

Torah Portion #53: Ha'azinu (הֶאָזִינוּ) "give ear"

Torah ~ *Deut. 32:1-52* | Haftarah ~ *Mic. 7:18-20; Joel 2:15-27* | Brit Chadashah ~ *Mt. 24:29-31; Rom. 11:1-29; Rev. 15:1-16:21*

The End of the Age

In this weeks Torah Portion we have a prophetic song called "The Song of Moses" (*Deut. 32:1-43 & Rev. 15:3-5*). This song looks far into the future, even envisioning the bowls of God's wrath and the return of the Messiah.

The Tribulation

But before the Bowls of Wrath (*Rev. 16:1-21*) are poured out upon the earth there will be seven years of tribulation.

The time frame of the tribulation comes from the final seven years of Daniel's prophecy in *Daniel 9:24-27* that has not yet occurred. The tribulation will start when the Antichrist makes a seven year peace treaty (*Daniel 9:27*) with Israel. As a part of this peace treaty, Israel will be allowed to build a Third Temple (*Daniel 9:26-27 & Rev. 11:1-2*). In the middle of the seven years, the Antichrist will break the peace treaty by stopping the Temple sacrifices (*Daniel 9:27*).

Protecting Israel during the Tribulation

In *Rev. 12:13-14*, God promises to protect Israel from the Antichrist by giving her two wings of an eagle. The prophet Daniel speaks of four beasts representing future kingdoms of the earth in *Daniel 7:2-7*, one of the beast is a Lion (Great Britain) with eagles wings (America) coming out from it. But in *Revelation 13:1-2* these same beasts are mentioned again without the eagles wings. Therefore the United States will not be under the control of Antichrist and will be helping Israel.

Even though the Antichrist will stand in the Temple and break the peace treaty, he will never have full control over all the land of Israel. This is evident in *Revelation 12:14* where Israel will go to into the wilderness to "her place" (the land of Israel) for protection. We also see in *Zechariah 14:2* that only half of the city of Jerusalem will go into captivity.

The Rapture

At the end of the tribulation, but before the bowls of wrath, all followers of Yeshua will be caught up to meet Him in the clouds, fulfilling Rosh Hashanah (*Matt. 24:29-31, 1 Cor. 15:51-52, 1 Thess. 4:16-18, & Rev. 11:15-19*).

John 16:33 "In the world you will have tribulation"

1 Thessalonians 5:9a "For God did not appoint us to wrath"

A picture of this is when the Israelites was still in Egypt with Pharaoh (Antichrist) during the plagues (tribulation), but crossed over (rapture) the Red Sea before it collapsed (God's wrath) on the Egyptians. But just as the children of Israel was protected during the plagues, we will also be protected during the tribulation.

The Bowls of Wrath ~ Revelation 16:1-21

Between the Feast of Trumpets and Yom Kippur are the Ten Days of Awe in which the Bowls of Wrath will be poured out on earth. As in the days of Noah, when God's people was lifted up from the outpouring of His wrath upon the earth, so it will be in the last days when believers will be raptured before the bowls of God's wrath is poured out upon the earth.

During the bowls of wrath, believers will be at the Judgement Seat of Messiah in Heaven (*2 Cor. 5:10 & Rev. 19:1-9*).

The Second Coming, when all Israel will be Saved

There will be a revival in Israel during the final 3 ½ years of the tribulation and after the rapture in which many Jewish people will accept Yeshua as their Messiah. Yeshua's second coming will be at the battle of Jerusalem in *Zechariah 14:1-5*. Then the Jewish people will "look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son" (*Zech 12:10*) and "all Israel will be saved" (*Rom. 11:26-27*).

Then comes Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, in which Yeshua's redemption of His people will be complete.

Aliyah to the Torah

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Torah ~ *Deuteronomy 32:1-4* NKJV

- 1 "Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; And hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.
 - 2 Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As raindrops on the tender herb, And as showers on the grass.
 - 3 For I proclaim the name of the Lord: Ascribe greatness to our God.
 - 4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.
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Haftarah ~ *Micah 7:18-20* NKJV

- 18 Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy.
 - 19 He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea.
 - 20 You will give truth to Jacob And mercy to Abraham, Which You have sworn to our fathers From days of old.
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Brit Chadashah ~ *Revelation 15:1-4* NKJV

- 1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.
- 2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.
- 3 They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!
- 4 Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, For Your judgments have been manifested."