



# Logos Class

## *Deeper Studies I*

**Nov 30, 2025**

**Rooms 123/124 Adult Ed Building**

# Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Nov 23, 2025* - *Revelation Ch 22 Finish and Summary*
- ✓ *Nov 27, 2025* - *Thanksgiving*
- ✓ *Nov 30, 2025.* - *Deeper Study I*
- *Dec 2, 2025* - *Manor Lake - Christmas 1*
- *Dec 7, 2025* - *Deeper Study II*
- *Dec 14, 2025* - *Christmas Lesson 1*
- *Dec 16, 2025* - *Manor Lake – Christmas 2*
- *Dec 21, 2025* - *Christmas Lesson 2*



# Quick Update ...ICYMI

## *Israel and the Middle East*

- *One deceased Hostage remaining*
- *Israel cleaning up Gaza tunnels*
- *Israel preparing for Hezbollah strikes in Lebanon – Waiting for Pope to go home*
- *Iran has found a way to send arms to Lebanon*
- *The UN has approved the “Day After” plan for Gaza*
- *US and Saudi Arabia ties growing more tenuous due to Palestinian State discussion*

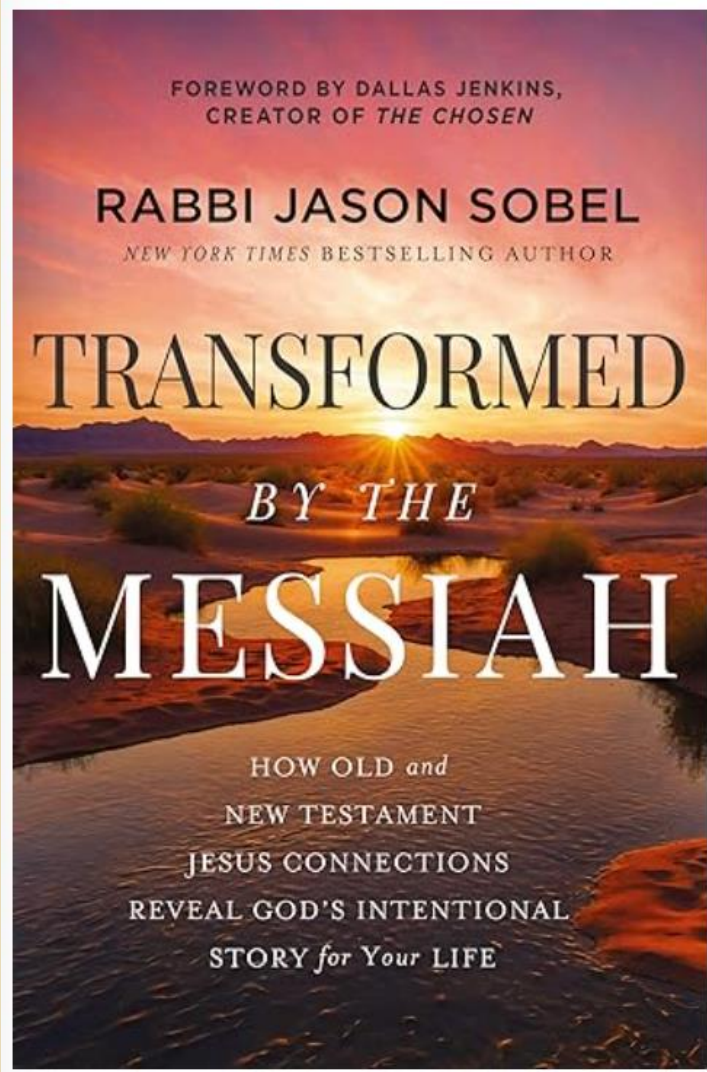
## *US, and Rest of the World*

- *No movement on Ukraine- Russia war. Possible settlement still alive*
- *Violence against US National Guard in DC.*
- *Escalation of war with Venezuela – Air Blockade, threats of ground war if Maduro does not leave.*

# Before we start today

- Last week, we ended our study of the Book of Revelation. All through the study I tried to take you deeper than the surface words to understand both the context, and the connections to other Bible verses that lay the foundation for understanding.
- In that study several key ideas kept in my mind to go deeper still and explain a few key concepts about our faith and what we believe. This has been on my mind since these topics are part of the RBI curriculum for next year.
- Also, I am reading another book by Rabbi Jason Sobel, who wrote on **God's Appointed Times**, which we studied a few months ago. This time it is a book named **"Transformed by the Messiah"**
- **It has provided some of the context we will study**

