

# Mikveh

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*What physical act could a person perform in order to symbolize a radical change of heart and total commitment to YeHoVaH???*

Jewish tradition prescribes a profound symbol that represents exactly this!  
It instructs the individual to place himself/herself in a radically different physical environment in water rather than in air.



**But Why???**  
**And Why Water???**  
**We will get back to this a little later!**

# What is a Mikveh?

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Mikveh (gathering of waters) is the ritual immersion and the total submersion of the body in a pool of water.

This pool and its water are precisely prescribed by Jewish law.

## **Parameters for water to be a mikvah according to Jewish Law**

The Mishnah (Mik 1:1-8 ed.Danby) indicates that there were at least 6 grades of mikveh. Listed from best to worst.

1. Natural flowing waters from springs and river.
2. Water from the sea or hot springs
3. Wells and natural groundwater
4. Pools of collected “living water” containing more than 40 se’ah of water
5. Ponds during the rainy season
6. Ponds

The mikveh must comply with a number of precise halachic [Jewish legal] qualifications if it is not an open body of “living water”; i.e. a river, natural spring, lake or ocean – anything that is cut by the finger of God

- \*The mikveh must be built into the ground or the structure of the building.
- \*It must hold a minimum of 24 cubic feet of water–200 gallons.
- \*The depth must be such as to enable an average adult to stand upright and have the water reach at least 11 inches above the waist, so that immersion can be performed without backbreaking contortions.
- \*The water must originally have been transported to the mikveh in a manner resembling the natural flow of waters.

# Ritual Observance of Mitzveh

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According to Jewish Law....

The ceremony must take place on a weekday [and not on Shabbat, the Sabbath] and during daylight

Additionally, the body must be thoroughly cleansed immediately before the immersion.

The individual should be careful that there are no adhesions such as bandages, Band-Aids, or ointment;

that the hair is thoroughly brushed;

the nails of the hands and feet are trimmed and filed down;

and that no traces of cosmetics or nail polish remain.

The whole body must be immersed at one time, not sequentially, and the submerging must be total, without even a single hair remaining above the water.

## *The Blessings of the Mikveh*

Barukh atah Ado-nai Elo-henu melekh ha'olam asher kideshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al ha'tevillah.

Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us regarding the immersion.

There is one exception to this general practice of placing the blessing before the mitzvah—the immersion of a convert.

The convert needs to recite the blessing after the immersion, not before.

The reason is simple: One cannot declare “God commanded us” if one is not commanded by God because he or she is not Jewish yet.

The convert becomes a Jew only after the immersion is completed.

After the blessing, the convert immerses twice more and then leaves the mikveh.

A second blessing is required by most, but not all, authorities.

It is called she'hecheyan

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu, v'kiy'manu, v'higyanu laz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.

# Religious Functions of the Mikveh

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Several religious functions are served by this powerful symbol of submerging in water.

In the days of the ancient Temple in Jerusalem, the mikveh was used by all Jews who wanted to enter the precincts of the Sanctuary.

The law required every person inside the Temple grounds to be in a spiritually pure state appropriate to the pristine spirituality of the Sanctuary itself.

The mikveh would have been a sign of inward spiritual cleansing in preparation for the Sabbath, Holy Days, Feasts and especially Yom Kippur-The Day of Atonement

Scripture instructs that anyone who becomes ritually unclean through contact with a dead or diseased person needs to be immersed in water before re-entering the Temple.

A mikveh was also to take place after a leper had been declared healed by the priest.

**Leviticus 14: 1–4, 7, 9** - “The Lord said to Moses, ‘These are the regulations for the diseased person at the time of his ceremonial cleansing... He must wash his clothes and bathe himself with water and he will be clean.’”

Throughout Jewish history, unmarried women mikveh prior to their wedding.

Married women immerse at the end of 7 days from the end of each monthly menstrual cycle, in preparation for the resumption of relations with their husband in their most fertile days

**Leviticus 15:19–24**

This commandment is still observed today.

