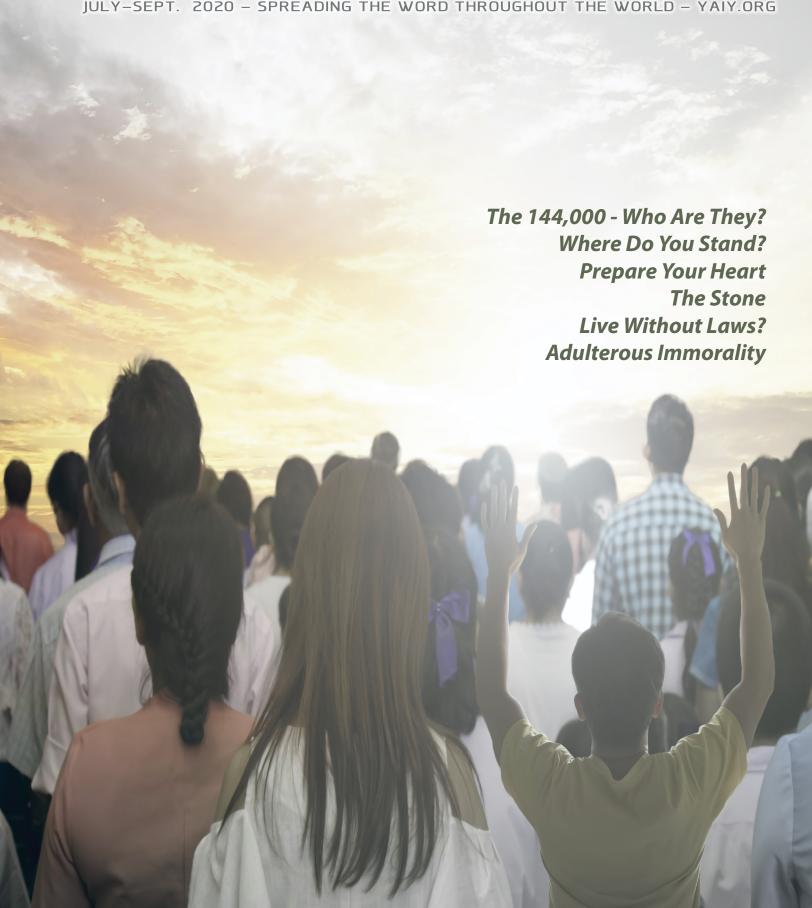
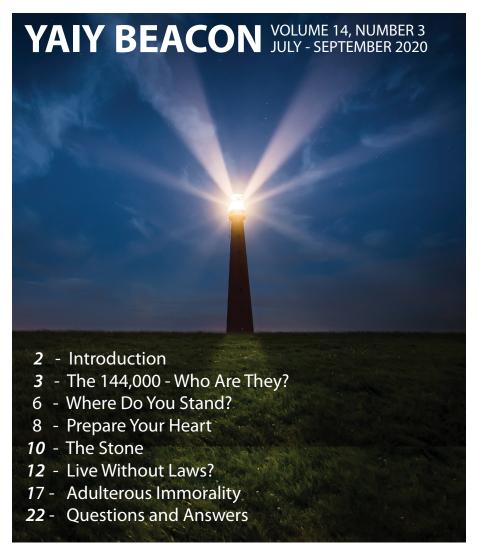
# BEACON

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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 salvational truths that have been neglected for centuries.

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#### INTRODUCTION

Churchianity in general has not been faithful in following the Bible. Surprisingly, many of today's popular teachings and customs are not based in Scripture. We strive to return to the old paths of truth that have largely been ignored, and obediently follow in the footsteps of the Redeemer of Israel, Jude 3.

We observe the weekly Sabbath (on the seventh day) known as Saturday, just as did the Savior, Luke 4:16, as well as Paul and the Apostles, Acts 13:42-46; 17:2; 18:4.

We also call our Heavenly Father by His revealed, personal Name Yahweh, which He says is His memorial Name forever. Exodus 3:15. Most pastors, Bible scholars, and seminary students will acknowledge that Yahweh is the correct Name of the Heavenly Father. The short form of His Name. Yah, can be seen in many words, including the most popular hallelujah ("halleluYAH," meaning. "praise you Yah"). It is also found in the suffix of Biblical names like IsaYAH. (Isaiah), JeremYAH (Jeremiah), NehemYAH (Nehemiah), ObadYAH (Obadiah).

Our membership comes from nearly all denominations and all walks of life. Most began searching for deeper truth when they learned that their former affiliation was teaching another Evangel from what they found in Scripture. We continue to search the Bible for deeper understanding. We believe that the Bible teaches a way of life through the commandments in the Old Testament and from the same example of obedience given us by our Savior in the New Testament.



Many speculate as to whom they will be, and naturally every religious sect would panel beat the Scriptures to try and prove that they are the chosen. Many who claim this have a problem, for they have a membership far exceeding the number of 144,000! Others try to get over that by saying that only half of the ch-rch will be ready when Messiah returns, using the parable of the 10 virgins which only 5 had enough oil for their lamps (Matt. 25:1-13) – this being a warning prophecy to His people, that only fifty percent of the True Assembly of Yahweh will be ready when Yahshua the Messiah returns!

Let me emphasize here the importance of always taking the Scriptures in its FULL context, especially when seeking answers. The greatest fault many will make, is trying to set doctrine or prophecy to conform to their way of thinking. With that, they find contradictions crop up in Scripture, not realizing that they are far from the right track toward the Truth.

#### Revelation Chapter 7: The 144,000 Sealed

Let us now read what the Scripture says about the 144,000.

• Four angels appear at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds from blowing on the earth, sea or any tree.

- Another angel ascends from the east, with the seal of Yahweh, who cried to the four angels who are to hurt the earth, and sea, saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees until we have sealed the servants of our Elohim in their foreheads, Revelation 7:3 (See also Rev. 9:4, 14:1, 22:4; Ezek. 9:4).
- John hears the number to be sealed, 144,000, of all the tribes of Israel:

Judah	"Praise"	12,000
Reuben	"Weary"	12,000
Gad	"Troop" (Victory)	12,000
Asher	"Happy"	12,000
Naphtali	"My Wrestling"	12,000
Manassas	"Forgetful"	12,000
Simeon	"Hearing"	12,000
Levi	"Joiner"	12,000
Issachar	"Wages"	12,000
Zebulon	"Dwelling"	12,000
Joseph	"May He Add"	12,000
Benjamin	"Son of My Right Hand"	12,000

Joseph's son Ephraim "Fruitful" received his father's blessing (Gen. 48:19-20). Dan "Judge" is missing in the text of Revelation, becoming an early party to all other surrounding Gentile nations.

#### **Interjection of the Vision**

There is a chapter break here. Beginning with verse 9, John sees a great multitude without number of all kindreds, peoples, all nations, and tongues before the Throne and the Lamb, crying, *Salvation to our Elohim which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb*, Revelation 7:9.

Then, in verses 11-12, the angels, elders and four beasts fall upon their faces before the Throne and worship Yahweh, Saying, "Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, [be] unto our Elohim for ever and ever. Amen."

In verse 13, one of the elders asks John if he knows the identity of those in white robes and then proceeds to explain in the following verse, that these were they who went through great tribulation and were purified in the Blood of the Lamb. These are they which come from the nations of the world; who are not in the firstfruit company – that is, to say, of the 144,000. These are they who are not sealed for protection, but who come to conversion during the Tribulation.

These will serve before the Throne day and night in the Temple, and He shall dwell with them (Rev. 7:15). (This will be ON THE EARTH: Where else do you get night and day?) And neither the sun, nor any heat, shall burn them (Rev. 7:16; Isa. 49:10). And neither shall they hunger nor thirst, for the Lamb in the midst of the Throne shall feed them and lead them to fountains of Living Waters and Yahweh shall wipe away all tears from their eyes (Rev. 7:17).

