

HE IS COMING AGAIN!

A message for DAY 40 of our count to Shabuoth

27th of the 2nd month 2020/2021

Shalom all,

Ma'asei/Acts 1:9-11 “**And having said this, while they were looking on, He was taken up, and a cloud hid Him from their sight. 10 And as they were gazing into the heaven as He went up, see, two men stood by them dressed in white, 11 who also said, “Men of Galil, why do you stand looking up into the heaven? This same יְהוֹשֻׁעַ, who was taken up from you into the heaven, shall come in the same way as you saw Him go into the heaven.”**”

These words record for us what took place on DAY 40 of the count to Shabuoth, when our Master had ascended into the heavens, before the eyes of His taught ones.

After having risen from the dead at the end of the Sabbath during Matzot, our Master offered up the wave offering of the sheaf of the first, the omer rēshiyth, on the morrow after that Shabbat and for 40 days He was seen by His taught ones, where He spoke about His coming reign.

On this Day 40 of the count to Shabuoth, He commanded them to wait until the Set-Apart Spirit had come upon them, as the sure promise of the father would be fulfilled 10 days later on Shabuoth, when the renewal of the Covenant took place, being written upon their hearts, as they were gathered for Shabuoth.

After having seen יְהוֹשֻׁעַ Messiah resurrected and His Kingdom being made abundantly clear to His taught ones, they witnessed Him going up into the heavens, with a cloud hiding Him from their site.

Can you picture the scene?

Our resurrected Messiah had now presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, having been seen for 40 days by His chosen taught ones and then was taken up before their eyes, after having been told to wait for the promise of the Set-Apart Spirit.

They were given the firm assurance that יְהוֹשֻׁעַ Messiah would return in the same way in which they saw Him go! This was the firm reassurance that they needed to hear, in order for them to hold fast to the promise and these account bear witness for us too, giving us the sure hope that we have in our Master, who has sealed us in His Spirit, giving us all we need for life and reverence. We have been fully equipped to walk out our deliverance with fear and trembling and hold firm our calling and expectation in our Master, firm to the end.

This day 40 of our count to Shabuoth, should cause us to be reminded that our Master is coming again! And being reminded of this fact, we do not forget, but simply continually remember, so that we can be diligent in guarding the good deposit of His Spirit, with much joy and possess the life that we have in Him, with endurance!

The expectation of His soon return was reaffirmed on this Day 40, when his taught ones looked up and saw our Master depart into the heavens. Reaffirmed by the strengthening words of the 2 men who stood by them in white and told them that He was coming back in the same way.

These words were a sure confirmation of the words of prophecy of יְהוֹנָדָה, who will come and put His feet on the Mount of Olives.

Why I say that, is because of what we see happening, after the taught ones were told that יהושע Messiah would be coming back in the same way as they saw Him leave!
The next verse tells us the following:

Ma'asei/Acts 1:12 "Then they went back to Yerushalayim from the Mount of Olives, which is near Yerushalayim, a Sabbath day's journey."

These taught ones who saw יהושע Messiah being taken up into the heavens, went back to Yerushalayim, from the Mount of Olives!

This verse helps us have the wonderful confirmation of prophecy, as we take note that all of this took place on the Mount of Olives – the place where our Master was taken up on Day 40 of the count to Shabbuoth.

His feet left the Mount of Olives on this day, as He ascended in to the heavens and a cloud hid Him from their site. This text confirms for us the witness of יהושע Messiah being יהוה our Saviour and King, who is coming on the clouds and will set His feet upon the Mount of Olives!

As we consider this magnificent event, we are reminded that the prophecy of the return of יהוה is made clear, in describing His day that He shall return and fight against the nations, and where He will put His feet:

Zekaryah/Zechariah 14:4 "And in that day His feet shall stand upon the Mount of Olives, which faces Yerushalayim on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, a very great valley, and half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south."

The feet of יהוה shall stand upon the Mount of Olives, in that day!

