



YAIY BEACON

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*Do The Five
Who Do You Serve?
The Eight Commands of Creation
Cut Off, In the Middle of the Week?
True Nature of The Mark
Words of Life
Are All Things Lawful?*

INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

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MISSION STATEMENT

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

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DO THE FIVE

When the following discourse took the form of a message delivered before the Assembly a few weeks ago, its secondary title was COVID-19 vs. Romans 13 and particularly, Romans 13:8 and 10, which read:

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the Law... Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the Law.

Imagine the portraiture of two figures: COVID-19, personified as a behemoth and mankind, featured as an insect unable to find its way out of a wet paper bag. But this writer settled on “Do the Five,” inspired by banners strategically positioned at high-volume traffic intersections in his city, for the purpose of reminding motorists and pedestrians alike, to exercise the precautions issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

THE FIVE are:

- Hands (Wash Them Often)
- Elbow (Cough Into It)
- Face (Mask It, Don't Touch It)
- Feet (Stay 6 Feet Away)
- Feel (Sick, Stay At Home)

COVID-19 Protocols, together with an acceptable vaccine, were thought by infectious disease prevention authorities as that vehicle by which the pandemic curve would plummet to ZERO. But perhaps unforeseen, was an attitude of the general population that shelved proven preventative means like “Doing the Five;” social-distancing, and avoiding entertainment and recreational venues of large concentrations of people, while placing greater confidence in –as of this writing– an unapproved FDA vaccine that somehow, should



become that panacea by which the coronavirus would be eradicated. Meanwhile, COVID continues to surge forward, sickening people and claiming lives in its wake.

So, here we are ... six months in, the curve neither flattened nor plummeted to ZERO, and instead of an autumn anticipation of a second wave, there has been only a continuation of the first ... exacerbated by those who have resisted and defied “Do The Five” by crowding the beaches and planning, scheduling, and attending social, recreational, and entertainment, venues unmasked and proximally-distanced.

Moreover, political leaders have presented, mixed in their own conduct from seriously regarding COVID as “a lurking, invisible enemy” and the human species as vulnerable to its unseen stealth, to brushing the virus off as nothing more than the common cold. Ironically, those in Government who have responded and reacted trivially to “the plague,” have seen more of their constituencies succumb to the disease. They might instead, and at least, have led by example and, moreover, been more vigorous in issuing Executive Orders or advanced legislation that provided uniform guidance and practice of “Do the Five” and other initiatives to quell the spread of the coronavirus.

Effects of COVID: Fodder for Scientific Research

Well, short of obliterating “the plague” from off the face of the planet, its effect has provided scientists with an abundance of socio-metric phenomena to research and study, like,

- How have peoples everywhere, changed hygiene practices?
- What about peoples’ attitudes who “Do the Five” toward the non-compliant behaviors of those who “Don’t Do The Five?”
- And have months of Government imposed stay-at-home directives and lockdowns with the imposition of arrest and/or fines assessed for disobedience – observing “social distancing” face coverings and “self-quarantining” when tested positive – made people feel disconnected; less inclined to be numbered among assemblies greater than ten; less compassionate toward redressing the infirmities, necessities, and distresses of others?
- What do people feel about the shuttering of businesses and industries, and prohibitions against interstate and international travel?
- How do people feel about retailers, sporting enterprises, requiring the wearing of face coverings

and social distancing as prerequisites for admittance into stores and events with expulsion enforced for noncompliance?