The rabbis explain that this period of abstinence, called the “*Niddah*” teaches husbands and wives the need for discipline, respect, and moderation.

A major function of immersion in the mikveh is for conversion to Judaism

As the Israelites performed immersion at Mt. Sinai to complete the conversion process they had begun with circumcision as they left Egypt, so converts in every age must immerse in a mikveh.

# Mikveh and its symbolism from a Jewish perspective

*We have to remember the Bible was written for us but not to us!*

Submerging in a pool of water for the purpose not of using the water's physical cleansing properties but expressly to symbolize a change of heart should be deeply spiritual

No other Jewish ritual is so freighted with weight and meaning as this one which touches every aspect of life and proclaims a total commitment to a new idea and a new way of life as it swallows up the old and gives birth to the new.

The water of the mikveh is designed to ritually cleanse a person from sins of the past.

**What sins of the past do we need to be ritually cleansed of???**

**What is sin???**

**We will pick this question back up in a little bit**

The convert is to mikveh and is considered by Jewish law, symbolic of birth. By spiritually cleansing the convert, the mikveh water prepares him or her to confront God, life, and people with a fresh spirit and new eyes, washing away the past.

There is a second layer of meaning to mikveh.

It marks the beginning of the ascent to an elevated religious state.

This function of mikveh goes beyond the basic purpose of purification.

It is symbolic of the stark changes taking place in one's self-identity, behavior, and attitude.

In a sense, it is nothing short of the spiritual death and rebirth.

It is the death of all that has gone before.

As one emerges from the waters into the clear air, one begins to breathe and live anew

The apostle Peter tells us that "the waters of immersion is not the removal of dirt from the body, but one's pledge to keep a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Yeshua the Messiah." **1 Peter 3:21**

The Prophet Ezekiel also speaks of gaining a spiritual renewal through cleansing waters:

**Ezekiel 36:25.**

"I will sprinkle clean water on you and you will be clean;  
I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols."

**Romans 6:1-4**

<sup>1</sup>What then shall we say? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup>Certainly not! How can we who died to sin live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup>Or aren't you aware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup>We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may walk in newness of life.

# Layers of Meaning



**Jesus and Nicodemus.**

Yeshua told Nicodemus (a Jewish Pharisee) that to enter the Kingdom of God, one must be “born-again.”

*The term “born again” refers to a conversion to Judaism from a Jewish perspective.*

*To the Jews, you were either born into Judaism or could convert  
Nicodemus does not understand Yeshua’s teaching within these parameters*

Nicodemus wondered, “How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born, can he?” (**John 3:4**)

*From his Jewish perspective, Nicodemus essentially asked,  
“How can I convert to Judaism if I am already born a Jew?”*

Yeshua answered, “A man must be born of water and spirit.” (**John 3:5**)

He was explaining to Nicodemus that we cannot rely on our “Jewishness” to enter into the kingdom of heaven.

A conversion of our spiritual condition is necessary for salvation.

**So what does that conversion look like  
for Nicodemus???**

**Let’s take a closer look at this story!**

# Yeshua and Nicodemus

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## John 3:1.

And there was a man of the Pharisees, Nicodemus was his name a ruler of Yehudim.

*The fact that he comes to him by night (nux #3571)  
Night-metaphorically, the time of moral darkness (John 9:4).*

## John 3:2

This one came to Yeshua by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from Elohim, for no one is able to do these signs You do if Elohim is not with him."

