



Identifying the Tribe of Levi Pt. III

The words of Levi

THE TESTAMENT OF LEVI, THE THIRD SON OF JACOB AND LEAH 1 1 The copy of the words of Levi, the things which he ordained unto his sons, according to all that 2 they should do, and what things should befall them until the day of judgement. He was sound in health when he called them to him; for it had been revealed to him that he should die. And when they were gathered together he said to them: 2 1, 2 I, Levi, was born in Haran, and I came with my father to Shechem. And I was young, about twelve years of age, when, with Simeon, I wrought vengeance on Hamor for our sister Dinah. And when I was feeding the flocks in Abel-Maul, the spirit of understanding of the Lord came upon me, and I saw all men corrupting their way, and that unrighteousness had built for itself walls, and lawlessness 4 sat upon towers. And I was grieving for the race of the sons of men, and I prayed to 5 the Lord that I might be saved.

Levi 2:5-10

Then there fell upon me a sleep, and I beheld a high mountain, and 6 I was upon it. And behold the heavens were opened and an angel of Alahayim said to me, Levi enter 7 And I entered from the first heaven, and I saw there a great sea hanging. 8 And further I saw a second heaven far brighter and more brilliant, for there was a boundless light also therein.



9 And I said to the angel, Why Is this so? And the angel said to me, Marvel not at this, for thou shalt see another heaven more brilliant and incomparable. 10 And when thou hast ascended thither, Thou shalt stand near the Lord, And shalt be His minister, And shalt declare His mysteries to men And shall proclaim concerning Him that shall redeem Israel. 11 And by thee and Judah shall the Lord appear among men Saving every race of men. 12 And from the Lord's portion shall be thy life, And He shall be thy field and vineyard, And fruits, gold, and silver.

Levi 3:1-5

Hear, therefore, regarding the heavens which have been shown to thee. The lowest is for this cause gloomy unto thee, in that it beholds all the unrighteous deeds of men. 2 And it has fire, snow, and ice made ready for the day of judgement, in the righteous judgement of Alahayim; for in it are all the spirits of the retributions for vengeance on men. 3 And in the second are the hosts of the armies which are ordained for the day of judgement, to work vengeance on the spirits of deceit and of Beliar. And above them are the holy ones. 4 And in the highest of all dwelleth the Great Glory, far above all holiness. 5 In [the heaven next to] it are the archangels, who minister and make propitiation to the Lord for all the sins of ignorance of the righteous; Offering to the Lord a sweet smelling savour, a reasonable and a bloodless offering. Sir 35:3 To depart from wickedness is a thing pleasing to the Lord; and to forsake unrighteousness is a propitiation.

Psa 50:23

Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of Alahayim.



Praise H8426

תודה

toodah From H3034; properly an extension of the hand, that is, (by implication) avowal, or (usually) adoration; specifically a choir of worshippers: - confession, (sacrifice of) praise, thanks (-giving, offering).

Testament of Levi 3;5

In [the heaven next to] it are the archangels, who minister and make propitiation to the Lord for all the sins of ignorance of the righteous;

Pro 28:13

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Psa 32:5

I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto Ahayah; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

Confess H3034

ידה yodah

A primitive root; used only as denominative from H3027; literally to use (that is, hold out) the hand; physically to throw (a stone, an arrow) at or away; especially to revere or worship (with extended hands); intensively to bemoan (by wringing the hands): - cast (out), (make) confess (-ion), praise, shoot, (give) thank (-ful, -s, -sgiving).



Jer 3:12

Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith Ahayah; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith Ahayah, and I will not keep anger for ever.

Jer 3:13

Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against Ahayah thy Alahayim, and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree, and ye have not obeyed my voice, saith Ahayah.

Job 33:27

He looketh upon men, and if any say, I have sinned, and perverted that which was right, and it profited me not;

Psa 51:17

The sacrifices of Alahayim are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O Alahayim, thou wilt not despise.

Job 33:28

He will deliver his soul from going into the pit, and his life shall see the light.