"That day", is a clear reference to 'The Day of יהוה', which is a reference to the day of His wrath and the day where He destroys the nations and sets up His reign.

As one understands the prophecies that we are given in Scripture, in terms of us being able to understand the revelation of Messiah, we take note of the words that Kěpha tells us, in:

Kěpha Bět/2 Peter 3:8 "But, beloved ones, let not this one matter be hidden from you: that with יהוה one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

Let not this one matter be hidden from you!

This is of vital importance for us to understand, as we recognise a clear lesson in being able to count and number as we should!

When we understand this matter that must not be hidden from us, we are able to understand the clear work and redemption of our Master, as we can see this being firmly declared in Creation Week, which gives us a clear prophetic shadow picture and pattern for the 7 Millennium (7000 years) of this age, before the renewed heavens and earth shall come.

As previously discussed, we must learn and see how Creation Week tells us a wonderful story of the full work of our Master, and the work that He shall complete when He comes in the 7th Millennium, where we will be able to enter into His rest!

In Creation Week, we see how it was on the 4th day that He separated the light from the darkness and this pictures for us the clear working of our Master and Redeemer, יהושע Messiah, The Light of The world and The Word made flesh, who came into the world, as of a son brought forth from a father and pitched His tent among us and called us out of darkness into His marvellous light!

This He did on the 4th day, so to speak, or... better understood as the 4th Millennium, and it is on the 7th day that He completed His work and rested, which shows us again that it is on the 7th day – that is – in the 7th Millennium, where He will complete His work and rest.

We have the weekly Sabbath, that was set-apart from Creation Week, to remind us each and every week that there remains a proper Sabbath keeping for the people of Elohim, as this is the sure sign that יהוה is our Elohim, and in the Day of His wrath, when He shall come to complete His work, we who have guarded the Sabbaths and commands of Elohim may be found to be hidden in Him, on His Day – that is – the 7th Millennium!

In prophecy we see the phrase, ‘**In that day**’, being used in reference to the Day of the wrath of יהוה and it is this Day that the Book of **Hazon/Revelation** speaks very clearly about, as it is the Day of the revelation of יהושע Messiah, where every eyes shall see and every tongue confess that יהושע Messiah is יהוה our Saviour and Elohim!

Our Master and Elohim is coming again! And he is the one who is coming on the clouds, for He is the cloud rider who is coming to establish His reign here on earth!

Hazon/Revelation 1:7 “**See, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye shall see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth shall mourn because of Him. Yes, Amēn.**”

In a clear declaration, in the revelation of יהושע Messiah that Yoḥanan was given, we see the powerful truth that awaits all mankind!

Our Creator and Saviour is coming on the clouds and every eye will see Him!

Hazon/Revelation 1 makes a powerful introduction to this extremely powerful book, declaring who יהושע Messiah is!

He is the Aleph and the Taw; He is the beginning and the end!

He is the One who is coming on the clouds and in saying that, we can boldly say that: He is יהוה our Saviour!!!

Messiah told His taught ones, when teaching of the end days and the time of His coming again, the following:

Mattithyahu/Matthew 24:30 “**And then the sign of the Son of Aḏam shall appear in the heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth shall mourn, and they shall see the Son of Aḏam coming on the clouds of the heaven with power and much esteem.**”

On this DAY 40, on the Mount of Olives, His taught ones were clearly told, by the 2 witnesses that were dressed in white, as they were looking up into the clouds, that He was coming again in the same way!

I know that it may sound like I am repeating myself a bit, but we must understand the significance of what took place on the Mount of Olives, 10 days before the Feast of Shabuoth, where the promise of the Set-Apart Spirit was poured out on the believers, in a complete renewal of the Covenant!

This confirmation of our Master's return would give the taught ones the strength to hold firm, and in saying that, we too, as taught ones of the Master, need to have the same courage and strength, in the Master, as we hold firm the sure expectation of His return!

This Day 40 of our count to Shabuoth should be a wonderful reminder of the confidence that we have in our Master, Saviour and Elohim, and therefore be encouraged to keep our eyes fixed on Him, as we lift our eyes to Him who is our Help, our refuge, our strength and our song!