- How do retailers feel about having to enforce mandatory social-distancing and face coverings of their customers?
- What hardships does the closure of in-person K-12 schools impose upon working parents?
- How has public pre-school and K-12 education that relies on tax support, and parochial schools and private K-12 academies that depend on tuition, been impacted by concerned parents’ home schooling their children as a precautionary means to avert the potential of spreading the infectious disease?
- How do churchgoers feel about perceived Government encroachments upon the so-called doctrine of “separation of church and state,” as churches too, were shuttered during the course of the pandemic and protestors seeking redress to racial inequities were permitted to gather in the public square?
- How do people respond to the “Quantitative Easing” by the Federal Reserve printing trillions of dollars to provide Government monetary support to businesses, corporate enterprises, and individuals?
- And has trillions of dollars given away by the US Treasury in the form of economic stimulus in the amount of \$1200 to every adult in America, lulled people into thinking the handout as an entitlement owed them by the Government, or as a trade-off for having to endure the hardships touted as having been produced by the coronavirus or, as an election year gimmick to woo voters to the polls on November 3rd ?
- In the midst of a worsening pandemic, how do people feel about Government’s lifting of restrictions on mobility and social gatherings and people congregating at recreational/entertainment events?
- And now, with Government’s lifting of restrictions on mobility and gatherings, with the outcome the pandemic has worsened, how do people feel about Government’s imposition of further infrastructure closures and stay-at-home orders?
- How do people feel about mandatory vaccinations?
- And to what extent have the murders of George Floyd and other high crimes and misdemeanors executed by police, and the reaction of left wing perpetrators of violence on our streets and Government’s high-handed counter-response in an effort, and during an election year, to advance “law

and order” colluded with COVID-19 to inspire a paranoia among peoples everywhere?

- And is there any truth to the suspicions the whole affair is more of a “plandemic” than a pandemic as a means to establish Agenda 21’s New World Order?

All these questions, and doubtlessly, many more have, and will, surface as “-ologists” (psychologists, sociologists, economists, etc.) find fresh fields which to survey and study.

Beware the Naysayer

And before proceeding, a word about “conspiracy theories.” Presently, conspiracy theories abound and receive more attention from those curious to know of them who claim to “be in the know.”

And, yes, Yahweh is wanting His children neither to be ignorant, nor deceived, and has therefore charged them to be vigilant (interpreted to mean, watching) and diligent (interpreted to mean, praying) – and as much, incidentally, to preclude entering into temptation (Matt. 26:41) and falling into sin, as hoping to be accounted worthy to escape all that is coming upon the earth (Luke 22:36).

But we should appreciate that the revelation of Scripture discloses there are three particular arenas in which Yahweh exacts judgment upon peoples everywhere for their lawlessness and their evil come of reprobate minds (Rom. 1:28) whose imaginations (Gen. 11:6) and inventions of evil (Rom. 1:30) are unrestrained, and that what is witnessed and experienced now, is but fulfillment of Yahshua’s reply to His disciples’ query, *Tell us, when shall these things be? and what [shall be] the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?* Matthew 24:3.

These are:

- the sword (wars);
- pestilence (in our time, the COVID-19 pandemic with its secondary appendages of diverse infirmities, necessities, and distresses);
- famine (and a real famine of bread and water together with a famine of preaching and hearing the Word of Yahweh); and, an increase in wild beasts

Conspiracy theorists, incidentally, are silent on these points, their purpose to espouse questions, surmising, doubts and instilling in peoples everywhere, the spirit of fear which comes not of Yahweh (2 Tim. 1:7) and which has torment (1 John 4:18). They would have people to be anxious about everything ... walking by sight, instead of by faith (2 Cor. 5:7).

As It Was, So It Is

The Apostle Paul wrote in 2 Thessalonians 3:2b: “For All Men Have Not Faith,” and certainly not all people are on the same page concerning all the appendages attached to COVID-19.

Among believers even, who are suspicious of anything with which the Government is involved, conflicts are beginning to surface with understanding the Apostle’s discourse in Romans, Chapter 13, with them concluding with the Apostles Peter and John’s defiance of an order forbidding them to preach in the Name of Yahshua. “Whether it be right in the sight of Yahweh to hearken unto you more than unto Yahweh, judge ye. ... We ought to obey Yahweh rather than man” (Acts 4:19, 5:29).

And we’ll start right there. For if we believe and teach – and we do believe and teach – that “All Scripture Is Given Inspiration of Yahweh ...” (2 Tim. 3:16), then Romans 13:1-7 should surely qualify as Scripture inspired of Yahweh.

The question is, “How to rightly divide Romans 13:1-7?”

On July 4, 1776, Thomas Jefferson presented to the Continental Congress, the cherished document, *The Declaration of Independence*, on display in Philadelphia’s Constitution Hall.

