The Virtual House Church Presents

Wisdom from the Torah

GENESIS

With Related Portions From The Prophets and New Testament



Book One

When was the last time "almost the whole city" came together, hungry to hear the word of God preached? In context, the Scriptures that were being read were from what we now call the "Old Testament." I believe something is seriously missing from the message we preach today. Neither the saved, nor the unsaved are that interested in studying the Scriptures these days... especially those of the so-called, Old Testament.

Eventually, our little group that started out meeting in a Christian bookstore grew to the point where it needed a healthy church-split. Usually church-splits are ugly and due to some major, irreconcilable difference. Not this one. This one needed to break off into two groups due to rapid growth! By this time, my friend Kevin had grown substantially in his understanding of the Torah as well as the Hebrew language. He and his wife then opened up their home to serve as a new house church. Since they were good friends of ours, Sheila and I left the first group and went with them.

After two years of intense Torah study, I became very vocal about our excitement in what we were learning. I talked about it at conferences and on my weekly radio show^[2] as well as on Facebook. People heard what I had to say and became jealous (in a good way). They were really excited about the things we were learning, but said that they had nowhere like that where they could go in order to learn the same things. Thus, the *Virtual House Church* was born!

The Virtual House Church is designed to work just like a regular house church, in the sense that we all study the Scriptures together and then engage in discussion about them. People call into my radio show and we talk for 3 hours every Friday night.



www.virtualhousechurch.com

Our desire with the Virtual House Church was to fill a need. I believe we are doing just that, however, I also want to empower people to start their own home Bible study groups. Getting together on the radio is fun, exciting and educational, however we all still need that human touch. We need physical interaction and the ability to administer hands-on ministry to those in need. In an effort to help make that easier, Sheila and I have developed this series of Bible study guides, we call *Wisdom From the Torah*.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Each volume consists of one book from the Torah, plus readings from the prophets and New Testament that go along with it. Drawing from a number of outside resources, we have assembled the traditional, weekly Torah, Haftarah and Brit Chadasha (KJV) Scripture readings along with some additional readings from my own related studies into each volume. I have intentionally not put any of my commentary into this book however, because I want you to write your own. Get with people you know and read these Scriptures together. Talk about them. Debate. Share insights and grow as you let the Holy Spirit open up the Scriptures to you, leading you to all truth.

I always brought a lined notepad with me to our studies and found it very helpful for writing down the various insights and revelations people would share. Therefore, every Scripture reading page in this workbook has a column for you to take notes. At the end of each week's study, we have also included a few starter questions to get your group going and some additional lined pages for notes you may want to write down based on your discussions.

^{2.} The Revolutionary Radio Project: www.blogtalkradio.com/revolutionaryradio

On our Virtual House Church website you can listen to archived services and see the notes that we took from our 2012-2013 Torah reading cycle. There you will find lots of commentary, pictures, links, video and audio clips for you to explore and add to the insights that you discover in your own study of these Scriptures. Please keep in mind however, that we are still learning ourselves. We don't have it all right and would never claim to have the corner on truth. We are merely sharing our thoughts and insights as we seek to find the truth ourselves. Always remember that when reading/viewing/listening to any commentary, we are to test all things, letting the Holy Spirit be your guide to all truth and not man.

The Bible study guide you have in your hands can be used to start your own church ministry, home group or personal Bible study. It is designed to show you how the themes, stories, and words of the Torah are woven throughout the writings of the prophets and New Testament. At the end of each week's study, you will find the following three questions that can help you get the ball rolling:

- How does this week's Torah Portion relate to the Haftarah and Brit Chadasha Portions?
- What did you find most interesting about this week's reading?
- What is the general theme of this reading and how does it apply to our lives today?

These are very basic, general questions designed to get the conversation going. In the first one, you simply identify how all of the Scripture readings are related. Sometimes it will be very obvious. Other times, you may need to dig deeper either into the text itself, or even into history and cultural contexts to see why the ancients paired these readings together. The second question is designed to get you talking about those things that stood out to you from the readings. And finally, the last question causes you to think about how the reading applies to you, your family, friends and life in general. What is the take-away moral value, theme or lesson we can learn from this week's study? We've kept it simple for a reason. We don't want anyone thinking they can't do this. You will be amazed at how much dialogue and learning can be gained by addressing these three basic questions.

