



PASSION FOR TRUTH

WHERE NEW LIFE BEGINS

The Number Eight in Scripture

Have you always wondered why the number eight is so important in the Bible? Have you ever wondered why it's connected to *new beginnings* in Hebrew? Have you been waiting for your new beginning but just can't quite grasp what God has really called you to do? Then this broadcast is for you. Okay, we are going to dive into the number eight here in Scripture. We're going to find out all of its meanings and how it can relate to you today. At the end of this broadcast, I'm going to share a few simple points from the Scripture on how you can have a breakthrough in your own life and what's preventing you from living above reason, in the faith realm.

So let's get back and start in the Scriptures. We're going to start in Leviticus, and this is going to come directly from the Torah portion *Shemini*, which literally means "eighth." So let's talk about it. Leviticus, chapter 8, verse 35-36:

"Therefore you shall stay at the door of the tabernacle of meeting day and night for seven days and keep the charge of the Lord so that you may not die, for so I have been commanded. So Aaron and his sons did all the things that the Lord had commanded by the hand of Moses."

This, my friends, was backing up right before the Torah portion begins, and I wanted you to see that this is where the priestly system and roles begin. It all starts with them being commanded to stay at the door of the tabernacle, which is outside the door at the threshold in the courtyard, for seven days. They are to set themselves aside, set themselves apart, which in Hebrew is the word *kadosh*, or in English, "holy," to be set apart. And that is earmarking them for His service. Anytime that God begins the process of giving you a breakthrough and promotion, He's going to interview and cleanse you first. He cannot have you promoted and bringing the baggage of your past along with you. You have to go through the process of liquidation, many times cleansing, before and training before He promotes you, and that's what this is all about.

So let's begin in chapter 9, verse 1, and it says this:

"It came to pass on the eighth day that Moses called Aaron and his sons and the elders of Israel."

Now, this is the key Scripture that begins the process of this beautiful concept of the number eight. Now we see this in creation, and we're going to talk about that in just a minute, but as far as the priestly role is concerned, they wait for seven days. They are cleansed of anything that might be unclean in their life. They've dedicated, consecrated, set themselves apart, and then

Moses, their spiritual authority, comes back under the inspiration of God Himself and says, *"Now is the time. Today is the day. This begins your new role, your new season. Your promotion is here."*

I want to back up to Exodus, chapter 22, so that you can see a little bit more about this eighth day and how it's connected to even the average person. Turn with me to Exodus 22, verses 29 and 30. It reads this:

"You shall not delay to offer the first of your ripe produce and your juices. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to me. Likewise, you shall do with your oxen and your sheep. It shall be with its mother for seven days, but on the eighth day you shall give it to me."

Do you see this, my friends? God Himself is setting a stage. He's setting a protocol, a formula. He's a God of math, and He loves to create. Bless you if you keep My commandments, curse you if you don't. Here are your choices. I love that because I'm a math guy. I'm a science guy. I love formulas; I love things I can tangibly see. I'm one of those left-brain guys, and I struggle with the ethereal, the ambiguous. Well, praise the Lord, Yahweh was not ambiguous. He made it very clear: if you want to get My attention, says the Lord, you need to make an offering. You need a sacrifice. You need to give Me something that I gave you from the beginning so that I can see that you're serious, that you have skin in the game, that you are investing in Kingdom principles. He says, *"Watch what will happen after that."* He says, *"Test me in this."* In Exodus, we see this beautiful concept that even when a sheep or cattle is born, on this eighth day, it is set apart and given to Him. There's something special about this eighth day.

Let's continue and talk about what this number eight means. In Hebrew, it is the number of new beginnings. We see this all throughout the Scriptures, this amazing concept of one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, and then starting over on something new on the eighth day. Here we go! On the eighth day of creation began the first complete week and the beginning of the full week for Adam and Eve. So we've got the six days of creation, then the Creator rested, showing us that from the beginning of time, long before the Torah and the commandments were ever given on Mount Sinai, His original intent for mankind was to rest on the seventh day. He clearly didn't need rest on the seventh day; He was doing it as an example of being a good Father, a good Abba, saying, *"Look, this is what's going to happen. I'm setting the stage for you, showing you that I just created you yesterday. Your first day is going to be rest with Me, and then your second day is your first day of the week. That's when your roles begin."*

So Adam and Eve actually began the very first week of their life on the eighth day, which was the first complete week of creation. I love that!

