



The Bible Banner

August 2020



See the Salvation of the Lord

A great man once said that his greatest moment of joy was on a crowded street of a big city, when a little child looked up into his face, put her hand in his big hand, and then requested:

"Take me across the street to the other side."

When the battles of life are too long or too big for you, put your hand in the hand of Christ, & trust Him to get you through, for He promises, *"For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee."* Isa 41:13

Quotable Quotes

"It was God's word that made us; is it any wonder that His word should sustain us?" --Charles Spurgeon

Raspberry Delight Cream (Sherbet)

1½ cups soy or nut milk

1 cup organic sugar

3 ¾ cup frozen raspberries

Blend.

This will probably require a VitaMix or Blend-tec blender as it is very thick when blended. Blend until creamy.

Note: You could probably make this with any frozen berry.



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Prophetic News Notes – False Christ in Israel?

"For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect. But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things." Mark 13:22, 23

Rabbi Chaim Kanievsky is considered one of the two or three top rabbis of the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community in Israel.¹ Back in 2018, he made headlines in a news article from India, stating, **"Messiah is born, claims renowned Rabbi, says end of times is here."** The article states, *"In a shocking claim, Rabbi Chaim Kanievsky, one of the world's leading Jewish scholars, revealed he believes the Jewish saviour was born this Saturday. According to DailyStar, the 90-year-old predicted the world [is] on the cusp [of] entering the Messianic Age."*

The article also states, *"Another Rabbi claimed US President Donald Trump's decision to move the US Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem is part of the prophecy of the Messiah."*²

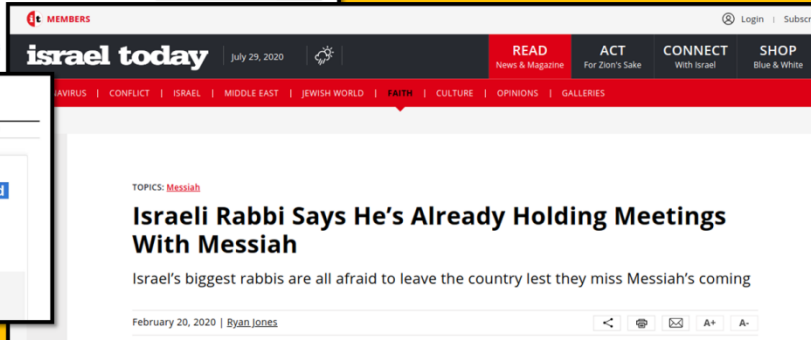
By February 2020, an Israeli news source headlined, **"Israeli Rabbi Says He's Already Holding Meetings With Messiah."** The article continues, stating, *"A recent interview on Israeli radio again featured prominent rabbis explaining that the Messiah is just about to reveal himself." Rabbi Yaakov Zisholtz said "... that Rabbi Chaim Kanievsky recently told him that he (Kanievsky) is already in direct contact with the Messiah....And Rabbi Zisholtz says that Kanievsky and others of the mystical 'concealed' rabbis have now tasked him with informing the public of the Messiah's imminent arrival."*¹

Now in July 2020, Israeli news states, **“‘ISRAEL’S ORACLE’ DELIVERS BIG MESSAGE FROM GOD: ‘MESSIAH IS HERE!’”**

The *“new message, begging Jews who live in the diaspora to get to Israel, has been released from an unusual source. Daniel, a Jewish man living in Israel, is known by his first name alone. Daniel was born with autism and does not have the ability to communicate verbally.”* However, it is claimed that *“as a result of his autism, he and others like him are able to tap into a higher level of spiritual truth than most.....”*

He states, *“I’m talking to all the Jews that live in the United States. Your life will not go back to what it used to be. Although now it seems as if it’s quiet and peaceful, but it’s not the case. Do you think that you will hang out in the United States until the redemption? No, no, it’s not like that!”*

Sure, in the past you came to Israel for vacation... but the situation is different now. Now you have to come to Israel for good, to come to Eretz Yisrael (the Land of Israel), even if you have to live in tents.



