

## “Hakhel-Gather the People”

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Deu 31:9 And Moses wrote this Law and delivered it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who carried the ark of the covenant of Jehovah, and to all the elders of Israel. 10 And Moses commanded them, saying: At the end of seven years, at the set time of the year of release, in the Feast of Tabernacles, 11 when all Israel has come to appear before Jehovah your God in the place which He shall choose, you shall read this Law before all Israel in their hearing. 12 Gather the people, men and women and the little ones, and your stranger who *is* within your gates, so that they may hear and that they may learn and fear Jehovah your God, and be careful to do all the words of this Law, 13 and *that* their sons who have not known may hear and learn to fear Jehovah your God, as long as you live in the land where you go over Jordan to possess it.

We are commanded by Yehovah to **GATHER** during Sukkot, **IN THE YEAR OF RELEASE**. This command is to be done this Sukkot in every gathering you are at. Will you do it, when others will not?

You are to do this in order that your family and children may hear and learn and fear Yehovah. You are to read the Law in their hearing.

Deu 6:3 Then hear, O, Israel, and be careful to *do* it, so that it may be well with you, and that you may greatly multiply, as Jehovah, the God of our fathers has promised you, in the land that flows with milk and honey. 4Hear, O, Israel. Jehovah our God *is* one Jehovah. 5And you shall love Jehovah your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6And these words which I command you this day shall be in your heart. 7And you shall carefully teach them to your sons, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up.

This word ‘Gather’ is

**H6950** lhq qaʔhal kaw-halʾ

A primitive root; to *convoke*: – assemble (selves) (together), gather (selves) (together).

This Qahal or Gathering is to cause us to be in awe of Yehovah, so there is great pomp and ceremony to this Qahal. Notice what is said in the Sotah.

Sotah 41a MISHNAH. WHAT WAS THE PROCEDURE IN CONNECTION WITH THE PORTION READ BY THE KING? AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE FESTIVAL [OF TABERNACLES] IN THE EIGHTH, I.E., THE END OF THE SEVENTH, THEY ERECT A WOODEN DAIS IN THE TEMPLE COURT, UPON WHICH HE SITS; AS IT IS SAID, AT THE END OF EVERY SEVEN YEARS, IN THE SET TIME etc. THE SYNAGOGUE-ATTENDANT TAKES A TORAH-SCROLL AND HANDS IT TO THE SYNAGOGUE PRESIDENT, AND THE SYNAGOGUE-PRESIDENT HANDS IT TO THE [HIGH PRIEST'S] DEPUTY. HE HANDS IT TO THE HIGH PRIEST WHO HANDS IT TO THE KING. THE KING STANDS AND RECEIVES IT, BUT READS SITTING.

Of course you will notice how the Mishneh has already changed the time of the reading from the year of release to the year after. But ignore that part and look at the pomp as the scroll is passed to the High Priest and then to the King who stands to receive it and then sits to read it to the entire nation. Today it would be like the Pope passing the Leningrad codex to the President for him to read to the nation; a president addressing the nation once every 7 years, reading the laws of the land to the entire nation that had gathered to hear him speak. Just imagine.

Talmudic and Midrashic sources suggest that the more people who attend this Gathering, this Qahal, the greater the Divine Presence, climaxing after 7 Shemitah at the Jubilee year. I do not know if this is true or not, but in 2009, I could only get myself and three other men to read the Torah with me. Ray and John from Boston area, (forgot their last names) and Don from California. This year in 2016 we will have 23 people from 7 countries reading and hearing and in awe of Yehovah. England, Ireland, Thailand, Philippines, Canada, USA and Switzerland.

The Torah was to be read by the Head of the nation from the Temple. In 2009 we read this in the very place the Temple once stood. This year in 2016 we may not be able to do this due to the construction taking place there. We will see.

