

## School Meeting Minutes – 7 September 2025

**ANNOUNCEMENT: This coming week we will meet on the 29th day of the 6th month (September 14th) as a whole school/Ekklesia (all 4 time zones combined into one meeting) at 7pm Jerusalem time in preparation for the Feast of Trumpets.**

\*We met on the 22nd day of the 6th month in the priest course of Jedaiah. We have entered the Church cycle of Pergamos (Rev 2:12-17), and are in the midst of the Olive Oil Harvest.

\*This week we see the date of the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the 6<sup>th</sup> month mentioned in Haggai 1.

- Hag 1:12 KJV Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the Lord. 13 Then spake Haggai the Lord's messenger in the Lord's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the Lord. 14 And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the Lord of hosts, their God, 15 **In the four and twentieth day of the sixth month**, in the second year of Darius the king.

\*This week we also see the date of the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the 6<sup>th</sup> month, when the Wall was finished in Nehemiah 6!

- Neh 6:15 KJV So the wall was finished in the **twenty and fifth day of the month Elul**, in fifty and two days.

\*We continued our series on the Camps and the Breastplate leading us this week to the 4 Pillars of the Ekklesia. Paul mentions Peter, James and John, and calls them the pillars in Galatians 2:9.

- Gal 2:9 KJV And when James, Cephas, and John, **who seemed to be pillars** (g4769 - stylos), perceived the grace that was given unto me (Paul).

\*The Pillars – Stylos.

- The word “pillars” in Greek is g4769, stylos. The ABP translation calls them the columns of strength.
- Gal 2:9 ABP and knowing the favor being given to me (Paul), James, Cephas and John, the ones assuming to be columns of strength (g4769 stylos).
- We see this word used only 4 times in the New Testament, but this is the same word for the column of cloud and the column of fire in Exodus.
- Ex 13:21 ABP But YHWH led them, by day by a column (g4769 stylos) of cloud, to show to them the way; but in the night by a column (g4769 stylos) of fire.
- In Exodus 26, we see the Veil separating the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies suspended from the four pillars of acacia wood.
- Ex 26:32 KJV And thou shalt hang it (the veil) upon four pillars (g4769 stylos) of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver.
- We see a similar description regarding the East Gate in Exodus 27.
- Ex 27:16 KJV And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars (g4769 stylos) shall be four, and their sockets four.
- The word “stylos” also appears in Esther 1:6, describing the Palace of Shushan.
- Est 1:6 ABP ...in the courtyard of the house of the King, being adorned in fine linen, and cotton being stretched upon lines of fine linen and of purple, upon cube studs of gold and silver, upon columns (g4769 - stylos) of Parian marble, and stones, with beds of gold and silver upon a stone pavement of emerald stone, and mother of pearl.
- We also see the same word being used when Christ addresses the church of Philadelphia.
- Rev 3:12 KJV Him that overcometh will I make a pillar (g4769 - stylos) in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, [which is] new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and [I will write upon him] my new name.
- Enoch sees the 4 Pillars of Heaven in Enoch Chapter 18.
- Enoch 18:2 I saw the four winds which bear {the earth and} the firmament of the heaven. 3 And I saw how the winds stretch out the vaults of heaven, and have their station between heaven and earth: these are the pillars of the heaven.

\*The Apostle Andrew.

