

YAIY



Beacon



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For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater, Isa. 55:10.

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MISSION

STATEMENT

Our Mission and purpose is to reach people around the world with the message of the revealed personal Names of Yahweh and His Son Yahshua the Messiah, as well as teaching the salvation truths that have been neglected for centuries.

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Gifts Of The Spirit

Ask and You Shall Receive

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened, Matthew 7:7–8 ESV.

Do we believe Yahshua's own words here and what He is telling us? He is saying that everyone that asks receives. We, of course, have to consider this in context of Scripture and it may actually be best to ask before baptism for any special gift, specifically, since that is when the Spirit is given, and a gift or gifts are also given at that time, the time of the laying on of hands by the elders.

When we say "in context of Scripture," what we mean is, we are not to, and cannot expect to, ask for things that are sinful or unlawful.

We also must consider what we're asking for - is it a selfish request or one that will help others? Believing, without doubting, of course, is also a necessity.

And, when we ask, it cannot be with the following attributes:

1. Sinful
2. Unlawful
3. Forbidden
4. Self-Seeking
5. Self-Gratifying
6. Selfish
7. Unbelieving
8. Doubtful
9. Without Faith

Confirmation

It's interesting when we search for verses to prove these points, it is the Apostle James that confirms them. As it turns out, it wasn't just Paul who had to set the brethren straight in many areas of their lives. James, too, has some harsh words to get the

brethren's attention. This is also addressed to the 12 tribes of Israel. We read in James 4:2–3 NASB,

You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

A fitting word to speak to all the peoples of this country and abroad. He says earlier in his letter,

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of Yahweh, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Master, James 1:5–7 NASB.

So, why should we ask for spiritual gifts? In part, James also answers this, by saying,

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with Whom there is no change, nor shadow of turning, James 1:17 TS.

It's a good thing to receive a good and perfect gift, the main one being a portion of the Spirit itself. But the Spirit provides us with teachers and evangelists and others to help us be united in the Body of Messiah.

Good Gifts

The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Messiah, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of Elohim, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Messiah, Ephesians 4:11–13 NRSV.

Continuing, the Apostle Paul goes on to say,

We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into Him Who is the head, into Messiah, from Whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love, Ephesians 4:14–16 NRSV.

Being mature in Messiah, means we won't be taken away by all sorts of weird non-scriptural teachings or, as said here, "every wind of doctrine."

It means we will be stable, but stability can take some time to achieve. This is why there are teachers and evangelists of the Word which are provided.

Test All Things

This is one reason why we have a requirement of any brethren, new or old, who seem to have some "new truth," to share it with the elders first, until it can be proven to be true or not. This helps prevent confusion or false doctrines being brought into the body.

An assembly which holds and teaches alternative beliefs among themselves promotes confusion, rather than unity.

As Paul explains in Ephesians 4:15 NRSV, "we must grow up in every way into Him Who is the head," speaking of the Messiah.

We can ask Yahweh for guidance and understanding of His Word and Spirit, so we may walk therein and help others along the way, fulfilling the love of Yahweh in our lives.

Walk Uprightly

For Yahweh Elohim is a sun and shield; Yahweh will give grace and glory; no good thing will He with-

hold from those who walk uprightly. O Yahweh of Hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in You!" (Psalm 84:11–12 NKJV.)

Do we want good things, good gifts from Yahweh? Of course. Then we are to walk uprightly according to His Word, just as His Word tells us how to walk uprightly.

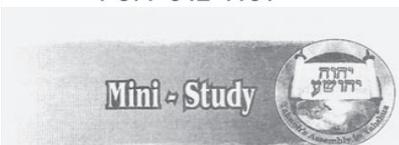
In the Scripture above, it says, "Yahweh Elohim is a sun and a shield." He provides the light and warmth we need, and also the protection and even shade, when it is needed. In all of this, we are to trust He will provide.

Yahshua Himself says, in Matthew 11:28 KJV,

Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

We may not think of rest as a gift, but it is a promise from the Master for those that come to Him.

To view this mini-study go to our web site at www.yaiy.org or phone 1-877-642-4101



Body, Soul & Spirit

Man is a complex entity; a physical body composed of 15 major chemical elements. Seventy-two percent of this body is oxygen. These necessary elements are found in the soil in various compounds. Growing plants utilize these compounds, which are assimilated into man's body through diet. Some plants are eaten by animals, which in turn end up in man's diet.

Upon death, man's body decomposes into the basic elements and returns to the earth. "Dust thou art and to dust shalt thou return" Genesis 3:19. "Thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust" Psalm 104:29.

One of the most widely held teachings of churchianity today is that within man's body lives a soul. This soul is the ethereal part of man that leaves the body at death and goes to heaven or to hell, or (in the beliefs of Catholicism) to purgatory. The soul is thought to be the "real you" inside the physical body. The soul is assumed to be an immortal spirit that can never die. This runs counter to the plain teaching of Scripture which clearly states, "The soul that sinneth it shall die" Ezekiel 18:4; repeated in verse 20.

Satan, the Father of Lies

This most widely held fallacy originated when Satan deceived Eve in the Garden of Eden. Thus Satan is called the first liar in Scripture. Yahshua said he was a liar and the father of lies, John 8:44. "Thou shalt not surely die," Satan told Eve, "For Elohim does know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened and

But, when it comes to the gifts of the Spirit, we see Paul describing them in the following verses of 1 Corinthians.

Variety In One

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Master; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same Elohim who empowers them all in every-one. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, Who apportions to each one individually as He wills, 1 Corinthians 12:4–11 ESV.

The following, in order which was just given:

1. Utterance of wisdom
2. Utterance of knowledge
3. Faith
4. Gifts of healing
5. Working of miracles
6. Prophecy
7. The ability to distinguish between spirits
8. Various kinds of tongues
9. The interpretation of tongues

Different Workings

After this, Paul starts to describe different workings of the body as just that, a functioning body. With legs and arms, mouth, eyes, and ears.

A little further he describes a chronological order of gifts within the working assembly.

Now you are the Body of Messiah, and members individually.

And Elohim has appointed these in the assembly: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues, 1 Corinthians 12:27–28 NKJV.

Following is the list of items, in chronological order:

1. Apostles
2. Prophets
3. Teachers
4. Miracles
5. Healings
6. Helps
7. Administrations
8. Varieties of tongues

We know that Apostles, who were originally disciples, had seen the risen Messiah, and had been sent forth to preach the Good News and to start fulfilling the Great Commission.

If we consider that Paul also spoke prophetically in other areas of his writings, would it be any stretch of our imagination to think that this might be prophetic also, as a deeper layer of understanding we often see given in Scripture?

Preached To All Nations

We have been recently inundated with requests and offers to translate our studies along with the Bible Correspondence Course, in particular. The other day we received the first lesson (lesson #1) of the BCC translated into the Madagascan language.

If we compare this idea (that is, offers to translate our studies into other languages/tongues) with other areas of prophecy, such as, Matthew 24, we find that the evangel and message of the coming Kingdom of Yahweh will be preached into all the nations as a witness and then the end will come.

We realize there is a layer of understanding concerning gifts of tongues when speaking of someone actually speaking in another language, even the heavenly one, Hebrew, but we should consider

and keep an open mind about some of these things and what Yahweh's Word is showing us. How close are we to the end?

We don't know, but we should be about our Father's business, and use whatever gifts are now available to us for the good of one another and preaching of His Word.

As each one has received a gift, serve one another, as good trustees of the manifold favour of Elohim. If anyone speaks, let it be as the Words of Elohim. If anyone serves, let it be as with the strength which Elohim provides, so that Elohim might be praised in it all through Yahshua Messiah, to Whom belong the esteem and the rule forever and ever. Amain ("so be it" or "may it be so"), 1 Peter 4:10–11 TS.

Right Motives

Getting back to asking about spiritual gifts, it's important how one asks and for what purpose. Because, if it is to boast or brag or show off, then no doubt it won't be granted as specifically requested.

But, it appears that the Spirit gives accordingly for the needs that exist. Therefore, when we are immersed, we are given a portion of the Spirit as a gift in itself. Then there is also something else that will work to build up the assembly and Body of Messiah which would be appropriate for the individual granted the gift.

For everyone in the Body of Messiah there are some common things which must occur, if we are going to be a pleasing people to Yahweh and to His Son Yahshua.

His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and righteousness, through the knowledge of Him Who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance righteousness, to righteousness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love, 2 Peter 1:3–8 NKJV.

Please note the order in which these things are given:

1. Faith
2. Virtue
3. Knowledge
4. Self-control
5. Perseverance
6. Righteousness
7. Brotherly kindness
8. Love

If we flip the order, we see love is the goal and at the top:

1. Love
2. Brotherly kindness

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Mini Study



Love

How it Fulfills the Law

Are the Ten Commandments replaced by love? Did the Messiah come to teach that we no longer have to obey the Ten Commandments, but merely show love in our life? Did He do away with the Ten Commandments? What does the New Testament teach on this pivotal subject?