*Yeshua proceeds to tell him that  
"unless one is born from above, he is unable to see the reign of Elohim."  
But Nicodemus does not comprehend as we mentioned already*

There was an inadequate faith among the people of Israel.  
The Pharisees were among the ones Yeshua spoke mostly to other than his disciples.  
They lived their life submitting to the laws of men and tradition  
more than the actual word of God.  
Each of the Talmudic rabbis had real jobs, none of them made their livings as rabbis.  
They understood that the success of the Torah depended upon putting its ideals to work  
in "real" life, in their everyday actions with family, neighbors, travelers and at work

## John 3:3.

Yeshua answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born (to be changed) from above (of water (order) and the Spirit(truth) he is unable to enter into the reign of Elohim

*How is a man able to be born again when he is old?*

*We through the laws and commandments of God  
to see what his expectations are for our lives.  
We learn about his nature and his character  
in which we are called to be like him.*

*Why???*

*We were created in his image to be like him,  
but we are so far removed from that as we learn his ways.*

*So now we must desire to turn away from our  
old life, our sin, our old behaviors.*

*and want to embrace and live out his truth.*

*That's repentance! That's picture of mikveh!*

*To turn to his grace, his grace that allows us to return to our relationship  
with God so that it might be carried on, maintained and realized.*



# Discipleship



## Ephesians 5:1-2

**1** Be imitators of God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children.

**2** and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

*Work is not only a necessary part of life, it is a form of service to the world, to the rest of humanity, and to God. We are meant to be of service, to be partners with God*

*Popular among Jews is to say the Avodah...our work is our worship and our worship is our work!*

Though work is our vocation, it has the potential to accomplish...  
tikkun olam, "repair of the world."

That is to bring **order** to the **chaos**

Every job, every work interaction has value.

There are those who believe that each of us is made...  
unique and chosen for a particular task to perform in the world.

Our rabbi is Yeshua!

Follow your rabbi!

Be blessed by the dust of his feet





# The Example of Yeshua

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## **Matthew 3:11.**

**11**“I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire

## **The Baptism of Yeshua**

## **Matthew 3:13-17.**

**13**Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John

**14**But tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

**15**Jesus replied, “**Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.**” Then John consented.

**16**As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

**17**And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

## **Matthew 4:1.**

**1**Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

*So first, we see John tells us mikvah is for repentance!  
But repentance from what???  
We will keep these questions in mind!!!*

# The picture of Yeshua mirrors the beginning of creation!

Darkness was over the surface of the deep and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.  
Genesis 1:2

## Genesis 1:1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth

**2**And the earth became formless and empty, and darkness was over the face of the deep.

And the Spirit of God was hovering<sup>(1)</sup> on the face of the waters.

**3**And God spoke<sup>(2)</sup>, "Let there be light"

God hovered over the face of the waters (chaos).

And after he spoke...out of the chaos came order

first came the land, plants, animals and mankind

Out of the chaos came order, purpose, meaning and life!



## God hovers - Adam and Eve are placed into the garden of Eden

**Genesis 2:15** And YeHoVaH took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and to guard it

## God spoke and to give them order -

**Genesis 2:16** And Yehovah commanded the man (spoke) saying, "Eat of every tree of the garden"<sup>17</sup>but do not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, for in the day that you eat of it you shall certainly die."

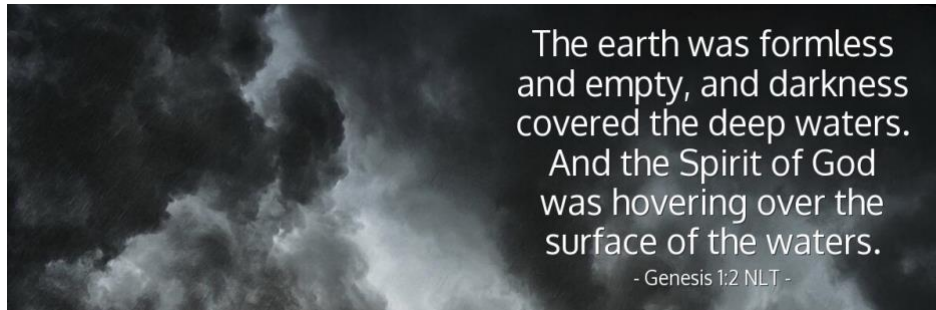
## God turned it over to his servants

**Gen 2:15-25**he makes Adam a helper, Eve to work and guard the garden

## Next came temptation

**Genesis 3:1-6**

# Water In Scripture-Chaos vs Order



## Genesis 1:1

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth

2And the earth became formless and empty, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering on the face of the waters.

