

## Thy Word is Truth

HOLY BIBLE

## Number 4

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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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QUESTION & ANSWER

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## The Bible

# Its Significance and Importance

What has become known as the "Christian Bible" tells us that the author of these 66 books that make up our Bible is the Creator of heaven and earth and all that is within them. No other religion dares make that statement. Other books attempt to rival the Bible but lack the integrity of purpose. It is important that we have a broad perspective of the basic teachings of our "Bible" for some teachings assumed to be in the Bible are not found there, but are pagan in origin, with concepts from the pagan mind of carnal men.

## Different Religions Have Different Writings

Other religions came on the scene later than our "Christian Bible." Writings of the Old Testament predate all other religious writings of the world. The first five books of the Bible known as the *Torah*, written by Moses, date back to the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries before our Common Era (B.C.E.). The Hindu writings of the *Rig-Veda* (a collection of hymns) were completed about 900 B.C.E. and do not claim divine inspiration.

The Buddhist *Canon of the Three Baskets* dates back to the fifth century B.C.E. The angel Gabriel is claimed to have received *The Koran* (Quran) in the seventh century C.E. (Common Era), some seven hundred years after the Messiah. The *Book of Mormon* is said to have been given to Joseph Smith by the angel Moroni relatively recently, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The religious books just mentioned are a spiritual guide for a great number of people. Those writings which claim to be divinely inspired should be a religious guide for its adherents and not contradict our Bible which is the original of religious writings.

### **Major Religious Movements**

A majority of today's religionists would probably agree with us that the world's religions can be divided into seven major movements. The largest of these is Christianity, which includes both the Roman and Greek Orthodox and the various groups that make up Protestantism of today's churchianity. All of these acknowledge the inclusion of the Old Testament in varying degrees as a basis of their faith. The Jews accept the Old Testament from Genesis to Malachi, but reject the New Testament and Yahshua as the promised Messiah

Islam (also known as Muslim or Mohammadism) is from the Middle East, and continues its spread in Europe and America as well as parts of the Orient. It is second only to Christianity and is the fastest growing religion in the world. The Hebrew Old Testament is generally accepted along with their Koran (Quran) from Muhammad their prophet. Islam is being successfully taught in our prison systems.

Four widely recognized religious groups sprang out of the orient and are not easily understood by those outside the culture of Asian religions. Most of Asia's living religions took form within a single century. Between 660 and 550 B.C.E. the world witnessed the birth of Confucius and the development of Taoism in China; the birth of Gautama the Buddha and Mahavira, the founder of Jainism, and the appearance of Japan's legendary emperor, which most scholars now regard as marking the rise of the Shinto religion.

The Hindu religion is found mainly in India and has many deities. Buddhism grew out of Hinduism and has no deities. Confucianism, along with Taoism, is popular in China.

In pursuing our goal to teach the true doctrines of the Bible, we will point out from time to time doctrines that are not taught in Yahweh's Scriptures. For example, many people allege that humans have an immortal soul, which at death moves on to another realm such as heaven, hell, or purgatory or the "happy hunting ground" of the hereafter. Some believe the soul is reincarnated in another life of some kind. However, the Bible does not teach that we have an immortal soul, but the Bible teaches the opposite, that we

seek immortality, Romans 2:7, and the dead soul is lifeless until resurrected by Yahweh. More on this later.

### What About Islam?

Along with Judaism and Christianity, Islam is one of the three monotheistic religions that emerged from the Middle East and spread throughout the world. It began in what is now Saudi Arabia when a businessman named Muhammad received what he believed were divine revelations, which were hand written. He. himself. was illiterate. Others memorized and wrote and recorded what he said. Muhammad died in 632 C.E. It is necessary that we have a basic lesson on Islam (Muslim) so we have a solid background of understanding the differences with our Bible. The Islamic Koran (Quran) came into being almost 700 years after Yahshua walked this earth.

Islam, an Arabic word meaning "submission," drew on the traditions of Judaism and Christianity. Muslims accept some Old Testament books, including the account of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments. Islam reveres many of the prophets, especially Abraham. They believe Yahshua was a holy prophet, but reject Him as being the very Son of Yahweh. Allah is the Arabic name for the deity of Islam. Allah is a name said to stem from the name of the pagan moon deity from antiquity.

Making up the two great religions on earth, the faithful of each of these two religions, Christianity and Islam, contend they follow the teachings of their respective books. A decided gap exists between the Koran (Quran) and the teachings of the Bible. Some teachers of the Koran will admit they are familiar with the Old Testament, but few seem to draw any lessons from it, relying primarily on their Koran. The following differences between the Islamic Allah and Yahweh is taken from "Bible Studies" by Richard Nickels:

### Yahweh and Allah

As reported in the January/February 2000 issue of *Battle Cry*, a comparison of Allah and Yahweh based on their presentation from the Koran and Bible respectively, is a study of opposites.

Unknowable: Allah is so transcendent, so exalted, that no man can personally know Allah. Yahweh, however, sent His Son Yahshua Messiah into the world so the people would know Yahweh personally,

And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true Elohim, and Yahshua Messiah, whom thou hast sent. John 17:3.

Those who have seen the Son have seen the Father.

Yahshua saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? (John 14:9)

**Nonpersonal:** Allah is not considered a person; this would lower him to the level of humankind. However, Elohim of the Bible is spoken of as a

person with intellect, emotions and a will.

**Nonspirit:** The idea that Allah is a person or a spirit is considered blasphemous and demeans the Mysterious exalted one. Elohim is a Spirit, Who expects us to worship Him in spirit and in truth,

Elohim is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth, John 4:24.

**No Elohim family:** The Koran specifically denies that Allah is a father, that Yahshua is the Son of Elohim, or that Elohim is a divine family. Allah had no son, Muslims admit. The Bible reveals the family of Elohim,

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Master Yahshua Messiah, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, Eph 3:14-15.

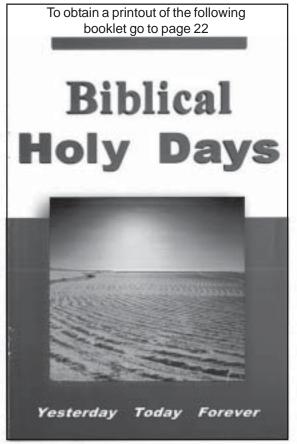
By this we now are sons,

For as many as are led by the Spirit of Elohim, they are the sons of Elohim. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The

Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of Elohim: And if children, then heirs; heirs of Elohim, and jointheirs with Messiah; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together, Romans 8:14-17.

Unlimited and Capricious: The Koran describes Allah as able to do anything, anytime, anyplace, anywhere. He is not even limited by his own nature and thus is untrustworthy since he is not bound by his nature or word. The Biblical Elohim is limited by His holy, set-apart own holy nature. He cannot lie or contradict Himself. (Yahweh cannot lie, Scripture cannot be broken). By being limited, Yahweh is greater than the capricious Allah.

**No Love:** The concept of Allah having feelings toward man is foreign to Islamic teaching .That would reduce Allah to a mere man, a blasphemous idea to a Muslim. Yahweh's chief characteristics.



the sum of all Bible teaching, is that Yahweh is love, and has feelings for His creatures, especially man,

For Yahweh so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life, John 3:16.

He that loveth not knoweth not Yahweh; for Yahweh is love, 1John 4:8.

Passive in history: Allah does not personally enter into human history. He deals with the world through his word, prophets and angels. Yahweh, especially in His Son Himself, enters history and acts to bring about man's salvation,

To whom then will ve liken Yahweh? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains. He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved. Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not

been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in. That bringeth the princes to nothing; he maketh the judges of the earth as vanity. Yea, they shall not be planted; yea, they shall not be sown: yea, their stock shall not take root in the earth: and he shall also blow upon them, and they shall wither, and the whirlwind shall take them away as stubble. To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth. Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and

speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from Yahweh, and my judgment is passed over from my Elohim? Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting Elohim, Yahweh, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon Yahweh shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles: they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint, Isaiah 40:18-31.

Negative attributes: The 99 attributes of Allah are all negative; what he is NOT like. No positive attributes are listed. The Bible tells us what Yahweh is and what He is not.

No grace: There is no savior or intercessor or concept of grace in the Koran. This leads to a religion of salvation by works. YAHWEH of the Bible provides free salvation for man through the Savior Yahshua who acts as an intercessor between Yahweh and man.

For there is one Elohim, and one mediator between Elohim and men, the man Messiah Yahshua, 1Timothy 2:5.

A vast difference between Allah and Yahweh!

### Islam's Goal and Mission

The goal or mission of Muslims is to subjugate the world to have it ruled according to Islamic law. Conversion can be by persuasion or the sword. If these measures fail, the "infidels" or "unbelievers" must be eliminated. Leaders of Islam in America contend this applies to atheists and insist Muslims coexist with Jews and Christians. However, this is not exactly true. Every country ruled by Islamic law restricts religious freedom and often persecutes non-Muslims, oppresses, tortures and kills them.

