

YESHUA “Hiding in Plain Sight”

“FIND” our Savior all THROUGH the Scriptures!

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Summary: Many sermons have been preached showing how our Savior is revealed to us in so many ways. He's sometimes “the Angel of Yahweh” (“of the LORD”). We can find Him depicted by the animal sacrifices, the Lamb, the temple and tabernacle furniture and so much more. In this message, I hope you'll delight to “find” our Yeshua in so many expressions we may just be reading right over. Enjoy, as we go looking for our Beloved Master and King as we come to know and recognize Him more and more in so many scriptures.

Greetings and Shalom, brothers and sisters in Messiah. This is Philip Shields with another message from the light of God's word.

Don't you just love it when you're looking all over for something – or someone – and all along he, she, or it, is hiding in plain sight? It was always there, plain as can be, and somehow we missed the obvious. I've gone looking for my glasses, only to find I had them on the top of my head all along! Or am I the only one?

I have a T-shirt that has 11 bears “hiding in plain sight” on the art work. It delights my grandkids to try to find them and when they “see” the bears in the artwork, they get so excited. I hope this will be a delightful treasure hunt for you today too. Yeshua is our Beloved, the song in our heart, our King and Master – and, if we are part of the Bride, the One we are going to marry!

Have you ever seen a young couple in love who have been separated for a time? Watch the delight in their eyes as they lock in joyous reunion! Even we old couples can be like that at times, when we see the love of our life come around the corner.

I hope this teaching today will help you delight in our Yeshua, our Salvation **as you find Him in phrases and scriptures** you may have just read over in the past. I have a hunch our dear Abba Father delights in camouflaging our King and His Son all through His book! He takes particular delight in hiding His people in plain sight. When I give the sermon on the Place of Safety, we'll get into that even more.

Here are 2 quick examples of someone “hiding in plain sight”:

- When Israel was a slave nation in Egypt, Pharaoh was intent on killing newborn boys. Some traditions say a “Deliverer” was expected and Pharaoh wanted nothing of it. So what does Yahweh do? He “hides” the “Deliverer - Moses – smack dab in Pharaoh's house, right under Pharaoh's nose!
- Another example: there was a time when **Elijah** was in hiding for 3-1/2 years from Ahab and Jezebel. When it came time for him to present himself, you can read all about it in 1 Kings 18:1-15. Ahab was a powerful king in those days and Israel held sway around surrounding nations. Ahab searched high and low for Elijah. Obadiah,

one of the faithful servants of the king, had this to say when Elijah told him to tell Ahab that Elijah was there to see him.

1 Kings 18:10

“As Yahweh your Elohim lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent someone to hunt for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath from the kingdom or nation that they could not find you.”

Where was Elijah hiding out all that time? He was living with the widow of Zarephath and her *son right in Jezebel's own country!* Ahab probably never *dreamed* he would dare consider “hiding” in Jezebel’s own country. There he was, hiding in plain sight. He was there all along.

Our Savior and Master is like that in a way. He presents Himself from Genesis 1:1 all the way to the end – and many times we miss Him.

WHY am I speaking on this? Because one of our greatest goals is to better come to know our Beloved Master each day. Paul said that was his overriding goal: “that I may know him” (Philippians 3:9-10). I hope this message today helps get us there.

Plus, I think we’ll get so much more out of Bible study as we see our King “from Genesis to Maps” in His Scriptures.

I’m making some assumptions as we get started that you already know:

- **Yeshua was God before His human birth** (John 1:1-3, 14; 1 Tim. 3:16). He was Emmanuel, “GOD with us” (Matthew 1:23). If this isn’t clear, we’ll cover it in a future sermon, but most hearing this already know that the One who became Yeshua was also the God revealed from Genesis through Malachi. In fact when Yeshua was praying in John 17, he says to our Father and His Father: “—glorify me together with you, with the glory I had with you before the world was.”
- I covered carefully in a previous sermon that nobody has ever seen God the Father (John 1:18). Yeshua is the perfect image of “the invisible God” (Col. 1:15). No human has seen Yahweh the Highest, but many saw a Yahweh who became Yeshua (Jesus).

I’ve covered how what is translated in English Bibles as “the LORD” comes from the Hebrew Tetragrammaton “YHVH” – or Yahweh. There was a Yahweh who was very visible to Adam (Genesis 2:22; 3:8-11), Abraham and Sarah (Gen. 17:1; 18:1-2) and so many more. In fact 75 men ate and drank with One called Yahweh on Mt. Sinai (Ex. 24:9-12). I’ve covered all that before.