This imagery of our Creator and Saviour coming on the clouds, is one that was understood by Yisra'el, and one that gave a confident expectation of deliverance to come, yet when Messiah came in the flesh and made the clear declaration that He would be seen coming on the clouds, it was seen as blasphemy, when He made this statement before the high priest:

Mattithyahu/Matthew 26:62-65 **"And the high priest stood up and said to Him, "Have You no answer to make? What do these witness against You?"** ⁶³ But יהושע remained silent. So the high priest said to Him, **"I put You to oath, by the living Elohim that You say to us if You are the Messiah, the Son of Elohim."** ⁶⁴ יהושע said to him, **"You have said it. Besides I say to you, from now on you shall see the Son of Adam sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of the heaven."** ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his garments, saying, **"He has blasphemed! Why do we need any more witnesses? See, now you have heard His blasphemy!"**

With Messiah quoting from Tehillah/Psalm 110 and Dani'el/Daniel 7, He was making it clear that He is the High Priest and King that is coming again, when He shall be seen as The One who is coming on the clouds!

By this statement, He was basically telling them that He is the Master and Elohim and Saviour of Man, and by this declaration, He was making it clear that, at the revelation of His coming on the clouds, every eye would see and know that He is יהוה our Saviour!

Think about it for a moment!

At these words, the high priest tore his garments and said that יהושע has blasphemed! It was considered blasphemy to be saying that He was the One who is coming on the clouds, for it was understood, very clearly, that it is יהוה who is the One who shall come on the clouds! In order for us to understand this more, we can take a look at a couple of key Scriptures that highlight this clear concept and imagery of יהוה being the One who is coming on the clouds!

Debarim/Deuteronomy 33:26 **"O Yeshurun, there is no one like El, riding the heavens to help you, and on the clouds, in His excellency."**

The poetic term 'Yeshurun', which means 'upright one', is used as a symbolic term in Scripture, when speaking of all 12 Tribes of Yisra'el that are serving together in unity!

The name יֵשׁוּרֻן Yeshurun – Strong's H3484 comes from the word יָשָׁר yashar – Strong's H3474 which means, **'to be straight, right, pleasing, be level, upright, just and lawful'**.

The **Book of Yasher**, commonly known to us as 'Jasher', means the book of the 'upright/straight' or the Book of the 'Righteous'.

This is what יהוה has chosen Yisra'el (His called-out Bride) for - **to be straight and upright and walk in His Torah**, shining the Light of His Besorah (Good News) amidst a crooked world.

יְהוָה - He is Ėl and Sovereign of the upright ones, and He is coming, as the Righteous King, riding on the clouds, to gather the tribes of Yisra'ĕl.

The Hebrew word that is translated as 'clouds' comes from the root word שָׁחַק *shaḥaq* – Strong's H7834 which means, '*cloud, dust, sky, heavens*' and this word is used 21 times in Scripture and is frequently used to describe the power and strength of Elohim who is above the clouds and who rides on the clouds!

Tehillah/Psalm 68:4 "Sing to Elohim, sing praises to His Name. Raise up a highway for Him who rides through the deserts, By His Name Yah, and exult before Him."

Tehillah/Psalm 68:33-35 "To Him who rides on the ancient highest heavens! See, He sends out His voice, a mighty voice. ³⁴ Ascribe strength to Elohim; His excellence is over Yisra'ĕl, and His strength is in the clouds. ³⁵ O Elohim, awesome from Your set-apart places, The Ėl of Yisra'ĕl is He who gives strength and power to His people. Blessed be Elohim!"

This Tehillah is a great song of Dawiḏ and expresses the clear call for us to praise Him who rides the clouds and deserts!!!

Tehillah/Psalm 18 is a song of Dawiḏ which carries the words that he spoke to יְהוָה in the day that יְהוָה delivered him from his enemies and from the hand of Sha'ul.

