

## Summary Notes:

# Pray In The Spirit

FFOZ DVD Seminar: 3 Volumes

## ***Volume 1: Spontaneous Prayer: Pouring Out Our Hearts Like Water***

### INTRO

- Focus of the conference: Set Time Prayer. Catch Judaism's attention.
- Liturgy vs. spontaneity.

- Where does spontaneous prayer fit in?

Liturgy is a challenge for some. We don't like praying others' prayers, others words. We want to say what's on our heart. For others, spontaneous prayer is a challenge.

**Lev 7:16** But if the sacrifice of his offering is a vow offering or a freewill offering, it shall be eaten on the day that he offers his sacrifice, and on the next day what remains of it shall be eaten.

Morning offering, Afternoon offering, and **everything in between**. Spontaneous prayer could be thought to represent spontaneous *freewill offerings*.

**Psa 119:108** I pray You, take the free-will offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me Your judgments.

David equates his prayer to a *freewill offering*.

- *Nedava* = Freewill Offering
- **Num 29:39** You shall prepare these to the LORD in your appointed seasons, besides your vows and your free-will offerings, for your burnt offerings, and for your food offerings, and for your drink offerings, and for your peace offerings.
- **Tefilla Nedava = Spontaneous Prayer**

**Gen 4:26** And there was also a son born to Seth, and he called his name Enos. **Then men began to call upon the name of the LORD.**

It appears that there was a desire to talk to the Father in Heaven at this time.

**JPS Torah Commentary: Genesis** – "It is the consciousness of human frailty... that heightens a man's awareness of utter dependence upon God, a situation that intuitively evokes prayer." (Nahum Sarna)

There's no atheists in foxholes (war). All of the sudden everyone has a theology, and they're all praying spontaneously.

## Spontaneous Prayer in the *Tanakh*

**Gen 20:17** And Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech and his wife and his slave women, and they gave birth.

**Gen 25:21** And Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she *was* barren. And the LORD heard him, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

**Gen 30:6** And Rachel said, God has judged me, and has also heard my voice, and has given me a son. Therefore she called his name Dan.

**Exo 14:10** And Pharaoh drew near, the sons of Israel lifted up their eyes. And, behold, the Egyptians marched after them. And they were very afraid. And the sons of Israel cried out to The LORD.

**Exo 32:11** And Moses prayed to the LORD his God, and said, O LORD, why does Your wrath become hot against Your people whom You have brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?

**Num 12:13** And Moses cried to the LORD saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech You.

**Jdg 16:28** And Samson called to The LORD and said, O, Lord The LORD, remember me, I pray You, and strengthen me, I pray You, only this once, O God, so that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

**1Sa 1:10** And she *was* in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the LORD, and wept sorely.

**Jon 2:1** And Jonah prayed to the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, **Jon 2:2** and he said, I cried to the LORD from my distress. And He answered me. Out of the belly of Sheol I cried for help, *and* You heard my voice.

**Eliezer's Prayer – Genesis 24: 12-15** – not sure what to do or where to start, offers up a simple prayer and God answers.

All these prayers are simple, they cried out to God.

**Psa 42:8** The LORD will command His loving-kindness in the daytime, and in the night His song *shall be* with me, my prayer to the God of my life.

*Prayer to God is my life.* (Alternate translation)

- Pray without ceasing – 1 Thess 5:17
- If only a person should pray all day long! (b.*Berachot* 21a)
- How can we pray all day?

The appointed times set the stage for a life of prayer.

- Give me your hearts, and I will take you on a new path, which is really the old path upon which our fathers always walked. – **Rebbe Nachman**
- **Jeremiah 6:16** – Go back to the old ways.

## The Master and Spontaneous Prayer

**Mat 14:22** And immediately Yeshua constrained His disciples to get into a boat and to go before Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away. **Mat 14:23** And when He had sent the crowds away, He went up into a mountain apart to pray. And when evening had come, He was there alone.

**Mar 1:35** And rising up quite early in *the* night, He went out and went away into a deserted place, and *He* was praying there.

Tradition of *Shema* with the sunrise. Could He be doing this?