The visitor seemed amused that we should be teaching anything about the Ten Commandments. "Don't you know the laws were done away at the cross?" he asked incredulously. "They were only for the Jews anyway, and we are under grace."

Then he added, "If you believe in the New Testament, then you must preach love, for the Savior did away with the law and said we are to love the Father and our neighbor and on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets," he beamed.

Perhaps you have been told this same thing by well-meaning people who feel enlightened, not obligated to obey anything in the Old Testament, sincerely believing that they are not burdened by any law. Their interest is in the New Testament only and they emphasize the grace and love of our Savior.

The Meaning of Love

The source of love is from our Heavenly Father Yahweh who "so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

John declares that Yahweh is the source of all love, and also writes: "He that loves not knows not Yahweh; for Yahweh is love." (1 John 4:8)

Two distinct words for love appear in the Bible. The Greek word *phileo* means "to have ardent affection

3. Righteousness
4. Perseverance
5. Self-control
6. Knowledge
7. Virtue
8. Faith

Love Above All

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Messiah's have impaled the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit, Galatians 5:22–26 KJV.

The fruit, singular, is given as love. The other things are connected to it, but if you have them in abundance, then you have love in abundance.

Having Messiah rule our lives from within means we're impaling or putting to the stake the deeds of the flesh and the lusts thereof.

If we are submitting to the LOVE within us, that is Messiah according to Yahweh's Spirit, then we will not be fulfilling our own lusts or things contrary to the Law of Yahweh. There is no law within Yahweh's Law saying you cannot express meekness - there are no laws against self-control. The idea is that the Spirit gives us self-control along with meekness and all the other attributes associated with the Spirit, none of which are unlawful.

This is why, among the gifts of the Spirit, Paul tells us to seek after love most of all, and that it is better and above the rest. And this is not just his understanding, but Peter, as we've already seen, has set love as the main goal, because true love incorporates all of the other attributes he mentioned.

We are to:

Earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way, 1 Corinthians 12:31 ESV.

Paul then goes on in chapter 13

to explain that love is paramount.

If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing, 1 Corinthians 13:1–2 NASB.

This is really profound, and many take this to mean loving feelings toward one another and that the law is no longer needed.

True Love

But "true love" means we keep the 7th day holy; it means keeping our temple undefiled and clean by not eating pork or other designated unclean things that Yahweh has forbidden as food for human consumption. It means calling upon His Name and not following the traditions of men who end up breaking Yahweh's commandments by keeping their traditions.

The Spirit working within us in strength should alert us and keep

us from walking in former lusts of the flesh and errors of the traditions of men. The Messiah will bring to our minds the Word of Yahweh so we can follow it and be in line with true love.

If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing, 1 Corinthians 13:3 ESV.

Paul emphasizes throughout this chapter how important it is to express love in our lives and to seek it with earnest.

The idea of his body being burned is better translated in the NIV as follows:

If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing, 1 Corinthians 13:3 NIV.

The scholars here must have realized that the Aramaic word used was *yaqad*, which can mean either "to burn" or "to boast." Here, it is most likely better translated in context as "to boast."

It's interesting that many scholars still keep with the tradition that the New Testament was originally in Greek, when the evidence clearly points to a Semitic origin.

In Conclusion

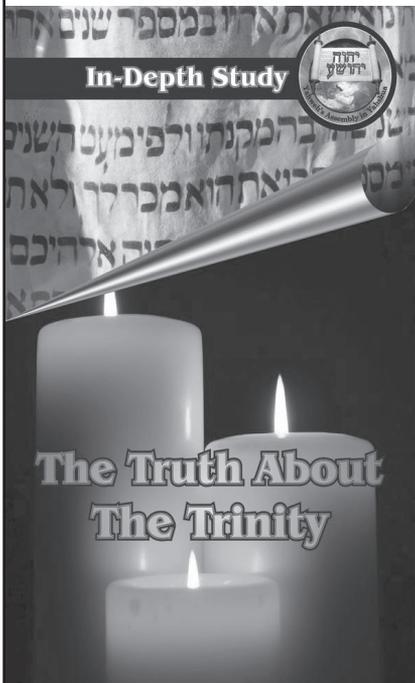
In conclusion, it is appropriate to ask for gifts from above.

Keep in mind, however, as we walk through this life and toward the next, we are not only to pay attention and obey every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh, as Yahshua said (Matt. 4:4), but we are also to seek to walk in the Spirit.

This, along with obedience, allows us to express the true love which we find exemplified in Messiah Yahshua.

Let's walk as He did and still does, as He continues to live His life in us, through the gift and love of the Spirit.

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In-Depth Study

**The Truth About
The Trinity**

Elder David Brett

Fellowship Of Suffering

The proper “Road Map” will always have you arrive at the correct finish line.

The New Testament exhibits a partial fulfillment of the Old Testament’s promised glories of mankind. Hearts and minds are joyfully gladdened upon comprehending the many great events promised and alluded to in the Old Testament as explained and expanded through Yahshua. Adding to the joy was His sending the Holy Spirit to indwell us. Perhaps the grandest news is that it is possible for obedient human beings to become the veritable son or daughter of our Heavenly Father Yahweh. As Firstfruits, we will become spirit beings at the first resurrection!

Regenerated

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the [children] of [Yahweh]: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the [children] of [Yahweh] it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is, 1 John 3:1-2 AV.

Those in the first resurrection will be brought to life in the spirit world and can manifest themselves at will in the physical, human tradition or remain in the spirit realm, becoming invisible. Just as Yahshua could move through walls or buildings and emerge on the other side, so will we be able to vanish and appear at will.

And their eyes were opened, and they knew Him; and He vanished out of their sight, Luke 24:31 AV.

And as they thus spake, Yahshua Himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace [be] unto you. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit, Luke 24:36-37 AV.

Request our mini-study “The Spirit Realm.”

Road Map To The Kingdom

To help in achieving our goal of being in the first resurrection, we are given a “road map” to the kingdom. This roadmap lists seven times of the year that Yahweh expects us to take time from our busy calendar of worldly activities and spend time reviewing and learning more about the coming “World Tomorrow,” a rehearsal of life in the kingdom and what is expected of us now and what is anticipated in the future. We joyfully take time from our activities and concerns in the mundane world so that we can renew our spiritual

goals in preparation for our greater responsibilities in the kingdom. The weekly Sabbath also keeps us alert to the signs of the times.

Numerous promises in Scripture continually motivate humans to enter into the covenant with Yahweh and become a partaker of these wonderful blessings. The “Who’s Who” of saints found in Hebrews 11 tells of the heavy price some of the faithful paid for their determination to be a partaker of these wonderful promises. By faith they obeyed Yahweh, and subdued kingdoms, obtained promises, stopped the mouth of lions, and weakness was turned to strength. Others were tortured, chained, put in prison, stoned, and sawed in two, verses 33-40.

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented. (Of whom the world was not worthy). They wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: Yahweh having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Joined Through Baptism

Through baptism we have joined with these dedicated saints and together we await the return of Yahshua. We are determined to do whatever it takes that we will indeed remain steadfast in His truth, and be accounted worthy of the high calling in Yahshua.

The price required by some of the faithful for resisting Satan’s forces of evil is beyond our comprehension. Words do not instill the anguish, neither the mental and physical torment suffered by many of the martyrs throughout history. Persecutions will increase in number and grow in intensity as we near the end of the age, and Satan will pull out all stops in his program to thwart Yahweh’s plan of redeeming a lost world.

The Word is clear that many will share in the sufferings of the Savior as well as martyrs who have gone before:

That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and may share His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, Php. 3:10 AV.

Paul encourages all who have willingly entered into a relationship with Yahweh to remember we are heirs of His and joint-heirs with the Messiah. If it is our lot to suffer, others also will suffer, and we all will share in His glory:

And if children, then heirs; heirs of Elohim, and joint-heirs with Messiah; if so be that we suffer with [Him], that we may be also glorified together, Rom. 8:17 AV.

His sons and daughters are heirs to the promises with Messiah and are considered heirs of Yahweh.

Many who turn from the ways of the world and may even get baptized into Yahshua's saving Name expect their life from that time on will be a rose garden of pleasure and ease. They realize the Heavenly Father is rich, for He owns the cattle on a thousand hills (*For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills, Psalm 50:10.*) and His omnipotence allows Him to do whatever He wishes. However, we cannot expect Him to take care of all our needs.

Awaiting Tribulation

The Apostle John fully expects those who accept Yahshua as their Savior will have "tribulation" just as all the other followers were also tested. The NIV note on Rev.1:9 mentions three dominating themes in Revelation: Suffering, Kingdom and Patient Endurance. John is said to have lived out his life on the island of Patmos:

I, John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Yahshua Messiah, was in the isle

that is called Patmos, for the word of Yahweh, and for the testimony of Yahshua Messiah, Rev. 1:9 AV.