Yes! Come with a strong desire, knowing that salvation is very near and that the Moshiah (messiah) is already here... I'm not [only] talking to the American Jews. I'm talking to all the Jews all over the world and especially the Jews in Europe and England. It is very dangerous to be there. It [will be] very dangerous for you soon. The Shechina (Divine presence) has already left these countries.”³

Sadly, many Jews and even Christian Zionists will receive these messages as from God, but Jesus Christ of the Bible has specifically warned us that this is not Him, stating, *“Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ [the Greek word for Messiah], or there; believe it not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.*

“Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” Matthew 24:23-27

- 1- <https://www.israeltoday.co.il/read/israeli-rabbi-says-hes-already-holding-meetings-with-messiah/>
- 2- <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/lifestyle/viral-and-trending/230718/messiah-is-born-claims-renowned-rabbi-says-end-of-times-is-here.html>
- 3- <https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/154491/israeli-oracle-delivers-message-god-jews-america-deep-trouble/>



As in the Days of Noah

Editor's Note and Study to Show Thyself Approved

“It’s gonna’ rain, It’s gonna’ rain. You better get ready and bear this in mind. This should you know at the end of time: It won’t be water, but fire this time.” The words of this song that I heard years ago portray the biblical parallel of the flood to the last days, while warning people to get ready for God’s judgment that is coming upon our world.

Peter writes, *“Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.” 2 Peter 3:6, 7*

Jesus also compared the days of Noah to the end of time, stating, *“But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away [destroyed them all]; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” Matt. 24:37-39 [See Luke 17:26, 27]*

For many the destruction of our planet will come as an overwhelming surprise, just like the flood did to the ungodly, because they are so caught up in the things of this world. This is why Jesus warns in Luke 21:34 *“And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.”*

Note that Jesus warns not just of the “cares of this life,” but also surfeiting and drunkenness. Drunkenness suggests eating or drinking those things that negatively affect the reasoning powers while surfeiting is “*Excess in eating and drinking.*”

It is carrying that which is lawful to excess that makes it a grievous sin. *“In the days of Noah they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, buying, selling, and building, till the flood came and destroyed the people who had been so overzealous in the things of this world that they forgot God, and became abominable in his eyes. **It was lawful for men to eat and drink, plant and build, marry and give in marriage, in the days of Noah; but the sin was in carrying these lawful things to extremes, to utterly fill their mind with them to the exclusion of all noble thoughts.**”* {ST, August 23, 1877 par. 3}

Notice that those who eat things that negatively affect their reasoning powers will smite their fellow servants as well as not being ready for the second coming of Christ. Jesus warned, “*But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*” Matthew 24:48-51

“The sin of the Noatic world was intemperance, and today the sin exhibited by intemperance in eating and drinking is so marked that God will not always tolerate it. . . . Man carries to excess that which is lawful, and his whole being suffers the result of the violation of the laws which the Lord has established. . . . It is necessary for us to eat and to drink that we may have physical strength to serve the Lord, but when we carry our eating to gluttony, without a thought of pleasing our heavenly Father, eating just that which is pleasing to our taste, we are doing just as they did in the days of Noah.” {CC 35.2, 6}



Another characteristic that we see before the flood is evil thoughts continually. Genesis 6:5 says, “*And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*”

Romans 1:28-32 states, “*And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.” So perhaps their entertainment was just of the nature of the violent, immoral television, video and “role-playing” games of today. Or maybe they just constantly read the corrupt news and social media instead of God’s word.*

Before the flood, we also see a mingling of the righteous with the wicked (the sons of God with the daughters of men). Genesis 6:1, 2 says, “*And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.*” Spiritually, today we might call this an “ecumenical movement” or “the world council of churches (WCC)”. Consider these disturbing facts concerning the WCC, “Vijay Menon attended the general assembly of the World Council of Churches which was held in Canberra, Australia, and saw other delegates before the opening of the worship services perform a pagan cleansing right as they passed through the smoke of burning leaves. Then Vijay Menon and his fellow Christian delegates had to listen to a recording of insect noises and [watch?] a male dancer impersonate a kangaroo. The next day while two painted Aborigines dressed only in loin-cloths cavorted, South Korean theologian Chung Hyun Kyung invoked the spirits of the dead. Vijay Menon instantly recognized these practices of animism and spiritism and pagan beliefs, having formerly been a New Ager himself...[Also] there was a statement praising the green god Hirwa as the Logos of Creation. When a study group wanted to consult the Bible on a point, a WCC staffer protested, ‘Oh no. It’s Christian imperialism to suggest that the Bible has more to say than other books.’” (*The Dragon, the Beast, and the False Prophet*, William Sutton, pg. 232,233)

No wonder 2 Cor. 6:14-17 warns, “*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,*”

While there are many lessons from the story of the flood, we will cover only one more. Genesis 6, 7 record that there was only one ark with only one door. Whoever was saved had to come into that one ark, through the one door.