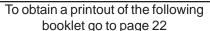
According to *Israel Today* magazine, November 2001, Jihad, or holy war, is a pillar of Islam mandated by their scriptures—the Koran. A big difference is found in the Bible's New

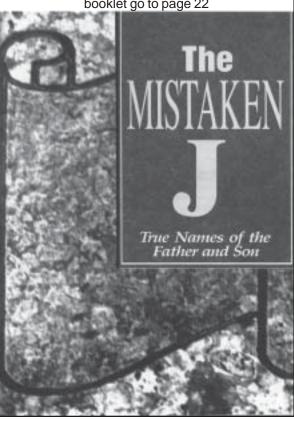
> Testament where Yahshua admonishes us to avoid being involved in legal matters which might lead to prison:

Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. (Matthew 5:25 AV)

The word "Islam" means (not only) devotion to Allah, (but also) subjection (of the world) to his will. Over 200 passages in the Koran call upon Moslems to fight against Christians and Jews in particular. as well as other "unbelievers." Not all followers of Islam seek a holy war against Jews, Christians and others, even to the point of killing their enemies. Here are a few examples some Islamics seize upon to justify shedding of blood:

And slay them wherever you find them, Sura 2:191.





Lo! The worst of beasts in Allah's sight are the ungrateful who will not believe, Sura 8:56.

Fight those of the unbelievers who are near to you, and let them find harshness in you, and know Allah is with those who serve him, Sura 9:123.

Fight them until they surrender, Sura 48:16.

So do not falter and cry out for peace when you will have the upper hand, for Allah is with you, Sura 47:35

We are spending time examining the religion of Islam, as it seems to be gaining adherents around the world. Often those who have accepted the Koran are quite vague in explaining why they have accepted Islam and are generally ignorant of the truth of Yahweh and His Son Yahshua.

The following are the five pillars (requirements) of Islam:

- 1) Five daily prayer sessions for worship.
- 2) Belief in "There is no g-d but Allah, and Mohammad is his prophet,"
- 3) Fasting from sunrise to sunset during the month of Ramadan,
  - 4) Almsgiving for the poor, and
- 5) Pilgrimage to Mecca, once in a lifetime, those with means.

## Judaism - Jews and Others

We are familiar with the Jews who accept only the Old Testament and do not believe Yahshua is the promised Redeemer of Israel. Some will accept Him as a messenger, but not as Yahweh's Son. They are looking for the Messiah to come.

### Hinduism

Hinduism has its roots in the Far East and makes ritual perfection their end. Humans are considered potentially divine, and the purpose of life is to recognize this through prayer, meditations, lectures and readings of India such as the Upanishads, the Bhagavad-Gita and the writings of Shankara. Yoga, an attitude of mind or thought control, is sometimes a part of Hindu groups.

### **Buddhism**

Buddhism sprang from Hinduism, founded by Prince Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha), who was deeply affected by the sufferings of the common people. One group (Hinayana) stayed with original teachings. The Mahayana encompasses numerous divine beings, ritual and magic. In China many Buddhists are also Confucanists as well, while in Japan many Buddhists are also Shintoists.

Buddha did not teach a personal deity. He taught that Nirvana, a state of being passionless, without any selfish desire, is our universal goal. Self is to be denied so that true life may be attained, which is the true Nirvana.

What has been written here is that we have introduced seven of the most widely followed religions in today's world. We did not touch on the many tribal religions of the Indians or Africans and others. For those and a deeper study one can go to the local library or turn to the internet for more information. We will delve into the glorious future that is ours if we are

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willing to apply ourselves according to Yahweh's guiding hand.

## Study With Proper Preparations

Always remember to start your study of Yahweh's Word with prayer. Ask Him to guide and be with you as you take up each study so that the proper sense and meaning will be clear. Determine now that you will spend a part of each day in your study of His word. Discipline yourself to seek the deeper truth of the Bible. Greatness is never achieved apart from great discipline.

### The Living Word

The Bible was written by certain men who were inspired by Yahweh's Spirit. Anyone with an open mind and a soft heart can learn from the Bible, for it is through the Word He reveals Himself and His plan for all people. Our Savior, Yahshua, said He was the Way, the Truth and the Life. He is also the Word, for His life was a clear example of obedience in which He made Yahweh's Word come alive through living it.

The Bible continues to be the world's best-selling book. It claims to be inspired by Yahweh and tells the end from the beginning. From it we learn about life, death, the spirit realm, immortality and man's ultimate destiny. Modern science, instead of denigrating the Bible, continues to prove the Bible is true. Scientific creationists continue to gather more proof this world got here by a Creator.

### The Book Nobody Knows

In spite of burgeoning technology, the Bible continues to outsell all other books. Science, aided by computer technology and improved investigative procedures, has vindicated and proved many doubtful statements from the past. The Bible by quoted statesmen. philosophers, politicians, presidents, and orbiting astronauts. Within its pages are quotes for people from all walks of life.

The Bible has been handed down through the ages, but has it remained true without alteration? The early followers, such as Jeremiah, are the ones responsible for the codex or book form we presently have with our Bibles beginning in the second, third and fourth centuries. Many of these early manuscripts are in museums and libraries like the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin, Ireland. Here are the oldest substantial manuscripts of the Greek Bible in existence, some written within a hundred years of the original composition.

Copying manuscripts like these was tedious and tiring, and open to error. It was easy to miss a letter, or omit a line, no matter how careful the copyist tried to be. It goes without saying there are no originals of either the Old Testament Hebrew or the Greek New Testament.

The sheer beauty of the Psalms, the wisdom found in Proverbs, the intricacies of the Book of Romans overwhelms many by the simplicity, yet unsearchable depths, of the Bible. People from all walks of life have found in its pages just the right words for any occasion. Moments of awe and wonder, inspiration and success,

stress and anguish, confusion and doubt, peace and serenity—all of these are found in this Book of books.

Only a few throughout history continue to take the Bible seriously. The world's majority fails to recognize the Bible as a handbook for mankind provided by our Creator, Yahweh, as the guiding influence in our life. The Bible gives direction and examples for triumph and adversity, joy and sorrow, prosperity and poverty, confidence and doubt. It gives courage when we are unsure, love when we are lonely and hope when we are discouraged.

Viewing its literary aspect alone, the Bible is preeminent. Probably no language could be more suited to touch man's understanding than Hebrew. Its allegorical imagery, concise, chaste style; its forthright narratives penetrating the human veneer even

of its heroes; its unfathomable wisdom and balanced logic; its stately language and lofty themes – all these combine to make it one of the most sought-after books around the world. It is perennially the world's best seller.

### Is the Bible Greek to You?

In His wisdom Yahweh has allowed the New Testament to come down to us in the Greek language. However, an increasing number of scholars contend both the Old and New Testaments were first written in Hebrew (see our *Hebrew/Aramaic New Testament* mini-study). Many of the New Testament scholars shunned anything "Jewish," cared little for, nor did they understand Hebrew. Many were ignorant of Hebrew and knew little of the customs of Old Testament Israel.

Because the New Testament was handed to us in Greek, it was more acceptable to those with a Jewish prejudice. Since the campaigns of Alexander the Great, Greek culture (known as Hellenism) spread through the known world and became the international language of communication. It was supplanted by French and presently English is the

"lingua franca" world language of business, banking, diplomacy and commerce.

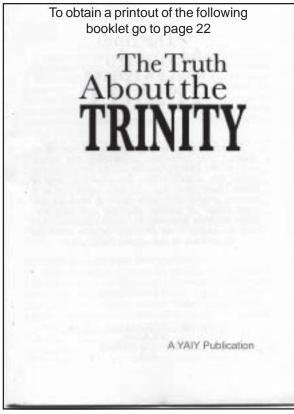
For educating the whole man both spiritually and morally, the Bible has no equal. A study of the Scriptures will open new and varied vistas, elevate the goals of man, broaden his wisdom, dignify his affections, strengthen his mind, and help him gain new insight into his motives and actions.

A good understanding and applying of scriptural principles will give man sharper discernment and add strength to his character. If he practices the advice and admonitions given in Yahweh's Word, he will elevate his morals. As an instruction book on living, the Bible is without peer. It brings tranquility in believing and unwavering hope for the future. It answers the questions why we exist, why we are here on earth, and beckons us to seize our potential destiny. Scripture inspires us to loftier goals, patience, and purity. It fills us with a love for the Heavenly Father and His Son, and gives a simple desire to react with love to our fellow human beings. It teaches us the value of every human life by revealing the price that was paid

> for redeeming mankind. It tells of the future and of the preparations necessary to meet it.

The Bible has been acclaimed as the most widely known book in the English-speaking world. "...No one in the English-speaking world can be considered literate without a basic knowledge of the Bible" (D.D. Hirsch Jr., Joseph F. Kett and James Trefil, *The Dictionary of Cultural Literacy*, page 1).

In countries such as the Philippines and India, English is often the basic language of communication between groups. They must know about or even understand the Bible to some extent to grasp the meaning of expressions such as David and Goliath, or the "patience of Job." Americans, in particular, assert the Bible has greatly influenced their lives. Surveys by both the



Library of Congress and Book-of-the-Month Club indicated for Americans it was the Bible which had most influenced their lives.

Many great men in history have acknowledged the wisdom of the Bible as they quoted from the pages of Yahweh's Word. Patrick Henry quoted the Bible three times in a speech before the Virginia Convention in March 1775. Daniel Webster alluded to Moses' bringing forth water from a rock and Elisha's bones that revived a dead man (Num. 20:11; 2 Kings 13:21) in a speech about Alexander Hamilton in 1831.

While the Bible is often used at swearing in ceremonies, and is often carried by the prospective bride at her wedding, the Bible is little read, and even less understood. Reading the Bible with comprehension is becoming less and less common as diversions such as sports, internet, television and computers consume more and more

of the public's time. As literature, the Bible has tremendously influenced our society, culture and language even among those who do not believe it to be inspired. How much more meaningful is the very Word of the Almighty to those of us who accept it as the inspired Words of our Creator and Sustainer!

