

# The Twelfth Principle of Faith:

## Moshiach and the regathering of the Twelve Tribes

By Rabbi Edward Levi Nydle-Revised 8-5-03

**“I believe with complete faith in the coming of the Messiah. Even though he may tarry, I will eagerly await his coming everyday.” Maimondes Commentary on the Mishnah/Sanhedrin**

**“The Messianic King will arise in the future and restore the Davidic Kingdom to its former state and original sovereignty. He will build the Sanctuary and gather the dispersed of Israel. All the laws will be reinstated in his days as they were aforesaid, sacrifices will be offered, and the Sabbatical Years and Jubilee Years will be observed fully as ordained by the Torah.” Rambam Mishnah Torah**

**“The ten tribes of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, exiled by the Assyrians before the destruction of the Bet HaMikdash and dispersed beyond the river Sambation and the “Mountains of Darkness” will also return.” Sanhedrin 110b; Bemidbar Rabba16: 25**

The Twelfth Principle of the Jewish faith states that a Jew must believe in the Moshiach, and also the regathering of the Twelve Tribes of Yisrael. The Rambam stated that:

- “Anyone who does not believe in Moshiach, or whoever does not look forward to his coming, denies not only the teachings of the other prophets but also those of the Torah and of Moshe our teacher.” <sup>1</sup>The regathering of the tribes then is one of the signs of the true Moshiach”.

Did our Master Yahshua meet that requirement as the Moshiach? Let us look at Scripture.

### To Gather

First let us look at the word-gather in the Hebrew and Greek. There are several words but they all mean the same thing:

- HEBREW #6908 *karats*-grasp, collect, assemble, bring, heap together; #622 *‘asaph*- to gather for any purpose, assemble, fetch, put all together, remove. In the Greek we have: #4863 *sunago*- from #4863 *sun* – UNION, together and #71 *agage* –bringing up, manner of life, so we get –collect, convene, assemble, gather together, take in, collect. You might see the word –*SYNAGOGUE* #4864 meaning CONGREGATION, ASSEMBLAGE, and MEETING PLACE! Another interesting word is #346-*anakephalaionai* from gathers together (*ana*) and STRIKES ON THE HEAD (*kephalaioo*)! It means to GATHER TOGETHER IN ONE!

### Scriptures and the Lost Tribes

Here is a partial list of all the Scriptures dealing with the regathering of the tribes of Yisrael (you can read them for yourself as a Scripture study): **TaNak**:

- Deut.30: 3-4;Ps.50: 5;Is.40: 11,11:12,24:15,27:6,49:3,56:8,43:5; Jer.23: 3,29:14,31:18,32:37;Ezek.11: 17,20:34-41,34:13,36:24;Micah 2:12;Zeph.3: 19;Zech.10: 10
- **Brit Chadasha**: Matt.3: 12,13:30,24:31;Mark 13:27;John 11:52;Eph.1: 10;Rev.7, 14

There are a couple Scriptures we need to study a little deeper. In Yechezqel (Ezek.) 20:30-41 Yahweh says that Yisrael says “we will be like the heathen (*goy*)” and that he will “gather them out of the countries wherein you are scattered” and He would cause them to “pass under the rod”.

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<sup>1</sup> Rambam *Mishnah Torah/Hilchot Melachim*

- 37“And I shall make you pass under the rod, and shall bring you into the bond of the covenant, 38and purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me. From the land where they sojourn I bring them out, but they shall not come into the land of Yisrael. And you shall know that I am YHWH.

The “passing under the rod” is from **Wayviqra (Lev.) 27:32** concerning the tithing of the FLOCK.

- 32‘And the entire tithing of the herd and of the flock, all that passes under the rod, the tenth one is set-apart to YHWH’.

The SHEPHERD would take his rod and tap every tenth sheep ON THE HEAD as the tithing unto Yahweh. Then he would gather them together and take them to the Temple in Yerushalayim. A cross-reference to this Scripture is **Yirmeyahu 33:13**(speaking of Yisrael coming back into the land and Yerushalayim). It says they (the FLOCK OF YISRAEL) would once again pass under the hand of him that COUNTS them.” Then in verse 14 of Yirmeyahu 33 Yahweh says "I [Yahweh] will perform that good thing which I have promised to the House of Israel and the House of Judah.’ The SHEPHERD would do this with Yisrael.

- 12“Thus said YHWH of hosts, ‘In this place which is dried up, without man and without beast, and in all its cities, there shall once again be a home of shepherds causing their flocks to lie down. 13‘In the cities of the mountains, in the cities of the low country, and in the cities of the South, and in the land of Binyamin, and in the places around Yerushalayim, and in the cities of Yehudah, the flocks once again pass under the hands of him who counts them,’ declares YHWH. 14‘See, the days are coming,’ declares YHWH, ‘when I shall establish the good word which I have promised to the house of Yisrael and to the house of Yehudah: 15 ‘In those days and at that time I cause a Branch of righteousness to spring forth for David. And He shall do right-ruling and righteousness in the earth. 16‘In those days Yehudah shall be saved, and Yerushalayim dwell in safety. And this is that which shall be proclaimed to her: ‘YHWH our Righteousness.’

In **Yirmeyahu 23:3** Yahweh says “And I [Yahweh] will GATHER the REMNANT of my FLOCK out of ALL THE COUNTRIES where I have driven them, and will bring them AGAIN to their folds...” Then He [Yahweh] tells of the Moshiach that is to come –the Branch of David and King!

- 3“Therefore I shall gather the remnant of My flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and shall bring them back to their fold. And they shall bear and increase.”