#### **Questions and Answers**

Let us answer a few questions that often come up, ONLY using Scripture to answer what we want to know.

#### **Q** Who are the 144,000?

**A** In Verse 4, John heard the number to be sealed: 144,000, of all the tribes of Israel. This is the result of the unconditional Promise Yahweh gave to Abraham's seed in Genesis 15:18.

#### Q Are they all Jews?

**A** Judah is mentioned in verse 5, but we notice that the same number of people are sealed from the other eleven tribes of Israel, so they cannot all be Jews!

#### **Q** Are they spiritual Israel?

A Did you or anyone else read about anything

spiritual in this chapter of Revelation?

#### Q Are they all virgins?

This reference to virgins not only covers A the state of the physical body, but it directs this message towards the adulterous way all Israel mixed with religions of the world. When reading Revelation 14:4 John uses the word "women" as a symbol of assemblies. In other words, they were not: misled; deceived; contaminated; polluted; defiled; adulterated; tainted, by the false teaching of worldly ch-rches. For one thing, they are not all priests who took the vow of celibacy! But we are told that they are the redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb of Yahweh. (Read Revelation 14:1-5.) Remember, the Word states that there is no one without sin (Eccl. 7:20), only Messiah was able to claim that. So, these "called out ones" have been washed by the Blood of the Lamb, and have become as virgins. The white robes are the symbol of purity.

#### Q Is the sealing mentioned in the Old Testament?

A Read Ezekiel Chapter 9. It will show you another characteristic which will be found in these called out and sealed. They will be sighing and crying for the abominations that are happening in Jerusalem and in ALL the world, at that time. Also, Ezekiel writes about the house of Judah and the house of Israel and their perverseness. (Note: Not all Israelites are Jews. Judah is only one of the tribes of Israel.)

#### Q What will identify them?

A The patience of the saints, in keeping Yahweh's Commandments, and the faith of Yahshua (Rev. 14:12). Yahshua Himself said, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled (Matt. 5:18). Certain sects say this means the 10 Commandments. But those who say that never leave out the "Tithing law." And do they also obey the "Kosher food laws?" The Word continually shows us that we are to keep His Commandments (the initial 10), His Statutes, which explain how to apply those laws, through all facets of life, from eating habits, to agriculture, to times of war, to times of worship on His Feast Days. His Judgments, (these explain the "outcome" of either breaking or keeping His perfect laws) and the New Testament calls us further to have faith in the redeeming Blood of our Saviour, Yahshua the Messiah, the Ultimate Passover Lamb Who forgives us all of our law breaking (sins).

#### Q What did Paul mean about writings which were against us?

This NEVER refers to any of the writings of Moses. Yes, there was a change in the law, just as there was a change from the Levitical priesthood, when Messiah became our High Priest. We are warned that certain writings have been added through time by human scribes – the leaven of the Pharisees (Matt. 16:6) – which have no bearing on the pure Word of Yahweh.

#### **Further 144,000 Questions**

Are we not to strive to live by EVERY WORD OF YAHWEH, so why should someone come and say we are not to worry about certain instructions we have from the Almighty, and just pick and choose what we as a group would like to keep? (No wonder there are so many diverse sects in this wicked world.) Just understand, Yahweh will use His angel to mark the 144,000. No

ch-rch, or man, or any organization will have any authority to do that!

Nevertheless, we see there have been certain people saying, and teaching things which are not Biblical concerning the 144,000. To begin with, they are NOT suddenly taken away as if they were raptured! As mentioned, there should be a break between verses 8 & 9 of Revelation Chapter 7. You only read of the 144,000 further in Chapter 14, where they are still on this earth, just before the final plagues.

They were marked by Yahweh's instructions to be protected from any harm while on the earth, during the rest of the Tribulation period (Ezek. 9:4-11). We might ask, "Why are they so well protected?" Yahweh through His mercy is teaching and training called out individuals at this present time, to be among the 144,000 (a number only Yahweh has chosen) to be here on the earth speaking, and teaching the many who will be going through this Tribulation. They will be supporting Yahweh's Work being done by the two witnesses, who will be there before the anti-messiah at that time.

Do we not read in Chapter 7, verses 9 to 14, that this multitude came out (or through) this tribulation in true repentance? With that said, I pray those who read and understand what has been written in Sacred Scripture. Almighty Yahweh is NOT calling out any worldly assembly, but He is calling and teaching,

Come out of her, my people, and be not partakers of her sins, and that ve receive not of her plagues,"

-Revelation 18:4

and training His individually-chosen, to be part of the 144,000 – qualified as His servants to preach and teach and help the many souls suffering during this period. And a multitude of people will come to repentance.

#### Conclusion

In this time, we are despondent when speaking to people who find this Truth "curious," though they themselves have no serious heart-commitment to it.

Yet, as trials begin to increase, which are signs of the Tribulation coming, we will see an increase

> in people spiritually waking up, and seeking answers - answers, only found within the pages of their Bibles!

Yes, there will be many false teachers, especially at this end time of human rule but Yahweh's Word will prove them liars. Yahweh calls, Come out of her, my people, and be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues, Revelation 18:4.

Brethren, let us not be troubled. We believe Yahweh, and His Son Yahshua. That word, "believe," means an obedient and faithful belief that Elohim is preparing a place (i.e., job, assignment, position) for all who love and keep his Father's commandments and have faith in Yahshua.

Not one of us are worthy of such a Promise, but how wonderful our Father is, that through our acknowledgment of His Son's sacrifice for us, He only is the One Who makes us worthy!

I pray this article will be of help to you, dear brethren. May Almighty Yahweh heal those who have been so spiritually blinded by the false teachings in this wicked world. Hold fast to His Word for He will come. Amen. Even so, come, Master Yahshua, Revelation 22:20.

- Elder Lionel C. Gets (South Africa)



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There once was a story told about someone looking for a truck driver to hire. There were two people who applied for the job. During the interview, the scenario was given of a mountain road having no guardrail and a cliff drop-off which if gone over would result in certain death.

The question asked was, "How close to the edge of the cliff could you drive without going over?" One responded he could drive within a foot; the other said he would stay as far away from the cliff as he possibly could. The second candidate got the job. And such it is with sin.

#### The Peril of Proximity to Sin

To live in sin will result in certain death, so the question posed to you is, "How close to sin are you standing?" To appreciate the gravity of this question, one must have knowledge of right and wrong, that is to know what sin is and entails Yahweh's standard of righteousness. Anything less would result in, at best, one committing sin due to ignorance, and sin, whether done blatantly or unwittingly, will result in death. There is no sin margin for one to stand to be assured safety from sin's death grip.

Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law,"

-1 John 3:4

Scripture tells us, that For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of Yahweh, Romans 3:23. Ecclesiastes 7:20 says, For [there is] not a just man upon earth, that does good, and sins not. Moreover, If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, 1 John 1:8.

Unrepentant sin will result in death – For the wages of sin [is] death; but the gift of Yah [is] eternal life through Yahshua Messiah our Master, Romans 6:23. Death on one hand, and the promise of eternal life on the other.

So to grasp the gravity of sin, its depth and scope, one must have a clear understanding, an unobstructed view of what sin is. For *Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law,* 1 John 3:4.

Herein we find sin's perimeter defined. This is an echo of Yahshua's answer to the man who asked, "What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" (Matt. 19:16). Yahshua answered, "If you will enter into life, keep the commandments" (Matt. 19:17) and then proceeded to cite commandments from the ten Yahweh inscribed into stone (Exod. 31:18).

In Ezekiel 18:20-22, we read, *The soul that sins*, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he has committed, and keep all My statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. All his transgressions that he has committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he has done he shall live.

Repentance is a turning away from, a forsaking of, a having remorse and regret that results in contrition. Anything less, is not true repentance. There must be a hatred for those very things which would lead to death. The fear of Yahweh must be instilled within one's heart, for the fear of Yahweh is to depart from iniquity – The fear of Yahweh [is] to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth do I hate ... By mercy and truth is iniquity purged: and the fear of Yahweh [men] depart from evil, Proverbs 8:13, 16:6.