That is why I say Yahweh has to be the one name given to both the One we call “the Father” and the One we call “the Son”. They are so unified, so of one mind, that they can say they are “echad” – Hebrew for “one”. But Adam and Eve – two people – were also to be “echad” – or “one flesh” (Genesis 2:24).

So with that groundwork laid, let’s now look at ways that Yahweh YESHUA is revealed to us in the Hebrew scriptures, “hiding in plain sight” as it were.

YESHUA – “THE RIGHT HAND/ARM OF GOD”

The last son of Israel/Jacob was Benjamin, born in Bethlehem. Let that sink in. Bethlehem means “house of bread”. The fact that Jacob named that son born in Bethlehem --“son of my right hand”-- was probably prophetic!

Can you think of another “son of my right hand” who was also born in Bethlehem, the house of bread? Of course, it was Y’shua, our King! He is the “Son of my right hand” to God His father!

I’m saying that many times when we read of “the right hand of Yahweh” – or “the arm of God” – we are actually reading about our Yeshua! Let’s look at some examples:

Psalms 118:15-16

15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation (yeshua)

Is in the tents of the righteous;

The right hand of Yahweh does valiantly.

16 **The right hand of Yahweh is exalted;**

The **right hand of Yahweh** does valiantly.

Psalm 118 is clearly speaking of Yeshua. In fact the word “salvation” there IS “Yeshua” in Hebrew! We’ll do more with Psalm 118 later in this message.

When you read of the “right hand of Yahweh” being exalted, that is the exact phraseology used by Peter and Paul and others who later wrote of Jesus being exalted to the right hand of the throne of God. It excited them tremendously to read in the Psalms and other writings about this one with whom they walked the hills of Galilee and Judea, with whom they broke bread and drank wine, with whom they lived and breathed their lives – was the Biblical “right hand of God”. They recognized the scriptures after the fact.

Psalms 110:1

Yahweh said to my Lord (Adonai),

“Sit at My right hand,

Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

Acts 2:32-33 Peter’s sermon on Pentecost

32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore **being exalted to the right hand of God**, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

Stephen saw Yeshua **standing at the right hand of God** while Stephen was being stoned (Acts 7:55-56). There are so many places that speak of Yeshua now literally at God’s right hand (Col. 3:1; 1 Pet. 3:21-22; etc.). To Hebrews in that day, when Peter and Stephen said He was at the right hand of the Eternal God, they understood it in context of many scriptures!

In Exodus 15, Moses’ song of praise after the victory at the Red Sea is written down for us:

Exodus 15:6

6 "**Your right hand**, O Yahweh, has become glorious in power;
Your right hand, O Yahweh, has dashed the enemy in pieces.

Moses is singing praises to our Yeshua! Yahweh Yeshua is also a mighty man of war when He needs to be! When it is time for war, He’s victorious in battle. Moses said that too: Ex 15:3 – “Yahweh is a man of war, **Yahweh is His name!**”

Isaiah and other verses show that Yahweh most High created by and through His right hand – the right hand of Yahweh. But more and more, instead of limiting our thinking to a literal arm, think of it as an expression to point out our Yeshua!

Isaiah 48:12-13 quoting Yahweh:

"Listen to Me, O Jacob, And Israel, My called:

I am He, I am the First, I am also the Last.

13 Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth,

And My right hand has stretched out the heavens;

When I call to them, They stand up together.

So Isa 48:13 is clearly identifying “the Right Hand” as being Yeshua.

Who said He was the first and the last? Yeshua did – Rev. 1. We’ll cover that more later today.

Isaiah is saying **Yahweh’s right hand** laid the foundation of the earth and stretched out the heavens. *Our Y’shua is phenomenal.* Mankind is amazed more and more at just HOW stretched out the heavens are. The universe is expanding. It goes on and on and on.

So Who created all things? Who stretched out the heavens? Yahweh’s right hand. But scripture is also clear to point out that all things were created by Yeshua - or if you prefer, by Jesus Christ.

John 1:3

“By Him all things were made that were made, and nothing was made apart from Him” –

God the Father is also God who created all things – but He did it through the Word of God, the One who became Jesus. Somehow this is seen as One God. Undoubtedly when Genesis 1 says Elohim said, “Let there be light” – the One who actually SPOKE was the WORD, Yeshua! **But Elohim is plural for God.** When not referring to the God of Israel, it is elohim, -- and is always in the plural, such as “I will destroy the gods (elohim) of Egypt...”