From that time forth began Yahshua to shew unto His disciples, how that He must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took Him, and began to rebuke Him, saying, Be it far from thee, Master: this shall not be unto Thee. But He turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind Me, Satan: thou art an offence unto Me: for thou savourest not the things that be of Yahweh, but those that be of men, Matt. 16:21-23.

We read here that at one time the Apostle Peter rebelled against the idea that Yahshua would suffer. He later realized suffering was acceptable for the glorious power that would come as a result of trials he received as a worthy servant:

But rejoice insofar as you share Messiah's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when His glory is revealed, 1 Peter 4:13 AV.

We are expected to mature and grow within the guidelines of Scripture and be an example of righteous living to the world. When we have a problem and need help or guidance, Yahweh will see to it provision will be forthcoming. This is how we develop integrity.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of Yahweh; and if children, then heirs; heirs of Elohim, and joint-heirs with Messiah; if so be that we suffer with [Him], that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time [are] not worthy [to be compared] with the glory which shall be revealed in us, Rom. 8:16-18 AV.

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding [and] eternal weight of glory; for this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory

beyond all comparison. While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen [are] temporal; but the things which are not seen [are] eternal, 2 Cor. 4:17-18 AV.

Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith being more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Yahshua Messiah, 1 Peter 1:6-7 AV.

The Reward Awaits Us

It is only as we have fellowship in the sufferings of Messiah and are made "conformable (like unto) unto His death" that we will experience the mighty power of Yahweh to raise us from the dead and exalt us to His own right hand with Messiah. There is a price to be paid to prove one's wholehearted willingness and sincerity in following Yahshua.

Our understanding and comprehension is through the fellowship of His sufferings—by identification with Him in His ordeals and death, by imputation. It may also be bearing the "cross" or whatever is laid on us, after His example, "filling up that which is behind the afflictions of Messiah" so we participate in His death. This is especially true at Passover time when we rehearse the initial Passover of ancient Israel and follow up with the New Testament account where we are given an annual reminder of the price He paid for our salvation:

That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death, Php. 3:10 AV.

Goodspeed makes our participation even stronger:

I want to know Him in the power of resurrection, and to share His

sufferings and even His death in the hope of attaining resurrection from the dead, Php. 3:10 Good-speed.

Yahweh's Historical Plan

In observing the the seven annual Sabbaths [moedim], we are given a yearly reminder of the grand design

Yahweh has in store for mankind and the opportunity offered to us. He is calling us out of the world to spend time each year in a refresher course that reminds us of the commitment we have made in seeking His truth.

Through a very simple plan, Yahweh demonstrates that by the growing of crops. He makes an analogy of harvesting human souls to be a kingdom of priests to rule on a restored earth. He begins with the account of Israel's being slaves in Egypt and how they were freed from slavery on Passover night. They left Egypt in an organized manner and joyfully started for the Promised Land.

Protected in their homes in Goshen, Israel ate the roasted lamb with unleavened bread on Passover night. No drink is mentioned. The daylight of Passover found Israel gathering up their herds and heading for the rallying point at Rameses. Israel continued eating unleavened bread for seven days until they were completely out of Egypt. The unleavened bread reminded them of their days of slavery in Egypt. The proscription against eating leavened bread with the Passover lamb or the seven days following continued:

Thou shalt eat no leavened

Biblical Holy Days

"What you may not know is that there are specific days the Bible commands man to keep, days that are very important for anyone who desires True Worship."

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bread with it; seven days shalt thou eat unleavened bread therewith, [even] the bread of affliction; for thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt in haste: that thou mayest remember the day when thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of thy life, Deut. 16:3 AV.

In the New Testament we keep the Passover as a memorial of the true Passover Lamb Who died for the sins of the world. We eat the unleavened bread (the bread of affliction) as a memorial of His suffering and death, and we are reminded of ancient Israel's slavery as well as our present bondage to worldly ways. Messiah has paid the price of our freedom from past error, and now we seek His way of life so that we might walk with Him on higher ground.

Remain Steadfast And True

And our hope of you [is] steadfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so [shall ye be] also of the consolation, 2 Cor. 1:7 AV.

[It is] a faithful saying: for if we be dead with [Him], we shall also live with [Him], 2 Tim. 2:11 AV.

Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Messiah

in my flesh for His body's sake, which is the Assembly, Col. 1:24 AV.

And he that taketh not his torture stake, and followeth after Me, is not worthy of Me, Matt. 10:38 AV.

Then said Yahshua unto His disciples, If any [man] will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his torture

stake, and follow Me, Matt. 16:24 AV.

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of Elohim, and afflicted, Isa. 53:4 AV.

Note the many verses that correlate the suffering we might undergo as a badge of our sincerity in following Yahshua. Baptism is for the individuals to become a part of the body of believers who then join with others in celebrating Passover and Unleavened Bread.

Deuteronomy 16:3 reminds us that unleavened bread is called the "bread of affliction" to be eaten during the days of unleavened bread to remind us of the fellowship of suffering we share with others and take on a deeper feeling for the suffering of the Messiah.

But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Messiah's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy, 1 Pet. 4:13 AV.

Rather than ignoring the sufferings of the Messiah, let us set aside the glories of His coming again so that we are able to realize the price He paid for our salvation. We can join with others in joyful admiration for the gift of Yahweh, His Son Yahshua!

**Elder Donald R. Mansager
 (deceased)**

Yahweh's Commandments or Man's Traditions?



Which choice will you make? Which choice leads to everlasting life?

I made a wonderful discovery having to do with leavened and unleavened bread! No, don't even think that I have "new light" on this, except to say that it is new light to me. You may have already come to understand what I'm going to share with you, but I hadn't realized it until now as I studied to write a message. Examine the following Scripture:

Therefore let us keep the feast [referring to Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread, even though Scripture simply says "Passover"], *not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth*, 1 Corinthians 5:8.

Misleading

OK. Nothing new, right? Listen to this: In the phrase "unleavened bread," the word "bread" is not found in the Greek text. We know that. *Azumos* is the Greek word that means, "unleavened." We know that, too. Also, we know that *azumos* means "uncorrupted," figuratively. [The word *azumos*, at NO place in the Scripture is used to describe a piece of unleavened bread. NO one actually eats *azumos*! In fact, *azumos* is used exclusively to mean either "the Feast of Unleavened Bread" or the concept of "uncorruptedness." AND, therefore, *zumos* must mean "corrupted." Therefore, this verse can EASILY be so rendered (and I think, SHOULD BE).

Makes More Sense

Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old corruption, neither with the corruption of malice and wickedness; but with uncorrupted sincerity and truth, 1 Corinthians 5:8.

This makes a LOT more sense.

But, this is not the discovery I was speaking of; and before I move on to that discovery, I must clarify another word in this verse; the word, "old," as in "old corruption." Paul (Shaul) is NOT talking about the Law of Yahweh when he uses the phrase, "old corruption," which is rendered "old leaven" in most translations. I'm bringing this idea up to refute the false teachings and traditions of those who have abandoned the Law of Yahweh, killing it by thinking that Yahweh's Law was killed, being nailed to the torture stake.

Paul is talking, rather, about the "old corruption" of those Pharisees who corrupted (who LEAVENED) the Law of Yahweh through THEIR laws, statutes, judgments and traditions. Remember, Paul used to abide in those traditions until Yahshua physically blinded him to demonstrate that He, Yahshua, was the Son of Yahweh. I am certain that Paul understood what Yahshua meant when He asked the Pharisees:

Why do you transgress the commandment of Elohim because of your tradition? (Matthew 15:3).

The notion, or rather the TRADITION, that Paul was against the "old" Law of Yahweh is absurd; it is wrong; it is an abomination; and it is the epitome of corruption.

Listen To the Word

Pastors! Priests! Ministers! And, Preachers! If you are reading this message, please consider the consequences of abandoning the One Who created you. Consider the consequences of teaching false doctrine. Consider the bitter weeping of the One Who suffered tribulation of the flesh for your sins, so that you might live eternally with Him and the Father. Consider those whom you are leading to the "broad way that leadeth to destruction." Their blood will be on your hands. Their agony will be a result of your desire for money to feed your family at the cost of their lives. Consider these words, and repent. Read the Word of Yahweh, not with the leaven of tradition, but with the uncorruptedness of the Word Itself, the Words of Yahweh, Himself.

