

The Messiah's coming may not be visible to all

This Sabbath day I want to present you with how the Messiah will come. After all, one of the reasons Yeshua's followers keep the Sabbath is because it looks forward to the Millennial Sabbath and the Messiah's earthly reign. This will require a fresh look at some Scriptures and also a paradigm shift in our understanding. Nevertheless, the earliest stage of Yeshua's appearing is in full progress, and the revealing of Yeshua Messiah is what the Kingdom of Heaven is all about.

In order for us to be aware of Yeshua's coming, we are going to have to understand that in some ways the Messiah's coming is going to be more spiritual than physical. This may be a hard thing to accept because it goes against the popular notion of the "Second Coming" or a universally visible revelation of YHWH's Son. It is worth mentioning that the term "second coming" can't be found anywhere in the Scriptures nor that other favored term "the rapture". Let me assure you however, that Yeshua's coming is entirely real and it is something that we should be looking for with much anticipation for Yeshua should be at the very core of our beliefs and overwhelmingly vital to our experience. More than anything else, we should want to know Him at His coming.

How will the Messiah come? Many have assumed that His coming will be visible. But, Yeshua said that, "[The reign of Elohim does not come with intent watching](#)" or "[The kingdom of Elohim is not coming with observation](#)" or "[The kingdom of Elohim does not come visibly](#)" (various translations of Luke 17:20). Yeshua's own words contradict that His return would be obvious to all. Yeshua also said, "[Days will come when you shall long to see one of the days of the Son of Adam, but you shall not see it](#)" (vs 22). Yeshua's words should warn us that if we are waiting for an obvious and dramatic return of the Messiah, we are going to be disappointed if not misled. (See vs 23).

The great mystery which Paul elaborated with such care, is the mystery of "Messiah in you". "[Elohim desired to make known the riches of the esteem of this secret among the gentiles: which is Messiah in you, the expectancy of esteem](#)" (Co.1 1:27). "Messiah in you" is a term used no less than 32 times in the Messianic Scriptures and implies great hope, power and purpose. Elsewhere, Paul made it known that "[The intense longing of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of Elohim....that the creation itself also shall be delivered....into the esteemed freedom of the children of Elohim](#)" (Rom. 8:19,21).

["Then the sign of the Son of Adam shall appear in the heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth shall mourn, and they shall see the Son of Adam coming on the clouds of heaven with power and much esteem"](#) (Matt. 24:30). This verse is usually understood as a reference to the Messiah's visible appearance at the beginning of the Millennium. Hebrews 12:1 however, uses the phrase, "[Having](#)

so great a cloud of witnesses around us." Furthermore, in reference to the calling out of Israel, the prophet Ezekiel says:

"As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so I shall seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered in a day of cloud and thick darkness" (34:12).

My fellow Mennonites, we are certainly living in the day of thick darkness. Most Christians are waiting for a visible coming of the Messiah if not for a "rapture" out of this world. Yet, in this same day, Yeshua is calling the lost sheep of the house of Israel from out of the world and its false religious system. Many thousands are returning to Elohim and to His righteous commandments, and believing that Elohim is keeping His ancient promises to Abraham. Some are saying that the Millennium began in 1996 and for good reason. The Messiah's appearing is invisible for most professing Christians, however, and many do not want to enter into His kingdom. And yet, Yeshua is coming in His cloud of witnesses.

Shalom