

DEVARIM CHAIM

(WORDS OF LIFE)

A publication of *Kehillah B'nei Abraham*

April 2026

Kehillah B'nei Abraham (KBA) is translated as **Congregation of the Children of Abraham** where Jewish and Gentile Believers live out their faith in the G-D of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and His Messiah Yeshua.



We worship and learn together from all the richness of G-D's Living Word (Genesis through Revelation); especially the revelation of G-D's Holy Son,

Messiah Yeshua. We do this in the culture of Judaism (which is the culture our Messiah lived during His time on earth--His first coming) in order to better understand His teachings to live out His instructions in our daily lives.

Open Arms for Visitors: Visitors are always a cherished part of our community! We extend a warm invitation to you, your friends, and your family to join us for any of our services. Our *Shabbat Shacharit* services are **live streamed** right from our website www.kba.life.

KBA Website: We have a plethora of resources (under the **RESOURCE** tab), plus, our services are now archived. Feel free to peruse our website. If you have questions, please let us know.

SERVICES: Our weekly *Shabbat* services are held in person at World Life Church, 495 S. Perry Street, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046, and also live streamed each Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Visit us at www.kba.life for more information.

First Fruits and Pesach VII Explanation



Immediately after Passover we begin observing the Feast of Unleavened Bread through Nisan 22 (April 9 this year). In the midst of that feast, on Nisan 17 (April 4), we celebrate the Feast of First Fruits, as commanded in Lev. 23:9-14:

Adonai said to Moshe, "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'After you enter the land I am giving you and harvest its ripe crops, you are to bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the *cohen*. He is to wave the sheaf before *Adonai*, so that you will be accepted; the *Cohen* is to wave it on the day after the *Shabbat*. On the day that you wave the sheaf, you are to offer a male lamb without defect, in its first year, as a burnt offering for *Adonai*. Its grain offering is to be one gallon of fine flour mixed with olive oil, an offering made by fire to *Adonai* as a fragrant aroma; its drink offering is to be of wine, one quart. You are not to eat

bread, dried grain or fresh grain until the day you bring the offering for your G-D; this is a permanent regulation through all your generations, no matter where you live. (CJB)

As with the other Biblical feasts, First Fruits is agriculturally based. It revolves around the first barley harvest in the March-April time frame. Before reaping the barley harvest, the ancient Israelites were commanded to take to the priest a sheaf from the first harvest so he could wave it before the L-RD. The sheaf would be waved to the left and the right, symbolizing the entire crop. Only after they did this was the remainder of the crop acceptable to G-D.

By doing this, the people were acknowledging and thanking *Adonai* for the coming harvest, as well as asking His blessing upon it. It was a joyous occasion and represented the people's trust that the One who gave them the first fruits would also bless the full harvest.

We see the fulfillment of this feast in the *B'rit Hadashah*:

But the fact is that the Messiah *has* been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a man, also the resurrection of the dead has come through a man. For just as in connection with Adam all die, so in connection with the Messiah all will be made alive. But each in his own order: the Messiah is the firstfruits; then those who belong to the Messiah, at the time of his coming; (1 Cor. 15:20-23, CJB)

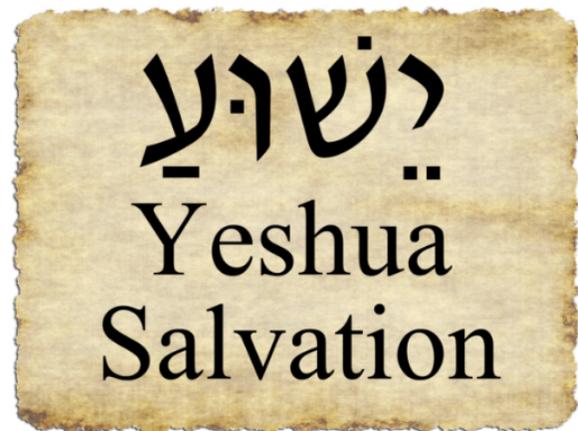
Messiah was the first to be resurrected into a new resurrection body that would never die again. As such, He is the 'sheaf', the first of the harvest, that is waved before the L-RD in celebration and with thanksgiving. The fact that the crop was not acceptable until the first fruits were waved before G-D also points to Yeshua,

because it took the resurrection of the Messiah (our first fruits) to make us acceptable to G-D.

