

Response to Dreamily Resonant VIP's "Jewish Response" to my Work on Cessationism being incompatible with Torah-keeping

By *Inescapable Reality*

© 9/2/2020 *Inescapable Reality*. All Rights Reserved



Pinned by Inescapable Reality

Dreamily Resonant VIP 4 days ago

A Jewish Response.

1) Rabbis claim that the Age of Holy Spirit (Ruach Hakodesh) type prophetic Revelation, has come to an end with the death of the final generation that had been born during the time the First Temple was still standing, those being the last prophets; Ezra Nehemiah Zechariah etc.

This may be the case. I don't know of any reliable prophets that came after. But there may have been some that just weren't given the task of giving new written Scripture authority type revelation. Example, Josephus talks about one who seemed to be:

“[T]here was one Jesus, the son of Ananus, a plebeian and a husbandman, who, four years before the war began, and at a time when the city was in very great peace and prosperity, came to that feast whereon it is our custom for everyone to make tabernacles to God in the temple, began on a sudden to cry aloud, “A voice from the east, a voice from the west, a voice from the four winds, a voice against Jerusalem and the holy house, a voice against the bridegroom and the bride, and a voice against this whole people!” This was his cry, as he went about by day and by night, in all the lanes of the city. However, certain of the most eminent among the populace had great indignation at this dire cry of his, and took up the man, and gave him a great number of severe stripes; yet did not he either say anything for himself, or anything peculiar to those that chastised him, but still went on with the same words which he cried before. Hereupon our rulers, supposing, as the case proved to be, that this was a sort of divine fury in the man, brought him to the Roman procurator, where he was whipped till his bones were laid bare; yet he did not make any supplication for himself, nor shed any tears, but turning his voice to the most lamentable tone possible, at every stroke of the whip his answer was, “Woe, woe to Jerusalem!” And when Albinus (for he was then our procurator) asked him who he was, and whence he came, and why he uttered such words; he made no manner of reply to what he said, but still did not leave off his melancholy ditty, till Albinus took him to be a madman, and dismissed him. Now, during all the time that passed before the war began,

this man did not go near any of the citizens, nor was seen by them while he said so; but he every day uttered these lamentable words, as if it were his premeditated vow, “Woe, woe to Jerusalem!” Nor did he give ill words to any of those that beat him every day, nor good words to those that gave him food; but this was his reply to all men, and indeed no other than a melancholy presage of what was to come. This cry of his was the loudest at the festivals; and he continued this ditty for seven years and five months, without growing hoarse, or being tired therewith, until the very time that he saw his presage in earnest fulfilled in our siege, when it ceased; for as he was going round upon the wall, he cried out with his utmost force, “Woe, woe to the city again, and to the people, and to the holy house!” And just as he added at the last, “Woe, woe to myself also!” there came a stone out of one of the engines, and smote him, and killed him immediately; and as he was uttering the very same presages he gave up the ghost.” – Josephus *The Wars of the Jews* 6.5.3.

It seems to me that this guy might have really been anointed by YHWH as a prophet as a warner to the people of Israel about the coming judgment through the Roman invasion of Jerusalem.

2) The main reason for it being, the loss of the ash of the red heifer that cleanses from the impurity of death. As long as such impurity is found, there can technically be no Ruach Hakodesh type prophetic revelation.

I’m not sure where in the Hebrew Bible you are getting this from. If it’s just from tradition, I wouldn’t give too much credibility to it; especially if you’re taking this as some absolute reason. It could be that the uncleanness of the People due to not being clean due to the lack of the sacrifice is one general factor among the other factors that motivates God in hiding his face from them and thus not being among them in some way, but I don’t think that’s a necessity, and that if God really wants or feels a strong need to, that he can’t give revelation in some way, like through an angel or prophet, or do some miraculous sign or something. Did all the Patriarchs before Moses have the Red Heifer ash? Maybe they did, it doesn’t say. But it’s likely not all of them did, or always, if any. Also, Israel had multiple times before the Babylonian exile gone into captivity and there were also times when they even had completely Torah-less kings rule over them. One time the Torah was even lost while there was a good king over Israel, Josiah. There were times when there was no king in Israel and everyone did what was right in their own eyes and yet prophet judges were sent to Israel. I really doubt in these previous exiles and apostasies prior to the Babylonian exile that they always had the red heifer ashes. Hagar also was of the Hamitic Goyim and yet YHWH felt he could send an angel to her. Balaam was not an Israelite but from the Nations and also a sinful man, and yet he was a true prophet of YHWH.

