



## YITRO - JETHRO

Exodus 18:1 to 20:26  
Isaiah 6:1-13  
Matthew 5:1-48  
Acts 6:1-7  
Hebrews 12:18-29  
1 Peter 2:9-10

## Shavuot / Pentecost Part One

### Raising A Royal Priesthood

Exodus chapter eighteen is entirely devoted to Jethro/*Yitro*, Moses' father-in-law, who had cared for Moses' family, keeping them safe while Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt. Scripture emphasizes the fact that Jethro was Moses' *father-in-law* twelve times in this chapter. The repetition has Yahweh direct us to the fact that Jethro was one who walked in Covenant with Him. This would have been a huge transformation for the former Midianite priest.

Jethro joins up with the Israelite camp at Rephidim, about a day's journey from Mount Sinai, to reunite Moses with his family. Here we see immense mutual respect between the two men as they embraced and retreated in fellowship. Moses shared how they witnessed Yahweh's miraculous deliver through the parting of the Red Sea, and the demise of Pharaoh's mighty army engulfed when the Red Sea returned to its natural state. Hearing the news genuinely comforted Jethro and confirmed his belief in Yahweh even more, declaring, "*Now I know that Yahweh is greater than all the other gods.*" Then "*Jethro brought the burnt offering and other sacrifices before Yahweh.*" How was Jethro given the understanding and insight unless he had studied in the tents of Torah? After the worship sacrifices, Aaron and the elders of Israel came and *broke bread* with Jethro in the presence of Yahweh, confirming that Jethro had indeed come into a Covenant relationship with Yahweh.

## A Father-In-Law's Advice Exodus 18:13-27

It looks as if Jethro and Moses celebrated the Sabbath together as this next section in Scripture opens with Moses going back to work.

🌿 **Exodus 18:13** “The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people.”

Jethro proved to be an invaluable help to Moses in explaining how to better delegate and adjudicate Yahweh's principles among the people. When Jethro observed Moses serving the people, he asked, “*Why do you alone sit as judge?*” Moses answered, “*Because the people come to me to seek God's will.*”

Jethro, directed by the Holy Spirit/*Ruach HaKodesh*, gave great insight and wisdom to Moses that would provide effective leadership. Jethro pointed out that Moses was making the people dependent on him. He needed to wean them, or he would weaken physically. In delegating his responsibilities to the tribal leaders, the people would learn to become more accountable for their walks, thereby strengthening Moses' leadership. Thus, Israel would grow strong.

As the people learned the value of Yahweh's Word, their faith grew more confident. Under Jethro's tutelage, Moses became a more competent administrator and began to lead on a broader scale. This action freed Moses to oversee the camp and be available for the more difficult cases if they occurred. In doing this, the people developed better responsibility thereby encouraging the whole community. Jethro's arrangement would lighten the load thus bring more effective leadership to Moses and the rest of the camp (Exodus 18:21).

Jethro inspired Moses by saying, “*If you do this and Yahweh so confirms this, you will be able to stand the strain.*” Once the camp was set in order, Jethro returned to his own country (Exodus 18:20-21; Ezekiel 44: 23-24; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 3:1-14).

🌿 **Jeremiah 31:34** “No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD/*Yahweh*, for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,’ says the LORD/*Yahweh*. ‘For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.’”

🌿 **Hebrews 8:11** “No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.”

## Mount Sinai Exodus 19

🌿 “In the *third month* after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, *on the same day*, they came to the Wilderness of Sinai” (Exodus 19:1).

The Israelites *left* Egypt on the *fifteenth day of the first month, on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread*. Exactly two months later, the Israelites *arrived* at Mount Sinai *on the same*

*day*, the *fifteenth day of the third month - for the Feast of Shavuot/Pentecost*. Their arrival at Mount Sinai was in fulfillment to the promise given Moses earlier while at the burning bush (Exodus 3:1-2; Revelation 13:8).

“Certainly I will be with you, and this shall be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship Yahweh at this mountain” (Exodus 3:12; 12:17).

🌿 **Exodus 5:1** “Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD/Yahweh God/Elohim of Israel: ‘Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me [*Shavuot*] in the wilderness.’”