**Mar 6:46** And taking leave *of* them, He went away to the mountain to pray. **Mar 6:47** And when evening had come, the boat was in *the* middle of the sea, and He was alone on the land.

**Luk 6:12** And it happened in those days that He went out into a mountain to pray, and He was spending the night in prayer to God.

He goes away, alone, often, and *to the mountain*.

**Joh 6:15** Therefore when Yeshua... withdrew again to the mountain alone *by* Himself.  
**Joh 6:16** And when evening had come...

**Luk 5:16** But He was drawing back *often* in the wilderness, and praying.

### Common Themes (for the Master):

- He's Alone
- It's Evening or Dark
- He's in Nature

**Rabbi Nachman Info** – age 38 at death, great-grandson of the Baal Shem Tov, Founder of the Breslover Chasidic Sect, Stressed and taught that the main aspect of Torah life was prayer.

### **Hitbodedut (Heet-bo-deh-doot) – Rabbi Nachman...**

- “to be alone” (that’s what it literally means)
- **Lam 2:19** Arise, cry out in the night. At the beginning of the watches, pour out your heart like water before the face of the LORD. Lift up your hands toward Him for the life of your children who are faint for hunger in the head of every street.

**Prayer is to flow out of us. Like water. Water is transparent, so we should be before the Father.**

### Characteristics of *Hitbodedut*

- No Subject too Mundane. **Matthew 7:7-11** – Ask and it will be given...
- Make it a habit to pray for anything you need at all times, whether livelihood, children, or healing the sick.
- Took place in seclusion (alone) either in nature or at home and preferably at night.

**Mat 6:6** But you, when you pray, enter into your room. And shutting your door, pray to your Father in secret; and your Father who sees in secret shall reward you openly.

- Firstly the idea that one should, from time to time, leave civilization and it's hustle and bustle behind, and go walking somewhere quiet and beautiful, like a forest, a field, or a seashore, alone and think. The value of this, especially for a modern man, is obvious. If more people knew how to be alone, this would be a finer world. **Rabbi Gavin Michal**
- *Hitbodedut* should be done in one's mother tongue.
- The essence of Judaism is simplicity and absolute innocence, without any sophistication. **Rabbi Nachman**

### Quiet like a Child

- One must meditate secluding himself with God. He must speak to God with quiet trepidation, as a slave speaks to his master, or a child to his father. **Rabbi Yitzchak Luria**

- You are the sons of the LORD your God... **Deuteronomy 14:1**

**Jer 31:20** *Is Ephraim My dear son? Is he a delightful child?* For as often as I spoke against him, I earnestly remember him still. Therefore My heart is troubled for him; I will surely have mercy on him, says The LORD.

### Loud with Anger

- The Pesach was roasted **with fire**.

### With Emotion

- Rabbi Ammi said: A man's prayer is only answered if he takes his heart into his hand, as it is said, "Let us lift up our heart with our hands." **B.Ta'anit 8a quoting Lamentations 3:41**

**Luk 22:41** And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw. And He kneeled down and prayed, **Luk 22:42** saying, Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me. Yet not My will, but Yours be done. **Luk 22:43** And an angel appeared to Him from Heaven, strengthening Him. **Luk 22:44** And being in an agony **He prayed more earnestly**. And His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

### With Persistence

- Our Rabbis taught: Four things require to be done with energy, namely, the Torah [study], good deeds, praying, and one's worldly occupation... Whence of prayer? Because it says, "Wait for the Lord, be strong and let they heart take courage, yea, wait thou for the Lord." **B.Berachot 32b quoting Psalm 27:14**

- **Luke 18:2-7** – The lady wore the guy out because she bugged him.

***Attachment to God***

**Deu 10:20** You shall fear The LORD your God. You shall serve Him, and you shall hold fast to Him, and swear by His name.

- *Davak* = "cling, cleave, keep close"

- *Devekut* = "Attachment"

- The main concept of prayer is attachment (*devekut*) to God. **Rebbe Nachman**

***SUMMARY***

- Take time to pray.
- Take time to develop your relationship with the Creator.