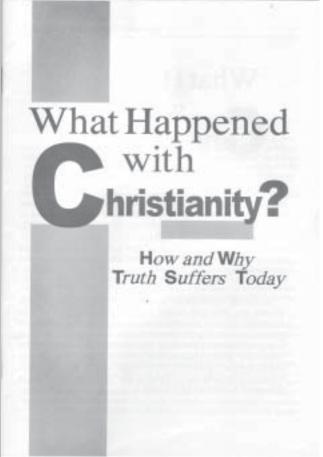
As time draws us closer to the promised return of the Messiah, our society has been given the greatest opportunity of all time to do deep research and study. Confirmation of the Bible is seen in the finding of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Computerized Bible helps, such as Bible encyclopedias, dictionaries, histories. lexicons, concordances and technical study helps not available 50 years ago, can be used in doing research and study. We have advantages the world has never seen!

### Scientific and Historically Accurate

Worldly scholars attest to the Bible's greatness as literature as its many statements are in harmony with scientific and historic research. Not a history book, yet its historical records are being proved accurate almost daily as archaeologists unearth evidence supporting Bible statements. The Bible is not a book to teach science, yet it states our planet is a sphere even when most of the world's intellectuals up to the time of Columbus thought the earth was flat. Not only do we learn the earth is round, but are given a glimpse of the majesty of Yahweh:

It is He that sitteth above the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in, Isaiah 40:22 ASV.

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He stretcheth out the north over empty space, And hangeth the earth upon nothing, Job 26:7.

I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened, Daniel 7:9-10 AV.

### **History and Restoration**

The flood account in Genesis 6 is continually corroborated by scientific findings. The week of earth's physical creation, which included man, is given in the first chapters of the Book of Genesis. Man's original perfect creation, and his disobedience and the

> consequent condemnation to die by his Creator, gives us the background of mankind's present situation. Because of His continued love for mankind. Yahweh sent His Son into the world as the Redeemer and Savior of the human race.

Our Creator's plan for the recovery of the human race through a Savior is given early in Genesis chapter three:

I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: he shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel, Genesis 3:15 ASV.

From this third chapter of Genesis we are given the history of mankind and the intervention of Yahweh in man's affairs. Yahweh gives us the plan for the redemption of mankind through a special Redeemer. A resurrection of the dead is promised in His program. It is up to us to learn what Yahweh's program is for redeeming mankind so we can follow it and benefit from His tender mercies.

His promise of a resurrection of mankind is a hope not promised by any other religion in the world. The lesson taught over and over is that the penalty for sin—breaking Yahweh's law—is death. Due to Adam's sin, death now befalls all mankind:

Elohim had said to Adam, "In the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die," (be doomed to death – Anchor Bible) Genesis 2:17.

The Bible does not teach that death is gateway to another life, but is the very cessation of life. Life comes to a stop, a standstill. Death is not the reincarnation of the soul, the sentient wisp of a being into another body. Life is no more. Death is not the transfer of a life to some other person, animal, or sphere. Death is the absence of life.

The account of creation as given in Genesis, chapters one and two, is as if Yahweh wound up a clock, setting life in motion which has then been running down ever since. Life can only

come from life, the life He created at the beginning came from the Life-giver.

Scripture's Four Classifications

In showing the love the Creator has for His creation, and His plan to bring about a restoration, the Bible could be divided into four classifications: doctrinal, historical, inspirational, and prophetic.

- **o** The doctrinal aspect outlines the details of the Creator's plan for the recovery of man from sin and death;
- **o** The historical section supplies the background of human experience to which the outworking of the holy plan has been related;
- o The inspirational aspects comprise the promises Yahweh made to His people throughout the ages, by which He has assured them of His guiding and sustaining power in their lives, enabling them to be acceptable servants in doing His will; and

o The prophetic truths of the Bible are its forecasts of coming events related to the completion of the heavenly plan and of the future efforts that would be made by men and nations either to counterfeit or to thwart these sacred designs.

This is the Book you need to study – the Holy Bible given to the Hebrew-speaking people through Yahweh's inspiration of His prophets who wrote and spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit,

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of Yahweh spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, 2 Peter 1:21.

Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 3:16 that all Scripture is inspired by Yahweh. We accept the Bible as true. It is assumed that you have already proved the validity of the Bible or wish to do so, and that you are now seeking a deeper understanding of the Inspired Word, and how it applies to our lives. Even

more important, however, is how you should apply Biblical instruction to your life.

### **Studying**

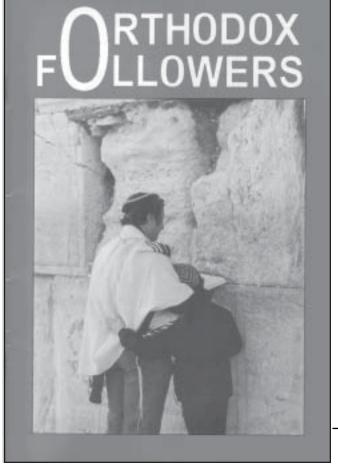
What logically should be the place to start to study the Bible? We could start at the first book and take a thrilling panoramic journey through the creation and the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the garden. Then we would go on to Abraham and the covenant made with him and reconfirmed in the 12 tribes of Israel by Jacob in Genesis 49, continuing through the rest of the Bible.

Another starting point might be the prophecies immediately ahead of us and what we can expect of the future. With increasing sin and lawlessness rampant in our world, the price to be paid for this rebellion against Yahweh will be horrifyingly dear and will bring an end to this age. It will be so terrible

that if Yahweh Himself did not intervene, there would be no survivors of the human race. But He promises grace and protection to those few who will vield their lives to Him now. He is calling out a select few to be pioneers in an entirely new life. If we understand the grand design and the promises for us written in the Bible, then we know what we are striving for. If we can see the end from the beginning, then we know what we should be learning along the way that will prepare us for the times ahead.

Our final goal, then, is where to start - look at your destiny, the purpose for which you are born. Only Holy Scripture has the answer to the ultimate potential now being shaped for a select group among the human race. The wonderful part is, you can be included in it!

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Elder Donald R. Mansager



# Suicide is NOT the Answer

Man has been deceived into doing almost anything since Satan first tempted Eve into sinning. Suicide is no different. You and I shall take a look at suicide and see what is the root cause, how it affects those left behind, how you can say no to it, how you can overcome and be healed from it. Hopefully, you'll be able also to help others to stay away from it.

I am by no means an authority on the issue. However, I was affected by it in my teenage years, and it took me a really long time to get over it, simply because I really didn't have anyone to turn to about the matter. Oh, I had parents, a brother and some friends, but they didn't see it as big an issue as I did. They got over it fairly quickly. I, on the other hand, didn't. It left me traumatized and shocked, and wondering what went wrong. What could I have done to prevent this? Could I have said this? Or, could I have done that? Then, maybe, this wouldn't have happened and my friend would be alive today! These are the thoughts that are left behind for those of us who have a caring heart. Others are not quite affected in the very same way as we are! I have often heard that time heals everything, and this is partly true, but not totally true. For some of us, time seemed to have stopped at the moment when we first heard of this tragic event. It is my desire that anyone who is reading this and is having thoughts of suicide to Please Stop and **Reconsider** your thoughts on the matter! There IS a way out of your desperate situation! Yahshua can heal anyone, anytime, anywhere, and in anyplace! Look to Him and the Father Yahweh for your Healing and Salvation. Please take time to read this article and let your healing begin! For those of you who have been through this recently, or in the past, I hope you receive comfort and peace in your minds and hearts through Messiah Yahshua our Saviour, and for you also to be healed from the past, or in the present moment.

### The Root Cause: Deception

And the serpent said unto the woman, You shall not surely die: For Yahweh does know that in the day you eat thereof,

then your eye's shall be opened, and you shall be as mighty ones, knowing good and evil. (Gen. 3:4-5)

Most of us know the story. Eve did eat of the forbidden fruit and gave to Adam also, and he did eat of it. And so sin was conceived. Their eyes indeed were opened, and they knew that they had sinned and were naked before Yahweh.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come, that they might have life, and have it more abundantly. (John 10:10)

So we see here that Satan's main and only purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy, to **steal** our thoughts, our hearts, our minds, and our soul (life). Man has been dying since that very day! Satan was a liar from the beginning, and continues to deceive and lie to this day. That is his sole purpose, to steal man away from Yahweh and His Son.

And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto Him. (Mark 1:13)

Most assuredly, if Satan tempted Yahshua for forty days, He will surely tempt you also!

Then the devil left Him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto Him. (Matt.4:11)

Yahshua resisted the devil, and then angels came to comfort and console Him. He won the battle over temptation and evil. And afterwards, He was comforted! Be Patient! Wait!

Submit yourselves therefore to Elohiym. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

Draw near to Elohiym, and He will draw near to you. (James 4:8a)

You must resist the devil with all your might while you are in this wilderness area. Put off these deceptive thoughts and pray for endurance to overcome. If you are sincere in your heart, help will arrive!

There has no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: But Yahweh is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that which you are able; but will with the temptation also, make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it. (1 Cor. 10:13)

The problems you are facing MUST begin with you! A man or a woman's heart that isn't right with the Creator opens a door to allow Satan to come in to tempt you, cause you problems, create distress in your life, bounce you up and down like a rubber ball until you're worn out and have nowhere else to turn, or anyone to turn to. This is what Satan does best. Resist him, get on your knees and PRAY to Yahweh the Father and His Son Yahshua the Messiah, and I can assure you that your help WILL ARRIVE very soon!

Put on the whole armour of Elohiym, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of Elohiym, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (Ephesians 6:11-13)

If you just pray and wait on Him, stay strong and don't give up, then help will arrive very soon!!!

