

Transcript – The Tabernacle of David

Shabbat shalom. I did a message at Sukkot that we watched here the first day on the *Key of David*. And I've been putting together an article, ... It's a pretty lengthy article. I finished it this week. I think it's 16 pages ... that I'm probably going to send out tonight or tomorrow. And I hope to actually put this into a book over the winter because it really, it's such a fascinating topic. And there's so many different pieces of this puzzle of the key of David that are pertinent to the end time and pertinent to the Kingdom of Yahweh.

And I was going through different notes I had. I found this sermon that I did about 10 years ago, maybe even 12 years ago, called, *The Tabernacle of David*. It's interesting, I don't even think we have this online. I didn't check, but I'm almost certain we don't. And I gave the message once when I was in Texas, in Midland. And I don't know why, I never gave the message again. And it kind of got caught in the back of my archives. And as I'm pulling this out, I'm like, wow! Talk about everything in its appointed time.

So, I'm going to go over that today. You can say it's a very good supplement to *The Key of David* and fits in together to why the key of David is so important, and why is Yahweh building this eternal throne for David, and where He's going to build it, and how Melchizedek is also involved in all of this.

Exodus 19 and verse 5 and 6. Yahweh's original intention ... Remember, this is before the 10 commandments is given and before the golden calf incident. And He says:

Exodus 19:5-6 *And now if listening you will listen to My voice, and will keep My covenant, you shall become a special treasure to Me above all the nations, for all the earth is Mine. And you shall become **a kingdom of priests for Me**, a holy nation. These are the words which you shall speak to the sons of Israel.*

So, very clearly, in the original templates, you could say, of Yahweh taking the Israelites out of Egypt, it wasn't meant to be the monarchy that it developed into. But literally we know how it started. It was going to be a system run by captains of thousands, captains of hundreds, captains of tens. And it was going to be run by judges. There would be judges in every area. And every man would be priest of his own house. And all 12 tribes would be a kingdom of priests to Yahweh.

There was still going to be the Aaronic priesthood. That's even before this. So, the Aaronic priesthood is going to be there, who is going to represent Melchizedek. They're going to be a shadow of Melchizedek. But it was going to be much different. That all 12 tribes would represent ... Like you have in the temple worship, you have 24 orders of priests. And they would serve for one week each order. And then you go through the 24 order, and then you would redo it again. And during the Holy Days all 24 orders would serve because all the Israelites were coming up and all the work that had to be done. So, throughout a year you would have basically every order of priests would serve twice. So, if you're just looking at that: 24, if you divide that by two, and you have 12; you could see that if all 12 tribes were serving, they would basically serve for four weeks in the sanctuary.

So, this is the way Yahweh had it set up. And of course, it didn't work that way. Because before, like I said, before the ink, so to speak, got dry on the commandments and on the Torah, the debauchery that's going on. And Yahweh is just ready to wipe Israel out. And Moses says, "*Whoever is for Yahweh come to me,*" and the Levites come. And he says, "*Get your sword, and kill your brothers.*" It's just a horrible time ... it's a horrible time.

But then Yahweh says, okay, we have a problem here ... we have a problem. He knows we're 1500 years away before Yahshua is coming down to put everything in order. And He's saying, how on earth can we get from here to there? How are we going to do it ... how are we going to do it? What good is Yahshua coming down if every single person is corrupted, if they're doing child sacrifices, if there's all intermarriage with sisters and relatives? I mean, if it's so bad, there's nothing for Yahshua to come for. So, He has to figure out a way. How could we get them from 1445 BC and the giving of the Law till the time? And what does He do? He adds the ceremonial law under the Levites.

So now it's no longer all 12 tribes are going to be a kingdom of priests to Him, at least not at this time. We know in the New Covenant, the changing of the priesthood, again all 12 tribes will be priests. And that's what our training is for. But He adds in ... He adds in the Levitical order with the ceremonial law. So now He figures, if five or 10 times a day, if every time you turn your head the wrong way, you're realizing you're defiled and you have to go mikvah yourself, at least ... It's not going to make you more righteous per se ... but at least it's going to keep reminding you that you're a sinner. And then hopefully when the Messiah comes, then you're going to see, wow, I am so happy He's here, that we could stop doing these mikvahs five and 10 times every day and stop being ceremonially unclean for everything.

But what happened? It became an end of itself. The sacrificial law under the Levitical system became an end to itself, and we know most of the people did not accept Yahshua. But in the New Covenant, ... That's not my message today about that, just giving a little background ... in 1st Peter 2, we know the pattern, though, that started with Yahweh having a kingdom of priests continues in the New Covenant. 1st Peter 2 and verse 5.

1 Peter 2:5, 9-10 *You also as living stones are being built into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to YAHWEH through Yahshua Messiah ... verse 9 and 10 ... But you are an elect race, a royal priesthood; a holy people, and a people for possession; that you should proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness to His precious light: you who then were "Not a people, but now are the people of YAHWEH; who have not obtained mercy, but who now have mercies poured upon them."*

And we know it. I won't go there, but **Revelation 20:4 through 6**, what does it say? Whoever is a firstfruit, when Messiah returns, whether you're sleeping in the earth and you'll be resurrected or you're alive and you're going to go in the air, that **we'll reign with Him as kings and priests** ... kings and priests. Melchizedek.

And many people miss the mystery of Melchizedek. There really is not so much of a mystery if you have the book of Hebrews. Because **Hebrews 7** clearly tells us that Yahshua is Melchizedek. The problem is that people are thinking of it as a name of a person, this person called Melchizedek. But it's not a name of a person; it's a **title** of a person. The same way we have no problem with Yahweh; we know that's His personal name. He says it, *this is My name forever*, in **Exodus 3:15**. But He's also called, as we just saw, Yahweh Yireh (Yahweh the Provider). He's called Yahweh Rafah (Yahweh our Healer). He's called many titles, but one name.

So, **Melchizedek is not the name of a person; it's the title**. Malki meaning king, tzedeq meaning righteousness. He is the King of righteousness. There's only one King of righteousness, who is also the King of Jerusalem. There's only one King of Jerusalem, who's also the High Priest of the Melchizedek order. There's only one High Priest. So, there's nothing in Scripture that would ever make us think that Melchizedek and the Melchizedek order ... Remember, it's an eternal order. We'll read this later in **Psalms 110** ... that it's anything less than Yahshua. There'd have to be another being up there that we don't know about, which of course is not the case.

Because **Hebrews 7** clearly says, when he says that Melchizedek is like the Son of Yahweh, it's not in English when you think 'like' meaning similar; 'like' meaning **is**. That's what it means in Hebrew. **He is the Son of Yahweh**. *Who is the Son of Yahweh*. It clearly says that in the Aramaic. So, there's no real mystery if you have the book of Hebrews to who Melchizedek is.

And we are training to be priests under that Melchizedek order. I hope to give a whole lesson during our classes on Melchizedek, on the Melchizedek priesthood, ... But like I said, Malki is king. Also, malach, which is very close to melech (which is king). Melech is king. Malach is messenger. And we know that **the Messenger of Yahweh is also the King of Yahweh**. So, there's a play on words that also comes into that ... and it's somebody who is king and priest.