3) However there are many Jewish mystical methods to achieve revelation that can and are worked to this very day, but they are on a lower level and thus cannot be 100% trustworthy.

I doubt it. Deuteronomy 18 forbids Israel from divining using mystical, i.e. occult methods to acquire knowledge like the Nations do but to instead get hidden knowledge from the revelation of YHWH through a prophet he has ordained. I think we'd just be better off reading and studying the Bible and using good reading comprehension and rational thinking while obeying the Torot and requesting and waiting for YHWH to stop hiding his face. If YHWH is hiding his face and has stopped his spirit messengers from coming to us and telling us things, then what is giving you this secret knowledge through these occult practices? Is it rebellious spirits? Or is it your own imagination that you are assuming is revelation? Either way, how can true revelation from YHWH not be fully reliable?

4) Bitter Water.

How can this be argued against cessationism, if the qualifier that technically prevents such a ritual to be conducted is not the cessation of prophecy/miracles but the technical lacking of a TEMPLE, as it is clear from the very passages you quote, that such a ritual absolutely requires a TEMPLE! With or without cessation in mind, there cannot be a Bitter Water Ritual without a Temple. So without a Temple, Torah keeping Israelites would just have to make do without a Temple and resort to actual evidence being brought forth in order to accuse a woman of cheating. For us Jews it is not a matter of there being found priests or not, but there being a Temple or not.

So from this point up to the rest, it seems like I was not clear enough on some of the things I was saying. I'll have to clarify those. I'm thinking Drake and plenty of others misunderstood them too.

I'm not saying that we can't be practical and keep the things we can keep and do our best with what we have in the unideal situation we currently find ourselves in. I'm not saying that the Torah teaches that we can just throw our hands up in the air and give up as if it is hopeless now and give up trying to keep anything since we cannot keep everything. I can show many places in the Tanakh which teach against this. But for this I won't go that deep but will just point to Deuteronomy 30 where it says that when God exiles Israel, when they realize what has happened to them, and if they keep all the commandments written in the Torah, that God will once again bring them back to their homeland and restore them as before and bless them again. Obviously they can't literally do all of the commandments while in exile because to literally do some of them you need to be in the Land and with the right conditions in that land. Obviously God means to do everything that applies in their situation and can be reasonably done. All I mean when I'm saying that Cessationists (and I was mainly talking about Messianic ones) cannot keep the Torah,

is that they can never keep it to the Letter, like actually ever fully keep it the way it was intended and is necessary to keep when one is in their homeland with ideal conditions and able to establish a Torah theocracy. Such beliefs would cause people who believe like Drake style Messianics to not obey the Torah and actually to not even be biblical in seeking out revelation from God to give answers to questions on these issues. This is especially important and necessary as a Gentile wanting to take on the yoke of Torah in a foreign land. Especially if it's the entire nation wanting it to be their own national constitution, since the way it is written to the letter is actually strictly for Israel. Now I know with the help of the entire Tanakh info some of these things can be figured out without new revelation. But some are not so clear without the revelation, and without it, for the time we'd just have to be practical and do the best we can with the certain things and with the things uncertain as well if there's still some Scriptural rationale, but if the issue is too serious or dangerous to deal with like that, or just completely impossible, then to just leave it alone for the time being until we could get YHWH to respond. But yeah, I think it would be very foolish, atheistic, and unbelieving to not be seeking YHWH's involvement in these matters.