## STATISTICS: Facts at a Glance

Fatal Suicidal Behaviour In 2004, suicide was the 11<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death for all ages. Suicides accounted for 1.4% of all deaths in the U.S. (CDC 2005)

In 2005, more than 32,000 suicides occurred in the U.S. This is the equivalent of 89 suicides per day, one suicide every 16 minutes or 11.05 suicides per 100,000 population. (CDC 2005)

The National Violent Death Reporting System examined toxicology tests of those who committed suicide in 13 states: 33.3% tested positive for alcohol; 16.4% for opiates; 9.4% for cocaine; 7.7% for marijuana; and 3.9% for amphetamines. (Karch et al. 2006)

## National Suicide Thoughts and Behaviour

Among young adult ages 15-24 years old, there is 1 suicide for every 100-200 attempts. Among adults ages 65 years and older, there is 1 suicide for every 4 attempts. (Goldsmith et al. 2002)

In 2005, 16.9% of U.S. high school students reported that they had seriously considered attempting suicide during the 12 months preceding the survey. More than 8% of students reported that they had actually attempted suicide one or more times during the same period. (Eaton et al. 2006)

### Gender Disparities

Males take their own lives at nearly four times the rate of females and represent 78.8% of all U.S. suicides. During their lifetime, women attempt

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Biblical VS.

Jewish Calendar

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suicide about 2-3 times as often as men. (Krug et al. 2002)

Suicide is the 8<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death for males and the 16<sup>th</sup> leading cause for females. Among males, adults ages 75 years and older have the highest rate of suicide (rate 37.4% per 100,000 population). Among females, those in their 40s and 50s have the highest rate of suicide (rate 8.0% per 100,000 population).

Firearms are the most commonly used method among males (56.8%). Poisoning is the most common method of suicide for females (37.8%). (CDC 2005)

### Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Among American Indians/Alaskan Natives ages 15-34 years old, suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death. Suicide rates among American Indian/ Alaskan Native adolescents and young adults ages 15-34 (21.4% per 100,000)

are 1.9 times higher than the national average for that age group (11.5% per 100,000). (CDC 2005)

Hispanic female high school students in grades 9-12 reported a higher percentage of suicide attempts (14.9%) than their White, non-Hispanic (9.3%) or Black, non-Hispanic (9.8%) counterparts. (Eaton et al. 2006)

For more information go to Google and type in CDC/Gov/ Suicide and then click on Suicide Prevention, NCIPC-CDC.

## How it Affects Those Left Behind

Despair! Hopelessness! Worthlessness! Low Self-Esteem! Does any of these sound familiar to you? You are not alone if they do! I went through the very same things myself. I rolled around in self-pity, and felt like the world owed me something for the pain and suffering I had been through, all the while drinking way too much on the weekends, week after week, month after month, year

after year. I would stop every now and then, pull myself up and say: Why am I doing this to myself. This is crazy, acting this way over and over again. Get yourself together man! And so the cycle continued. I would do alright for a while and pray, go to church, study my Bible for a while. And I would indeed get better and be blessed from above, but when I reverted back to my old ways, the problems started all over again.

If this is your situation, there is hope. Don't give up. Keep trying. And Pray to Yahweh, the Father, and Yahshua Messiah for you to be able to overcome, and to save you from whatever situation you are in. Remember, be patient and wait for Him to help you! Patience, waiting on Him to help you, and NOT giving up is the KEY!

Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has

babbling? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine, they that go to seek mixed wine. Look you not upon the wine when it is red, when it gives its color in the cup, when it moves itself aright. At the last it bites like a serpent, and stings like an adder. Your eyes shall behold strange women, and your heart shall utter perverted things. (Proverbs 23:29-33)

Now we can clearly see from the above verses, that if we continue in such things for long periods of time, the problems and the sin are only going to get worse, not better, whether it's a drug problem, alcohol problem, fornication problem, suicide problem, prostitution problem, adultery problem, financial problem. No matter what the problem is, Problems are Problems! You have to deal with them. They are not going to go away on their own. You must stand up and fight and hold on a little while longer. At least long enough to start noticing changes in vour life!

My change started to come when I made a commitment in 1998 to study my Bible every morning before I went to work. I made time to go to bed an hour earlier each night so that I could study the Bible in the morning the first thing after getting up. Did I fall after that? Yes, at times I did! But I would pick myself up, dust myself off, pray, and then start right back over again. And, after a while, it started getting easier, and I enjoyed and looked forward to morning study time, and still do to this day!

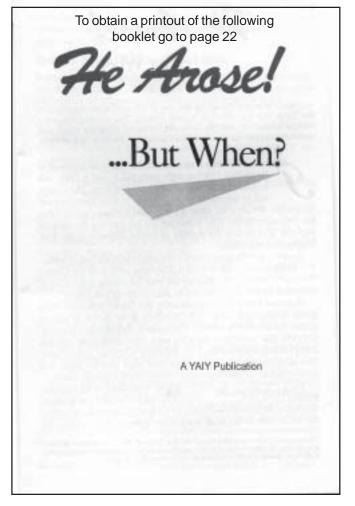
The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom, a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: His Praise endures forever. (Psalm 111:10)

The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Proverbs 1:7)

Many years before 1998, I studied the Bible off and on many times after my friend's suicide. I was even baptized in 1981, 5 whole years later. But the problems still lingered. Why? Because I was too busy being selfish and trying to forget the problem of suicide with heavy drinking, all the while remembering? ... Duh, can you see what Satan was trying to do here? Why, Satan was trying to keep me confused! That's his style. Did I have wisdom then? No. Did I have knowledge? No. Did I have understanding and instruction? No! Why not? I was reading His word. Wasn't that enough? Not really. Why again? Because I wasn't Keeping His Commandments. I had a form of religion, but was denying His Power! I didn't know it at the time, but now see that I wasn't willing at that time to give up drinking, being the selfish person that I was then!

> Trust in Yahweh with all your heart; and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

> Suicide will leave scars on the memories of your loved ones for a long time, as well as your friends, your associates, and many others you wouldn't even think cared about you at all. But, they do. Acknowledge Him today and He will direct YOU! Don't fall into the same trap that I did. Seek His help NOW! Suicide leaves all kinds of scars: spiritual, emotional, physical and financial, as well as many others. My prayer is for all those affected by it to be healed, to be an overcomer, to be able to stand and say, I made it with Yahweh's help, may your healing begin today! The aftermath victims left behind in the wake of a suicide are like a sea of prisoners trapped in their own little world, not knowing sometimes how to deal with the lingering



questions that produce no answers; the divorces caused by blaming one another over whose fault is was: parents left without children, children left without parents; sisters without brothers, brothers without sisters; and the list goes on and on... I had sought to write more on the after-affects, but I found it to be simply overwhelming and seemingly without end. Please think of these things before you act upon one of the biggest lies Satan ever put into the heart of man!!! Please remember also that suicide sometimes also causes another suicide, that person simply not being able to deal with it at the moment. Do you want this on your conscience?

There is a way that seems right unto a man, but the end thereof (are) the ways of death. (Proverbs 16:25)

And lastly in the words of our Saviour Yahshua,

These things have I spoken unto

you, that in Me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)

### **Another Problem**

Where do the dead go when they die? This question has plagued many in the aftermath of a suicide. Let's look in Yahweh's Word for some answers! This is what His Word says about the state of the dead.

These things said He; and after that He said unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. Then said his disciples. Master, if he sleep. he shall do well. Howbeit Yahshua spoke of his death; but they thought that he had spoken of taking rest in sleep. Then said Yahshua unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. (John 11:11-14)

In a truthful way, the disciples were partly right, partly wrong. Yahshua teaches them in the very next verse.

And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent that you may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him. (John 11:15)

Being dead is like being asleep! Yahshua had no problem with this. Man does not have an immortal soul, but is right now asleep in the grave after death, awaiting a resurrection. Man must seek after immortality; it is not something man has now. There is only one who has immortality!

Now unto The King, eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise Elohiym, be honour and glory for ever and ever. (1st Timothy 1:17)

For in death there is no remembrance of you: In the grave who shall give you thanks? (Psa 6:5)

His breath goes forth, he returns to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish, Psa 146:4.

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For the living know that they shall die, but the dead know not anything, Eccl 9:5.

### Ascension

And there is only One who has risen from the dead to enter into Heaven and is at the right hand of the Father Yahweh. Listen to Our Saviour's own words.

And no man has ascended up to **Heaven**, but He that came down from Heaven, the Son of man which is in Heaven. (John 3:13)

Peter also confirms it 50 days later at Pentecost (Acts 2:1), after Yahshua's Resurrection, that man has not ascended into Heaven.

For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he said himself. Yahweh said unto My Master (Yahshua), Sit you on my right hand, Until I make your enemies vour footstool. Acts 2:34-35.

> One More Time Please! In the words of Yahshua again,

> Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews. Where I go, you cannot come; so now, I say to you, John 13:33.

Isn't this very clear!!!

What does this have to do with death and sleep you may say? Well, everything. When a body is exhumed from the grave, it is decayed, the body starts decaying right after death. Whose body is the only one that has never seen decay?

Because you will not leave my soul in the grave, neither will you suffer Your Holy One to see corruption. (corruption is decay here!) (Acts 2:27)

He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Messiah, that his soul was not left in the grave, neither did his flesh see decay. (Acts 2:31 NIV)

A body can't decay in 3 days.

### Body + Breath = Soul

What is a soul? Or the spirit of man? ...... Let's look a little deeper!

