

## Torah Portion #2: Noah (נח) "Noah"

Torah ~ Gen. 6:9-11:32 | Prophets ~ Isa. 54:1-55:5 | New Covenant ~ Mt. 24:36-46; Heb. 11:6-7; 1 Pt. 3:18-22

**The Key to Solving All Problems**

In this week's Torah portion we have the story of Noah's flood and the tower of Babel. It was during this time in history that the world was full of sin. Sin is any departure from God's Torah in our actions, our words, and even our thoughts.

*Isaiah 59:2a "But your iniquities have separated you from your God" NKJV*

This separation can be removed by repenting. Repentance is the key to solving every problem, personal and world wide. Repenting is being remorseful of our sin, asking the Lord to forgive us, turning away from sin and turning back to God. Repentance is an inward change that produces outward effects.

**Sin Offerings**

The Hebrew word for "sacrifice" or "offering" is Korban. It could also be translated as "to draw near." Drawing near to God was only accomplished by bringing a sacrifice. The Lord gives us the offerings for repentance in *Leviticus 4:1-5:13*. Sin separates us from the presence of God. It took an innocent animal sacrifice as payment for the sins of the people to bring them near to God once again. Even when sins are done unintentionally there must be repentance.

**Obedience is better than Sacrifice**

The Lord said in *Hosea 6:6 "For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, And the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings" NKJV*. Paul spoke of this verse in *Hebrews 13:16* saying, "But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased" *NKJV*. But none of us are perfect, we all need a sacrifice for our sins.

**Yeshua is our Sacrifice**

The sin offering for repentance is a clear picture of Yeshua's sacrifice. He spoke of Himself in *John 14:6* when He said "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." *KJV*

*Isaiah 53:5-6 "(5) But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. (6) All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all." NLT*

*1 Peter 2:24-25 "(24) who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. (25) For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." NKJV*

In Yeshua we have met all the sacrificial requirements given in the Torah. In Him our sins are forgiven when we repent. *Ephesians 1:7* speaks of Yeshua when it says "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" *NKJV*

*Hebrews 9:11-14; 10:11-14* tells us that the blood of Yeshua is the only blood that cleanses us from our sins eternally.

**Yeshua Taught Repentance**

Repentance is the primary message of the Gospel's. Most of Yeshua's teachings was calls to repentance and most of His parables were illustrations about repentance. In *Matthew 6:12*, Yeshua taught us to pray by saying "forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us." *NLT*

Yeshua said in *Matthew 4:17 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" NKJV*

In *Matthew 7:3-5*, Yeshua said that we first need to repent of our own sin before we point out the sins of others.

Yeshua even gave us an example of repentance in *Matthew 3:13-15* by receiving John's baptism of repentance.

**In Closing**

King David's prayer of repentance in *Psalms 51:1-13* is a good example of prayer for us.

None of us are perfect, we have all sinned. We all need to repent and make Yeshua the Lord of our lives.

*1 John 1:8-9 "(8) If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (9) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." NKJV*