In my opinion, NT-believing Cessationists are just closet atheists. At least you Rabbinical Jews are admitting that these things can and will happen again once you can rebuild the Temple and whatnot under the conditions you believe you need. Drake believes they will never happen; that they can't. It's basically atheism to me. To me it exposes him as just using the Bible as a will to power. He's not fully a believer. Maybe on some level he believes. But he doesn't have enough assurance in it being true to have faith in such things happening in present time. It's like a cop-out excuse to become a god over the Bible yourself instead of God himself. I even think there is some of this attitude in Orthodox Judaism, like how they go out of their way to refuse to not return to the Holy Land because we have to wait for the Redemption first or it's a sin. I think a lot of rabbis don't really want redemption to happen, because the day Israel is restored to a theocracy with the Temple, Priesthood, Prophets, and Judges, that's the day Rabbinic Judaism loses its perceived authority.

5) Various Passages:

Deuteronomy 17 - Argues against your point, as when a matter is too difficult to make, the solution is to go to the LEARNED ELDERS be them priests or judges, and they will decide on the matter, it says nothing about them divining an answer from G-d.

Yes, you are right, that is the literal face-value meaning of the text. Well, it doesn't merely say learned elders. They should be learned elders, but they have to actually be ordained priests or judges, not just any learned elder. I just want to drive the point home so people don't think this includes rabbis who just proclaim themselves authorities and say you have to believe and do

everything they say, including that of their favorite sages of the past, or else you're a heretic. This is actually government stuff. Just want to be clear on that; that I'm not conceding to Rabbinical authority. It literally says to come to the place YHWH chooses to the Priest, Levite, and Judge that are there "in those days."

Now, I understand what you are saying, and I agree. All I meant by my citation of this is that the principle I'm talking about consistently follows from this text. If you have to go to the higher central authorities when local authorities can't deal with an issue, what about if even these higher human authorities can't deal with an issue? Obviously the next step is to go to God. It mentions the Priests and Levites, and they have the Urim and Thumim for that. And it also mentions the Judges, which some of them in Israel's history were also prophets. We know throughout Israel's history in the Land that they at times needed to consult with YHWH through these means to make certain decisions. That's all I'm saying. I recognize what the text is saying. I guess I should have clarified. But it is clarified now.

Urim and Tumim: This again is a matter of there BEING Urim and Tumim UNAVAILABLE, not at all a matter of cessationism.

Without such objects, the Israelites will just have to make do, a solution that could be offered: Deuteronomy 17 (see clarification above).

G-d Answering Verbally: Please contact G-d for us as it seems we not quite able to do so. Without his communications, we will just have to MAKE DO. Possible remedy: Deuteronomy 17 (See clarification above).

Prophets: Can you point to one? Could we test him to see if he is true? No? So we will just have to make do... Deut 17 (see clarification above). See points #1&2.

Functioning Without Prophecy: There is almost nothing hindering a Jew from keeping Torah in the exile. Since most controversies deal with matters that are only relevant when there is a functioning Israelite Monarchy and a functioning Temple... Thus it is a moot point, since when these controversies are to be solved when there will be a monarchy and a temple... There will be a temple!!! which would mean the return of prophecy (see points #1&2).

As I said to point 4, I agree that biblically we can and have to make do. Again, I'm not so much against your view of prophetic cessation as I am of Drake's Christian Calvinist version.

No, I can't point to a prophet today. If someone does arise claiming to be prophet we can test them, though. All he has to do is miracles and agree with the Bible and he passes the test.

As I said, I don't necessarily think we need your conditions to have prophecy today, though it's possible, even likely that's how it will turn out. I especially don't think this is necessarily the case with the Gentiles, but again, maybe it is and even likely is. I mean there is a chosen race that YHWH wants to operate through as a priesthood to the Nations. Problem is, right now you guys are doing a really shitty job and have been for a long time. You need to get your own shit together first before we can really take you seriously. And I don't think if there was a significant group of Gentiles in a certain geographic location all willing to come to the Torah that God would necessarily wait for you to wake up from your drunken slumber of apostasy to deal with them. It says the biblical God is open.

