

Is God Moving House?

Once, the earth was thought of as being the physical centre of the universe. However, no longer! Nevertheless, that great leader and prophet Moses, had the understanding to say:

You will bring them in and plant them on the mountain of your inheritance—The place, O LORD, you made for your dwelling, the sanctuary, O Lord, your hands established. {Ex.15: 17}

Consider, if this planet is to be where God intends to dwell, then it will be the centre of the universe. Within this article, we wish to illustrate from the pages of Holy Scripture that this is the fact as far as God is concerned. And that Heaven should not be central to our thinking.

Many people acknowledge that God may exist as the Creator of what we see out there, yet without having any understanding that He really cares about us. Therefore such would doubt that He would ever bother to communicate with us. In any case, **modern man finds the message that we are accountable to a Greater Being very hard to swallow. Men do not want to be told that they are to walk humbly before God. Humanity wants to replace God!**

Yet we are more than our chemical makeup. We are here by design. Not because of some cosmic accident complete with a fortunate combination of acids or molecules.

If religion is perceived a crutch for the weak, consider that those who leave the Creator out of their reckoning, have got more faith {that is, of the leap in the dark variety} than we who trust in Him have! You either have a religion of tooth, claw and primeval soup, or one about a loving Eternal One who put us here for a reason. You ‘pays your money and you makes your choice.’ Moreover, is it not fascinating that the letters of the word ‘history’ exactly and in the same order, spell His Story!

The Apostle Paul wrote:

‘We speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. However, as it is written:

“No eye has seen, No ear has heard,

No mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him”

But God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.’ {1 Corinthians 2: 7-10}

These words from the Bible tell us that we have value and worth because the Almighty God cares for us and plans to be with us. Consider the name ImmanuEl – With us - God!

For reasons that He alone fully knows, God has placed immense value on those that He created in His image. The Biblical account reads that we were placed on a planet that had been made ready for us, {although we have messed up and messed it up, quite badly since.} We have also fallen away grievously from our former relationship with Him too. But has He washed His hands of us? No! He has broken into our history and made it His Story! He is there, and He has refused to be silent in the face of our need!

And we are in need! We are estranged from our Creator and whilst unforgiven, are not in a happy state! You may be at your wits end and seeing no future for yourself. However understanding God’s word, really changes one’s outlook! The biblical book of Job illustrates this:

"As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth. Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God; Whom I myself shall behold, And whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me! {Job 19:25-27}

It seems to have escaped many believers, who are Heaven expectant, that the Kingdom message – What Yeshua talked about when He spoke about the “Kingdom of Heaven,” is in fact about the future of Earth. For the world to come will one day be Properly ruled/managed under His administration.

This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.” {Acts 1:11}

The scriptures reveal that within the heart of God there is an ocean of love that longs to be poured into others, and the Biblical account, is in reality the story of how God has commenced this process.

Psalm 132, contains the following, beginning from verse 13:

For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation.

"This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.

"I will abundantly bless her provision; I will satisfy her needy with bread.

"Her priests also I will clothe with salvation, And her godly ones will sing aloud for joy.

This passage states that the Eternal One, does not wish to dwell only in the heavenly realms, the place of His throne, but to come here to be amongst His creation. God wants to be with us!

The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it. {Psalm 24:1}

Thus says the Lord, "Heaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool.

Where then is a house you could build for Me? And where is a place that I may rest? {Isaiah 66:1}

“Heaven is my throne...” It is not His Home! Yet the implication is that the Eternal One is desirous of a Home, whilst Heaven, has a higher function at present. So why do so many of us think of Heaven as the place of our future home?

Psalm 68:16 speaks out words of promise seemingly relating to the above:

Why do you look with envy, O mountains with many peaks, At the mountain which God has desired for His abode? Surely the Lord will dwell there forever.

However, there was a problem! As Psalm 80:1, could remind us:

Oh, give ear, Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock;

You who are enthroned above the cherubim, shine forth!

God was “enthroned above the cherubim,” meaning that under the system that He set up as regards the Tabernacle and the Temple-to-be, His contact with people was not God to man – face to face. Some such as Abraham and Moses were allowed to see different manifestations of the Almighty One, but not the total purity and wonder of their Creator. They would have died. Psalm 97: 1-6 illustrates His awesome majesty:

The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice; Let the many islands be glad.

Clouds and thick darkness surround Him; Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.

Fire goes before Him And burns up His adversaries round about.

His lightnings lit up the world; The earth saw and trembled.

The mountains melted like wax at the presence of the Lord, At the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. The heavens declare His righteousness, And all the peoples have seen His glory.

Yet despite this, the psalmist had cause to write what appears next:

Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing?

"Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!"