We read also in Deut 4 the following;

Deu 4:10 Remember the day that you stood before Jehovah your God in Horeb, when Jehovah said to me, Gather the people to Me, and I will make them hear My Words so that they may learn to fear Me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and they may teach their sons. 11 And you came near and stood under the mountain. And the mountain burned with fire to the midst of heaven, with darkness, clouds, and thick darkness. 12 And Jehovah spoke to you out of the midst of the fire. You heard the voice of the words, but saw no likeness, only a voice. 13 And He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, ten commandments. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone. 14 And Jehovah commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments so that you might do them in the land where you go over to possess it.

This same word, this same expression, 'Gather the people', QAHAL.

This is the connecting verse that shows us why we do this every 7th year. It is the reminder of when Yehovah came down and spoke to us at Mount Sinai.

Exo 19:16 And it happened on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mountain. And the voice of the trumpet was exceedingly loud, so that all the people in the camp trembled. 17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God. And they stood at the lower part of the mountain. 18 And Mount Sinai was smoking, all of it, because Jehovah came down upon it in fire. And the smoke of it went up like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. 19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and became very strong, Moses spoke, and God answered him by a voice. 20 And Jehovah came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And Jehovah called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

This is the reason it is so majestic. This why the pomp and ceremony. This is a great, **GREAT BIG DEAL!!!**. Do not treat this reading of the Torah lightly. Treat it with respect and awe and just imagine that the person reading this to you is Yehovah Himself and you are at Mount Sinai seeing the lightning and hearing the thunder grow louder and the smoke on the Mountain growing larger. Just imagine.

Imagine the High Priest with all the other Priests following him in procession. Then you see King David stand up and accept the Torah Scroll. The entire nation stands up in respect. Then King David sits and begins to read it out loud for all to hear. Picture the Queen of England being crowned and the Arch Bishop of Canterbury passing her the scepter and the crown.

Exo 20:1 And God spoke all these words, saying, 2 I am Jehovah your God, who has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 3 You shall have no other gods before Me. 4 You shall not make to yourselves any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in the heavens above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them. For I Jehovah your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the sons to the third and fourth generation of those that hate me, 6 and showing mercy to thousands of those that love Me and keep My commandments. 7 You shall not take the name of Jehovah your God in vain. For Jehovah will not hold him guiltless that takes His name in vain. 8 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work. 10 But the seventh day is the Sabbath of Jehovah your God. You shall not do any work, you, nor your son, nor your daughter, your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger within your gates. 11 For in six days Jehovah made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore Jehovah blessed the Sabbath day, and sanctified it. 12 Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long upon the land which Jehovah your God gives you. 13 You shall not kill. 14 You shall not commit adultery. 15 You shall not steal. 16 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. 17 You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is your neighbor's. 18 And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking. And when the people saw, they trembled, and stood afar off.

**Brethren, it has been close to 2,000 years since Israelites kept the Sabbatical year. Although we are scattered around this world right now, all of us keeping the Sabbatical year are family. We have wrestled with how to do it, to stocking our shelves and wondering if we have stored enough. We have asked hundreds of questions and learned the answers this past year. Some of you have begun to teach this each time someone inquires about it. I am so proud to have you all as my brethren. For me, this Sabbatical year I will not to feel so alone reading the Torah out loud, as I did in 2009 and those years leading up to that Sabbatical year. Yehovah has now called all of you and revealed these truths to you that He has not revealed to others. We have become one family. Now read what Rashi the great Jewish sage has to say about this Hakhel that all of us are doing this year in 2016.**

Rabbi Mordechai Zaks, in his discussion of this topic[10], suggests that the Shmita year generates a sense of national unity that is indispensable for experiencing the revelation at Har Sinai. In one of the most famous passages in his Torah commentary, Rashi[11] cites the Midrash's comment that Benei Yisrael encamped at Sinai "as one person, with one heart." Benei Yisrael's collective acceptance of the Torah and the establishment of a national covenant with the Almighty require a unity of mind and purpose. During the Shmita year, all agricultural activity is forbidden, and landowners must temporarily forfeit ownership over their fields. In effect, then, during the Shmita year, there is no economic competition or even any economic classes. Everyone shares precisely the same assets and fate, withdrawing from agricultural work and spending a year engaged in more spiritual endeavours. The social harmony and elimination of commercial rivalry is a necessary prerequisite to the standing at Mt. Sinai experience which the Hakhel ceremony is intended to replicate.