Jesus is the one way to be saved. John 14:6 states, "*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*" Jesus is the one door. He says, "*I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.*" John 10:9 "*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*" Acts 4:12

Spurgeon tells it like this, "*In the morning, when the ark door was opened, an observer might see a pair of golden eagles in the sky. But glancing downward, one might see creeping along, a pair of snails, a pair of snakes, a pair of worms. There were pairs of creeping creatures as well as pairs of flying creatures. But there was only one entrance for them all. The eagle [the proud] must come down to enter it, and the worm [the sinner] must crawl up to it.*"



Indeed. At the close of a Gospel service an intelligent-looking man came to that minister and said, "*I do not see any necessity for the Blood of Christ in my salvation. I can be saved without believing in His shed Blood.*"

"Very well" said the minister, "how then do you propose to be saved?"

"By following His example," was the answer. "That is enough for any man."

"I suppose it is," said the minister. "And you propose to do just that in your life?"

"I do, and I am sure that is enough."

"Very well, I am sure that you want to begin right. The Word of God tells us how to do that. I read here concerning Christ, 'Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth.' [1 Peter 2:22] I suppose that you can say that of yourself too?"

The man became visibly embarrassed. "Well," he said, "I cannot say that exactly. I have sometimes sinned."

"In that case, you do not need only an Example, but a Saviour; and the only way of salvation is by His shed Blood."

Everyone has to make their own decision whether to be saved or lost. Ezekiel 14:20 records, "*Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall but deliver their own souls by their righteousness.*" (Also Ezekiel 14:14)

Would you be saved? Soon the door of mercy will shut and only those who are inside will be saved. Choose today to come out of the world, to brave reproach and enter the ark of safety. There is only one way. "*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*" Revelation 12:11



Swallowing a Camel?

As the coronavirus scare takes over the world with its masks, shut-downs and sanitizers, I think of the words of Jesus, "*Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.*" Matt. 23:24 And indeed, it seems

we are causing more mental, emotional, and physical health problems than we are protecting against. I cringed recently, as I walked into the grocery store last week past the huge bottle of hand sanitizer. Since I have a chemical sensitivity (which years ago landed me in the emergency room with my throat swelling shut from a sanitizer exposure) I know from experience that sanitizers can be deadly. And indeed, they continue to be especially for children.

"Every year, thousands of consumers call poison control centers because someone has unintentionally ingested hand sanitizer. But in March, as concerns about the coronavirus were growing, those calls surged 80% from a year ago..."

"Sanitizers can have different risks. In June, the Food and Drug Administration [FDA] started warning consumers that some brands of sanitizer, mostly manufactured in Mexico, were contaminated with methanol. Better known as wood alcohol, the substance can be harmful if absorbed through the skin and deadly if swallowed, with children especially vulnerable. Since then, the agency has warned of nearly 90 potentially toxic sanitizers..."



*"But even before the agency started warning about methanol in sanitizers and announcing recalls of products sold nationwide at retailers including Walmart and Target, the FDA identified another potential danger is some new products flooding the market. Namely, a slew of manufacturers were making the products without denatured alcohol, a substance required to make sanitizers taste bitter and unappetizing to children."*¹

Did you catch that? Even the FDA is stating that nearly 90 toxic sanitizers are potentially being sold at places like Walmart and Target. Some of these (whose stated purpose is to put on the skin) are harmful if absorbed through the skin. So, please wear gloves when shopping where hand sanitizers are required.

"No amount of methanol is acceptable, the agency notes. The alcohol, which is metabolized to formaldehyde then to formic acid in the body, can cause systemic toxic effects if ingested, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin. Ingesting just two tablespoons can be fatal to small children, who may be tempted to drink sanitizers within reach. Smaller amounts can lead to permanent blindness."

*"States continue to report increasing numbers of harms from the products, which can cause nausea, vomiting, headache, blurred vision, permanent blindness, seizures, coma, permanent damage to the nervous system, cardiac effects, and death."*²

But besides methanol and other toxic chemicals, there is another problem. *"It seems that germs are also getting the upper hand on hand sanitizers. New research by scientists at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity and Austin Health has shown that certain strains of a microbe called Enterococcus faecium, which causes many infections in hospitalized patients, has become ten times more resistant to alcohol-based hand sanitizers compared to older strains."*³

So, what do we find for cleansing in God's gospel health plan? **Water** (Lev. 15:11, Eph. 5:26) and **Soap** (Jer. 2:22, Mal. 3:1-3).

"So what should consumers do? Wash your hands with plain soap and water. That's still one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and to prevent spreading germs....According to the (FDA), there isn't enough science to show that over-the-counter (OTC) antibacterial soaps are better at preventing illness than washing with plain soap and water.... In addition, the wide use of these products over a long time has raised the question of potential negative effects on your health...."

