

SHEMA

Written by Nogah!

In the middle of the Hebrew prayer "The Shema" is the following passages: "have these Words, which I command you this day, be upon your heart. And you shall teach them diligently to your children"!

Our Friend has given us a precious gift-a forum to share with a younger generation some of our experiences and insights ... Baruch HaShem (Bless the NAME of G_D)! Hopefully, in the Ruach HaKodesh, Ditzah and I will be able to contribute and plant a few seeds for HaShem to nurture. It's all HaShem; not us.

Crossing Over

Have you ever been involved & fully believed in something but deep down inside you really knew that there was more to understand / embrace / accept ... but you were stuck? And the harder you tried; the deeper the feelings of inadequacy became as you strived to justify staying with what you had once been convinced was absolutely true ... but your heart now told you differently.

I know this feeling because I spent a good portion of my adult life operating under the presumption that my Christian expression of faith was correct.

So I turned to HaShem in prayer for over a year and I found that He blessed me in a way I least expected; HaShem sent a Messianic Orthodox Jewish Rabbi as a guest speaker to our congregational service-to call us out of the Church.

HaShem surely has a wonderful sense of humor and loves to make a splash, but then again you would have to agree - it's all about HaSHEM and not us!

So pray tell what happened at this congregational service? What did this Orthodox Jewish Rabbi say that was so compelling? Did this man give us a history lesson about the Church? Did this man tell us that he had been sent to us by G_D to call us out of this place?

The simple answer is "no" to these questions, but this orthodox Jewish Rabbi gifted our ears and spirits with something we had never heard before ... he chanted a few prayers in the ancient Hebrew language.

Have you ever heard Hebrew chanted before? Have you ever heard Hebrew chanted in a manner that has been handed down for thousands of years?

That day we did and it was ... Beautiful!

The Hebrew flowed over us – embraced us – spoke to us – resonated deep within us – captured us and left us thirsting for more.

Despite the fact that others had not experienced what we did, Ditzah and I immediately knew that HaShem had set the path for us to come home – for us to Cross Over!

The next Friday evening, the start of the Hebrew Sabbath, we attended our first Hebrew Worship Service; followed immediately by our second service the ensuing Sabbath morning.

We heard the "Shema Yisrael", the "Kadeesh", the "Amidah" and the "Aaronic Benediction" – in both Hebrew & English. We soon thereafter began to study the entire Torah (The Tanakh & the B'rit Chadasha) from a Hebrew Perspective. HaShem gave us more each Shabbat and we quickly and intuitively embraced the Sacred Commandments and the Biblical Festivals. Today (years later) I would testify to the following without shame:

We have “Crossed Over” to the Fullness of the Hebrew Faith – embracing their Mashiach (Yeshua) – Our Salvation

**Baruch haba b'Shem Adonai
(Blessed is he who comes in the Name of The LORD)**

The point in all of this is that HaShem is calling and He does so in mysterious and diverse ways to different individuals. Perhaps it would be wise to be listening – Shema Yisrael!

Still further it appears as well that despite the difficulty – "Old dogs can indeed be taught new tricks"! It is never too late with HaShem and the resonance of Mashiach Yeshua extends well beyond space and time – "are we listening"?