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Tsiyon News

Tsiyon Messianic Radio Newsletter - Vol 6.34 - 5/26/6011 TAM - 8/26/2011 AD

Cracks in America

*You are weighed
in the balances,
and are
found wanting.*

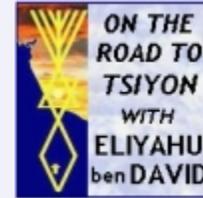
Daniel 5:27

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*"Out of Tsiyon, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth" Psalm 50:2*

Tsiyon News



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Listener Q + A

Live Help Question - *Is the Seven Seals Scroll of Rev a Ketubah?*

Does Eliyahu feel there is a connection between the ancient Hebrew ketubah and the seven seals of revelation? also did Hebrew scrolls have seals or just signatures, are seals just Greco-Roman or did Hebrews use them?

Tsiyon Answer - *The Seven Seals Scroll of Rev is not a Ketubah.*

Thanks for your excellent question!

The word "seal" in English, referring to the seven seals on the scroll of Revelation chapter 5:1, has a very specific meaning. Here is how it is defined in Strong's Hebrew Dictionary:

G4973 - *sphragis* - a signet (as fencing in or protecting from misappropriation); by implication the stamp impressed (as a mark of privacy, or genuineness), literally or figuratively: - seal. [Strong's]

This is more than a mere written signature, but refers to a stamp impression made using a signet upon a piece of clay or wax, closing, authenticating and protecting an official scroll.



The ancient Hebrew nobility did, in fact, use official seals of this type to seal official scrolls. These seals were often in the form of a seal ring, with the name of an official engraved upon the seal. Modern archeologists have discovered clay seals with impressions upon them of this very type. One find, from the time of Jeremiah the Prophet, included four clay seals with impressions of names of important figures mentioned in Jeremiah chapter 36. In fact, one with the name

Berekyahu son of Neriyahu the Scribe was found. This was Jeremiah's own official scribe!

[See: <http://www.freewebs.com/philip2uk/>]

Seeing that such official seals as described by the Greek word *sphragis* were used by Hebrew officials from ancient times, and it was this type of "seal" which sealed the scroll of Rev 5, then it follows that this scroll is a document of official import issued forth from an important person. In this case, the scroll was sealed and issued by the One upon the Throne Himself. It is His Royal Decree.

Those who say that the scroll of Revelation 5 is a *ketubah* [Written Hebrew Marriage Covenant] surely present an attractive idea to folks in Hebrew Roots circles, making it certain that this teaching, though incorrect, is bound to get a lot of traction. The truth is though, the sort of scroll with seals described by the word *sphragis* is typically a document issued by an official, carrying the impression of such a notable person upon a clay seal, in this case, upon seven such seals. These are clay seal impressions of the sort noted above. These are not the mere written signatures found on a *ketubah*. To say otherwise is to stretch the Greek word into a different meaning than it naturally conveys. As appealing as the idea may be, a marriage *ketubah* is simply a different sort of document than the one described in the right hand of the One on the Throne in Revelation 5:1.

How did such a mistake happen? By lumping all the prophetic scrolls in Scripture into one scroll. Those who hold the erroneous idea that the scroll of Revelation 5 with the seven seals is a *ketubah* try to bolster that opinion by saying that such scroll is the same as other scrolls in Scripture, such as in Ezekiel 2:9, which says:

Then I looked, and I saw a hand stretched out to me. In it was a scroll, which he unrolled before me. On both sides of it were written words of lament and mourning and woe. (Ezekiel 2:9)

This scroll has similarities with the Rev 5 scroll, but it is clearly not the same scroll. Ezekiel was able to look upon the unrolled scroll shown to him with no difficulty. However, the scroll of Rev 5 could not be unrolled and contents seen by anyone in heaven or earth (we can safely take that to include Ezekiel) except for the Lion of Judah Who had overcome. This fact applies equally to the scroll of Zechariah. The scroll of Rev 5 is unique. (Rev 5:5, Zech 5:1-3)

To sum up: The Covenant with Israel certainly does parallel a marriage *ketubah*. Of that there can be no doubt. Further, there is much in Revelation that refers to that covenant with Israel. However, that doesn't make the scroll of Revelation 5 a *ketubah*, since it is clearly described by language referring to a different type of scroll, namely, a royal decree. - Blessings and Shalom, Eliyahu

Listener Comment - Is Elenin the Sixth Seal of Revelation?

Does Eliyahu see any significance in the events coming to us in September of 2011?

- September 23 fall equinox axis of earth changes so that sun and earth on the same plane.*
- September 27 comet Elenin on direct closest plan between earth and sun.*
- September 29 Rosh Hashanah 1st day of judgment?*
- October 8 Yom Kippur Judgment sealed.*

Can any of this possibly relate to the sixth seal of Revelation?

Tsiyon Answer - Elenin is not the Sixth Seal of Revelation

Despite the hype, Elenin will not bring with it the events of the 6th seal. There is too much yet unfulfilled that must still happen before the 6th seal events. However, Elenin is doubtless one of the signs in the sky that Y'shua foretold for this period. So what does it mean? Prudence requires us to wait and see what it does. Only when we see what it does can we fully evaluate it's meaning. I will give you this much though. It likely means good things for Israel and not so good for the Gentile enemies of Israel. Don't let any of this worry you though. YHWH has everything under control.

From Eliyahu

Everything that is happening in America is "normal" - right? At least that is what I am constantly reading in the news over the last few years. Strange mass animal deaths, record-breaking floods, droughts, radiation spiking in our atmosphere, tornadoes and earthquakes

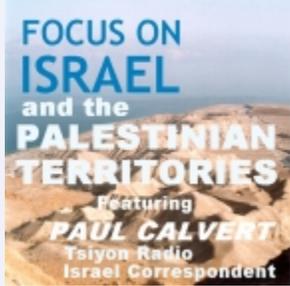
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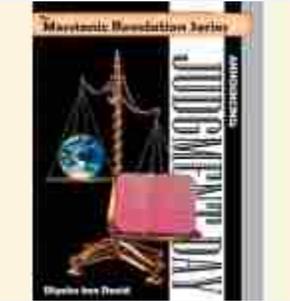
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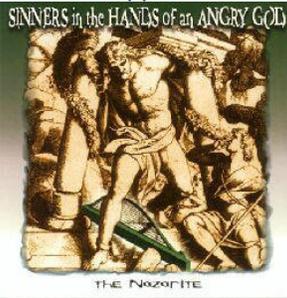
Theme CD

have all been reported to the American public as being "normal." Strange alliances with Israel's enemies, strong-arming and coercive control projected toward Israel by America, unending wars on the sands of one far-flung foreign nation after another financed with money America doesn't have - all of that is "normal." Law-abiding Americans being intimately searched and even molested with no due process of law - that's "normal" too - right? America's credit rating being downgraded for the first time in history, record-breaking volatility in the markets not even seen with the "great depression" - all of that is "normal" too. We could continue a much longer list of "normal" yet previously unknown occurrences in America, but you already know that. Now, 90 earthquakes in one day across America, on the same day a quake in Virginia cracks the Washington Monument, well, that's all perfectly "normal" too. Maybe not so "normal" after all? Maybe more significant than America can imagine? The cracks are showing in America. Our latest program has new information about the meaning of these events, which are anything but "normal." Don't miss it.

Shalom,

Eliyahu ben David
www.tsiyon.org

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