### Darkness

Darkness - Choshek #2822 – Darkness, obscurity, without light, misery, destruction, death, ignorance, wickedness

### Over

Over – Al #5921 – upon, above, over, against

### Deep

Deep – Tehom #8415 – deep, sea, abyss, ocean, springs, depths, confusion, waste

### Hovering

Hovering – Rachaph #7363 – to grow soft, relax, move, shake

### Waters

Waters – Mayim #4325 – water, flood, waste, wasting

*So the earth became formless and empty and misery, death, ignorance and wickedness was against and above the sea, abyss, ocean of confusion and waste.*

*And the Spirit of God was moving and shaking on the face of the waters*

*Fortunately, as the Spirit of God hovered, God spoke and when he spoke to the water, out of that chaos came order, purpose, goodness.*

*Land, plants, planets, animals, people all working together the exact opposite of chaos*

# Water In Scripture

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*The Scriptures have a word (from a Jewish perspective) for chaos.*

*That word is the poor (as their lives are completely without order)*

**2 Corinthians 8:9** “For you know the grace of our Lord Yeshua Messiah, that though he was rich (*order*), yet for your sake he came to the poor (*chaos*) so that you through his poverty (*him being in chaos*) could become rich (*restored to order*)

**Revelation 3:17** Because you say, “I am rich and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor (*chaos*) and blind and naked.”

*The poor in the scriptures are those whose lives are in chaos.*

## **Deuteronomy 15:4-5**

However, there need be no poor (*chaos*) among you, for in the land the Lord your God is giving you to possess as your inheritance, he will richly bless you.

If only you fully obey the Lord your God and are careful to follow all these commands I am giving you today.

## **Deuteronomy 15:7-8**

If anyone is poor (*chaos*) among your fellow Israelites in any of the towns of the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard hearted or tightfisted toward them.

Rather, be openhanded and freely lend them whatever they need.

## **Deuteronomy 15:10**

Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.

There will always be poor (*chaos*) in the land, therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land

# Chaos vs Order

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*In the book of Isaiah the prediction is made that some day the Spirit of God will hover over the chaos and the blind will see, lame will walk, the leper will be healed, deaf will hear, the dead will be raised and the poor will hear the Good news. In other words, some day, the spirit of God will hover and the poor in whatever form will be brought out of chaos and into order.*

## Isaiah 1:16-19

**16** Wash and cleanse yourselves. Remove your evil deeds from My sight. Stop doing evil!

**17** Learn to do right; **seek justice and correct the oppressor.** **Defend the fatherless** and plead the case of the **widow.**”

**18** “Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they will become like wool.

**19** If you are willing and obedient,

*So sinning isn't just transgression of the law....part of the covenant (relationship) agreement is to also....*

1. Seek justice and correct the oppressor.
2. Defend the fatherless (orphans).
3. care for widows (Patriach/Father redeemer-book of Ruth)

## How does this relate to Yeshua, his baptism (mikvah) and his ministry???



### *Let's look closely!*

1. **God hovered over chaos**

**Matthew 3:16** As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water.

*Yeshua entered chaos (the water/the world)*

2. **God spoke**

**Matthew 3:17** And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

3. **God turned it over to his servant**

**Phil 2:7** But emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant,

4. **Next came temptation**

**Matthew 4:1** Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted

5. **And when he spoke to the water, out of the chaos came order**

Only after his baptism/mikvah did Yeshua begin his ministry and to perform miracle but **not** before!!! He began to bring order after coming out of the water (*chaos*).

# Living Water

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## THE JOY OF LIVING WATER: JESUS AND THE FEAST OF SUKKOT'

### Isa. 12:3

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

Water was of great importance to the people of the Bible. They lived in a dry country, completely dependent on the seasonal rains. Fresh water was not available everywhere and the task of digging wells and cisterns was a difficult one. Such an important resource as fresh water would naturally be a picture or symbol of spiritual reality as well. God frequently made use of common cultural phenomena to teach the truths of faith. He was Shepherd, Potter, and King. The people were sheep, clay, and subjects. Water became symbolic as well.