## Volume 2: Tefillah: Bonding with God

### INTRO

Bonding with God. Will discover that “liturgy” is Biblical. How are we to do so (bond with God).

**Deu 10:20** You shall fear The LORD your God. You shall serve Him, and you shall hold fast to Him, and swear by His name.

- *devak* = cling. Modern = *devek* is glue.
- *korban*, offering, something brought near
- *karav*, draw near, bring near
- When any man of you brings near an offering to the LORD, you shall bring near your offering of animals from the herd or the flock.
- *avodah*, work, service: Temple service

**Deu 11:13** And it will be, if you will listen carefully to My commandments which I command you today, to love The LORD your God and to **serve Him** with all your heart and with all your soul,..

Offerings are done with hands.

- *avodah shebalev*, service of the heart.

### Definition

**Liturgy** = a prescribed set of rituals used in a religious service. Usually prayer. All types of services use some form of liturgy. *Leitourgeo*, Greek. *Avodah*, Hebrew.

We get the the concept of a worshp “service” from this idea.

### Opposition to Liturgy

- North American Protestantism = I can do it myself. Don’t tell me how to worship. I do everything else alone. This encourages progress, but has faults... lose sight of community, families are not as important.
- **People who have adopted a Hebraic approach to faith are by nature independent thinkers.**

**Ezra and the Great Assembly.** Time of spiritual depression. Exile. Developed the weekly Torah system. Prayer system.

Many men of the Great Assembly were prophets.

Prayers were modified and expanded over the years.

Many people have opposition to any prayer that is written down or formulated.

### Biblical Examples of Liturgy

*Deuteronomy 26*

- **Firth fruits:** say to him, “I declare this day...”

- **Tithe:** You shall say before the LORD your God, ‘I have removed the sacred portion...’

**Deu 26:1** And it shall be, when you come into the land which The LORD your God gives you for an inheritance, and possess it, and live in it, **Deu 26:2** you shall take of the first of all the fruit of the earth which you shall bring of your land that The LORD your God gives you, and you shall put *it* in a basket, and shall go to the place which The LORD your God shall choose

to place His name there. **Deu 26:3** And you shall go to the priest in those days, and say to him, I profess today to The LORD your God that I have come into the land which The LORD swore to our fathers to give us. **Deu 26:4** And the priest shall take the basket out of your hand and set it down before the altar of The LORD your God. **Deu 26:5** **And you shall speak and say before The LORD your God, My father was a Syrian ready to perish. And he went down to Egypt, and stayed there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and many.**

**Deu 26:6** And the Egyptians ill-treated us, and afflicted us, and laid hard bondage on us.

**Deu 26:7** And when we cried to The LORD, the God of our fathers, The LORD heard our voice and looked on our afflictions and our labor and our oppression. **Deu 26:8** And The LORD brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with fearful might, and with miracles and with wonders. **Deu 26:9** And He has brought us into this place, and has given us this land, a land that flows with milk and honey. **Deu 26:10** And now, behold, I have brought the firstfruits of the land which You, O LORD, have given me. And you shall set it before The LORD your God, and worship before The LORD your God.

**Deu 26:11** And *you shall* rejoice in all the good which The LORD your God has given to you, and to your house; you, and the Levite, and the stranger in your midst.

**Deu 26:12** When you have made an end of tithing all the tithes of your increase the third year, the year of tithing, and have given *it* to the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow (that they may eat inside your gates and be filled), **Deu 26:13** **then you shall say before The LORD your God, I have brought away the holy things out of my house, and also have given them to the Levite, and to the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all Your commandments which You have commanded me. I have not broken Your commandments, neither have I forgotten. Deu 26:14** I have not eaten of it in my mourning, neither have I put *any* of it away for unclean use, nor have I given of it for the dead. I have listened to the voice of The LORD my God, and have done according to all that You have commanded me. **Deu 26:15** Look down from Your holy dwelling, from Heaven, and bless Your people Israel and the land which You have given us, as You swore to our fathers, a land that flows with milk and honey.