Back To "Unleavened"

Now, back to my "discovery." I wanted to understand what "unleavened" meant in Hebrew. The word for "unleavened" is *matstzah*, and it is defined as "greedily devouring for sweetness." Properly, "unleavened" means "sweetness." And, concretely, it means sweet; that is, "not soured or bittered with yeast." Further, the concordant primitive root of the word is *mat-sats*, meaning "to suck," implying "milk." Now, would an infant drink soured milk? Whoa! This is a whole new paradigm for me. This is my discovery. Two thousand years or so after Paul's words were written, we have leavened bread that is "sweet." But, back THEN, leavened bread was made from ... SOURD dough. Today, we don't relish eating unleavened bread because we consider it to be dry and "tasteless." That's not to say that the

Sisters here haven't found ways to make unleavened bread taste good; but after the Feast of Unleavened Bread, don't we eagerly rush off to the store to buy some of that good ol' leavened bread? Well, we now have cultured yeast that adds a sweet flavor to our breads. Back then, they left their "starter dough" (or the "new lump") out in the open for wild yeast to settle into the dough and begin reproducing, emitting gas into the mixture. So, if we can understand the nature of leavened, sour bread in Paul's day, it is easy to understand how he could describe "malice" and "wickedness" as being sour bread; that is, "leavened bread," and similarly how he could describe unleavened, SWEET bread, as "sincerity" and "truth." How clear is THAT?

Leaven — Sin?

Finally, I have this to say to those who might suggest that "leaven does not represent sin, but represents the Holy Spirit in the two loaves offered at the Feast of Weeks." I suggest for your consideration that your "raised loaf" of understanding is similarly, SOUR.

Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Master in an unworthy manner [hmmm, "unworthy manner;" could that be partaking of the leavened, soured bread of malice and wickedness? In 1 Corinthians 11:22, Paul says, "Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the Assembly of Yahweh (in Yahshua) and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you for this?" *Certainly not!*]. *Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Master in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Master. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body* [or in other manuscripts, the body of the Mas-

ter], eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. When we are judged by the Master, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world, 1 Corinthians 11:27-32.

Be Sincere and Truthful

Brothers and Sisters, let us be ever diligent, sincere and truthful in our praise and worship of Yahweh Almighty and walk in the ways of His Son, Yahshua. Speaking of which, let us now consider the book of Joshua.

Now therefore, fear Yahweh, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve Yahweh! And if it seems evil to you to serve Yahweh, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh. So the people answered and said: "Far be it from us that we should forsake Yahweh to serve other gods; for Yahweh our Elohim is He Who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, Who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. And Yahweh drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve Yahweh, for He is our Elohim." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve Yahweh, for He is a holy Elohim. He is a jealous Elohim; He will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. If you forsake Yahweh and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you,

after He has done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, but we will serve Yahweh!" So Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen Yahweh for yourselves, to serve Him." And they said, "We are witnesses!" "Now therefore," he said, "put away the foreign gods which are among you, and incline your heart to Yahweh Elohim of Israel." And the people said to Joshua, "Yahweh our Elohim we will serve, and His voice we will obey!" So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of Elohim. And he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of Yahweh. And Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, this stone shall be a witness to us, for it has heard all the words of Yahweh which He spoke to us. It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your Elohim." So Joshua let the people depart, each to his own inheritance, Joshua 24:14-28.

Origin of "Sincerity and Truth"

Now, where do you suppose Paul got the phrase, "sincerity and truth"? It seems more than coincidental that the Word of Yahweh, spoken by Joshua of Nun, and the Word of Yahweh, demonstrated IN Yahshua His Son, should speak to Paul so clearly about "sincerity and truth." Yahshua the Messiah made a deep impression upon Paul, blinding him so he could SEE how important it was to understand the truth and then to "sincerely" apply it to one's life. Paul learned, the hard way, to abandon the teachings and traditions of man; and, instead, hold fast to the Word of Yahweh. That is, the LAW of Yahweh. Paul hadn't recognized Yahshua, because of his blindness of tradition. Later, he taught the truth of Yahsh-

ua the Messiah to the Bereans and all to whom he spoke, from the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings of the Tanach. Today, we have the New Covenant to verify the Law, the Prophesies and the Wisdom books of the "Old Covenant." Those who have not abandoned the Law can see the New Testament in the Old, and the Old Testament in the New.

However, Satan has laid his hand on those who would alter the words of Yahshua and His apostles and corrupt them into something resembling the worship of false deities, national customs and the teachings and philosophies of man.

Our Responsibility

Brethren, we have the responsibility of the blessing of truth to go out into the world and teach and preach the good news of the Kingdom of Yahweh, the return of the Messiah, the will of Yahweh, and the Law of Yahweh by which we shall live. I was called to the truth by Yahweh's Spirit which said to me, "Honor My Sabbath." Yahweh, by virtue of His will and with nothing that I contributed, changed my mind. I honor Him today by honoring that day that He set apart from the world, that I might more fully understand His will and serve Him the rest of my life. May I suffer the humiliation of righteousness, and may I lose my life of this fleshly generation; and, may I be forgiven for my unwillingness to endure hunger and lust for the things of this world.

IF you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on My holy day, IF you call the Sabbath a delight and Yahweh's holy day honorable, and IF you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, THEN you will find your joy in Yahweh, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father

Jacob. The mouth of Yahweh has spoken, Isaiah 58:13-14.

A Time of Joy

You will FIND your joy in Yahweh. Some claim that it is important to be "joyous" on Sabbath. I'm not sure that the word "joyous" means "happy," "giddy," or "having fun." I don't know; there are times when my greatest joy brings tears; tears of gratitude and thankfulness; and tears of fear and hope for the ones I love. All of these tears point to my love for Yahweh and His Son Yahshua for what I have received and the blessing of understanding that I have been given. I can't imagine a joy greater than this: Praise Yahweh for the Sabbath Day.

But beware. There are those who teach contrary to the Scripture. One example comes from a site called "Catholic.com." It states, "Scripture such as Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 16:2, Colossians 2:16-17, and Revelation 1:10-11a indicate that, even during New Testament times, the Sabbath is no longer binding and that Christians are to worship on the Lord's day, Sunday, instead.

Examination Is Required Acts 20:7

On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight, Acts 20:7.

We've heard this before. Yes, Paul was intending to leave the next day; the day AFTER Sabbath. After the sun went down on Sabbath, it was now the first day of the week, and they "broke bread," meaning they shared a meal. Paul continued to preach to those gathered there until late at night. He left on Sunday morning. "Man, he left before church services! How rude!" Not! The first day of the week, which we refer to as "Sunday," is the first day

of the work week. That's when he left, not on Monday.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

Now about the collection for Yahweh's people: Do what I told the Galatian assemblies to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 NIV.

The word "assembly" does not mean "church building." It is the Greek word, *ecclesia*, meaning a gathering of "the called-out ones." The first day of the week would be the first opportunity for the assembly to deal with money matters, as no money is to be dealt with on Sabbath. Also, there is only one day every year that is a Holy Convocation on the first day of the week, Pentecost. And, the word "collections" does not refer to collection plates that they passed up and down the pews as the congregation sits, listening to a pastor preach a sermon. It is the "third tithe," as described in Deuteronomy 26:12-14 NKJV,

When you have finished laying aside all the tithe of your increase in the third year -- the year of tithing -- and have given it to the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, so that they may eat within your gates and be filled, then you shall say before Yahweh your Elohim: "I have removed the holy tithe from my house, and also have given them to the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, according to all Your commandments which You have commanded me; I have not transgressed Your commandments, nor have I forgotten them."

There are three Scriptural tithes, for one's increase in their labor, for the cost of travel to the three annual Feasts, and for the poor (which is offered every three years).

Colossians 2:16-17

Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Messiah, Colossians 2:16-17 NIV.

I've heard it preached that, "We shouldn't be concerned with these shadows because there is no substance in a shadow; what we want is the real thing." This verse is often interpreted to mean, "You shouldn't worry if you celebrate a religious festival of your choosing. After all, we are now free."

However, we know that these "shadows" are actually rehearsals, or prophecies of events concerning Yahweh's plan of salvation. The Appointed Times of Yahweh are BEACONS to those who are the children of Yahweh. We eagerly celebrate that which is of Yahweh.

And, the last of these references:

Revelation 1:10-

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, saying, I am Alpha and Omega [this would be "the Aleph and the Tau," in the Hebrew sense], the first and the last, Revelation 1:10-11a KJV.

OK. Let us examine the phrase, "the Lord's day," which is grammatically equal to "the day of the Lord."

For the day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon everyone who is proud and lofty, and upon everyone who is lifted up; and he shall be brought low, Isaiah 2:12.

Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD is coming, for it is at hand: a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, Joel 2:1-2 KJV.

But concerning the times and the seasons [the Appointed Times

of Yahweh], brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-4 KJV.

The correct translation of these three phrases is not the day of the LORD, but "The Day of Yahweh," and, as anyone can understand who is willing to hear it, "the LORD's Day" is not a Sunday, nor is it the weekly Sabbath, the 7th day which Yahweh set aside for Himself. The Day of Yahweh is the Apocalypse (the Revelation), a day of destruction, as revealed to John.

Covering Up Truth Using Man's Traditions

There are many other instances of man's traditions that attempt to cover up the Law of Yahweh. For example, first by Matthew:

Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Yahshua, saying, "Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread." He answered and said to them, "Why do you also transgress the commandment of Yahweh because of your tradition? For Yahweh commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.' But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, "Whatever profit you might have received from me is a gift to Yahweh" then he need not honor his father or mother.' Thus you have made the commandment of Yahweh of no effect by your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and

honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." When He had called the multitude to Himself, He said to them, "Hear and understand: not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man." Then His disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?" But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch." Then Peter answered and said to Him, "Explain this parable to us." So Yahshua said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man," Matt. 15:1-20.

