

וְאֶתְחַנַּן

VA'ETCHANAN/AND I BEGGED Devarim/Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11

Our reading this week contains the Shema, with perhaps the most famous and well known verse of the Torah stating the “oneness” of the Almighty:

Devarim 6:4 " Hear, O Israel: יהוה יהוה our Elohim, יהוה is one (echad - אֶחָד)!

The meaning of the “oneness” (אֶחָד) of יהוה has been hotly disputed between believers and Jews for years. There is, of course, the traditional view of the trinity. But could there be another facet of echad (אֶחָד)? Since יהוה is **Spirit**, could it refer to a “oneness” (אֶחָד), a perfection of **Spirit**?

John 4:24 "Yah is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in **spirit** and truth."

Isaiah 11:1 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a **Branch shall grow out of his roots.** ² The Spirit יהוה shall rest upon Him, The **Spirit of wisdom and understanding**, The **Spirit of counsel and might**, The **Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of יהוה**.

Notice there is ONE (אֶחָד) Spirit that rests upon the Messiah, yet from this ONE (אֶחָד) Spirit, comes **various named Spirits**. Together these will bring about **unity of the Spirit**. Now my question...is this the “oneness (אֶחָד) that Yeshua prayed in John 17 that His disciples would eventually achieve? Is this all part of the restoration, and the tribulation which leads to the refinement and holiness of His people?

Let's take a moment to see how one (echad - אֶחָד) is used in a few other verses:

Bereshith 1:5 Elohim called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were Day One (אֶחָד).

Day one (אֶחָד) of creation. Days 2 through 7 are referred to as 2nd day, 3rd day, 4th day etc., but the 1st day in the Hebrew is literally translated “Day One (אֶחָד),” implying something **complete**. Day One (אֶחָד) brought about a **spiritual light**, analagous to the **Torah**:

Proverbs 6:23 For the commandment is a lamp, And the Torah a light

A few more verses looking at oneness (אֶחָד) referencing **unity or completeness**:

Bereshith 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become **one** (אֶחָד) flesh.

Shemot 12:49 "**One** (אֶחָד) Torah shall be for the native-born and for the stranger who dwells among you."

Shemot 25:36 "Their knobs and their branches *shall be of one piece*; all of it *shall be one* (אֶחָד) hammered piece of pure gold.

Notice the picture of the **menorah** and it's properties of **light**. It is **one** (אֶחָד) **piece** of beaten gold symbolizing the **unity and refining** that comes through **affliction and tribulation**. It was to burn continually against the spiritual forces of darkness. The menorah was something physical that held the light and caused it to shine.

2 Samuel 7:23 "And who *is* like Your people, like Israel, the **one** (אֶחָד) **nation** on the earth whom Elohim went to redeem for Himself as a people, **to make for Himself a Name** -- and to do for Yourself great and awesome deeds for Your land -- before Your people whom You redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, the nations, and their gods?

Israel was to be a **people of unity...HIS people**, who would make for Himself a **Name**. They were to be **echad** (אֶחָד).

Jeremiah 32:39 'then **I will give them one** (אֶחָד) **heart and one** (אֶחָד) **way**, that they may fear Me forever, for the good of them and their children after them.

This is the fulfillment of the **New Covenant** when the **Torah is written on the heart**. Don't miss the connection between Jeremiah 32:39 and Devarim 6:5-6:

Devarim 6:5 "You shall love יהוה your Elohim with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ " And **these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.**

The next verses are all part of the **restoration** which will bring about the fulfillment of the New Covenant and the echad of "**oneness**":

Ezekiel 37:17 "Then join them one to another for yourself into **one** (אֶחָד) **stick**, and they will become **one** (אֶחָד) in your hand. ¹⁸ " And when the children of your people speak to you, saying, 'Will you not show us what you *mean* by these?' -- ¹⁹ "say to them, 'Thus says Adonai יהוה: "Surely I will take the stick of Joseph, which *is* in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will join them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them **one** (אֶחָד) **stick**, and they will be **one** (אֶחָד) **in My hand.**" ' "

Hosea 1:11 Then the children of Judah and the children of Israel Shall be gathered together, And appoint for themselves one (אֶחָד) head; And they shall come up out of the land, For great *will be* the day of Jezreel!

Zephaniah 3:9 For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of יהוה, to serve him with one (אֶחָד) consent.

Both Zephaniah and Zechariah – a future day when **the entire world will be one** (אֶחָד) in that everyone will call out **His name** and recognize His dominion.

Zechariah 14:7 But it shall be one (אֶחָד) day which shall be known to יהוה, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, *that* at evening time it shall be light. ⁸ And it shall be in that day, *that* living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be. ⁹ And יהוה shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one (אֶחָד) יהוה, and his Name (שְׁמֵוֹ) one.

Ephesians 4:4 *There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;

Now we come to Yeshua's prayer:

John 17:1 Yeshua spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, ² "as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. ³ "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Yeshua the Messiah whom You have sent. ⁴ "I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. ⁵ "And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. ⁶ " I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. ⁷ "Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. ⁸ "For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. ⁹ "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. ¹⁰ "And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹ "Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one (אֶחָד) as We are. ¹² "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ "But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴ "I have given them Your word;

and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶ "They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. ¹⁸ "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ "And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. ²⁰ " I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹ "**that they all may be one (אֱלֹהִים), as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.** ²² "And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, **that they may be one (אֱלֹהִים) just as We are one (אֱלֹהִים):** ²³ "I in them, and You in Me; that **they may be made perfect in one (אֱלֹהִים),** and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. ²⁴ "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ "O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. ²⁶ "And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

A few more verses in the Brit Chadasha:

Philippians 2:2 fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being of one (אֱלֹהִים) accord, of one (אֱלֹהִים) mind.*

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in **one (אֱלֹהִים) body**; and be thankful.

Summed up by this last verse:

1 Corinthians 6:17 And he who is joined to Adonai is **one (אֱלֹהִים) spirit**;

Shabbat Shalom!

Ardelle