

Notes

Understanding Remez

I. Introduction

Remez is a modern Hebrew word that is NOT found in the Bible

Remez describes a teaching method that is found in the Gospels more than 300 times

Definition: Remez means: a hint, a clue or a look back

Remez really has no equivalent in the English culture, but has been used by Rabbis and Jewish teachers over the last 2,000 years.

In 1st Century Judea and especially Galilee the people were extremely well versed in the Scriptures

Often times in this teaching method, it's what's not said that speaks louder than what was said.

II. Remez Examples

1st Example: Term Associated Remez

Matthew 24:30 - Then the sign of the **Son of Man** will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the **Son of Man** coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

What's the "hint" or clue Jesus is wanting us to look back to in using the **Son of Man**?

Daniel 7:13-14 - "I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the **Son of Man**, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. ¹⁴Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.

2nd Example: Standard Remez

Matthew 21:14-16 - Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. ¹⁵But when **the chief priests and scribes** saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the **Son of David!**" they were indignant ¹⁶and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"

And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise'?"

Psalms 8:2 - Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, because of Your enemies, that You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

Psalms 8:2 (NLT) ...silencing your enemies and all who oppose you.

Luke 19:47 - ...But the chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people sought to destroy Him

3rd Example: Term Associated & Dual Question Remez - John the Baptist in prison

Matthew 11:2-3 - And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples ³and said to Him, "Are You the **Coming One**, or do we look for another?"

Zechariah 9:9, 11 - "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is **coming to you**; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Verse 11 - "As for you also, because of the blood of your covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

John used a **Remez** to question Jesus, and Jesus answers with a **Remez**

Matthew 11:4-5 - Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: ʼThe blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Jesus answers with quotes from Isaiah. Proofs that He is the Messiah

Isaiah 35:5-6 - Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. ʼThen the lame shall leap like a deer...

Isaiah 42:6-7 - "I, the Lord, have called You in righteousness... ʼTo open blind eyes...

Isaiah 61:1 - "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor;

But what about John's release? Each Scripture Jesus used also contains a prison reference.

Isaiah 35:10 - And the ransomed of the Lord shall return...

Isaiah 42:7 - To open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house.

Isaiah 61:1 - To proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound

Matthew 11:6 (NIV) Blessed is the man who does not **fall away** on account of me."

4th Example: An Acted Out or Illustrated Remez

John 8:3-9 - Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, ⁴they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. ⁵Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" ⁶This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear. ⁷So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." ⁸And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last.

Jeremiah 17:13 (NIV) - O Lord, the hope of Israel, all who forsake you will be put to shame. Those who turn away from you **will be written in the dust** because they have forsaken the Lord, the spring of living water.

John 8:10-11 - When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹ She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

Grace demonstrated to the woman and her accusers as well