

Parashah 11 Tidbit

Genesis 44:18 – 47:27

VaYigash, וַיִּגַּשׁ: And He drew near

by Marc Gravelle

marc@bondservantsofyeshua.ca

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Vayigash, וַיִּגַּשׁ, is translated as, ***And He drew near***

The Hebrew word VaYigash is from the root word, Nagash, נָגַשׁ, which means, to drawn near, to approach, presented, offered, dedicated, and that is exactly what Yehudah did, he offered himself up to Yoseph, who was the second in command of ***ALL*** of Egypt, as security for, or instead of, his brother Benjamin, to ensure that ***ALL*** of his brothers, but especially, Benjamin, would return from Egypt to be with their father, Ya'aqov. And this Parashah tidbit, is about Yehudah's impassioned plea to Yoseph, for his brother, Benjamin's and his father Jacob's life.

In this Parashah we have a very impassioned plea from Yehudah for the life of his younger brother, Benjamin, and for the life of his father Ya'aqov. I have to say that to me, this is one of the most beautiful passages in all of Scripture. Yehudah, speaks directly from his heart, his contrite heart. It is quite evident that he has no concern for himself, but that his concern is only for the life of Benjamin his brother, because, he knows that Benjamin's well being is key to his father, Ya'aqov's well being. Yehudah knows that ***IF*** Benjamin is left behind, in an Egyptian jail, that his father would probably die of sorrow; so, through his words, Yehudah demonstrates, the love that he has for his father Ya'aqov and for his brother Benjamin. In this Parashah, we will also see, that Messiah, oops, I mean Yoseph, weeps out of joy, because of the changed heart of his brother.

In this Parashah, in *chapter 44* the word *father* is used fourteen times. In your English Bibles you may count 15 times, because, in *verse 22*, the word *father* is added once for clarity. It is found in *verse 22* the third time that the word *father* appears, and it is an insertion by the translators.

The reason it is important that we understand that the word father is used ***fourteen*** times is because the number fourteen in Scripture, represents salvation, for it is on the 14th of Aviv that our Passover Lamb was sacrificed for our salvation. Also, as further proof, the generations of Messiah, are in multiples of fourteen in the 1st chapter of the book of ***Matthew***. In ***Acts 27:31-33*** we are told that it was on the 14th night, that Paul and the people on the ship that Paul was on, were saved. The fourteenth letter of the Hebrew Aleph Bet is *Nun* which means life.

So we can see, that the use of the word *father*, fourteen times, indicates to us that this story is about salvation, and to be exact, it is about our heavenly Father's perfect plan of redemption onto salvation, and therefore, we should pay very close attention to ***ALL*** the details of this story, as we read through this portion of Scripture.

The word *brother* is used ***five*** times in this portion of *chapter 44* and the number ***five*** in Scripture speaks of the five books of the Torah of Mosheh, and our heavenly Father's Grace, for they are indeed equal and synonymous terms, and, they indicate to us, that the Grace of Yahweh is involved in this story, for as you know, salvation is by Grace alone, and as I said above, it also represents the

Words of the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father, the Words of His Torah of Life, for the Torah has **five** books, therefore we are to understand and believe, as I said above, that Grace and Torah are synonymous terms.

The fact that the word *brother* is used five times tells me, that we are to *pay very close attention* to what is being said and done here, for Yahweh **IS** teaching us about His Grace, about laying down our own lives, for our brother; this is about love and sacrifice, about repentance, and about obedience.

The word *Lad* is used eight times in this portion of Scripture, and the number eight in Scripture speaks of **new beginnings**. Therefore the use of the word *lad* eight times, speaks of the Fact that Yahweh is offering us, His people, a new beginning, through His Living Torah made flesh, because, when the Living Torah is obeyed with a loving, surrendered, contrite and obedient heart, it **WILL** lead all who have this heart condition, into an eternity of complete rest, in and with our heavenly Father and our bridegroom, Messiah.

The word translated as *Lad* is the Hebrew word Na'ar, נָעָר, which is spelled with the letters Nun, Ayin, and Resh. If we look at the meaning of the individual letters of this Hebrew word Na'ar, נָעָר, we see that a message emerges from the letters, for the letter Resh means, *man, the head, the chief, the preeminent one*, the letter Ayin means *to see, know, comprehend, understand or experience*, and the letter Nun means *life*, therefore we can see that this word **Lad** or Na'ar in Hebrew, means *the man or the chief leader through whom we experience life*.

What do we learn from all of this, from the amount of times that the word *father*, *brother*, and *lad* are used? Well as far as I am concerned, I believe that Yahweh is teaching us, that the Elohim of all creation, **LOVES US ALL** with a perfect love, and that He has given us the Words of His Living Torah, manifested to us in the flesh, as His Son, our Messiah, to **TEACH US HOW WE ARE TO LIVE**. Which means, that the Torah obedient Life that Messiah lived while He was here on earth with us, **IS** our example, on how we are to also live, for His Torah obedient Life, **IS** to be our Life's goal, for we too are to live a totally Torah obedient life to the Father as Messiah did, and like, Yehudah, Benyamin and our Messiah, our lives **ARE ALSO BOUND UP IN THE FATHER'S LIFE**, since He has said that He would never leave nor forsake us. This is the Gospel my friends, and nothing but the Gospel being preached to us here in *Genesis 44*.

Verse 30 reveals to us something very special, it says: *seeing that **THE FATHER'S LIFE IS BOUND UP IN THE LAD'S LIFE***.

Now I really want you to see, focus on and even meditate on this beautiful picture, because **IT IS** extremely important for all of us to grasp what is being said here. **THIS VERSE IS TELLING US THAT OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S LIFE IS BOUND UP IN OUR LIVES**.