The preamble to that document reads:

“When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and Nature’s G-d entitle them, a decent respect requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by the Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their Safety and Happiness.

“Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly, all experience

hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed.”

So, now, let's read Jefferson's, "foundation on such principles." We begin with 1 Peter 2:13-15, and conclude with 1 Timothy 2:1-4:

Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Master's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and the for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of Yahweh, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men: for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all piety and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of Yahweh our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Far more observed among men, is a readied criticism and demonism of those in civil authority than readiness to make "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks" for, and on their behalf, that they, too, might "be saved, and come unto the knowledge of the Truth."

In fact, it would not much occur ... even to us who purport to have knowledge of the Truth, that the reason for the Apostle's exhortation is not at all that Government should get off our backs and out of our lives but rather, that those in authority might, as we, "be saved, and come unto the knowledge of the Truth" therewith, evoking from us thanksgiving as it is written:

"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice" (Prov. 29:2a.)

Cause and Effect

We should not wonder the cause of this coronavirus and every other evil that has made its way into the institutions of men, both in this country and abroad, as well:

- abortions of the innocents;
- pornography;
- human trafficking of girls and women for the purpose of sexual exploitation;
- queerism (LGBT-QA);
- the opioid crisis and the substance abuse pandemic;
- suicides;

- physician-assisted euthanasia;
- men putting asunder what Yah has joined together (divorce);
- child abuse and neglect; social welfare and vagrancy;
- the love of money which is the root of all evil,

And the list goes on and on and is directly related to *We The People* NOT, making "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks.

Conclusion

May I submit to you therefore, rather than trying to decide whether mask wearing, social distancing, lockdowns with police arrest and fines for disobedience constitute more than Jefferson's "light and transient causes" we should instead, consider that it is "right in the sight of Yahweh to hearken ... to obey Yahweh."

In Matthew, Chapter 22, Verses 24-40 we read an account in which a certain lawyer (of the Torah) approached Yahshua with a question – a question to which Yahshua responded well, and an answer that will help resolve the COVID dilemma.

The lawyer, though surreptitious in his motive, nevertheless asked a good question:

Master, which [is] the great commandment in the Law (Torah)? Yahshua said unto him, "Thou shalt love Yahweh thy Elohim with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second [is] like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law (Torah) and the prophets, Matthew 22:36-40.

We end this discourse, as we began. We are content and unmoved with science working out a vaccine. We're resolved instead, to obey "these two commandments," and expressed as well in Romans Chapter 12, Verses 8 and 10:

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the Law ... Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the Law.

Just as a "four-way" stop at an intersection, or a traffic signal where green means go; amber means proceed with caution; and red means STOP – just as Jefferson's "such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness" – 'tis about "Public Safety, as in, "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor ... Right in the sight of Yahweh ... Fulfilling of the Law" and hardly thought, "a light and transient cause!"

-Elder John. W. Reece



Who Do You Serve?

In the United States, most children are taught to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States, and to the nation for which it stands, under **G-d**, with their right hand over their heart as manifesting a sense of patriotism toward their country. The same pledge is said at the beginning of sporting events such as football games, as if the game defined the term “American” – that is, to say, it would suggest one is un-American not to recite the pledge.

In the history of the United States, many people have shed their blood and even lost their lives for the stars and stripes. This is how deep their service goes for their country – believing in the core principles taught them in their youth, so much so, they are willing to sacrifice their very lives if asked to defend those principles. And such it is for those of any other country, too. Yes, *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it*, Proverbs 22:6.

The Spirit of Tradition has Crept into His Body

It is from this very early training, that children are taught to call upon the replacement titles “I-rd” and “G-d,” and the hybrid name, “J-sus.” The practice of Sunday worship and observance of pagan holidays is also instilled in the minds of the youth, and to depart from such practices would be sacrilege and blasphemy. It is seldom that one will forsake his traditions to embrace truth, but for those who do, there is the promise of everlasting life through Messiah Yahshua.

For now, the kingdoms of this world are Satan’s and he places them in the hands of those he chooses to do his bidding (Matt. 4:8-9). But Scripture tells us that Satan is the father of lies and that he comes but to steal, kill, and to destroy (John 10:10). His children do the same, regardless of the flag to which they pledge allegiance.

