

## HAVING A PASSION ABOUT THE PASSION OF MESSIAH

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Literally millions of persons have viewed the Mel Gibson movie "The Passion of the Christ". Millions if not billions more people will see this movie before it runs its course. Long before the movie was released, I knew that it was an inspired work of GOD and may be an end time witness to all of those that have eyes to see and ears to hear. I am awestruck by the fact that during a time that the "church" is agonizing over its inability to evangelize the world during the last two centuries, it appears that YHWH will accomplish this task very quickly using only one obedient man.

For many of us, the movie has come at just the right time. Having followed a procession of revelation for many years that began with Messiah, we have found ourselves back to the place of beginning, focusing on a deeper and higher revelation of Messiah and HIS bloody, sacrificial death on the execution stake as the Lamb of GOD. The movie and a fresh movement of the Spirit of YHWH have given me a new passion for The Passion of Messiah. Contained within this new passion and gleaned through years of revelation walking the ancient path is many truths. I think that foremost among these are two. I will attempt, if words do not fail me, to describe these below.

First, the church and common teaching tends to minimize the sacrifice of Messiah. While it is true that HIS blood was spilled for you and me, it is much more than this. It was **THE** event of the universe's history and time.....past, present and future. All creation is looking forward or backward to this blessed event. All of creation, both that which can be seen and that which cannot is healed brought to salvation, renewed, restored by the blood of Messiah. In other words, all things (all means all) have been made new; YHWH through the blood of Messiah has provided for the restoration of all (all means all) things (a fallen creation) and has reconciled HIS creation back unto HIMSELF. In my finite mind, I cannot fathom what the preceding statement truly means, but in the Spirit I know that it is true. In my finite mind, I cannot fathom the true length, width and depth of the wisdom of YHWH in bringing about this event, yet I know that it is marvelous and truly at work.

Secondly, in regard to what Messiah's sacrifice means to you and me, we have been very limited in our thinking. Yes, HIS blood brought salvation and freedom to all that would trust; but it also brought much more. When Messiah proclaimed at the Passover table that HE was going to prepare a place for HIS followers (John 14), HE was not going to build anything, certainly not a habitation. HIS work of creation was completed in the beginning. A through review of these scriptures clearly shows that the bloody sacrificial death of Messiah prepared a place (station) for redeemed mankind in the household of YHWH (the Elohim). Where is this place? We have some insight into this question in Revelation 5,

when John the revelator is crying as he beholds the throne room of YHWH and no one is found worthy to open the scroll. He then is told to look and he sees a lamb that appears to have been slaughtered approach and take the scroll. A strong angel then proclaims that the Lion of the tribe of Judah has been found worthy. Following this glorious sight, everything and everyone in heaven, on the earth and around the throne falls down before the lamb and worships. What has happened is that the willing, self-sacrifice of the second Adam has forever forged a place in the household of YHWH for mankind, and that place is at the throne of YHWH GOD. Not because of who we are, but because of who HE is and our trust in HIM. And there is more.

The Passion of Messiah forever forged a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah (the Israel of GOD) and established a new priesthood. This new covenant and the new priesthood is brought into reality after Messiah cries out that "It is finished" and with the spear of the Roman guard in the side of Messiah, a supernatural flow of blood and water is manifested that continues even now to cleanse us from our inequities. The old covenant, which begins in Exodus 20 and consummated by Moses sprinkling the people (with the blood and water of the covenant) in Exodus 24 has to do with Israel promising to obey the torah. If they were to do so, HE would be their GOD and they would be HIS people. Also the verses (Exodus 20) say that Israel would become a nation of Priests (this is interesting). The new covenant established by Messiah has to do with the torah (which has been transformed by the change in priesthood) placed in our minds and written upon our hearts. Clearly, it is the old covenant that is passing away and not the torah, but I believe that most of us reading the scriptures in Hebrews comes away believing that the law is passing away. Is this the place that the LORD has placed the Cherubim with the flaming sword to guard the way into the garden? We have come to understand that the blood of the covenant was encountered at the mountain and was the blood of bulls mixed with water and sprinkled on the people by Moses. We recognize that we also came out of the world and were delivered from bondage by the blood of the Passover lamb. The blood of the new covenant, however, is not encountered until we begin our journey down the ancient path as priests into the heavenlies (the spiritual dimension) in Sabbath with GOD and resting in HIS completed works, asking that we might behold what HE is doing, praying for perfect understanding and coming to the laver containing the blood and water that poured forth from the side of Messiah. Here Messiah Yahshua as High Priest cleanses us by sprinkling just as Moses did.

The glory and wonder of all of this is that the "Passion" of Messiah Yahshua has made it possible that HE is with us now, that we can find rest, that we can see and enter into HIS works. At the Passover table Messiah told his followers that HE would return to them, and indeed HE did. He told them that HE would not leave them as orphans but would send the comforter, the Spirit of truth. What HE brought was HIMSELF; because HE also said "I will come to you".

So, the "Passion" is so much more than a sacrifice for our sins. He has made a place forever in the household of YHWH GOD for mankind seated at the very throne; He has restored all of creation back unto the creator; He has sealed with HIS blood a new covenant with the Israel of GOD: He has established a new priesthood in Israel; and the very best gift of all, HE has given us Himself, both now and into the ages to come.