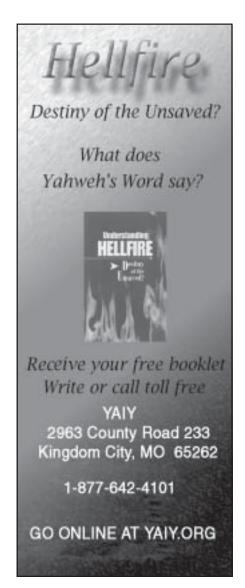
The body of man is composed of many elements. All these elements are found in nature, with oxygen comprising the major part of our body. Man's dustformed body was lifeless until it became animated by the breath of life (spirit) which came from Yahweh.

And Yahweh Elohiym formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul, Gen 2:7.

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also, James 2:26.

In the sweat of your face shall you eat bread, until you return unto the ground; for out of it were you taken (formed) for **dust** you are, and unto **dust** shall you return (Gen. 3:19)

And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to



destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven, and every thing that is in the earth shall die. (Gen 6:17)

And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is **the breath of life**. (Gen. 7:15)

All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died. (Gen.7:22)

The Spirit of Yahweh has made me, and **the breath of** The Almighty has given me **life**. (Job 33:4)

In the Old Testament, the spirit, in the phrase "spirit of man," is translated from neshamah or ruwach, meaning wind, vital breath. When someone dies their breath goes back to the Father who gave it. They do not go flying off up to heaven. We will awake when Yahshua shouts at His second coming. We will be asleep until then, if we die before Yahshua's second coming. We do not have an **immortal soul**. The reward for strict obedience to His Word is everlasting life, where our bodies are changed to spiritual beings at the resurrection time.

So man lieth down, and riseth not; till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep. Oh that you would hide me in the grave, that you would keep me secret, until your wrath be past, that you would appoint me a set time, and remember me! If a man die shall He live again? All the days of my appointed time, will I wait until my change come. (Job 14:12-14)

We know David hasn't ascended, and Job, as described here, is still waiting (sleeping), as **no man** has **ascended** into Heaven save Yahshua, John 3:13. Heaven is not the place where we are going at the Resurrection. We come down to the earth after meeting Yahshua in the air. The dead are unconscious in the grave! The dead know nothing.

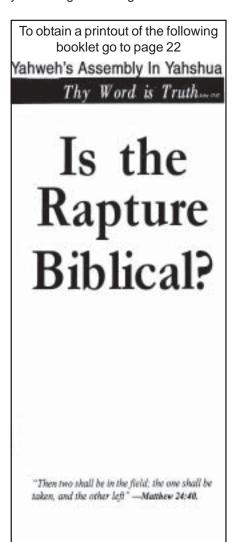
For the living know that they shall die, but the dead know not anything, neither have they anymore reward:(with those of us alive now) for the memory of them is forgotten. (Ecclesiastes 9:5)

They don't have a memory because they are asleep.

### **Burning Hell Fire**

I had to explain all of that to say this: "Your friend, spouse, brother or sister, or whomever you know who committed suicide is not now in an ever burning hell." That is one of Satan's greatest lies, and it haunted me for years because of false teachings. To think my friend was burning down there in a hell that doesn't exist!! Man, I was set free from that bondage when I found these things out! So, if a pastor or friend or anyone else tells you this you can say: "That's not according to His Word." You can be set free today from this bondage by calling on Yahweh and His Son Yahshua Messiah and accepting Him as your Saviour.

There is a Judgment Day, and there is a lake of fire at the end of the 1000 year kingdom reign of Yahshua



Messiah, which is to be avoided at all costs. But do they burn forever?

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in the lake of fire. (Matt. 10:28)

Those who at their judgment are cast into the lake of fire will be completely separated from Yahweh.

But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of Yahweh, as the fat of lambs; they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away. (Psalm 37:20)

Consume here is Strongs # 03615 Kalah, meaning to cease to exist.

To learn more about the Second Resurrection go to www.yaiy.org, under Literature (free) and look at Understanding Hell Fire: Destiny of The Unsaved?:In-Depth Booklet

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says Yahweh, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall you call upon me, and you shall go and pray unto me, and I will **Hearken** unto you. And you shall **seek** me, and you shall find me, when you search for me, with ALL you heart. (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

For Yahweh so loved the world, the he gave His Only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life. (John 3:16)

He that believes on Him is not condemned, but he that believes not is condemned already; because He has not believed in The Name of The Only Begotten Son of Yahweh (Yahshua). (John 3:18)

When it comes down to finality, Yahweh is The Final Judge, not man!

### Be Prepared

The world cannot give you the peace in your heart that you need. Man's heart is inherently evil until restored to Yahweh by accepting Yahshua Messiah as your Saviour. Only through Him and being baptized into His Name can you defeat the forces of evil. His power (Holy Spirit) in you (a token received at immersion) will restore your health, your mind, your body and soul. And it will set you free from the bondage of guilt, sin and pain that Satan caused through someone else's suicide.

Psychiatry will help only for a few days or weeks, and will leave you dependent on going back to hear the same old things. There is No salvation there. Neither can self-help groups or books help for very long either, Or AA for that matter. Man cannot fix a "spiritual problem." Only Yahshua can, along with His Father. Man has been trying to fix his own problems since Cain slew Abel. Where has it gotten him? When I walk past the grave of my friend now, I have peace in my heart that He didn't understand his action. He is asleep. I also have peace because he had never heard the Word. I know because I knew of his situation.

and I also have peace that he will rise in the Second Resurrection and accept Yahshua, because he was under the age of accountability, and because He was that kind of person. Nobody should kill themselves in any situation, let alone because your girlfriend broke up with you. So, for those of you who may have suicidal thoughts, you are not alone, Yahweh knows all. His Son is waiting for you, as well as those affected by suicide...May your healing, peace and salvation begin today! Halleluyah!

**Tim Stallings** 

To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22 Mini - Study

### YAHWEH: Known by the **Patriarchs**

Issac, and Jacob never knew Yahwah's Name? Understand what this passage is really saying!

A PUZZLING BIBLE VERSE for many who are aware of the sacrod Name Yahweh is found in Exodus 6:3, which reads:

"And I appeared unto Abroham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of G-d Almighty [El Shaddalf but by my name [TAHWEH] was I not known to them\*

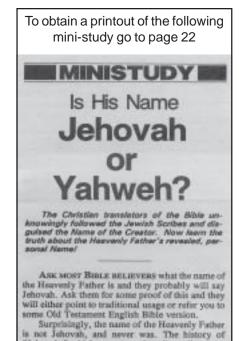
Some Bible expositors contend that this passage shows that Yahweh had not revealed His Name to the patriarchs. That even Moses did not know that His Name was Yahweh, but knew Him only as Elphim or El Shaddal. This notion is false, as we see from the events three chapters prior to this verse.

### The Memorial Name Yahwah

When conscripted by Yahwah to be the leader for His people Israel, Moses wondered what he should say when presenting himself before Israel. Moses asked, "The Elohim of your fathers has sent me anto you: and they shall say to me 'What is His Name?' what shall I say unto them?" Exodus 3:13. From His response it is clear Yahweb invoked His personal Name and revealed it to Moses

"Elohim said unto Moses, 'I AM TRAT I AM:" and He said, Thus shall you say unto the children of Israel, 'I AM har sent me unto you.

"And Elohim said moreover unto Moser, Thus shall you say unto the children of Israel, 'YAH-WEH, the Elohim of your futhers, the Elohim of Abraham, the Elohim of Isaac, and the Elohim of



"Jehovah," which some encyclopedius call errone-

ous and which many Bible scholars agree is not

Hebrew script, the sacred Name is represented by four Hebrew letters, PUT: These four letters are called the Terragrammaton, appearing in English

To indicate vowels, scribes or copyists used dis-

critical marks or points above or below the letters.

Jewish law experts decided to hide this Name to make certain it would not be taken in vain or

blasphemed. Therefore, when the four letters of the

"pointed" it with substitution vowels for the He-brew word adonal (meaning "lord") which was then read "adonal" instead of the sacred Name "Yahrech."

One of the most widely known words in the world is "hallefuYah," an imperative meaning "Praise you Yah." Notice that the short or poetic

The ancient Hebrew alphabet had no vowels.

accurate, is quite eye-opening.

In the oldest text of the Bible, the and

## On Time!



(Note: All Bible references are shown in italics and are taken from the New King James Version – NKJV with the Holy Names inserted.)

### **Introduction - Yahweh's Clock**

Are you going through very difficult problems, intense trials, or distress, which are not eased even though you have prayed in earnest, asking for Yahweh's guidance and help? Have you searched for answers, trying the best that you know 'leaving no stone unturned' but the question(s) remain in spite of your searches and prayers? Have you been waiting for Yahweh to intervene but He does not show up? You probably think you know exactly what is required to resolve the issue or ease the burden but it is not within your power to bring it about. In bewilderment you ask inwardly or openly "Where is Yahweh my Maker, Who gives songs in the night" (Job 35:10), closes the mouth of lions, and makes a way where there is no way? When will He appear?"

This article is written to tell you,

Hope in Yahweh; for [YOU] shall yet praise Him, the help of [your] countenance, Ps 42:11.

Let not the things you are going through cause your soul to be "cast down" or "disquieted within you." Yahweh has heard the cry of your heart. He will answer. When we consider the many times in the Bible that Yahweh has intervened in the midst of difficulty to help, rescue or relieve the suffering of His people, it becomes clear that He not only has a plan and purpose, but also a timing. The painful but helpful lesson we must all learn is that His clock is different from ours. Our clock shows hours, minutes and maybe seconds to indicate how early or late we may be. The incidents in the Bible show quite clearly that His clock is not based so much on numerals indicating how late it is, but instead on just two words to tell when He will intervene. Understand this, and your clock will at last synchronise with His. Those words are "On Time."

