



November 2012

**Fun Fact: Hodu means "Give Thanks" in Hebrew. Hodu is also the Hebrew word for "turkey."**



Shalom B'Shem Yeshua,

### In Everything Give Thanks

As we write this November newsletter, it is still early October and only God knows the results of the November 6, 2012 presidential election. Be assured of this: God is never caught by surprise. He was grieved by the fiery darts of the campaign that attacked the character, beliefs, backgrounds and positions of the opponents, and He is still grieved that so many in our beloved country have spurned His ways and His wisdom. Nevertheless, our God is a God of hope. He is not only *Tikvah Yisrael*, but *El Elyon*, God Most High, the One who reigns supreme, who holds His children in the palm of His hand. As such, the LORD has given us a word of comfort for you, our *Jewish Jewels* family, this month. You'll find it in your Bible in Philippians 4:6-9: *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, WITH THANKSGIVING [emphasis ours], let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Messiah Yeshua. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you."*

### Whatever Things are True

What is true? Truth, *emet* in Hebrew, is God's very nature. *"God is not a man, that He should lie."* (Numbers 23:19) *"...let God be true but every man a liar."* (Rom. 3:4) God is true in the midst of a world of falsehood. His many wonderful qualities encourage us as we focus on them. For example, God is Faithful. *"Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments."* (Deut. 7:9) Our God keeps His promises as well as His covenants (2 Cor. 1:20) and never abandons us. We have the assurance of His presence through Yeshua who said, *"I will never leave you nor forsake you"* (Heb. 13:5).

God is Good. This is true. *"Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him!"* (Ps. 34:8) In **God Calling** by A.J. Russell, we found an exhortation that we hope ministers to you as it did to us: "He is good. Trust in Him. Know that all is well. Say, 'God is good. God is good.' Just leave in His hands the present and the future, knowing only that He is good. He can bring order out of chaos, good out of evil, peace out of turmoil. God is good. I and My Father are one. One in desire to do good. For God to do good to His children is for Him to share His goodness with them. God is good, anxious to share His goodness, and good things, with you, and He will do this. Trust and be not afraid."

Another truth to dwell on this month is that God is a Merciful, loving Father. The first quality that He ever revealed about Himself is His mercy: *"...The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth..."* (Ex. 34:6). We need to thank God for His mercy which we desperately need in our personal lives, in our country, and in the world. How true are the words from Lamentations 3:22-24 about the mercies of the LORD. They are plural and abundant. *"Through the LORD'S mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. 'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul; 'therefore I hope in Him!' "*

We praise the Lord for the truth that His strength is made perfect in weakness (2 Cor. 12:9). God is not limited by our weaknesses. They just give Him an opportunity to show how strong He is! Lean on your Beloved this month. Trust in Him with your whole heart. Agree with the Apostle Paul who said, *"For when I am weak, then I am strong."* (2 Cor. 12:10) Remember also the exhortation of John in 1 John 4:4: *"...He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."*

### **Whatever Things are Noble**

What does "noble" mean? Unfortunately, nobility is not a trait that is highly valued today. Remember when it was greatly esteemed to perform a "noble deed"? That was a deed that demonstrated high moral qualities or ideals, or greatness of character. Something grand, stately, splendid, magnificent, honorable. We, the children of God, are called to think on things that are noble. The Parable of the Sower in the Gospel of Luke tells us that there are people who have a noble heart, as demonstrated by their reaction to hearing the word of God (the seed of the Gospel). *"But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience."* (Luke 8:15) Let us thank God for these noble hearts and encourage them to bear even more fruit for the kingdom of God.

A noble, and necessary, activity of the New Covenant Royal Priesthood (we as believers) is mentioned in 1 Tim.2:1-4: *"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."*

### **Whatever Things are Just**

Our God is a Just God. *"Ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He."* (Deut. 32:3-4) We see a Just God agreeing to spare Sodom for the sake of ten righteous men. This happened as a result of God's friend Abraham interceding on behalf of the evil city and saying to the Lord, *"Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"* (Gen. 18:25). Meditate on Abraham's intercession and compare Sodom and our country today. The same God who listened to Abraham will also listen to you if you are His friend!