Once they arrived, Moses was eager to meet with Yahweh and was called up the mountain to join Him,

🌿 **Exodus 19:4-6** “You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. Now **IF** you obey me fully and keep my covenant, **then** out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, *you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. **These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.***”

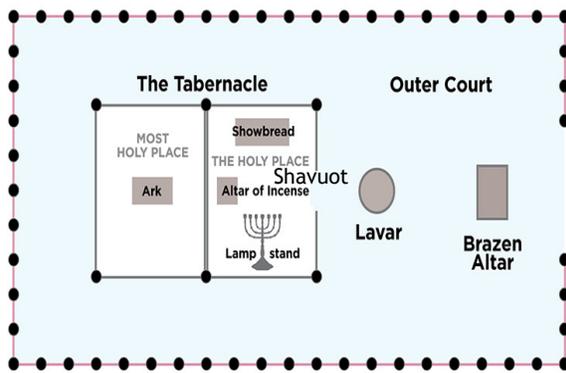
### You Are To Speak These Words To The Israelites

Exodus 19:4-6 and Acts 2

After Yeshua’s days on earth, and in obedience to Exodus 19:4-6, Peter addressed the twelve tribes of Israel in Acts 2 quoting Yahweh’s words given Moses at Mount Sinai. Peter shared *the same words on the same day - Shavuot/Pentecost*. It came about when a remnant of the twelve tribes of Israel had come to celebrate the High Holy Day of *Shavuot* in Jerusalem. About a hundred and twenty had collected in the upper room of the temple for morning prayers; however, the majority of people were still outside. After the powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the upper room, Peter again came outside. There he noticed these same people still mulling around. Seeing they had no guidance, he addressed them by quoting Exodus 19:4-6.

*“You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to Yahweh, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light” (Exodus 19:4-6; 1 Peter 2:9).*

Those whom Peter addressed with were from many different nations, all descendants of the Israelites who stood with Moses at Mount Sinai. Peter revealed to them their identity and that because of their forefathers’ disobedience to the Message given them at Mount Sinai through Moses that they had become a scattered people. Upon hearing Peter share of Yeshua through the prophets and how Yeshua, through His shed blood, restored the original Betrothal Covenant given at Mount Sinai, these Israelites were gripped in their hearts and *repented for not obeying the instructions Yahweh had given Moses*. With that, they too received an upper room experience with tongues of anointing falling on them also. That *Shavuot* day three thousand plus were anointed, the same number that had fallen at the golden calf incident at Mount Sinai years earlier.



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Only believers who are *in* the Abrahamic Covenant *observe* Pentecost/Shavuot, and of those, only a few actually are *in* the right place to *receive* the anointing. This is the same for believers today. Many believers do not understand what Shavuot is all about, as they have not been taught Moses. In Revelation 3:14 the church of Laodicea was chastised for being lukewarm. Yeshua said He is *standing at the door knocking*. The door He knocks at is *Shavuot* (Acts 3:11-26; 1Peter 1:1, 2:9; Exodus 23:14-17; Deuteronomy 16:16; 29:14-15; Jeremiah 50:6; Matthew 10:6-7; 15:24).

The Israelites continued to honor His Feasts thousands of years later – even *after* Yeshua’s death and resurrection. These historical events reveal to believers that Yahweh’s appointed Feasts are not only eternal Covenants but prophetic and time responsive. When Yahweh calls His people to meet with Him on His appointed Feast Days, these Sabbaths match His Heavenly court engagements. How do we know this? When we read further, we see that Moses was given the pattern of the Tabernacle. He was to build it *exactly* as he saw it on the mountain. Yahweh’s Feast Days are seasons of worship before Him. They uphold and speak of His Kingdom. If they are not part of the Tabernacle, then the earthly Tabernacle/Temple is superfluous. That is why, when we obey Yahweh’s instructions, we follow the pattern, as it is built on a *heavenly kingdom dimension*, not an earthly one.