And in this song of praise, יְהוָה is described as the One who came riding on the storm cloud, into battle against His enemies, in order to deliver His Beloved!

Tehillah/Psalm 18:9-15 "And He bowed the heavens and came down, and thick darkness was under His feet. ¹⁰ And He rode upon a kerub, and flew; He flew upon the wings of the wind. ¹¹ He made darkness His covering; around Him His booth, darkness of waters, thick clouds of the skies. ¹² From the brightness before Him, His thick clouds passed, hail and coals of fire. ¹³ And יְהוָה thundered in the heavens, and the Most High sent forth His voice, hail and coals of fire. ¹⁴ And He sent out His arrows and scattered them, and much lightning, and confused them. ¹⁵ And the channels of waters were seen, and the foundations of the world were uncovered at Your rebuke, O יְהוָה, at the blast of the breath of Your nostrils."

Very powerful imagery used here in this great song of praise for our Deliverer, who comes riding on the storm clouds and destroys our enemies with the lightning fire of His wrath!

This very strong imagery is also seen in another psalm, which is ascribed to Dawiḏ in the LXX and Syriac texts:

Tehillah/Psalm 104:1-4 "Bless יְהוָה, O my being! O יְהוָה my Elohim, You have been very great: You have put on excellency and splendour, ² covering Yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a curtain, ³ who is laying the beams of His upper rooms in the waters, who is making thick clouds His chariot, who is walking on the wings of the wind, ⁴ making His messengers the winds, His servants a flame of fire."

Making thick clouds His chariot!

The Hebrew word that is translated here as 'chariot' is רֶכֶב *rekeb* – Strong's H7393 which means, '*chariot, chariot horses, charioteers*' and comes from the primitive root verb רָכַב *rakab* – Strong's H7392 which means, '*to mount and ride, ride in a chariot, to cause to ride, to cause to draw or plough*'.

This highlights the clear imagery of our Master and Elohim who is coming, riding on the clouds, coming to reap the harvest and destroy His enemies and deliver His chosen!

The Hebrew word that is translated as 'cloud' is עָבַב *ab* - Strong's H5645 which means, '*cloud, dark cloud, cloud mass, thick clouds*', and this word comes from the primitive root verb עָבַב *ab* - Strong's H5743 which means, '*cover with a cloud, to becloud*'.

The first time we see the word עָבַב *ab* - Strong's H5645 being used is in:

Shemoth/Exodus 19:9 "And יְהוָה said to Mosheh, "See, I am coming to you in the thick cloud, so that the people hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever." And Mosheh reported the words of the people to יְהוָה."

Here, the word עָבַב *ab* - Strong's H5645 it is translated as 'thick', and the Hebrew root word for 'cloud' is עָנָן *anan* - Strong's H6051 meaning, '*a cloud, cloud mass, heavy mist*'.

The word עָבַב *ab* - Strong's H5645 is typically used to designate a particular cloud, generally a dark cloud, in the sense of a rain cloud.

The 'thick cloud' can be both something very encouraging as well as something very frightening! For those who are guided under the protection of the presence of יְהוָה, it is a good image, while those who refuse to walk in the Torah, it is a daunting image indeed, as it highlights the raging wrath of the storm of יְהוָה that is coming upon the sons of disobedience, while giving strength and courage to those who walk in the light of His Face and guard His Torah and commands, for then, the Cloud Rider becomes their refuge!

And it is this Cloud Rider that is coming again!

The day of יְהוָה is a dark day, a **day of thick clouds**, and the question we must readily be able to answer positively, is that, when He comes again will we be found to be doing that in which He delights!

The Rider of the thick clouds is coming – are you ready with oil in your lamp and ready to be taken up, as His ready Bride or will you be found to be one who has blasphemed His Name and walked in stubbornness and pride and will tremble at His appearance in the cloud!!!

Yeshayahu/Isaiah 19:1 "The message concerning Mitsrayim. See, יְהוָה is riding on a swift cloud, and He shall come into Mitsrayim. And the idols of Mitsrayim shall tremble at His presence, and the heart of Mitsrayim melt in its midst."