*He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them.
Then He will speak to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury, saying,
"But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain."*

*"I will surely tell of the decree of the Lord:
He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.
'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your
possession.
'You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.' "*

*Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth.
Worship the Lord with reverence And rejoice with trembling.
Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way,
For His wrath may soon be kindled.
How blessed are all who take refuge in Him! - {Psalm 2}*

Our world is currently subject to hostile spiritual forces. We have the scene in the Garden of Eden, to account for this. There, an angelic being is called – ‘The serpent.’ {Genesis 3:1} This ‘serpent,’ here called ‘the devil,’ later tried to seduce Yeshua from His purpose:

Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.' "Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.
{Matthew 4:8-11}

Our world remains at this time under this usurping angelic power! Amongst other things, we will get the planet returned, released from the ‘serpents’ grasp for he will be banished for a time. This pronouncement made by the prophet Moses, declares God’s intent well enough:

*"You will bring them and plant them in the mountain of Your inheritance,
The place, O Lord, which You have made for Your dwelling,
The sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have established.
"The Lord shall reign forever and ever." {Exodus 15:17-18}*

In the future then, the Eternal One who is in Heaven, will dwell on Earth with those He has created. This is His choice.

Yet currently we are hurting humanity. We are hurting humanity because a given situation is still in existence, hence the pattern prayer of Yeshua – YOUR kingdom come! The devil said to Yeshua that he could have the kingdoms of this world and reckoned he could bargain with Yeshua because of his usurping of Adam’s position. For this world is not currently under the direct rule of God, nor of Adam’s descendants but the usurper. To Adam, authority and responsibility had been given. He and those who came from him were to rule the planet wisely as God’s stewards. It didn’t last long.

This is why Yeshua in response to His disciples who were seeking help re: praying, gave them a pattern prayer with which to come to the Eternal God:

*“ ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’ {Matt 6: 9-13}*

God's heart is that we are delivered from the evil one! Therefore, His kingdom will be established and our enemy banished! When God's kingdom comes, then the world will know peace and justice.

Hence what we can read in Matthew 4:4:

.... 'He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.' "

To the 'serpent' in the garden God said:

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel." {Genesis 3:15}

Now that Yeshua has been raised from the dead, bruising Satan on the head, a new order of humankind has been inaugurated. Hence there is a fascinating statement from the apostle Paul appearing in Romans 16: 20:

*The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.
The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.*

Inasmuch as we are becoming the "Overcomers" that Yeshua refers to within Revelations Chapters 2 & 3, there will be a crushing of Satan under our feet. For as he failed with Yeshua when tempting Him, so by the grace of Yeshua we can learn to resist him too. Not that it will be an easy fight, but His is, and will be there for us. As He said through Isaiah:

*Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord,
And the justice due me escapes the notice of my God"?
Do you not know? Have you not heard?
The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth
Does not become weary or tired.
His understanding is inscrutable.
He gives strength to the weary,
And to him who lacks might He increases power.
Though youths grow weary and tired,
And vigorous young men stumble badly,
Yet those who wait for the Lord
Will gain new strength;
They will mount up with wings like eagles,
They will run and not get tired,
They will walk and not become weary. {Isaiah 40:27-31}*

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God has the totality of the human race in His heart, but he commenced His affairs with a nation – Israel. This matter is more fully featured within the article – Is God Racist? Nevertheless, the subsequent involvement of the Eternal One in the affairs of His chosen people Israel, meant that their story was radically changed – And became His story, as He became closely entwined with them!

Jeremiah 2 verses 1-3a, say this:

*Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the Lord,
"I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth,
The love of your betrothals, Your following after Me in the wilderness, Through a land not sown.
"Israel was holy to the Lord, The first of His harvest.*

In freeing the people from Egypt, God had amply demonstrated both His Love and His Power to His people. When He gave His Torah to them, He was providing the guidelines under which they could experience wholeness in Mind, Body and Spirit. Through this, He gave to them and us a 'Blueprint' for wholesome living! As He said in Deut. 30:15 & 19:

"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity;" - - "CHOOSE!"

Concerning the time of the beginning of human history, we read:

"Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him." {Genesis 2:18}

We can see in this statement, an echo perhaps of the unwritten thought of God. I too will have a Bride, someone with whom to share My glory, My vision and My love, throughout the endless ages!

God said that he was the Husband of His people, a thought that operates throughout the Book of Hosea. & Jer 3. - Just as the 'Bride of Yeshua' is likewise, as we read in Revelations and elsewhere. She is not one person, but many, many redeemed individuals – "Bought with a Price."

Looking back to Jeremiah chapter 3, The Almighty One is making it plain therein his plan and purpose. Here are verses 11-18:

And the Lord said to me, "Faithless Israel has proved herself more righteous than treacherous Judah. "Go and proclaim these words toward the north and say, 'Return, faithless Israel,' declares the Lord;

'I will not look upon you in anger. For I am gracious,' declares the Lord; 'I will not be angry forever. 'Only acknowledge your iniquity, That you have transgressed against the Lord your God And have scattered your favours to the strangers under every green tree, And you have not obeyed My voice,' declares the Lord.

'Return, O faithless sons,' declares the Lord; 'For I am a master to you,

And I will take you one from a city and two from a family, And I will bring you to Zion.'

"Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding. "It shall be in those days when you are multiplied and increased in the land," declares the Lord, "they will no longer say, 'The ark of the covenant of the Lord.' And it will not come to mind, nor will they remember it, nor will they miss it, nor will it be made again. "At that time they will call Jerusalem 'The Throne of the Lord,' and all the nations will be gathered to it, to Jerusalem, for the name of the Lord; nor will they walk anymore after the stubbornness of their evil heart. "In those days the house of Judah will walk with the house of Israel, and they will come together from the land of the north to the land that I gave your fathers as an inheritance.