To walk in the Feasts carries the blessings and when we obey we will experience dramatic signs and wonders as did Moses and Peter. Prophetic events yet to happen on earth are revealed at Yahweh’s appointed Heavenly Kingdom times. What happened with Moses at Passover and Peter at Pentecost/*Shavuot* in their day will be re-occurring events in the future. The bigger event, the Wedding, is concealed until its appointed time. This will happen during the Fall Feasts. Our part during the unfolding of Yahweh’s plan is to observe all of His Feast Days at their appointed times as rehearsals, as they are part of our Marriage Covenant.

🏰 **Exodus 19:4-8** “When Moses went back to see the people, he summoned the elders and set before them all the words Yahweh gave him to speak. The people all responded together, ‘*We will do everything Yahweh has said,*’ [*we will fully obey and keep His Covenant*].”

The vow the people spoke in Exodus 19:4-8 is clearly a *betrothal response* in a Covenant set between the people and their Maker. As believers, we have been given a legal marriage document called in Hebrew a *Ketubah*. Our *Ketubah* is an eternal *covenant*, not a *contract*. Either party can break a *contract* at any time, but our Maker sets our *covenant* in eternity. His Covenant is legal and binding - an unbreakable promise to the Bride.

## You Are A Royal Priesthood And A Holy Nation

### The Counting Of The Omer

By the time the Israelites left Egypt, the consecration of the royal priesthood had begun. The seven-day period *after* the Feast of Passover, called Unleavened Bread, was in reference to the set-apart consecration time for the people. They had left Egypt, an unclean place (the realm of death), and separated themselves that they might worship Yahweh and return to the Promised Land of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – the land of their heritage (Leviticus 23; 1 Peter 2:9).

The Israelites had come through the physical delivery from Egypt. In crossing the Red Sea, they left behind the realm of death, thus, experienced a status change likened to being *born again*. However, they would need a cleansing from the lingering effects of Egyptian containment to learn *how* to walk in their redemption. Without this cleansing they would die (1 Peter 2:8). To restore their hearts and minds, the Israelites entered a purifying stage. The circumcision of the heart for the redemption of the soul would deliver them from matters that could cause spiritual blindness (mentally and emotionally) therefore, this heart circumcision was for the *redemption of the soul*. Four hundred years was a long time to be away from home (outside the land of Israel). Impurities and iniquities inherited from their forefathers, along with the traumatic abuse they endured as slaves in Egypt could bring contamination thus the cleansing process was imperative.

The *Feast of the Counting the Omer* was the next phase in their purification process. This Feast began right after the Feast of Unleavened Bread and lasted seven weeks or fifty days. This Counting is an *eternal* Feast that Yahweh calls His people to celebrate *today*. This Counting has a prophetic significance for the preparation of the nation of Israel that specifically focuses on *how* His people were not only a royal priesthood but also a holy nation set apart for Him (Exodus 19:5-6; 1 Peter 2:9).

*The Passover* is a one-day memorial, the call that sets Yeshua's Bride apart from all others (the representation of the firstborn/priesthood in Yeshua). *The Feast of Unleavened Bread* is a seven-day consecration time for *the royal priesthood* and *the Counting of the Omer* is a seven-week consecration time for *the holy nation of Israel*. Together, Yahweh has designed His Feast Days to deliver His intended Bride to her betrothal with Him at Mount Sinai, where He stands at the door of her heart and knocks. This door is called *The Feast of Shavuot/Pentecost*. It is here He will hand her a legal document containing His intentions – called the Torah. Here she will accept His intentions or not accept (Other names for the Torah: *the Good News, the Gospel, The Song of Moses, the Song of the Lamb, the Law*) (Leviticus 23; Exodus 19:5-6; 1 Peter 2:9).

During *the Feast of the Counting of the Omer*, an unleavened bread like substance, called manna, fell like dew each morning. During the Feast of Omer, the Israelites were to count an omer of manna (about two quarts) every day for fifty days or seven weeks/Sabbaths. This gathering time helped the Israelites examine their hearts, and when they reached the Holy Mountain, they would be prepared to meet with Him in body, soul, spirit, and mind as one/*echad*.