Mark writes very similarly, but with some additional verses.

When He had entered a house away from the crowd, His disciples asked Him concerning the parable. So He said to them, "Are you thus without understanding also? Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, thus purifying all foods?" And He said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil

thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man," Mark 7:17-23.

Now, talk about traditions replacing the word of Yahweh! "Thus purifying all foods" in the NKJV! Or, in the NIV, "In saying this, Yahshua declared all foods 'clean'." Or, in the NLT, "By saying this, He showed that every kind of food is acceptable. How ironic is this? In the words of Yahshua about the abomination of creating one's own tradition, this added phrase is nothing but an attempt to ADD TRADITION to the word of Yahweh in order to justify and accommodate those who wish to continue in their pagan lifestyles. It is phenomenally absurd and incongruous! Who could imagine Yahshua or any of the apostles even thinking about eating unclean foods! It is impossible; for one thing, Yahshua would be breaking the Law of Yahweh. No! This is irrational and just plain wrong.

A note in the NKJV for verse 19 states, "the NU-Text [which stands for "the Nestle-Aland Greek New Testament (N) and the United Bible Societies' third edition (U)], ends the quotation with the word, 'eliminated,' setting off the final clause as Mark's parenthetical comment that 'Yahshua has declared all foods clean'." The NASU notes that the phrase "Yahshua has declared all foods clean" "literally means 'goes out into the latrine'." It does not mean that "all food is now clean." The KJV and the Darby Bible in verse 19 use the words, "It goes out into the draught, purging all meats." The Greek word for "draught" is *aphedron* and means "a place of sitting apart," you know, a private place ... a privy! Although "purging" can mean purifying, it can't

be the meaning here, for whoever heard of a bowel movement purifying anything! No! "Purging," here, means "to expel." And, the word, "meats," is the Elizabethan word for "food." Mark 7:19 should read, "It goes out into the privy, expelling all foods." Therefore, these verses have NOTHING to do with clean versus unclean foods; it is about Yahshua chastising the Pharisees about their teaching as doctrines the commandments of men!

So then, just as you received Yahshua the Messiah as [your] Sovereign, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on the Messiah. For in the Messiah all the fullness of the Creator lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in the Messiah, Who is the head over every power and authority. In Him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by the Messiah, having been buried with Him in baptism and raised with Him through your faith in the power of Elohim, Who raised Him from the dead. When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, Elohim made you alive with the Messiah. He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us, Colossians 2:6-14.

The Written Code or Handwriting is the Greek word, *cheirographon*; a hand-written legal document or bond; not written by Yahweh, but by the hand of man. Ordinances or Regulations is the Greek word *dogma*; a civil, ceremonial or ecclesi-

astical decree or ordinance. In our society, this “civil ordinance written against us” is called ... a “warrant for our arrest.” We’ve managed to acquire charges against us for breaking the law. What Yahshua has done for us is to take our punishment for us. And, what was the punishment that we were to endure? Death! Eternal death. In standing in for us on our day of execution, no charges made before our immersion remain against us. He is the Judge of all matters, and, as such, He forgave us of all our sins by granting us mercy. He did not forgive our sinfulness! Make no mistake, we can still sin; and we can quench the Spirit and lose our salvation,

If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, Heb. 10:26.

His hope in doing so was to kill our interest in this world, and to open us up to righteousness and the granting of mercy to our fellow mankind.

Some have said, “I’m saved, and once saved, always saved.” Can a person who rejects his baptism by rejoining the world of sin really expect to enter into the Kingdom of Yahweh? Let us not trample the Spirit of Grace given to us through Yahshua. He substituted or transferred our sentence to Him. He stood in front of us to receive our just punishment. He did not abolish the Law of Yahweh! Think about it! If He had abolished the Law of Yahweh, then He would have simultaneously done away with sin itself, making all human beings perfect in the Father’s sight, and making His sacrifice and death a trivial thing.

He took our ar-

rest warrant away, nailing it to the tree. He took away the sins we had committed up to the point at which we honored His sacrifice by dying with Him, by being immersed in His name. Baptism is the witness to accepting His payment for our sins.

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the torture stake. Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a Feast [a Holy Convocation of Yahweh], a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come [meaning that were prophesied to come in the future]; the reality, however, is found in the Messiah. Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person goes into great detail about what he has seen, and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions. He has lost connection with the Head, from Whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as Elohim causes it to grow, Colossians 2:15-19 NIV.

Interesting! Ligaments and sinews. Does this not bring to mind the valley of the bones of Israel? Yahweh is restoring "the whole

House of Israel."

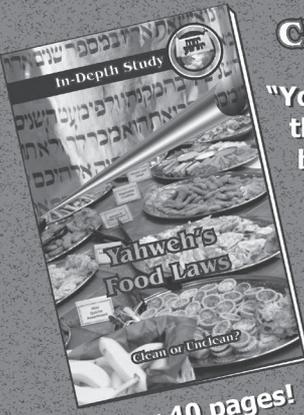
Since you died with the Messiah to the basic [lower] principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence, Colossians 2:20-23 NIV.

Let’s take a closer look at verses 20 through 23. These are verses that are used by those who would destroy the word of Yahweh and institute false traditions, for they interpret these verses to imply that Paul is chastising Believers to ignore the Word of Yahweh. He is NOT. He is chastising the teachings of man, just as he wrote in verse 22. He is chastising the Pharisaical laws that prevent Believers from obeying the Law of Yahweh. And, just like the Pharisees, today we have those who would teach contrary to the Law of Yahweh, to maintain their presumed power, status and glory.

Rescue us, O Yahweh! And, bring those who are searching for Your truth out from the doctrines of men to Your Assembly, that we might know You more fully, that we might faithfully do Your will and receive that which You have promised to Your Children.

Yahweh’s Food Laws

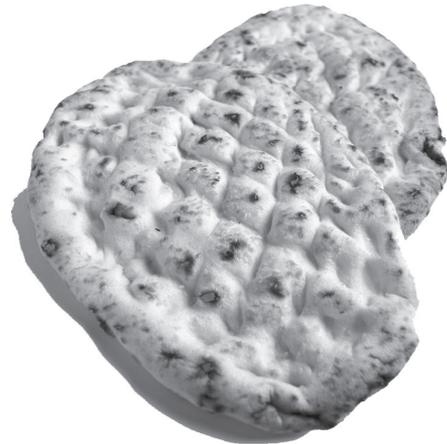
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"You must distinguish between the holy and the common, between the unclean and clean."
- Leviticus 10:10

Elder John Fisher



Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread

The time of Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread can be viewed as the first of three harvest seasons. One of the major crops at this time of year was barley because it was used for a specific reason. It is also a time of year when we are commanded to gather together:

Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto Me in the year. Thou shalt keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:). And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field. Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before Yahweh Elohim, Ex. 23:14-17.

Passover-Feast of Unleavened Bread-8 Days

In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is Yahweh's Passover. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread unto Yahweh: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread. In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein, Lev. 23:5-8.

Passover occurs on the fourteenth day of the first scriptural month, Abib, while the Feast of Un-

leavened Bread begins on the fifteenth day of Abib and lasts for seven days. The word "servile" is the translation of the Hebrew *abodah*, meaning work of any kind.

Some celebrate Passover on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, but the Encyclopedia Judaica tells us: "The Feast of Passover consists of two parts: the Passover Ceremony and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Originally, both parts existed separately, but at the beginning of the exile they were combined" (vol. 13, "Passover," p. 169).

Passover-A Memorial Day

For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am Yahweh. And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt. And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to Yahweh throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever, Ex. 12:12-14.

The word "memorial" comes from the Hebrew (Strong's #OT:2146) *zikrown* (zik-rone'); from OT:2142; a memento (or memorable thing, day or writing); and is translated memorial or record in the King James Version of the Bible. The root word of *zikrown* is Strong's #2142, *zakar* (zaw-kar'). *Zakar* has numerous translations in the KJV, among them being "remember or to make to be remembered."

Does Christianity today celebrate, as a memorial, the day of Passover? The day in which Yahshua died? No, certainly not! Instead they celebrate Christmas and Easter, the supposed days of His birth and His resurrection into heaven.

A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth, Eccl. 7:1.

Passover – Its Meaning

Ex. 12:42 reads,

It [is] a night to be much observed unto Yahweh for bringing them out of the land of Egypt: this [is] that night of Yahweh to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.

The Jewish Tanakh gives the following reading for this verse:

That was for [Yahweh] a night of vigil to bring them out of the land of Egypt; that same night is [Yahweh's], one of vigil for all the children of Israel throughout the ages.

