

8 July

1 Samuel 20, Isaiah 64, Matthew 9



Mercy, not sacrifice

Jonathan made with David a covenant of mercy, “And thou shalt not only while yet I live shew me the kindness of Yahweh, that I die not: But also thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever: no, not when Yahweh hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth” (1Sa 20:14-15). Saul kept the new moon feast but to David did “shame”(1Sa 20:34) and showed no mercy.

The mercy and kindness of Yahweh is great, “For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him. Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness, those that remember thee in thy ways: (Isa 64:4-5). “But all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away. (64:6) But now, O Yahweh, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand”. (64:8) We ask for mercy “Be not wroth very sore, O Yahweh, neither remember iniquity for ever: see, we beseech thee, we are all thy people” (64:9).

There was mercy in Yeshua making us Yahweh's people. Yeshua healed, “seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; 'Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee'. (Mat 9:2). Matthew when called rejoices at the mercy and invites many sinners, Yeshua said to the Pharisees, “They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice” (Mat 9:12-13). Two blind men followed him, crying, “Thou Son of David, have mercy on us” (9:27) . He healed them. And when he saw the multitudes, “he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd” (Mat 9:36).