1Jn 1:7-9

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Yache Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



Psa 50:14

Offer unto Alahayim thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:

Testament of Levi 3:7-10

7 And [in the heaven below this] are the angels who bear answers to the angels of the presence of the Lord. 8 And in the heaven next to this are thrones and dominions, in which always they offer praise to Alahayim. 9 When, therefore, the Lord looketh upon us, all of us are shaken; yea, the heavens, and the earth, and the abysses are shaken at the presence of His majesty. 10 But the sons of men, having no perception of these things sin and provoke the Most High.

Levi 4:1-2

4 1 Now, therefore, know that the Lord shall execute judgment upon the sons of men. Because when the rocks are being rent, And the sun quenched, And the waters dried up, And the fire cowering, And all creation troubled, And the invisible spirits melting away; And Hades taketh spoils through the visitations of the Most High, Men will be unbelieving and persist in their iniquity. On this account with punishment shall they be judged. 2 Therefore the Most High hath heard thy prayer, To separate thee from iniquity, and that thou shouldst become to Him a son, And a servant, and a minister of His presence and that thou shouldst become to Him a son, And a servant, and a minister of His presence.

Levi 4:3 3

The light of knowledge shalt thou light up in Jacob, And as the sun shalt thou be to all the seed of Israel.



Testament of Levi 14:3

3 For as the heaven is purer in the Lord's sight than the earth, so also be ye, the lights of Israel, shall be as the sun, (purer) than all the Gentiles.

Mal 4:2

But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

Testament of Benjamin 8:3

3 For as the sun is not defiled by shining on dung and mire, but rather drieth up both and driveth away the evil smell; so also the pure mind, though encompassed by the defilements of earth, rather cleanseth (them) and is not itself defiled.

Barnabas 4:10

Let us flee from all vanity, let us entirely hate the works of the evil way. Do not entering in privily stand apart by yourselves, as if ye were already justified, but assemble yourselves together and consult concerning the common welfare.

Barnabas 4:11

For the scripture saith; Woe unto them that are wise for themselves, and understanding in their own sight. Let us become spiritual, let us become a temple perfect unto Alahayim. As far as in us lies, let us exercise ourselves in the fear of Alahayim, [and] let us strive to keep His commandments, that we may rejoice in His ordinances.



Testament of Levi 4:4

And there shall be given to thee a blessing, and to all thy seed, Until the Lord shall visit all the Gentiles in His tender mercies for ever.

Act 3:26

Unto you first Alahayim, having raised up his Son Yache, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

Testament of Levi 4:5

5 And therefore there have been given to thee counsel and understanding, That thou mightst instruct thy sons concerning this; 6 Because they that bless Him shall be blessed, And they that curse Him shall perish.

Levi 5:1-7

5 1 And thereupon the angel opened to me the gates of heaven, and I saw the holy temple, and upon 2 a throne of glory the Most High. And He said to me: Levi, I have given thee the blessings of the 3 priesthood until I come and sojourn in the midst of Israel. Then the angel brought me down to the earth, and gave me a shield and a sword, and said to me: Execute vengeance on Shechem because 4 of Dinah, thy sister, and I will be with thee because the Lord hath sent me. And I destroyed at 5 that time the sons of Hamor, as it is written in the heavenly tables. And I said to him: I pray 6 thee, O Lord, tell me Thy name, that I may call upon Thee in a day of tribulation. And he said: I am the angel who intercedeth for the nation of Israel that they may not be smitten utterly, 7 for every evil spirit attacketh it. And after these things I awaked, and blessed the Most High, and the angel who intercedeth for the nation of Israel and for all the righteous.



6 1 And when I was going to my father, I found a brazen shield; wherefore also the name of the 2 mountain is Aspis, which is near Gebal, to the south of Abila And I kept these words in my 3 heart. And after this I counselled my father, and Reuben my brother, to bid the sons of Hamor not to be circumcised; for I was zealous because of the abomination which they had wrought on 4, 5 my sister.