# Another Resource...



- When reading the Bible, we often miss essential details that add richness and significance and therefore don't grasp the bigger picture. *New York Times* bestselling author Rabbi Jason Sobel, in his unique and engaging way, helps readers **see God's story in high definition**, enabling them to better understand the cultural and historical background of Scripture, God's intention for every detail, and how it applies to our lives.
- Revealing hidden gems of prophecy and promises, *Transformed by the Messiah* helps answer questions such as:
- Is there any significance to the fact that Jesus was born in Bethlehem?
- How does the Messiah's baptism set an example for us to emulate and what did it undo?
- Did the Messiah have to die on a cross and why did he not rise until the third day?
- Who are the shepherds and why was it important that the baby be found wrapped in swaddling cloth and laid in a manger?
- How can we embrace a supernatural perspective—living with a sense of possibility--and not be limited by a strictly natural perspective?
- Why does Genesis 3 talk about the "seed of a woman?"
- Why were the disciples so willing to immediately drop their nets, leave their families

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# The Transformation of Baptism: Move Forward in the Power of the Spirit

- We all understand that Baptism is one of the two ordinances of the Baptist Faith, along with the Lords Supper celebrations, but let's talk about what the Bible says about Baptism, and its importance in the time of Christ.
- We will start in Matthew and begin with the verses where Jesus is baptized by John, but the lead up to this is important as well.
- John was born to be the forerunner of the Messiah, He was from a priestly family, and he himself was considered a priest, from the tribe of Levi. He was, like Elijah, a priest with a calling.
- Also, like Elijah, they dressed alike, in camel hair garments. The mission for both was turning the people back to God (different methods for sure). Camel hair clothes were a standard dress of Prophets who were "different"
- We will talk more about John the Baptist in the first Christmas Lesson

# I will use both the NIV and TLV translations

In Matt 3:11-12 (**TLV**) it says:

*<sup>11</sup> “As for me, I immerse you in water for **repentance**. But the One coming after me is mightier than I am; I am not worthy to carry His sandals. **He will immerse you in the Ruach ha-Kodesh and fire.***

*<sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He shall clear His threshing floor and gather His wheat into the barn; but the chaff He shall burn up with **inextinguishable fire.**”*

***Ruach haKodesh** – Spirit that is Holy, or Holy Spirit. Since Ruach means spirit/wind or breath, it is the breath of God, that lives within us.*

# Matthew Presents The Baptism of Jesus

Matt 3:13-17 NIV

*<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus **came** from Galilee to the Jordan **to be baptized by John.***

*<sup>14</sup> But John tried to deter him, saying, “**I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?**”*

*<sup>15</sup> Jesus replied, “**Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.**” Then John consented.*

*<sup>16</sup> As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and **he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.***

*<sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, “**This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.**”*

# A Deeper Look

These verses are very familiar to us, but I want to read the same text from a different translation... **the Tree of Life version (TLV)**. The Tree of Life Version (TLV) of the **Bible is a Messianic Jewish translation** that includes both the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh) and the New Testament. It aims to present the scriptures with a Jewish perspective, restoring key names and terms to reflect their original context and meaning. It is an important Bible translation to assist us in adding Context to specific scriptures. Here are a couple of translations of Hebrew words that will help.

- **Yeshua**=a shortened form of Joshua (He will save his people), the Greek translation is Iousus. Bible Study Tools lists this as an explanation:
- There are several definitions of **Yeshua** that can be found in Hebrew and Aramaic biblical text, taken from the Hebrew verb, yasha, that means “to deliver, save, or rescue,” and also stated as “Yehoshua.” Pronunciation of “**Yeshua**,” in Hebrew, can be read this way: “Yod,” “Shin,” “Vav,” “Ayin.” In Aramaic, the term, “Yeshu,” was **transliterated** from the Hebrew term of **Yeshua**, pronounced as “Yeh-shoo,” and missing the “a.”
- Greek translations have “Yeshua” listed as Yesous, among first century Greeks, of which the name, **Jesus**, is **derived**.

The involvement of the Council of Nicea, within the Roman Catholic Church, as well as influence of the English language into biblical text changed the use of “Yeshua” to describe the Savior ...into Jesus. “Yeshua” can be found most in the Hebrew Bible and other ancient texts that are still referenced among those in the Jewish faith. Hebrew is still considered the **holy language** used primarily for worshipping and prayer to God.