Colossians 1:16

“By Him (Jesus) ALL THINGS were created that are in heaven and on earth”

Now you want a real surprise? **Turn to Ecclesiastes 12:1.** In your English Bibles, the word “Creator” is singular. But in Hebrew, it’s in the plural. I’ll quote Ecc. 12:1 from Young’s Literal translation:

Ecclesiastes 12:1 YLT

Remember also *thy Creators* in days of thy youth.....”

Yes, it’s plural in Hebrew. But our English Bibles could not comprehend a plural word here!

Besides being the “right hand of Yahweh”, Scripture also speaks of the “the ARM of the LORD” – or as it should be, “the arm of YHVH”. Yeshua is the arm through whom Father works, just like your head makes decisions and your arm does what its Head wants.

Now maybe some of you are wondering if I’m stretching a point here. So turn to Isa. 53:1. Look at this verse carefully. The chapter goes on clearly to speak of Yeshua’s sacrifice as the Lamb of God. But look at the beginning of the chapter – Isa. 53.

Isaiah 53:1

Who has believed our report?

And to whom has *the arm of Yahweh (the LORD)* been revealed?

THAT “arm of Yahweh”, my brothers and sisters, is Yeshua! Let me confirm that with scripture. Now turn to John 12:37-38. It doesn’t get any clearer than this that what I’ve just said is right.

John *the apostle says* that verse we just read was specifically about Yeshua!

John 12:37-38

But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, 38 that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

"Lord, who has believed our report?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"

SO, I hope you can accept that what I’m teaching here is BIBLICAL. John says so!! **John says that Isaiah 53:1, speaking of “the arm of Yahweh” refers to Yeshua**, but they would not believe it!

There’s my Saviour, that’s MY God and your God, “hiding in plain sight” as the “arm of God” or “right hand of Yahweh”. Now that you “see” Him “hiding” as “the arm of the LORD” (Yahweh) –or “the right hand of the LORD” – so now go look for those scriptures!

Sometimes it’s just “the hand of the LORD” – without the word “right” in there. Remember again: *JOHN the apostle CLEARLY says that the phrase “the arm of the Lord” referred to Jesus Christ – to Yeshua the Messiah!*

Ezekiel 3:22

Then **the hand of Yahweh (the LORD)** was upon me there, and He said to me, "Arise, go out into the plain, and there I shall talk with you."

Ezekiel 37:1-2

The hand of Yahweh (the Lord) came upon me and *brought me out in the Spirit of Yahweh*, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones.

Isaiah 51:9-10

9 Awake, awake, put on strength,

O arm of Yahweh (the LORD),

Awake as in the ancient days,

In the generations of old.

Are You not the arm that cut Rahab apart,

And wounded the serpent?

10 Are You not the One who dried up the sea, (Exodus 15- it was the right arm of YHVH)

The waters of the great deep;

That made the depths of the sea a road

For the redeemed to cross over?

“THE WORD OF YAHWEH”
(In your Bibles—“the word of the LORD”)

Similar to what we just said about “The arm of Yahweh” – all that applies also to “the **WORD** of Yahweh”, or as your English Bibles have it: “The word of the LORD”. A friend I have in Southern California twiggged me on to this.

So many times we read the expression “the Word of the LORD” – not every time, but so many times – it is referring directly to the One who is the WORD of God.

Who is “the Word”?**John 1:1-3**

In the beginning was the Word, **and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.** 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 **All things were made through Him**, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

What is so interesting, is that many times we read a prophet saying that “the Word of Yahweh came unto me...”. What was that? Was that just a special thought he had? Did he hear a voice? Or is it possible that the One who came to earth as the Word of God actually appeared to them? I think that’s very possible as you shall see.

We have numerous instances where Yahweh appears to various ones – to Abraham – Such as **Genesis 12:7** – where it says “And Yahweh appeared to Abraham and said....”. In fact over 20 times in the Old Testament we can read where Yahweh directly appeared to various ones – to Adam/Eve, to Abraham (Gen 12:7; 17:1; 18:1), to Isaac, to Moses, and others.