There were different types of water found in the land of Israel. Cistern water was rainwater trapped in pits dug into rock and plastered to prevent leakage. Most homes and public buildings had them. The water was often dirty, having flowed from roofs or streets into the cistern. This source of water was not dependable because one season it might not rain or the plaster might leak and the water seep away.

Running water, especially spring water, was different. It stayed fresh and clean. And most springs were dependable, providing water year round. This constant fresh source of water was called "living water," probably portraying its life-giving qualities as well as its constant freshness.

God provides (and is described as) living water  
(**Ps. 107:9; Isa. 35:6-7, 58:11; Jer. 2:13; Zech. 14:8; John 4:13-14, 7:37-38**).

Living water was cleansing (**Lev. 15:1-3**).

The ritual bath of Jesus' day, the mikveh, used before coming into the presence of God at the Temple or to the synagogue worship service, contained flowing water, or living water. John the Baptist's choice of the Jordan River for his symbolic cleansing likely was based on the need for fresh, moving water to symbolize cleansing.

Jesus described himself as living water (**John 4:13-14, 7:37-38**), and the people of his day understood the meaning. Only God could provide living water. It would not fail to satisfy any thirst.

But it was the connection between living water and the feast of Sukkot that gave Jesus' image of living water the clearest meaning. He chose that feast day to reveal that he was living water.

O Hashem, the Hope [mikvah] of Israel, all who forsake you will be ashamed ... because they have forsaken Hashem, the fountain of living water." (**Jeremiah 17:13**)



# Forgiveness of Sin

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Jews did not believe animal blood forgave sins.

This is a huge misunderstanding.

Animal blood is our way of asking Yehovah to forgive our sins.

It is a reminder of that blood covenant (**relationship**)

It is a picture of what we are asking God to do...to forgive us for stepping out of our covenant (**relationship**) and to let us back in to benefit from the promises of that covenant which we forsook when we sinned.

# Forgiveness of Sin

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*Well Yehovah says....*

**Isaiah 1:11.**

"The multitude of your sacrifices-- what are they to me?" says the LORD. "I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; **I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.**

*Forgiveness comes by Yehovah's mercy.*

*Sooooo...*

*if we aren't sprinkling blood (no temple) to remind Yehovah of the covenant (relationship) that we want to be a part of???*

*How do we ask for mercy and forgiveness...???*

*We don't earn forgiveness, we request it from YeHoVaH in the manner he wants us to ask...so what manner is that???*

**Psalms 51:16-17** *says the psalmist....*

16For you (Yehovah) do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; You take no pleasure in burnt offerings.

17The **sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart,** O God, You will not despise

*And Paul echoes this in...*

**Romans 12:1**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God--this is your true and proper worship.

*So we become the sacrifice...or we sacrifice in our lives...but how???*

*Let's take a closer look at a broken spirit and contrite heart.*

# A Broken Spirit and Contrite Heart

## Broken

Broken – *Shabar* #7665 - to break, break in pieces

aka in pieces 1a) (Qal) 1a1) break, break in or down, rend violently, wreck, to break, rupture (fig) 1b) (Niphal) 1b1) to be broken, be **maimed**, be **crippled**, be wrecked 1b2) to be broken, be crushed (Hiphil) to cause to break out, bring to the birth 1e) (Hophal) to be broken, **be shattered**(1), **brokenhearted\*** (3), collapse (1), crush (2), **crushed** (2), demolished (1), destroy (2), **fractured** (1), **hurt** (2), **injured** (1), pieces (1), placed (1), point of birth (1), quench (1), shatter (2), shattered (13), smash (3), **smashed** (2), tore down (1), torn (2).

## *The primitive root of Shabar is Sabar.*

Sabar #7663 – to inspect, **to examine**, to hope, to tarry, to wait

Erroneously shabar (Nehemiah 2:13, Nehemiah 2:15) {shaw-bar'}; a primitive root; to scrutinize; by implication (of watching) to **expect (with hope and patience)** -- hope, tarry, view, wait.