- **Mikveh** – a gathering at a Jewish Ritual bath for purification. Most commonly used for women after menstruation, or people coming nations seeking to become “Jewish”. **Not something that was common among Jewish men at all in the first century.**
- **Baptist/Baptizer/ Baptized** – From Greek Word Baptizo = **Immerse in water**. We have transliterated this into English as both a noun and a verb.

# Matt 3:13-17 TLV The Heavens Open at Yeshua's Mikveh

## The Heavens Open at Yeshua's Mikveh

<sup>13</sup> Then Yeshua **came** from the Galilee to John, **to be immersed by him in the Jordan.**

<sup>14</sup> But John tried to prevent Him, saying, **“I need to be immersed by You, and You are coming to me?”**

<sup>15</sup> But Yeshua responded, **“Let it happen now, for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”** So, John yielded to Him.

<sup>16</sup> After being immersed, Yeshua rose up out of the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the **Ruach Elohim** descending like a dove and coming upon Him.

<sup>17</sup> And behold, a voice from the heavens said, **“This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased!”**

# Why is this Important and why are we talking about it?

*So, why is this important to understanding Baptism?*

- *In reading the version of the Bible that honors the original Hebrew meaning, we see a **layer of context not present in the current English Translations.***

*I am not saying one is better, and we should move to another Bible translation, but I am saying that **various translations are useful in understanding the deeper context of the scripture.***

- *If we can learn these connections, we will be more connected to what God intended for us in the scripture.*
- *The Messianic Jewish translation keeps many of the original ideas that were built into the first century Jewish mind.*

*It is also very clear that Baptism is Immersion. That is what it was in the first century AD, and that is what it is today. I know that various faith traditions substitute Sprinkling for Immersion, but one is biblical, and one is not.*

# Some Q's answered...

**Q:** *Why did Jesus need to get Immersed? John baptized for repentance, but Jesus was sinless...so what was this all about?*

*“Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.”*

- *Jesus was modelling for us, the way to come to Him. He had no reason to be cleansed of any sin, but He did need to fulfill prophetic things **and inform us that we all need to be immersed in Him.***

*Notice the difference also in Matt 3:11-12 (TLV) in John's and Jesus' Baptism.*

*<sup>11</sup> “As for me, I immerse you in water for **repentance**. But the One coming after me is mightier than I am; I am not worthy to carry His sandals. **He will immerse you in the Ruach ha-Kodesh and fire.** <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He shall clear His threshing floor and gather His wheat into the barn; but the chaff He shall burn up with inextinguishable fire.”*

***Jesus baptizes us in the Holy Spirit, not just for cleansing and repentance, but for purity (fire), and He is gathering us into His Barn, and burning up the chaff. This is a clear reference to what we just studied in Revelation and the deliverance and judgments to come. In Christian understanding, being Baptized into the Holy Spirit, places us squarely into the family of God.***

# Personal – Jordan River Baptism



*Baptism in Israel in the Jordan River.*

*On a trip to Israel, both Vicki and I decided it was important to us to not only to be baptized again, but to do it where Jesus was baptized.*

*This was a memorable connection for us.*

*Don and Betty Driggers were with us, and Don was the photographer, and since he was recovering from surgery, he was unable to get in the water...*

*so we sprinkled him and made him an honorary Methodist.*

# Topic 2 for today is **Disciple Making**

*The second topic for today is the making of Disciples. One of the key elements of FRC Ministry is the making of Disciples. As a Bible teacher, this is a critical focus for me in this class, and all I do in the Kingdom.*

- Remember in Revelation, Ch 22, we closed out the study with call by the Lord to come to Him. And we moved to the timing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming as we prayed for and heard CeCe Winans song “Come Jesus Come”.*
- On this side of the Rapture, our call is to gather more and more souls into the Kingdom and teach them about coming to Jesus as Savior and King.*

*As in the recruitment of the Disciples, the command to “come” signals that if we come and listen to the Lord, we will get the true story, enough to make our decisions*

- Holy Spirit and the Bride say “come”*
- All who hear say “come”*
- The one who longs for the water that quenches thirst – “come”*
- Whoever decides to take the free gift of the water of Life – “come”*

*But there was also a warning, not to add or delete any of the words of the prophecy*

# The Great Commission...

I want to take us back now to the beginning of the Lord's ministry time. We will look at the verse we call the Great Commission...