But other times it doesn’t say “Yahweh came to” someone – but “the WORD of Yahweh” did. In fact about 90 times it says that! Look up in a concordance “The word of

the Lord came”... Remember “the Word of Yahweh” is also Yahweh in His own right, and is with Yahweh Most High – and they as one in their unity.

Genesis 15:1

After these things **the word of Yahweh** came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

Now let’s read about Yahweh revealing Himself to **Samuel** through and by “the word of Yahweh”. Notice especially the wording at the end of **1 Samuel 3**. But let’s start in verse 7. Please pause the message and go get your Bible. You’ve got to see this with your own eyes.

1 Samuel 3:7

7 (Now Samuel did not yet know Yahweh, **nor was the word of Yahweh yet revealed** to him.)

(But we’re about to read how literally He was revealed to Samuel!)

1 Samuel 3:10-11

10 **Now Yahweh came and stood** and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears."

10 **Then Yahweh said** to Samuel....

(WOW, ARE YOU GETTING THIS!?)

1 Samuel 3:21

21 Then Yahweh **appeared** again in Shiloh. **For Yahweh revealed Himself to Samuel** in Shiloh **by the word of Yahweh**.

To me this is a very strong possibility that with it saying Yahweh APPEARED to Samuel, but revealed Himself BY the “word of Yahweh” – that Samuel had some face-to-face time, and dialogue with the One who became the Messiah.

Maybe we need to consider the possibility that Samuel, Moses, Abraham, Jeremiah and so many others talked and walked with the One who came as Yeshua, or Jesus the Christ. There are over 250 times where you can read verses about “the word of Yahweh” or the “Word of the LORD” --and over 90 times where it says the Word of Yahweh CAME TO certain ones. I don’t think for a minute that every single one of those times refers to a literal encounter with a literal being every single time. I believe sometimes it was just a thought, or a voice, or a strong urge they received. But sometimes it DOES appear to be in person.

Here are just a few of the 250+ places we can read of the Word of Yahweh. Could these be examples of Yeshua “hiding in plain sight” in our scriptures? This is not unique teaching by me, by the way. Many believe what I’m teaching today.

1 Kings 21:17

17 Then **the word of Yahweh came** to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,...

Psalms 33:6

6 By the word of Yahweh the heavens were made,

And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

We know in the New Testament that all things were actually made by the One we know as Jesus Christ, Yeshua the Messiah. So what’s Psalm 33:6 telling us?

Now the next passage we’ll read is about Joseph being taken as a slave in chains to Egypt. Notice the wording carefully:

Psalms 105:19

19 Until the time that His word came to pass, **the word of Yahweh tested him.**

Isaiah 38:4-5

4 **And the word of Yahweh came to Isaiah, saying,** 5 "Go and tell Hezekiah, 'Thus says Yahweh, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will add to your days fifteen years.

Was that just a voice Isaiah heard, or is it possible he saw and met the Word of Yahweh? I personally think that is very possible.

Remember the teaching I had about how Yahweh actually applies to Yahweh Most High – whom we now know as our Father – as well as applying to the Son, to the Word? Notice how in Jeremiah 1 it hops back and forth between saying “the Word of Yahweh” and just “Yahweh”.

Jeremiah 1:11-14

11 **Moreover the word of Yahweh came to me, saying,** "Jeremiah, what do you see?"

And I said, "I see a branch of an almond tree."

12 **Then Yahweh said to me,** "You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word." [This is all part of that first time]

13 And **the word of Yahweh** came to me the **second** time, saying, "What do you see?"

And I said, "I see a boiling pot, and it is facing away from the north."

14 **Then Yahweh said to me....**

Are you seeing and hearing the Son of God “hiding in plain sight” in at least SOME of these 250+ scriptures that speak of “the word of Yahweh”?

Now let’s look at another way where Yeshua is hiding in plain sight. This time, under the name/word ‘yeshua’ – meaning salvation. That was his very name!

OUR YESHUA – OUR SALVATION

The word “salvation” in English most often comes from the Hebrew word “yeshua” – the very name of our Saviour.

So many places that speak of Yahweh’s salvation (yeshua) have 2-part meanings. Yes, it is speaking of God’s saving us, but they are also references in some cases to a prophecy of the

coming of Jesus Christ, your and my Saviour, the Yeshua of Yahweh. Yeshua – my salvation.

Exodus 15:2

Yahweh is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation (Yeshua)

Psalms 118:21-28 (this is clearly about Yeshua – or Jesus)

21 I will praise You,
For You have answered me,
And have become my salvation (yeshua)

22 The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This was Yahweh’s doing; It is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day Yahweh has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 ***Save now, I pray, O Yahweh;***

O Yahweh, I pray, send now prosperity.