Psalms 82 gives us a glimpse of God's heart concerning what is "just": *"Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy; Free them from the hand of the wicked"* (vs. 3-4). This Thanksgiving season is a good time to share our abundance with the poor. There are more people "pinching pennies" in our country than ever before. Two recent widows in our condominium told us about a stranger with whom they had a brief interchange at a local restaurant in which the ladies fussed about how adorable her baby was. The stranger left before them and paid their dinner bill. These pre-believing Jewish ladies were overwhelmed by this random act of kindness. It reminded us of Micah 6:8: *"He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?"*

Focus on what is just and right, instead of what is unjust and wrong. Be assured that God will make all things right in the end. It is just and right to rescue those who are perishing: the unborn—both babies in the womb, and the lost who have not been *"born again"* (Prov. 24:11). Let others know that they can be justified in the sight of a holy God by receiving the atonement made for them by the Messiah Yeshua. Forgiveness of sin, through trusting in the shed blood of the Messiah, makes us just as if we had never sinned. This is the *Besorah*, the Good News. *"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Yeshua HaMashiach..."* (Rom. 5:1)

## Whatever Things are Pure

The first use of the word pure (*tahor* in Hebrew) refers to the pure gold that God commanded the Israelites to use in constructing the Ark of the Covenant. The same word is used to refer to the words of the Lord in Psalm 12:6: *"The words of the LORD are pure words, like silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."* It is God's will for us to meditate on the pure words of Scripture. The entrance of these words gives us light and understanding (Ps. 119:130). *"The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes."* (Ps. 19:8) *"Your word is very pure; therefore Your servant loves it."* (Ps. 119:140) *"Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him."* (Prov. 30:5) God wants us to read His Word—His pure Word—as never before. He will speak to us. He will guide us, He will enlighten us, and He will comfort us as we meditate on His pure Word. (There is very little "pure" on television; pray about turning it off and reading the Word more.)

The Brit Hadasha gives us God's definition of "pure religion": *"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world"* (James 1:27). We are so thankful that you, our *Jewish Jewels* family, participate with us in what our Israeli guide called *"Avodat kodesh"* (holy work), as we minister to orphans and widows in Israel on an ongoing basis.

There is something else that the Bible calls "pure" that we should meditate on: the "wisdom that is from above." This wisdom, according to James 3:17, is first of all "pure," then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Ask God for His pure, heavenly wisdom. We need it now more than ever. (There is another kind of wisdom that we do not want. It is earthly, sensual, and demonic. Reject it.)

## Whatever Things are Lovely

There are so many lovely things in our Father's world to meditate on: His beautiful creation, plants, animals, seas and rivers, music and His Word. Wherever God is—His dwelling place—it is lovely. The psalmist expressed it thus: *"How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God"* (Ps. 84:1-2). The Hebrew word for lovely that is used here is *yedid* which also means amiable, loved or well-beloved. God's dwelling place is made lovely by the One who is "altogether lovely"—the Messiah (Song of Songs 5:16). This phrase has been considered an allusion to Haggai 2:6-7: *"For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; and I will shake all Nations, and they shall come to the Desire of ALL Nations [the Messiah] and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts."* He is desired by all nations because of His loveliness.

## Whatever Things are of Good Report

Hebrews 11:13 reminds us that we are *"strangers and pilgrims on the earth."* Our lives are hid with the Messiah in God (Col. 3:3). We are secure in Him, abiding under the shadow of the Almighty (Ps. 91:1). We like the way Rabbi Zelig Pliskin expresses this truth in **My Father My King**: "You are a tourist in this world. A tourist has a greater appreciation for what others might take for granted. A tourist realizes that he must see and do as much as possible in the short amount of time that he will be in a specific place. A tourist can get along with much less than someone who views himself as a permanent resident. A tourist doesn't take too seriously anything that's going on in a place he is visiting. He realizes that he will not be there very long, so he can overlook things that might irritate or distress others. A tourist knows that he will soon be going home. Bear this in mind, and make the most of your visit to this planet."

