

The Sabbath of Vision Before Tisha B'Av



SHABBAT CHAZON

Bein HaMetzarim – בין המצרים

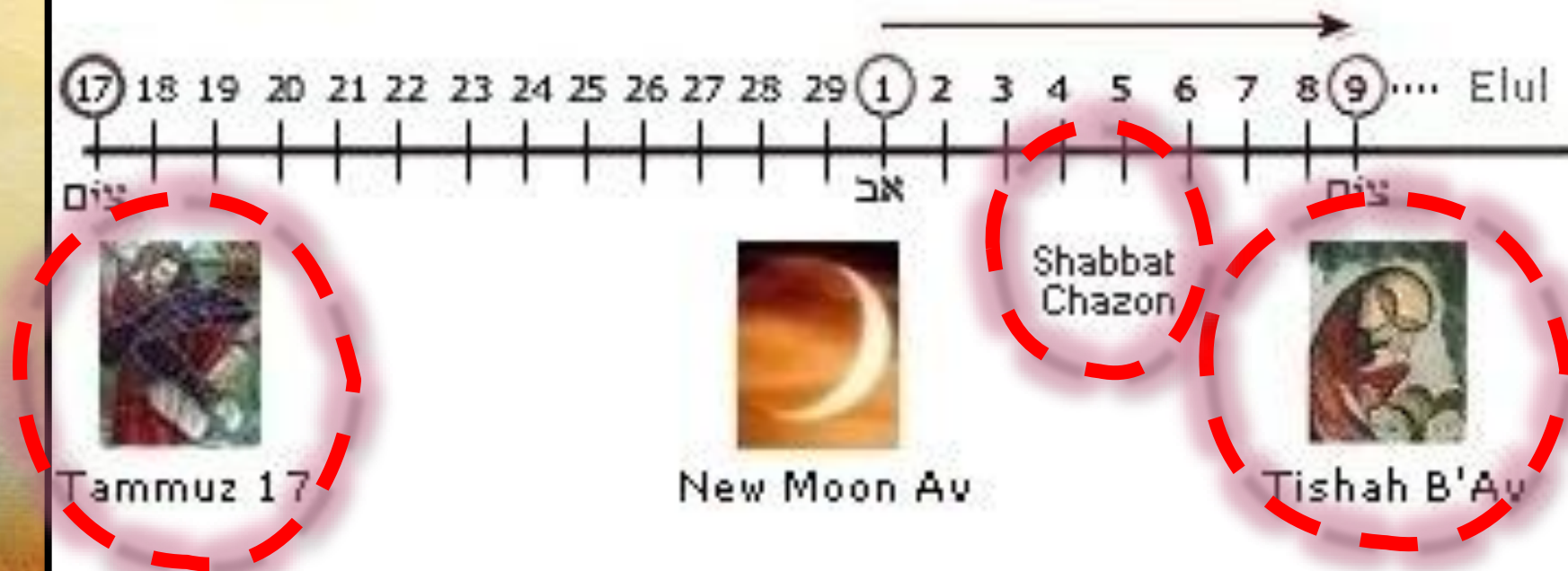


Lamentations 1:3;

Judah has gone into captivity, under affliction and hard servitude; She dwells among the nations; She finds no rest; All her persecutors overtake her in **dire straits**.

THREE WEEKS OF SORROW

mourning for Zion



Tisha B'Av



Five Historical Tragedies Occurring on the 9th of Av

1. It was decreed that the generation of the wilderness would not enter the Land of Israel following the sin of the spies
2. The First Temple was destroyed by the Babylonians
3. The Second Temple was destroyed by the Romans
4. The city of Betar was captured, ending the Bar Kokhba revolt, with massive loss of Jewish life
5. Jerusalem was plowed over by the Romans (under Turnus Rufus), fulfilling the prophecy that Zion would be plowed like a field

Tisha B'Av



More Current Tragedies Occurring on the 9th of Av

1. The First Crusade began its massacres of Jewish communities in the Rhineland in 1096
2. The Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492, with the deadline for expulsion falling in the beginning of Av
3. World War I broke out when Germany declared war on Russia on August 1, 1914, which corresponded to Tisha B'Av that year
4. The mass deportations from the Warsaw Ghetto to the Treblinka death camp began on Tisha B'Av in 1942, marking the start of the ghetto's liquidation during the Holocaust

Cheshbon Haneefesh



Kinot are the liturgical dirges recited on Tisha B'Av, the fast day mourning the national catastrophes.