This message concerning Mitsrayim, is a clear prophecy against that which is of the world and walking according to the lusts of the flesh and walking in idolatry!

יְהוָה is coming, **riding on a swift cloud!**

The Hebrew word that is translated as 'riding' is רָכַב *rakab* - Strong's H7392 which means, '*to mount and ride, ride in a chariot, to cause to ride, to cause to draw or plough*'.

The Hebrew word that is translated as 'on' is עַל *al* - Strong's H5921 - translates as '*in, on, upon, over, by*' and is used as a preposition (in the sing. or pl. often with prefix, or as conjunction with a particle following).

The Hebrew word that is translated as 'swift' is קָלַק *qal* - Strong's H7031 which means, '*light, swift, one who is swift*'.

The Hebrew word that is translated as 'cloud' is **עָנָן** **ab** - Strong's H5645 which means, '**cloud, dark cloud, cloud mass, thick clouds**'

When our Master comes, riding on the clouds, He will be coming swiftly and there will be nowhere to hide for His enemies!

This Day 40 of our count to Shaḅuoth, must be a reminder to us that we are to be a people who are counting, as commanded, and are counting the cost of following our Master, as we are strengthened in the need to keep our eyes fixed on Him.

As His Day draws near, we need His Spirit to help us, as we walk in the Spirit by guarding His Torah and commands and making sure that we have the sure sign and mark of a proper Sabbath keeping, being that which identifies us as the Bride who is waiting for the True Cloud Rider!

As the days grows darker and the depravity and lawlessness of man increases, we must do our utmost in guarding righteousness and not lose heart, but possess our lives by endurance!

As we continue to count to Shaḅuoth, which takes place in another 10 days, we are reminded of the 10 days of pressure that the assembly in Smurna were told to not be afraid of. They were told about that which they were about suffer and how some would be thrown into prison by the devil, in order to try them and that they would have pressure for ten days.

They were then told to be trustworthy until death, for then The Master would give them the crown of life. (**Hazon/Revelation 2:10**)

The Greek word that is translated as 'pressure' in **Hazon/Revelation 2:10** is **θλίψις** **thlipsis** – Strong's G2347 which means, '**tribulation, pressure, affliction, distress, persecution, trouble**', and this word comes from the primitive verb **θλίβω** **thlibō** – Strong's G2346 which means, '**to press or afflict, to distress, suffer affliction**', and in the literal sense can mean, '**to squash, press, hem in, rub, harassed**', and can also be understood as being '**narrow or hard pressed**'.

Our Master tells us clearly that we will have pressures:

Yohanan/John 16:33 "**These words I have spoken to you, that in Me you might have peace. In the world you have pressure, but take courage, I have overcome the world.**"

The Greek word that is translated as 'take courage' comes from the verb **θαρσέω** **tharseō** – Strong's G2293 which means, '**be of good courage, be of good comfort, be of good cheer**' and a word that is derived from this verb is the noun **θάρρεω** **tharreō** – Strong's G2292 which means, '**to be of good courage, be bold, have confidence**', which is translated as 'good courage', in: **Qorintiyim Bēt/2 Corinthians 5:6-9** "**Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Master – 7 for we walk by belief, not by sight – 8 we are of good courage, and are well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Master. 9 So we also make it our aim to be well-pleasing to Him, whether being at home, or being away from home.**"

The encouragement that our Master gave His taught ones, was that they were to take courage amidst the pressure that they would have in the world, for in Him they would have peace, for He has overcome the world.

These words are still very much alive and as applicable to us today, as it was for the taught ones back then!

It is written in the 'imperative mood', which could also be expressed as 'take heart' or 'cheer up' and is a word that is spoken by way of encouragement!

When facing intense pressures, we need to be reminded to be of good courage and cheer up and not let pressures get us down!

And so, may this Day 40, be a day that reminds you to be of good cheer and not lose heart!

