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MINISTRIES

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Parashah Points – B’reisheet

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from B’reisheet, which is Hebrew for “in the beginning”, and it goes from Genesis 1:1 to Genesis 6:8.

This parashah tells the story of God creating the universe and people (Genesis 1-2).

It also speaks of the first sin on the part of Adam and Eve—when they ate from the tree of knowledge and were exiled from God’s presence (Genesis 3).

Then we learn about one of Adam and Eve’s sons, Cain, who becomes the first murderer by killing his brother Abel (Genesis 4).

Then there’s an account of Adam’s descendants all the way to Noah who is said to find favor in God’s eyes (Genesis 5-6:8).

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re just going to present a thought on the biblical choice between life and death.

Genesis 3:6

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

A lot of people are confused by this story of the first sin. Think about it: Adam and Eve were literally in paradise. They lived in a world of perfect shalom—peace. They were secure and had everything they needed. And yet, they chose to throw everything away! Why? For a piece of fruit?

While that might sound crazy to us, it really shouldn’t. To give an analogy of how Adam and Eve’s situation shouldn’t surprise us, imagine a man who is married to a beautiful wife. They have children

together. They have a nice home with a white picket fence. They have peace and security. The man lives in “paradise,” if you will, by modern day’s definition.

But then, for a fleeting moment of pleasure, he decides to throw it all away to sleep with his attractive co-worker. Somehow in his heart he determined that it’s worth the risk. He was willing to trade the possibility of his entire life being destroyed for that moment.

It’s sad and horrible, but these types of things happen all the time. It’s human nature.

The Bible says that we’ve all made this same choice to one degree or another. We’ve all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Every time we break God’s holy and perfect law—His Torah—we sin according to the Bible (Romans 7:7; 1 John 3:4). In essence, we take a bite of that forbidden fruit just like Adam and Eve did. And because we have chosen to sin, we have thrown away paradise.

The good news is that God sent His Son, Yeshua, also known as Jesus the Messiah, so that we can be forgiven of our sins. Yeshua died to save you from death and restore the relationship between you and the Father.

He also came to save you from yourself. When you commit to following Yeshua, and you make Him Lord over your life, He will empower you, through the work of the Holy Spirit, to choose life over death.

Deuteronomy 30:19

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live.

We have the choice between life and death. It’s time to throw away that forbidden fruit and choose life.

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

We pray you have been blessed by this teaching and remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom!

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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