So, we see that when the pattern fell apart, right? The whole structure of the priesthood was broken down. It was broken down. That you have Aaron who represents the priesthood, and then you have the king who represents the kingship, the scepter. So, the king is a king, and the priest is a priest. And you can't ... Judicial order is what? You can't overtake your realm, as we're going to see here.

Let's go to 1st Samuel 13. Because if you overstep your realm, ... We're going to talk about this in our Judicial Order class tomorrow ... what happens? What are the consequences of coming out of judicial order? And it's never good. It's never good consequences.

I'm not going to read it today, but do you remember Uzziah? The priest who ... not the priest, the king, Uzziah the king of Israel, who was a fairly decent king in a lot of ways. But later in his life he got somewhat prideful, and he came into the tabernacle of Yahweh to burn incense on the altar. And the priests came to him and said, "What are you doing here? You're not allowed to be in this place! You're a king. You're not a priest. You're getting too lifted up in your position." And he got angry at that and went to put his hand out, and his hand became leprous. And they said he was leprous till the day he died.

And in the book of Samuel, 1st Samuel 13, in the case of Saul it's even worse. Because of Saul stepping out of judicial order and taking a position that was never given to him, he actually not only lost the kingship for himself and his family, he lost it for the whole tribe. Because the Messiah comes from where? He has to come from the tribe of Judah, and then particularly from a son of David, who's part of the tribe of Judah. But Judah was there well before David was ever born. But now if it wasn't for Saul, it wouldn't be the case. We'd be saying the Messiah has to come from the tribe of Benjamin. So, let's look at this here. 1st Samuel 13 and verse 7.

1 Samuel 13:7 *And the Hebrews crossed over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. And Saul was still in Gilgal. And all the people followed him, trembling.*

Comment: So, here it is. Many of you were in Gilgal, so you could picture now where he is; maybe what part of the sandal he's over there.

1 Samuel 13:8 *And he waited seven days, according to the set time with Shmuel ... Samuel ... But Shmuel had not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.*

Comment: So, here it is, things are falling apart. The people are getting scattered. Samuel's late for whatever reason. And Saul is going to make a very, very poor decision.

1 Samuel 13:9-10a *And Saul said, Bring near to me the burnt offering and the peace offering. And he offered up the burnt offering. And it happened, as soon as he finished the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came.*

Comment: How many times has that happened in our life, right? We don't wait on Yahweh. We take it into our own hands, and as soon as we do it, then, all of a sudden, we see the answer. An it's like, "Oh! If I would have only waited five more minutes," "If I would have only waited one more day."

1 Samuel 13:10b-12 *And Saul went out to meet him, and to bless him ... Not even seeing the tragedy that he caused ... And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattering from me, and you did not come in the days set out, and the Philistines were gathering at Michmash, then I said, Now the Philistines will come down to me to Gilgal, and I have not sweetened the face of YAHWEH; and I forced myself, and offered a burnt offering.*

1 Samuel 13:13-14 *And Samuel said to Saul, You have acted foolishly that you have not kept the command of YAHWEH your Elohim which He commanded you. For now YAHWEH would have established your kingdom forever. But now your kingdom shall not stand ... Why? ... YAHWEH has sought out for Himself a man according to His own heart, and YAHWEH has appointed him as a leader over His people. For you have not kept that which YAHWEH commanded you.*

And who's He talking about? David, right? Is there anybody else in Scripture that's ever called a man after Yahweh's own heart? No. Abraham is called a friend of Yahweh; different people are called different things. But **David is the only one that we know who's called a man after Yahweh's own heart.** Remember that, because there's going to be a little riddle to this we have to put together shortly.

But very clearly, is Yahweh a respecter of persons? No. So, is He going to say, "Well you know what? I punished Saul for this because I didn't really like him too much anyway. But if somebody else does the same thing and I like him more, I won't punish him"? Of course not. You reap what you sow. Yahweh is not a respecter of person. Matter of fact, His Word says that. You're to make the same judgment no matter who it is. You have to judge your wife and your children and your friends, the same as you would judge a stranger. There's one law. *There's one law ... Number 15, Numbers 9 ... to the stranger and to those who are citizens.* There's one law here.

So now let's look at something really interesting. Let's look at 2nd Samuel 6. Because if this was such a heinous crime that Saul lost the kingdom from ... 2nd Samuel 6 and verse 12. And this is when David is bringing up the Ark of the Covenant, right? After he's reigning already as king seven years in Hebron, now he takes over the Jebusite city, which is Zion; and he's going to bring up the Ark of the Covenant. Let's pick it up in verse 12.

2 Samuel 6:12-14 *And it was told to King David, saying, YAHWEH has blessed the house of Obed-Edom and all that is his, because of the ark of the Elohim. And David went and brought up the ark of the Elohim from the house of Obed-Edom to the city of David with joy. And it happened, when those bearing the ark of YAHWEH had gone six steps, he ... David ... sacrificed an ox and a fatling. And David was dancing with all his might. And David was girded with a linen ephod.*

Comment: Who wears ephods? The priests, right? Who sacrifices animals? The priest. Is David outside of judicial order? Maybe not ... maybe not. We'll see.

2 Samuel 6:17-18 *And they brought the ark of YAHWEH in, and set it up in its place, in the midst of the tent that David had pitched for it ... Like I said, the place that I actually saw; nothing else it could be ... And David caused burnt offerings to be offered before YAHWEH, and peace offerings ... Wow, he's even sitting there before the Ark of the Covenant that only a priest could do ... And David finished offering the burnt offerings, and the peace offerings, and he blessed the people in the name of YAHWEH of Hosts.*

So here it is. Yahweh is not a respecter of persons. He's not going to take the kingship away from one guy for doing the same thing, and then say, "Well, oh, no, it's okay for you to do it." So, what is the answer here? Let's going to 1st Samuel 21. We'll see something else that David is going to do that is only permitted for priests. 1st Samuel 21 and verse 3. This is when David is running from Saul. And remember, he doesn't have food, and he's coming into the tabernacle, to Ahimelech the priest. And verse 3. It says:

1 Samuel 21:3-4 *And now, what is there under your hand? Give five loaves into my hand, or whatever is found ... So, David wants some food; he's hungry ... And the priest answered David and said, There is no common bread under my hand, but only holy bread, ...*

Comment: What bread is he talking about? He's talking about the Bread of the Presence, the loaves that go on the table of showbread.

1 Samuel 21:4-6 *... if the young men have been kept from a woman. And David answered the priest and said to him, Surely, a woman has been kept from us as yesterday and the third day, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy ... or set apart ... And in a way the holy bread is common; also surely today it is sanctified in the vessels. And the priest gave the holy bread to him, for there was no bread there except the Bread of the Presence which is taken from the presence of YAHWEH in order to put hot bread in on the day it was taken,*

So, now David is doing this. Now the interesting part is this story, this little, tiny story that's not real important here, but it's mentioned in the Brit Chadashah. Let's go to Luke the 6th chapter. And actually, it's Yahshua, who's the one who's bringing it up. And He says something very interesting if you look at His comparison to what David just did. Luke 6. I'll read the first two verses so you can get the context of what Yahshua is going to say.