The purging of one's soul comes solely by Yahweh's mercy, for without mercy the sin stains would

remain. resulting in death. Yahshua's atonement for man's redemption provided a path for man's repentance and with



repentance, a change of course is essential, thus obedience to Scripture truth.

#### The Works of the Flesh vs. the Fruit of the Spirit

John 17:17 says, Sanctify them by Your truth: Your Word is truth. The Apostle Paul further affirms, that it's not by works of righteousness, but according to His mercy He saved us; by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit – given only to them that obey (Acts 5:32) - and Which He shed on us abundantly through Yahshua Messiah our Savior, that being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life (Tit.3:5-7).

Those who willfully disobey Yahweh's Word and walk contrary to His commandments are children of disobedience and of darkness. To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this Word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them, Isaiah 8:20. They may profess themselves "Christian,"

profess themselves "saved," profess themselves "walking in the light" but in their very works they deny Yahshua and blaspheme Yahweh's Name.

The Apostle Paul wrote in Galatians 5:19-21: Now the works of the flesh are [these]: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of Yahweh.

We are told that a tree is known by the fruit it bears. Are you bearing the fruit of the tree of death or the fruit of the tree of life? And the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, and against such there is no law. And they that are Messiah's have impaled the flesh with the affections and lusts, Galatians 5:22-24.

To impale the flesh, to become a living sacrifice holy and acceptable unto Yahweh, to become a new creature, requires a change of heart. Lot was instructed before leaving Sodom to flee for his life and look not back (Gen. 19:17). To get a glimpse



into one's heart, consider the music listened to, and the movies viewed. **GARBAGE** IN. **GARBAGE OUT!** 

There is no redeeming value in rock 'n roll, country or a number of other music genres whose lyrics are clearly from Satan, glorifying the works of darkness - and viewing television, as well.

It's not a matter of how close you can get to the cliff's edge without falling over, but take heed and flee even the appearance of sin, or as Paul says, Abstain from all appearance of evil, 1 Thessalonians 5:22.

And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that says, I know Him, and keeps not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in Him. But whoso keeps His Word, in him verily is the love of Elohim perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him. He that says he abides in Him ought Himself also so to walk, even as He walked, 1 John 2:3-6.

- Brother Richard Anderson

The heart is the one organ that is paramount for life, as its function is to pump blood throughout the body. But in Scripture, metaphorically speaking, the heart is viewed as the seat of intellect, emotions, and will. As in the physical, so it is in the spiritual; that is to say, parallels may be seen between the two. Consider the heart in its metaphorical sense (intellect, etc.) and its role in the physical aspect of life, without which one would die.

Turning now to Scripture, the Source of Instruction for Yahweh's people, the Sure Foundation, if properly followed, and the Fountain of Living Waters, therefrom comes this message from the words of Jeremiah 17:9-10:

The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], and desperately wicked: who can know it? I, Yahweh, search the heart, [I] try

the reins, even to give every man according to His ways, [and] according to the fruit of his doings.

#### On Lusts and Pride

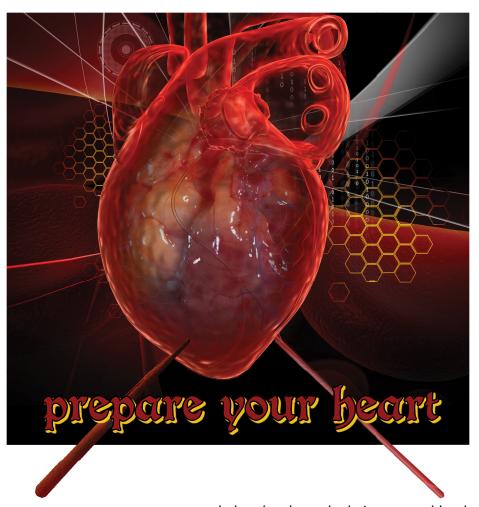
It is the unguided heart, left to the diverse lusts and pride (1 John 2:16) therein, which leads to the perversion mentioned in Romans 1:24-25:

Wherefore Elohim also gave them up to uncleanness through the lust of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of Elohim into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

In speaking of Edom, Obadiah 1:3-4 says:

The pride of your heart has deceived you, you that dwell in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation [is] on high; that says in his heart, "Who shall bring me down to the ground?" Though you exalt [yourself] as the eagle, and though you set your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down, says Yahweh. Furthermore, Proverbs 6:16-19 reads:

These six [things] Yahweh hates: yea, seven [are] hateful to his soul: A proud look, a lying



tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that plots evil plans, feet hurrying to run to mischief, A false witness [who] breathes lies, and he who causes strife among brothers.

Daniel 5:20 states that Yahweh removed King Nebuchadnezzar from his throne when his heart fell to pride. But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him.

#### A Heart's Preparation - Salvation

In 2 Chronicles 12:14, it is recorded of King Rehoboam, *And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek Yahweh.* 

But Ezra, on the other hand, took another course:

For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of Yahweh, and to do [it], and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments, Ezra 7:10.

Compliance to Scripture requires change. The people had taken strange wives while in Babylon and now they were being told to put them away:

And Ezra the priest stood up, and said to them, "You have transgressed, and have taken strange wives, to increase the trespass of Israel. Now

therefore make confession to Yahweh Elohim of vour fathers, and do His pleasure: and separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange wives." Then all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice, "As you have said, so must we do," Ezra 10:10-12.

Unlike Rehoboam who refused to prepare his heart, Ezra sought instruction from Scripture with the intent to follow its command.

When speaking to Solomon, David said, And you, Solomon my son, know you the Elohim of your father, and serve Him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for Yahweh searches all hearts, and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts: if you seek Him, He will be found of you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever, 1 Chronicles 28:9.

The importance of separating one's self from sin, in whatever form or however small, is seen with the words of Revelation 18:4, wherein we read:

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, My people, that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues."

Ezekiel 18:30-32 bears witness of the same, saying, "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says Yahweh Elohim. "Repent, and turn [yourselves] from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby you have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dies," says Yahweh Elohim: wherefore turn [yourselves] and live.

It is Yahweh Who set the standard for man to follow. It is His Word which defines sin. It is by His Word, one will either stand or fall. The adversary (Satan), when tempting Yahshua in the wilderness, offered Yahshua all the kingdoms of the world if He would but bow down and worship him (Matt. 4:8-9). But Yahshua responded, Go Satan! For it is written, You shall worship Yahweh your Elohim, and you shall serve Him only, Matthew 4:10.

#### Conclusion

By setting goals in advance, knowing the desired destination, it's easier to say, "No," to temptation that would lead you off course. Stay focused and determined. Should you choose to serve Yahweh, serve Him with your whole heart, soul, and might (Deut. 6:5). Read Yahweh's Word to receive instruction in His righteousness, so you may be holy (set apart) as He is Holy walking in His righteousness, and not your own (1 Pet. 1:16). For they being ignorant of Yahweh's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of Elohim, Romans 10:3.

The sure foundation to build upon is Yahshua. He is the Word of Yahweh become flesh, providing a living example for man to follow. He is the Lamb without blemish. To follow His steps requires a preparation of one's heart by seeking Yahweh's will. One must be determined to walk within Scriptural parameters, and not stray therefrom. Anything less will result in failure and shortcoming.

The battle at hand is a spiritual battle, the flesh against the spirit (Gal. 5:17). In succumbing to fleshly desires, Paul wrote in Galatians 5:19-21:

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are [these]; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness. idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies. Envyings, murders, drunkenness. revelings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told [you] in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of Yahweh.

And Paul further affirms that the carnal mind is not subject to the law of Yahweh, and that neither indeed can it be, concluding, moreover, So then they that are in the flesh cannot please Elohim (Rom. 8:8)... For if you live after the flesh, you shall die: but if you through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, you shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of Elohim are the sons of Elohim, Romans 8:13-14.