By way of example, here are some of my own early notes from the first week's reading:

How does this week's Torah Portion relate to the Haftarah and Brit Chadasha Portions? It all starts with Genesis! The stage is set, the characters are introduced and the drama begins almost immediately. From there, we can see how the story plays out from the Beginning to the End. Take for instance, the story of Genesis 6. In that story, we learn about an incredible event: The unnatural union of angels (the sons of God) and human women. This produced the giants (Nephilim) that we will later see the Israelites having to defeat. However, there is more to the story. Jesus tells us in Matthew 24:37 that the Last Days will be likened unto the days of Noah. In Revelation 12, we see Michael the archangel fighting against Satan, the Dragon. The Serpent is cast down to Earth and the story is picked up in the prophecy of Isaiah 14:12-21. There we see that Lucifer, the leader of the fallen angels, is not only "cut down to the ground" but also that he apparently has children (Isaiah 14:21), just like the angels of Genesis 6 did. Those angels were bound in everlasting chains of darkness and cast down into hell [Tartarus] (2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6).

What did you find most interesting about this week's reading? In like manner, we see that Lucifer must also be bound in chains and do time (a thousand years) in the pit in order to serve out his prison sentence (Revelation 20:1-2) for the same sin. I've always wondered, if the Devil's ultimate destination is the Lake of Fire, why does he have to be bound in chains and put into prison for a thousand years first? Now, I know! He is serving the prescribed prison sentence that is specifically for angels who mate with human women. God would not be just if He didn't impose the same prison sentence on every angel who commits this sin. Thus, when Satan has children (note Genesis 3:15 and Isaiah 14:21), he must receive the same punishment, in addition to the final judgment for his other crimes/sins, which is the Lake of Fire.

What is the general theme of this reading and how does it apply to our lives today? Solomon told us that what has been done, will be again (Ecclesiastes 1:9). All through the Scriptures, we see many themes repeated. We see characters that were introduced "in the beginning" appear again "in the end." Jesus said the Last Days (which may be our days) are going to be like the days of Noah. Thus, in order to understand the times we are living in today, we must understand the days of Genesis 6-11. We also see the cost of disobedience to the perfect will of God. Sin has consequences.

In my answers to the three basic questions, I showed how the Torah portion relates to the reading from the prophets as well as the readings from the New Testament. I shared the things that I found intriguing and I showed how it is relevant for us today.

While certainly not an exhaustive collection of related Scriptures, we hope that this *Wisdom From The Torah* study guide will get you excited about diving into your Bible like never before. As you read about the characters of Genesis, then see repeats of their stories and/or the results of their actions played out centuries and millennia later, we hope it causes you to think and to see how these themes may apply to your own life today and into the future.

Rob Skiba August 1, 2013



WEEK 1

TORAH PORTION: Genesis 1:1 - 6:8

This is the Torah portion that begins on the Sabbath that follows after the end of the Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot).

- 1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
- 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
- 3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.
- 4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.
- 5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.
- 6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.
- 7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.
- 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.
- 9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.
- 10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

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- 11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.
- 12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.
- 13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.
- 14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:
- 15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.
- 16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.
- 17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,
- 18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.
- 19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.
- 20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.
- 21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.
- 22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.
- 23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.
- 24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.
- 25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.
- 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
- 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
- 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have

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dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

- 29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.
- 30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.
- 31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

- 1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.
- 2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.
- 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.
- 4 These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.
- 5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.
- 6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.
- 7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.
- 8 And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.
- 9 And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
- 10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.
- 11 The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold;
- 12 And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone.

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- 13 And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.
- 14 And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.
- 15 And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.
- 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:
- 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.
- 18 And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.
- 19 And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.
- 20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.
- 21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;
- 22 And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.
- 23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.
- 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.
- 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

- 1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?
- 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:
- 3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
- 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

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5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. **NOTES** 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. 8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. 9 And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? 10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. 11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? 12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. 13 And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. 14 And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: 15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. 16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. 17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art,

shalt eat the herb of the field:

and unto dust shalt thou return.