The word translated “observed” is Strong’s #8107 (*shimmur*), from #8104 (*shamar*), meaning an observance. On #8104, Strong says “A primitive root; properly to hedge about (as with thorns), i.e., guard; gen. to protect, attend to, etc.: beware, be circumspect, take heed, keep, mark, look narrowly, observe, preserve, regard, reserve, save, sure, wait, watch.” Clearly, the meaning is watching.

The Greek word translated “watch” is Strong’s #1453, *gregoreo*, and means to be vigilant and wide-awake; to be alert: be or stay awake, to keep awake, be alert, i.e., watch.

Can we fathom in our minds what the Israelites were feeling during the night of the Passover? It seems reasonable that they could not sleep because they knew that the destroying angel would be coming to kill all the firstborn. They were told to place the blood of the sacrificial lamb on the doorposts

and lintels for protection from the avenging angel. They were warned to remain within the protection of their blood-marked houses the entire evening. Ps. 30:5 is referring to this:

Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

The Israelites did leave Egypt by night – the night after Passover:

Observe the month of Abib, and keep the Passover unto Yahweh thy Elohim: for in the month of Abib Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee forth out of Egypt by night, Deut. 16:1.

Some believe Deut. 16:1 says that the Israelites left the land of Egypt to start their trek to the Promised Land. However, the Israelites kept the Passover after the sun set beginning the 14th of Abib as recorded in the Scriptures.

During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship Yahweh as you have requested. Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go. And also bless me.” The Egyptians urged the people to hurry and leave the country. “For otherwise,” they said, “we will all die!” So the people took their dough before the yeast was added, and carried it on their shoulders in kneading troughs wrapped in clothing. The Israelites did as Moses instructed and asked the Egyptians for articles of silver and gold and for clothing. Yahweh had made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for; so they plundered the Egyptians, Ex. 12:31-36 NIV.

After the Israelites spent the entire night portion of Passover in their houses they did as they were instructed to do by Moses, including plundering the Egyptians:

And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold,

and raiment: And Yahweh gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians, Ex. 12:35-36.

Here, the King James Version of the Scriptures uses “spoiled” in place of “plundered.”

The events of the day portion of Passover are relatively easy to reconstruct. On the morning of the 14th the remains of the sacrificial lamb were taken out, the people began gathering their family, flocks, and herds and assembled at Rameses, some 30 miles from Goshen.

And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the morrow after the Passover the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians, Num. 33:3.

Passover is indeed a preparation day. It is a day when one is to prepare for the Days of Unleavened Bread by cleansing their houses of all leaven. The day following Passover is a High Sabbath, so the followers of Yahshua wanted to take His body down before the first day of Unleavened Bread began:

The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the [tree] on the Sabbath day, (for that Sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away, John 19:31.

Cleansing of Our House and Body

The first day and the last day of the seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread are two of Yahweh’s seven annual Holy Days.

To properly keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread we must do so both physically and spiritually. During this period of time no leaven is to be found within the house nor is to be eaten. We are to remove

all leavened products from our homes. Actually, these verses also state that one is to eat unleavened bread at this time.

Physically, leaven is that which produces fermentation in a mass of dough.

A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump, Gal. 5:9.

The word “leaveneth” is the translation of the Greek *zumoo* meaning to cause to ferment.

Leaven breaks down flour, causing decay in the dough.

On the other side, there are two verses, Lev. 7:13 and Lev. 23:17, which show that the showbread and a praise offering to Yahweh both contained leaven, which sweetened the bread.

Where leaven is the translation in the Old Testament of the King James Version, it refers to the physical usage (yeast).

Spiritually, we are to remove any and all things that may cause us to be led astray.

Where leaven is the translation in the New Testament of the King James Version, it may refer to the physical usage at times, but it usually will have a spiritual meaning also.

Then understood they how that He bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees, Matt. 16:12.

And He charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod, Mark 8:15.

In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, in-somuch that they trode one upon another, He began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy, Luke 12:1.

Hypocrisy is a translation of the Greek *hupokrisis* (Strong's #5272), whose root word means to play a part, deceitful pretending.

The Significance of Leavening Egypt

Each Passover we celebrate the salvation of Israel from Egyptian bondage. It was a time of joy as the slaves were given their freedom and loaded down with gifts from their former masters. They were starting on their way to the Promised Land. By accepting Yahshua's shed blood for the remission of our sins, we are likewise freed from the bondage of sin.

Israel had the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night to guide them. We have Yahweh's promise and His guidebook in the Old and the New Testaments to direct us and give us instruction for every facet of life. We are also given the promise by the Savior that He would never leave us nor forsake us, provided we abide in the Truth and keep His commandments. The Holy Spirit from Yahweh continues to guide and keep us in the narrow way. When we are immersed into the name of Yahshua Messiah and have hands laid on us by the eldership, Yahweh promises a token of His Spirit to indwell in us and help us along the straight and narrow way.

Easter – Satan's Substitute

In Eccl. 7:1 Yahweh tells us that,

A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth, Eccl. 7:1.

This scripture tells us that it is better to remember the day of one's death (Yahshua's death on Passover) than to remember the day of one's birth (xmas). What Satan has managed to do is to have the world celebrate a day which supposedly commemorates the day when Yahshua was resurrected from the dead – the day which has been labeled Easter.

Passover and the Feast of Un-

leavened Bread are not celebrated by the Christian world today. Instead, they celebrate Easter, which has its pagan origins. Satan has managed to downplay the significance of Passover and to base the celebration of Easter on pagan worship traced back to the ancient days of British, Irish, Germanic, Greek, Persian, Mayan, Roman, Saxon, Iranian, Assyrian, Egyptian, and Indian civilizations. One needs only to google names like Ash-toreth, Astarte, Demeter, Hathor, Ishtar, Kali, Ostara, Attis, etc., to find out their origins.

One can also use the internet to find out about the origins of numerous Easter traditions:

“The Easter Bunny is not a modern invention. The symbol originated with the pagan festival of Eastre. The goddess, Eastre, was worshipped by the Anglo-Saxons through her earthly symbol, the rabbit. The Germans brought the symbol of the Easter rabbit to America. It was widely ignored by other Christians until shortly after the Civil War. In fact, Easter itself was not widely celebrated in America until after that time.

“As with the Easter Bunny and the holiday itself, the Easter Egg predates the Christian holiday of Easter. The exchange of eggs in the springtime is a custom that was centuries old when Easter was first celebrated by Christians. From the earliest times, the egg was a symbol of rebirth in most cultures. Eggs were often wrapped in gold leaf or, if you were a peasant, colored brightly by boiling them with the leaves or petals of certain flowers. Today, children hunt colored eggs and place them in Easter baskets along with the modern version of real Easter eggs -- those made of plastic or chocolate candy.” (Copyright © 2003 by Jerry Wilson. Used with permission.)

“Easter Rabbit and Eggs: The symbols of the Norse Goddess Ostara were the hare and the egg.

Both represented fertility. From these, we have inherited the customs and symbols of the Easter egg and Easter rabbit. Dyed eggs also formed part of the rituals of the Babylonian mystery religions. Eggs 'were sacred to many ancient civilizations and formed an integral part of religious ceremonies in Egypt and the Orient. Dyed eggs were hung in Egyptian temples, and the egg was regarded as the emblem of regenerative life proceeding from the mouth of the great Egyptian god.'

"Easter Lilies: 'The so-called "Easter lily" has long been revered by pagans of various lands as a holy symbol associated with the reproductive organs. It was considered a phallic symbol!'

"Easter Sunrise Service: This custom can be traced back to the ancient Pagan custom of welcoming the Sun God at the vernal equinox - when daytime is about to exceed the length of the nighttime. It was a time to 'celebrate the return of life and reproduction to animal and plant life as well.' Worship of the Sun God at sunrise may be the religious ritual condemned by [Yahweh] as recorded in:

"Ezekiel 8:16-18 ASV: '...behold, at the door of the temple of [Yahweh], between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of [Yahweh], and their faces toward the east; and they were worshipping the sun toward the east. Then he said unto me, Hast thou seen (this), O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? For they have filled the land with violence, and have turned again to provoke Me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose. Therefore will I also deal in wrath; mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity; and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them.'

"Easter Candles: These are sometimes lit in churches on the eve of Easter Sunday. Some commentators believe that these can be directly linked to the Pagan customs of lighting bonfires at this time of year to welcome the re-birth/resurrection of the Sun God." (Copyright 1999 to 2003 incl., by Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance).

"Easter's connection with spring and nature: Diana (the Ephesian goddess of sex, fertility, virginity and motherhood) was said to be the source of nature. Eostre (an Anglo-Saxon/Teutonic goddess) was the goddess of the sunrise and spring. Ostara (a Norse/Saxon goddess) was the maiden goddess of spring.

"Origins of Hares (Bunnies) and Eggs: According to Teutonic myth, the hare was once a bird which Eostre changed into a four-footed creature. Thus, it can also lay eggs. The hare is also the sacred companion and sacrificial victim of Eostre. Astarte (a Phoenician/Syrian goddess), on the other hand, was believed to have been hatched from a huge egg which fell into the Euphrates.