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of Yahweh! (He came in His Father’s name)
We have blessed you from the house of Yahweh.

27 *God is Yahweh, And He has given us light; (WHO was the light of the world?)
Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar. (WHO is the Lamb of God?)*

28 *You are my God, and I will praise You;
You are my God, I will exalt You.*

Isaiah 12:2-3

2 Behold, **God is my salvation (Yeshua)**, I will trust and not be afraid;
'For Yah, Yahweh, is my strength and song;

He also has become my salvation (Yeshua)."

3 Therefore ***with joy you will draw water***

From the wells of salvation. (What was Yeshua’s message on the Last Day in John 7?)

Isaiah 46:13

13 I bring My righteousness near, it shall not be far off;
My salvation (Yeshua) shall not linger.
And I will place salvation (Yeshua) in Zion,
For Israel My glory.

Isaiah 49:6

6 Indeed He says,

'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant
To raise up the tribes of Jacob,
And to restore the preserved ones of Israel;

I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, (Yeshua was revealed in Galilee of the Gentiles)

That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth."

Isaiah 56:1

Thus says Yahweh: "Keep justice, and do righteousness,
For My salvation (Yeshua) is about to come,
 And My righteousness to be revealed.

Similar verses can be found in Micah 7:7 and Hab 3:18 and numerous others.

Micah 7:7

Therefore I will look to Yahweh;
 I will wait for **the God of my salvation** (Yeshua);
 My God will hear me.

Our Yeshua is also the “Aleph Tav” – the First and the Last

Isaiah 44:6

"Thus says Yahweh, the King of Israel,
And his Redeemer, Yahweh of hosts (YHWH of hosts):
'I am the First and I am the Last;
 Besides Me there is no God."

Yahweh is one, ONE GOD.

Our God, our Elohim, says He is the first and the last. There can be no other Who is first. If someone is first, He is first. There's no one before our King, Yahweh. If he's also the LAST – there's no one after Him. And yet somehow – there's the invisible Yahweh and there's a Yahweh who DID appear to people – but somehow they are ONE. That's what Deut 6:4-6 is all about. Yahweh, Yahweh our Elohim is One. "Echad" in Hebrew. The same word used in Genesis 2 when it is said that Adam and Eve, or man and wife, "shall be echad – shall be one".

What is very interesting is that there are 2 letters in the Hebrew Scriptures – the Old Testament – that are totally ignored in all English translations and those 2 letters are left untranslated! But in several of those cases where these 2 letters are in the Text, it is pointing to Yeshua and we are missing it in the English translations. I'm NOT saying this is the case in every case. Not at all, but I think in a handful of cases it is.

Over and over, our God says He is the first and the Last, the A and Z, the Aleph and Tav. I'm going to show you where He says it in the first verse of the Bible, and says it again in the last book of the Bible.

Revelation 1:7-8

7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, **even they who pierced Him.** And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

8 **"I am the Alpha and the Omega,** the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. The first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet (or Aleph-beit as they call it) are Aleph and Tav. Aleph and Tav are like our A and Z.

The words we just read in Revelation 1:7-8 are being spoken by Yeshua Himself, who was born and raised a Jew, to John, also a Jew. I think it is highly probable that Yeshua spoke in Hebrew to John, though it in the Greek scriptures. If this was said in Hebrew, Yeshua would have said, “**I am the ALEPH and the TAV,....**”

Again, Aleph is the first letter of the Hebrew Alphabet (Or alephbeit) and TAV is the last letter.

Put together, the letters aleph-tav are written out as “et” or “eet” – a word in a way is like saying AZ – but *in Hebrew is used to point the direct object in a sentence, different than what we do in English.*

So I’m not saying that every single time you see aleph-tav it is pointing to Messiah. No, Most of the time it is used, it is used to point to the direct object in the sentence. In fact the combination ***aleph-tav is used 5,000 times in Scripture! It’s Strong’s # 853.*** You’d have to have a Hebrew interlinear to see where ‘et comes in the sentence.

But there ***are*** several specific times when aleph tav does point to Messiah and it’s a clear example of Messiah “hiding in plain sight”! Keep your finger in Rev. 1, but let’s quickly turn to the passage Yeshua was quoting from – in Zechariah 12:10.