- Zealous: filled with or showing a strong and energetic desire to get something done or see something succeed:

And I slew Shechem first, and Simeon slew Hamor. And after this my brothers 6 came and smote that city with the edge of the sword. And my father heard these things and was wroth, and he was grieved in that they had received the circumcision, and after that had been 7 put to death, and in his blessings he looked amiss upon us. For we sinned because we had done 8 this thing against his will, and he was sick on that day. But I saw that the sentence of Alahayim was for evil upon Shechem; for they sought to do to Sarah and Rebecca as they had done to Dinah our 9 sister, but the Lord prevented them. And they persecuted Abraham our father when he was a stranger, and they vexed his flocks when they were big with young; and Eblaen, who was born in his 10 house, they most shamefully handled. And thus they did to all strangers, taking away their 11 wives by force, and they banished them. But the wrath of the Lord came upon them to the uttermost. 7 1 And I said to my father Jacob: By thee will the Lord despoil the Canaanites, and will give 2 their land to thee and to thy seed after thee. For from this day forward shall Shechem be 3 called a city of imbeciles; for as a man mocketh a fool, so did we mock them. Because also 4 they had wrought folly in Israel by defiling my sister. And we departed and came to Bethel. 8 1, 2 And there again I saw a vision as the former, after we had spent there seventy days. And I saw seven men in white raiment saying unto me: Arise, put on the robe of the priesthood, and the crown of righteousness, and the breastplate of understanding, and the garment of truth, and the plate of faith, and the 3 turban of the head, and the ephod of prophecy.



And they severally carried (these things) and put (them,) on me, and said unto me: From henceforth become a priest of the Lord, thou and thy seed for 4, 5 ever. And the first anointed me with holy oil, and gave to me the staff of judgment. The second washed me with pure water, and fed me with bread and wine (even) the most holy things, and clad 6, 7 me with a holy and glorious robe. The third clothed me with a linen vestment like an ephod. The 8, 9 fourth put round me a girdle like unto purple. The fifth gave me a branch of rich olive. The sixth 10 placed a crown on my head. The seventh placed on my head a diadem of priesthood, and filled my 11 hands with incense, that I might serve as priest to the Lord Alahayim. And they said to me: Levi, thy 12 seed shall be divided into three offices, for a sign of the glory of the Lord who is to come. And the 13 first portion shall be great; yea, greater than it shall none be. The second shall be in the priesthood. 14 And the third shall be called by a new name, because a king shall arise in Judah, and shall 15 establish a new priesthood, after the fashion of the Gentiles [to all the Gentiles]. And His presence is beloved, as a prophet of the Most High, of the seed of Abraham our father. 16 Therefore, every desirable thing in Israel shall be for thee and for thy seed, And ye shall eat everything fair to look upon, And the table of the Lord shall thy seed apportion. 17 And some of them shall be high priests, and judges, and scribes; For by their mouth shall the holy place be guarded. 18, 19 And when I awoke, I understood that this (dream) was like the first dream. And I hid this also in my heart, and told it not to any man upon the earth. And I hid this also in my heart, and told it not to any man upon the earth. Chapter 9 1, 2 And after two days I and Judah went up with our father Jacob to Isaac our father's father. And my father's father blessed me according to all the words of the visions which I had seen. And he would not come with us to Bethel

Chapter 9:5And so we came to Hebron to dwell there. 6 And Isaac called me continually to put me in remembrance of the law of the Lord, even as the 7 angel of the Lord showed unto me. And he taught me the law of the priesthood, of sacrifices, 8 whole burnt-offerings, first- fruits, freewill-offerings, peace-offerings.



Appendix of the Testament of Levi 1:11-18

11. And we went from Bethel and lodged in the castle of Abraham our father, with Isaac our father. 12. And Isaac our father saw us all, and he blessed us and rejoiced. 13. And when he knew that I was priest of the Most High Ala, the Lord of heaven, he began to charge me and teach me the rights of the priesthood, and said to me, 14. “Levi, take heed to thyself, my son, my son, against all defilement and all sin. Thy rights are greater than those of all flesh. 15. And now, my son, I will show thee the rule of the truth, and will not hide from thee any matter to inform thee in the rights of the priesthood. 16. First, take heed to thyself, my son, against all lust and uncleanness, and against all fornication.