It may be very late in your night by your clock. The need is urgent. Immediate action is required. You are convinced that except Yahweh shows His almighty arm and delivers you NOW, it will be too late. But all you hear in your mind is the mocking, frustrating, ticking of your clock telling you it is getting even more dangerously late, and that you cannot wait. Perhaps when you start to hear His clock instead of

yours, your attitude will be changed, your perception sharpened, your mind will be renewed and your problem will become more bearable. His clock is ticking ever so softly you will only hear it when you are quiet and at peace. It is ticking away. Listen carefully. It is ticking ..."on time...on time... on time... on time!" Although the Bible does not state this lesson in exactly these words, it is a clear concept that stands out from the Scriptures. It leaps out of every miracle, ministers through every admonishing to 'wait', every instance of His intervention, and every word declaring His sovereignty.

Never once late for a funeral, a wedding, a birth, a healing or a rescue, He has always turned up without fail ON TIME! Dependable to the last, even when He is the last to turn up, He is still on time.

### Lazarus (Read John 11:1-44)

There is a saying that 'a friend in need is a friend indeed' – Now Yahshua loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, John 11:5.

So when Lazarus became sick, his sisters Mary and Martha, sent a message to Yahshua saying,

Rabbi, behold, he whom You love is sick, John 11:3.

This was a very simple message, making no demands on Yahshua. They had confidence and comfort in Yahshua's love. Nevertheless, Mary and Martha would very likely have assumed that their friend Yahshua, who loved them and had healed many persons, would have come as soon as He heard of Lazarus' illness, and do for them what He had done for others. Instead,

when [Yahshua] heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was, verse 6.

Yahshua deliberately delayed going to the rescue of His sick friend and to give support to Mary and Martha whom He loved. This had clearly troubled Mary and Martha, who, when they met Yahshua, independently said to Him:

Raboni, if You had been here, my brother would not have died, verse 32.

Why did Yahshua do this seemingly unloving act of unconcern at a time of such great need? It was not indifference. He knew and said that:

This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of Yahweh, that the Son of Yahweh may be glorified through it, verse 4.

The purpose of Lazarus' sickness was not to terminate his life but to bring about his resurrection and to give glory to Yahweh. It was the appropriate time before Yahshua Himself would die, for Him to teach in the most vivid manner that

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die, verses 25-26.

Therefore, Yahshua did that which was required, in the circumstances, in order to bring the maximum glory to Yahweh and to teach this profound and unforgettable lesson to those witnesses then and to followers of all ages. He arrived four days after Lazarus was buried, and his body had begun to decompose. By human thinking Lazarus' condition was irreversible. When Yahshua commanded the stone to be rolled away,

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Rabbi, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days." verse 39.

Here was the proof that Lazarus' state was well beyond human intervention, and that what Yahshua was about to do would be beyond human explanation. Man's impossibility is Yahweh's opportunity. With a loud voice Yahshua cried

"Lazarus, come forth!" And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Yahshua said to them, "Loose him, and let him go," verses 43b-44.

The purpose of Lazarus' sickness could only be achieved by his death. If Yahshua had done the 'right thing' by human's standards, of showing up 'on time,' Lazarus would have been just another healed person. There was

purpose in Yahshua's seeming 'lateness.' He had to be 'late' to heal in order to allow death to occur. By Yahshua's timepiece He was not late, for He had never intended to go to Bethany to heal Lazarus, but to raise him from the dead. The pre-requisite of resurrection is death. Lazarus had to die. Yahshua had to be 'late' in the eyes of others that He might be on time to fulfil His purposes. One song states: "Isn't it great, when He's four days late, He's still on time!"

The writer of this article has himself witnessed how at the funeral of a twenty-six year old woman who had died suddenly, several persons repented and made a commitment on that same day to follow Yahshua. Yahweh does the impossible, creating

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the at that the name says about he say to the perhaps nothing is cred more than the Saytor's parable about Lazarus and the rich man, Luke 16. This account is said to support the belief that the dead go immediately to between or to ever-burning helifire.

Many believe that this parable should be taken iterally in every semic because the name of a real-life Biblical person, Lazarus, is used.

Often, however, the Mestiah's teachings were couched in allegory and unually had a deeper, spiritual trath to them, In fact, our Savior's inchnique of choice when instructing was through analogy and parable. Such is the case here.

Because Yahshna employed a story in Luke 16, we must be careful about taking a literal approach and not grouping the original intera. Realize that this is a parable, used Scripturally to impart deeper triah, as all parables do.

The truth of what the Savior said is overlooked by most, and the whole throat of His teaching in this parable has been minimderstood down through the ages. To think that Yahahna the Mesniah was supporting the ranion of going to hell at death is to contradict a host of other Scripcius. No interpretation is accurate if it convadicts other namages.

### A Message to Certain Jews

Cermal to the parable is Yahahua's teaching about an unjust steward, which begins Liske 16. He concludes in sense 13 with this: "No servant can serve two matters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. You cannot serve Elobim and mammon" (Luke 16:13).

When they heard this, an elite class of Jews known as the Pharisers, who especially loved money, derided Him in verse 14. Then our Savior levels His sights directly on the Pharisers. His comments are an affront to these men who found His teaching contermentable.

life even out of death. We do not know His plans and purposes behind our particular circumstances. Our desperate heart-rending situations do not indicate that Yahweh is far away somewhere and does not care. He is at work when you cannot see Him,

For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you," Heb 13:5b.

His plans and purposes are on course, and will be revealed at the right time. Trust Yahweh and do not be afraid or doubtful. When He seems so very distant at your hour of greatest need, be assured that at His appointed time He will come and bring resurrection life for His glory out of your circumstances.

If you are Yahshua's friend whom He loves, you can be certain that there is an unseen purpose attached to each disappointment and apparent delay. Since Yahweh has a plan, He must also have a time schedule. As in the case of Lazarus, His timing will be precisely right.

For Mary, Martha and Lazarus, the experience of Lazarus' resurrection was a far more notable and memorable event than his healing would have been. But it cost them dearly, in disappointment, suffering, anxiety and grief. With hindsight they could have thought, how much better it would have been if they had known that Yahshua had a purpose, plan and timing that was different from theirs, and to have been able to trust Him implicitly to the end even when He did not turn up at the time they had expected.

How much better it would be if with our awareness of what Yahshua did for Mary, Martha and Lazarus, we could understand that Yahshua's clock is set to be on time, not according to our timing, but by His, who is all-wise. Though He seems to be tarrying He knows, cares, feels and understands all that you are going through. He will not forsake you. The paradox of Yahshua's timing is that He will be punctual even when late. He will show up. Get it deep inside of you. His clock is ticking 'on time ... on time... on time...on time!' Say this to the rhythm of each second of your natural clock until the message gets to you that He will intervene in your circumstances ...on time, then never again will you think that He is late, has forgotten you, or does not care.

## **The Red Sea** (Read Ex 13:17-14:30)

When we look at Yahweh's dealing with Pharaoh in causing his stout heart to bend, we could wonder why Yahweh took His time in humbling this proud monarch, and freeing His people from slavery. With His awesome power Yahweh could have achieved the intended freedom of His people swiftly by bypassing or undermining Pharaoh. Instead, He chose to work slowly, patiently, methodically and deliberately while He allowed the drama to develop at His pace and in His time to the conclusion He had predetermined.

After suffering many plagues from the hand of Yahweh, and finally the loss of the first-born in Egypt, the stubborn

Pharaoh submitted to the request of Moses to let the Israelite slaves leave his country. From that point, the narrative could have continued without the reintroduction of Pharaoh. That however was not Yahweh's way and it would have been inconsistent with the tenacious character of Pharaoh who determined to hold on to his slaves. The Israelites had hardly left when his vacillating but self-willed mind took another twist. He decided to pursue them and return them into bondage.

So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him. And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them, Ex 14:10.

They were trapped with mountains on either side, the Red Sea before them,

and Pharaoh's armies in hot pursuit. They could not escape. They had run but now could not hide from Pharaoh. Recapture or death was the only likely outcome.

So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to Yahweh. Then Yahweh spoke to Moses "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea," Ex 14:15-16.

In this moment of crisis, Yahweh painstakingly and unhurriedly unfolded an impeccable strategy to defeat the Egyptian army. Firstly, His Angel created a barrier of cloud between the Israelites and the Egyptians. This gave darkness to the Egyptians but light to the Israelites. It allowed the Israelites to gain valuable travelling advantage during the night.

to gain valuable travelling advantage during the night.

Egyptian cloud, as Egyptian clou

Depicting the plight of the Egyptian army as they crossed the Red Sea while chasing the Israelites during the Exodus

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and Yahweh caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. (Verses 21 & 22)

The Egyptians could have known that the Israelites were having divine help when the path was made through the Red Sea. They ignored this. With continued inflexible resolve

The Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen, verse 23.

Yahweh continued His strategy.

In the morning watch, ... Yahweh looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians. And He took off their

chariot wheels, so that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for Yahweh fights for them against the Egyptians," verses 24 and 25.

They recognised Yahweh's presence when it was too late. They were now the trapped ones with nowhere to hide, for who can hide from Yahweh Almighty?

Then Yahweh said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen." And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So Yahweh overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the Then the waters sea. returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them

remained. But the children of Israel had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. So Yahweh saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore, verses 26-30.