Nations and states represent division resulting in war. Rather than working together for peace, greed and superiority seek to dominate those who are weaker. This is Satan’s doing and many are blinded by the darkness which surrounds them.

To Whom is Your Allegiance?

In listening to a man recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States, I stopped him and asked him, “Don’t you mean, ‘**under Yahweh**’? Don’t you want to give your allegiance to a country ‘**under Yahweh**’?” But like so many others who refuse the Sacred Names, he continued on with the pledge, refusing to part from the tradition he had learned.

It is here that I ask the all-important question – “To whom do you give your service? Is it to Satan, or it is to Yahweh? Elijah (EliYah) asked the same question. (See our mini-study, *This Is the EliYah Message*).

If you say you're a servant of Yahweh, are your actions in accord? That is, have you given Him your whole heart, mind, and soul – seeking to do those things which please Him?

The Psalmist said, *You have given a banner to them that fear You, that it may be displayed because of the truth*, Psalm 60:4. And Isaiah 49:22-23 reads, *Thus says my Sovereign Yahweh, "Behold, I will lift up My hand to the gentiles and set up My standard to the people: and they shall bring your sons in [their] arms, and your daughters shall be carried upon [their] shoulders. And kings shall be your nursing fathers, and their queens your nursing mothers: they shall bow down to you with [their] face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of your feet: and you shall know that I [am] Yahweh: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for Me."*

Yahweh's banner, His standard, the flag bearing His Name, represents the Way of Truth, the Way of Peace, and the Way of Love. His servants serve Him alone and are not double minded as are the children of the world – professing to love "G-d" and yet walk in willful disobedience. *For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of Elohim overcomes the world: and this is the victory that overcomes the world, [even] our faith*, 1 John 5:3-4.

You will keep [him] in perfect peace, [whose] mind is stayed [on thee]: because he trusts in You. Trust in Yahweh forever: for in Yahweh is everlasting strength, Isaiah 26:2-4.

It is through Yahweh and Him alone that one is able to enter into Yahweh's kingdom; He alone has made atonement for sin; and it is He alone Who

provides the wedding garment of fine white linen. *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit; which He shed on us abundantly through Yahshua Messiah our Savior; that being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life*, Titus 3:5-7.

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her was granted linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints, Revelation 19:7-8.

Conclusion

As we draw ever closer to the final day of redemption, may we take the time to examine ourselves to see to whom we are giving our allegiance. Have we given ourselves totally to Yahweh? Or are we sitting on the fence, half-committed – having a form of righteousness, but denying the power thereof? (1 Tim. 3:5). Whom do we cheer – our favorite sports team or Yahweh with songs of praise?

Does a fountain send forth at the same place sweet [water] and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? Either a vine, figs? So can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh, James 3:11-12.

Choose you this day whom you will serve. For today is the day of salvation and tomorrow may be too late. *No man can serve two masters: 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 Yahweh and mammon*, Matthew 6:24.

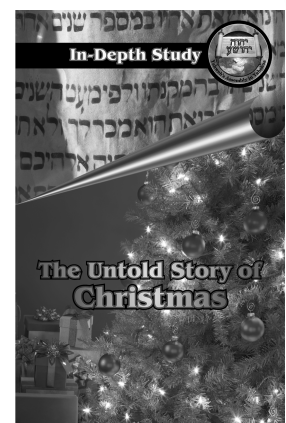
-Brother Richard Anderson

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The Eight Commands of Creation



“In the beginning ...” is much more than the introduction to the Torah. These three words, “In the beginning ...” introduce us to the Creation Narratives recorded in Genesis Chapters 1 and 2 – Genesis, a word which means “the origin or coming into being of something.” We did say, “Narratives,” as in more than one – Chapter 1, the longer, is the more detailed account and Chapter 2, a parallel digest – and a read of these two accounts, prompt questions that will occupy this present inquiry: “What, and how many, commandments did the Creator give to Adam?” In the Creation Narratives, there are,

- Eight specific commands given to Adam, three of which were also specified to Eve;
- two specific commissions of authority to Adam, one of which was a co-authority given to Eve; and,
- two inferred commands given to Adam, one of which was given to Eve.