- Andrew was regarded as the fourth pillar of the Ekklesia. He is particularly significant because it is he who brought his brother, Simon Peter, to Jesus.
- His name is not Hebrew, but Greek, even though he was born to a Jewish family in Bethsaida, in Galilee, and his brother's name is Aramaic (Simon). Andrew is Andreas Ἀνδρέας in Greek, g406. His name is defined as "manly."
- Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist, and afterwards an apostle of Christ.
- John 1:35 ABP The next day again John stood, and **two of his disciples**. 36 And looking at Jesus walking, he says, Behold the Lamb of God! 37 And the two disciples heard him speaking.
- It was Andrew who first met Jesus, and brought Peter to Him. He was also the first apostle to claim Jesus was the Messiah.
- John 1:41 ABP He (Andrew) first finds his own brother Simon, and says to him, We have found the Messiah.
- John 1:42 ABP And he (Andrew) led him (Peter) to Jesus. And looking at him, Jesus said, You are Simon the son of Jonah, you shall be called Cephas, which is translated, A piece of rock (Petros).
- Since the Gospel of John records that Andrew followed Jesus before any of the other apostles, the Byzantine church referred to Andrew as the Protoklete, or "the First Called."
- Despite his seemingly important role as an early follower of Christ, Andrew is only mentioned 12 times in the entire New Testament, and four of those times are simply the lists of the 12 apostles.
- Interestingly, all four gospels record the feeding of the 5,000, but only John specifically mentions Andrew's role.
- John 6:8 KJV One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, 9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?
- In John 12, John also records that when some Greeks came to Philip asking him to see Christ, Philip went and told Andrew and they both went to tell Jesus. This shows us that there was a hierarchy among the apostles.
- John 12:20 KJV And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: 21 The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus. 22 **Philip cometh and telleth Andrew:** and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus.
- Andrew was also one of the four disciples who came to Jesus on the Mount of Olives to ask about the signs of the "end of the age." We see him listed alongside Peter, James and John in Mark 13:3.
- Mark 13:3 KJV And as he sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, **Peter and James and John and Andrew** asked him privately, 4 Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled?
- Simon Peter, John and James were part of a trio, forming the top 3.
- Andrew ranked fourth, since he was not invited to any of the special events that the other three were.
- Peter, James, and John were present at all of the major recorded happenings during Jesus' ministry. Whenever Jesus needed a smaller group to go along with him some place, it was these three that went.
- The first time we see these disciples as a trio is when Jesus Christ resurrected Jarius' daughter (Mark 5:37, and Luke 8:51).
- The next time where these three apostles are separated is during the transfiguration (Mat 17:1, Mark 9:2, Luke 9:28, and 2 Peter 1:16-18).
- Finally, the three were present at the prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane (Mat 26:36-37, Mark 14:32-33).
- Additionally, two of the leading four, Peter and John, were sent by Jesus into the city to make preparation for the final Passover meal (Luke 22:8), and were also the only two sent by the collective apostles to visit the newly converted believers in Samaria (Acts 8:14).
- While the New Testament does not record much of Andrew's personal ministry activities, other accounts claim he brought the gospel to various countries. Eusebius in his Church History 3.1 (4th century) quoted Origen (c. 185 – c. 253) as saying that Andrew preached in Scythia, an ancient region of central Eurasia. According to the 12th-century Primary Chronicle, Andrew visited Scythia and Greek colonies along the northern coast of the Black Sea making his way to Chersonesus in Crimea. According to the legend, attributed to Nestor the Chronicler, Andrew reached the future capital of Kievan and foretold the foundation of a great Christian city with many churches. Then, "he came to the [land of the] Slovenians where Novgorod now [stands]" and observed the locals, before eventually arriving in Rome. According to Hippolytus of Rome, Andrew also preached in Thrace.

- Andrew is said to have been martyred by crucifixion at the city of Patras (Patræ) in Achaëa, in AD 60.

\*James.

- There are three men named "James," the apostle James, the son of Zebedee, called James the greater or elder, who was also the brother of the apostle John; the other apostle James, the son of Alphaeus, called the less; and James, the half-brother of Christ, possibly the author of the Book of James.
- The name "James" is actually Jacob, or specifically Jacobus in Greek - g2385, Ἰάκωβος Iakōbos.
- James, the son of Zebedee, was one of the first apostles being called by Christ, after Andrew and Peter.
- Mat 4:18 KJV And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. 19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. 20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. 21 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. 22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.
- James, the son of Zebedee, was the first apostle to be martyred.
- Acts 12:1 KJV Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. 2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.
- He was killed by Herod around 44 AD, before the apostle Paul's ministry.
- Thus, James, one of the Pillars in Galatians 2 is not the son of Zebedee. It would seem after the martyrdom, that Jacobus, the half-brother of Christ, assumed the leadership role.
- Gal 1:18 ESV Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas (Peter) and remained with him fifteen days. 19 But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.
- Speaking of Christ's resurrection, Paul also writes:
- 1 Cor 15:5 KJV He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve...7 After that, he was seen of James (the half-brother of Christ); then of all the apostles. 8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. 9 For I am the least of the apostles.

\*What have we learned?

- The first disciples of Christ were Andrew, Peter, James - the son of Zebedee, and John; two sets of brothers. They were considered the 4 pillars of the Ekklesia. But then we see a shift taking place **in the order of the 4 pillars** with Andrew being replaced by Paul, and James/Jacobus, the half-brother of Christ, assuming the leadership role after the martyrdom of James, the son of Zebedee. All four wrote epistles. The 4 Pillars are important as we continue to study the order of the Camp of the Saints and how they appear in New Jerusalem. New Jerusalem is the structure of the Bride with the wall that has 12 foundations. The 12 foundations are the 12 Apostles with Christ being the Chief Cornerstone. The 12 Apostles were promised in Matthew 19 to judge the 12 Tribes of Israel. Don't we want to know their order and which Apostle will judge which Tribe?

**Have a blessed week as we continue to watch and pray, and obey the voice that came out of the Throne, saying Praise our God, all you His servants, both small and great!**