Check this out: everybody knows in Scripture, if you're familiar with Scripture at all, that it is on the eighth day that every male was circumcised. The bleeding stopped. God created the blood so that when it hits the wind on the eighth day, it will coagulate. And I love that because, in Hebrew, the word for wind is *ruach*, the very word that we use for the Spirit. The Spirit of God, the *Ruach HaKodesh* in Hebrew, is the Holy Spirit, the set-apart Spirit. And so you can see that we are called to be set apart, and the Spirit is called to be set apart. What He's trying to do for the seven days that those priests are set apart is to match one for one the Holy Spirit with the person that

was created in spirit, and match that spirit and truth so that the *Ruach HaKodesh* can dwell inside a holy vessel, a clean vessel, and move forward to accomplish that new beginning role.

Alright, let's continue to move through the Scriptures and see what else we have that involves the number eight. There were eight people on the ark that began new life on the earth. Isn't that amazing, brethren, that the entire world was destroyed, but God chose eight people? Do you think that's a coincidence? No, it's not. It couldn't have been six; it couldn't have been seven. It had to be eight because, in Yahweh's terms, in His mind, eight is the number of new beginnings. And that was the new beginning of the entire earth realm through the loins of Noah and his children. And I love that! Eight is the number of new beginnings. And you know what caused them to have new beginnings? What preceded that? 120 years of building that ark and trusting the voice that lived inside of him, that told him that bad days were coming. "You need to prepare," says the Lord, while the rest of the earth mocked him and continued in their sin, blaspheming God Himself, their own Creator.

Noah spent the time to build an ark, and he did not live by sight. He refused to walk by sight. He lived by faith in the One who loved him and gave him that word. Living above reason, which we're going to talk about in just a minute, is what created the breakthrough. It was none other than obedience to that word, that commandment, that voice, that Spirit. Living and demonstrating that belief by living above reason. Living above reason, my friends, is one of the most incredible and powerful foundational principles for entering into your breakthrough, your new beginning. You must live above reason.

Alright, let's continue. Another example of the number eight in Scripture that you may or may not be familiar with is at the end of the seven-day festival of *Sukkot* (the Feast of Tabernacles). The eighth day is called the "Eighth Great Day." This is the day that everything starts over, *Simchat Torah*. This is when the Torah readings start over, and every Messianic Jew and Jew in the world, every believer that is following the Torah cycle around the world, restarts the readings. They've been doing that for thousands of years. Yeshua Himself, on the eighth day of *Sukkot*, stood up and read from the Scriptures, saying, "I am not only the bread of life, but if anyone is thirsty, come to Me, and rivers of life will come out of Me," quoting Isaiah on that eighth day.

You know what they did on that eighth day, my friends? In the first century, when He stood up and declared that He was the river of life, they just so happened to be doing the water libation ceremony, one of the most popular ceremonies of the entire festival of *Sukkot* in Jerusalem. The priests would go down to the Pool of Siloam, and they would take the water and pour it out on the altar. And it was at that moment that Yeshua (Jesus) declared, "By the way, all of you guys are pouring out the water on the altar, but if you recognize who is standing before you, I am the river of life." And the Scripture they were quoting out of Isaiah literally says that if they drink from the waters of salvation (in Hebrew, it says the waters of *Yeshua*), because *Yeshua* means salvation in English. So they had no idea! Yeshua was standing right there before them while they were declaring that all of Israel should drink from the well of salvation, the waters of *Yeshua*, and Yeshua says, "Oh, by the way, that's Me." And if you drink of Me, you'll never be thirsty again, and living waters will flow out of your bosom. I love that! That happened on the eighth day, another day when waters burst forth, and new beginnings happened.