Luke 6:1 *And it happened on the second chief Sabbath, ... Remember, I told you there's 24 orders of the priests. So, this was after the first 24 weeks. This is the first week of the second order ... He ... Yahshua ... passed along through the grain fields. And His disciples plucked the heads and were eating, rubbing with the hands.*

Comment: They're walking on Shabbat, and there's grain out here. If you come here around Aviv, around the beginning of the year, you'll see. You'll see all the grain fields there. So, they're walking, going to synagogue or wherever they're going, and they're picking some grain and rubbing it in with their hands. At that time of the year the grain is not so hard, and you can rub it, and you can eat it. We do it all the time.

Luke 6:2 *But some of the Pharisees said to them, Why do you do that which is not lawful to do on Shabbat?*

Comment: So, is there anywhere in Shabbat that says that you can't do that? Is there a law that says that, that you can't do that on Shabbat? No ... no, there is no law. A matter of fact, according to **Deuteronomy 23:25** ... I'm not going to go there ... but it literally says you can do that. That if you're hungry and you're going through a field, you can't put a sickle to it, but you can pick grain and eat it. That is not violating Shabbat, whatsoever. According to the oral law, the tradition of the rabbis, that was their oral law. So now Yahshua is going to make a comparison on why His disciples are not breaking the law. He's not justifying them breaking a law of Torah. He's saying they're not breaking it. Look what He says:

Luke 6:3-4 *And answering, Yahshua said to them, And have you not read in the thing, which David did when he hungered, and those who were with him? How he entered into the house of YAHWEH and he took the bread on the table of YAHWEH and ate it and he gave to those who were with him that which was not lawful for anyone to eat except only the priests.*

So, what is He saying? He's using the comparison to say, My disciples are not breaking the Sabbath, the same way David was not breaking the law. So, how can that be? How can that be? How can David wear an ephod, sacrifice animals, even sit next to the Ark of the Covenant? How can he do all these things that only a priest can do and not be violating judicial order? The only answer could be that David was a priest. **David was a priest.** David was not a Levite. Because we know even from Hebrews the 7th chapter, ... Maybe I'll go there ... because Yahshua is a son of David, right? In verse 11 of Hebrews 7, it says:

Hebrews 7:11, 14 *If, therefore, perfection had been reached by the Levitical priesthood, by which the Torah was enacted for the people; what further need was there for **another priest to rise after the order of Melchizedek**? Otherwise the scripture would have said that He would be after the order of Aaron ... Verse 14 ... For it is evident that our Master has risen out of Judah, as to which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood.*

So, we know that Judah is not the tribe of the priest of the Torah; it's Levite. But very clearly here, **there is another priesthood. There's a Melchizedek priesthood.** If we go to 2nd Samuel 8, this scripture is corrupted in the King James Version. I think it says something like David's sons were **chiefs** among the people. But if you look it up in the original Hebrew, you'll see that it literally says:

2 Samuel 8:18 *and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and the sons of David were priests ... cohen.*

The sons of David were cohen; they were priests. They weren't just chiefs; they were cohen. 2nd Samuel 8 and verse 18, the sons of David were cohen; they were priests. And as we're going to see here, the one scripture besides **Genesis 14** ... This mysterious figure, Melchizedek, that seems to come out of nowhere. And who is he? By **Genesis 14**, you don't get that this person is Yahshua. He does say He's the Priest of El Elyon, the Most High El, so He's not a pagan priest. But just from that scripture alone, you can't figure out who Melchizedek is.

And then from nowhere in **Psalms 110**, we'll go to that in a little while, what does he say? David is the one writing. And He says to David, *you are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek*. So, if the Son of David is a Melchizedek priest of the highest order, why is that? Because David is a Melchizedek priest. David is a Melchizedek priest. It's very clear from

that from Scripture when we look at it. And his Son that's going to come is prophesied that He is going to be not only the Messiah, but He will be the King of righteousness, the High Priest of Melchizedek.

Let's go back to 1st Samuel 2, because this was actually prophesied in Samuel that it would happen. Remember how the book of Samuel starts? We're coming off the time of the judges, terrible time in history, all these bad things that are happening. I almost wish chapter 20 and 21 were not even in the book of Judges. Just a horrible story of a man's concubine getting abused and chopping her up and the war that comes with Benjamin. Just an awful time.

And then we get to the book of Samuel, where there's a priest in that day called Eli ... Eli. And he wasn't such a bad priest, but he had evil sons. His sons were literally having relations with women at the door of the tabernacle. They were taking the holy things. They were just evil children. And Yahweh was not, or rather, Eli was not dealing with his children. It's something that should be a real sign for us in these days we're living in. Because **Eli's a righteous guy; and yet because he didn't deal with his children, he also lost out on the priesthood.** So, verse 22 ... verse 22 of chapter 2 ... 2nd Samuel 2 and verse 22. It says:

1 Samuel 2:22, 30 *And Eli was old and had heard all that his sons did to Israel, and how they lay with the women who assembled by troops at the door of the tent of meeting ... I mean, just evil, evil stuff that's going on here. Drop down to verse 30 ... So says YAHWEH the Elohim of Israel ... This is what Yahweh says. He says ... I said indeed that your house and your father's house should walk before Me forever ... Now He's talking to Eli, and He says ... But now YAHWEH says, Be it far from Me! For those who honor Me I will honor; and those despising Me will be despicable.*

Comment: So, Yahweh is not a fool. Even though He gave Eli the opportunity that his priesthood would be forever through his lineage, because his sons were evil and Eli did nothing against it, He says (Yahweh says) that's it. So, if we drop down now to verse 33, He says:

1 Samuel 2:33-35 *And the man of yours that I shall not cut off from My altar shall be to cause your eyes to fail, and to grieve your soul. And all the increase of your house shall die young men. And this shall be the sign to you, that which shall come on your two sons, on Hophni and on Pinchas: ... or Phinehas ... in one day they both shall die. **And I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest. He shall do all that is in My heart and in My soul** ... Who's the man after Yahweh's own heart? David ... **And I shall build him a sure house;** ... Who did Yahweh say He would build a sure house for? David ... **And he shall walk before My Messiah all the days.***

As we're going to see, the only person—the only person in all of the Tanakh that actually is prophesied in millennial scriptures to be with the Messiah is David. Now Abraham, he's promised eternal life; so is Isaac; so is Jacob. You can look in Hebrews 11 and you can see all those people there will be firstfruits. But the only one that literally ... when you see prophecies, *in that day and at that time, when I set up My Kingdom on earth* ... the only one whose named by name is King David. The only one that's named by name, according to this prophecy that we're seeing here.

So again, not adding, just taking the scripture *line by line, precept by precept, here a little, there a little*, putting it together. And very clear, that not only is David a priest, but Yahweh prophesied that He would take the priesthood away from Levi and give it back to the order of Melchizedek through King David. So, let's go to 2nd Samuel 7, because I want to show you where **David is the only person that Yahweh ever promises he will build a sure house for him**, exactly what He just said in that verse. 2nd Samuel 7 and verse 10.