How plain can it get? God does not want to cast away people, even when they grieve Him. So He will bring about a change to and for the human heart - Starting with His own people. Ezekiel passes on God's message regarding this:

"For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land. "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. "You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.

Jerusalem will be central to what God will do. Even to being called the Throne of the Lord in place of Heaven. Heaven is not where it is all going to happen. God, in the form of Yeshua – Salvation - is longing to dwell again with His people and through them reach out to the world at large. Because

His peoples' hearts will one day be circumcised – “They will all Know Him!” {Jeremiah 31:34}
 Jerusalem will be re-named YHWH-Shammah – THE LORD IS THERE. {Ezekiel 48:35}

*.. ..it shall come to pass in the latter days
 That the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of the mountains,
 And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.
 Many people shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
 To the house of the God of Jacob;
 He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths.”
 For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. {Isaiah 2: 2-3}*

“.. ..I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.””
 {Revelations 21: 3-5}

Redeemed humanity and the Eternal God will become One, as bridegroom and bride are considered one. The manifestation of the Eternal One that was Yeshua, came and provided Himself as atonement for sin then returned to the State of Glory from which He came. But He will return!

“I heard Him speaking to me from the temple, while a man stood beside me. And He said to me, “Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever...” {Ezekiel 43: 6-7}

The Father as the Father, was/is in Heaven. Therefore to do His work and to show His love, He sent Yeshua [and will send Yeshua again} as an exact representation OF, and the Fullness of, Himself - to be Israel's redeemer and the reconciler of all things. {Col 1:19- 20}

So Yeshua came as the very expression of the Father, as John {the Apostle} recorded:
And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. {John 1:14}

The Day of the Lord is coming. Paradise will be restored. But so will the Kingdom, the Rule of God, the reign of Messiah. Along with the implementation of His Law – Torah for all of mankind.

From within Malachi 3: 1-4, we read:

*.. ..The Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple,
 Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight.
 Behold, He is coming,” Says the LORD of hosts.
 “But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears?
 For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderer's soap.
 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness.
 “Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem Will be pleasant to the LORD, As in the days of old, As in former years.*

Colossians 1: 19-20 states:

For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven. - ALL THINGS!

Consider- *“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”*

– Yeshua – {Matthew 13:44}

Whereas it is possible to see Yeshua {rather than people,} as the treasure hid in this field, and be prepared to sacrifice all else in order to obtain Him, the problem arises when we seek to contemplate, how if having found Yeshua, why we would hide Him again? Moreover, how could we purchase such a field having hidden Yeshua back within it? And what would be the point of such a procedure? Yet, to buy “Jesus,” was how I was taught this parable. And even if the treasure was not Yeshua Himself, but the coming kingdom for which we should sacrifice pleasures of this life, in what sense should we hide it again?

No! Yeshua reveals that this earth and its people are the center of God’s interest. That we are the Treasure of the Universe and He is the Buyer – Paying with his Blood!

{The article– “The Value of Man” deals with this matter further.}

As we can read elsewhere, “the Field is the World.” - Within this world then, is God’s treasure. The “Treasure,” are those whom Yeshua has bought with His own Blood. Interestingly though, to get His treasure – The Man in the parable, purchases the Whole field! All the races of humanity complete with the actual planet. And so we read:

He said to me, “Son of man, this is the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet... {Ezekiel 43:7} Let us take heart! The mess that we have made of things, He will begin to correct.

From chapter 24 and verse 23 of Isaiah:

The moon will be abashed, the sun ashamed; for the LORD Almighty will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before its elders, gloriously.

Poetic language perhaps, but it helps us to remember who we are dealing with.

And how about this vision from within chapter 25:

*On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines.
On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations;
He will swallow up death for ever.
The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces;
He will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.
In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us.
This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”*

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The Bible reveals that we can have aid in living lives of purpose rather than futility. Moreover, our planet will be led into a state of healing. Yeshua speaking to the thief who was being crucified adjacent to Himself, said that he would be with Him in Paradise.

David, psalmist and king, wrote some 3,000 years ago:

*.. ..my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure,
because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.
You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. {Psalm 16: 9-11}*

God is coming to live on this planet with the Human Race! But first of all, we must and will, have a changed heart towards Him. A submissive and obedient spirit, one which is in full agreement with that of our ‘Husband-to be’! Only then will we Know all that the Holy One can Be and do. Only then will we fulfill our Destiny.

Yeshua was made - "For a little while lower than the angels," - Hebrews 2:9, so that He could raise up fallen humanity back to its proper place.

The apostle John wrote making matters even more interesting:

See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. {1 John 3: 1-3}

"For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you.

"Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. {Isaiah 60:2-3}

And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true." Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.

"He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. {Rev. 21:3-7}

*.. ..just as it is written,
"Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard,
And which have not entered the heart of man,
All that God has prepared for those who love Him."*

1 Cor. 2: 9