



Beth Melekh Messiah Following Jewish Community

GRASPING by Yaakov Brown (mixed media)



Kia Ora, and *Shalom* Dear friends,

The gift of this art, created by Yaakov Brown, is paid for and given by the *Beit Melekh* (House of a King) Messiah Following Community as a reciprocal act of unity toward the Maori people and the ministry of Maori Initiatives.

When I was asked to consider painting an image for the face of the Maori Initiatives *Melki Tzedek* Marae project I was greatly humbled, honoured and excited.

I had explained to Steve early on in your journey as a group, of trying to properly understand *Melki Tzedek* the historical figure, that he is **a type** for the Messiah, but is **not** the Messiah. Therefore, I struggled with how I would paint a face for the Marae and stay true to Scripture and to the King Messiah *Yeshua*.

I prayed and attempted different works of art but was not satisfied that what I was creating was of God, for this particular expression of His work in you. After several days I had almost given up on being able to do the work required. At this point I went walking with my wife Julia and while walking I saw an open vision of the image you now see. This was unusual because when God has given me visions like this in the past I have always been alone. On this occasion the unity between my wife and I was an important aspect to the vision because it revealed potential unity between God, the Messiah, the Spirit, Israel (Jews) and Maori.

On returning home from our walk I immediately began to draw the vision and then scanned and digitized it to complete the art with digital media. The result is the image of the hand grasping the *tzit tzit* (tassels) of *Yeshua's Tallit* (Prayer shawl).

Immediately it occurred to me that the vision was not of *Melki Tzedek** the historical figure [Genesis 14], who was not a Jew and did not wear *tallit* or *tzit tzit*. The LORD affirmed this, and that *Yeshua* is to be the focus of this Marae, and the historical figure *Melki Tzedek* is to be seen as a figure pointing to *Yeshua* and not *Yeshua* Himself.

***I see the *Melki Tzedek* Marae as using the Figurative interpretation of the name *Melki* (My King) *Tzedek* (of Righteousness) to represent *Yeshua*, Who is our King of Righteousness.**

Therefore, the gift of this prophetic art to the Maori Initiatives *Melki Tzedek* Marae project comes with a warning from the LORD YHVH (Mercy).

Melchizedek is Not Yeshua

I Believe I am responsible as a spiritual advisor to Maori Initiatives to speak truth to the community of leaders of Maori Initiatives. Therefore, I must state clearly that to misrepresent *Yeshua* by saying that the historical person *Melki Tzedek* is *Yeshua*, is blasphemy. Here's why:

The Scripture states clearly:

*"And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the **priest of the most high God.**" -Genesis 14:18*

*"The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever **after the order of Melchizedek.**" -Psalm 110:4*

*"where Yeshua has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever **according to the order of Melchizedek.**" -Hebrews 6:20*

*"This Melchizedek was **king of Salem** and **priest of God Most High**. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, ² and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, **the interpretation** of the name Melchizedek means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace." ³ **Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest continually.**" -Hebrew 7:1-3*

First, *Melki Tzedek* is an historical **human king of Salem** (the then capital of Jebus [a pagan name for Jerusalem associated to a false deity]) not descended from Abram. At that time in history numerous false deities were worshipped on the mount in Jerusalem (Jebus), none of whom were YHVH. Therefore, the Hebrew text specifies that *Melki Tzedek* did not know the God of Israel as YHVH, but by a generic title ***El Elyon*** (God most high, or the God above all gods). Has there ever been a point at which *Yeshua* has not known God as YHVH? The answer is absolutely not. Thus, *Melki Tzedek* the historical figure is not *Yeshua*.

Second, both the psalmist and the kohen (priest) who authored the book of Hebrews state clearly that *Yeshua* the King Messiah is a priest **after THE ORDER** of (Like) *Melki Tzedek* (the historical human priest who ministered to Abram), and not literally *Melki Tzedek*. If the Holy Spirit had intended us to understand *Yeshua* to literally be *Melki Tzedek* He would have authored the words "priest, who is the same as *Melki Tzedek*" or "*Yeshua* is *Melki Tzedek*..." or something likewise definitive. He did not.

Third, the kohen (priest) that authored the book of Hebrews makes it clear that he is using the historical human king *Melki Tzedek* as a *drash* (comparative teaching), a figurative comparison. He writes "**the interpretation of the name *Melki Tzedek***", using the meaning of the name as a spiritual mystery expounding the character of the King Messiah, Who is "My King of Righteousness" by nature, but is not the literal historical person *Melki Tzedek* the king of Salem in Jebus. **The interpretation of my daughter AzarYah's name** is "My Helper is YHVH" this points to YHVH as our Helper (the Holy Spirit), but it does not make my daughter the Holy Spirit.

Fourth, Messiah is never "pre incarnate" in the Hebrew Scripture. He appears resurrected, transcendent and unbound by time and space as "the Angel of the presence" (to Abram, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Manoah etc.) but is never represented as a specific historical personage (this excludes *Melki Tzedek* the historical figure from being a transcendent incarnation of *Yeshua*).