Yahshua said that a tree is known by the fruit that it bears (Matt. 7:17-20); and Paul states in Galatians 5:22-24, 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.

Finally, if you have not yet prepared your heart to totally follow Yahweh, do so without delay, for the day of Yahweh's judgment is fast approaching and His wrath will extend to all walking in willful disobedience.

- Brother Richard Anderson



Throughout Scripture, allegory is used to foretell future events. One such example appears in the second chapter of Daniel in which we read King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a great image. In interpreting the dream, Daniel said, And in the days of those kings shall the Mighty One of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall the sovereignty of it be left to another people; [but] it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Because you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the Great Mighty One has made known to the king what shall come to pass after this: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation of it sure, Daniel 2:44-45.

#### **Identifying the Stone**

Seeing it is a Stone which brings the final destruction upon earth's kingdoms, we will examine Scripture to determine Who or what the stone represents. Some say it is a comet or an asteroid which will strike the earth, causing catastrophic destruction and ruin. No doubt, the possibility of a celestial body colliding with the earth is very real, therefore the stone may indeed be so viewed. But, on the other hand, we must consider what the Scripture has to say.

Jacob, in blessing Joseph, said, But his bow remained in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong, by the hands of the Mighty [One] of Jacob; from there [is] the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel," Genesis 49:24. Here we are told that the Shepherd, which comes from Yahweh (the Mighty One of Jacob), is the Stone of Israel. Therefore,

THE SHEPHERD and THE STONE are equivalent cognomens.

Next, we will consider the words of Psalms 118:16-22 which reads, The right hand of Yahweh is exalted: the right hand of Yahweh does valiantly. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of Yah. Yah has chastened me grievously: but He has not given me over to

death. Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will enter into them, [and] I will give thanks to Yah. This is the gate of Yahweh, the righteous shall enter into it. I will give thanks to you: for You have answered me, and have become my Salvation. The Stone [which] the builders rejected has become the Head of the corner.

The Apostle Peter, upon being questioned by members of the Sanhedrin as to what Power or what Name a disabled man was restored, clearly identified the Psalmist's Stone, saying, *Be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that in the Name of Yahshua the Messiah of Nazareth, Whom you impaled, Whom Yahweh raised from the dead,* [even] in this Name does this man stand before you whole. He is the Stone which was rejected of you the builders, which was made the Head of the corner. And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any name under heaven, that is given among men, by which we must be saved, Acts 4:10-12.

In John's Evangel, Yahshua also declared, I am the Door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and go out, and shall find pasture. The thief comes not, but that he may steal, and kill, and destroy: I came that they may have life, and may have [it] abundantly. I am the Good Shepherd; the Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep, John 10:9-11.

Moreover, during Yahshua's trial, the high priest required of the Master, "I command you by the living Elohim, that you tell us whether You are the Messiah, the Son of Elohim" (Matt. 26:63) to whom Yahshua replied, "Henceforth you shall see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven" (Matt. 26:64).

#### The Stone's Alternate Names

The Stone also severally referred to as the Shepherd, the Gate, the Door, and the One seated at Yahweh's right hand, is none other than Yahshua the Messiah...proceeding from Yahweh's right hand; referred to as the Gate and the Door through Whom the righteous enter, and become the Stone rejected by the religious leaders of His day and impaled, but thereafter resurrected and made to become the Head of the corner and now, seated at Yahweh's right hand. Like the stone seen in King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, Yahshua shall return to render judgment upon the rebellious and disobedient and grant eternal life to the faithful overcomers (see 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10).

Using the CodeFinder computer program, two most astounding discoveries clearly identify Whom the stone refers: The first appears in the Hebrew text of Daniel 7:9. Here \ \( \begin{align\*} \Boxed{\textsupers} \bar{\textsupers} \Boxed{\textsupers} \) (THE STONE) is encoded at a seven letter interval beginning with word 13, letter 4:

#### ואסה כעמר נקא כרמיה שביבין די נור

In English this verse reads, I beheld till thrones were placed, and One that was Ancient of days did sit: His raiment was white as snow and the hair of His head like pure wool: His throne [was] fiery flames, [and] the wheels of it burning fire.

Though the Ancient of days in Daniel 7:9 is referring to Yahweh, it is interesting the same descriptor is given to Yahshua. We find this in Revelation 1:14-15:

And His head and [His] hair [were] white as wool, as snow; and His eyes were as a flame of fire; and His feet like burnished brass, as if they had been refined in a furnace; and His voice as the voice of many waters. These two verses reveal the close affinity of Yahweh the Father with Yahshua the Son. John 14:10 bears witness to this, "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me?"

Now let us take a closer look at the Hebrew word STONE The first two letters spell the Hebrew word for FATHER, and the last two letters spell the word for SON! Hear, O Israel: Yahweh our Elohim is one, Deuteronomy 6:4.

#### Nebuchadnezzar's Stone

Looking now at verse 10 of Daniel 7 we read, A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him: thousands of thousands ministered to Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

Verses 13-14 say, I saw in the night visions, and, behold, there came with clouds of heaven [One] like a Son of man, and He came even to the Ancient of days, and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages should serve Him: His dominion [is] an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom [that] which shall not be destroyed.

Judgment is set, and the earthly kingdoms are handed over to the Son of man. This parallels King Nebuchadnezzar's dream wherein the great image was broken by a stone and consumed, thus establishing an eternal reign of righteousness.

The second witness uncovered by CodeFinder is found in Psalm 118:21-22. Looking closely at the last Hebrew word of verse 21 and the first word of verse 22, we find the Hebrew words

ישוע האבן ("as Salvation Stone," i.e., Yahshua): לישועה

The English translation reads, *I will give thanks* to You; for You have answered me, and have become my Salvation. The stone [which] the builders rejected has become the Head of the corner, Psalm 118:21-22.

Once again, we see Yahweh's fingerprint upon His written Word. It is unfortunate that some will reject the evidence and choose to remain in darkness, but for those who have eyes to see, the light of truth shines forth proclaiming Yahshua as the Chief CornerStone. There is no other Name through Whom salvation comes; no other Shepherd Who will faithfully lead the flock: and no other Gate, no other Door, through Whom the righteous must enter.

The translated meaning of the Name (Yahshua) is, YAHWEH IS SALVATION. Joel 2:32 says, And it shall come to pass, [that] whoever shall call upon the Name of Yahweh shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those that escape, as Yahweh has said, and among the remnant those Yahweh does call.

Are you being called by Yahweh? Do you hear the Shepherd's voice saying, *Come unto Me, all* [you] who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest to your souls. For My yoke [is] easy, and My burden is light, Matthew 11:28-30.

-Brother Richard Anderson



Imagine living in a country without laws, where everyone does what seems best to them without a definitive standard. If there is no law, that society will crumble into chaos. Even the most radical nations have their own laws, without which the nation will not stand.

Everyone is subject to the law of the country of their residence. Even lawmakers and judges are subject to the same law. A foreigner visiting the country is also bound to that law which if he breaks, the same consequences apply (ignorance does not exempt one from the penalties of his transgression). In ignorance, we all have broken the Laws of Yahweh, but He overlooked our ignorance as mentioned in Acts 17:30:

Although Yahweh overlooked the ignorance of earlier times, **He now commands** all men everywhere to repent.

#### **Abrahamic Religions**

The roots of Judaism, Christianity and Islam are called Abrahamic faiths. Judaism and Islam circumcise their males in the same manner (on the 8th day) Abraham and his children were circumcised, but Christians do not regard the ordinance of circumcision. Common among these three religions, is their claim of Abraham as their

father, but in worship each differs. Jews consider the 7th day as the set apart day; Islam regards the 6th day as the day to worship; and mainstream Christians believe the 1st day is the day to worship. If all three proceeded from one, how is it possible that all three have different worship practices? If all three religions claim Abraham as their father, shouldn't they be following their father's way?