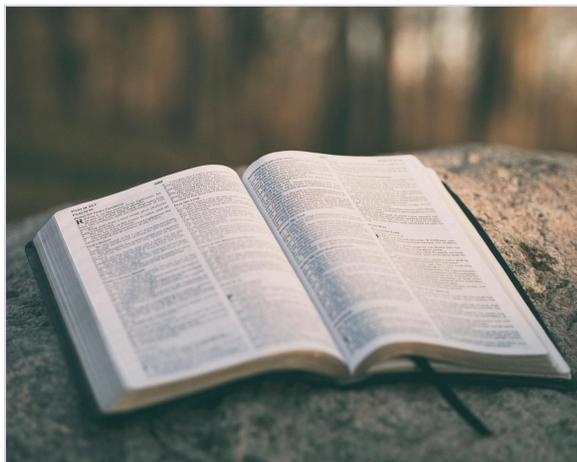
...Yeshua, who was delivered over to death because of our offences and raised to life in order to make us righteous. (Rom. 4:25, CJB)

As the Feast of Unleavened Bread comes to an end, we are also commanded by *Adonai* to have a holy convocation and abstain from work on the seventh day of Unleavened Bread/Passover, although we aren't told why. But those of us on this side of the exodus have a very solid tradition that makes sense and also fits into the timeline—and it is an event so powerful and awesome we still talk about it—the splitting of the Red Sea. While we are not explicitly told that it occurred on the seventh day of Passover, that explanation was an oral tradition that was eventually put down in writing; thus, it certainly could have happened on the seventh day. But regardless of whether that is the case or not, *Adonai* did split the sea so the people could cross on dry ground into freedom, receiving their redemption, just as we today receive our redemption by crossing over from the bondage of sin and into the freedom and salvation we have in our Messiah Yeshua.

Cheryl Zettler



Scripture for the Month 📖



Praise the L-RD, all nations! Extol Him, all peoples! Psalm 117:2 ESV

Calendar



Shalom. To help you plan, below are the service dates and times for our special upcoming **Spring feasts**. Please let Cheryl know if you need a letter to provide your employer or school confirming the feast days in order to have the absence marked as approved.

Wednesday, April 1: Passover seder. Location is 5001 Mainstreet Park Drive, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30088. Check-in starts at 7:00 PM, and the seder will begin promptly at 7:30 PM.

Thursday, April 2, is the first day of Passover and is a no-work day. We will not have services on this day.

Saturday, April 4 (Shabbat): First Fruits/Passover. Service begins at 11:00 AM as normal. Oneg will follow, but there will be no Torah classes in the afternoon.

Wednesday, April 8: 7th Day of Passover. Service will begin at 11:00 AM, followed by Oneg.

Friday, May 22: *Shavuot*. Service will begin at 11:00 AM, followed by Oneg.

PRAYER WITH THE RABBI 🙏



Yeshua warned His disciples to *watch and pray* lest you enter into temptation.
Matthew 26:41

At 10AM each Saturday morning before *Shabbat Shacharit*, Rabbi Rene invites all men (*Bar Mitzvah* age and over) for a time of prayer. The prayer group meets in his regular Torah Club classroom located downstairs.

Also, if you are in need of personal prayer, please see one of our leaders Steve, Cheryl, or Rabbi. You may also fill out a prayer request card in the back of the sanctuary, or you may fill out a prayer request form on the KBA website.

Another Conflict



March 1, 2026, military operations...another conflict in the Middle East. At the time of this writing, there are somewhere between 86-120 armed global conflicts depending on the reported source.

Currently, the news is littered with the strikes, devastation, deaths, destruction and more being dished out in the Middle East. Yet many other wars continue to destroy other communities worldwide. Not to mention, the slaughtering of Christians and others in various parts of the world. And, we can't forget the other crimes we hear and read about in our local news. WOW! Things are pretty grim in our world and extremely dark if we are only looking at world events.

However, our **HOPE** is not in this present age or any age on planet earth. Our hope is in **Yeshua the Messiah**, who explicitly told us there would be wars and rumors of wars. (Matthew 24:6)

It is easy to get caught up in the hype of the news, political/social spats and/or erroneous biblical eschatological discussions. However, anything that inspires fear and takes our focus away from the truth of *HaShem's* Word should be avoided or at least limited. Let me clarify, I believe we should be informed about current events, but our trust is in Yeshua and not in the

news. Our hope is in Him and His promise to never leave or forsake us. Our focus is first on Him...through prayer, studying the word, asking Him for direction, obeying, fellowship and encouraging others. In other words, we are called to be salt and light. (Matt. 5:13-16) Even if we get afraid, our protection and stability is in Him.. not this world which is passing away.

