

Lesson Nine

Love is the Greatest

- 1) A person came to Y'shua and asked what commandment was the greatest. Y'shua answered with a section of scripture that was well known to His mostly Jewish audience. Y'shua repeated the "shema" passage from Deuteronomy as the most important commandment.**

Mark 12:28-34

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Y'shua had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Y'shua, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, YHWH our YHWH, YHWH is one. Love YHWH your YHWH with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." "Well said, teacher," the man replied. "You are right in saying that YHWH is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Y'shua saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of YHWH." And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: YHWH our YHWH, YHWH is one. Love YHWH your YHWH with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

- 2) "Shema" is a Hebrew phrase that means to "hear, listen, and obey." We are to hear what Y'shua was saying and pay close attention to this statement. This isn't just a verse about doctrine but an active and living call to express love to YHWH and to those in this world. Love is all that matters. The Hebrew word for love is "ahava."**

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Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: YHWH our YHWH, YHWH is one. Love YHWH your YHWH with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Matthew 7:21

Not every one that saith unto me, Master, Master, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

1 John 3:18

My little children let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

Deuteronomy 11:27

A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of YHWH, which I command you this day:

3) The scriptural concept of love / ahava is very different than the world's understanding of love. The English term has many meanings. In modern thought love is an emotion that can be turned on and off like a light switch. Love or "ahava" in the Hebraic mind is very different in today's culture. In the Hebrew, love is connected directly with action and obedience. Strong's Exhaustive Dictionary defines ahava as "to have affection, sexually or otherwise, love, like, to befriend, to be intimate." It brings to mind the idea of longing for or breathing for another. Hebraically ahava is a verb and a noun; it is an act of doing. Ahava is not just a feeling. To get a clear understanding of ahava, let's examine the Hebrew word itself and learn how to love Hebraically. Let's also look at various scriptures that contain this concept.

First, most Hebrew words can be broken down to a three-consonant root word that contains the essence of the word's meaning. The root word of ahava is "ahav." The term ahav in Hebrew means, "to give." True ahava, true love is more concerned about giving than receiving. Being the center of someone's attention isn't love. And love isn't about getting some feeling or fix. Ahava is about giving devotion and time. For giving is the vehicle of love. YHWH so loved the world that He GAVE His only Son.

Meaningful relationships have mutual giving. Love may focus on receiving, but ahava is all about giving. There is a difference.

Genesis 29:20

So Jacob worked seven years to pay for Rachel. But his love for her was so strong that it seemed to him but a few days.

Song of Solomon 8:7

Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot wash it away. If one were to give all the wealth of his house for love, it would be utterly scorned.

John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

1 Corinthians 13:1-8a and 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails; And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

- 4) The Hebrew word “ahava” is spelled “aleph, hei, bet, hei.” The root word ahav is spelled “aleph, hei, bet.” These Hebrew letters reveal a secret of love hidden for thousands of years. This secret is exposed through the meaning behind each Hebrew letter in “ahav.” The first letter of the Hebrew alphabet is also the first letter in “ahav.” This is the aleph. The letter aleph is the number one.**



Aleph symbolizes the one and only Eternal Elohim. In Revelation 22:13, Y’shua called Himself the Aleph and the Tav. Aleph is a picture of YHWH and His creation. There is one YHWH. Y’shua said the greatest commandment is to love YHWH first and then love our neighbor as ourself. “The first of all commandments is, Shema O Yisra’el; the Master YHWH is our Elohim, the Master YHWH is Echad: and you shall love the Master YHWH with all your lev (heart), and with all your being, and with all your mind, and with

all your strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like it, namely this; You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There are no other commandments greater than these,” said the Messiah Yahshua in Markus 12:29-31, Restoration Scripture Version. Ahava starts with Aleph. Real ahava starts with loving YHWH first. Then, as a person has a relationship with YHWH, one can love his neighbor

Devarim 10:12,13

“And now Yisra’el, what does YHWH your Elohim require of you, but to fear YHWH your Elohim, to have your halacha in all His ways, and to love Him, and to serve YHWH your Elohim with all your lev and all your being. To shomer the mitzvot of YHWH, and His chukim, which I commanded you this day for your tov.”

1 John 4:16

And so we know and rely on the love YHWH has for us. YHWH is love. Whoever lives in love lives in YHWH, and YHWH in him.

1 John 4:19-20

We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love YHWH," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love YHWH, whom he has not seen.