Conclusion:

Ezekiel 39:28-29

28 Then shall they know that I am the Lord their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.

29 Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God.

So as long G-d is hiding is face (what could that mean?) we just have to make do with the scholarly work of scholars delegated in Deuteronomy 17.

I don't think its mere scholars, man. The text is talking about the delegated authorities "in those days" when the issues come up in the Israelite theocracy.

As for you rhetorically asking what God hiding his face could mean as if to snub me and catch me as if my corporeal anthropomorphic view of God is proved wrong by such metaphors and is justification to take all statements of God's figure and body parts as anthropomorphic metaphors. The debate of the Century between Inescapable Reality and Dreamily Resonant VIP already happened on this issue. I think it is obvious who won it. I've explained this before. I don't deny that every time it mentions God's body parts it isn't always literal. You have to look at the context to see whether it is literal or metaphor. Obviously God hiding his face is not literal because he wasn't showing his literal face to Israel all the time when they were in the right so that when they sinned that he literally went away with his body and stopped showing his real face to them. This never happened and God actually said they can't see his face and live. But that implies he has one, but they just can't see it and live. Anyway, the metaphor makes perfect sense here because we're not dealing with a transcendent concept that has no predication. We're dealing with a God who is alive and acts. Thus, it means he takes his special relationship away from them and doesn't interact with them and give them his special favor anymore. Metaphors only work when there is comparison. Like I said, there is no comparison with an entity that is

totally other and in no way comparable to us. Metaphors are meant to convey meaning. The concept being used as a metaphor needs to have comparison to what it is being compared to. Both concepts must have qualifications and overlap in them. Here there is comparison because when people hide their faces from others and disappear, a lot of the time it is for the reason that a relationship has been broken. And again too, read Christopher Fisher's short article *anthropomorphisms depict fiction* on his blog *reality is not optional*. I'll add that anthropomorphisms also depict nonsense. I don't know how many times I have to explain this.

You can do better.

You may no longer be a Christian, but you definitely still hold to the mistrust of Orthodox Judaism injected into you by Christianity.

I can do better but meanwhile you guys won't even admit basic fundamental Bible truths. The way you word that makes it out to be that I just merely mistrust your authorities that you value without legit reasons. I think it is evident that this is not the case. You have serious problems with your Judaism. You go against God's oneness; you teach that it's okay to kill accused non-Jews with the conviction of only one witness in your Noachide laws; your Noachide laws are not biblical; you believe that it's okay to mutilate your own people's penises with Pariah (which has infected the medical establishment as the default mode of circumcision and thus also many Gentile babies are mutilated without their consent at the ignorance of doctors and parents, and also people who get circumcised as adults without this knowledge ignorantly do it to themselves); you hypocritically condemn Christians for essentially the same mystical Bible interpretation that you engage in; you call Goyim anti-Semitic and prideful against God when we make legit criticism of your people; a lot of you seem to think it's fine for you to have nationalism and tribalism but not us; your people are complacent in calling out a lot of the wrongs in their own people that they do recognize; a lot of these wrongs are wrongs to your host Gentile nations in diaspora; your "righteous" Rabbis like Rabbi Yaron Reuven charge \$10,000 for conversions; but conversion isn't even biblical anyway; you ruin the seed of Israel with your matrilineal descent and conversions; your mystical mental masturbation literally just takes focus off the Torah when you should be going back to Torah basics (which is why R. Samuel David Luzzatto claimed that it is the doctrine of incorporeality through its association with philosophy that leads to heresy, and thus felt that it would be infinitely better if Jews were to return to the simple belief in a corporeal God); and there's so much more I could point out. You'll have to earn my trust and respect. And thus, I leave you with these:

"It is better to take refuge in the LORD Than to trust in princes. ... Put not your trust in princes, Nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help." Psalm 118:9; 146:3 *JPS*