Today, this Count is still celebrated. However, there seems to be no mention of an “actual” date as to *when Shavuot* is celebrated as we see with the rest of Yahweh's Feast Days. Scripture

points out that the Count *begins* after the Sabbath, but which Sabbath, as there are three possible starting dates.

✠ **Leviticus 23:15-16** “And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD/Yahweh.”

For generations, there has been “friendly” discussion between groups as to *when* to celebrate *Shavuot*. Some base their calculations to begin the Counting of the Omer right after the *weekly Sabbath* closest to the Passover. Others base their Count on the *first* day (a Sabbath) of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and still others base their count on the *last* day (a Sabbath) of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The Rabbis seem to have an extraordinarily massive mathematical and logical explanation for their calculations, which the layperson finds daunting to understand. Thus, we see these different dates for Shavuot emerging after the Count. Then there is the Church, who celebrates the Greek form of Shavuot, called Pentecost. They base their date on the timing of the Babylonian Spring solstice – a pagan festival. In any case, all the above calculations have one common ground between them; that Shavuot/Pentecost must be celebrated on a *Sunday*. Is there a right answer?

At the beginning of the study, we noticed that the Children of Israel arrived at Mount Sinai on the fifteenth day of the third month – for the Feast of Shavuot/Pentecost (Leviticus 23).

✠ “In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came to the Wilderness of Sinai” (Exodus 19:1).

Thus, Scripture clearly reveals that the timing of the *Feast of Shavuot* in the Bible was *when the Israelites arrived at Mount Sinai – on the same day they left - the fifteenth day of the third month*. What this date is on a Gregorian *solar* calendar each year is anybody’s guess. The purpose of *Sheepfold Gleanings* is to help point out facts in Scripture and to help the reader discern truth. Selah.

Yahweh chose the Children of Israel, all twelve tribes, to enter into a covenant relationship with Him, and to be His Bride. He promised this to *Abraham* and his descendants after him. The Israelites coming out of Egypt were the children of Abraham, who were being prepared to enter the next phase of their redemption called *the betrothal*. Today, if you are in Yeshua, you are also called Abraham’s seed.

✠ **Galatians 3:7** “Therefore know that only those who are of faith [*in Yeshua*] are sons of Abraham.”

✠ **Galatians 3:29** “And if you are Christ’s/*Messiah*’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs [*to the Marriage Covenant given at Mount Sinai through Moses*] according to the promise [*Abrahamic Covenant*].”

## The Three Stages Of A Biblical Marriage

The three phases of a Biblical marriage are *the Betrothal, the Marriage, and the Wedding Reception*. Yahweh's Feast Days or *moedim* follow this pattern. Believers enter into His Feasts each year as a rehearsal for Yeshua's return and that she might prepare for her wedding day.

- *Passover* is the calling out of the Bride to separate herself
- *Unleavened Bread* and the *Counting of the Omer* are her purity preparations
- *Shavuot/Pentecost* is the *betrothal* of the Bride and the giving of the Marriage Covenant
- *Yom Teruah/Feast of Trumpets* announces the Bridegroom's return for His Bride
- *Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement* is their *Wedding Day*
- *Sukkot/Feast of Tabernacles* is their *wedding reception* after the wedding called the *Wedding Supper of the Lamb* when all the nations (wedding guests) come to celebrate (Zechariah 14:16-21).

All of God's/*Elohim* Feasts establish the Bride in her identity as Israel, Yeshua's *firstborn*. His Feasts reveal *how* she is to prepare and walk in the realms of His Kingdom. Why is it important to keep His Feasts? They are symbols and signs that guide the Bride like a road map to her wedding day. The Bridegroom's Feast Days fill His Bride with extra anointing oil to light, bless and sanctify her way (Matthew 25:1-13). The fifty-day counting of the Omer will bring the Bride to Shavuot, and the receiving of the Marriage Covenant. At this point, the Bride is betrothed, in as much as she is legally married but does not live with her husband, not until her wedding day. By keeping His Divine appointments, the Bride will be well on her way in her preparations for her marriage (Matthew 25:1-13; 22:1-14; Luke 14:15-24).