Moreover, the committals of authority to Adam, and to Eve, were confined to what Yahweh had created on the 5th and 6th days, as the rest of the Created Order and they, too, came under the preview of the Sovereign Creator.

Worthy of note, too, is that the eight commands given to Adam and Eve are provided a-chronologically in the Creation Narratives.

We begin with Genesis Chapter 2, Verses 4-7:

These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that Yahweh Elohim made the earth and the heavens, and every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for Yahweh Elohim had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and [there was] not a man to till the ground. But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. And Yahweh Elohim formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Location of Eden

Anthropologists place ancient Mesopotamia (today’s Iraq) as “the cradle of civilization” and is thought by many, as comprising that area where Eden was supposed to have been located.

Others put forth the place to which Adam was taken (Gen. 2:8) proximate to where they assert the 1st Temple was afterwards built, in Moriah – the Mount of Service – where Abraham had taken his son Isaac and where Adam was before his removal (Gen. 3:24), dwelt.

They base this conjecture on the mentioning of the Gihon River which is produced of a natural subterranean spring in the mountains of Moriah proximate to the location where it is believed, Abraham would have offered his son Isaac to Yahweh and where also, it is thought the 1st Temple was situated, owing to the natural subterranean spring of Gihon – one of the four rivers mentioned by name in Genesis 2:13 as forming one of the boundaries of the Garden – and which should have provided ample water for the conduct of the Levitical priesthood in the performance of their duties.

However, the cataclysmic flood occurring in the Genesis, Chapter 7 narrative, would have most certainly altered the landscape, including the course of the four rivers mentioned in Genesis, Chapter 2, Verses 10-14, so that we cannot now suppose the Garden can definitely be located, though events occurring in ancient Canaan in Genesis 22 (Abraham’s obedient preparation in offering Isaac as a sacrifice) and an appreciation of Yahweh’s bent toward favoring the geography of Israel for notable occurrences, warrants serious consideration toward the latter view that the Garden or at least, Adam and Eve’s habitation, was perhaps, positioned more westerly.

Now, the Eight A-chronological Commandments

Beginning with Chapter 1, Verse 28, on the sixth day of creation, and after Yahweh has made man, and the woman, the crowning of His Creation we read a recitation of Commands He gives to the male and the female. However, though Genesis 1:28 begins with Yahweh’s issuing “the decrees for to keep” (Acts 16:4) to the man and the woman, these are not the beginning of the commands He gives to the man.

Indeed, following a description of the location of that Garden (Gen. 2:10-14), His taking the man and putting him in Eden (Gen. 2:8, 15), Yahweh issues His first command:

- "... to dress ..." (*Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, H.5647, *aw-bad*'), to *work*, by implication, to *serve, till, enslave*; "... and to keep ..." (H.8104, *shaw-mar*'), to *hedge* about (as with thorns) i.e., *guard*; generally, protect, *attend to*, Gen. 2:15.

Adam was commanded to work, serve, till, enslave the Garden and guard, protect, and attend to it, conserving It from the beasts of the earth to whom also, Yahweh had "... given every green herb for meat" (Gen. 1:30). Secondly,

- "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die" Gen. 2:17).

Some would charge Yahweh foolishly, saying, "The way of Yahweh is not equal" (Ezek. 18:29), that it wasn't fair of Him to threaten Adam with death, without Adam having an understanding what death was (Ezek. 18:29). Well, that's right, it wouldn't have been fair, as men measure fairness.

But the Scripture affirms that Yahweh Who extends to man a choice between blessing and life, and cursing and death, clearly confirms both the rewards for choosing what is good and acceptable and the penalties for preferring what genders toward what is bad and unacceptable, so that man is without excuse in the choices he makes (Deut. 28; Rom. 2:4-11).

The 3rd Command, and implied, is found in Chapter 2, Verses 19-20. It is specifically, a reference to what Yahweh created on the 5th and the 6th days, detailed in Genesis, Chapter 1, Verses 20-27, but abbreviated in the following account:

- *And out of the ground Yahweh Elohim, formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.*

Note, this is the first command (though implied) in which Yahweh commits an authority of trust to man. Moreover, in Verse 20 is recorded a reiteration of what is observed first in Verse 18: "... but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him."