***We must recognize that at some time or another, based on these examples, God accepts a written or formulated prayer.***

- These are legal declarations.
- The book of Psalms *are* liturgy
  - Hymnal of the Temple Service
    - Call-and-response structure
    - Refrains
    - Psalms of Ascents
    - *Hallel*

A large number of Psalms are actually prayers that have been written down.

## Formulas

**1Ki 8:30** And You shall listen to the cry of Your servant, and of Your people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place, and hear in Heaven Your dwelling-place, and when You hear, forgive!

**Psa 55:16** I, *even* I, will call to God, and The LORD will save me. **Psa 55:17** Evening and morning, and at noon, I will pray and cry aloud; and He shall hear my voice.

## Can we know David really meant he prayed 3x / day?

**Dan 6:10** And when he had learned that the document was signed, Daniel went to his house. And his windows were open in his roof room toward Jerusalem; and he kneeled on his knees three times a day and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did before.

- King Solomon
- King David
- Daniel
  - Three times per day
  - Toward Jerusalem

## Yeshua

**Luk 4:16** And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And, as His custom was, He went in to the synagogue on the Sabbath day and stood up to read.

- Participated in synagogue services
- Participated in Temple services
  - My Father's House
  - A House of Prayer

The synagogue and temple format was good enough for Yeshua, it should be good enough for us as Disciples.

## "Our Father who art.."

- These are actual words to say verses rules of prayer.
- Historically common to formulate prayers for students
- Historical usage
- Any way you look at it, this is a *formulated* prayer

## Early Believers

**Act 2:42** And they were continuing steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine, and in fellowship and in the breaking of the loaves, and **in prayers**.

In the Greek, "in prayers" is plural, and it is preceded by the definite article. = **THE PRAYERS**.

**Act 2:46** And continuing with one accord in the temple,..

More... Acts 13:1-3

- **The Hour of Prayer**
  - **The Third hour, about 9 AM**
  - **The Sixth hour, about 3 PM**

**Act 2:15** For these are not drunk as you suppose, for it is *the* third hour of the day.

**Act 3:1** And on the same *day* Peter and John went up into the temple at the **hour of prayer, the ninth hour.**

**Act 10:1** And a certain man named Cornelius was in Caesarea, a centurion of the Italian cohort, **Act 10:2** *one* devout and fearing God, with all his household, both doing many merciful deeds to the people, and praying continually to God. **Act 10:3** **About the ninth hour of the day** he saw plainly in a vision an angel of God coming to him and saying to him, Cornelius! **Act 10:4** And he was gazing at him, and becoming terrified, he said, What is it, lord? And he said to him, Your prayers and your merciful deeds have come up for a memorial before God.

- Synagogues of Believers. *James 2:2-4.* The only system the believers knew was the Jewish synagogue/Temple system.

**The synagogue system of worship is OUR system of worship.**

- *Hebrews 10:24-25.* Assembling or synagoguing together.

### Angels of God

- Isaiah 6: Holy Holy Holy
- Ezekiel 3: Blessed be the glory of the LORD in His place
- Revelation 7: 9-12 - Angels
- Revelation 15:3-4 – Song of Moses, Song of the Lamb

The Siddur uses a lot of this Angelic imagery and liturgy.

### Benefits of Liturgy

- Unity
  - Within the congregation. We are able to offer prayers to God together, in one accord. Like the early believers.
  - **With all Israel** – across the globe. A show of solidarity. Tap into a unity of prayer.
  - With generations – with the apostolic community and maybe even Yeshua.

Do you ever pray and not know what to say?

- Prayers can better express our thoughts.
- Dialogue with God, that is prayer. Goes both ways.
- Scripture memorization
- God-approved *Romans 9:4*

**Rom 9:4** who are Israelites; to whom *belong* the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the Law, and **the service of God**, and the promises; **Rom 9:5** whose *are* the fathers, and of whom *is* the Christ according to flesh, He being God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

- The prayers correspond to the Daily Sacrifices, the *Tamid* Offering (Continual Burnt Offerings)
  - **Shacharit Prayers = Morning Continual Offering**
  - **Mincha Prayers = Afternoon Continual Offering**
  - **Maariv Prayers = Burning of the leftovers**

**Hos 14:1** O Israel, return to The LORD your God, for you have fallen by your iniquity. **Hos 14:2** Take with you words, and turn to The LORD. Say to Him, Take away all iniquity, and receive *us* graciously, that we may repay *with* **the calves of our lips**.