Let's continue, and that's the festival of *Sukkot*. Let's talk about another festival—the festival of *Shavuot* (or in Greek, you might be more familiar with it as Pentecost). It's 50 days after Passover. The Bible says in Leviticus 23 to count seven sevens, or seven *Shabbats*, after the first *Shabbat* after Passover, and the very next day is the 50th day. That is Pentecost. So you have seven sevens, and the eighth day, respectively, after those seven sevens, is the Feast of *Shavuot*. That is amazing to me, and that works for the year of Jubilee as well. It happens after 49 years (which is seven sevens), and on the eighth one, the eighth day, that first day starts something brand new, something exciting. If you know the Scriptures, you know that when the seven sevens were complete, what happened? The power of the living Creator, Yahweh, came down in the form of the Holy Spirit. That wind, that breath, that *pneuma*, came into the disciples in the upper room. It filled them and completed them and equipped them to accomplish great things in the earth realm. And you and I are here because of that eighth day, as amazing as it is.

Of course, one of the most popular eighth days is Yeshua Himself. He died and rose three days later on the eighth day. The Scriptures say in Mark that it was early in the morning that He rose from the dead. The Greek word, if I remember correctly, is *proi*, and that word literally means between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m. It's the fourth watch of the night, and that's how we know He rose on the first day of the week, on the *sabbaton*—on what we call Sunday morning, which is the first day of the week. He rose before the sun got up. That was the eighth day, one of the most powerful fulfillments of the number eight in new beginnings.

This Scripture, where Yeshua (Jesus), our Messiah (*Yeshua HaMashiach*), the Messiah Himself, the Christ, rose from the dead on the very eighth day—the same eighth day of creation, the same eighth day of Noah, the same eighth day of Pentecost, and so on and so forth—fulfilling the prophetic connection and picture that the eighth day brings new life.

And last but not least—almost last but not least, I should say, at least in the biblical sense—at the end of the seventh millennium, right now we are six thousand years into human history and about to embark on the seventh day, which is the day of rest (each day being as a thousand years, as Scripture says). So, six days of creation is six thousand years of humanity. And on the seventh day, you will see the *Shabbat*—you will see it. You may not believe in it; you may know someone who believes in it, but you think they're crazy for celebrating on Saturday. But I'm telling you, the prophetic timeline never lies. On the seventh day, God has established from the beginning of creation—He rested on the seventh day, showing us that a day is as a thousand years. Six days later, at the eve of the beginning of the seventh day, the Messiah will come riding on the clouds, on that white horse, and He will begin the 1,000-year millennial reign of the Messiah.

That is *Shabbat*, that day of rest for a thousand years, the Sabbath rest of God's people from Hebrews chapter 3 and chapter 4. And then, after that, begins the eighth day. And what happens on the eighth day? A new heaven and earth are created. Go figure, my friends! That is not a coincidence—that the new heavens and the new earth begin on the eighth day. That's when something completely different begins. We have no idea what it's going to be like, but I imagine it will be extraordinary in every way—heaven in its fullness, with no sin, no serpent, no temptation, just bliss with the Father, operating in His realm. And I can't wait for that day!

Lastly, my friends, let's move to just one creative thing I thought of, since our family is really into music, and my daughter plays the keyboard in our worship team. It dawned on me that there are seven notes, seven main notes, in an octave. Then, on the eighth note, it begins a brand new octave. That is not a coincidence—that the Father, who created all frequencies, who created all sound, and most importantly, most amazingly, created music and the frequency of worship and praise, even in worship and praise, everything goes by the pattern of seven. And then, there's a brand new day, a brand new sound. And that is something that I believe all of us need to work toward in our lives: to recognize that there are patterns of one, two, three, four, five, six, seven—patterns of waiting, waiting, waiting, waiting, waiting, waiting. Then, live your life above reason, here's your final exam: do you pass it? Promotion—that's how it works.