The number 40, in Scripture, is a significant number, which highlights times of testing and refining. **יְהוֹשֻׁעַ** was tried for 40 days and 40 nights in the Wilderness and, as a result, He faced great trials and temptations and overcame and is able to faithfully intercede for us, giving us a bold access to the Set-Apart Place that we may receive compassion and find favour:

Ib'rim/Hebrews 4:14-16 "Therefore, since we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, **יְהוֹשֻׁעַ the Son of Elohim, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a High Priest unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who was tried in all respects as we are, apart from sin. ¹⁶ Therefore, let us come boldly to the throne of favour, in order to receive compassion, and find favour for timely help."**

Mosheh had spent 2 periods of '40 days and 40 nights', without food and water, on the Mountain!!!

We are also able to see, as mentioned, that Messiah suffered 40 days and nights, in the Wilderness, and overcame.

The 'second' period of 40 days, that we can see in Scripture, in relation to Messiah, is after His resurrection, when He walked 40 days with His taught ones.

During these 40 days, unlike Mosheh, He ate with His taught ones, which is a very important picture of the fulfillment of His Work on the stake, which had dealt with sin and rebellion, and now, in Messiah, we are able to 'move on' and take possession of His sure promises, as we guard His clear commands.

The picture of Messiah eating, during this 'second' 40-day period, gives us the full assurance that He has made perfect the access that we have in being able to fellowship with Elohim and eat of the Bread of Life and be satisfied, having His Word inscribed on the tablets of our hearts, by His Set-Apart Spirit!!!

We have no excuse to not take courage in the Master!

This Day 40 should be a reminder that we are to have our eyes fixed upon Him and not lose heart, despite the world getting darker.

In Speaking of the last days, we see these words our Master spoke, encouraging us to look up:

Luqas/Luke 21:25-28 "And there shall be signs in the sun, and moon, and stars, and on the earth anxiety of nations, in bewilderment at the roaring of the sea, and agitation, ²⁶ men fainting from fear and the expectation of what is coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. ²⁷ And then they shall see the Son of Adam coming in a cloud with power and much esteem. ²⁸ And when these *matters* begin to take place, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

These signs are certainly being made evident in our days, especially as we have taken note of the various 'blood moons' that have taken place in recent years. We also see the anxiety of the nations growing at a rapid rate, especially as we see the pandemic of wasting diseases causing great bewilderment and distress about what is to come.

Our Master makes it clear what we should be doing, when we see these matters beginning to take place: **lookup and lift up your heads... because our redemption draws near!!!**

As one reads through **Luqas/Luke 21**, **Mattithyahu/Matthew 24** and **Marqos/Mark 13**, in regards to what will take place before our Master returns, we can certainly see how much of what our Master describes, in these chapters, is already clearly evident in these last days, and He tells us that when we see these things, that we are to see to it that we are not troubled by these things that have to take place and that we must possess our lives by endurance.

Here in the account of Luqas/Luke, we take note that our Master tells us that when these matters begin to take place, that we are to **'look up'** and lift up our heads!

While I have made mention of these words, in recent messages, I am once again making these clear, for it is something that must be heard and understood, especially as we see the anxiety and chaos of people increasing.

The Greek word that is used here in **Luqas/Luke 21:28** and translated as **'look up'**, which is the root word ἀνακύπτω anakuptō – Strong's G352 which means, **'straighten up, stand upright, lift oneself up, look up (as a person in hope)'**.

The call of our Master here is clear:

**Straighten up and hold fast to the hope that we have in Him
and stand upright and be firm in the belief!**

This is also a kind of a military type instruction, that is given by our Commander to us, His troops, with the call to lift ourselves up from any despair and stand upright, being ready and armed in His Truth.

We can only do this if our eyes are fixed on Him!