1 John 3:10

This is how we know who the children of YHWH are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of YHWH; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.

Matthew 6:24

No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both YHWH and Money.

Joshua 23:11

So be very careful to love YHWH your YHWH.

Psalm 18:1

I love you, O YHWH, my strength.

5) The next letter of ahav is the “hei.” The letter “hei” is the fifth letter of the aleph-bet. Five is the number of chesed/grace. It is

highly symbolic. There are five books of the Torah, five fingers on the hand, and King Dawid gathered five smooth stones to kill Goliath. It is through chesed that YHWH loves us. Mankind loves YHWH back through the fifth letter hei. How?



Ahava is shown to YHWH through hei – through the five books of the Torah. “If you love me, obey my mitzvot. If a man loves Me, he will guard My words, and My Abba will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our stay with Him,” said Moshiach Y’shua in Yochannan / John 14:15,23. The hei is the means that a person expresses ahava. The form of the letter hei, the number five shows how to correctly love YHWH and man. The three lines of hei are a picture of loving YHWH with thought, deed, and words. The top horizontal line is the realm of thought. A person’s thoughts should be focused upward on YHWH and His word. The Vertical line to the right is speech. From the abundance of the heart/mind/horizontal line, the mouth speaks. Speech comes directly from thought. The unattached line to the left is deed. Though actions should be connected to our intentions, they often are not. “There are many plans in a man’s lev (heart); nevertheless the counsel of YHWH shall stand,” Mishlei / Proverbs 19:21. Man is to unite the three lines through devotion and service. Loving YHWH with thoughts, words, and deeds is the goal of the hei.

John 14:15

If ye love me keep my commandments.

1 John 5:1-5

Whosoever believeth that Y’S HUA is THE MESSIAH is born of YHWH: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of YHWH, when we love YHWH, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of YHWH, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whosoever is born of YHWH overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth the Y’S HUA is the SON of YHWH?

1 John 2:3-5

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso

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keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of YHWH perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Hear, O Israel: YHWH our YHWH is one Master: And thou shalt love YHWH thy YHWH with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

James 4:17

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Luke 4:8

And Y'SHUA answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship YHWH thy YHWH, and him only shalt thou serve.

Song of Solomon 2:16

My lover is mine, and I am his.

Song of Solomon 4:10

How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride! How much more pleasing is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your perfume than any spice!

Song of Solomon 8:6

Place me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm; for love is as strong as death, its jealousy unyielding as the grave. It burns like blazing fire, like a mighty flame.

- 6) The Bet is the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet. It is the third letter in "ahav." This letter vividly demonstrates the purpose of all creation. How? Bet is a picture of a house. YHWH created the world to be a dwelling place in this world below. The first letter in the Torah is a beit, found in the word "Beresheet." And the tabernacle was made to create a bayit, a house, for YHWH. "Know you not that you are the Beit HaMikdash (temple) of YHWH, and that the Ruach of YHWH dwells in you?," 1 Corinthians / Qorintyah Alef 3:16. The objective of loving YHWH is to be conformed to His image and represent Him to the world. The two walk together.**



Beit, is also the number two. YHWH plus His servant equals two. Yet in the beit, the two shall become one. Also, Y'shua said, "For where two, or three will assemble together in My Name, there am I in the midst of

them,” Matthew / Mattitياهو 18:20. Ahava starts with loving YHWH first and foremost through word, deed, and thought. This type of ahava creates a house for YHWH to inhabit.

Proverbs 25:21-22

If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink, for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the YHWH will reward you.

Luke 6:27-35

“But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

Proverbs 17:17

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Excerpts from 1 Corinthians 13:4-13

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails; And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

John 15:12-13

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

Leviticus 19:18

'Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am YHWH.

Proverbs 10:12

Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers over all wrongs.

7) In review, the Hebrew root word for love is “ahav,” spelled “aleph, hei, bet.” The aleph reminds us that we are to love YHWH first. Hei shows us to express that love by conforming our thoughts, words, and deeds to the five books of the Torah. When love is directed first to YHWH, then a beit, a house, is built to sustain His presence. To love YHWH is to obey Torah and therefore bridge the gap between man and the Almighty. When your actions line up with YHWH’s word it is like your nephesh is returning to the Gan Eden. Compliance with the mitzvot creates an attachment to the eternal. In fact, according to Strong’s Exhaustive Dictionary the root word to the term “mitzvot” or “commandments” is “tsavah” which literally means to “constitute or enjoin.” The mitzvot of Torah enjoin Yisra’el back to YHWH.