*"Following simple handwashing practices is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of many types of infection and illness at home, at school and elsewhere," says Theresa M. Michele, MD, of the FDA's Division of Nonprescription Drug Products. "We can't advise this enough. It's simple, and it works."*⁴

Palli Thordarson, a professor at the School of Chemistry at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, explains why, stating, *"The coronavirus is no match for plain old soap — here's the science behind it...Soap works better than alcohol and disinfectants at destroying the structure of viruses. Why does soap work so well on the new coronavirus and, indeed, most viruses? Because it is a self-assembled nanoparticle in which the weakest link is the lipid (fatty) bilayer.... Let me explain. Soap dissolves the fat membrane, and the virus falls apart like a house of cards and "dies," or rather, it becomes inactive as viruses aren't really alive."*⁵

As always, God got it right the first time, why not follow His way?

1-- <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/hand-sanitizer-poisoning-small-children/> 2- <https://arstechnica.com/science/2020/07/mounting-poisonings-blindness-deaths-as-toxic-hand-sanitizers-flood-market/> 3-- <https://www.labroots.com/trending/microbiology/12392/germs-gaining-resistance-hand-sanitizers> 4-- <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/antibacterial-soap-you-can-skip-it-use-plain-soap-and-water> 5- https://www.marketwatch.com/story/deadly-viruses-are-no-match-for-plain-old-soap-heres-the-science-behind-it-2020-03-08?link=TD_nypost_articles.7c7e0f416376f79f&utm_source=nypost_articles.7c7e0f416376f79f&utm_campaign=circular&utm_medium=MARKETWATCH



Ye Shall Not Need to Fight in this Battle

Perhaps one of my favorite Bible stories is that of Judah and Jerusalem when their enemies threatened and Judah confessed *"we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon Thee."* 2 Chr. 20:12 Then God said, *"Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you."* 2 Chronicles 20:17

Their only job was to sing. The Bible records,

"And when he [Jehoshaphat] had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever. And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten." 2 Chronicles 20:21,22

In the infancy of the Protestant Reformation after the murder of John Huss, *"the pope and the emperor united to crush out the movement, and the armies of Sigismund were hurled upon Bohemia. But a deliverer was raised up. Ziska, who soon after the opening of the war became totally blind, yet who was one of the ablest generals of his age, was the leader of the Bohemians. Trusting in the help of God and the righteousness of their cause, that people withstood the mightiest armies that could be brought against them. Again and again the emperor, raising fresh armies, invaded Bohemia, only to be ignominiously repulsed."* {GC 116.1}

The Battle of Vitkov contains one of the little known stories of God fighting for His people that is truly amazing.

On June 30, 1420, Emperor Sigismund, with over 80,000 crusaders, arrived outside the walls of Prague. The sea of soldiers, like the fog of impending doom, spread out around the city. The citizens of Prague were terrified. They were greatly outnumbered, were not trained in war, and had few weapons. It appeared that the Reformation was about to be snuffed out. With intense earnestness, the town turned to the Lord for help. What happened next made history. Sigismund ordered his elite cavalry to take an outpost not far from the city of Prague. Three thousand of his cavalry marched across the river and made their way to the outpost, which was guarded by only 26 men, 2 women, and 1 small child. They were reduced to throwing stones and using sticks to keep the enemy at bay. It appeared they were about to lose, when one of the women, whose name has been lost in history, charged towards the enemy shouting, "No true Christian will retreat from Anti-Christ." This cry inspired the others, and this handful of people were able to hold the thousands at bay until Ziska (Žižka) mobilized reinforcements and could come to their aid.

Sadly, Ziska's reinforcements were also badly outnumbered and ill-prepared to encounter the trained soldiers. But on they came, singing hymns, praying, and trusting in the power of God to deliver them.

As Ziska's choir approached, the enemy felt a supernatural terror come over them, and they fled, many throwing themselves off the cliff and drowning in the river below.



Do you feel unarmed and outnumbered by what is against us in the world today? Sing, pray and recount God's promises and wait for the salvation of the Lord. For thus saith the LORD, *"Ye shall not fear them: for the LORD your God he shall fight for you."* Deuteronomy 3:22



Kids' Corner

GOD'S AMAZING CREATURES

There are about 95 different kinds of parrotfish. They are found in the coral reefs, along rocky coasts, and in seagrass beds in the Indo-Pacific Ocean. Before going to sleep, some species of parrotfish form a protective cocoon, out of slimy stuff (mucus), around them, possibly to hide their scent (smell) from predators. Parrotfish mainly eat algae, but will sometimes eat coral. Their teeth grow continuously, replacing parts worn away by feeding on hard coral. Isn't it neat how God created the teeth of parrotfish to keep growing?



Photo: Wikipedia, Author: Igor, Cristino Silva Cruz

Have    thee?   and
of a  courage;    , neither
 thou  :  the LORD thy God
is with thee    thou  .
Joshua 1:9

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