**Matt 28:18-20 (TLV)** but I want to start at verse 16

*<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to the Galilee, to the mountain Yeshua had designated.*

*<sup>17</sup> When they saw Him, they worshiped; but some wavered.*

*<sup>18</sup> And Yeshua came up to them and spoke to them, saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.*

*<sup>19</sup> Go **therefore** and **make disciples of all nations**, immersing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Ruach ha-Kodesh,*

*<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all I have commanded you. And remember! I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

# Matt 29:16-20 Discussion

*Several key points I want to make here:*

- *Jesus told them that **ALL AUTHORITY**, both in **Heaven and Earth**, had been given to Him. This means in both heavenly realms and earthly realms He had the supreme authority given to Him by God the Father. No exceptions, and no carve-outs to the Lord's power and authority.*
- *Therefore, (because this is true), **He authorized all of them to go into the world and make disciples, immersing them in the Power of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit and teaching them to observe all the Commands of the Lord.***
- *He also encouraged them to “remember” that He is with them always, everywhere, even to the end of the Age. We saw this in Revelation as He preserved the Saints, and all that would believe. This was a promise to the disciples and to all who followed them in the Faith.*
- *Many in the “church” reduce this calling to a quest for new believers, but it is much more than that, and even that is not the focus of the Lord. Conversion is certainly essential, but the call here is to take those believers and turn them into disciples.*

# A Question to think about...

**Q:** *Do you see a difference in “believers” and “disciples”? Discuss...*

- *The Lord is calling us to the **Abundant Life**. It is not just an improvement to our current life, but **rather it touches every aspect of our lives...Physical, Spiritual, Emotional, and Relational parts. It is living in-step with God and following the leading of the Holy Spirit within us.***
- *The disciples given this authority and calling, were themselves Disciples...but the way they became them may be too simple by our understanding of the “call”.*
- *As always, context is critical to understand the full scope of this call.*

# The Call of the Disciples

A little background... Matt 4:18-22 TLV

## ***Raising Up Fishers of Men***

*<sup>18</sup> Now as Yeshua was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother. They were casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.*

*<sup>19</sup> And He said to them, “**Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.**”*

*<sup>20</sup> **Immediately** they left their nets and followed Him.*

*<sup>21</sup> Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, Jacob (James) the son of Zebedee and John his brother. They were in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them.*

*<sup>22</sup> **Immediately** they left the boat and their father and followed Him.*

# Follow Me...and they did

***What strange verses.** Jesus is passing by and sees men and simply calls them to Follow Him. And the Bible tells us that they **dropped what they were doing and immediately followed.** Let's be clear...they left their work, their families, and their homes to follow Jesus of Nazareth.*

***What the readers who were Jewish would understand, and we do not is the situation before this time.** Jesus was known in the area as a Rabbi and was recognized for his understanding and ability to teach others. **Rabbi means teacher, but it is more than that.***

*Children as young as 5 or 6 went to the Rabbis to be taught. They memorized verses, like in our youth areas, and some were identified as gifted in both understanding and talking about Spiritual things.*

*Young men in these communities went to the synagogue, and visiting Rabbis and local leaders looked for young men who were **approved by the Rabbis and asked good questions.** The Rabbis loved the give and take in the discussions about the Torah and God.*

***Remember, no one owned a Bible, but the Torah was in Scrolls maintained in the Synagogues, and each person memorized scripture so they could retain and apply it.***

# Different expectations and journeys

- This led to a separation of the Trade-directed, and Rabbi-training tracks. **As we know today, the world needs both. Trades people and scholars. Those in religious life and those in industry.**
- A young man with good questions, and presence was a desired commodity, and the Rabbis would recruit them or allow them to follow them for education. It was an honor to both.
- The desire of many young men was to be selected by a prominent Rabbi because it gave them status in the Synagogues and placed them on a track for importance. Those who were not selected learned a trade, and even if they were in the priestly clans, they toiled in their labor.

# Trying to understand it all

I know this is not a great analogy, but if you go to a shelter and select a new family dog, you are looking for several things. Maybe not with a list, but in your heart, the one that comes, shows genuine affection, is excited at your presence, or maybe something in their eyes...**points you to the one that you select.** The Rabbis did not do that, but they used their personal and spiritual discernment to select those disciples that would be good learners and represent them well.