2 Samuel 7:10-12 *And I will appoint a place for My people Israel, ... 2nd Samuel and verse 10 ... and I will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place and not be made to tremble any more. Nor shall the sons of evil afflict them again, as at the first, even from the day I commanded judges to be over My people Israel. And I will cause you to rest from all your enemies. And YAHWEH declares to you that **YAHWEH will make you a house** ... That's what He says to David ... *When your days are fulfilled, and you lie with your fathers, then I shall raise up seed after you, ...**

Comment: Okay? And we know if *those come to Abraham, Galatians 3:29, they are Abraham's seed and an heir according to the promise. Galatians 3:16, He did not say seed as to many, but Seed as to One, the Messiah.* So, there's no doubt who this seed is.

2 Samuel 7:12-13 ... *I will raise up seed after you, who shall come out from your loins, ... That's why the Messiah had to be a literal son of David ... and I shall establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.*

Comment: Certainly not talking about Solomon. A matter of fact, Solomon did not even have one son reign over a united kingdom, not even one! Solomon went after foreign deities. His wives pulled him away. And unfortunately, that's Solomon's end.

2 Samuel 7:14-17 *I shall be a father to him, and he shall be a son to Me. If He takes iniquity upon Himself, ... which Yahshua did ... then I will chasten him with a rod of men, ... Yahweh did ... and with strokes of the sons of men. But My mercy shall not be taken from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. And your house shall be sure, ... Just like He said in the prophecy in Samuel the 2nd chapter, I will make a sure house for your name ... And your house shall be sure, and your kingdom before Me forever. Your throne shall be established forever. And according to these words, and according to the vision, so Nathan the prophet spoke to David.*

Very, very clear here. Yahweh would establish an eternal house for David. And who's going to build the house? Is it going to be the Jews? Is it going to be anybody? No, it's going to be Yahweh. Remember, Yahweh never asked for a temple, a sanctuary, to be built. When David put in his heart, he said, *I'm living in a nice house of cedar, and Yahweh is dwelling in a tent.* What did He say? *In all the years I dwelt, did I ever ask for a house?* No. He said, *"But ... but because your heart is right, I'll allow your son to build a house. But I'm still going to build a house for you."*

And that's why ... **That's part of the key of David is why the temple was not built in the City of David.** It was not built on the Akra. It was not built in Mount Zion. That Yahweh had to allow Solomon to extend Mount Zion over to the Ophel and temporarily put the temple in another place. And then what did He do? **He covered up the tabernacle of David that has fallen until the time of the Messiah comes.** And we'll see here, it's one of probably, to me, the biggest sign of the Messiah's return.

Because **the temple of Solomon was not the temple that King David was promised.** That was the temple that He allowed Solomon's [should be David's] son to build for Yahweh. But Yahweh still said, I am going to give My Son to build the temple for you. Totally different meaning there. So, let's look at this. Let's go to Zechariah 6, and let's see who will build the temple of Yahweh, David's temple. Zechariah 6 and verse 12. He says:

Zechariah 6:12 *And speak to him, saying, ...*

Comment: And again, Zechariah you have 14 chapters, almost all of it is end time. Some of it is prophecy coming from the time when they come back from the captivity. But most of Zechariah, most of the book, I'd say probably at least 80 to 90% of it is stuff that's happening in our time. And He says:

Zechariah 6:12a *And speak to him, saying, So says YAHWEH of Hosts, saying, Behold! The Man whose name is THE BRANCH!*

Comment: What did we read the other day from Isaiah 11? Right? The netzer, the Branch. Maybe I'll just go there for a second and quote that verse verbatim. Isaiah 11.

Isaiah 11:1-2 *And a Shoot goes out from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch will bear fruit from his roots ... the netzer. He will be called a Nazarene, right? ... And the Spirit of YAHWEH will rest on Him; He'll have the spirit of wisdom and understanding, counsel and power, spirit in knowledge and the fear of YAHWEH.*

Without a shadow of a doubt, Messianic. So, this is what He's talking about. This Man, the Man who's the Redeemer, the Man who's going to rebuild the stump of Jesse, who's going to rebuild the tabernacle of David that's fallen; the Man whose name is the Branch, the netzer, the Nazarene.

Zechariah 6:12b-13 *And He shall spring up out of His place, and He will build the sanctuary of YAHWEH. Even He shall build the sanctuary of YAHWEH; and He will bear the majesty, and He will sit and rule on His throne. And He shall be a priest on His throne; and the counsel of peace will be between the two of them.*

Counsel of peace between what two? King and priest—Melchizedek, king and priest. That the king Messiah, when He comes, it's not going to be any more that you have one as a king and one as a priest, the divided kingdom. And like I say, the Akra and the Ophel it's the same way. The Akra is the kingship, right? The Ophel is the sacrifice, the priesthood. And what did Solomon do? He filled the Millo, and he connected them together. *Mount Zion is a city built unto itself.* And he's showing the pattern of Yahweh, king and priest being one.

And unfortunately, like we said, Solomon failed. Solomon failed at this, but Yahweh always has a plan B. He knew Solomon would fail. He knew that Solomon wasn't the Messiah. The Messiah would be His Son that would come, but He would come from the loins of David. And when He returns the second time, this is what He'll do. **The Man whose name is the Netzer, the Nazarene, Yahshua of Nazareth. King Messiah will come back to earth, and He will build the tabernacle of David that has fallen.**

So, man's efforts ... man's efforts, right? Because now you have our brother Judah wanting to build a temple. Do they have any mandate from Yahweh? Absolutely not ... absolutely not. Yahweh said the first temple, yes. The second temple, He prophesied Cyrus would rebuild it. But not the third one. The third one will be built by Messiah Himself. Now what does Yahweh say? Will there be something built? Oh yeah, there's going to be something built, but it isn't the temple of Yahweh. And what does Yahweh say? How does He look at this temple that will be built very shortly? Go to Isaiah 66.

Isaiah 66:1-3 *So says YAHWEH: Heaven is My throne, and earth the footstool of My feet. Where then is the house that you'll build for Me? And where then is the place of My rest? And My hand has made all these things, even all these things exist, declares YAHWEH. But I will look toward this one, to the humble one, and the contrite of spirit, even trembling at My Word ... Psalm 51 ... He who slaughters an ox, ... So, this is what He's saying. Will He accept it? ... He who slaughters an ox as if he struck a man; he who sacrifices a lamb as if he broke a dog's neck; he who offers a present on the altar as if it were swine's blood; he making mention of incense as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their way, their soul delights in their abominations.*

Comment: So very clearly, no, Yahweh will not. He will not accept this. Then look at verse 5.

Isaiah 66:5 *Hear the Word of YAHWEH, those who tremble at His Word. Your brothers who hate you ... **Your brothers who hate you and drive you out** ... Out where? Of the land ... **for My name's sake**, have said, YAHWEH is glorified. But He shall appear in your joy, and they shall be ashamed.*

The destruction that's coming on the Land here is because Judah is not accepting that there's 12 brothers. They're not enlarging the border of their tent, like Yahweh says in **Isaiah 54**, and they're bringing their own destruction. But Yahweh is in control. When Yahweh says, I will be Elohim over all 12 tribes of Israel, He means it. And we don't have to force it, and we don't have to try to make it happen. It's going to happen, one way or another. And whoever tries to stop it, including our brother Judah, they're only going to pay the consequences of it. So very, very clearly, only the Messiah can build the house of Yahweh because it's from the Melchizedek priesthood; it's not from the Levitical priesthood.

