace was taken from 7 cities mean that peace will elude us for 7 years? Well, that could be. Since there was a lull in the eclipse for two states perhaps there will be a lull in a civil war with it heating up again before all is destroyed. And what about Israel? Will the next 7 years produce wars against Israel? Will the Psalm 83 war or the Ezekiel 38/39 war rage in Israel. If Israel will again shine, will all of Israel's enemies be vanquished in some miraculous manner or will they be vanquished in a war that will see the secular Israel prevail?

It is quite clear that here in the United States we are sliding down the slick slope toward total anarchy. Protests on the street are going unchallenged by the police who are told to stand-down by their captain or the mayor of the city. Innocent people are arrested while their attackers are allowed to go free. In regard to an Islamic invasion, we are at the state that Europe found itself in just five years ago. There was a time when our nation was fifteen or twenty years behind Europe when it comes to the degeneration of society, now we're just half a decade behind. Groups like CAIR, Antifa, and Black Lives Matter are allowed to run the streets unmolested and anyone that raises a protest against such groups is labeled as a racist, a hater or a bigot. The news media watches for the slightest blot on the conservative canvas and rail on those issues for weeks and months while real criminals like Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, the members of the Black Congressional Caucus and other leftist miscreants are ignored and/or swept under the carpet of bureaucracy. This whole world is one big mess right now but the thing that we have to remember is that it has to get that way in order for Yahweh Yeshua to return. He is returning to fix a broken world and dying world, not to take reign of a society that mankind has fixed for him.

We need to understand that Yahweh is a God that is merciful and that he will give second and third chances for people to turn from their wicked ways. In the Tanakh, there were four reformer kings in Judah that stopped the corruption of Judah and turned the worship of the

people back toward Yahweh. However, the reality is that only Hezekiah and Josiah were true reformers that obeyed Yahweh. Asa and Jehoshaphat were reformers, yes, but their hope and trust in Yahweh were conditional and they faltered many times. Yes, there is hope that our nation could turn around and stand for righteousness once again, or should I say that the people could be righteous in that regard. However, Yahweh is not slack in his promises and there is a forewritten time in history where society will sour and continue to spiral in a downward trend, and I do believe that this is the time that the spiral will continue. In regard to the two true reformers in Judah, the society went right back to decay and became worse than it was prior to their reforms.

In our current era, one filled with decadence and betrayal we need to turn to Yahweh Yeshua for reform and restoration. Each person must experience a revival within themselves after which small groups of revived people can gather after which larger groups of like-minded believers may gather. Frankly, I believe that the day of the organized church is over. Here in Oregon my wife and I, and a trusted friend are the only real fellowship that we can find. Others seem to hold to the doctrines of men and they freely embrace the world. Know for sure that we have searched for five years and in two counties for a church to attend and have not found one. In that time, we have reached out to upward of thirty churches and could not find one that we could call home. We are well aware of scriptural commands that we do not forsake the gathering of the saints like some do, but for now, we will just have to cling to each other for fellowship. We do not worry about having little strength because of our small number because we know that there are others out and about that have the same calling and yearning that we do and we are willing to wait for Yahweh to lead us to them or them to us. And finally, we know and stand on Yahweh's promise that "he that endureth till the end will be saved."