We have a very good report about making the most of our recent move to a condominium in Ft. Lauderdale. Jamie REALLY wanted to have a sukkah, as we always have had when celebrating Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles. However, now that we live in a condominium, there was no yard

for a sukkah. BUT GOD! When Jamie spoke about Sukkot to a member of the condo board, she suggested that we build a sukkah on the public patio of our building! The only stipulation was that both Jews and non-Jews would be able to enjoy it! We had no problem with that. This may be a first in the history of South Florida condos. Our beautiful sukkah provided a venue for us to share all about Sukkot with our new neighbors. God is awesome! As we give thanks this month, we remember the Pilgrims' desire to celebrate a thanksgiving harvest festival modeling it after Sukkot. They shared with their new neighbors too!

### Whatever is Praiseworthy

GOD is worthy of all our praise. We should praise Him because we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Ps. 139:14) and because His right hand holds us wherever we are (Ps. 139:10). He is worthy of praise because while we were still sinners, the Messiah died for us (Rom. 5:8). By His grace, God has made us acceptable in the Beloved (Eph. 1:6). There are countless reasons why God is praiseworthy, not the least of which is the fact that through His death Yeshua destroyed him who had the power of death, that is, the devil (Heb. 2:14). And now, He lives forevermore to make intercession for us, seated at the right hand of the Father (Heb. 7:25). This is indeed praiseworthy! Our God is worthy of praise because He is our Provider (Phil. 4:19) and the Giver of every good and perfect gift (James 1:17). Finally, God is praiseworthy because He is Love and His love never fails (1 Cor. 13:8).

### The God of Peace Will Be With You

As we meditate on the things that are true, noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report and praiseworthy, our minds are transformed and we are not consumed with worry and anxious thoughts. Peace enters, guarding our hearts and minds. This peace is not dependent on circumstances, on who won the election, or what laws are enacted. Our real citizenship is in another kingdom and our King is destined to rule and reign forever. He is the Sar Shalom, the Prince of Peace and "of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end" (Isa. 9:7).

Give thanks this month that "The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge" (Ps. 46:11). Yeshua the Messiah is our peace (Eph. 2:14). He gave us the gift of His peace when He ascended to the Father: "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (Jn. 14:27). "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts...and be thankful." (Col. 3:15)

"Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen." (Rom. 15:33)

*Mel & Jamie*

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## Jewish Jewels Television Airtime Schedule - November 2012

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### LOCAL TV STATIONS

AIRTIME:	STATE:	CITY:	STATIONS:
TUE 6:00 PM	AK	North Pole	KJNP TV 4
MON 10:00 PM	FL	Tampa/St. Pete.	WCLF TV 22
THU 11:30 AM	FL	Miami/Ft. Laud.	WHFT TV 45
SUN 1:30 PM	FL	Tallahassee	WVUP TV 45
SAT 10:30 PM	FL	West Palm Beach	WFGC TV 61
SUN 2:30 PM	GA	Columbus	WYBU TV 16
SUN 1:30 PM	IA	Dubuque	KFXB TV 40
THU 6:30 AM	ID	Twin Falls	KJCY TV 38
SUN 1:30 PM	MO	New Bloomfield	KNLJ TV 25
THU 8:30 AM	NC	Goldsboro	WHFL TV 43
SUN 4:00 PM	NJ/NY	NYC/New Jersey	WMBC TV 63
THU 5:30 AM	OR	The Dalles	KRHP TV 14

### INTERNET - [www.jewishjewels.org](http://www.jewishjewels.org)

View our program on the web for FREE! Go to our website and click Jewels TV to watch the program of the week or scroll down to view archived programs.

### SATELLITE NETWORKS (EST)

#### DirecTV

SAT 2:30 PM Ch. 373 - WORD Network  
 SUN 4:00 PM Ch. 93 or 900 - WMBC  
 MON 8:30 PM Ch. 376 - CTN (Christian Television Network)  
 THU 8:30 AM Ch. 378 - NRB Network

#### Dish Network

MON 8:30 PM Ch. 376 - CTN (Christian Television Network)



### CABLE NETWORKS (EST)

#### AT&T U-Verse

SAT 2:30 PM Ch. 575 - WORD Network

#### Comcast Cable

SAT 2:30 PM Ch. 486 - WORD Network

#### Time Warner Cable

SAT 2:30 PM Ch. 386 - WORD Network

For other cable networks check local listings....