

## The Things Revealed Belong to Us

*<sup>28</sup>"The secret things belong to Adonai our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever – in order to do all the words of this Torah." (Deut. 29:28)*

What an awesome statement/promise we have as Moses delivers his last message to his family on the earth! Given the times we find ourselves in, I can imagine that like the Children of Israel standing before the Jordan River, there is also anticipation and drama in the camp. But there is comfort in knowing that *"the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever—in order for us to do all the words of this Torah."* We are also told *"<sup>6</sup>Chazak! Be courageous! Do not be afraid or tremble before them. For Adonai your God—He is the One who goes with you. He will not fail you or abandon you."* Forty hard years have passed and only three who were adults when Israel left Egypt are left – everyone else was young or was born during those years. If for the sake of argument we imagine that young was 18 or under at the time of the departure from Egypt, then new nation to enter the Promised Land is 58 years old and under (except for Joshua and Caleb). Everyone here is fit and there are no feeble amongst the multitude. What a way to start a new nation, don't you think? If I were among them, I would want to obtain all the wisdom available from the two elders that are left (Joshua and Caleb, the sages of their day) and also anyone older than, say, 50. We have a passing generation that is getting smaller and smaller (they are called baby boomers) and our millennial generation ought to also want to obtain as much wisdom as possible from them. If they don't, they are doomed to repeat their failures!

In Genesis 2 God gave Adam (Eve was not yet created) a command and with it *free moral agency*, that is, the ability to choose for himself whether to do right or to do wrong. *This was a sovereign decree, irrevocable and forever binding.* You and I are always free to make our own choice when it comes to God, and when it comes to life, and when it comes to death: *"<sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and good, and death and evil. <sup>16</sup>What I am commanding you today is to love Adonai your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His mitzvot, statutes and ordinances. Then you will live and multiply, and Adonai your God will bless you in the land you are going in to possess" (Deut. 30:16).* Adonai created human life for fellowship with him (Adam walked with God in the garden in the cool of the evening), and He elected to be loved and cherished by choice, not by force. If He is the Sovereign of the Universe, He could have chosen differently, but He didn't. Instead we humans make the choice. We are asked to trade this *free moral agency for fellowship* with the Creator by doing what He asked.

What has happened is that in our life full of self-will and selfishness (and sometimes in outright arrogance) we have chosen death and evil instead of choosing life and good. Anticipating our utter failure Adonai announced through His prophet Isaiah: *"<sup>5</sup>But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup>All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all" (KJV) ... <sup>5</sup>But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. <sup>6</sup>We all like sheep have gone astray. Each of us turned to his own way. So Adonai has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (TLV), (Isaiah 53:5-6).* And He sent Yeshua to die for our sins that if we would put our trust in Him we would be reconciled to Him forever. Yeshua is the greatest revelation from Adonai and according to our Scripture above, He belongs to us and to our children forever, but only if we choose it to be so. Won't you make that choice today in order that you can restore that splendid fellowship with Adonai?

I am always stirred in my spirit when Moses refers to a present audience and a future audience (me!) when he said *"<sup>14</sup>whomever is standing here with us today before Adonai our God and with whomever is not here with us today" (Deut. 29:14).* Moses proceeds to speak also to this future group: *"You will see Israel cross over the River Jordan go into the Promised Land (the land of Israel), and disobey the Lord. You will see them get cast out to all the nations. You will see them be re-gathered from the nations and brought back from captivity to the land. And then you will see God judge the whole world."* Moses is speaking to the generation about to cross over the Jordan and to the generation that sees the re-gathering of the Jewish people to their own land. Evidently he was speaking to our generation. This also belongs to us because we are eyewitnesses to His chosen people returning to Eretz Israel.

Will you (we) choose life? Today is the 23<sup>rd</sup> of Elul and there is still time to repent. We still can – we must. We are also standing today before *Adonai*. We must choose to obey Him or disobey Him, and if so, we choose death. But I lead a Messianic Congregation that I believe wants to choose life. I have confidence in you and exult you to choose correctly.

*“<sup>13</sup>It will also come about in that day, a great shofar will be blown. Those perishing in the land of Assyria and the exiles in the land of Egypt will come and worship Adonai on the holy mountain in Jerusalem” (Is. 27:13) {See [http://www.kolsimcha.org/music/Uvau\\_Haovdim.mp3](http://www.kolsimcha.org/music/Uvau_Haovdim.mp3)}*