Fifth, the historical figure *Melki Tzedek* was not a Jew. The King Messiah Who reigns as High Priest over all peoples must first be a Jew (of Judah, as the writer of Hebrews specifies [Heb. Chpts 6 & 7]) or He is no High Priest at all. This fact alone makes it impossible for *Melki Tzedek* the historical king of Salem (a non-Jew) to be the Messiah *Yeshua* "pre incarnate" or otherwise. The priesthood of *Yeshua* unifies the kingship and priesthood of Israel, subjecting the priesthood of Israel to the priesthood after **THE ORDER** of *Melki Tzedek*.

Sixth, when the text of the book of Hebrews says "Without father or mother, without genealogy" it does not mean that *Melki Tzedek* the historical person was literally without these things but that the *Torah* does not record his genealogy because he is not part of the genealogical record that points to the historical/religious progression of the Jewish people (Israel).

The wider context of Scripture, the context of the text of the book of Hebrews and the poetic language of the Psalmist, all explain clearly that *Yeshua* the King Messiah will be "**like**" but **not** the same person as *Melki Tzedek* the historical figure (Genesis 14).

The Scripture **DOES NOT** teach that *Yeshua* is *Melki Tzedek*, but that His priesthood is **after THE ORDER of *Melki Tzedek*** because *Yeshua's* priesthood which is **LIKE** that of *Melki Tzedek* is a priesthood over all ethnicities and **like** the priesthood of *Melki Tzedek*, which **appears** to continue perpetually, *Yeshua's* priesthood is everlasting.

As I have stated previously, to say that the historical figure *Melki Tzedek* of the *Tanakh* (OT) is *Yeshua* is blasphemous, idolatry, and those that teach it do so at their peril.

If Melchizedek Has Been Misunderstood in this Process, What is the solution?

Any who have taught or mis concluded that *Melki Tzedek* the historical figure is literally *Yeshua* need to repent.

It should be made clear that the Marae is named after **THE ORDER of Melki Tzedek**, and therefore represents *Yeshua* but does not represent Him as the literal historic person *Melchizedek* of the Genesis account. It is of utmost importance that *Yeshua* is not said to be the same person as *Melki Tzedek* the historical person. As I said, to say so contradicts Scripture and is idolatry.

This said, if you can accept this teaching, the blessing that comes with a right understanding is significant.

When praying about what I should paint for the face of the Marae, God gave me an open vision of the hand of the Maori people grasping the *tzitzit* (tassels) of *Yeshua's tallit* (Prayer shawl). **The LORD then said to me:**

“Thus says the Adonay Tzevaot (Lord Who goes warring): ‘In those days it shall come to pass that ten men out of all the languages of the nations shall take hold, even shall take hold of the *tzit tzit* of him that is a Jew, saying, “We will go with you, for we have heard that *Elohim* God (the Judge) is with you.”’” -Zechariah 8:23

He said, **"If they will honour My Son and My people, I will honour them..."**

Then He reminded me of these verses:

"And, behold, a woman, who was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind *him*, and touched the *tzit tzit* (tassels) of his *tallit* (prayer shawl): For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. And *Yeshua* turned around, and when he saw her, he said, ‘Daughter, be of good comfort; your faith has made you whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.’” -Matthew 9:20-22

He said, **"If they will honour My Son and My people, I will make them whole..."**

The Symbolism of the artwork is as follows:

The Colours in the artwork:

White is the immutably pure King Messiah *Yeshua*. The Light of God. It is the *tallit*, the Israeli flag.

Blue is the *Shamash* (Servant strand) that represents Messiah the Word, it is the living waters of God. Cleansing.

Red is the blood of the King Messiah and the land of the Maori people.

Black is the firm outline of *Torah* (Instruction), the mark set by God. The black lines are the godly boundaries set by godly Maori leaders.

White and Blue represent **Israel**

Black and Red represent **Maori**

The colours intertwined represent the godly unity made possible through the blood of the King Messiah *Yeshua*.

The **grey** background is the sin affected world that we are called to minister to.

Tzit Tzit (tassels of the prayer shawl) represent the Word of God, held together by *Yeshua* (the blue *shamash*, servant strand). The 5 knots are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy. Each of the rings of cord wrapped between the knots represent books of the Bible.

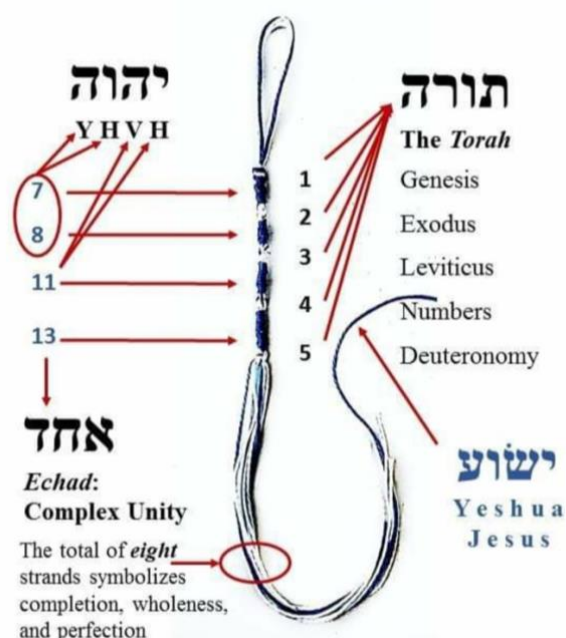


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In Messiah *Yeshua*,

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