

# YAIY NEWS



## Becoming Spiritually Mature

When we began our life on this earth we were completely dependent upon others for survival. Every one of us started as infants and relied fully upon our mother for food and care during those first few years. As we developed and grew we became more self-reliant. It is always a thrill for parents to see their children make the transition from crawling to taking their first steps alone. The children are now well on the way toward independence.

This sign of maturity is followed by other advances in the maturation process, which continue through adolescence and even beyond. Making our own decisions and pursuing life's goals does not come quickly enough at times for impatient youth. To be independent and self-sufficient is a natural desire.



Physical and emotional growth are one thing, but spiritual maturity is another matter. Spiritual growth takes its own course in its own time. Spiritual maturity is more or less dependent upon exposure to the Bible and its message, either directly or through human intervention. The Bible shows that spiritual maturity is the purpose for our being born.

The writer of Hebrews encourages us to grow in grace and knowledge and become grown-up, responsible people: *Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Messiah, let us go on unto perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward Yahweh,* Hebrews 6:1. We are expected to elevate our thinking, our concepts, our understanding, and our attitudes.

As we grow spiritually we automatically move away from the lusts of the flesh and the worldly desires common to the natural man. The spiritual person thinks differently from the unconverted individual. He or she seeks to meet the challenges of the higher spiritual plane imposed by Almighty Yahweh.

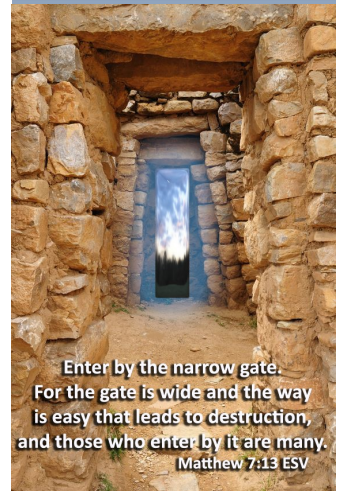
This is what Yahshua had in mind when He gave His disciples an example of spiritual discernment of truth. They were preoccupied with worldly, mundane, temporal thoughts that would eventually pass away. He plainly told them: *It is the Spirit that quickens; the flesh profits nothing: the words that I speak unto you, [they] are Spirit, and [they] are life,* John 6:63.

Growing in grace and knowledge through a better understanding of the Bible and Yahweh's will for our lives directly affects spiritual progress. We become more like the Savior. To help us achieve this goal of a higher outlook through His Spirit, Yahshua "gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers" (Eph. 4:11).

These positions are necessary to the growing body of believers. We are not to forget the assembling of ourselves together whenever possible (Heb. 10:25). Through fellowship we are exposed to the good influences of the brethren. Being

Beloved ones,  
let us love one  
another, because love  
is of Elohim,  
and everyone who  
loves has been born  
of Elohim, and  
knows Elohim.

1 John 4:7 TS



Enter by the narrow gate.  
For the gate is wide and the way  
is easy that leads to destruction,  
and those who enter by it are many.  
Matthew 7:13 ESV

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## **Becoming Spiritually Mature,...cont.**

together with others who also strive for deeper spiritual growth will help bathe our thoughts for a time in righteous values and much needed virtue.

This exposure is essential. Regular weekly fellowship relieves us from the constant pressures of the mundane world forces upon us during the week and refocuses our spiritual commitment to Yahweh.

Paul says the leaders of the Assembly were given “for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Messiah” (Eph. 4:12). Each of us is given a job to do. We are expected to grow and mature in the Savior, and in turn build up and edify the body of Messiah ourselves. Our task is to help make the Body of believers strong in the faith and mature in the teachings of the Savior, becoming a perfect man. As Paul wrote us: *Till we all come in the unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of Yahweh, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Messiah*, Ephesians 4:13.

Those who are mature in the Messiah are expected to reflect adult behavior. That is, they no longer are dependent upon others to carry them along in the faith. Rather, as mature believers we pay our own way and take it upon ourselves to do our share, not using others to our advantage.