This means that His love for us, that would be our heavenly Father's infinite unbounded Love for you and me, **IS SO GREAT**, that He has **BOUND HIS LIFE UP IN OURS** and whatever happens to us, even on an individual basis, affects our heavenly Father, in the same manner that it affects us, because, **HIS LIFE, IS, BOUND UP IN OUR LIFE**. This evening, just before going to bed, take a few moments and contemplate, or even meditate on the **FACT** that **YOUR LIFE, YES, YOUR**

INDIVIDUAL LIFE, IS actually **BOUND UP** in our heavenly Father's Life, and maybe, just maybe, it will help you realize just how much you mean to Him, and how much He loves you.

By these words, **THE FATHER'S LIFE IS BOUND UP IN THE LAD'S LIFE**; Yahweh is telling us, that corporately or individually, we, His obedient children and our heavenly Father are **ONE**, we are **ECHAD**, and, that that, **IS**, an established eternal **TRUTH**, for all of His children. I hope and pray that you can actually see this wonderful picture and understand the great significance of having the Creator of the universe's **LIFE** bound up in **OUR LIVES**?

I hope that you can also see the great love that our heavenly Father has for you and me, His children? It is so beautiful, that it actually makes me cry just thinking about it, and when I see this picture of the perfect Love that He has for me, pop up in my mind's eye, it makes me want to obey Him even more. That is why, my friends, **IT IS IMPERATIVE FOR ALL OF US TO SEE AND UNDERSTAND THE INFINITE LOVE** that our heavenly Father **HAS FOR ALL OF US**, because it will help us to see the Father, for **WHOM HE TRULY IS**, a loving, compassionate Father, and hopefully make our desire to obey Him even greater.

In this story, Yehudah is a shadow picture of **ALL** believers that have a surrendered contrite obedient heart, and who have willingly chosen to return to Yahweh and His Ways, the Words of the Father's Torah of Life. As I said above, the word *brother* is used 5 times in this story about Yehudah, and the number five in Scripture speaks of Yahweh's Grace and His Torah, for they are synonymous terms. Therefore, when a person turns or returns (teshuvah) to the Ways of the Father, when He turns or returns to the Words of His Torah of Life, **THEN the lad**, (the man or the chief leader through whom we experience life, Messiah) the Na'ar, gives them life, the gift of eternal salvation, if they willingly and lovingly choose to continue to walk in loving obedience to the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, all the days of their lives, which is found in the Father, through the Son.

I would also like you to see what the Scripture is telling us about our brother Yehudah. Here we see Yehudah pleading for the life of Benyamin, who in this story, **is** actually, a shadow picture of the ten lost tribes of Yisrael, often named Ephraim. He is pleading for His brother's life because of the love that he has for both **his father and his brother**. In the parable of the prodigal son, the son that stayed at home, represents Yehudah, and he complained and resented the fact that when the prodigal son, his brother, came back to be with his family and his father, **BUT** here, Judah **IS** pleading for his brother's life, **AND**, he is willing to offer himself up in his brother's stead. **This is a beautiful picture of what Yehudah has done for us for millennia**, for he has been our **scapegoat**, and throughout these millennia, Yehudah has been praying for the return of Ephraim, the lost tribes of the nation of Yisrael. The beautiful picture painted for me, when I read about the story of when Yehudah passionately pleads for his Brother Benyamin, who I believe, as I said above, **IS** a picture of the ten lost tribes of Yisrael, when he pleads for Benyamin's life, with a contrite and surrendered obedient heart to the Father, wanting his Father's will to be done, rather than his own will, **THAT MY FRIENDS, IS WHEN YOSEPH, WHO IS A PICTURE OF MESSIAH, DECLARES OR REVEALS HIMSELF**. I hope you can see this picture as I see it, and that it will help you to see our brother Yehudah in a different light, for he loves us even though he does not recognize us yet. Amein

There is one stand-alone Aleph Tav in *Genesis 44:18-34*.

*Verse 24 And it came to pass when we came up unto your servant my father, we told him **Aleph Tav***

the words of my Adoniy (Lord).

There are also another eight Aleph Tav's that are attached to words with a Maqef and there are fifteen words that contain both the Aleph and Tav letters within them. The number eight in Scripture speaks of **new beginnings**, and the number fifteen, speaks of **rest, eternal rest**. Therefore I believe that Yahweh is telling us through the use of these Aleph Tav's, that because of Yehudah's surrendered contrite heart, that all of Yisrael, Ya'aqov's family, will experience a **New Beginning** and find eternal rest in the Land of Yoseph, who is a shadow picture of Messiah. This is telling us, that **IF** we have chosen to willingly and lovingly chosen to surrender our hearts, minds, souls and strength to our heavenly Father, then we too, will experience a **New Beginning** in the Land or the kingdom of our heavenly Father, and find eternal rest at His side as the Bride of Messiah.

As I said above, Yehudah is a shadow picture of all believers and here in this story, he steps up and accepts responsibility for his past actions and asks Yoseph, a shadow picture of Messiah, for mercy in pleading for his brother, Benjamin's life, and the number **fifteen** in this case, indicates to me, the incredible Grace of Elohim, for the number **fifteen** in Scripture means and or represents **REST**, and that is what Yoseph, who as I said, is a shadow picture of Messiah, gave Yehudah, He gave him rest from his worries, that Benjamin would become a prisoner of Pharaoh and die in prison. In other words, Yehudah was told the **TRUTH** and the **TRUTH SET HIM FREE** from his worries. Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Until we meet again; Shalom Alechem! Amein!*