The Navaim (prophets) spoke of Yahweh as a shepherd over Yisrael:

- **Yeshayahu 40:10-11:**” He [Yahweh] feeds His FLOCK like a shepherd; He GATHERS the lambs with His arm (the Ruach), and carries *them* in His bosom, and gently leading those who are with young.”
- **Yirmeyahu 31:10:**” Hear the Word of Yahweh, O you NATIONS (goyim) and declare it in the coastlands (isles) AFAR OFF, and say, He that SCATTERED YISRAEL GATHERS him, and shall guard him, as a SHEPHERD does his FLOCK.”
- **Yechezqel 34:11-13:**” For thus says the Master Yahweh; SEE, I, Myself shall search for my sheep, and SEEK them out. As a shepherd seeks out his FLOCK on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I [myself] seek out My sheep, and deliver them from ALL THE PLACES where they HAVE BEEN SCATTERED in a day of cloud and thick darkness.. And I shall BRING them OUT from the peoples, and GATHER them from the COUNTRIES (lands), and shall bring them to their own land, and I shall feed them upon the mountains of Yisrael, in the valleys, and in all the dwellings of the land.”
- **Zekaryah 11:16:**”For look, I am raising up a shepherd in the land...”

The prophets prophesied that Yahweh Himself would become a Shepherd and gather His lost sheep to Himself. Is that speaking of Yahshua min Natzaret?

Yahshua said in **Yochanan 10:11 and 14** “I AM the good SHEPHERD.” And **in verse 16** He says,”and OTHER SHEEP I have which are not of this fold- I have to BRING them AS WELL, they shall hear my voice, and there shall be ONE FLOCK and ONE shepherd.” In **Mattithyahu 15:24**, Yahshua states,”I was not sent EXCEPT to THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF YISRAEL.”

According to Scripture Yahshua called Himself the GOOD SHEPHERD (proving He is Yahweh since Yahweh said He would gather His sheep Himself) and that the SHEEP spoken of in the *Brit Chadasha* are Yisraelites. Yahshua told many parables about lost sheep and separating the sheep from the goats. SHEEP and Yahweh's FLOCK in Scripture is always speaking of Yisrael! Yahshua said that He would be the ONE to gather them! The true shepherd would bring in the believing REMNANT of Yisrael!

Even the Kohen HaGadol Qayapha prophesied in **Yochanan 11:52**, "and not for this NATION only, but to GATHER TOGETHER THE CHILDREN OF YAHWEH (ELOHIM) WHO ARE SCATTERED ABROAD [YISRAEL]."

In the blessing over Yehudah in **Bereshith 49:9-12**, Ya'akov (Yisrael) prophesied of a coming one from Yehudah called SHILOH, and to Him would be the GATHERING (obedience) of the peoples. The rabbis know this is speaking of Moshiach! Rashi writes,

- "This (Shiloh) means the Messianic King, for the kingdom is his..." Rabbeinu Ya'akov ben Asher explains that the verse "until Shiloh comes" has the gemetria of Moshiach-358! The word Shiloh without the "YAVO-until he comes" is equal to Moshe's name -345!

I believe that is referring to the "one like unto Moshe" in **Devarim 18:15, 18!**

- 15 "YHWH your Elohim shall raise up for you a Prophet *like* me from your midst, from your brothers. Listen to Him,
- 18 "I shall raise up for them a Prophet *u*<sup>2</sup> like you out of the midst of their brothers. And I shall put My Words *v*<sup>3</sup> in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. 19 "And it shall be, the man who does not listen to My Words which He speaks in My Name, I require it of him."

Rav Shaul writes to the Ephesians (speaking of the purpose and plan of Yahweh) "to GATHER in ONE ALL in Moshiach, both which are in the heavens (Yahweh and His throne) and which are on the earth (Yisrael), in Him "Eph.1: 10.

- 9 having made known to us the secret of His desire, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Him, 10 to administer at the completion of time, to gather together in one all in Messiah, both which are in the heavens and which are on earth, in Him,

Rav Shaul speaks of the creation of ONE RENEWED MAN (Yisrael) from the two (Eph.2: 11-22):

- 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity *h*<sup>4</sup> – the Torah of the commands in dogma – so as to create in Himself one renewed man from the two, thus making peace,

He is to gather those who are afar off (scattered Yisraelites) and those who are near (the Yehudim)! He continues in that chapter speaking of the RENEWED ONE MAN becoming the Dwelling-Place of Yahweh (Temple)! Yahshua has not only begun to gather those who are scattered into ONE again, but He has also begun to build the Dwelling-Place of Yahweh! Fulfilling all the requirements of the Moshiach according to the Jewish idea of Messiah!

If Yahshua is not gathering the "lost sheep of the House of Yisrael" together again as YHWH prophesied, then He is an impostor, and we, like our unbelieving Judean brothers, should wait for another. This is the mission of the True Moshiach! This is why the message of the Two Houses is so important and must be understood in its context. It defines the mission of the Messiah Yahshua. To deny His mission is to deny that He is the Moshiach Kol Yisrael! May YAHWEH bless your understanding of Moshiach Yahshua!

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<sup>2</sup> *u* The Messiah, as confirmed in Acts 3:22-26, and Acts 7:37.

<sup>3</sup> *v* This identifies the True Messiah for us. Yahshua confirmed this fact in seven places in Yochanan, namely in Yoch. 3:34, 7:16, 8:28, 8:40, 12:49, 14:24, and 17:8 – His teachings (words, commands) are identical to those of His Father.

<sup>4</sup> *h* The enmity has been done away with – not the commands of YHWH.