Without Yahweh's timely intervention at the Red Sea the history of the Israelites would have been quite different. His timing could not have gone wrong. Your life is no exception. In His time He will set you free and His timing will not be wrong. Though you may seem to be hemmed in now, wait for Him. He will deliver. Fear not the menacing threats of your enemies or your precarious circumstances. Yahweh will come to your rescue.

Do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. 2 Cor 4:18a.

When you look at your situation you will fear. When you look to Yahweh you will be strong and confident. But know this: your preconceived ideas of how and when Yahweh will rescue you may not come to pass. Only His purposes are guaranteed to come to pass in His time. Trusting in Yahweh

is what matters more than confidence in how and when your situation will change. Only He is sovereign. When there is no clear way ahead of you, there is no need to fear. It is the right time to

Stand still, and see the salvation of Yahweh, which He will accomplish for you, Ex 14:13.

At every *cul de sac* in your life your safest prayer is: "Father... not my will, but Yours, be done," Luke 22:42.

## **Isaac Rescued** (Read Gen 22:1-19)

Yahweh miraculously provided a son to Abraham and Sarah in their old age and promised Abraham that "in Isaac your seed shall be called," Gen 21:12. Nevertheless, Yahweh commanded Abraham to

Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you, verse 2.

Abraham made preparations to carry out Yahweh's command. He journeyed

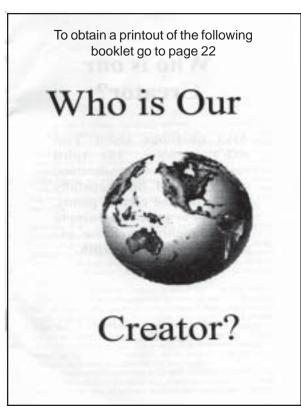
to the place of which Elohim had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order: and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of Yahweh called to him from heaven and said. "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear Elohim, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son, verses 9-13.

If Isaac was not to be killed, Yahweh could hardly have delayed any longer. Abraham had the knife in his hand ready to slay his only son. Abraham was earnest. This was not a game of make-belief. He was prepared to carry out Yahweh's command even though he did not know for sure what Yahweh's next move would have been. Then at the latest possible moment, Yahweh showed up ... barely in time to stay Abraham's hand from making the decisive thrust. He spoke and provided a substitute. Just a moment's delay and Isaac would have been dead.

Yahweh could have sent His Angel and provided the ram earlier but He left it all up to that critical final moment just when Abraham was about to slay his son. Yahweh had brought Abraham right up to the point of no return where he would have taken his son's life, except Yahweh intervened. Yahweh's timing was deliberate and purposeful. Through this test Abraham proved to Yahweh, his son and to himself, that his faith in and obedience to Yahweh was unswerving.

It is sometimes only when our faith is pushed to the limit that we find out the extent to which we are willing to trust and obey Yahweh. It is only then we begin to appreciate the enormity of the sacrifice that Abraham was willing to make. To be ready to pay such a

high price without any guarantee of Yahweh's intervention is a greater sacrifice than most believers would be willing to make. Yahweh showed up for Abraham when it was almost too late, but He was on time to save Isaac's life and so enable the fulfilment of the promise He had made to Abraham. Yahweh here demonstrated that, even down to the final second, He is capable of delivering before it is too late. Yahweh sees and knows the depth and sincerity of our hearts. At the time appointed He will send deliverance. Trust Him and be obedient to Him even up to the point at which it seems He is demanding the absolute ultimate from you. You are not on your own. He will not forget you. He will deliver. Though it tarries, ... it will surely come ...[ON TIME!] Hab 2:3. The urgency of your time clock does not necessarily



motivate Him to action. He knows, cares, feels and understands, BUT He is also sovereign and will deliver at His precise time and in the manner He chooses. Be patient. Trust Yahweh. He may not come in a hurry but He will be there on time.

## Wedding at Cana (Read John 2:1-10)

Yahshua with His mother and disciples were invited to a wedding at Cana of Galilee.

When they ran out of wine, the mother of Yahshua said to Him, "They have no wine." Yahshua said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come," verses 3-4.

Yahshua later commanded the servants to fill with water six stone waterpots each containing twenty or thirty gallons. Then

He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it, verse 8.

The water had become the finest wine in Yahshua's time.

If the answers to your prayers do not come at the time you expect, know this that the right time has not yet come. It may seem that the answer is overdue, but it will come on time by Yahweh's reckoning. If Yahweh were to respond to our needs in the way and in the time we request, we would soon learn the hard way that His best gifts are those that are delivered in His time. 'He makes all things beautiful **IN HIS TIME.**'

## Wait For the Appointed Time

Like His prophecies and promises, Yahweh's answers to your deepest needs are

Yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry, Hab 2:3.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 tells us:

To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven.

This not only applies to things, creatures and events but also to the Creator Himself. To everything Yahweh has a season and a time for every purpose. Purpose cannot be fulfilled without correct timing. Yahweh has a purpose and an appointed time. The one cannot be effective without the other. They are indivisible. If Yahweh has a purpose, then He also has a plan to bring it about at the right time.

The history of the children of Israel gives many examples of Yahweh's meticulous planning and timing that enabled His purposes to unfold. It begun long before Joseph was sold into slavery, continued through his experiences in Egypt, the famine in Canaan and in Egypt, Israel's residence in Goshen, their experience of slavery, the birth, rescue and divine selection of Moses as their leader, the plagues, exodus and miraculous crossing of the Red Sea. Every detail of the fabric of their history was carefully linked and woven with the thread of precise timing. Thousands

of years after these events we are now able to see why certain incidents occurred in the manner and at the time that they did. Without the right timing, Joseph would not have been sold to the Ishmaelites. Pharaoh's dream that led to the release and promotion of Joseph could have been too soon or too late to allow Joseph's unique role in this historic drama. Thus, it has continued right up to the present, and so it will continue to the end of the ages. Yahweh's timing has been so consistently effective that it cannot be ignored or dismissed as mere coincidence. Without His precise control of all factors including the exact timing of each event, the design would fall apart. But the all wise, omnipotent sovereign cannot fail. Whatever He purposes comes to pass.

I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it, Isa 46:11.

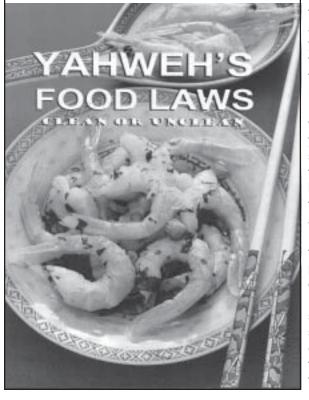
Who is he who speaks and it comes to pass, when Yahweh has not commanded it? (Lam 3:37)

Yahweh has not forgotten you. He will intervene, but timing is critical. The

right thing done at the wrong time is as ineffective as simply doing the wrong thing. Since Yahweh will be always right it follows that His timing can never be wrong. He has an appointed time for the night in your life as well as for the day, and for the length of your seasons. In time your 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,' will pass, and in its place 'hoary-headed frosts' will fall. Think it not strange when your life passes through these seasons that are for an appointed time and will bring their individual benefits after you have survived their blistering onslaughts. At the appointed time these too will pass. Meanwhile, you can praise Him that He is sovereign and that His plan for your life continues in spite of the season or weather.

You cannot hasten the seasons away because of their severity and likewise you cannot get rid of or shorten your intense testing. Therefore learning to wait for the accomplishing of Yahweh's

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purpose and timing is a necessary lesson for all believers.

Let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, Jas 1:4.

Waiting for Yahweh is a recurring command in the Bible.

Wait on Yahweh; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on Yahweh! (Ps 27:14)

It is because Yahweh knows our tendency to run ahead of Him or to become impatient that we are repeatedly admonished to wait.

Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of Yahweh, which He will accomplish for you, Ex 14:13.

By His clock He cannot and will not be late. Wait patiently for Him.

### **Trust Him in Your Crisis**

Except Yahweh appeared on time. Daniel would have been devoured by the hungry lions; the fires would have overwhelmed the Hebrew boys in the furnace; Isaac would have been sacrificed by his father Abraham; Joseph could have died in the pit or rotted in prison; Paul would have arrived in Damascus to persecute the believers; the Zarephath widow and her son would have died from starvation: Haman would have destroyed all the Jews throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus and Elijah would have been mocked by the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. These are just some examples from the many times throughout the Bible when Yahweh showed up at crucial times. Without these things coming to pass these narratives in the Bible would have been quite different. But they had to happen and so each one occurred on time according to Yahweh's clock.

If today you came right up to the point of being tossed into a lion's den or a fiery furnace, or a pit; or if you were hemmed in at the Red Sea, or like Isaac laid upon the sacrificial table about to be slaughtered, you would probably cry in despair "My El, my El, why have you forsaken me?" Your depths of feeling would not be a true evidence of Yahweh's love for you. He

would still be with you as He was with Yahshua. Though you could not see Him, He would be actively working out His plan and purpose in the best way and at the best time for His glory to be revealed. Even though He seems to be slaying you, still trust Him to the last, drinking even down to the last drop of the cup that He gives to you. Sooner or later, in one way or another, you will be restored on time.

Today, you are in your specific set of circumstances. You cannot see the way ahead or know exactly when or how Yahweh will intervene. Trust Him that He is perfecting everything concerning you. By faith believe that He will come to your rescue in the manner and at the time He chooses. When He appears it will be on time.

When you are at your wit's end, cry out to Yahweh as the many persons did in Psalms 107.