**Heb 13:15** By Him, then, let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, *the* fruit of *our* lips, confessing His name. **Heb 13:16** But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

- Commemorates the sacrifices
  - continually
  - fruit of lips: *parim sefateinu*, Hosea 14:2
  - give thanks: *todah*, thank offering
  - prayer and good deeds do substitute for the sacrifices

**Rev 8:3** And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer. And many incenses were given to him, so that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all saints on the golden altar before the throne. **Rev 8:4** And the smoke of the incense *which came* with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God from the angel's hand.

Our prayer forms a sweet smelling aroma that catches God's attention God will answer the prayers of His people.

- Commemorates Yeshua's sacrifice
  - Prayers → Sacrifices
  - Sacrifices → Yeshua's Death
  - THEN Prayers → Yeshua's Death
  - At the ninth hour Yeshua cried out..."... and breathed His last.
- Inherently **Messianic**
- Expands our perspective
  - The Siddur prayers do not focus on us as individuals.

### **Objections to Liturgy**

- Anything written down does not allow for the Spirit!
  - Songs are written down. Services are ordered in some sort of traditional way. Formula, structure.
  - Holy Spirit: zany, unpredictable, spontaneous?
  - Spontaneity does not equal Holy Spirit inspiration
- Repitition leads to lack of meaning
  - Vain repetitions – Matthew 6:7. Gentiles!!!!
  - Heathen mode of worship. VAIN meaningless
  - Our spontaneous prayers are even often repetitive
  - DEPENDS ON OUR HEART.
  - Words of the Siddur are intensely meaningful
- Impersonal: Yes.
  - Corporate worship – not the time for personal issues.
  - About God and His kingdom.
-

#### Smacks of Catholicism

- Catholicism has lost its connection with Israel
- Individual (who is in Mass) may be in need of spiritual renewal
- There is no right or wrong way to worship
  - Scripture teaches opposite. MUST come on His terms in His way.
  - Korach rebellion, Numbers 16, wrong way to worship God.
  - Golden calf, Exodus 32, thought they were worshipping the LORD.

*Deuteronomy 12:29-30*

Synagogue method a portable, universal way to corporately worship. It is Biblical.

***We are called to cling to God. We do this through prayer.***

**Conclude** with *Hebrews 10:19-22*.

*Hebrews 13:5-6*.

**Heb 10:19-22 MKJV** Therefore, brothers, having boldness to enter into the *Holy of Holies* by the blood of Jesus, (20) by a new and living way which He has consecrated for us through the veil, that is to say, His flesh; (21) and *having* a High Priest over the house of God, (22) let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and *our* bodies having been washed with pure water.

**Heb 13:5-6 MKJV** *Let your way of life be* without the love of money, *and be* content with such things as you have, for He has said, "Not at all will I leave you, not at all will I forsake you, never!" (6) so that we may boldly say, "*The Lord is* my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do to me."

## Volume 3: Introduction to the Shema

The Shema is a series of passages right out of the scriptures that explain some basic concepts of Biblical faith. It is the oldest part of the daily prayers. Very ancient times.

- More than a scripture reading
- A summary of faith, mission and identity. Often the first verse of the Bible children learn by heart
- Many utter the words of the Shema with their dying breath (*Examples provided in video*)
- Contents of the Shema
  - Deuteronomy 6:4 – **Hear**, O Israel! the LORD is our God; the LORD is One.
  - שְׁמָעָה *shema*: **hear**
  - Deuteronomy 6:4-9
  - Deuteronomy 11:13-21
  - Numbers 15:37-41

### [“Shema” text]

**Deu 6:4** *Hear, O, Israel. The LORD our God is one The LORD. Deu 6:5* *And you shall love The LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Deu 6:6* *And these words which I command you this day shall be in your heart. Deu 6:7* *And you shall diligently 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. Deu 6:8* *And you shall bind them for a sign upon your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. Deu 6:9* *And you shall write them upon the posts of your house, and on your gates.*

This passage comes after a re-telling of the 10 Commandments.