As a matter of fact, I want to take a few minutes and talk about 1 Samuel chapter 13. In 1 Samuel chapter 13, Saul was the first king of Israel, and he was down in Gilgal after he attacked the Philistine garrison. The Philistines were so angry that they sent 30,000 soldiers after him. Saul was scared out of his mind; everyone was scared out of their minds. Samuel says, *“Wait seven days, and then I will show you what to do and how to make an offering to the Lord.”*

What happened? Saul couldn't wait. As a matter of fact, seven days went by, and Saul probably was counting down on his watch—had his timer set on his iPhone and his Apple Watch—and the buzzer went off. Samuel didn't show up, and Saul took matters into his own hands. He looked at the situation—listen, my friends, this story is for you—he looked at the situation, and it was dire indeed. This was his final exam. The final exam always comes on the seventh note. And Saul looked at the situation through his mind, his will, and his emotions, and through logic and reason. Some would say that's what a good king does, that's what a good general would do. But in this case, the general and the king were under the authority of the Most High God and were supposed to trust in Him to win that war. We don't win wars by ourselves—we need divine assistance.

So, Samuel shows up right when Saul decides to crown himself priest, crown himself prophet, and take matters into his own hands. Samuel sees what he has done and rebukes him for it. So harshly did Saul fail this final exam, my friends, that it cost him everything. It cost him the throne, and no one from that moment forward would ever sit on the throne from his loins. Samuel said, *“It's over with. God has chosen another man after His own heart.”*

And, brethren, this is beautiful because it tells us exactly what *“His own heart”* means. When God says *“a man after His own heart,”* it's a man who's willing to wait. It's a man who's willing to look the enemy in the eye and not blink because he knows who's standing behind him. He knows that he will win the war if God shows up. He understands what Moses said, which is, *“I can't move forward if You don't go before us, behind us, and around us. I don't want this job.”*

See, the faith was not in the sacrifice. The mistake that Saul made was treating Yahweh as if He were one of the gods of Egypt or one of the gods of the Canaanites—one of those gods where you could just bribe them through a sacrifice or money. It doesn't work that way, my friends. God requires sacrifice, but He also wants obedience. And obedience, in Yahweh's realm, is living above reason.

You see, it wasn't the sacrifice that was important—although it was needed and required—it was understanding in your heart of hearts who was behind the sacrifice, who's behind the name. You see, when I call upon the name of the Lord, some people say Jehovah, some people say Yahweh, some people say God, some people say Yehovah. Some people say all kinds of things, but they're talking about the God of ancient Israel.

Focusing on how we pronounce the exact name, or whatever your pet peeve is, is like focusing on the sacrifice the way Saul did and not on the One behind it. It's the One that carries the smell of the offering into the aroma of His throne room—that's the One that matters, that's who we're calling upon. Saul forgot about that, and he thought that if he just made the sacrifice, God would be happy. But it's not just about obedience either—it's about the spirit behind it. It's about the faith of the one offering the sacrifice.

Can you imagine Elijah, when he was dealing with the prophets of Baal and Jezebel, saying, "Well, let's just offer a sacrifice to Yahweh and see what happens"? Do you think the fire would have come down? Obedience is not everything—it's God looking for those who will worship in spirit and in truth. Elijah was confident in his Creator, confident in his God, and he said, "Bring it on, do this, do that, because my God will show up—will yours?"

So let me ask you this, my friends, and we'll close with this: when was the last time you had such confidence in your God and the promises He gave you that it didn't matter what your circumstances looked like? When your finances are down, and you're falling into a place where you're not sure how you're going to pay your bills, have you ever looked up and said, "Father, I'm doing everything that I can by faith. I believe that You will provide because You promised in Your Word that not a hair on my head goes unnumbered, and if You take care of the birds of the air, You will take care of me. And if I go bankrupt, and if I go hungry, then I will die in faith and meet You on the other side"?

When have Yahweh's people had that kind of faith? Where the 30,000 chariots stood against you, and you looked them in the eye and said, "That's all you have? If you're going to come against me, you're going to need far more than that! And if your chariots can't float above mulberry trees, then you have a problem!"

My friends, we have a God that is so ready to promote people into the eighth day, but few pass the test on the seventh. Few master the exam, and that exam, my friend, is living above reason.

So, here we go—don't miss **your** new beginning. Here are four points that I want to encourage you with as we close, on how you cannot miss your new beginning.