Proverbs 8:17

I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.

Proverbs 23:26

My son, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways,

Isaiah 56:6-7

And foreigners who bind themselves to YHWH to serve him, to love the name of YHWH, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."

Jeremiah 2:2-3 "Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem: "I remember the devotion of your youth, how as a bride you loved me and followed me through the desert, through a land not sown. Israel was holy to YHWH, the firstfruits of his harvest; all who devoured her were held guilty, and disaster overtook them," declares YHWH.

Matthew 10:37

"Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me"

- 8) **But, if this is true, then the opposite is also true. Sin, or Torah breaking, separates humanity from the holy. Torahlessness reveals a lack of love for Elohim!” Sin is really an expression of love of self more than love for YHWH,” says one source. Loving YHWH with all of your soul is returning to the ancient paths and living the Word. It is becoming like Yahshua and being the “word made flesh.” This also means coming to grips with the issue of satisfaction. Remember that the word “ahava” suggests craving. People have an inward craving and desire to love but they fill this void with love of stuff, or people, or self. When your nephesh is devoted to YHWH, you accept the emet that YHWH has not cheated us. The world only has an appearance of satisfaction – having money, “fitting in,” eating anything, and carefree living will never satiate your inner craving to love YHWH and receive His love.**

Finally, to love YHWH with all of your resources or possessions is to serve Him with all that you have and all that you are. This type of ahava is deep. Yahshua once came in contact with a rich man who kept many of the mitzvot but did not fully devote himself to YHWH. “And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Tov Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal chayim? And Yahshua said unto him, why do you call me tov? No one is tov, except one, that is YHWH. You know the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your abba and your ima. And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up. Now when Yahshua heard these things, he said to him, yet you lack one thing: sell all that you have, and distribute unit to the poor, and you shall have treasure in shamayim: and come, follow me. And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich,” Luka 18:18-23, Restoration Scripture Version. The man had to do something, to sell all he had and follow Yahshua, to prove his love for YHWH. The proof is the actions, not just the words. “Therefore ahavta YHWH your Elohim and shomer His charge, and His chukim, and His mishpatim, and His mitzvot always,” Devarim 11:1. Here the emet, the truth is very clear. To ahavta YHWH you will obey His mitzvot always. No matter what it costs. No matter what it calls for? If you really love YHWH you will obey Him.

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from YHWH, and whoever loves has been born of YHWH and knows YHWH. Anyone who does not love does not know YHWH, because YHWH is love. In this the love of YHWH was made manifest among us, that YHWH sent his only Son

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into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved YHWH but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if YHWH so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen YHWH; if we love one another, YHWH abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Y'shuais the Son of YHWH, YHWH abides in him, and he in YHWH. So we have come to know and to believe the love that YHWH has for us. YHWH is love, and whoever abides in love abides in YHWH, and YHWH abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the Day of Judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love YHWH," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love YHWH whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves YHWH must also love his brother.

Proverbs 13:24

Those who love their children care enough to discipline them.

Proverbs 15:17

A bowl of vegetables with someone you love is better than steak with someone you hate.

Proverbs 17:9

Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.

Proverbs 17:17

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

9) From our love of YHWH should come our submission to the mitzvot. The commandments are a means to an end, and not the end itself. Let's not get the cart before the horse by stressing obedience over submission. YHWH wants us to submit our life to Him; to love Him with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Obedience to the Torah should flow freely from the heart. Saints should obey in order to please the Almighty because we love Him. We should submit to Him before we try to obey anything. "Come near to Elohim and He will come near to you," reads the book of Ya'acov/James from the Messianic writings. "What does YHWH require of you, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly

with your Elohim," -- Mica'yah / Micah 6:8. If our heart's condition is right before YHWH, it is as if we are obeying all of the mitzvot, because we will be obeying the mitzvot. Yahshua said, "You shall love the YHWH your Elohim with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets," – Mattityahu / Matthew 22:38-40. This verse corresponds with the previous pasuk (passage) in Micah.