**Of all the disciples, only Paul (Saul) had the benefit of an exceptional Rabbi (Gamaliel,) to teach him the Torah.** Understanding the effect that Paul had on the early church with his knowledge, and ability to handle difficult situations, and of course his writing of so many of the books of the NT, gives proof to the human call of Saul into the Study of Scriptures. Christ saw something in Saul as well and called him Spiritually, even with his hate of Christians, to a life of Service to the Kingdom.

# Being Called by the Lord

- *These men had not been selected, and had returned to their family trades like Fishing, and began their lives. They knew **of** Jesus of Nazareth, **but they did not know Him.***
- *When Jesus, a respected Rabbi came by, **He saw something in them the others had not seen.** Of course, he viewed them with the all-knowing and all-seeing eyes of the Lord. **He knew them already, and what they would become.***
- *But when he called them to follow Him, they immediately did what He asked. They had longed for this opportunity and honor.*
- *This is important. These men were not the Jewish selected ones but were selected by the Lord Himself. This gives huge hope when you understand that God does not judge by worldly standards, but by His own standards those who He calls and empowers. He may choose those the world rejects, or those the world embraces and turn them to Himself. **What a great God we serve.***
- *None of us are worthy and may not be the perfect “central casting” person for a task, but to God...the Heart, the discipline, and the willingness to serve are the key things.*

***We must never reject what God has called because of human considerations.***

# The Essence of a Disciple to the Jews

*In the context now of those who followed the Rabbi, they paired up with study partners. Learning in a group is superior to learning by yourself if you have a partner who is disciplined and willing to share, talk, and discuss the things you are learning. This is most likely why the Road to Emmaus had two disciples together on the road. They were discussing the events of the day after the crucifixion.*

*With that in mind, consider this description of the rabbi-talmid relationship as written in David Stern's **Jewish New Testament Commentary**,*

***The English word "disciple" fails to convey the richness of the relationship***

***between a rabbi and his talmidim [disciples] in the first century CE, Teachers, both itinerant like Yeshua and settled ones, attracted followers who whole-heartedly gave themselves over to their teachers (though not in a mindless way, as happens today in some cults).***

***The essence of the relationship was one of trust in every area of living, and its goal was to make the talmid (disciple), like his rabbi in knowledge, wisdom, and ethical behavior.***

# Jesus says “Come Follow Me”

*This is the essence of being a disciple for the Lord. We are to clone ourselves with others by pouring ourselves into them, as the Lord had called us, to duplicate ourselves and extend those who follow Jesus.*

*Jesus says the same thing to us...**Come follow me.** He is calling us to become His Disciples. What a life-changing and incredible honor.*

***Far too many people want only to be saved and not take on the responsibility and tasks of Discipleship.** To be what He has called us to be, we must take on the responsibility to **a life-long journey to become conformed to his image and likeness.** This transformational process is the subject of the greatest sermon we have recorded...the Sermon on the Mount.*

*It is an Oral Call to action, especially the part we call the Beatitudes. Matt 5:3-11 (TLV)*

# Christ Models what we should be like

*<sup>2</sup> And He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying,*

*<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted.*

*<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the meek,  
for they shall inherit the earth.*

*<sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they shall be satisfied.*

*<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are the merciful,  
for they shall be shown mercy.*

*<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they shall see God.*

*<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called sons of God.*

*<sup>10</sup> “Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and say all kinds of evil  
against you falsely, on account of Me.*

## 2 Peter 1:3-4 (TLV) We will finish with this

<sup>3</sup> *His divine power **has given** us everything we need for life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and virtue.*

<sup>4</sup> *Through these things He **has given us His precious and magnificent promises**, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, since you have escaped the corruption that evil desires have brought into the world.*

- *God has already given us everything we need to live a good and Godly life. This is because He has called us, and we have accepted the call to know Him, His Glory, and all His Virtue.*
- *His promises have allowed us to be partakers in Divine Nature, because we have escaped the evil desires of this world.*

***We've all heard the phrase “The Devil is in the details”, but I will testify that concerning scripture, it is God who is in the Details.***

*I will close out this discussion today with these thoughts...*

- ***Baptism is as commitment** to follow and grow as a believer and seek God's mission for each of us. It is much more than an ordinance. It confirms we are baptized into the Holy Spirit and part of God's eternal family*
- ***Discipleship is about getting in the Game.** I don't care how great your potential is, or your self-promotion. The question is are you (we) out of the stands and on the field?*