- Deut 6:4-9
  - God’s Oneness: “the LORD is One.”
  - Love of God: “And you shall love the LORD...”
  - Knowledge of God: “Teach them repeatedly...”

### [“Shema” text]

**Deu 11:13** *And it will be, if you will listen carefully to My commandments which I command you today, to love The LORD your God and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, Deu 11:14* *I will give the rain of your land in its due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain and your wine and your oil. Deu 11:15* *And I will send grass in your fields for your cattle so that you may eat and be full. Deu 11:16* *Take heed to yourselves that your heart may not be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods, and worship them, Deu 11:17* *and The LORD's wrath be kindled against you, and He shut up the heavens so that there will be no rain, and so that the land will not yield her fruit, and you perish quickly from off the good land which The LORD gives you. Deu 11:18* *Therefore you shall lay up these my words in your hearts and in your souls, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, so that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. Deu 11:19* *And you shall teach them to your sons, speaking of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when*

*you rise up. **Deu 11:20** And you shall write them upon the door posts of your house, and upon your gates, **Deu 11:21** so that your days and the days of your sons may be multiplied in the land which The LORD swore to give to your fathers, like the days of the heavens upon the earth.*

- **Deut 11:13-21**
  - Obedience: “if you dutifully hear my commandments...”

**[“Shema” text]**

**Num 15:37** And The LORD spoke to Moses saying, **Num 15:38** Speak to the sons of Israel and command them that they make fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribbon of blue (*techelet*). **Num 15:39** And it shall be to you for a fringe, that you may look upon it and remember all the commands of The LORD, and do them; and so that you do not seek after your own heart and your own eyes, after which you prostitute yourself, **Num 15:40** that you may remember and do all My commands, and be holy to your God. **Num 15:41** I am The LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. I am The LORD your God.

**Tzit-tzit:** a ritual fringe

**Techelet:** a certain type of dye (blue)

Spies rejection of the Land is before this. The man who broke the Sabbath was executed before this passage. The tzit-tzit serve as reminders of the commandments, to aid in the process of sanctification.

- **Numbers 15:37-41**
  - Sanctification: “you will be holy for your God.”

**Natural Progression of Themes through the Shema Texts**

- God’s Oneness
- Love of God
- Knowledge of God
- Obedience to God
- Sanctification

**God’s Oneness**

- *Echad*: one
  - Singular, unique, combined, exclusive, alone, unspecified, indivisible, primary, individual, independent (things that *echad* can mean)
  - Abraham rejected polytheism that was rampant in the earth. God entered into covenant with him.
  - This monotheist idea is the major meaning of *echad* in the Shema.

**Deu 4:35** It was shown to you so that you might know that The LORD *is* God, *and* no one else beside Him. **Deu 4:36** He made you hear His voice out of Heaven so that He might teach you. And He showed you His great fire upon earth. And you heard His words out of the midst of the fire. **Deu 4:37** And because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their

seed after them, and brought you out in His sight with His mighty power out of Egypt, [Deu 4:38](#) in order to drive out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in, to give you their land for an inheritance, as *it is* this day. [Deu 4:39](#) Therefore, know this day and consider within your heart, that The LORD *is* God in Heaven above and on the earth beneath. **There is no other.**

**Deu 5:6** I *am* The LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. [Deu 5:7](#) You shall have no other gods besides Me. [Deu 5:8](#) You shall not make a graven image for you, any likeness *of anything* that is in the heavens above, or in the earth beneath, or in the waters beneath the earth. [Deu 5:9](#) You shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them. For I The LORD your God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the sons to the third and fourth *generation* of those who hate Me, [Deu 5:10](#) and doing mercy to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

- I am the LORD your God →  
Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God
- You shall have no other gods before Me →  
The LORD is One

[Deu 6:13-15 MKJV](#) You shall fear **only** The LORD your God and serve Him, and shall swear by His name. **(14) You shall not go after other gods**, of the gods of the people all around you, **(15)** for The LORD your God *is* a jealous God among you, lest the anger of The LORD your God be kindled against you and destroy you from off the face of the earth.