- 20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.
- 21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.
- 22 And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:
- 23 Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.
- 24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

- 1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.
- 2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.
- 3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.
- 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering:
- 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.
- 6 And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?
- 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.
- 8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.
- 9 And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?
- 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.
- 11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand;
- 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

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13 And Cain said unto the Lord, My punishment is greater than I can bear.

14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.

15 And the Lord said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

16 And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

17 And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch.

18 And unto Enoch was born Irad: and Irad begat Mehujael: and Mehujael begat Methusael: and Methusael begat Lamech.

19 And Lamech took unto him two wives: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah.

20 And Adah bare Jabal: he was the father of such as dwell in tents, and of such as have cattle.

21 And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.

22 And Zillah, she also bare Tubalcain, an instructer of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah.

23 And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah, Hear my voice; ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech: for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt.

24 If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.

25 And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

26 And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the Lord.

- 1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;
- 2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.
- 3 And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, and after his image; and called his name Seth:

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- 4 And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters: 5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died. 6 And Seth lived an hundred and five years, and begat Enos: 7 And Seth lived after he begat Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters: 8 And all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years: and he died. 9 And Enos lived ninety years, and begat Cainan: 10 And Enos lived after he begat Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begat sons and daughters: 11 And all the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years: and he died. 12 And Cainan lived seventy years and begat Mahalaleel: 13 And Cainan lived after he begat Mahalaleel eight hundred and forty years, and begat sons and daughters: 14 And all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years: and he died.
 - 15 And Mahalaleel lived sixty and five years, and begat Jared:
 - 16 And Mahalaleel lived after he begat Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters:
 - 17 And all the days of Mahalaleel were eight hundred ninety and five years: and he died.
 - 18 And Jared lived an hundred sixty and two years, and he begat Enoch:
 - 19 And Jared lived after he begat Enoch eight hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:
 - 20 And all the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty and two years: and he died.
 - 21 And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah:
 - 22 And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:
 - 23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years:
 - 24 And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.
 - 25 And Methuselah lived an hundred eighty and seven years, and begat Lamech.
 - 26 And Methuselah lived after he begat Lamech seven hundred eighty and two years, and begat sons and daughters:

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- 27 And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.
- 28 And Lamech lived an hundred eighty and two years, and begat a son:
- 29 And he called his name Noah, saying, This same shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the Lord hath cursed.
- 30 And Lamech lived after he begat Noah five hundred ninety and five years, and begat sons and daughters:
- 31 And all the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy and seven years: and he died.
- 32 And Noah was five hundred years old: and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Genesis 6:1-8

- 1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,
- 2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.
- 3 And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.
- 4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.
- 5 And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- 6 And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.
- 7 And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.
- 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

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HAFTARAH PORTION: Ecclesiastes 1:9; Isaiah 14:12-22; 42:5 - 43:10

Ecclesiastes 1:9

The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

Isaiah 14

- 12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!
- 13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:
- 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.
- 15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.
- 16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;
- 17 That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?
- 18 All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house.
- 19 But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.
- 20 Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.
- 21 Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers; that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities.
- 22 For I will rise up against them, saith the Lord of hosts, and cut off from Babylon the name, and remnant, and son, and nephew, saith the Lord.

Isaiah 42

5 Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it,

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and spirit to them that walk therein:

- 6 I the Lord have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles;
- 7 To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.
- 8 I am the Lord: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.
- 9 Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.
- 10 Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof.
- 11 Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar doth inhabit: let the inhabitants of the rock sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains.
- 12 Let them give glory unto the Lord, and declare his praise in the islands.
- 13 The Lord shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.
- 14 I have long time holden my peace; I have been still, and refrained myself: now will I cry like a travailing woman; I will destroy and devour at once.
- 15 I will make waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs; and I will make the rivers islands, and I will dry up the pools.
- 16 And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.
- 17 They shall be turned back, they shall be greatly ashamed, that trust in graven images, that say to the molten images, Ye are our gods.
- 18 Hear, ye deaf; and look, ye blind, that ye may see.
- 19 Who is blind, but my servant? or deaf, as my messenger that I sent? who is blind as he that is perfect, and blind as the Lord's servant?
- 20 Seeing many things, but thou observest not; opening the ears, but he heareth not.
- 21 The Lord is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honourable.
- 22 But this is a people robbed and spoiled; they are all of them

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snared in holes, and they are hid in prison houses: they are for a prey, and none delivereth; for a spoil, and none saith, Restore.