"Origins of Good Friday: Did you ever wonder why Good Friday is recognized as the day [Yahshua] died and Sunday as the day He arose but yet had trouble explaining how He could thus be buried for three days and three nights? (Matthew 12:40; Matthew 27:63; Mark 8:31; Mark 9:31; Mark 10:34). The answer is simple: He didn't actually die on 'Good Friday.' The Chaldeans offered cakes to Ishtar on the equivalent of the day we know as Good Friday. When the established church wanted to appease the paganistic people in order to 'convert' them to Christianity, they moved the dates accordingly.

"Origins of Hot Cross Buns and Fires: Cakes bearing a cross-like symbol representing the pair of cow-horns on the moon goddess,

Isis, were offered by ancient Egyptians. The cakes which Greeks offered to Astarte and other divinities were called bous or boun, from which the word 'bun' is derived. The Babylonians/Chaldeans offered similar cakes to the 'Queen of Heaven.' Fires were lit on top of mountains and had to be kindled from new fire, drawn from wood by friction. The fire was then used to bake cakes in sacrifice to Semiramis, the 'Queen of Heaven.' This practice, along with burning incense, was used in conjunction with baking the cakes and is mentioned specifically in the Bible (1 Kings 11:8; 2 Kings 17:7-16; 2 Kings 18:4; 2 Kings 23:4-15; Isaiah 17:8; Isaiah 27:9; Ezekiel 8:7-12; Jeremiah 7:16-19; Jeremiah 44:19, 25). In addition to the cross imprinted on these cakes representing the horns of the goddess, it also sometimes represented the four seasons or four phases of the moon. Cakes were also offered to or eaten in honor of Apollo, Diana, Hecate, and the moon (also Diana's symbol).

"Origins of Lent: The word 'lent' is of Anglo-Saxon origin meaning 'spring.' Lent developed from the pagan celebration of weeping, fasting, and mourning for 40 days over the death of Tammuz (one day for each year of his life). Tammuz (the son/husband of the Babylonian idol Ishtar) was killed by a wild boar and then allegedly resurrected. This mourning of Tammuz is specifically prophesied by Ezekiel in the Bible and is characterized by [Yahweh] Himself as being detestable (Ezekiel 8:13-15).

"Origins of the use of the lily: Asherah (a Sidonian goddess) was frequently represented as a nude woman bestride a lion with a lily (symbolizing grace and sex appeal) in one hand and a serpent (symbolizing fecundity) in the other.

"Origins of wearing new clothing for Easter: The tradition of wearing new clothing for Easter comes from

the superstition that a new garment worn at Easter means good luck throughout the year.” (Copyright © 1998-2001 Timothy A. & Kimberly B. Southall.)”

“Easter Bonfires: ‘In ancient Greece the deities of the sun were Helios and Apollo. The worship of Helios was widespread; temples were built in Corinth, Argos, Troezen (no longer in existence), and many other cities, but the principal seat was on the island of Rhodes, in the Dodecanese, where four white horses were sacrificed annually to the god. A similar sacrifice was offered on the summit of Mount Hagios Elias, in the Tāiyetos Mountains, in Laconia. In time virtually all the functions of Helios were transferred to the god Apollo, in his identity as Phoebus. Sun worship persisted in Europe even after the introduction of Christianity, as is evidenced by its disguised survival in such traditional Christian practices as the Easter bonfire and the Yule log on Christmas.’” (“Sun Worship”, Microsoft Encarta Encyclopedia 2000)

Yahshua Kept Passover

Yahshua kept the Passover at the right time and thus fulfilled all righteousness up to the time of His death. His disciples did not have any difficulty keeping Passover at the right time.

And Yahshua sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the Passover, that we may eat. And they said unto Him, Where wilt thou that we prepare? And He said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. And ye shall say unto the good-man of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the Passover with My disciples? And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there

make ready. And they went, and found as He had said unto them: and they made ready the Passover. And when the hour was come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. And He said unto them, “With desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer: For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of Yahweh,” Luke 22:8-16.

Paul Kept Passover

Paul was of the tribe of Benjamin, a Pharisee. He was an apostle to the Gentiles and he taught them to observe what some call the “Feasts of the Jews.”

Corinth was a Hellenistic, metropolitan community and a crossroads of trade and commerce. In 1 Cor. 5:7-8, Paul tells the people of Corinth that Yahshua is the Passover Lamb sacrificed for us:

Purge out therefore the old leaven that you may be a new lump as

you are unleavened. For even the Messiah our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast.

For Paul to write this, it is quite evident that these days are not done away with by Yahshua’s death. It is obvious that Passover and the feast days referred to are still obligatory.

Conclusion

Bible verses do confirm that the Feasts will be observed in the Kingdom. Yahweh said that His Feasts would be kept by an ordinance forever.

In the New Covenant era we are to observe Passover as a memorial of the Savior’s death - having given His life for the sins of the world. Passover is not a Feast day (Hebrew = *chag* meaning joyous, happy time), but, along with the annual Feasts, it will be observed again, but likely with a deeper and new meaning.

Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread are not celebrated by the Christian world today. Instead, they celebrate Easter, which has its pagan origins. The Christian world is more interested in Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and hot cross buns. Yahweh’s Word tells us to remember Yahshua’s death, not His resurrection. Without the sacrifice of Yahshua we would not have any hope for a future in the Kingdom. To be part of the coming Kingdom, Scriptures tell us that we are to be faithful to the end.

Now that you have read many ideas concerning the false and pagan background of celebrating Easter, are you willing to believe the Scriptures and to follow the truths given to us in those Scriptures? Study the Scriptures because what is contained in the Scriptures will set you free.

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In-Depth Study

**The Counterfeit
Called Easter**

Elder Roger G. Meyer

QUESTION & ANSWER

Q How can you say Satan is in charge of the world, when Yahweh is in control of the whole universe?

A Satan (adversary), is allowed to rule the world at this time. It's comparable to someone being in office as President over the U.S. Yahweh is ultimately

in control of everything and He is allowing Satan to blind the people who reject Yahweh and His ways, *(And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience, Eph. 2:1-2.)*

Satan offered rulership to Yahshua *(Again, the devil taketh Him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth Him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; and saith unto Him, All these things will I give Thee, if Thou wilt fall down and worship me, Matt. 4:8-9),* prior to Yahshua overcoming the world *(These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world, John 16:33.)*

Satan would not have been able to have offered rulership to Yahshua, had it not been his to give. Yet, Satan will not be ultimately dethroned (Rev. 2:13) until Yahshua comes back to establish the Kingdom of Yahweh *(And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of Yahweh, and of His Messiah; and He shall reign for ever and ever, Rev 11:15).*

Once the initial 1,000-year reign of Yahshua is completed, Satan will be set loose one last time to test those who never experienced his evil influence. Regrettably, some will join him, only to be destroyed in the end,

And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth,

and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from Yahweh out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever, Rev. 20: 7-10.

Q Someone told me that because I'm a woman (single and retired), I don't need to do as men do in service, tithes, and all of other functions of Yah's laws. Could you please set me straight on this subject?

A You've brought up an interesting question. It fits right in with other things we've been considering recently, such as Nazirite vows, purification rites, temple defilement, etc. What is required of women is also of interest for us in the New Testament.

To be separated in Messiah is to be called out and chosen. Especially, indeed, among the people, is walking on higher ground and looking forward to the coming Kingdom in which righteousness will reign. The Apostle Paul had stated that there is an order of headship (1 Cor. 11), but he also says in Colossians 3:11 NASB,

There is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Messiah is all, and in all.

See also Gal. 3:28.

Spoken about is the circumcision of the heart, which even happens to the women in Messiah today.

As you probably also know, Yahshua approached the women of old, and by doing so started to take down the walls of separation, not only of Jew (southern tribes) and gentile (northern tribes), but also of the gender, John 4.

We do find men specifically were told to come before Yahweh *(Thrice in the year shall all your males appear before Yahweh Elohim, the Elohim of Israel, Ex. 34:23.)*. But, it appears to be with the understanding that the whole family was to do so,

And thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, and thy

son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are within thy gates, Deut 16:14.

Things are a little different today, but everything is still to be done in a proper and orderly manner, 1 Cor. 14:34.

We are all called to be an obedient and faithful people (both men and women) to Yahweh through Yahshua. The admonition for even the widows of the 1st century in Messiah, was that they be blameless (above reproach, Greek 423), 1 Tim. 5:5-7. It's interesting to note this was the same word used while listing the requirements of the elders and deacons, 1 Tim. 3:2.

While we understand there are limitations, we also understand we are to do the best we can to be an obedient people to Yahweh. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise, reasoning in their own minds that since one is a woman they can disregard living by Yahweh's Word. Those that went hungry in the wilderness are also those that got fed, Deut. 8:3. Those that died in the wilderness were those of the age of accountability, Num. 14:29-31. Once in the promised land, the instruction went to both men and women:

Assemble the people, the men and the women and children and the alien who is in your town, so that they may hear and learn and fear Yahweh your Elohim, and be careful to observe all the words of this law, Deuteronomy 31:12 NASB.