Among Christianity itself there are so many denominations, most congregate on the 1st day of the week (Sunday) for worship, but a few on the 7th day Sabbath (Saturday). For some, all days are equal so there is no right or wrong day assigned for worship. The question is, who makes the decision on which day to worship? Is the decision based on Biblical instructions or people's convenience? Is it people or the Almighty Elohim deciding how and when we worship Him?

Many believe as long as they gather together one day in a week, it is sufficient regardless which day. The general consensus about murder, adultery and theft is that these are morally wrong, though many do not know that these are forbidden by the Ten Commandments. If these are still relevant for mankind today, this would then imply that the 4th command (Sabbath observance) is also relevant, since they all proceed from One.

So, if one decides to worship six days in a week yet not on the 7th, according to the law of Yahweh, they are still guilty of breaking the law. This is not referring to personal prayer time, but about when communal worship is prescribed, to present ourselves before the Creator of the heavens and the earth according to His Command.

The answer lies in the Ten Commandments which were given long before even Judaism, Christianity and Islam ever existed. The 4th Command clearly declares what the Creator of the heaven and the earth requires as a day for men to present before Him. That is the 7th day of the week, not

the 6th day (Friday) nor the 1st (Sunday). If there was no command, then everyone could make their own decision when to come and worship, as then no one would be breaking the commands. But since there is a specific command regarding which day to worship, a true believer must acknowledge that this is still applicable to them.

#### Worshippers of Yahweh Identified

Those who worship on the 7th day, and keep the day holy are not the breakers of the law. Different faiths are distinguished by whom they worship, when they worship and how they worship. A primary, important trait in true worship is obedience.





Through disobedience, we cannot please Him we are worshipping. John 4:22 affirms true worship:

You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. This verse was spoken by the very Messiah Yahshua Himself.

#### The Test Commandment

When the Israelites came out of Egypt, Sabbath observance was the first command Yahweh used to test their obedience. When they were in the wilderness, Yahweh provided manna as food for 40 years. They were commanded to gather manna six days and not to store up from day to day. But on the 6th day, they were provided a double portion for the 6th day and the Sabbath, and commanded to prepare their food for both days so that on the 7th day Sabbath, they could rest.

However, some rejected these commandments and kept Manna overnight the first five days, but it bred worms and stank on the following day. Others went out to look for the Manna on the 7th day and were not able to find it. (Note that this test for the Sabbath obedience happened even before the Israelites received the Ten Commandments, which means they knew about the Sabbath even before it was given to them in on Mount Sinai.) Because of their unbelieving heart and disobedient nature, Yahweh was not pleased with them. Hence, He punished them for their disobedience and stubbornness, and allowed them to wander in the wilderness for 40 years (see Numbers 14:26-34). He did not allow the rebellious people to cross the Jordan to enter into the Promised Land.

#### Only One Law in the Kingdom

When Yochanan (the baptizer) and the Messiah started preaching, their message was the same: *Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand,* Matthew 3:2 (see also 4:17b). Even today, we hear this message from preachers. But hardly ever, do they go deeper to talk of what we are to repent. Repent means to "think differently and do differently." Of what do we have to think differently? Here, the context is about the coming Kingdom of Heaven, about what we must be thinking and do.

A new Reign is coming to this earth, of which if we are to be a part, we need to understand the requirements and live accordingly. It is a new, Messianic Government (Kingdom of Yahweh) with which we are not familiar. In Matthew 5:3-16. Yahshua Messiah teaches the requirements or the character of those who desire to get into the Kingdom of Heaven. Then in Matthew 5:17-19, He affirms the Law, saying, Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach [them], the same shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

When Messiah said that He did not come to abolish the Law or prophets, but to fulfill (i.e. establish), what law was He referring to? Through the rest of Matthew 5, it becomes evident that the law referred here is the same law Yahweh gave through the hand of Moshe. If Yahshua Himself said He did not come to abolish the law, then how could people say that Paul has abolished the law? What right does Paul or any other of the Apostles have in this matter, exercising authority which the Messiah Himself never had?

In this passage, you can see that the law and teachings of the prophets are important, but what is the Law of the Kingdom? The Law of the Kingdom of Heaven is built upon the Ten Commandments that was given through Moshe. So, the Ten Commandments are the basics of the Law, hence the Ten Commandments (written on two stone tablets) were placed in the Ark of the Covenant within the Holy of Holies inside the Tabernacle, which represented the throne of Yahweh. In the remaining verses of chapter 5, Yahshua explains in detail the

importance of these laws and their Spiritual intent.

#### **Globally Ignored Command**

Of the Ten Commandments listed in Exodus 20:1-17, the most elaborated upon is the 4th Command of Sabbath observance (verses 8-11). Yet, this is the one Command most people ignore and reject. What is the reason for this? Did the Messiah ever say that this Command is no longer valid? Did the Apostles ever teach we do not need to keep this Command anymore? Were we ever commanded to keep another day, and make it holy? Has the Law-Giver changed His commands because the majority are not keeping it? The answer to all these questions is, "NO." Yahweh says, "I am Yahweh, I change not," so we are the ones needing to change.

#### When Did Abraham Worship?

The scripture does not specifically say on what day(s) Abraham worshipped. But in Genesis 26:5, Yahweh Himself declares that **Abraham kept His laws, statutes, commandments and charges and he also obeyed His voice.** From this verse, we can confidently conclude that Abraham kept the Commandments of Yahweh and was not a law breaker. We can worship the Creator of heaven and earth on any day and time, there is no doubt about it. But there is a specific day on which He commands us to keep holy and to do no work.

Abraham is known as "the father of faith", through his obedience. Those who claim to be part of that Abrahamic faith should be following his footsteps.

#### Messiah's Expectation for His Disciples

Yahshua the Messiah expects His followers to be righteous - even exceeding the righteousness of the Pharisees. Righteousness is conduct that pleases Yahweh. No one can be in line with Yahweh unless he does the things that Yahweh asks. Can two walk together, except they be agreed? Amos 3:3. Yahweh called Abraham His friend, because Abraham obeyed My voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws, Genesis 26:5. No two people can become friends unless they are in agreement. Noah was considered a righteous person. Job was perfect and upright before Yahweh. Daniel was reckoned as righteous before Yahweh. They all were obedient to the will of Yahweh as defined by His Commandments.

The Pharisees and Sadducees regarded themselves more righteous than Yahweh. They added more laws to those Yahweh gave, making it a burden for

the people to keep. Not receiving correction, they spent their energy correcting others and parading themselves as righteous before men. Their only concern was about maintaining their position and authority, rather than humbling themselves to the word of Yahweh. These religious leaders killed the prophets who were sent to instruct them in how to walk righteously. They hated John the Baptist and Yahshua.

When one of the lawyers asked the question, Teacher, which [is] the greatest commandment in the law? Matthew 22:36. Yahshua replied, You shall love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. This is the first and greatest commandment, Matthew 22:37-38.

The order in which the Ten Commandments are given to mankind shows the priorities Yahweh expects in our lives. The first four are our duties to Yahweh because He must come first. The last six are our duties to our fellow beings. Those who disobey the Sabbath Commandment fail to acknowledge Yahweh Who created the world in six days and from creation, sanctified the seventh day for all mankind.

#### **Misinterpretation Leads to False Doctrine**

Many Christian denominations teach that the Messiah came and voided the Commandments and the Laws found in the Old Testament. By Yahshua keeping the Law (fulfilling it), believers are liberated from its rule, they claim. The fact is, the Messiah Himself said He did not come to abolish the Commandments and the Law.

But if we are 'keeping the law', then we are 'not bound to the law' ... that is, the law is purposed to set (correct) law breakers straight. In order to keep the Law of Yahweh, one needs to have a deep desire to obey the Creator. Misinterpreting Scripture in favor of man's teaching is false doctrine, and this is against the will of Yahweh and against the Messiah.