- 23 Who among you will give ear to this? who will hearken and hear for the time to come?
- 24 Who gave Jacob for a spoil, and Israel to the robbers? did not the Lord, he against whom we have sinned? for they would not walk in his ways, neither were they obedient unto his law.
- 25 Therefore he hath poured upon him the fury of his anger, and the strength of battle: and it hath set him on fire round about, yet he knew not; and it burned him, yet he laid it not to heart.

Isaiah 43

- 1 But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.
- 2 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.
- 3 For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee.
- 4 Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.
- 5 Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west;
- 6 I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth:
- 7 Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.
- 8 Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears.
- 9 Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth.
- 10 Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

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BRIT CHADASHAH PORTION:

Matthew 19:4-6; John 1:1-18; Romans 1:18-23; 5:12-21; 8:21-23; 1 Corinthians 6:15-20; Ephesians 5:21-32; Colossians 1:14-17; Hebrews 1:1-3, 11:1-7; 1 Peter 3:18-22; 2 Peter 2:4; 2 Peter 3:1-14; Jude; Revelation 20:1-3

Matthew 19:4-6

- 4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,
- 5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?
- 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

John 1:1-18

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
- 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- 7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.
- 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.
- 9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.
- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
- 11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
- 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
- 15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me:

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for he was before me.

16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

18 No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

Romans 1:18-23

- 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;
- 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.
- 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:
- 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
- 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,
- 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

Romans 5:12-21

- 12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
- 13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.
- 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.
- 15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.
- 16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.
- 17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)
- 18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all

men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

- 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.
- 20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:
- 21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 8:21-23

- 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
- 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.
- 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

1 Corinthians 6:15-20

- 15 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.
- 16 What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh.
- 17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.
- 18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.
- 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
- 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Ephesians 5:21-32

- 21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.
- 22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.
- 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

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- 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.
- 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
- 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
- 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
- 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.
- 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:
- 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.
- 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.
- 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Colossians 1:14-17

- 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:
- 15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:
- 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:
- 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Hebrews 1:1-3

- 1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,
- 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;
- 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:

Hebrews 11:1-7

- 1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
- 2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.
- 3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.
- 4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.
- 5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.
- 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
- 7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

1 Peter 3:18-22

- 18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:
- 19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;
- 20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.
- 21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:
- 22 Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

2 Peter 2:4

4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

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2 Peter 3:1-14

- 1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:
- 2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:
- 3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,
- 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.
- 5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:
- 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:
- 7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.
- 8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.
- 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
- 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.
- 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,
- 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?
- 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.
- 14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

Jude

1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

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- 2 Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.
- 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.
- 4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.
- 6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.
- 7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.
- 8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.
- 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.
- 10 But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.
- 11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.
- 12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;
- 13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.
- 14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,
- 15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.
- 16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own

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lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.

- 17 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;
- 18 How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts.
- 19 These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.
- 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,
- 21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.
- 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:
- 23 And others save with fear, pullig them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.
- 24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,
- 25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Revelation 20:1-3

- 1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
- 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,
- 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

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DISCUSSION POINTS

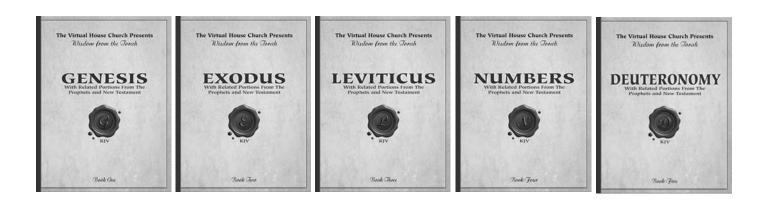
How does this week's Torah Portion relate to the Haftarah and Brit Chadasha Portions?		
What did you find most interesting about this week's reading?		
What is the general theme of this reading and how does it apply to our lives today?		

ADDITIONAL NOTES

ADDITIONAL NOTES



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