Maimonides [12] also understands Hakhel as a re-acceptance of the Covenant at Sinai. Hakhel is also linked to Succoth (the Feast of Tabernacles), the most universal of our holidays which concludes the Rosh Hashanah festival period. Hakhel involves not only the Children of Israel but the entire Bnai Noach world as well, the strangers as well as the uncircumcised.

This is most reminiscent of the biblical vision of the End of Days, as recorded by the prophet Isaiah:

Yeshiyahu (Isaiah) 2:2-4 "And it shall come to pass in the End of Days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow to it. And many peoples shall go and say, 'Come you, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the House of the G-d of Jacob, and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths. For out of Zion shall go forth the Torah, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem, and He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples, and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks, nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore".

**It is for all nations. ALL NATIONS should be keeping the Sabbatical year this year. ALL THE BRETHERN IN ALL LANDS should be keeping the Sabbatical year. It is not just for "when you are in the land" otherwise Isaiah and Rashi and Mamonides would not have said what they said above. The reading of the Torah was for all nations to do at Sukkot when the People were GATHERED.**

**Brethren, each of us will read the Torah on this first day of Sukkot wherever we are around the world. But we will be acting as 'One Person" with "One Heart". We will be doing something that has not been done at the proper time for almost 2,000 years, except the time I did it in 2009. I have learned so much more since then. So much more, and so will all of you as you obey.**

**Now pause and think a moment. What are you doing? You are, in fact, going over the Marriage katuba that we agreed to at Mount Sinai with our husband Yehovah. You are reviewing the agreement every 7th year with both parties so that no one forgets. Israel agreed to the terms in the 1st year of the second Sabbatical cycle right after they left Egypt. Counting that first year as year one, they then would review the terms in the 7th year which was the**

Shemita year. And we were to have done this from that time until now. You are renewing this commandment this year for your family and all of Israel.

Just as we counted the omer and the 7 Shabbats to the 50th day of Shavuot, we are now counting 7 times or 7 years and reading the katuba every 7th year. Israel walked around the Jericho 7 times before the walls came down. A woman in the Jewish wedding ceremony walks around her man 7 times in remembrance of when Israel first came into the land at Jericho. Every 7 years we examine the Katuba and remember our part in this agreement. Our OATH, which is what the Feast of Shavuot is also called, the Feast of Oaths. Abraham killed 7 ewe lambs as an oath with the Egyptian Pharaoh and this place is to this day called Be'er Sheba, the Well of Oaths.

By reciting the laws of the Torah every seven years we are doing the same as we do for Shavuot in keeping the Feast of Oaths. Our husband Yehovah loves us so much that He allowed Himself to be killed on the tree instead of us. We broke these oaths and the katuba says we must die if we break these laws. But our Husband paid that price for us, ***IF WE REPENT***. If we do not repent then we still get to pay the penalty ourselves with our own lives.

Okay, but what else are you doing?

In Exodus 19:19 it says the voice of the trumpet, what is this? In Genesis it says the voice of Yehovah walked in the Garden of Eden. How does a voice walk? A few weeks ago we explained to the you about the 7 trumpets in Revelation, that they were in fact the voice of Yehovah.

I have been reading Eric Bissel's latest book "The Shield Project" about the Paleo Hebrew letters. In this book he talks about the Ayin-Dalet Ayin-Tav. tudu

AYIN – u is the picture of an eye. Pretty simple. AYIN means eye.

The dictionary also says AYIN means “look, consider, read, weigh carefully, balance exactly, look well to, to contemplate, the visible part, a deep well, determine with meticulous scrutiny.”  
DALET – d is “door”.

Find the door. Find the right door. “Evaluate the Authorized Entry”... “AYIN” the “DALET”.  
du

The concept of “door” is a threshold, it represents a choice, “in or out”... this side or that side”  
... is a key required?