Ib'rim/Hebrews 12:1-2 **"We too, then, having so great a cloud of witnesses all around us, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race set before us, 2 looking to the Princely Leader and Perfecter of our belief, יְהוֹשֻׁעַ, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the stake, having despised the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of Elohim."**

The Greek word that is translated here as **'looking'** is ἀφοράω – aphorao – Strong's G872 which means **'to look/ to turn eyes away from all other things and fix them on something'**.

Metaphorically speaking, it means **'to fix the mind upon/ give full attention/ looking intently upon/ to take heed'**, and it can also carry the meaning, **'to consider carefully, attentively look at'**. This word comes from the two Greek words:

- 1) ἀπό apo – Strong's G575 which is a preposition and participle that means, **'from, away from, at, in, to'** and
- 2) the word ὁράω horaō – Strong's G3708 which means, **'to see, perceive, attend to, take heed, see with the mind, beware, to see – as in becoming acquainted with by experience'**.

The two words that are used here for our Messiah, are the following:

- 1) **PRINCE** – this is from the Greek word ἀρχηγός - archēgos – Strong's G747 which means, **'prince, captain, chief leader and author'** and describes **'one that takes the lead in anything and thus affords an example, a predecessor in a matter, pioneer'**.
- 2) **PERFECTER** – this is from the Greek word τελειωτής - teleiōtēs – Strong's G5051 – this is the only place in Scripture that this Greek word is found and denotes a **'finisher, completer, perfecter'** and describes **'one who has in his own person raised faith to its perfection and so set before us the highest example of faith'**.

This is a description given only to **יהושע** Messiah who has become the supreme model for us to follow.

We are told to be **'looking'** to Messiah – and what we can see from the verse before this one, is that in order to be able to properly 'look' at Messiah, we need to throw off, and lay aside, every weight and sin that easily entangles us and run with endurance, by looking intently at our King, as we run faithfully as servants of the Most-High Elohim!

As we consider how **'dark'** the days are becoming and that the dark Day of our Master is therefore fast approaching, we must do our utmost to lift up our eyes to our Master, The Light of the world. This imagery that I am presenting here, reminds me of the passage we see in:

Yeshayahu/Isaiah 60:1-2 "Arise, shine, for your light has come! And the esteem of יהוה has risen upon you. 2 For look, darkness covers the earth, and thick darkness the peoples. But יהוה arises over you, and His esteem is seen upon you."

Just as the early taught ones would face intense persecution after our Master's ascension into the heavens, and were reassured that He is coming again, so too do we need to hear the same witness of reassurance, of His return, that we have been given in His Word, encouraging us to keep our eyes looking intently into His perfect Torah of Truth, which is a light for our path and lamp for our feet, in these darkened days.

It is with this thought in mind, that I am sending this message out today, on this DAY 40 of our count to Shabuoth.

As you consider this day, and the events that took place on the Mount of Olives, when the early taught ones **'looked up'** and saw **יהושע** Messiah being taken up and covered in the clouds, may we be strengthened in the sure knowledge of His imminent return, for...:

HE IS COMING AGAIN!!!

Do you believe it or not? Let your belief be seen in your works of obedience, done with confident joy, with eyes looking up and heads held high, so that we can proclaim the praises of Him who has called us out of darkness in to His marvellous light.

Do not let the darkness of anxieties and the despair of the lawless cause you to lose heart, but rather, be of good cheer and look up, for:

HE IS COMING AGAIN!!!

What are you looking at? What are you looking for? Who are you looking at?

I mentioned the text from Kěpha that highlights that the one matter that should not be hidden from us, is that with **יהוה** one day is as 1000 years.