Acts 15 ... Acts 15. When Jacob is talking about, like I said, very strange that they're talking about circumcision and whether a Gentile needs to be circumcised to join the New Covenant, and out of nowhere, he quotes this scripture from Amos. Acts 15 and verse 15.

Acts 15:15-16 *And with this agree the Words of the prophets, as it has been written, After these things "I will return and build again the tabernacle of David that's fallen," ...*

Comment: He's not going to return and rebuild the temple of Solomon. He's going to return and build the tabernacle of David. Like we said, David ruled seven years in Hebron. He came to Jerusalem, to Mount Zion, and for 33 years ... Very interesting number; same age the Messiah was when He was impaled on the tree ... for 33 years the Ark of the Covenant was in the City of David in the Holy of Holies there, but there was no temple there. It was in a tent. It was a place for making the holy anointing oil. There was a place for sacrificing animals, as we see they did.

But there was no official big tabernacle or sanctuary. It was a tent that David laid for it. And the tabernacle at that time was in Gibeon. So, the Ark of the Covenant was separated for 33 years from the tabernacle. The same way Yahshua was 33 years on the earth, and Yahweh's Shekinah separated from the tabernacle of Yahweh. And he says here:

Acts 15:15-16 *And with this agrees the Words of the prophets, as it has been written, After these things "I will return and build the tabernacle of David which has fallen," "And I will build again the things which have been demolished, ... archaeology ... and I will set it up,"*

And here we are. Eighteen years they're digging there. Only in the last two years they find this place of worship. They call it the temple because they don't know what else to call it, because only in temples would you sacrifice animals. They have no idea what they have. And what they have is the key of David in their hand, and the greatest sign that the Messiah is ready to appear. This comes from Amos 9. I'll read Amos 9 again. Amos the 9th chapter and verse 11.

Amos 9:11-12 *In that day I will raise up the sukkah ... the pavilion; the tent ... of David that has fallen, and I will wall up its breaks. And I will raise up its ruins, and I will build it as the days of old; ... Exactly what they did ... exactly what they did. They dug it up; they raised it; they cleaned it; they restored it ... so that they may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the nations on whom My name is called, declares YAHWEH who is doing this.*

1st Chronicles 16 ... 1st Chronicles 16:1 and 2.

1 Chronicles 16:1-2 *And they brought in the ark of The Elohim, and set it down in the middle of the tent that David had pitched for it. And they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before The Elohim. And when David finished offering the burnt offering and the peace offering, and he blessed the people in the name of YAHWEH;*

Comment: So, again, they bring the Ark of the Covenant to this place. And very interesting, because most temples you have an outer court, an inner court, and a Holy of Holies. When we were in Arad you saw that, which was a temple that was made to Yahweh; and you saw the outer altar of sacrifice, and then you saw where you went into the Holy of Holies. Interesting, where the tabernacle of David was in Mount Zion, it was long ways. It wasn't where you walk into chambers.

It was like stalls. You had a stall here where they made the oil for the holy oil of anointing. You had a stall here where they killed the animals. You had a stall here where it was the stela where the Ark of the Covenant would have been, where Yahweh's presence was. And then you had another stall here where they would hang the animals when they were ready to kill them.

So, it was a different situation, and that's the way it was. Almost like when you see ancient Bedouin tents, they're long ways like that. And what do you do when your child grows up and they get married? You enlarge your tent. You just make another ring for another room on there.

This is exactly what David did. And this tabernacle, though, goes back to the time of Melchizedek, which is the amazing part of the story. It's not something that David had built there for the tabernacle. It was already there from Melchizedek before him, but clearly used ... clearly used by King David. They have proof of it. They have all the archaeological evidence. They have the pottery.

And after David it was never used again, and they're not sure why. Because they don't have the key of David. Because we know what the Bible says; that Solomon took the Ark of the Covenant out of this area and brought it to the north, to the Ophel hill, to where the temple that he built for Yahweh was. They covered this up. And like I said, it's been laying there for the last 3,000 years until the appointed time. You drop down to verse 39, it says:

1 Chronicles 16:39-40 *and Zadok the priest, and his brothers the priests, before the tabernacle of YAHWEH, in the high place that was in Gibeon; to offer burnt offerings to YAHWEH on the altar of the burnt offering continually, in the morning, and the evening, even to all that was written in the Torah of YAHWEH, which He commanded.*

So, although David took the Ark of the Covenant to this area, they put the stela stone there representing the area where Yahweh dwelled. But the tabernacle itself was still in Gibeon. The tabernacle itself ... So, remember, there's a separation of priesthood here. The Levites are in Gibeon. Melchizedek is in Mount Zion. So, that's a very interesting analogy that we see here. 1st Chronicles 15:29.

1 Chronicles 15:29 *And it happened, as the ark of the covenant of YAHWEH came to the City of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out through the window and saw David dancing and laughing. And she despised him in her heart.*

So, clearly, like we said, the Ark of the Covenant is one place; the tabernacle is in another place. Which I think brings into magnifying when Paul in the book of Hebrews ... Hebrews 13 and verse 10. He says:

Hebrews 13:10 *We have an altar of which those who minister in the tabernacle have no authority to eat.*

We have an altar that those that minister in the tabernacle have no authority to eat. Now I believe primarily ... I've talked about this many times ... he's talking about the third altar that's over on the Mount of Olives, where they used to sacrifice the red heifer sacrifice. That was not a Levitical sacrifice, but a Melchizedek sacrifice. But you can also equate this to the altar that's there in Mount Zion. *We have an altar in which those which minister in the tabernacle have no authority to eat.*

It's very, very mysterious unless you have the key of David to figure out why on earth David would have the Ark of the Covenant and the tabernacle that he would be administering as priest and his sons, and the Levites would have the tabernacle in Gibeon, until you understand they're two different priesthoods. They're two different priesthoods that are there. The presence of Yahweh is a different priesthood than the shadow of the Levitical that's only a type.

Like we said, Levi has no authority to build the third temple. They're done. The purpose for the Levitical order has been fulfilled. It talks about in **Galatians** that the Levitical order was added to the Torah. It was put beside the Torah until the time of reformation, which we've seen. So, there's no reason for it anymore. We'll look here for a few minutes, that in the Torah it talks about the third temple that Messiah will build; that Levi will not be the ones who are the main servers in there. If we go to Malachi 2, we'll find out why. Malachi 2. He says:

Malachi 2:1-5 *And now, O priests, this command is to you. If you will not hear, and if you will not set it on your hearts to give glory to My name, says YAHWEH of Hosts, then I will send the curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. And indeed, I have cursed it, because you are not setting it on your heart. Behold, I am rebuking your seed, and I will spread dung on your faces, the dung of your solemn feasts; and one will lift you up to it. And you shall know that I have sent this command to you, to be My covenant with Levi, says YAHWEH of Hosts. My covenant with him was life and peace, and I gave them to him for fear; and he feared Me, and he is put in awe before My name.*

Malachi 2:6-9 *The Law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips. In peace and in uprightness he walked with Me, and he turned many from iniquity. For the lips of the priest should guard knowledge, and they should seek the Torah from his mouth; for he is the messenger of YAHWEH of Hosts. But you have turned out of the way; you have caused many to stumble at the Torah. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi, says YAHWEH of Hosts. So I have also made you despised and low to all the people, just as you have not kept My ways, but are lifting up faces in the Torah.*