[Isa 45:5 MKJV](#) I *am* The LORD, and *there is* none else, no God besides Me; I clothed you, though you have not known Me;... [Isa 45:21-22 MKJV](#) Declare and bring near; yea, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this of old? *Who* has told it from then? Is it not I, The LORD? And *there is* no other God besides Me; a just God and a Savior; there is none besides Me. **(22)** Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; **for I *am* God, and there *is* no other.**

#### Zechariah 14:9

- The LORD will be king over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be one, and His name will be one.
- **Echad: alone, exclusive**

God is ultimately sovereign over all things. Good and evil. Everything exists because He intends it to be so. (Isaiah 45:5-7)

- **Echad:** God is to be worshiped alone, exclusively. God is the only sovereign over all things. God is independent in existence.

- Declaration of the *Shema*
  - Receiving the Yoke of the Kingdom of Heaven
  - Repent the Kingdom of Heaven is near
    - This is the Gospel
    - *Shuv*: to turn
    - Submit to God's authority and kingship

## God's Oneness → Love of Him

- **Matthew 22:34-40 (greatest commandment). Mark 12:29-30**

### Love of God

- *Kelal gadol*, greatest governing principle
- The Shema is the central declaration of faith
- *Bereshiit Rabbah 24:7*
  - Ben Azai said "This is the book of the generations of man," (Gen 5:1) That is the great principle in the Torah. Rabbi Akiva said "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Lev 19:18) This is even a greater principle. Hence you must not say, Since I have been put to shame, let my neighbor be put to shame. R. Tanhuma said, if you do so, know whom you put to shame, for "in the likeness of God he made him."

*b. Shabbat 31a* – Hillel and Shammai with the convert.

*Rabbi Horowitz on Rashi* – One who reads carefully will find that most of the mitzvot depend on loving one's friend as one's self... "Being loving to your neighbor is what causes being loving to God.."

***The Torah depends on these things (loving God, loving our neighbor).***

## Love of God → Knowledge of Him

**Deuteronomy 5:10** who love Me and keep my commandments

**Deut 7:9**

**Deut 11:1**

**Joh 14:21 MKJV** He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him.

**Joh 15:10 MKJV** If you keep My commandments, you shall abide in My love, even as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

**1Jn 5:2-3 MKJV** By this we know that we love the children of God, whenever we love God and keep His commandments. **(3)** For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments, and His commandments are not burdensome.

**2Jn 1:6 MKJV** And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, as you heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.

## Knowledge of God → Obedience to Him

Knowledge of God is a natural extension of loving Him. Obedience is logical to follow knowledge. We pledge allegiance to God; then we follow what He says.

### Obedience

- You – singular or plural
- Southern: ~~y'all~~ all y'all
- Northern: yous guys
- Deut 6 – you singular
- Deut 11 – you plural

## Obedience to God → Sanctification

### Sanctification (Numbers 15)

- The process of becoming holy
- The process of making something holy
- *Lekaddesh*: to sanctify
- *Kadosh*: holy – set apart
- (Marriage) You are hereby sanctified to me by means of this ring, according to the custom of Moses and Israel.
- *Kiddushin*: sanctification
- By obedience to the commandments, we live out our sanctification to Him.
- Lev 20:7-8 – keep My statutes, to perform them, I am the LORD, who sanctifies you.
- Lev 19:2 – you shall be holy, for I .. am holy.
- 1 Peter 1:15-16
  - ... but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy... “Be holy, for I am holy.”
- John 17:17-19 – I sanctify myself (Yeshua), that they may be sanctified..
- Blessed are You, O LORD our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by His commandments, and commanded us to \_\_\_\_\_.

**1Pe 1:14-19 MKJV** as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance, (15) but according to the Holy One who has called you, you also become holy in all conduct, (16) because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." (17) And if you call on *the* Father, who without respect of persons judges according to the work of each one, pass the time of your *earthly* residence in fear, (18) knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, silver or gold, from your vain manner of life handed down from *your* fathers, (19) but with *the* precious blood of Christ.