Where is this door? How do I know which “door” is the one being referred to?

“AYIN” the “TAV”. tu Tav – t is a sign, a mark, a note, an inscription, an insignia, a flag, a target.

The ancient “TAV” or “TAW” was drawn as an “X” shape, crossed sticks... like signing your name, indicating your approval... agreeing to terms of a contract.

What contract? Is there a contract somewhere?

Exodus 19: 8 ...

“Everything hvhy says we will do!”... ah, yes, the “covenant”... its something like a contract.

Again in Exodus 24:3 the exact same words, and then reiterated once more in Exodus 24: 7 ...

“Everything that hvhy has said, we will do and we will hear and Moshe took the blood and threw it on the people and he said ‘Behold the Blood of the Covenant’ that hvhy sealed with you

concerning all these matters (these “DEBARIM”).”

AYIN-TAV tu ... comprehend, understand, weigh, measure, balance exactly the terms of the Covenant our forefathers consigned us to...

So this is a puzzle, a mystery. A conundrum.

“What does the door have to do with the covenant?”

“Look carefully, consider, measure the door, choose to enter- or not... read exactly, meditate, deliberately every word...every letter of that agreement, that “contract”...”

“But the contract is written in Hebrew”. Someone had to change the terms and conditions when the text was translated. Learn Hebrew.

How? Hebrew is a foreign language, what’s the big deal about learning Hebrew ?

The 22 letters of the Hebrew ALEF-BEIT are pictograms which represent the Terms of Covenant relationship between “hvhy” and His particular treasured people known as “YSRAL” larcy.

If you want to know the legal terms of that relationship, study the pictures of the letter shapes.

Doing book research, you will find many different pictures and meanings assigned to each letter.

This study postulates that the 22 letters are found to express their purpose at the deepest regard by encoding the solution to the ultimate Mystery of any puzzle this world might ever present :

These 22 letters identify the Door to the House of hvhy. Its about access.

The phrase “until the time” is the key to that door. “AYIN-DALET... AYIN-TAV” tu – du is a “catch- 22”.

“Catch- 22” : You must have ‘this’ before you can have ‘that’, yet.. you must have ‘that’ before you can have ‘this’.

You have either both at once, or neither.. Both are contingent upon each other.

“AYIN-DALET” contingent upon “AYIN-TAV”... and vis- versa.

I cannot correctly comprehend the Door unless I hear and do the Terms of the Covenant.

I do not have a heart for the Terms of the Covenant until the Door reveals the truth of them.

The wrong door leads to wrong doctrine.

Bad teaching, erroneous doctrine- misrepresents the door, or points to a different door.

p PEI: regard the word, open mouth

**All 22 letters make up the words of Yehovah. Like p, the open mouth, should cause us to think of the source of these letters and the source of these words. They come from Yehovah’s very own mouth.**

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and tabernacled among us. And we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and of truth.

**We read in Psalms that we are to seek Yehovah’s face. Why? because that is where the words, come from. p pei the mouth of Yehovah**

Psa 27:8 My heart says to You, Seek my face; Your face, O Jehovah, I will seek; 9 Hide not Your face from me. Turn not Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

**When we gather to read the Torah at Sukkot in this Sabbatical year, we are to imagine the words being spoken are being read to you by Yehovah, coming from his very own mouth. We are to seek His face in order to hear Shema His words and to fear Him.**

**We have a clear example of the Israelites reading the Torah at this time of year. This scripture in Nehemiah 8 takes place in the year 456 B.C. It was a Sabbatical year. It was the 49th year of the Jubilee cycle. They began to read the law on the 1st day of the 7th month. Yom Teruah. It was while reading this law that they learned about Sukkot which they had not kept since the days of Joshua. This is about 844 years that they did not keep Sukkot. This is the reason they were not reading it on the 1st day of Trumpets. They had not yet learned about Sukkot.**