They cried out to Yahweh in their trouble, And He saved them out of their distresse, verses 13 and 19.

Do everything you have to do, praying and asking for wisdom to take the necessary action. Then, having done all you can, wait for Yahweh, however long He may take. Be not entangled with the bondages of fear, doubt and self-pity. Stand firm with trust in Him that at the appropriate time He has appointed, He will do what is best.

There is no end to the most desperate situation until Yahweh's will is accomplished. Yahweh triumphs when defeat seems to be the only likely consequence, and then unveils His plan linking together other seemingly unrelated factors. Yahweh will not abandon you when the way is dark or menacing.

Yahweh, He is the one who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed, Deut 31:8.

### **Not You But Yahweh**

Knowledge is wasted except it is applied. We know so much of whom Yahweh is, what He has done and can do, but fail to bring that understanding to bear on our circumstances at times

of greatest need. When we should be demonstrating strength based upon our confidence in Yahweh, we stumble, crumble and grumble like those who do not know Him.

We are finite and see, hear and feel within the limitations of our senses, while Yahweh is infinite. His mind, vision and power are without limit. We are not in total control of every aspect of our lives, but Yahweh's almighty power is supreme in the whole universe.

When you are confronted with difficulties beyond your control it is the right time to prove that Yahweh is who you say He is. It was in the most difficult times for Yahweh's people in the Bible that He manifested His awesome power. It will be at your most trying times that He will intervene on your behalf on time. If you do not trust in Yahweh when your situation is desperate, who or what will you trust then? Fair-weather trust is cheap. Allweather trust is costly and precious. When your situation seems bleak and you do not have an answer, it does not mean there is no hope. Hope is to be measured not by your ability, but by Yahweh's. Unfortunately, we often predetermine in our minds how things will develop and forget that Yahweh is sovereign. How things appear to us is not necessarily how they are. Only Yahweh knows the truth of what is, was and will be, for He is in all states at the same time. Only He is everlasting, omniscient and omnipotent. He has the power to do what is humanly impossible. He will perform miracles, work behind the scenes where we cannot go, communicate to persons we cannot reach or whose minds we cannot penetrate, arrange the right set of circumstances and then bring them all together in flawless timing. Therefore, do not assume that things will progress or deteriorate in the way or in the time schedule you imagine, or that your present situation is one big mistake without meaning or purpose. Yahweh knows precisely where your path is heading and if you have truly abandoned your life into His hands, He will bring you safely in His own way and in His own time to His planned destination for you.

It requires **real faith** in Him. Not talking faith but walking by faith on the tightrope even over the precipices of life. It requires faith when the storms are raging while Yahshua seems to be asleep. It requires faith to truly believe that He *never slumbers nor sleeps*, but hears every earnest cry for help, and in His time He will appear.

When you have done all that you can and there is still no change, just stand on His unfailing promises to deliver and His unchanging sovereignty and nature. You cannot do the impossible, or abort the suffering. There is no end until Yahweh's purpose is accomplished, and Yahweh's purpose will only be accomplished in His time. You cannot speed it up or slow it down. Without patience you cannot wait upon Yahweh's clock. If you are impatient His clock will invariably be slower than yours. With patience you will acknowledge His sovereignty, and your clock will synchronise with His. Your frayed nerves will be rescued, your downcast spirit lifted, your fragile faith strengthened and motivation will replace depression. You will then understand that every experience is a necessary step towards Yahweh's goal for you. It is all about Yahweh -His plan, His purpose, His strategy, His choices, His timing to get you to His destination. This only applies when you have fully surrendered (abandoned) yourself totally to Yahweh.

Yahweh may not come when or in the manner you expect of Him. For example, He may not change your circumstances. Instead, He may choose to change YOU. Although Paul's thorn in his flesh did not respond to prayer, it taught him and all believers the invaluable lesson that Yahweh's strength is most perfect at the times of our greatest weakness. The revelation of this truth at times when we are most vulnerable is in itself a timely intervention of Yahweh to give us strength when we are weak. When you are fully surrendered to Yahweh, you will stop resisting Him. He is bigger than you. It is smart to yield to Him. A change of circumstances will not be so important to you as a change of heart that will permit you to see everything through Yahweh's eyes, and to respond like Yahshua in your darkest night,

Father... not my will, but Yours, be done, Luke 22:42.

### **Conclusion**

O child of Yahweh, do not lose heart or become absorbed by your unanswered prayers, your persistent and threatening circumstances, or the intense agony of your soul. Hold on in the darkness when you cannot see Him, and amid the noisy clatter when you cannot hear Him. Hold on through the tears and fears. Hold on though your heart is aching. He is with you, even when He seems to be far away. Remember this: He has a plan, purpose and timing for your life, which may not correspond with your expectations. He did not show up in Bethany while Lazarus was still alive, but four days after Lazarus' death, He arrived and performed the miracle of resurrection when all hope was gone. He was on time! He allowed the children of Israel to be trapped at the Red Sea with nowhere to hide, and then with perfect planning and timing He delivered them. He was on time!

Hold on as the Hebrew boys did when they were dumped like stubble into a fiery furnace. Neither the fire nor

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the smell of fire touched them. He was on time! Yahweh will appear on time for you no matter what you face. Hold on like Daniel when thrown to ravening lions. The lions did not touch Him, for Yahweh entered that den on time! Yahweh will be with you at the precise moment that you enter a situation of absolute helplessness. He will be on time. Hold on like Joseph though despised and treated like garbage, wrongly accused, imprisoned and forgotten. Even your darkest, loneliest dungeon cannot obstruct Yahweh's plan and timing if you are truly His child. In His perfect time He will raise you from the 'guttermost' to the 'uppermost.'

Could Mary and Martha, the children of Israel, Joseph, Daniel, the Hebrew boys, Job, Hannah, Sarah, Ruth, Esther, and the innumerable other witnesses that fill the pages of Scriptures, have done anything to change their situation? No! All around them seemed hopeless. But Yahweh had a plan, purpose and timing. He delivered on time, every time. Yahweh will be there for you, not by your clock that says He is late, or that He must hurry, but by His that is set to be on time!

When circumstances are beyond your control, no amount of effort on your part, self-pity, or blaming will untangle you from the web that has been woven. Instead, surrender to Yahweh. Your situation is not without hope. Put Yahweh first before all of your concerns and wait with trust in Him. What Yahweh did for others, He will do for you. He will show up on time to bring deliverance and comfort, dispel darkness and strengthen you. He will do what is best when it is best. If this article has encouraged you, know this that in this way, Yahweh has turned up just for you. He saw your need, heard your cry of despair and came just on time to tell you, "Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come ...[ON TIME!], Hab 2:3.

**Elder Buel Hallpike** 

# QUESTION & MINISWER

If the knowing of the names Yahweh and Yahshua is the only way that one gets Salvation, does that mean that all who have come to know Him through the names "God", "LORD", "Lord", "Jesus Christ" do not have Salvation? What about those who died not knowing even the name "God"...etc. what happens to them?

On this point I told a friend that those who died not even knowing Him in the false names and to those who knew Him in the false names, when they are raised after the 1000 years it will be revealed to them about His Name and His Glory and they will have a choice to either follow Him or to reject Him and His Son. He doesn't agree with me because there is no proof about that. And also I explained to him that when Yahshua comes those that are alive and are not in Him will be taught about Him and His Laws.

My friend says that that is the theory of the second chance doctrine.

Acts 4:12 seems to contradict your friend's statement, but there is the incident on the torture stake where Yahshua basically tells the one thief he would be saved. One may look at that and think that the thief was immediately taken to heaven. We think not, based on various scriptures (Acts 2:29, 34; John 3:13) and even the sentence structure (comma should be after the word "today") of Luke 23:43.

Your initial answer to him is correct, and his reply is also correct to a certain extent. That is, we are thinking this will happen, but it's not a "second chance." We believe it will be a first opportunity to either deny or accept Yahweh and His way of life. Many throughout history (OT, NT, and beyond) have not heard the truth and died not understanding Yahweh's plan of salvation.

Those in Yahshua the Messiah today are given a special place (first fruits) in all of history, and will become spirit beings, Acts 15. Let your friend know that we believe Yahweh is full of justice and mercy, Ps 33:5. We believe He will judge people based upon what they knew and what they did with that knowledge...period.

Are today's pastors under these laws? In Leviticus 21 Yahweh forbids any man with any sort of blemish to partake of the offerings. Even one with a flat nose.

"For whatsoever man [he be] that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous," (Le 21:18 AV). Smith and Goodspeed translate this differently: "For no one who has a defect may come near, no one who is blind, or lame, or has any perforations, or has a limb too long," (Lev, 21:18).

It is clear that Yahweh wanted only normal, healthy priests representing Him. As shown above, He did not select the lame, crippled, poor physical specimens to represent His way of life. Beyond this Yahweh expects those serving in the ministry should be of high moral character above reproach. Anyone having a defect can always serve Yahweh in some capacity. A physical presentation before Yahweh is an example of the spiritual goals we seek to emulate.

If it's what's inside that counts, why does Yahweh exclude these with disability?

He wants those to represent His benevolent side so that we might remember His goodness and tender mercies. In preferring good physical specimens, we can easily recognize spiritual qualifications are also part of the equation Yahweh expects from us. We are to strive for spiritual perfection, for we are to be holy as He is holy, 1Peter 1:16. Those born with disabilities will be rewarded according to their deeds and our merciful Judge.

YAHWEH'S ASSEMBLY IN YAHSHUA 2963 CO. RD. 233 **KINGDOM CITY, MO 65262** 

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