Zechariah 12:10

10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on ***Me [then the letters aleph-tav]*** whom ***they pierced.*** Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Remember Yeshua identifies – in Rev. 1:7-8, that HE is the aleph-tav. Yeshua first uses the same words as Zech 12:10 – about being the One pierced -- and then He realizes that a good Hebrew would know that right after that, in Zech 12:10, are the letters Aleph Tav. Those letters correspond to the Greek Alpha and Omega, and to our English A – Z. HE was the one they pierced, HE is the one every eye will see. And then HE says in essence, “I AM that Aleph Tav that comes right in that scripture in Zechariah!”

Now let’s keep reading in Rev. 1: 12-19 to identify without question who is this first and last, the same first and last who spoke to Isaiah, and who spoke to Zechariah.

Revelation 1:12-19

12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like ***the Son of Man***, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; 15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; 16 He had in His right hand seven stars, out

of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.

17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "**Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. 18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen.** And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

So we know who this IS, right? It's our resurrected Messiah, our Savior, Jesus the Christ, Yeshua the Messiah! Our Yeshua is very, very powerful! He's not just the bleached white skinny westerner that is usually painted on old paintings, looking gaunt and sickly. NO!

Our Yeshua is the One coming back in the clouds, and then later on a white charger with the heavenly hosts with Him to take over the reins of government of the whole world! He is the First and the Last. He is the One who is, and was, and is to come. He shines as bright as the sun in full strength. He's got a powerful roaring voice when He wants to like the Niagara Falls. The Lion of Judah is coming back, and this time He'll roar!

GENESIS 1:1

The FIRST time we see Aleph and Tav together is in the very FIRST VERSE of the Scriptures. Genesis 1:1 is basically saying, when you see it in Hebrew – that the aleph tav made the heavens and the aleph tav made the earth.

The middle word of the 7 opening Hebrew words has the letters aleph-tav in the middle. First and last.

In Hebrew, **Genesis 1:1**: B'ree'shiyt baaraa' Elohiym 'eet hashamayim w'eet haa'aarets.

B'resheet = in the beginning
Elohim – God (plural)
Baaraa - created

Then aleph-tav – 'eet – untranslated! These are the first and last letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

It is Strong's # 853.

Hashamayim (the heavens, plural)
W'eet - and
Haa'aarets - the earth.

It's actually saying, the One God Being, who is known as “the first and the last”, actually created the heavens and earth.

John 1:1-3 says the same thing.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God; THIS one was in the beginning with God. **ALL things were created through Him**, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created.”

He’s saying: “I’m the beginning and the end... and it means all the letters in between as well. I’m complete and I make you complete – in fact I am going to make you completely NEW!”

When we have Yeshua, we have it all. He is our all in all. When we see we have learned from A to Z, we also have learned A, B, C, D, E, and F G – all the way thru to Z. Yeshua is not just a stepping stone to ‘something more, to something else or to something better’. No, He IS the “else”, He is the “more”, He is the “something better”. He is our everything.

He is the captain of our salvation. He IS everything. He is the beginning, middle and end of our salvation. Yeshua is not the kickoff to something better. He *is* “the better”. He IS it.

HEBREW WORD PICTURE OF ALEPH TAV

Hebrew also has a numeric value to each letter, as well as a word PICTURE.

Someday I’ll give a whole teaching just on Hebrew word pictures, and what they teach us. The Scriptures are just so full of information we are missing if we are just reading the obvious words on the surface. We have to dig deep to find some gems in the Word.

Aleph – the word picture is an ox, strength.

TAV – the word picture is, are you ready? In original Hebrew, the TAV was depicted similarly to a CROSS!

So what is Aleph Tav saying in word picture? “I am the strength of the cross!”

Now brethren, some seem to want to take the FACT that pagans took the cross motif long ago and used it in pagan worship to mean that we deny the scripture after scripture that clearly says our Savior was tortured and killed on a cross beam nailed to a tree! He was crucified on a tree and He carried a cross beam which they nailed to the **tree**. That’s clearly stated by Peter, Paul and so many others. **Just look up Acts 5:30, 1 Pet. 2:24; Acts 10:39; Acts 13:29.** And it’s also clear that the mobs screamed out to Pilate: “Crucify him”. They later taunted him to come down from the CROSS. He died on a cross beam nailed to a tree. It was a crucifixion.