**Neh 8:1** And all the people gathered themselves as one man into the street before the water gate. And they spoke to Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which Jehovah had commanded to Israel. 2 And Ezra the priest brought the Law before the congregation, both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. 3 And he read in it before the street in front of the Water Gate from the morning until noon, in front of the men and the women, and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people *listened* to the Book of the Law. 4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood which they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam. 5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people. And when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6 And Ezra blessed Jehovah, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, amen, lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped Jehovah with *their* faces to the ground. 7 And Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the Law. And the people *were* in their place. 8 And they read in the Book of the Law of God, clearly. And they gave the sense, and caused *them* to understand the reading. 9 And Nehemiah, the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people, said to all the people, This day *is* holy to Jehovah your God. Do not mourn or weep. For all the people wept when they heard the words of the Law. 10 Then he said to them, Go eat the fat and drink the sweet, and send portions to him for *whom* nothing is prepared. For *this* day *is* holy to our LORD. And do not be sorry, for the joy of Jehovah *is* your strength. 11 And the Levites quieted all the people, saying, Be quiet, for the day *is* holy. And do not be grieved. 12 And all the people went to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words which were declared to them. 13 And on the second day the chief of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Levites, were gathered to Ezra the scribe, even to understand the words of the Law. 14 And they found written in the Law which Jehovah had commanded by Moses, that the sons of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month, 15 and that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jerusalem, saying, Go forth to the mountain and bring olive branches and pine branches and myrtle branches and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as *it is* written. 16 And the people went out and brought in, and made themselves booths, each one upon his roof, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, and in the street of the Water Gate, and in the street of the Gate of Ephraim. 17 And all the congregation of those who had come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths. For since the days of Joshua the son of Nun until that day, the sons of Israel had not done so. And there was very great gladness. 18 Also day by day, from the first day until the last day, he read in the Book of the Law of God. And they kept the feast seven days, and on the eighth *was* an assembly, according to the Law.

**Ezr 3:1** And when the seventh month had come, and the sons of Israel *were* in the cities, the people gathered themselves as one man to Jerusalem.

This Sukkot, Gather yourselves, HakheL, together as one people, the people of Yehovah and wherever you are read the Torah so that all those gathered with you can hear, shema and learn about the Sabbatical year that you will be keeping. Then you can explain the Sabbatical year to them and how to know it is 2016. 2 King 19:29. They may have other activities they want to do during this first day. Be strong and be brave. If you have to read it out loud alone, know that many will walk by and see you, wondering. It could be your witness to reading this law and keeping this command that causes them to investigate this later. So be brave and do as you are commanded even if you are the only one doing it.

May Yehovah richly bless you for doing as He has commanded us to do in reviewing the katuba of our marriage with Him. Blessed be the name of Yehovah.

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There are some groups out there teaching Messianics, or messed up Messianics that they no longer have to fast on the Day of Atonement. They base this on their teachings of the Melchizedek order. That we are to be under the laws of Melchizedek and not the Levitical order. The verses immediately come to mind that say:

Mal\_3:6 For I *am* Jehovah, I change not. Because of this you sons of Jacob are not destroyed.

Heb\_13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever.

We are told in Lev 23 with very exact terms how we are to keep the Day of Atonement.

Lev 23:26 And Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying, 27 Also, on the tenth of this seventh month, this is a day of atonement. *It shall be* a holy convocation to you. And you shall afflict your souls and offer a fire offering to Jehovah. 28 And you shall do no work in that same day, for it *is* a day of atonement, in order to make an atonement for you before Jehovah your God. 29 For any soul who is not humbled in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. 30 And any soul who does any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. 31 You shall do no kind of work. *It shall be* a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. 32 *It shall be* to you a sabbath of rest, and you shall humble your souls. In the ninth of the month at evening, from evening to evening, you shall keep your sabbath.

And now these groups are saying you no longer have to obey Yehovah, that we are above the law. Really?

We are about to read the Torah during Sukkot this Sabbatical year; a review of the Ketuba agreement. The one we broke and the same one that required us to die for breaking it. But our lives were atoned for by Yehovah paying that price by dying on the tree Himself in our stead at Passover. God gave His own life for us because He loved us that much.