Be patient. You are a priest in training, and the Father says, "Wait seven days, and then recognize that I will show you how to do it." You don't need to push; you don't need to do it on your own. I will bring the solution at the end of the note, as it begins to fade into eternity. And when you think it's over with, it's at that moment that I will put My finger on My heavenly keyboard, hit that eighth note, and begin all anew.

Be willing to make a sacrifice and offering to Him and with Him. As modern-day believers and Christians who love Yeshua and love to serve the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, we've lost the concept of sacrifice and offering. We don't understand it. We've been taught through traditional Christianity that it's all about money and tithing and so on and so forth. That's like Saul making it all about the sacrifice to God. He cannot be bribed. Is it required? Yes, offerings must be made into the Kingdom of God. We must build in the Kingdom, but at the same time, it has to be a river coming out of us, saying, "Father, thank You so much for all that You've given me. I want to sow back into Your Kingdom. I want to bless You, O God."

Maybe you've got a son or daughter that's wayward, maybe you've got a husband or wife, a spouse, who does not know the Lord, doesn't believe what you believe. Make an offering for them. What does that mean? Get on your knees and pray like never before. Help someone who's homeless—do something! Make an offering, an Old Testament sacrifice, if you will, because it's not an Old Testament thing. Sacrifice is what Yeshua did on the cross. He didn't give 10%, He gave all of Himself to make it right.

As a matter of fact, maybe this will speak to someone out there who is constantly arguing with their spouse, and it seems like a battle of wits, always wanting to be right. Yeshua never wanted to be right. He literally became wrong to make it right. He was okay with being wrong, being slandered, gossiped about, and crucified. He let His opponent win so that He could make the relationship right. When was the last time, brethren, that you let your wife win so that you could win? Do you ever win when you win an argument? No. Yeshua loved His bride. He died for her. Let's die to one another, my friends.

Wait for Him to raise you up on the third day. Oftentimes, we take it upon ourselves to promote ourselves when we get frustrated. We kind of sense that God wants us to go in a direction, and we're waiting, we're waiting, and then we choose to jump ahead. We literally jump off the dock before God's ready for us. God wants to bring a boat and have you jump off the dock into the boat. But we say, "I know I'm supposed to jump off the dock. I feel in the Spirit that I'm supposed to jump off the dock. The Word tells me to jump off the dock." So, we jump, and we drown. Why? Because God's given us all this blessing to take with us. You've got a wheelbarrow that's attached to you with blessings from the previous six notes. And on the seventh note, God says, "Wait at the edge of the dock for the boat. And when the boat shows up, you will know it, and you'll feel the gentle *ruach* wind behind you, pushing you onto the boat, into the new frequency of the new song that will be in your mouth."

Understand that you are a priest, and He expects you to live above reproach and above reason. It's not reasonable to wait for someone who's late when the enemy is at your door. Live above reason, my friends, and your new beginning will begin. Let me say that again: live above reason. Get out of the logic realm, because on day seven, on the night at the end of Saturday (*Shabbat*) in the first century, around 30 A.D., when Yeshua was in the ground and wrapped in linen, there was no logic. None of His disciples were expecting Him to keep His word when He said He would rise on the third day. Every one of them was freaking out and living in fear. But at the end of that day, above reason, out of the grave came Yeshua. We can't live. *Lean not on your own understanding* (Proverbs 3:5-6 says), *but in all your ways acknowledge Him and His ways.*

And when you live your life above reason, my friends, you'll be issued your promotion. You'll be issued your new beginning, and your new beginning will begin.

Let's pray.

Father, thank You so much for the opportunity to serve Your people. I pray that You would help all of us live above reason, that You would bring all of us to a place of humility, respect, and honor of both Your Word and Your Spirit. Teach us to be patient when we need to be patient. Teach us to move when we need to move. Supply us with all our provision, divine assistance, and all the things that we need to accomplish what Your Kingdom purpose needs to accomplish. Lord, put our minds in a place of *shalom* and peace, love, and rest. And let everyone around us feel and drink from the well of Yeshua. Father, we love You, and we thank You for this word today.

And everyone said, *Amen*.

See you next time. I'm Jim Staley with Passion for Truth Ministries.

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