Paul says *he* GLORIES in the cross, and boasts only in the cross of our Lord Yeshua (Gal. 6:14). In **Philippians 2:8**, Paul clearly says Yeshua humbled himself even to the death on the cross.

And --in **Philippians 3:18-19**, he warns us against ending up as an enemy of the cross.

18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are **the enemies of the cross of Christ**: 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame — who set their mind on earthly things.

So, warning is given. And that warning is heeded.

It’s the *pagans* who stole the symbol because Satan knew full well ahead of time about the cross and so perverted its use in religious symbols in ancient Egypt, Carthage, and many places. But that doesn’t change the fact that our Lord and GOD in the flesh died on a

stauros, a cross beam nailed to a tree! The pagans are the ones who have the counterfeit. A counterfeit is effective only if it is really close to the genuine article.

So – all that was to explain that the TAV, the Hebrew last letter, depicted a CROSS. So Aleph – Tav, the first and last letter, in Hebrew word pictures is saying, “I am the strength of the cross, the first and the last.”

There are other very interesting places where Aleph-Tav pops up – like Deut 6:5 – “you shall love ‘et (Aleph-Tav) Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart....

OK – WHERE CAN PEOPLE SEE MESSIAH TODAY HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT?

Today, Messiah should be seen in you, in me, in our *lives, even much more than in our words*. Just as people of His day didn’t recognize Him when He walked the earth, so they won’t see Him in you many times either -- but later – someday – they will look back and it will be plain as day.

PAUL said, “I no longer live....”.

Galatians 2:20

20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, ***but Christ lives in me***; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

WHO was Paul’s new life? The same new life that you and I have should have. It doesn’t matter what you’ve been in the past, or what you’ve done in the past. In fact, those who have been forgiven much, tend to love much. They know what they are: terrible sinners who need redemption, a new start and Someone who believes that Christ in those people can regenerate him or her. I know...boy, do I know. I accepted Him as my Savior, my Messiah, my life – and I accept HIS death for my forgiveness, and His life for my salvation. I want HIS righteousness gifted to me, to live in me.

Colossians 3:1-4

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 *For you died*, and ***your life is hidden with Christ*** in God. 4 When ***Christ who is our life appears***, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Amen? We should be exhibiting what Paul calls “the mystery of God – Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27).

BY the power of His Spirit, He is changing us, molding us, *until* we are formed in the complete image of our Savior (Colossians 3:10), just as HE is the perfect image of HIS father. This is why I have been speaking so much about the righteousness of God – becoming ours; the Holy God we have – and how we must be Kadosh, holy – as HE is holy.

As we grow up in Him, there should be a family resemblance among the members of the family of God. More and more we should look like Abba and our big brother Yeshua.

How’s He doing in transforming you, your heart, your desires, your goals, and your will?

Our lives today should be proclaiming – by our changed and changing lives that have been redeemed from the cesspool of sin that we were all in – our lives should be now proclaiming more and more, the new way, the new life of the Son of the Highest, our Beloved Yeshua, our Salvation, the Word of Yahweh. Our lives should be transforming – until Christ Himself is formed in us (Gal. 4:19).

I hope this message today has got you thinking about seeing our Beloved in His word. I’ve just scratched the surface. There’s so much more.

We praise you, O Yeshua our Messiah, our Savior and our life. And Holy Father, we come as your children who need to be changed into your image spiritually. We bless you and glorify your name, Abba -- our Yahweh Most High, our dear Father. We love you for all you’ve been doing in our lives. Hallelujah - we praise and bless you Yahweh, our Abba – and Yeshua – our life, for YOU are the Word of God, the Right arm of Hand of Yahweh doing the works of God, YOU are the Aleph- Tav – and everything in between, you are our EVERYTHING, and you are our King and our Master. We love you Yeshua. Help us love you and Abba even more each day!

Family of Yahweh -- I’m out of time... you all have a blessed day. For everyday in Yeshua is a blessed day. Every day is the day He has made, and we delight and rejoice to see what He will do with each day when we commit it to Him. Let me end with the blessing for Yahweh’s children.

Numbers 6:24-27

"Yahweh bless you and keep you (protect you);

25 Yahweh make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

26 Yahweh lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."

*27 So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, **and I will bless them.***

If this message has helped you in any way, tell others about this website and the messages here that point to the glory of our Savior and of our Father. It’s all to Yahweh’s glory.

In Yeshua’s blessed and glorious name – your brother and fellow servant in our Messiah, Philip Shields.