So, very clearly, Levi was not faithful in their priesthood and their job. Let's go to Ezekiel 44, because Ezekiel ... The book of Ezekiel 40 through 48 all talk about this third temple, and how it's going to be administered, and what's going to be going on. Ezekiel 44 and verse 10. He says:

Ezekiel 44:10-11 *But the Levites who have gone far from Me, when Israel went astray, who went astray from Me, going after their idols, even they shall bear their iniquity. Yet they shall do the menial tasks in My sanctuary, overseers at the gate of the house, and serving in the house. They shall slaughter the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them, to serve them.*

Ezekiel 44:12-14 *Because they attended to them before their idols, and became a stumbling-block of iniquity to the house of Israel, therefore I have lifted up My hand against them, declares Adonai YAHWEH. And they shall bear their iniquity. And they shall not come near to Me to serve as priest to Me, nor come near to any of My holy things, to the holiest of the holy things, but they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have done. And I will give them to be keepers of the charge of the house to be bond-servants for all labor, and for all that shall be done in it.*

Comment: So here it is, Levi's punishment for not being faithful is that they're going to do the menial tasks. Because what were they doing? They were bringing in Gentiles, uncircumcised in heart and flesh, into Yahweh's sanctuary to clean the floors and do the work they were supposed to do. So, Yahweh says, "Okay. Okay, because that's what you did, now you will do the menial tasks. You're not going to be priests to Me. You're going to do the menial tasks." And who will be the priests? Look at verse 15.

Ezekiel 44:15-16 *But the priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok, ... the sons of Zadok. Melchizedek, king of righteousness; the sons of righteousness ... who kept the charge of My sanctuary when the sons of Israel went astray from Me, they shall come near to Me to minister to Me. And they shall stand before Me to bring near to Me the fat and the blood, declares Adonai YAHWEH. They shall enter into My sanctuary, and they shall come near to My table, to minister to Me. And they shall keep My charge.*

So, we see a turning over of the guard, so to speak, over here, again, from Levi to Melchizedek. Ezekiel 43, verse 1 through 7.

Ezekiel 43:1-4 *And he led me to the gate, the gate that faces eastward. And, behold, the glory of the Elohim of Israel came from the way of the east ... Just like Yahshua came from the Mount of Olives ... And His voice was like the voice of many waters. And the earth shone from His glory. And the appearance of the vision which I saw was as the appearance which I saw when I came to destroy the city, and as the appearance that I saw by the river Chebar. And I fell on my face. And the glory of YAHWEH came into the house, the way of the gate facing eastward.*

Ezekiel 43:5-7 *And the Spirit took me up and brought me into the inner court. And, behold, the glory of YAHWEH filled the house! And I heard one speaking to me from the house. And standing beside me was a Man. And He said to me, Son of man, the place of My throne and the place of the soles of My feet, there where I will dwell among the sons of Israel forever, even the house of Israel shall not defile My holy name any more, nor shall their kings, by their fornication, nor by the corpses of their kings in their high places.*

So, we clearly see here that Yahshua Yahweh will literally be dwelling ... We know the Father does not come to earth till the thousand years are over, **Revelation 21**, but Yahweh the Son in His glorified form will be dwelling on the earth here at that time. He will sit on His throne, and He will bear the glory as the High Melchizedek Priest of that order. And who will be with Him? Ezekiel 34. Go back a few chapters. Who is going to be with King Yahshua at that time? Ezekiel 34 and verse 20.

Ezekiel 34:20-24 *So Adonai YAHWEH says this to them: Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat lamb and the lean lamb. Because you have thrust with side and with shoulder, and have pushed all the weak with your horns until you have scattered them to the outside. I also will save My flock, and they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between lamb and lamb. And I will raise over them one Shepherd. And He shall feed them. My servant David, He shall feed them, and He shall be*

their Shepherd. And I, YAHWEH, will be their Elohim, and My servant David shall be a ruler among them. I, YAHWEH, have spoken.

So, very clearly, David will be there. Turn to Ezekiel 37. You see the same thing when the two sticks are coming together. Verse 25. Start in verse 24.

Ezekiel 37:24-28 *And My servant, David, shall be King over them. And there shall be one Shepherd to all of them. And they shall walk in My judgments and keep My statutes, and do them. And they will dwell on the land that I gave to My servant, to Jacob, there where your fathers dwelt in it. And they shall dwell on it, they and their sons, and the sons of their sons, forever. And My servant David shall be a ruler to them forever. And I will cut a covenant of peace with them, an everlasting covenant it shall be with them. And I will place them and multiply them, and I will put (Aleph/Tav) My sanctuary in their midst forever. And My tabernacle shall be with them, and I will be their Elohim, and they will be My people. And when My sanctuary will be in their midst forever, the nations shall know that I, YAHWEH, sanctify Israel.*

So, very clearly here, like I said, **the only person in prophecy that's named specifically of being in the Kingdom, right under the Messiah, is King David.** We know all the other ones will be there, but it's only David that is blessed and named there. Jeremiah 30 and verse 9 ... Jeremiah 30 and verse 9.

Jeremiah 30:9 *but they shall serve YAHWEH their Elohim, and David their king, whom I will raise up to them.*

They will serve Yahweh their Elohim, and David their king, whom I will raise up to them. Very clearly, Yahshua is Melchizedek. He's the King of righteousness serving, and David is serving right underneath Him. So, let's go to Psalm 110. Because like I said, except for that one scripture in **Genesis 14** ... This mysterious figure of Melchizedek. Who is He? Where does He come from? But now in Psalm 110 ... An amazing Psalm. Small Psalm, seven little verses. But look what it says:

Psalm 110:1 *A Psalm of David ...*

Comment: So, again, not just anyone is writing it, but it's a Psalm of David; that Yahweh's Holy Spirit is inspiring directly to David, and he says:

Psalm 110:1 ... *A declaration of YAHWEH to my Adonai: ...*

Comment: And again, the word "Adonai," when you see it in Scripture, is only toward Yahweh. It's there about 450 times. It will never be toward an earthly person. The word "adon," which means master, could possibly be toward an earthly person. But when you see it in the plural like this, Adonai, it's only to Yahweh. And he's saying a declaration of **Yahweh to his Adonai**, definitely showing duality of Yahweh, without a shadow of a doubt.