The purpose:

- **Communal mourning** — giving structured, shared expression to grief over the Churban
- **Historical memory** — many kinot recount specific tragedies - the day becomes a vehicle for carrying the memory forward, generation to generation.

Cheshbon Hanefesh



- **Theological reckoning** — Kinot wrestle with covenant, exile, and divine justice, echoing the prophetic understanding that the Churban came from sin, not merely misfortune. This turns mourning into a moment of **CHESHBON HANEFESH (SELF-EXAMINATION), NOT JUST LAMENT.**
- **Hope embedded in grief** — the end of the readings bring comfort and restoration, reflecting that Tisha B'Av's mourning is bound up with hope — the day that will become a day of joy.



Shabbat Chazon: Judgment & Hope

Isaiah 1

1 This is the vision of Yesha'yahu the son of Amotz, which he saw concerning Y'hudah and Yerushalayim during the days of 'Uziyahu, Yotam, Achaz and Y'chizkiyahu, kings of Y'hudah:
2 "Hear, heaven! Listen, earth! For Adonai is speaking. "I raised and brought up children, but they rebelled against me. 3 An ox knows its owner and a donkey its master's stall, but Isra'el does not know, my people do not reflect. 4 "Oh, sinful nation, a people weighed down by iniquity, descendants of evildoers, immoral children! They have abandoned Adonai, spurned the Holy One of Isra'el, turned their backs on him! 5 "Where should I strike you next, as you persist in rebelling? The whole head is sick, the whole heart diseased.



Shabbat Chazon: Judgment & Hope

Isaiah 1

6 From the sole of the foot to the head there is nothing healthy, only wounds, bruises and festering sores that haven't been dressed or bandaged or softened up with oil. 7 "Your land is desolate, your cities are burned to the ground; foreigners devour your land in your presence; it's as desolate as if overwhelmed by floods. 8 The daughter of Tziyon is left like a shack in a vineyard, like a shed in a cucumber field, like a city under siege."

Shabbat Chazon: Judgment & Hope



Isaiah 1

9 If Adonai-Tzva'ot had not left us a tiny, tiny remnant, we would have become like S'dom, we would have resembled 'Amora. 10 Hear what Adonai says, you rulers of S'dom! Listen to God's Torah, you people of 'Amora! 11 "Why are all those sacrifices offered to me?" asks Adonai. "I'm fed up with burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fattened animals! I get no pleasure from the blood of bulls, lambs and goats! 12 Yes, you come to appear in my presence; but who asked you to do this, to trample through my courtyards? 13 Stop bringing worthless grain offerings! They are like disgusting incense to me! Rosh-Hodesh, Shabbat, calling convocations — I can't stand evil together with your assemblies!



Shabbat Chazon: Judgment & Hope

Isaiah 1

14 Everything in me hates your Rosh-Hodesh and your festivals; they are a burden to me — I'm tired of putting up with them! 15 "When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; no matter how much you pray, I won't be listening; because your hands are covered with blood. 16 "Wash yourselves clean! Get your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing evil, 17 learn to do good! Seek justice, relieve the oppressed, defend orphans, plead for the widow.



Shabbat Chazon: Judgment & Hope

Isaiah 1

18 “Come now,” says Adonai, “let’s talk this over together. Even if your sins are like scarlet, they will be white as snow; even if they are red as crimson, they will be like wool. 19 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land; 20 but if you refuse and rebel, you will be eaten by the sword”; for the mouth of Adonai has spoken.



Shabbat Chazon: Judgment & Hope

Isaiah 1

25 But I will also turn my hand against you! I will cleanse your impurities as with lye and remove all your alloyed base metal. 26 I will restore your judges as at first and your advisers as at the beginning. After that, you will be called the City of Righteousness, Faithful City. 27 Tziyon will be redeemed by justice; and those in her who repent, by righteousness. 28 “Rebels and sinners together will be broken and those who abandon Adonai be consumed. 29 You will be ashamed of the sacred oaks you desired, you will blush at the gardens you chose; 30 for you will be like an oak whose leaf fades, like a garden without any water. 31 The strong will be like tinder and [the idol’s] maker like a spark; both will burn together, and no one will put them out.”