1 Peter 4:8

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

Colossians 3:14

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

10) **When we love YHWH with all our heart, we will do justly. When we love Him with all of our soul, we will view others in compassion and so we will love mercy. And when we love Him with all of our mind, we will keep our**



mind upon Him and walk humbly in His Spirit. The Zohar says, "when a man's love to the Holy One is roused, the "right hand" is moved only by a threefold impulse, by "heart", "soul", and "might", for it does not say, "with all thy heart or with all thy soul", etc., but "and with all thy soul", etc.: all three are essential and necessary. Then does the Holy One respond and stir up His Right Hand towards that man." YHWH wants our heart. He wants all of us. His desire is for His people to submit to His will for their lives. This will is revealed throughout the Torah. To obey the Torah without giving our heart to YHWH is great loss. To submit to the Almighty and seek to walk in obedience to the Torah is great gain.

1 Corinthians 13:1-8a and 13

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always

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perseveres. Love never fails; And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Proverbs 17:9

Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends.

John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Romans 12:9-10

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Galatians 5:6

For in Messiah Y’shua neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

Philippians 1:9-11

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Messiah, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Y’shua Messiah, to the glory and praise of YHWH.

1 Peter 4:8

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

1 John 3:14

We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.

Colossians 3:14

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

1 John 3:16

This is how we know what love is: Y’shua HaMoshiach laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

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1 John 3:18

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

1 John 4:8

Whoever does not love does not know YHWH, because YHWH is love.

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment.

The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

Lesson Nine

Study and Discussion Questions

- 1) Define the Hebrew term “shema.” What does it mean to “shema” the voice of YHWH?
- 2) What does “ahava” mean? How can a person love YHWH? Why is love the greatest commandment?
- 3) Explain the letters that spell the word “ahava” in Hebrew. What can a person learn from the spelling of this word?
- 4) Read 1 John 4:7-21. Sum up this passage of scripture in three sentences?

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- 5) If a person states that he or she is a Bible believer, but shows his lack of love through his bitterness and unforgiving spirit, should we affirm that he is a saint?
- 6) Read John 17:21-23. Does YHWH love us any less than he loves Y'shua? Explain.
- 7) What does it mean to love YHWH with all of your heart, soul and mind?
- 8) Study Hosea 11:1. What does this verse teach about the love of YHWH. Has YHWH forsaken His love of His people?
- 9) Examine in detail the story of creation as contained in the Bible (*Genesis*). How does creation manifest the love of YHWH for each one of us?
- 10) What specifically did you learn from this lesson? How can you apply this lesson to your life?
- 11) Meditate on Bible verses that illustrate YHWH's love for you. Make it a project to grasp how much YHWH loves you. Read the following verses slowly and prayerfully, and ask YHWH to make them real to you.
 - Your love, O YHWH, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies (Psalm 36:5).
 - How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings (Psalm 36:7).

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- Within your temple, O YHWH, we meditate on your unfailing love (Psalm 48:9).
- But I am like an olive tree flourishing in the house of YHWH; I trust in YHWH's unfailing love for ever and ever (Psalm 52:8).
- But you, O YHWH, are a compassionate and gracious YHWH, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness (Psalm 86:15).
- Give thanks to the YHWH of heaven. His love endures forever (Psalm 136:26).
- "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the YHWH, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).
- The YHWH appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness" (Jeremiah 31:3).
- The YHWH your YHWH is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing" (Zephaniah 3:17).
- For YHWH so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).
- Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends (John 15:13).
- As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love (John 15:9).
- Who shall separate us from the love of Messiah? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all

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creation, will be able to separate us from the love of YHWH that is in Messiah Y'shua our YHWH (Romans 8:35-39).

- But because of his great love for us, YHWH, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Messiah even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved (Ephesians 2:4-5).
- Messiah loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to YHWH (Ephesians 5:2).
- But when the kindness and love of YHWH our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:4-5).
- This is how YHWH showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved YHWH, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 John 4:9-10).

Lesson Nine

The Letter Tet



This is the Hebrew letter “tet.” It was once a picture of an inverted basket. In Modern Hebrew this letter has the “t” sound as in “Tom.” Some give this letter the “th” sound as in “the.”



The “tet” is the letter that is used the least in the Torah scroll.



This is the ninth Hebrew letter and the number “nine.”



The tet shows us that goodness is sometimes inverted or hard to find. The first “tet” in the Torah is found in the word “tov” or “good.”



A few words that begin with a tet are:

Tov – Good
Tamei - unclean
Tahor - clean

Treff – torn / unkosher
Tahleh - Lamb