Testament of Judah 17

Chapter 17 1 And I know what evils ye will do in the last days. 2 Beware, therefore, my children, of fornication, and the love of money, and hearken to Judah your father. 3 For these things withdraw you from the law of Alahayim, and blind the inclination of the soul, and teach arrogance, and suffer not a man to have compassion upon his neighbour. 4 They rob his soul of all goodness, and oppress him with toils and troubles, and drive away sleep from him, and devour his flesh. 5 And he hindereth the sacrifices of Alahayim; And he remembereth not the blessing of Alahayim, he hearkeneth not to a prophet when he speaketh, and resenteth the words of holiness. 6 For he is a slave to two contrary passions, and cannot obey Alahayim, because they have blinded his soul, And he walketh in the day as in the night.

Rueben 6:4

For in fornication 5 there is neither understanding nor holiness, and all jealousy dwelleth in the lust thereof.

Simeon 5:3 3 Beware, therefore, of fornication, For fornication is mother of all evils, Separating from Alahayim, and bringing near to Beliar.



Testament of Reuben 4:5-11 Therefore, my children, I say unto you, observe all things 6 whatsoever I command you, and ye shall not sin. For a pit unto the soul is the sin of fornication, separating it from Alahayim, and bringing it near to idols, because it deceiveth the mind and understanding, 7 and leadeth young men into hades before their time. For many hath fornication destroyed; because, though a man be old or noble, or rich or poor, he bringeth reproach upon 8 himself with the sons of men and derision with Beliar. For ye heard regarding Joseph how he guarded himself from a woman, and purged his thoughts from all fornication, and found favour in 9 the sight of Alahayim and men. For the Egyptian woman did many things unto him, and summoned 10 magicians, and offered him love potions, but the purpose of his soul admitted no evil desire. Therefore 11 the Alahayim of your fathers delivered him from every evil (and) hidden death. For if fornication overcomes not your mind, neither can Beliar overcome you.

Testament of Reuben 6:1-5

1 Beware, therefore, of fornication; and if you wish to be pure in mind, guard your senses from every 2 woman. And command the women likewise not to associate with men, that they also may be pure 3 in mind. For constant meetings, even though the unholy deed be not wrought, are to them an 4 irremediable disease, and to us a destruction of Beliar and an eternal reproach.

Reueben 4:1

4 1 Pay no heed, therefore, my children, to the beauty of women, nor set your mind on their affairs; but walk in singleness of heart in the fear of the Lord, and expend labour on good works, and on study and on your flocks, until the Lord give you a wife, whom He will, that ye suffer not as I did.



Appendix of the testament of Levi 1:17-18

17. And do thou take to thyself a wife of my family, and defile not thy seed with harlots; for thou art a holy seed, and holy is thy seed like the holy place, for a holy priest art thou called among all the seed of Abraham. 18. Thou art nigh to Alahayim and nigh to all His holy ones. Now be thou pure in thy flesh from every defilement of all men.

Testament of Levi 9:9-10

And each day he was instructing me, and was busied on my behalf before the Lord, and said to me: Beware of the spirit of 10 fornication; for this shall continue and shall by thy seed pollute the holy place. Take, therefore, to thyself a wife without blemish or pollution, while yet thou art young, and not of the race of 11 strange nations.

Testament of Levi 9:3

And 3 he would not come with us to Bethel. And when we came to Bethel, my father saw a vision 4 concerning me, that I should be their priest unto Alahayim. And he rose up early in the morning, 5 and paid tithes of all to the Lord through me.

Sir 1:30

Exalt not thyself, lest thou fall, and bring dishonour upon thy soul, and so Alahayim discover thy secrets, and cast thee down in the midst of the congregation, because thou camest not in truth to the fear of the Lord, but thy heart is full of deceit.