Psalm 110:1 ... *Sit at My right hand, until I place Your enemies as Your footstool.*

Comment: Twelve, 13 times this is written in the New Testament, 12 or 13 times! And that's why I say, it blows the oneness doctrine out the window. Because don't tell me, "The human this, and when Yahweh was here it's this". My question is right now in heaven, is there a throne with the Father sitting on it? Yes. Is somebody sitting to His right? Yes. Thirteen times we have witness to it. Yahweh is not sitting on two thrones stretching out. There's a Father, and there's a Son. There's two that are there. *Yahweh said to my Adonai: Sit at My right hand, until I place your enemies as your footstool.*

Psalm 110:2 *YAHWEH will send the rod of Your strength out of Zion to rule in the midst of Your enemies.*

Comment: Where is He sending it from? From Zion, the very place that Yahweh dwelt; the very place of the Garden of Eden; the very place He promised to King David. Remember, 450 years Israel's a nation. They come in this Land 1440 or so. And what happens when they come into the Land? Read the book of Joshua. Every tribe gets their allotment. Why does nobody take Zion? It's the most biggest city. It has the most powerful water source. They have everything. And nobody takes Zion! Because Yahweh didn't allow it. Because there wasn't a person who qualified yet to be the forefather of the

Messiah. Only when David comes and he qualifies to be the father of the coming Messiah does Yahweh allow him to take Zion. But for 450 years Yahweh doesn't allow it. He says, ... *Your strength out of Zion to rule in the midst of your enemies.*

Psalm 110:3-4 *Your people shall have willingness in the day of Your might; in the majesties of holiness; from the womb of the dawn, to You is the dew of Your youth. YAHWEH has sworn and will not repent:* ... Can't get stronger language than that ... ***You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.***

Comment: Who's He talking to? David. He's talking to David, but the promise is to David **and his Seed**. So, David is a priest, but his Son is going to be High Priest.

Psalm 110:5 *YAHWEH at Your right hand shatters kings in the day of His anger.*

Comment: Wow! **Now the Messiah is not only being called Adonai, which is a term only used for Yahweh, He's being called Yahweh.** *Yahweh at Your right hand.* So, Yahweh the Father is on the throne. Yahweh the Son is at His right hand.

Psalm 110:6-7 *He shall judge among the nations; He shall fill with dead bodies; He shall shatter heads over much land. He shall drink out of the torrent on the way; therefore, He will lift up the head.*

Wow, what an amazing prophecy! And clearly showing not only David's priesthood, but also showing the Son of David, the Melchizedek priesthood. Like I said, you get to **Hebrews 7**, and it's like gold. It's like finding a golden scroll. I mean, it's so amazing to expand on this and explain exactly about Melchizedek and the promises and everything with the priesthood, just an absolutely amazing scripture.

Now if we go to Matthew 22 ... Before Yahshua came this made no sense. Because how can the son of David be the One he worships? How can David be praying to Yahweh Elohim and that's his Master? He goes over, all over the sons, and how on earth is that going to be his son? How can it be his Elohim will live forever and also be his son? It makes no sense. And this is what Yahshua says. Look at what He says here, Matthew 22 and verse 41:

Matthew 22:41-46 *But the Pharisees having been gathered, Yahshua questioned them, ... So, they are asking Him all these questions trying to trap Him up. So, now He's going to question them ... saying, What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is He? And they said, David's ... Right? We already said that. All the scriptures: the Messiah will be a son of your loins will come out. No doubt ... And He said to them, Then how does David in Spirit call Him Adonai, saying, "YAHWEH said to my Adonai, sit off My right until I put your enemies as a footstool under Your feet"? Then if David calls Him Adonai, how is He, his Son? And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor did anyone dare from that day to question Him any more.*

He's trying to show them, you're saying to Me, "Isn't this the son of Joseph, the carpenter? We know where He comes from. We know His mother. How can He say that He's Elohim out of heaven?" And He's showing by this prophecy that that's exactly what He's saying because that's the truth of it. That this eternal Being who created all things put His divinity to the side for 33 some odd years and came down, and was born of a woman, lived a life for 33 some odd years, and died. So, we see from this it clearly shows what He's talking about.

And like we said, Yahweh will not accept a temple that is going to be made by man, that's not made by His Son. We talked about this before, in 196 BC the Sanhedrin is made—35 Sadducees, 35 Pharisees, and a high priest. And the Essenes leave for Qumran. The Essenes know that it's corrupted. They want no part of it, and they go and they're starting to set up for Messiah. Interesting enough, we don't know 100%, but a lot of the secular records show that John the Baptist had some kind of connection with the Essenes, maybe even lived with them for a while. We know he baptized in the same area. But another question Yahshua asks in Matthew 3 is about John. John [should be Matthew] 3 and verse 13. It says:

Matthew 3:13-15 *Then Yahshua arrives from Galilee to the Jordan, to John, to be baptized. But John refused Him, saying, I have need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me? But answering, Yahshua said, Allow it now, for it is proper for us this way to fulfill all righteousness. Then he allowed Him.*

Then he allowed Him. Now, why do you think Yahshua needed to be baptized by John? Why on earth does He have to ... Yahshua didn't sin. He's not being baptized for the forgiveness of sin, but there's a reason. If you go to Luke 1 ... Luke 1 and verse 5 and 6. This is when the cherub Gabriel appears to Zacharias, the Father of John the Baptist. It says:

Luke 1:5-6 *In the days of Herod the king of Judea, there was a certain priest named Zacharias, of the daily course of Abijah. And his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before Elohim, walking blameless in all the commandments and ordinances of YAHWEH.*

Comment: Now, why do you think they had to mention that they're coming directly as a descendant of Aaron? Because, remember, a Levite could be anybody that was of the tribe of Levi. But somebody who was going to be high priest could only be a son of Aaron, so they're directly mentioning that here. And then if you look at verse 8 and 9 ...

Luke 1:8-9 *And it happened in his serving as priest in the order of his course before Elohim, according to the custom of the priests, entering into the Holy Place of YAHWEH, it was Zachariah's lot to burn incense.*

Only somebody who was either high priest or in line to be high priest would burn incense. A normal Levite would not be burning incense on the altar there. So, they're telling you he's coming from the line of Aaron, and he's burning incense to show you that he's in line to be high priest. There's no doubt about this. He's in line to be high priest. So, now you can understand why John is saying this to Yahshua, and why Yahshua is coming to be baptized by John. Judicial order. It's all judicial order. Everything is judicial order because **there has to be an orderly changeover from Levi to Melchizedek**. And that's why Yahshua has to come to John.

Because there has to be ... John, like we said, he's not a New Covenant priest. He's the last Old Covenant prophet and last Old Covenant priest. And **John being the son of Zacharias, John is in order to be the high priest**. But what does he do? He gives up the high priesthood in Jerusalem, he goes out to the wilderness, and he waits for the One whom the cherub taught him, that said, "When you see the Spirit come on this person, you'll know that's Him. That's the One you give the changing of the guard over to." And that's why Yahshua says, *let it be done this way to fulfill all righteousness*. Then we go to John 1 and verse 25 ... John 1 and verse 25.

John 1:25-27 *And they asked him ... talking about John the Baptist ... Why then do you baptize, if you're not the Messiah, nor are you Eliyahu, or the Prophet? John answered them, saying, I baptize in water, but He who stands in the midst whom you do not know; this One it is He who comes after me, who has existed before me, of whom I am not worthy that I should loosen the strap of His sandal.*

Comment: And like we said, this is happening right across from Gilgal. Bethabara is in the land of Ephraim, right across from Gilgal. So here it is, they all know of the sandal and the worship of the sandal. And he's saying, *I'm not worthy to loosen the strap of His sandal*.

John 1:28-30 *These things took place in Bethabara at the crossing of the Jordan, where John was baptizing. On the morrow, John saw Yahshua coming toward him and said, Behold! The Lamb of Elohim, who takes away the sin of the world! This is He whom I spoke concerning that, After me will come a man, yet He was before me because He is earlier than me.*

Comment: And yet we know that John is six months older, so he's not talking about physical age.