### The Consecration - Holiness

Exodus 19:10-11

For the betrothal/*Shavuot* preparations at Mount Sinai, Yahweh stipulated that the Israelites were to undertake a three-day consecration time. As in a wedding, it is a dedicated time where the Bride makes herself ready. During this period, she was to change from everyday attire and wash before arraying herself in clean, prepared, holy wedding garments. This washing was for the sole purpose of a status change (from one realm/*unclean* to another/*clean*) called *the mikvah*. On the third day, all the Israelites were prepared and a trumpet sounded louder and louder. A cloud covering became the *chuppah* under which Yahweh met with His Bride. A display of lightning and thunder followed, along with the sounding of a long, loud ram's horn. Then, Yahweh spoke *His Ten famous words over His Bride*. Today they are known as the Ten Commandments. In Hebrew, *Aseret HaDibrot*, which translated, means *Ten Statements* or *Categories*. *The Ten Commandments is Yahweh's wedding vow to His Bride* (Exodus 20:1-17).

- ✠ **Acts 2:1-4** "When the Day of Pentecost [*Shavuot*] had fully come, they were all with one accord [*echad*] in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

As in every wedding, there is an exchange of *vows*. The Ten spoken words/statements at Mount Sinai became the legal, moral and ethical affirming testimony that outlined their marriage together. There was nothing more honoring the Bridegroom could have given His Bride. Here the Bridegroom declared His intention in prophetic language to bless her (*I will cause her to have no other gods before Me. I will cause her to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy etc.*). Following the exchange of vows, the Ten Statements were then fully expounded upon. Each statement contained their particular principles, and each upheld the moral and ethical code contained within that particular declaration. In all, there were 613 declared principles. Yahweh then had Moses write these down for His Bride and store them in a Covenant known as the Mosaic Covenant. The rabbis say that all of the 613 principles are in the ten prophetic statements given at Mount Sinai (Exodus 19 to 24).

*I am YHWH your Elohim  
Thou shall have no other gods before Me  
Thou shall not take the name of YHWH your Elohim in vain  
Remember to keep the Sabbath day, to keep it holy  
Honor thy father and thy mother  
Thou shall not kill  
Thou shall not commit adultery  
Thou shall not steal  
Thou shall not bear false witness against thy neighbor  
Thou shall not covet*

All of Yahweh's Feast Days, which sanctify time like the Sabbath, belong in the fourth commandment about observing the *Sabbath*. Dealing honestly with Yahweh, family, friends and business, falls under *not bearing false testimony* and paying the tithe to Yahweh falls under *thou shall not steal*. If a principle that does not have an apparent logical reason, that falls under number one, which constitutes an essential belief in Yahweh and the call to heed His voice whether it make sense to the Bride or not.

It was on Shavuot/Pentecost that Yahweh gave the Ten Statements declaring truth to the Nations - His Ketubah. Within the Ten Statements contains His entire *Gospel*. Therefore, as Yahweh's people, we continue the tradition that has been passed down to us for the last three thousand five hundred years – the call of Pentecost/Shavuot is,

*- the Day of the Giving of the Torah/law  
- the Day of the Giving of the Gospel to the Nations*

This is what Shavuot/Pentecost is all about – the sharing of our marriage vows, the Ten Statements of the Gospel, to the Nations.

✿ **Matthew 24:14** “And this gospel [*Yeshua's wedding vows*] of the kingdom [*marriage covenant*] will be preached in all the world as a witness to all *the nations*, and then the end will come.”

✿ **Mark 13:10** “And the gospel [*Wedding vows – Ten Commandments*] must first be preached to all *the nations*.”

✠ **Galatians 3:8** “And the Scripture, foreseeing that God/*Elohim* would justify the Gentiles by faith, *preached the gospel to Abraham* beforehand, saying, ‘*In you all the nations shall be blessed.*’”

Yahweh’s wants His Bride to “grow” and not be just a few people or a remnant. He said *nations* would come into Covenant with Him. This is the *Good News* of the Gospel. This He promised to Abraham and declared in writing at Mount Sinai - vowing to His Bride. Nothing could be dearer or more desirous in His heart. *Nothing.*

✠ **Genesis 17:3-8** “Then *Abram* fell on his face, and God/*Elohim* talked with him, saying: As for Me, behold, *My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations.* No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be *Abraham*; *for I have made you a father of many nations.* I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God/*Elohim* to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God/*Elohim.*”

✠ **Genesis 17:19-21** “Then God/*Elohim* said: ‘No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name *Isaac*; *I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.* And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. *But My covenant I will establish with Isaac,* whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year.’”