With all of this, it should be remembered that when "man" is used alone, it can sometimes be related in meaning as "mankind." "...He [Yahshua] answered and said, 'It is written, "MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF YAHWEH,"'" Matthew 4:4 NASB.

Q Why did Father YHWH try to kill Moses in Exodus 4:24? Were the succeeding verses (25-26 about circumcision) related to it?

A It was the law that one had to be physically circumcised under this particular covenant, Gen. 17:10-11 and Acts 7:8. Moses had obviously put it off. If Zipporah hadn't performed this circumcision on their son, it would have been a violation of the law which would then have demanded the death penalty, which Yahweh was already in motion to perform because Yahweh evidently knew Moses was not planning on doing it. It's interesting to consider the process of the circumcision (and covenant) we are in today through Yahweh's Son, Yahshua. There is no delay in it and

it is also done without human hands, Col. 2:11-13.

Q In looking at the Chabad.org website, the feast called Rosh Hashana is the head of the year. So in Deut. 15, does the end of the year stop the day before this feast or at the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles?

A The Jews determine a civil year as Rosh Hashanah on Feast of Trumpets, in the fall. However, their fixed Hebrew calendar starts in the spring. Neither is Yahweh's correct way of determining the biblical calendar, which is based both agricultural and lunar visual observations. Interestingly enough, it is often that the Hebrew calendar is within a few days of the biblical calendar.

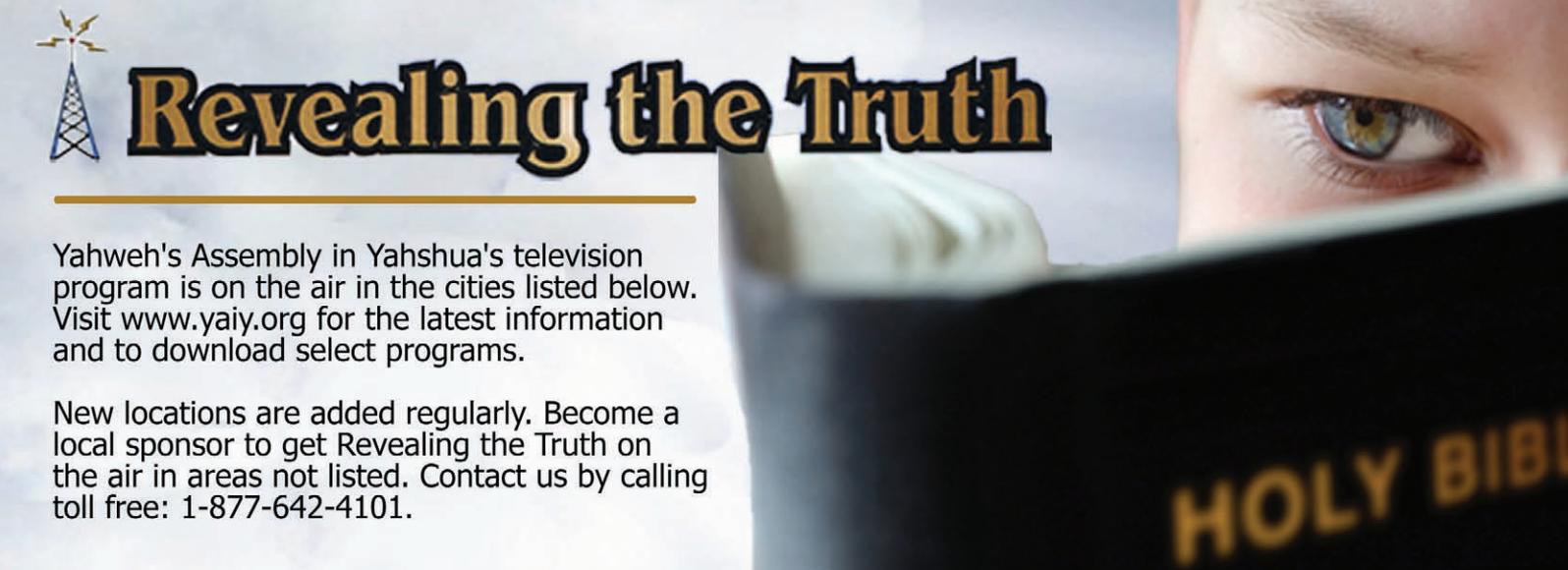
Here is where it gets a little more complicated. That is to be able to answer your question about the Sabbaticals mentioned in Deuteronomy 15, we find the sabbaticals and Jubilees are scripturally designated from Atonement to Atonement, Lev. 25:9. The reason for this is most likely due to the planting process. For example, barley needs to be planted in the fall for it to come up in the spring, etc. The rest cycle every 7 years looks to be geared specifically to the plantings, that is, one complete planting and harvest cycle is given for a rest.

Q Observing Leviticus 11, I don't eat unclean foods. However, I eat at restaurants that serve clean meat alongside unclean meat. Since I'm unsure if the chef touched the clean meat after handling unclean meats, is it acceptable to continue eating this way? Or is kosher restaurants the only way to go?

A Greetings in Yahweh's esteemed Name. I personally avoid fried foods in restaurants that drop lobster, shrimp, and other unclean things into the miry mix. It just saturates the impurities onto, if not into, foods we would normally eat, like French fries. However, if served mashed potatoes with a slice of ham on the side of a plate, one could remove the ham and still eat the mashed potatoes with a clean conscience.

My wife and I bought a barbecue chicken pizza from the store last week and realized when we got home that it had bacon on it. It would be hard to separate it from the rest, and so we gave it to a brother who has three cats. The cats will love it.

We'll always be at risk of chefs or servers touching things they shouldn't and then serving us, but it didn't stop Daniel and his friends from ordering and getting food (Dan. 1:16), even though they passed on all the other stuff that was also served.



Revealing the Truth

Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua's television program is on the air in the cities listed below. Visit www.yaiy.org for the latest information and to download select programs.

New locations are added regularly. Become a local sponsor to get Revealing the Truth on the air in areas not listed. Contact us by calling toll free: 1-877-642-4101.

USA, California, San Diego
Cox Cable Community Access, Channel 23
Saturdays (Sabbath), 1:00 pm

USA, Delaware, Dagsboro
Ocean 60 Broadcasting, WEWETV, Channel 24
Sundays, 8:30 am and 9:30 am

USA, Delaware, Millsboro
WRBG 107.9 FM (radio)
Check local listings for air times

USA, Florida, Tallahassee/Thomasville
CTN45 - WVUP, Channel 45
Mondays, 2:30 am

USA, Hawaii, Honolulu
Oleo Community Television, Channel 55
Saturdays (Sabbath), 6:30 am

USA, Kentucky, Highland Heights
Campbell County Community Media, Channel 17
Wednesdays, 5:30 pm; Fridays, 10:00 pm

USA, Massachusetts, Mashpee
Mashpee Public Access, Channel 99
Fridays - Sundays, 2:00 pm

USA, Massachusetts, Sandwich
Sandwich Public Broadcasting, Channel 13
Saturdays (Sabbath), 3:00 pm

USA, Missouri, Columbia
Columbia Access Television, Channel 3
Sundays, 8:30 pm; Mondays, Wednesdays, 2:00 pm

USA, Missouri, Jefferson City
Jefferson City Access Television, Channel 3
Mondays, 11:30 am; Fridays, 8:30 pm

USA, New Mexico, Albuquerque
Quote...Unquote, Inc., Channel 27
Sundays, 5:00 pm

USA, New Mexico, Los Alamos
Public Access Channel, Channel 8
Check local listings for air times

USA, New York, Rotterdam (Upstate New York)
Time Warner Cable, Channel 18
Mondays, 7:30 pm

USA, New York, Schenectady
Schenectady Public Access, Channel 16
Tuedays, 7:00 pm

USA, Oregon, Ashland
Rogue Valley Community Television, Channel 15
Saturdays (Sabbath), 5:00 pm

USA, Oregon, Portland
Portland Community Media
Channel 22 - Tuesdays, 10:00 am
Channel 23 - Saturdays (Sabbath), 8:30 am

USA, Oregon, Salem
CCTV, Channel 23 - Thursdays, 5:00 pm;
Fridays, 1:30 pm; Sundays, 2:30 pm

USA, Oregon, Salem
KPJC 1220 AM (Hebrew Nation Radio*)
Monday thru Fridays, 1:30 am, 12 Noon;
Saturdays (Sabbath), 3:30 am, 12:30 pm;
Sundays, 1:30 am

*Hebrew Nation Radio is available on-line.

USA, Washington, Vancouver
Fort Vancouver Community TV, Channel 11
Sundays - Fridays, 4:30 pm

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Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come,
the cooing of doves is heard in our land,
Song of Solomon 2:12 NIV.