Shabbat Chazon: Judgment & Hope

Matthew 23

37 “Yerushalayim! Yerushalayim! You kill the prophets! You stone those who are sent to you! How often I wanted to gather your children, just as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, but you refused! 38 Look! God is abandoning your house to you, leaving it desolate.[a] 39 For I tell you, from now on, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of Adonai.’”



Will The Real Paul Please Stand Up?

The Gospel of Rav Shaul

Part 4

Paul In His Own Words



Romans 1

1 From: Sha'ul, **A SLAVE** of the Messiah Yeshua,
AN EMISSARY because I was called and set
apart for the **GOOD NEWS** of God.

ἀπόστολος – apostolos

Set apart and sent out
on behalf of another; an
ambassador

δούλος – doulos

Bound together with
another by voluntary or
involuntary subjection

Paul & Heuristics



Romans 1

5 Through him we received grace and were given the work of being **an emissary on his behalf**

PROMOTING TRUST-GROUNDED OBEDIENCE

among all the Gentiles 6 including you, who have been called by Yeshua the Messiah.

πίστις – pistis

Septuagint Greek: a moral conviction that prompts constant behavior that aligns with the truth of that conviction

שמע – sh'ma'

to hear with the intent of obeying

Paul & Heuristics



Pistis – πίστις translates the Hebrew word...

Emunah – אמונה

“Will you stay steady and firm, reliable toward this person or this principle or this command – and will you do it over time, especially if it costs you something?”

Paul & Heuristics



Paul writes in Greek, to Greek speaking people.
However, he is IN NO WAY expressing a Hellenist
mindset!!

He is saturating the Gentiles with a new
set of heuristics.

He is aligning them progressively with
God's truth, His principles, His Holy
Scriptures!

Paul & Heuristics



He is presenting and reinforcing to the Gentile world:*

The Good News of redemption as revealed throughout the Tanakh

The grace of God as revealed at the execution stake of Yeshua

The New Covenant as revealed in the prophets

The eternal Emunah of God

The Torah – through the very Spirit of God within us

The Emunah required in the struggle between the evil and good inclination

The Emunah required to allow God's Spirit to write the Torah on our hearts (Jeremiah 31)

The Emunah required to walk in our calling as ambassadors for God

The finish line of our journey: the Resurrection and the Eternal Kingdom

*He is also calling out the Hellenist Jews as well as those entrenched in Jewish elitism.

Romans 1



8 First, I thank my God through Yeshua the Messiah for all of you, because **THE REPORT OF YOUR TRUST** is spreading **THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE WORLD.**

The Gospel of Rav Shaul: Truth & Consequences

The Same Yesterday, Today, & Forever

The Good News



Mark 1:15

“The time has come, God’s Kingdom is near! Turn to God from your sins [Teshuvah – repent] and believe the Good News!”

Matthew 4:17

From that time on, Yeshua began proclaiming,
“Turn from your sins [Teshuvah – repent] to God,
for the Kingdom of Heaven is near!”

John 3



16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his only and unique Son, so that everyone who trusts in him **MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE, INSTEAD OF BEING UTTERLY DESTROYED**. 17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but rather so that through him, the world might be saved.

John 3



18 Those who trust in him are not judged; **THOSE WHO DO NOT TRUST HAVE BEEN JUDGED ALREADY**, in that they have not trusted in the one who is God's only and unique Son.

John 3



19 “Now this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, **but people LOVED THE DARKNESS [Gr. Skotos] rather than the light.** Why? [Gr. Gar → We know this] Because their actions were wicked.

John 3



20 For everyone who does evil things **hates the light** and avoids it, **SO THAT HIS ACTIONS WON'T BE EXPOSED**.

The is no repentance,
no desire to change – to
turn from self to
surrender

John 3



21 But everyone who does what is true comes to the light, so that ALL MAY SEE THAT HIS ACTIONS are ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH GOD.”

Repentance as a lifestyle, not a momentary whim – visible in your actions. It is the evidence for your surrender to God.

Romans 1



16 For I am **NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOOD NEWS**, since it is God's powerful means of bringing salvation to everyone who **KEEPS ON TRUSTING**, to the Jew especially, but equally to the gentile.

Romans 1



17 For in it is revealed how God makes people righteous in his sight; and **from beginning to end it is through trust** — as the Tanakh puts it, “But the person who is righteous will live his life by trust.”