The disregard some people have for the laws of Yehovah are blasphemous.

So the question is: are they right, we do not have to fast on Atonement, or are we to fast and not have any food or water from evening of the 9th to the evening of the 10th?

There is another thing to ponder, however.

Each of the Holy Days of Lev 23 are prophetic pictures of future events when Yehovah was going to act on those very days. So Atonement pictures the putting away or the locking away of Satan as described in Revelation. Last week we went over the Ten Days of Awe leading up to this Day of Atonement. Keep that in mind as you go forward.

**Rev 20:1** And I saw an angel come down from Heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him a thousand years. 3 And he cast him into the abyss and shut him up and set a seal on him, that he should deceive the nations no more until the thousand years should be fulfilled. And after that he must be loosed a little time.

Satan is to be locked away on this day. The Supreme demonic force. And Yehovah has commanded all of us to fast. Not to serve in soup kitchens or do other things. No He said to fast. WHY? Ask why and try to understand the greater picture.

When the apostles tried to cast out a certain demon they could not do it. Again, WHY NOT? Yehshua said it quite plainly. Read what He said and think.

Mat 17:14 And when they came to the crowd, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, 15 Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is a lunatic and grievously vexed; for oftentimes he falls into the fire, and often into the water. 16 And I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not cure him. 17 Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I suffer you? Bring him here to Me. 18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and he departed out of him. And the child was cured from that very hour. 19 Then the disciples came to Jesus apart, and said, Why could we not cast him out? 20 And Jesus said to them, Because of your unbelief. For truly I say to you, If you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, Move from here to there. And it shall move. And nothing shall be impossible to you. 21 However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.

Mar 9:17 And one of the crowd answered and said, Teacher, I have brought my son who has a dumb spirit to You. 18 And wherever he seizes him, he dashes him. And he foams and gnashes his teeth and pines away. And I spoke to Your disciples that they should cast him out, and they could not. 19 He answered him and said, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me! 20 And they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, the spirit immediately convulsed him. And he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming. 21 And He asked his father, How long ago has it been since this came to him? And he said, From childhood. 22 And oftentimes it has cast him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us. 23 Jesus said to him, If you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes. 24 And immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief. 25 And seeing that a crowd is running together, Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to him, Dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter no more into him! 26 And *the spirit* cried out, throwing him into convulsions, and came out of him. And he was like one dead, so that many said, He is dead. 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. 28 And He entering into a house, His disciples asked Him privately, *Why* could we not cast him out? 29 And He said to them, This kind can come out by nothing except by prayer and fasting.

There are some demons that can only be removed by prayer and fasting. Yeshua said

**‘This kind can come out by nothing except by prayer and fasting.’**

Is Satan not the head of all these demonic forces? Did he not lead the rebellion that led 1/3 of the angles away from Yehovah?

While there is no verse that says “a third of the angels fell from heaven,” some verses, when put together, lead us to that conclusion. Sometime after their creation, and most certainly after the sixth day when everything was declared “very good” (Genesis 1:31), Satan rebelled and was cast out of heaven. “How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!” (Isaiah 14:12). Jesus said, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven” (Luke 10:18), and in the book of the Revelation Satan is seen as “a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth” (Revelation 9:1). We are also told that one third of an “innumerable company of angels” (Hebrews 12:22) chose to rebel with him. John saw this great wonder in heaven, “...an enormous red dragon...His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth...the great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him” (Revelation 12:3–9). Since Satan is referred to as a star which fell or was cast down to earth, and Revelation 12:4 says a third of the stars were cast out with him, then the conclusion is that the stars in Revelation 12 refer to fallen angels, fully one third of the heavenly host. If the one-third number is in fact accurate, what assurance that is! Two thirds of the angels are still on God’s side, and for followers of Christ, they are on our side as well.

**Now having said that let us go to this week’s teaching about afflicting our souls and look at the prophetic importance of this Day of Fasting.**