Each day we have to make a choice as followers of Yeshua...moment by moment. We have to decide where our allegiance is anchored. If our allegiance is in *HaShem*, Creator of the Universe through Yeshua the Messiah, and empowered by His Spirit, then our response should look accordingly. Our Scriptures are our instructions for what our response should be.

The current wars and rumors of wars is a global reality which has grabbed our attention and ignited various individual feelings. Yet, as believers and followers of Yeshua, one of the most powerful and effective ways we can respond to this crisis is through intercession. The chaos which we witness in the natural is a call for us to do battle in the spiritual realm as we are led by G-D's Spirit. And, though prophecies will unfold according to G-D's design, we still ought to be praying and interceding.





Pray for shalom in Yerushalayim; may those who love you prosper. May shalom be within your ramparts, prosperity in your palaces.

Psalm 122:6-7 CJB

Here are a few focused suggested prayer points. Please add to this short list of prayer suggestions and Scripture references.

- Pray for guidance toward de-escalation in the Middle East, Europe, Africa, Asia, South America.
- Pray for peace and reconciliation.
- Pray for the military personnel and their families.
- Pray for the protection of civilians...children, pregnant women, the elderly, the displaced and more.
- Ask **ABBA** for the softening of hardened hearts in governments and in public.
- Pray for the comfort of those who have lost loved ones.
- Pray that hearts would turn towards the *Sar Shalom*, Prince of Peace (Yeshua) and eagerly respond.
- Pray that G-D's people will stay sober, diligent and pray with thanksgiving.
- Scriptures: Matthew 24:4-8; Mark 13:5-9; Psalm 122:6; Isaiah 2:4; Matthew 5:9; Psalm 33:13-20; 34:19.

May HaShem find our prayers and dedication to Him pleasing and May our lives be patterned after our Messiah, Yeshua. In Him.

Dr. Dee

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem



Helping Hands Needed

We have magnificent leaders and helpers at KBA who tirelessly work to serve our Savior Yeshua, as well as the members of our Messianic Synagogue. If you are not part of a ministry, please consider lending a helping hand when you can. We are currently in need of help in the following areas:

- **Audio/Visual Ministry**
- **First Responders**
- **Greeters**
- **Ushers**
- **Oneg Support**

Please sign up to read from the *Torah*. Ingrid Lemons maintains the sign-up sheet, so please let her know if you are interested. No *drash* (commentary/sermon) required.

Contact one of our leaders, Rabbi, Bobby, Cheryl or Steve, and let them know how you might be able to serve.

Finally, to all those who are volunteering or assisting in any way for the good of our community... a huge and blessed **THANK**



YOU for your service...to our leaders, kitchen assistance, clean-up crew, technological/media personnel, security team, set-up/break-down crew and prayer team. If I missed anyone, please consider yourself part of the list and very much appreciated! May Adonai bless you all!

Upcoming Job Fair April 15, 2026

Sandra Henderson has shared the following information in case you or someone you know is currently seeking employment.

2026 REGIONAL CAREER FAIR
Building Pathways to High Demand Careers
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026
1PM UNTIL 5PM
GRIFFIN CAMPUS
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Make sure you bring a copy of your resume!
FEATURED EMPLOYERS - FULL LIST AVAILABLE ON SCHEDULE/CAREERFAIR
Piedmont LIPSON nexus CBRE Wellstar SKLD EssilorLuxottica U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Bible Quiz - Just for Fun

1. What posture were the Israelites to have while eating the first *Pesach* (Passover)?
2. What was Passover meant to be throughout generations?
3. Which king restored Passover properly after long neglect?
4. Which cup did Yeshua identify with the new or renewed covenant?
5. What are the parameters for eating the Passover lamb?
6. In Deuteronomy, where was Passover commanded to be kept?
7. What penalty was given for eating leavened bread during Passover?

Bible Quiz Answers

1. Exodus 12:11
2. Exodus 12:14
3. 2 Chronicles 30:1
4. Luke 22:20
5. Exodus 12:46
6. Deuteronomy 16:5-6
7. Exodus 12:15

If you have a praise report, if you would like to be featured in our congregational newsletter, or if you would like to share something glorifying for the good of our community, please let me know.

You may contact me at: Dee Jackson
Cell: 404-840-4592
or email: drdeejackson@drdeejackson.com.

You may also contact Tiffany Dennis at 678-469-8158 or at KBA after service.