Sincere obedience can only come from the heart. If we know the will of Yahweh and do not do it, it is disobedience. Through disobedience comes rebellion, which is as bad as performing 'witchcraft'. Continuing in disobedience is called stubbornness, which is defined as 'idolatry' worship of idols.

The original Ten Commandments are different from what mainstream Christianity teaches. In the Catholic Catechism, the original Ten Commandments have been deliberately modified. The chart on this page shows how the Ten Commandments have been modified and adjusted.

Today, the Catholic "version" of the Commandments are accepted and followed universally by Catholics and Protestants alike. But do Christians have more authority than the Messiah to boldly change the very Commandments Yahweh Himself

#### CATHOLIC TEN COMMANDMENTS BIBLICAL TEN COMMANDMENTS 1. I am Yahweh your Elohim, which brought you out 1. I am the LORD your God: of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. you shall not have You shall have no other mighty ones before Me. strange Gods before me. 2. You shall not make unto you any graven image, or 2. You shall not take the name any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or of the LORD your God in vain. that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: You shall not bow down yourself to Remember to keep holy them, nor serve them. the LORD'S Day. 3. You shall not take the name of Yahweh your **Honour your father** Elohim in vain. and your mother. 4. Remember the Sabbath day, το keep it holy. 5. You shall not kill. 5. Honour your father and your mother. You shall not commit adultery. 6. You shall not murder. 7. You shall not commit adultery. 7. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 8. You shall not steal. You shall not covet your 9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour's wife. neighbour. 10. You shall not covet your 10. You shall not covet your neighbour's house, you neighbour's goods. shall not covet your neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is your neighbour's.

wrote and gave to His people? If so, who gave this authority to nullify the Creator's Word?

## Malachi's Message - Serious Warning for the End-Time Generation.

The last book in the Old Testament is Malachi, a Hebrew name which means "My messenger." In the Malayalam language, Malachi is equivalent to "Angel," a messenger of the Almighty Elohim. The very last chapter in the book comes with a serious warning for those who live in the end times. This is how it starts in chapter 4:

For, behold, **the day** comes, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that comes shall burn them up, says Yahweh of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

This verse mentions the terribleness of "the day," but what is "the day?" It is explained more in verse 5: "the great and dreadful day of Yahweh." In verse 4, Yahweh commands this again, saying, *Remember the law of Moshe My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel,* [with] *statutes and judgments.* 

In verse 5, Yahweh clearly says He is going to send EliYah the prophet before that dreadful day. In Matthew 17:10-12a, it is written, And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Why then say the scribes that EliYah must first come?" And Yahshua answered and said to them, "EliYah truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say to you, That EliYah is come already, and they knew him not, but have done to him whatsoever they wished."

Yahshua is talking about the appearance of EliYah (or one like Yochanan the Immerser) coming again before the return of the Messiah. Just as Yochanan the Immerser was sent to preach the message of repentance from sin, similarly someone else will come in the same mind as that of EliYah. Do you

remember what EliYah did, how he proved to Israel that there is no other Elohim except Yahweh? He then ordered all the prophets of Baal to be killed (see 1 Kings 18).

The core of Malachi's message is a warning against 'the Law' breaking. Mainstream Christianity teaches that the Law is done away, but this is contrary to the warning from the prophet Malachi. Some teach that keeping the Sabbath is Jewish, but the truth is "the Sabbath was made for man" (Mark 2:27) by Yahweh.

#### **Conclusion**

My appeal to you is this, if your church or organization teaches that "the Law is done away" then understand that they are teaching against the will of Yahweh. For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all, James 2:10 (see also Matt. 5:19). If we break one commandment, we are guilty of breaking all of them. So how much worse, if we purposely reject the 'test commandment' that is the 4th Commandment, Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

We are bound to the law of the country in which we live. We are bound to the Law of the Creator of the heavens and the earth. Do you wish to faithfully obey the Creator, or do you simply want to follow a religion? You alone can decide and make that choice. Know this, that our actions are accountable before the Creator when all must stand before Messiah on the day of the judgement. No church organization or its leaders or pastors or priests are able to stand beside us to justify the way we lived.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. It is a Command and not an option for mankind, especially for the true believers.

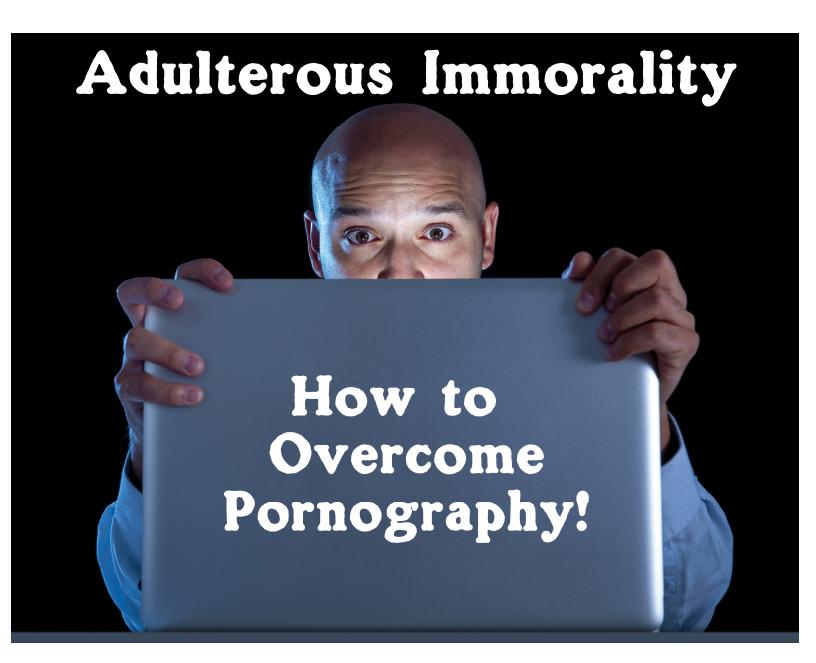
-Brother Mathew John (Australia)



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Our lives on this earth of recent years has seen great advancements, which would have been considered impossible less than a century before. This speaks of prophecies concerning Daniel at the end of the age (Dan. 12:4b). Along with advancements at the end of the age comes a degradation of society to the depths talked about in Noah's generation. Often quoted are the Messiah's comments:

For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be, Matthew 24:37-39. New American Standard Bible used throughout.

But there is more to that generation than some may think. The people also had their minds on wickedness continually (Gen. 6:5, 12) and the world was full of violence (Gen. 6:11). One only needs to turn on the news to see how today is comparable to that time.

The Messiah also mentioned in Luke 17:28, as in "...the days of Lot..." We all know they were sexually immoral even to the extent of demanding their own way with others. Something similar is happening today with homosexual agendas being pushed upon society within the schools, television, and work place. No longer is it being kept in the proverbial closet. Sodom and Gomorrah are gaining ground around the world like never before, demanding acceptance.

#### The Physical

When considering adultery along with fornication and other sexually-oriented type sins, they can be broken down physically and spiritually. Of the physical, more than a few famous personalities have been in the news over the last few years, from government officials to sports professionals having their figurative dirty laundry aired publicly worldwide. The dirty laundry being adultery and other sexual sins, such as posting lewd images to others. Why in the world do people do such things? It only brings suffering upon themselves and others.

Can a man take fire in his bosom and his clothes not be burned? Or can a man walk on hot coals and his feet not be scorched? So is the one who goes in to his neighbor's wife; whoever touches her will not go unpunished, Proverbs 6:27-29.

The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense; he who would destroy himself does it. Wounds and disgrace he will find, and his reproach will not be blotted out, Proverbs 6:32-33.

King David suffered such a fate, but it was quite a bit worse, as he was a worshiper of Yahweh and placed as King over Israel. His punishment was not only unrest and a sword not leaving his household, but his shameful deed has been told over and over, again and again, for centuries. This was a man with the Spirit, so don't think that it can't happen to you.

