

## #2 Noach (נֹחַ), Hebrew for the name "Noah"

Torah: Genesis 6:9-11:32 Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-10

2 - He was 'perfect' in his generations! The Hebrew word that is translated as 'perfect' comes from the root word תַמים tamiym - Strong's H8549 which means, 'complete, whole, sound, perfect, without blemish, blameless', and comes from the primitive root word המם tamam -Strong's H8552 meaning, 'to be complete, to be finished, be at an end'.

#### The Word calls for us to serve יהוה(YeHoVah) with a perfect heart!

"But", you may ask, "is it possible to serve (YeHoVah) with a perfect heart? Are we not all sinners and unable to be perfect?"

## Berěshith/Genesis 17:1 "And it came to be when Abram was ninety-nine years old, that (YeHoVah) appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Ěl Shaddai - walk before Me and be perfect."

# **BE PERFECT:**

## Debarim/Deuteronomy 18:13 "Be perfect before (YeHoVah) your Elohim"

This is often seen as a hard expectation, if understood in the wrong way! What does it then mean to be perfect or to have a perfect heart? When considering the phrase, 'Not a perfect heart/ not with a perfect heart' we take note, that this often speaks of one who began well yet did not endure to the end or one who does not carry on to completion that which they are called to or one who simply does not do anything that is required and does not even try!

To serve with a heart that is not perfect, can be a, 'doing right, but...' kind of scenario. There are to be no 'buts', so to speak, in our (YeHoVah) יהוה (YeHoVah)! Many people want to be seen as having a perfect heart, yet they have too many 'but' excuses, in their attempts at trying to justify their compromise!

What does the word 'perfect' mean? It can mean, flawless as in a flawless diamond, accurate, faithfully reproducing the original, pure complete, mature etc. In the Hebrew language, there are two words that

we find, in the Scriptures, which we see being translated as 'perfect':

 1 - שָׁלֵם shalĕm (shaw-lame') - Strong's H8003 which means 'pure, complete, safe, at peace, perfect, whole, finished, blameless, full'.
This is used in the Hebrew as an adjective, as in describing a 'perfect' heart.

Melakim Aleph/1Kings 8:61 "Let your heart YeHoVah) יהוה therefore be perfect to יהוה (YeHoVah) our Elohim, to walk in His laws and guard His commands, as at this day." Dibre haYamim Bět/ 2 Chronicles 16:9 "For the eyes of יהוה (YeHoVah) diligently search throughout all the earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is perfect to Him. You have acted foolishly in this, so from now on you shall have battles."

2 - הַמָּים tamiym (taw-meem') - Strong's H8549 is the word we have already discussed and described above - this is a verb that translates over 90 times as 'perfect, without blemish, complete or full':

## Debarim/Deuteronomy 18:13 "Be perfect before יהוה (YeHoVah) your Elohim"

Understanding these two Hebrew words that are used interchangeably throughout the Scriptures, in referring to perfection in serving הוה (YeHoVah), we can understand that the meaning is, 'to be upright, totally obedient, to finish what was started and have a constant obedience'.

## Having a perfect heart, is having a responsive heart - one that answers quickly to יהוה's(YeHoVah's) call, His whisperings and His warnings. We are called to be perfect:

This command to be perfect before יהוה (YeHoVah), is made very clear to all of Yisra'el and as we consider the context of these words, we are able to understand the need to take heed of this command, as we do our utmost to be faithful ambassadors of the coming Reign of our Master and Elohim! In order to grasp the urgency of what is being

commanded here, let us look at the passage that this verse comes from:

Debarim/Deuteronomy 18:9-14 "When you come into the land which יהוה(YeHoVah) your Elohim is giving you, do not learn to do according to the abominations of those gentiles. 10 Let no one be found among you who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practises divination, or a user of magic, or one who interprets omens or a sorcerer, 11 or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.

12 For whoever does these are an abomination to יהוה (YeHoVah), and because of these) abominations יהוה (YeHoVah) your Elohim drives them out from before you. 13 Be perfect before YeHoVah) your Elohim, 14 for these nations (YeHoVah) your Elohim, 14 for these nations whom you are possessing do listen to those using magic and to diviners. But as for you, YeHoVah) your Elohim has not appointed) יהוה such for you."

This instruction/command to be perfect is clearly emphasized by making it clear that the children of Elohim are not to do the abominable practices that the world does, for this has not been appointed for us!

Being perfect before יהוה (YeHoVah), entails that we make sure that we guard to do all he has commanded us to and cling to His Truth that sets us apart and not be swayed by the depravity of lawlessness, no matter how attractive it may be presented, as something that is acceptable according to the corrupt standards of the world. When our Master יהושע (Yehshua) prayed to the Father, which is recorded in Yohanan/John 17, we see the following:

Yoḥanan/John 17:14-17 "I have given them Your Word, and the world hated them because they are not of the world, as I am not of the world. 15 "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the wicked one. 16 "They are not of the world, as I am not of the world. 17 "Set them apart in Your truth - Your Word is truth."

### It is from these words that we have come to understand the following phrase that is often used by believers:

### "We are in the world but not of the world!"

As we can see from these words of our Master, the way we guard ourselves from the wicked ways of a sinful world is to be set-apart in the Truth, which we are able to do as we allow the Word of Elohim to be that which sets us apart and equips us to be perfect before Him and not be swayed by the corruption of the flesh through compromised standards of a wicked and corrupt-world that is ruled by the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, which is not of Elohim!!!

The Greek word that is translated here as 'perfect' in the LXX (Septuagint - Greek translation of the Tanak - O.T.) is τέλειος teleios (tel'-i-os) - Strong's G5046 which means, 'having reached its end, complete, perfect, mature' and is used in the following verse in regards to the body of Messiah being equipped unto maturity: Eph'siyim/Ephesians 4:13 "until we all come to the unity of the belief and of the knowledge of the Son of Elohim, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the completeness of Messiah"