When one continues on, we see Kěpha making it clear, that in light of this fact, we need to looking for and hastening the day of our Master:

Kěpha Bět/2 Peter 3:9-14 “**יְהוָה** is not slow in regard to the promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward us, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of **יְהוָה** shall come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with intense heat, and the earth and the works that are in it shall be burned up. ¹¹ Seeing all these are to be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be in set-apart behaviour and reverence, ¹² **looking for** and hastening the coming of the day of Elohim, through which the heavens shall be destroyed, being set on fire, and the elements melt with intense heat! ¹³ But according to His promise we **wait for** a renewed heavens and a renewed earth in which righteousness dwells. ¹⁴ So then, beloved ones, **looking forward to** this, do your utmost to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, ”

The Greek words that are translated in this passage as ‘**looking for, wait for and looking forward to**’ comes from the root word **προσδοκάω** *prosdokaō* – **Strong’s G4328** which means, ‘**to watch, wait, expect**’ and carries the idea of ‘**a state of expectation**’, and is constructed from two words:

- 1) **πρός** *pros* – **Strong’s G4314** which is a primary preposition meaning, ‘**advantageous for, at (denotes local proximity), toward (denotes motion toward a place)**’, and
- 2) **δοκεύω** *dokeuō*, which means, ‘**to watch**’.

What this is highlighting for us, is that it would be to our advantage to be watching as we should, and by that I mean that we are to be people that have their eyes looking to the Master, which we can only do correctly if we are meditating upon His Torah, day and night, and delighting ourselves, in diligently obeying His Word, with joy, and not being distracted from doing so, by the anxieties and chaos of a darkened world that surrounds us.

The Greek word that is translated as ‘**hastening**’, comes from the root word **σπεύδω** *spseudō* – **Strong’s G4692** which means, ‘**to hasten, urge on, hurrying**’.

With this word being used here for ‘**hastening**’ the coming of the day of Elohim, we recognise that our obedience is the way that we are able to do this, even under the heaviest of persecutions, so that His Word brings us to a set-apart perfect place, of living without compromise, guarding His commands with great faithfulness, and being trustworthy with the Good deposit of His Word in us and make sure that we are never being sluggish or lazy!

After issuing a clear warning against falling away from the Truth, the writer of the letter to the Hebrews, encourages the readers to be steadfast in showing a true eagerness for the Truth and be on guard against the dangers of becoming sluggish:

Ih’rim/Hebrews 6:11-12 “**And we desire that each one of you show the same eagerness, to the entire confirmation of expectation until the end, ¹² in order that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through belief and patience inherit the promises.**”

The Greek word that is translated as ‘**eagerness**’ in **Ih’rim/Hebrews 6:11** is **σπουδή** *spoudē* – **Strong’s G4710** which means, ‘**haste, diligence, earnestness, effort, hurry, striving after**’ and comes from the root word **σπεύδω** *spseudō* – **Strong’s G4692**, which we have just looked at in Kěpha’s letter.

What the writer of **Ih’rim/Hebrews** is telling us is that we are to hold on or keep the same diligence of complete obedience unto Elohim, firm unto the end, for then our confirmation of our hope will be complete at the end, when our Master returns!

And remember, that this Day 40, is a sure reminder that:

HE IS COMING AGAIN!!!

In a time when the pressures of this world are increasing at an alarming rate, we need to be constantly reminded that we do have a duty to hold fast to the end and not become sluggish.

Let your eagerness be shown in what you do and let love be without hypocrisy!!!

As we consider the pressures that we shall face for living reverently in Messiah, let us be trustworthy until death and never let go of our steadfast duty of manifesting the fragrance of our King!

Hear this call for endurance, as you hear what the Spirit is saying to us, as an assembly/body of Messiah, that seeks to manifest the powerful fragrance of our Master and Elohim!

Let this Day 40 of our count to Shabuoth, remind you to not lose heart and to take courage, in keeping watch and guarding righteousness, knowing that we have all that we need, as long as we stay in Messiah.

We have this certainty that should cause us to endure and overcome:

HE IS COMING AGAIN!!!

Our redemption draws near! Hold fast fervent soldier of Messiah!

May you be blessed in your continued count to Shabuoth and may you be strengthened in your ability to lift up hands that are set-apart, in joy filled praise and esteem of our coming Master and King, as you lift your eyes up to Him and look for His coming, as a trustworthy ambassador of His reign!

יהוה bless you and guard you; יהוה make His face shine upon you and show favour to you;

יהוה lift up His face upon you and give you Shalom