Do not be deceived, Yahweh is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life, Gal. 6:7-8.

#### The Spiritual

When we consider the spiritual aspects of sexual sins, we can direct our attention to the topic of pornography and we can ask, "Is it a victimless crime?" The answer is obviously a resounding "No."

A distorted view of women and men is taken. As a problem mainly seen with men, this is overflowing more to women than ever before. Lesbianism is now more of an interest for some with numerous sitcoms and movies promoting the homosexual lifestyle. Curiosity searches are easily done on the Internet today.

Emotional wellbeing, whether realized or not by those involving themselves with such things, is compromised in both men and women.

Many say there is little harm. But when it comes to sin, whether physical or spiritual, the unrepented

end of such things is death. "...The soul who sins will die." (Ezek. 18:4). "...sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4). Read our free ministudy, *Does The Bible Condone Homosexuality?* 

Scripture has various warnings about *adulterous immorality*. The message is always the same, turn away from such things.

#### Warning, Run!

Sometimes the best course of action is to run from it. It came about after these events that his master's wife looked with desire at Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Behold, with me here, my master does not concern himself with anything in the house, and he has put all that he owns in my charge. There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great evil and sin against Yahweh?" Genesis 39:7-9.

The rest of the account gives the details on how he fled, but then he was still accused of doing wrong. In the end, it worked out well for him allowing Yahweh to bless and work out His plan for Israel. This can be a lesson for us, as well.

When we resist Satan, we are promised he will flee from us. Submit therefore to Elohim. Resist the devil and he will flee from you, James 4:7.

One thing about temptation, if nothing else is learned, it will pass. If we can keep this in mind, it will be easier to resist, knowing the temptation will flee like Satan. The reward for doing so is great!

For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Messiah and Yahweh, Ephesians 5:5.

With the warnings comes encouragement to overcome.

#### **Encouragement and Hope**

Books for this specific type of sin are available to help. There are clinics and support groups. Most importantly, there is daily continuous prayer and seeking after Yahweh's righteousness. Looking forward to the coming Kingdom helps us to stop looking at things we shouldn't. Even Job made a covenant with his eyes, to stay on the righteous path (Job 31:1).

We also, who are immersed in the Name of Yahshua, have the Spirit of Yahweh helping us realize we're not alone. It helps us in various ways, from reminding us of Yahweh's Word to walking in it (John 14:26).

If we are moved to sorrow when we sin, then it is without regret if it also has moved us to repentance (2 Cor. 7:8-10), but in no way can we continue in sin.

#### Man's Perspective

Others have overcome, and in a book review of Every Man's Battle, by Stephen Arterburn and Fred Stoeker from Amazon.com we read an anonymous post:

"As a recovering sex/lust addict and a Christian, I found little information in this book that would be useful to a real addict. In the book, the authors describe their concept of a 'fractional addict.' This really sounds like someone who has developed a bad habit and needs to come to a full understanding that it is NOT acceptable to [Yahweh] and must be given up. For people like that, I believe that the book's recommendations (bouncing the eyes, training the mind, etc.) will probably work.

True addicts know that what they are doing is wrong, they want to stop; they try to stop; but cannot stop. (If I try to stop but can't stop, and I try to moderate but can't moderate, then I'm addicted.) This is a good book for those who finally decide to try to stop. Some will be able to stop (most hopefully) by practicing the book's suggested techniques for a few weeks, but actual sex/lust addicts will not.

If you try what this book recommends but you still can't find victory, please look into a 12-Step fellowship such as Sexaholics Anonymous (www.sa.org). Some people may think that a 12-Step program is 'less Christian' than the program described in this book, but that is simply not true! The original 12-Step program (AA) was based on the principles of the Oxford Group, a nondenominational Christian group. The 12-Steps are

ABSOLUTELY consistent with [Scripture]. In fact, while Every Man's Battle describes methods to help ME stop certain activities through MY power, the 12-Steps help me to find a real relationship with [Yahweh], so that I can call on Him during temptations and have victory through His power!

Please check out the book; Impossible Joy, the Good News for Lust and Sex Addicts, and other Sinners (also available at Amazon.com). That book was written by a true addict who found a real relationship with [Yahshua] through working the 12 Steps of S.A. He recently celebrated 30 years of sobriety."

#### Woman's Perspective

Another anonymous comment from Amazon, on the same book, posted and related the following:

"I'll start by saying that I am a female, so here's an opinion from a woman's point of view. My husband and I ordered this book to read together — to help him become pure and to help me to understand some of what he goes through. I thought that the principles in this book were very good, especially the chapter on cherishing your wife, and my husband gained some insight that he found really practical & helpful. However, we were both disappointed in the amount of time the authors spent in talking about their various temptations and how deep they got into the world of pornography/lust.

I understand that they wanted men reading the book to relate and not feel alone, and to dispel some of the stigma surrounding the issue of lust, but I thought the descriptions of what they saw...were just lusting in word form. It seemed to me that the men in this book changed their actions, but never changed their hearts. They may not lust openly anymore, but they still seem to not respect women

> very much — I felt like a body part while reading the book.

My husband was disappointed, he said he enjoyed parts of the book, but other parts brought to mind exactly what he's been trying to get away

I guess reading this book is better than not doing anything, but I recommend Randy Alcorn's The Purity Principle instead — an amazing little book that helped my husband and I tremendously."



#### Appealing to Men and Women

A large portion of the pornographic material is geared toward, and for, men.

Romance novels are geared toward, and for, women as well as romanticizing soap operas.

Men and women think differently, but even Eve was seduced by what she saw, while reasoning in her mind:

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. Genesis 3:6.

We are all affected by the eye gate and our own desires.

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by Elohim;" for Yahweh cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren, James 1:13–16.

We need to put forth the effort and not return to commit sins again and again. It is a vicious cycle; a cycle which keeps one in bondage. Sin needs to be put away, period.

Otherwise, a person's life can wax worse and worse. It is best to avoid much of what is now shown regularly on media formats today. What would have been considered taboo just 50 years ago is now considered normal by many.

But what is the end of such things? Ted Bundy, the notorious serial rapist, shared that he had filled his mind with both sexual and murderous images from his youth.

They were probably not the sole contributing factors, but indeed they most certainly did contribute to his sickness and death; not only his, but the suffering and death of others. It's been noted that most, if not all, serial rapists and murderers have been involved with pornography.

#### **Overcoming**

So how does one overcome? Various ways, but one can start by turning the eyes away, not lusting in the first place. Job was considered righteous in his generation and made a commitment not to turn away from Yahweh's will.

I have made a covenant with my eyes; how then could I gaze at a virgin? Job 31:1.

Other ways of overcoming can include thinking about the "Big Picture." For example, there is a coming Kingdom (Promised Land), and we are sojourners, like Abraham was. As he had a goal, we have a goal.

We need to keep things in perspective. As already mentioned, temptations come and go. We need to express self-control and resist.

It may be necessary to confide in a trustworthy member, deacon or elder. While we are to confess to Yahweh our frailties and faults, we can also do so with each other, even being anointed for the help we need by the elders in the faith.

Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the assembly and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Yahweh; and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and Yahweh will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much, James 5:14-16.

#### **Put on the Full Armor**

Do we think about the Armor of Yahweh (Eph. 6:13-17) in our lives? We are in a fight for our lives.

For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of Elohim, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Messiah, 2 Corinthians 10:4-5.

We need the Helmet, which is the hope of salvation. It covers and protects the mind. Our mind is to be focused on the future goal of the Kingdom and our eyes on Messiah Who is leading us there.

There is the Breastplate, which is righteousness, faith and love. This breastplate covers and protects the heart. Both front and back, as they were made in the 1st century to protect. Similar today is the bullet proof vest.

The Shield, which is faith, extinguishes the flaming arrows of the evil one. This is not only for defense, but also offensive usage. Shields can be locked together as a united front against an assault. Hence, not forsaking assembling ourselves with others as is the manner of some (Heb. 10:25).

