

# God's Everlasting Covenant

presents

## **One Day is as a Thousand Years**

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends. With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

2 Peter 3:8

It has recently come to this Bible student's attention the importance of understanding the Biblical principle that one day is to the Lord like a thousand years, and a thousand years is like one day. This principle is clarified in the above scripture, but we see it first appear in the prophetic writings of the Tanakh (Old Testament).

For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch of the night.

Psalm 90:4

This certainly speaks of the great truth that the Creator of the universe is eternal and lives outside of the confines of time and space. But it also gives us a clue to how we make sense of some of the passages written long ago by the prophets, and those riddles in the scriptures that are difficult to solve.

One of these riddles is in the passage of Hosea.

For I will be like a lion to Ephraim, like a great lion to Judah. I will tear them to pieces and go away; I will carry them off, with no one to rescue them. Then I will go back to my place until they admit their guilt. And they shall seek my face; in their misery they will earnestly seek me. Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence.

Hosea 5:14-6:2

This is a prophecy that has already been partially fulfilled. Yeshua is from the tribe of Judah, and Messiah figuratively tore Judah to pieces and went away, when after He died, the kingdom of Judah was torn apart by the Romans in 70 AD. This caused the scattering of Jews throughout the world, or what is known as the Diaspora. As an aside, this passage also reminds us that the Lion of Judah himself was willingly torn to pieces and Isaiah 53 clearly describes the sufferings of Messiah. It is important and noteworthy to understand that the Jewish Messiah chose to suffer as His people have suffered in the past, and how they would continue to suffer blame and ridicule for the world's problems throughout history. The parallels are uncanny.

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:4-5

Just as they have been crushed, He was crushed. As He was stricken, they have been stricken. In some mysterious way, Israel has carried the sorrows of the world. She has been smitten and afflicted...just as the Jewish Messiah has been. And this passage tells us that Judah will be healed through Messiah's wounds! Far be it from this student and ministry to say we completely understand the complete prophetic picture. We simply submit to you, the reader, that the parallels are remarkable and undeniable!

The passage in Hosea also reveals more. The Messiah is also the Lion of Judah who went back to Heaven, or His place -- until when? *Until they admit their guilt.* Yeshua will not return to the earth (the Mount of Olives) until Judah & Ephraim, [all of Israel], admit their guilt. Hosea tells us that they will earnestly seek His face...they will be crying out, "Baruch haba b'Shem Adonai", which means "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." This is what Yeshua prophesied in Matthew 23:39 when He said: "For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'" There is a similar passage in Luke 13:35: "Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

This gives us insight as to how we should be praying for the Jewish people and for Israel. If we want Yeshua to return, we must pray for Israel's repentance, and that they will cry out "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Both Hosea and Yeshua Himself reveal they will do so because they will finally recognize that no man, no nation, not even the United States, can deliver them or help them or save them. They will be in misery because all the nations of the world will have turned against them. (See Ezekiel 38.) It is the LORD alone, in the person of Messiah, the Lion of Judah, who will rescue them.

Back to our text in Hosea, what does the prophet mean when He says in 6:2 "And after two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us that we may live in his presence"?

We have to go back to our passage in 2 Peter, and then go through a little "counting" lesson. Let's read the passage again.

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends. With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

So, if one day is as a thousand years, how many years is two days? Two thousand years. And three days? Three thousand years.

Since Messiah came, how many millennia have there been? Three.

He was born somewhere between 4 and 3 B.C.E. For simplicity sake, let's just say it is year 0.

0 – 1000 = first millennium or Day 1

1001-2000 = second millennium or Day 2

2001-3000 = third millennium or Day 3

When was Israel made a nation? It was in 1948 during the second millennium since Messiah, or the second day. Hosea says, "After two days he will revive us." This is referring to when Israel was "revived" as a nation. We are now in the third millennium since Messiah, or the third day. Sometime, during this "day", Hosea tells us that Israel will be "...restored, that we may live in his presence." This is referring to the time when she will recognize her Messiah, repent, and be restored as a light to the nations. It is talking about the Millennial Reign, when she (and those of us who believe and have been grafted into Israel) will live in his presence! So we are living in the Third Day! We need to watching all the signs so we will know exactly where we are.

May the Lord bless you as you study His Word, Yeshua, the Living Torah!