The spiritually grown up recognize the great benefit they derive from the studies and explanations done by others that help us all comprehend the true message of salvation.

Yahweh has given some individuals gifts for explaining what the Bible teaches through lessons that are easily understood. We should be mature enough to acknowledge their efforts and be supportive.

Instead of freely taking advantage of their labors, it behooves those who strive for spiritual maturity to pay their way and “owe no man anything.” There are many who do nothing more than gather whatever “freebies” may be available, thus causing others to provide the means by which they are fed. This is not spiritual maturity, but the way of the spiritual adolescent — the natural man.

One of the tests we face in life is to determine our willingness to pay a price for our salvation. Yahshua has already provided the salvation, which is free to all. But each of us will be tested to see whether we are sincere and willing to stand fast in spite of adversity and trials. Our Savior was goodness personified. His whole life was devoted to giving to others. How sincere is the follower of Yahshua who is here only to take whatever he can get at the expense of other believers?

Those who have but little strength but who know and understand the Name of the Heavenly Father and His Son have a special place in Yahshua’s heart. These have obeyed and kept His Word and did not deny His Name. They were not strong or famous, but were diligent and obedient, and when it came to the Sacred Name, they did not deny, refuse, turn down, withhold, disapprove, disallow, contradict, dispute, controvert, disaffirm, repudiate, disown, disclaim, or disavow His holy Name.

Notice what our Savior told John to write: *I know your works; behold, I have set before you an open door, and no man can shut it: for you have a little strength, and have kept My word, and have not denied My Name*, Revelation 3:8.

In being willing to stand fast in the truth each day in spite of inconveniences or even an occasional sacrifice, we will be worthy to stand before the Son of man when He returns. The person who sacrifices himself to help others will not be required to go through the worst of the great trials and tribulations that are coming on this earth.

Our Savior promises this as He continues with those who have not denied His Name. *Because you have kept the word of My patience. I will also keep you from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth*, Revelation 3:10.

Yahweh’s Assembly in Yahshua teaches and abides by the tithing system given us in the Bible. It is the fairest of all, for ten percent of one’s income is what Yahweh expects from His people. He promises that those who tithe to Him will be blessed, and His Name and His way of life will be proclaimed around the world.

To be fully mature in the Messiah means not only that we pay our own way, but that we also seek to help others, especially babes in the Word. Become a strengthener for those in need. Don’t take, as the world does, but give in every manner in which He has given to you.

The spiritually mature do whatever they can to build up the body of Messiah and help the brethren grow. What we do to the assembly of believers we do to Yahshua Himself (Matt. 24:40). If we take from them, we take from Yahshua.

To whom Yahweh has given much, much is required. To paraphrase our former President Kennedy’s observation, “Ask not what the body of Messiah can do for you. Rather, ask what you can do to edify and build up the body of Messiah.”

## LIVE Feast of Tabernacles

While there were difficulties due to Covid-19 this year with our inability to go to the campground we had secured, we do see the benefit of tabernacling locally with meetings held at Kingdom City, MO.

The biggest benefit being that all services will be streamed LIVE and, Yahweh willing, be archived at both Facebook and YouTube for everyone who would like to view or listen to them. We will also be producing DVDs and CDs. May Yahweh bless and be with everyone this year!



## Welcome Ethiopia and Congo

We are pleased to announce a few more elders we've added to the "International Assemblies" page on YAIY.org. Two are from Ethiopia and one is from the Republic of Congo. We are grateful to see those coming to a knowledge of the truth and proclaiming Yahweh's way of life in their own areas. Unlike many who only speak one language, others who speak two or three can more readily accept the correct Names of the Father and His Son. They understand clearly that names are to be transliterated rather than translated. The pronunciation of names are brought forth in other languages and not just the meaning. Beyond this, they also understand that Yahweh's instructions are to be kept in Messiah Yahshua. As He came as the One to bring us to the Father as obedient children. Yahweh is building a family, one that will enter into eternity. Yahweh is for all mankind and calls everyone, everywhere, to repent. The greatest growth in the world, we believe, is currently the African Nation. The people have a love and heart to learn and do the Father's good will.