The Belt, is truth keeping things where they should be. It is foundational and it is where you find the sword for battle.

The Sword, which is the Word of Yahweh (Heb. 4:12), is a spiritual weapon of defense and offense. It is of the utmost importance to yield it correctly.

The feet covered (Shoes), which bring peace (bringing Good News) "How lovely are the feet of him who brings good news" (Isa. 52:7). Like Joseph, we can also use these shoes for running. Or, we can keep in mind, as the Apostle Paul expressed in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

He says further, No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and Yahweh is faithful, Who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it, 1 Corinthians 10:13.

#### **Put on Messiah**

Yahshua, like the armor, is a tremendous help to us. In fact, the apostle was probably thinking about the armor as putting on Yahshua the Messiah (Gal. 3:27).

For we do not have a High Priest Who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the Throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need, Hebrews 4:15-16.

Finally, be strong in the Master and in the strength of His might! Ephesians 6:10.

The Messiah Himself tells us, in thinking about hope and overcoming the world and its evils:

These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world, John 16:33. The message to us, is "We can, too!"

While there are stern warnings against such things as adulterous immorality, we've also noted that there is hope.

How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your Word. With all my heart I have sought You; do not let me wander from Your commandments. Your Word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You, Psalm 119: 9-11.

Let's overcome with the confidence and hope of a great future in which Satan and sin will be no more, even now resisting and not turning back.

We can be encouraged that there is hope, hope in Messiah Yahshua. Remember Paul's words when confronted with his own flesh. "Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to Elohim through Yahshua Messiah our Master" (Rom. 24-25a).

#### **Conclusion**

At the end of the day, we acknowledge that we are a weak and base people. Without help, we are left to our own devices and our flesh tends to take over to satisfy its own desire. It starts with the eye gate many times, but one's own heart is more often than not the main problem (Jer. 17:9).

It's a good start to understand all of this, because Yahweh lifts up the humble. He is able to work with us and help us, if we are willing to move forward and overcome what may seem like an impossible task in the present.

The Spirit we are granted along with following the truth of Yahweh's Word, helps us to achieve what may seem impossible at times. If we take the right steps, we can replace old habits with new ones. Our brains are actually able to create new neural pathways, allowing us to replace old habits with new ones. It takes about 30 to 45 days for this process to be accomplished. But, as many former alcoholics will tell you, sobriety is a lifelong process. One must always be vigilant and taking the steps to overcome.

We can overcome pornography and be the people Yahweh wants us to be. Be encouraged and do not give up.

For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of Elohim, you may receive what was promised. FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY. BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul, Hebrews 10:36–39.

-Elder David Brett



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

I have had a house guest for more than a month now, "occupying" my home without him offering to help defray expense of utilities, etc., and has not made gestures toward a forthcoming departure. I was wondering, how do I reconcile Paul's writing in Romans 12:13, Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality, and Peter's, Use hospitality one to another without grudging, 1 Peter 4:9, with Proverbs 25:17, Withdraw your foot from your neighbor's house; lest he be weary of you, and so hate you?

Without having knowledge of extenuating circumstances that might have prolonged his stay in your home, and whether he is a brother in the faith or not, this might occasion opportunity for a teachable moment, but only if the Truth can be spoken in love (Eph. 4:15).

Fortunately for us, there is not a situation, circumstance, or problem the Scripture does not address. Our task always, is to search out a matter and then, rightly divide all the Scriptures that address the matter. In Romans 13:8 and 10, the Apostle Paul states, *Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loves another has fulfilled the Law... Love works no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the Law.* 

These words are rather straightforward and are not subject to private interpretation. Obviously, anything that serves to the harm or injury of another, or might prompt in another, "grudging" or "weariness" or "hatred" needs to be examined, because the nature of love, as a commandment, and it is a commandment, is that it never imposes upon another simply because as it is with Grace, Love is freely given and freely received.

When Paul writes severally, in 1 Cor. 10:24 and in Phil. 2:4, Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth... Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others, he was not with these words, supporting carnal inclinations toward covetousness but rather,

the advancement and promotion of others. "Let no man seek his own... Look not every man on his own things..." is, therefore, incumbent upon both the user of hospitality and its beneficiary.

Some may appeal at this point and say, *Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Messiah*, Gal. 6:2. Very well, but a read three verses farther says, *But every man shall bear his own burden*, Gal. 6:5. Surely, Verse 5 is as much a fulfillment of the law of Messiah as Verse 2. And so, the breadth, and length, and depth, and height (Eph. 3:18) of the Scriptures are all about the Rudiments of the Kingdom of Yahweh—Empowerment; Increase; Advancement; Promotion...about being the head, and not the tail; about being above only, and not beneath (Deut. 28:13)—and not at all, about enabling one to stay, where he is, in trespass and transgression.

One final note: Solomon in his wisdom, noted a progression, or rather, a regression in behavior in Prov. 25:17. The hazard in one *wearing out his welcome*, is that his host will become weary with the disruption to his life. Afterward, will come bitterness before "hatred" sets in and becomes the abundance of the heart, manifesting itself through the agency of the tongue given to insult, innuendo, and vitriol as it gives place to the devil in agitation and irritability. But watch out. This is but the beginning of sorrow to follow.

So, in order to avoid this outcome, at the outset, communication as to length of stay and assistance in domestic maintenance (groceries, utilities, etc.) can mitigate trouble, days, or even weeks out. Query: Who should initiate the conversation? If one were to check into a motel, the desk clerk would ask, "How long will you be staying? How did you want to take care of your lodging, cash or credit?"

Certainly, in the exercise of hospitality that is governed by love, we should not go that far. But freely communicating and understanding the guest's intentions from the start will go a long way toward averting a fractious relationship later. May Yahweh bless you in your concern.

May I ask if this assembly believes that the earth is a ball or flat? Thank you.

Short answer: Ball. Long answer: When we consider the smallest of the small (e.g., subatomic particles) and compare with the biggest of the big (e.g., planetary bodies and stars) we see circular-rotation patterns and things themselves individually being round (i.e., circular, globe-like, formed like a ball, etc.). Earth is also described in such a way (Isa. 40:22; Prov. 8:27). The Hebrew language is poetic and many times symbolic, such as describing four corners (Rev. 7:1) of the earth or the earth not being moved (Psa. 104:5). Many times word studies have to be considered, For example,

the *Institute for Creation Research* says, "The Hebrew verb here for 'moved' is *môt*, meaning to be shaken, moved, or overthrown. A bicycle frame holds its wheels so they will not shake back and forth, move from their mounts, or get thrown from the frame—yet the wheels spin. This verse does not teach an utterly rigid earth. If it did, then we would have to deny earthquakes, hundreds of parallax measurements, and Scriptures like Job 9:6! Instead, it simply describes a stable earth. Earth's gyroscopic motion gives it the very stability that Psalm 104:5 teaches.

I know you don't celebrate birthdays, but where's the Torah command banning this celebration? And if there's not one there, you are adding to Scripture which is definitely forbidden.

We find Scripture gives us insight as to what age would be the earliest to consider for baptism, i.e., age 20. While there is no direct command, we still follow this principle. The correlation between death and celebration of one's self being born is a concept we also find in the Word, though without a specific command. The lack of a direct command does not give us freedom, does it? Paul said in 1 Corinthians 6:12, *All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.* It may be that Paul was anticipating

possible objections as he had just said no drunkards will inherit the kingdom of Elohim. We find no command in the Torah against being drunk, do we? Did Paul add to Scripture? Without getting further into it, we believe he saw enough non-direct Scriptural references to make the claim he did. Beyond this, if there is enough of a connection to pagan practices, should we not avoid them by direct command? Such as "Do not learn the way of the nations (heathen)" (Jer. 10:2). Was there ever a birthday tradition (or practice) in Israel? Or, was it the way of the other nations? While there are not too many questions concerning some traditions, other traditions are worth taking a closer look at.



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