Romans 1



18 What is revealed is **GOD'S ANGER FROM HEAVEN AGAINST ALL THE GODLESSNESS AND WICKEDNESS** of people who in their wickedness **keep suppressing the truth**; 19 because what is known about God is plain to them, since God has made it plain to them.

Romans 1



20 For ever since the creation of the universe his invisible qualities — both his eternal power and his divine nature — have been clearly seen, because they can be understood from what he has made.

Romans 1



Therefore, they have no excuse; 21 because, although they know who God is, they do not glorify him as God or thank him. On the contrary, they have become futile in their thinking; and their **UNDISCERNING HEARTS** have become **DARKENED [Gr. Skotos]**.

Romans 1



22 Claiming to be wise, **THEY HAVE BECOME**
FOOLS! 23 In fact, they have exchanged the glory of
the **IMMORTAL GOD** for mere images, like a
mortal human being, or like birds, animals or
reptiles!

Romans 1



24 This is why God has given them up to the vileness of their hearts' lusts, to the shameful misuse of each other's bodies. 25 They have exchanged the truth of God for falsehood, by worshipping and serving created things, rather than the Creator — praised be he for ever. Amen. 26 This is why God has given them up to degrading passions; so that their women exchange natural sexual relations for unnatural;

Romans 1



27 and likewise the men, giving up natural relations with the opposite sex, burn with passion for one another, men committing shameful acts with other men and receiving in their own persons the penalty appropriate to their perversion.

Romans 1



28 In other words, since they have not considered God worth knowing, God has given them up to worthless ways of thinking; so that they do improper things.

Romans 1



29 They are filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and vice; stuffed with jealousy, murder, quarrelling, dishonesty and ill-will; they are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God; they are insolent, arrogant and boastful; they plan evil schemes; they disobey their parents; 31 they are brainless, faithless, heartless and ruthless.

Romans 1



32 They know well enough God's righteous decree that people who do such things deserve to die; yet not only do they keep doing them, **BUT THEY APPLAUD OTHERS WHO DO THE SAME.**

Paul & Heuristics – Romans 1



Romans 1:20 → Genesis 1 — "since the creation of the world" invokes the Genesis creation account as backdrop for the natural-revelation argument.

Romans 1:23 → Genesis 1:20–26 and Deuteronomy 4:16–18 — "they exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for images resembling mortal man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles."

Romans 1:25 → Deuteronomy 4:19 — "they worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator."

Romans 1:26–27 → Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13 — the condemnation of same-sex relations echoes the Levitical holiness code's prohibitions.

Romans 1:30 → Exodus 20:12 / Deuteronomy 5:16 and their covenant penalties — "disobedient to parents" with its covenant-curse counterparts for violating it (Deuteronomy 21:18–21, Exodus 21:15/17).

Romans 1:32 → Torah's capital-crime lists (e.g., Leviticus 20, Deuteronomy 22) — "those who practice such things deserve death" resonates with the Torah's death-penalty provisions for several of the sins just listed.

Romans 2



1 Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, passing judgment; for when you judge someone else, you are passing judgment against yourself;

SINCE YOU WHO ARE JUDGING DO THE SAME THINGS HE DOES.

2 We know that God's judgment lands impartially on those who do such things;

Romans 2



3 do you think that you, a mere man passing judgment on others who do such things, yet doing them yourself, will escape the judgment of God? 4 Or perhaps you despise the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience; because you don't realize that God's kindness is intended to lead you to turn from your sins.

Romans 2



5 But by your stubbornness, **by your**
UNREPENTANT HEART, you are storing up anger
for yourself **ON THE DAY OF ANGER**, when God's
righteous judgment will be revealed;

Romans 2



6 for he will pay back each one according to his deeds.

Proverbs 24:12

If you say, “We knew nothing about it,”
won’t he who weighs hearts discern it?
Yes, he who guards you will know it and
repay each one as his deeds deserve.

Romans 2



6 for he will pay back each one according to his deeds. 7 To those who seek glory, honor and immortality **BY PERSEVERANCE IN DOING GOOD, HE WILL PAY BACK ETERNAL LIFE.**

Romans 2



8 But to those who are self-seeking, **WHO**
DISOBEY THE TRUTH AND OBEY EVIL, he will
pay back wrath and anger.