John 1:31-34 *And I did not know Him except that He made known first to Israel. Because of this, I have come that I might baptize with water. And John witnessed, saying, I have seen the Spirit coming down as a dove out of Heaven, and it rested on Him. And I did not know Him, but the One sending me to baptize in water, that One said, On whomever you see the Spirit coming down and abiding on Him, this is the One baptizing in the Holy Spirit. And I have seen and have witnessed that this One is the Son of YAHWEH. Again on another day, John ... Well, I'll stop there.*

So, here we see that John is making a orderly changeover of the priesthood. And also, which is very interesting, like we said, up until John starts baptizing, mikvah (ceremonial washing) has nothing to do with sin or righteousness. It has to do

with a ceremonial uncleanness. That's it. So, it's not that you did something wrong. It's not that you're defiled. It's simply, it's a law of ceremonial clean and unclean.

If you happen to be hunting and there's a dead body there and you happen to come close to that, then you're going to be unclean; or if somebody else was near a dead body and you didn't know it and you sat on their chair after they sat on it, you're unclean until the evening. How do we know it has nothing to do with health? Because in health why would you be clean in the evening then? If you're sick, all of a sudden, the sun going down doesn't change whether you're sick or not. It's a ceremonially clean and unclean.

But when John the Baptist comes in 27AD, now for the first time in Judaism mikvah is about sin. It's about righteousness. And all the way till the temple's destroyed. There are no mikvahs after the temple is destroyed. They basically stopped using them, or they'll still today in a very ceremonial way Jews still mikvah, but nothing like it was when the temple was still standing. So, we see this changeover.

But John is baptizing only in water; his is only ceremonial. And that's why you have to do it every day, sometimes 10 times a day. And that's why I call Yahshua's baptism the ultimate mikvah. Because once you're baptized into the Melchizedek priesthood, there's only one true baptism. So as long as your baptized correctly, you don't have to keep getting baptized over and over again. If you're not baptized correctly, then you get baptized until you're right.

But it's not something you're going to do every day. It's not something you do every year at the Passover like they used to do it in olden times. They used to paint all the tombs white so the people would know as they're coming up to Jerusalem, and everybody would mikvah before they'd come up there. But we see there's a changing of the guard. John 3 and verse 27 ... and verse 26 ... John 3 and verse 26.

John 3:26 *And they came to John and said to him, Teacher, the One who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have witnessed, behold, this One baptizes, and all are coming to Him.*

Comment: So, now, they're saying, John you were starting here and all the people were coming to you, and now they're all going to the One you baptized, to Yahshua.

John 3:27-30 *John answered and said, A man is able to receive nothing unless it has been given to him from Heaven. You yourselves witness to me that I said, I am not the Messiah, but that having been sent, I am going before that One. The one having the bride is the bridegroom. But the friend of the bridegroom, standing and hearing him, rejoices with joy because of the bridegroom's voice. Then by this my joy has been fulfilled. It is necessary for Him to increase, and for me to decrease.*

So, something that we could all have in our life as we become a member of Yahshua's Congregation, that we need to decrease and He needs to increase. But this was literal. He's talking about the priesthood. He's talking about the Melchizedek priesthood is going on; the Levitical priesthood is coming down to nothing. But He also clearly identifies that John is not in the New Covenant. John was never baptized. John never received the Holy Spirit. He is the last Old Testament prophet and priest.

And that's why I say, if there's any job I wouldn't have wanted in the Bible, it would have been John's. Tough job to have. And how sad it must have been. Exciting in the beginning when you're the forerunner, but how sad while you're sitting in prison knowing all of these people are being firstfruits and you're not. And like he said, he's not the bride ... he's not the bride. He's a friend of the bridegroom. But yet John had to be an extremely humble person to be able to take this position. But clearly, we see, there's a difference between John's baptism and Yahshua's baptism. One was a baptism for the Levitical order; one was a baptism for the Melchizedek order. Acts 1 and verse 3 ... Acts 1 and verse 3 says:

Acts 1:3-5 *those who also to whom He revealed Himself while alive after He suffered, with numerous signs for forty days He was being seen by them, and He spoke concerning the Kingdom of YAHWEH ... which Yahshua already did ... And while He ate bread with them, He charged them not to leave Jerusalem, but to await the promise of the Father, which you heard of Me; for John indeed baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit not many days coming.*

John mikvahed; Yahshua's was the ultimate mikvah, the mikvah that was coming to eternal life. One was the priesthood of Levi; one is the priesthood of Melchizedek. And of course, we know only Melchizedek priests will be in the first resurrection not the Levitical priests. They won't be firstfruits, let's say. Some of them may be resurrected as flesh and blood, from **Ezekiel 37**.

But as far as firstfruits who are going to be priests to Yahweh, you have to be part of the Melchizedek order. All the firstfruits are part of the Melchizedek order. And we know David was a Melchizedek priest, and David's going to be the top in line right under Yahshua. There's be nobody who is higher in the kingdom than King David. So, I think a lot of people miss the importance of the key of David. Last scripture I'll go over here is John 1:14. Remember ...

John 1:1-2, 14a *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word **was** Elohim. He was in the beginning with Elohim ... And verse 14 says ... The Word became flesh and tabernacled among us.*

He tabernacled among us. Yahshua dwelt in an earthly tabernacle for 33 years, the same way in the City of David that Yahweh's presence and the Ark of the Covenant dwelt under a tabernacle for 33 years. It was a temporary thing. It was a temporary place. And Yahweh put His dwelling there. When Solomon came, and Solomon put up the sanctuary of Yahweh in the Ophel hill, they cleared the area; they cleaned it; they covered it over. And it's been laying there for the last some odd 3,000 years waiting for the sign in the end time. Like it says in Psalm 102, that when Zion is rebuilt ... Maybe I will go to that scripture. Didn't plan on it, but Psalm 102 and verse 14, or even verse 13.

Psalm 102:13 *You shall arise; have mercy on Zion, for the time to pity her, yea, the appointed time has come.*

Comment: Just like the Holy Days are moed, this is moedim. There's an appointed time. For 3,000 years it wasn't that time. It stayed covered. Now it's the appointed time.

Psalm 102:14-15, 18, 21 *Your servants take pleasure in its stones, and pity its dust ... The digging up of it; the archaeology that's coming ... So the nations shall fear the name of YAHWEH, and the kings of the earth Your glory. **When YAHWEH shall build up Zion, He will appear in His glory** ... Verse 18 ... And this is written to the last generation, and people to be created shall praise YAHWEH ... Verse 21 ... to declare the name of YAHWEH in Zion, and His praise in Jerusalem,*

So, the fact that Yahweh has brought this sign now, that for 2,000 years in the book of Revelation we've had this scripture about the key of David being given. But now that we see it; now that it's unveiled; now that we understand it; now that the tabernacle of David is rebuilt and we understand the priesthood of David, there's not much to happen except the beast power to rise. We know it's going to be there 42 months. But we know that Messiah is right on the outskirts of that waiting to return to gain His glory, and for David to be resurrected and to be given that sure house that Yahweh promised him more than 3,000 years ago. Yahweh bless. Shabbat shalom.