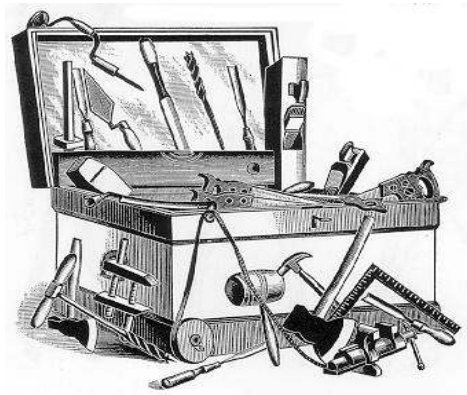


FIRST-CENTURY TOOLBOX

Knowing what it means by learning what it meant



1. PaRDeS (the four levels of biblical interpretation; layers of the onion; all true simultaneously)
2. Names are never just names
3. Places are never just places
4. Numbers also tell a story (Gematria)
5. Verbal Tallies (the ancient reference system)
6. The Mesorah (the accepted and authoritative oral and written traditions)
7. Fractals (to have one portion is to have the whole)
8. Time is cyclical, a progressive spiral of fractals (as opposed to linear)
9. Strong Emergence (Both/And Plus: The whole is greater than the sum of the individual parts).
First-century Hebraic thought is non-dualistic (*Elu V'Elu Divrei Elohim Chayim*)
10. The Hebrew calendar, festivals, synagogue lectionary
11. As below, so above. As above, so below
12. The Rule of Firsts
13. Last in action is first in thought
14. Descent for the sake of ascent; Run and return; expansion and contraction;
Chasadim and Gevurot
15. Hidden to be made known; Concealed in order to be revealed (i.e. Mark 4:22)
16. *Tikkun Olam* (repair or healing of the world). Always look for the righting of a wrong, the repair of a previous broken act, the opportunity to perfect the fractal (i.e. On Shavuot at Sinai the 3,000 perishing, then on Shavuot at Zion the 3,000 saved)
17. Hebrew idioms. Knowing first-century idioms can not be overemphasized. Tragic results can occur when one interprets and translates an idiom of one language into another language as a literal fact (i.e. "it's raining cats and dogs")
18. *Mida Kineged Mida* ("measure for measure"). A fundamental operating principle in the universe that reveals itself time and time again in the Scriptures. See Matthew 7:2.
19. Kal vachomer (lit. "light and weighty"). A principle of scriptural interpretation whereby a conclusion is drawn from a minor premise or more lenient condition ("light") to a major or more strict one ("weighty") or vice versa, a fortiori argument. In common parlance, "all the more so."