### Ethiopia

Assembly location and contact



#### Sendafa, Ethiopia

-Elder Mamu Abera  
-Contact Number: +251-911-78-25-46

#### Gambella, Ethiopia

-Elder Gatluak Mong  
-Contact Number: +251-942-34-55-66



### Democratic Republic of Congo

Assembly location and contact

#### Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo

-Elder Bamba Zayi Isayah  
-Contact Number: +243997727821





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*Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin [is] a reproach to any people ... When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice ... The prince that wanteth understanding [is] also a great oppressor ... but when the wicked bear rule, the people mourn, Proverbs 14:34, 29:2, 28:16.*

Two hundred years ago, French statesman and political observer, Alex de Tocqueville, toured American institutions and concluded that America was Great because America was Good but if ever, America should cease to be Good, then it would no longer be Great.

But alas! America has gone too far, we believe, in its bent toward lawlessness, transgression, and sin to be recovered to Goodness.

And in this election cycle, the people don't have much of a choice between the two Presidential contenders, the Republican incumbent and his Democratic Progressive opponent. And the incumbent's 2020 mantra, "Keep America Great," might not propel him to victory November 3rd either, and why? because his 2016 slogan, "Make America Great Again," has failed to meet the Prerequisite of Goodness in order to achieve Greatness.

Yeah, from the White House to the Church House, these four years past have affirmed that America, in continuing along The Broad Way That Leads To Destruction (Matt. 7:13), has lost its way!

## Prayer List

Dolores Parker, David & Barbara Creel, Charlie Pelton, Robert Dorchester, Karen van Schalkwyk, Elder Lionel and Sandra Gets, Diana Murphy, Stella Rogers, Sean Rogers and Family, Loretta Reyes and Family, Michael Hutchinson, Georgiana Greene and Family, Al J. Pagano, Heidi Fleischmann, Chauncey Hargrove, Winifred Marie, Charles Scott Jr. and Sr., David & Nancy Wilson Family/Friends, Audrey Wilkes, Adeline Black, Audrey Steadman, Adi Stahlin, Kareem Greene Family/Friends, Ja'Quon & Schosche MucSarney, Ruben & Desire McIntyre, Henry Sunderman Family, Tisha Palmory, Victor Kiiru, Roger Norman, John Wade, Errol Hunt, Chris and Marisca Barnard, Michael Johnson, Bob Covey, Terryn Willard, Shaun Dampier, Jerry Castle, Leonard & Bertha Sefu, Marilyn Montague, Jephthah Maika, Jordan Vira and Family, Brent Houdeshell, Ryan C. Irving, Sr. Ann McKenzie, Victor Freire, Leny Richa, Gary Deerwester, Cody J. Malone, R.C. Fernald Family/Friends, Edward Napper, Larry Skinner, Israel Omotayo family, Mike Coffey, Eric Perkins, Dustin Spears Family/Friends, Kaoru Higa, David Miller, Michelle Williams, Mary Giles Family, Laurie Hernandez, Thomas Herndon Family, Danny O'Connor Family, David Clay, Karl Russel, Ricardo Marta, and Mari Orteg, Joe Norman, Charlene Jeffries, Marilyn Patterson, Kenneth Faulkner, Linda Roberson Family, Troy Fenton, Rakesh (Ruel) and Rajeshri (Ruth) Awale, Lucas Bentley Family, Kenya Washington, Ron Jernigam. Also include in your prayers individuals seeking Yahweh from within prison facilities and for their families; plus overseas brethren and especially for the peace of Jerusalem (Psa. 122:6). The world's leaders could also use our prayers (Jer. 29:7; 1 Tim. 2:2). *And give Him no rest, till He establish, and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth, Isaiah 62:7.*