## Spirit

Spirit #7307 – breath, wind, spirit.

From *ruwach*; wind; by resemblance breath, i.e. A sensible exhalation; figuratively, **life**, anger, unsubstantiality; by extension, a region of the sky; by resemblance spirit, but only of a rational being (including its expression and functions) -- air, anger, blast, breath, X cool, courage, mind

*So within brokenness, one who is maimed, injured, crippled, shattered, crushed, smashed, fractured and broken-hearted life is a sense of self examination in hope...to wait with patience*

## Contrite.

Contrite - *Dakah* #1794 – to crush, (mentally) break, sore, collapse

## *A primitive root of Dakah is Dak.*

Dak #1790 – crushed, oppressed

Heart Heart – *Leb* #3820 – Inner man, mind, will, heart

*So we see one's inner man, mind, will and heart crushed, broken and oppressed*

*Therefore to conclude...a broken spirit is one who is physically or mentally injured and is in a sense examining themselves in hopeful anticipation, waiting in patience and...*

*A contrite heart is ones inner man, mind, will and heart that has been crushed, broken and oppressed.*

# A Broken Spirit and Contrite Heart

## Psalms 34:18

The Lord is near to the broken-hearted; He saves the contrite in spirit.

## Isaiah 57:15

For this is what the high and exalted One says...he who lives forever, whose name is holy; "I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite."

## Isaiah 61:1-3

1 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim the good news to the poor.

He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.

2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn

3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.



## Luke 4:18.

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to bring the Good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free. To proclaim the year of the Lords favor."

*Then he rolled up the scroll, Gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were intently on him. He said, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in you hearing." He goes on to say how he cannot perform miracle in his hometown as Elijah was not sent to any of them when there was drought for 3 ½ years but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha yet not one of the was cleansed, only in Naaman the Syrian and all that heard his words were furious when they heard this and got up to drive him out of town to throw him off a cliff.*

# Answers and Questions

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1. *Why do we need to perform a ritual that symbolizes a radical change of heart and total commitment to YeHoVaH?*
2. *Why water?*
3. *What sins do we need to repent of?*
4. *Do we mikveh?*
5. *How often do we do it?*

In this season of remembering the birth of Yeshua

In this season of rehearsing for his return

In this season of self reflection as the adulterous bride

In this season of anticipating the grooms return and desperately hoping he  
forgives us and takes us with him

In this season of repentance of pleading with Yehovah to forgive our continued  
trespasses and transgressions of his ways.

We mikveh to show YeHoVaH a picture of a radical change in our heart and  
recommitment to him, his ways, instructions and laws as they are heavenly

We mikveh to say we will enter chaos as our rabbi did and bring shalom to  
mirror the Kingdom of Heaven

We will mikveh as our rabbi did before Sabbath, Holy days, Feasts and  
especially at this time of remembrance and rehearsal

We mikveh because even though there is no temple to bring sacrifice he still  
commands us to sacrifice...not animal blood...but ourselves and our lives... to  
bring shalom to the broken spirit to the one who is physically or mentally injured  
to one whose mind, will and heart has been crushed, broken and oppressed.

YeHoVaH eloquently shows us picture after picture of what he expects for our  
lives through his laws, commandments and teachings.

We learn about his nature and his character in which we are called  
to be like him.

So we mikveh to show God a picture.  
To remind him we want a relationship.  
To remind him we desire him.  
To remind him of his mercy.

We mikveh in the water to show we will rule over chaos  
as the sons and daughters of YeHoVaH

We mikveh in the water to show the death of our old man  
and rebirth into our Father's heavenly ways

## Matthew 25:37-46.

37Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? 38When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39When did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?'

40And the King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.'

41Then He will say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, 43I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, I was naked and you did not clothe Me, I was sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

44And they too will reply, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'

45Then the King will answer, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me.'

46And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."