✠ **Genesis 26:4-5** “And I will make your descendants [*Jacob*] multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed *all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.*”

## What Is The Great Commission?

The Bridegroom declared the Great Commission – *His Gospel* - in His wedding vows. He didn’t marry just “one” Bride; He married a *multitude of nations!* Where are the nations today? What Great Commission have we as His Bride shared? The Ten Statements contain the recipe for revival that is so badly needed today!

✠ **Mark 16:14-18** “Later He [*Yeshua*] appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes [*the wedding vows given him by the Bridegroom*] and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe [*in the Gospel/wedding vows from Mount Sinai*]: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new

tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

Moses led the Bride to her Betrothal at Mount Sinai in the Old Testament/*Tanakh*, and *it is still Moses* who leads the Bride of Yeshua to her Betrothal in the New Testament/*Brit Chadasha* today (Acts 2). Same Word (Yeshua), same message (the Gospel), same Feast (Shavuot), same Bride, and same Bridegroom! One book, one message, one Bride and one Bridegroom!

The words spoken at Mount Sinai are the same words Yeshua shared with the people in Matthew 5. The Beatitudes outline the Wedding Vow/Gospel message. Yeshua shared the Ten Statements, the same Ten that Moses gave to the Israelites at Mount Sinai, but at a much deeper, more personal heart level. Yeshua shared His Ketubah with His Bride. He is the *personification* of the words spoken at Mount Sinai. As part of Messiah, when we embrace all of His words, we learn to implement them in our lives, to enjoy the fullness of what our Bridegroom has for us today as we prepare for our wedding day yet to come.

🌿 **Hebrews 4:1-2** “Therefore, since a promise [*betrothal*] remains of entering His *rest* [*Sabbath/holiness*], let us [*believers*] fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed *the Gospel* [*Ten Statements given at Mount Sinai*] was preached to us [*believers*] as well as to them [*with Moses and the Israelites at Mount Sinai*]; but the word [*the wedding vow/Ten Words*] which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith/*emunah* in those who heard it.”

Yeshua summarized His wedding vow/the Ten Statements and the whole Torah in this one sentence:

“*And thou shall love the LORD/Yahweh your God/Elohim  
With all your heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might*”  
(Deuteronomy 6:5).

🌿 **Mark 12:28-31** “Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He [*Yeshua*] had answered them well, asked Him, ‘Which is the first commandment of all?’ Jesus/*Yeshua* answered him, ‘The first of all the commandments is: “Hear [*Shema*], O Israel, the LORD/*Yahweh* our God/*Elohim*, the LORD/*Yahweh* is one. And you shall love the LORD/*Yahweh* your God/*Elohim* with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.” This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these” (Leviticus 19:18; Zechariah 8:17; Matthew 5:43; 19:19; 22:39; Mark 12:31; Romans 13:9-10; Galatians 5:14; James 2:8).

🌿 **Hebrews 12:18-27** “For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard *it* begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. (For they could not endure what was commanded: ‘And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow.’ And so

terrifying was the sight *that* Moses said, ‘I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.’) But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God/*Elohim*, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God/*Elohim* the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus/*Yeshua* the Mediator of the new [*renewed*] covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.”

“See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from Him who *speaks* from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, ‘Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven. Now this, ‘Yet *once more*,’ indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain (Haggai 2:6).

The words *once more* indicate the removing of what can be shaken - that is, created things - so that what cannot be shaken (that which is built on The Rock/Mount Sinai), may remain.

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God/*Elohim* acceptably with reverence and awe, for our ‘God/*Elohim* is a consuming fire” (Hebrews 12:28-29 NIV; Deuteronomy 4:24).

To be continued...

*Shabbat Shalom*  
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