And so, Yahweh before giving the next Command, and in order to facilitate the conclusion of His

Workmanship, "caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam ... and He took one of his ribs, and... made He a woman, and brought her unto the man" (Gen. 2:21, 22).

And this wonderful, marvelous, fearful creation finds a glorious corroboration in the order of Yahweh's purpose in the Apostle Paul's remonstrance in 1 Corinthians 11:7b-9, 11-12:

"... the woman is the glory of the man. For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man... Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Master. For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of Yahweh."

Incidentally, the word woman is the contracted form of "womb-man," which clearly establishes, "neither is the man without the woman ... even so is the man also by the woman ..."

With the male and female now created, Yahweh is prepared to issue His fourth, but monogamous Command:

- *Therefore, shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh,* Genesis 2:24.

This is often called the LEAVE, CLEAVE, BE Principle ... corroborated by Yahshua in Mark, Chapter 10, Verses 7-9, in reply to both a statement and a question submitted Him by Pharisees who sought opportunity again, to urge and provoke Him to speak that they might catch something out of His mouth with which to accuse Him (Luke. 11:53-54).

Mark 10:7-9:

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they two shall be one flesh: so then they are no more two, but one flesh. What therefore Yahweh hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

The Apostle Paul further amplifies this point in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 7, Verses 10 and 11:

And unto the married I command, [yet] not I, but the Master, "Let not the wife depart from [her] husband: but and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to [her] husband: and let not the husband put away [his] wife."

Next, we return to Genesis, Chapter 1, Verse 27b-28, where we read the 5th through the 7th Commandments given now, to both Adam and his wife, Eve. We pick up the narrative in Verse 27b:

- "... male and female created He them. And Yahweh blessed them, and Yahweh said unto them..."

- “...Be fruitful & multiply” – the Fifth Command;
- “... and replenish the earth ...” – the Sixth Command: replenish, H.4390, maw-law’, to fill or intrans. be full of) the earth.

This word maw-law’, replenish(ed), is used seven times in the Tanach, but only twice as a command – Genesis 1:28 and Genesis 9:1, this second command repeated to Noah, when eight (a new beginning) people Yahweh purposed to replenish the earth following the destruction of all flesh which had corrupted its way.

Certainly, we may understand this Command to “replenish the earth” was accelerated with Yahweh, by His providence, using the trespass of the pair (it wasn’t the apple) in Genesis 3 and Cain’s penalty-“... a fugitive and vagabond shall thou be in the earth” – for having slain his brother Abel in Genesis 4, to accomplish His purpose that the descendants of one family found their way to all lands (Gen. 4:12) and made it so, that man should become adapted to the climate and environment where He has placed them.

Moreover, but a few generations from Noah however, we read in Genesis, Chapter 11, that Nimrod purposed to build a city and a tower in the plain of Shinar whose top should reach to heaven in defiance to Yahweh’s command two chapters earlier, “lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth” (Gen. 11:4). And so, intent that His purpose that the earth should be replenished (filled up), Yahweh confuses the peoples’ language (Gen. 11:7) and then, they were dispersed.

Addressing the epicureans and stoics in Athens, the Apostle Paul called to mind Yahweh’s plan when he observed, “Yah that made the world and all things therein ... and hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation” (Acts 17:24, 26).

Briefly, we note, “... of one blood ALL NATIONS OF MEN for to DWELL ON ALL THE FACE OF THE EARTH, hath determined the times before appointed, and THE BOUNDS OF THEIR HABITATION” (emphasis ours) fulfills His intention that man should *replenish*, that is, *fill up the earth*.

The Seventh Command:

- Subdue and have dominion (Gen. 1:28) – but note well, subdue and have dominion were restricted to the fish of the sea, and the fowl of the air, and every living thing that moved. Inferred, however, is that man is under the dominion of his Creator Who has committed to Adam trust, this second area of

authority and the first to his wife, Eve.

You will recall in our consideration of the Third, but first implied Command, issued to Adam, that Yahweh gave the man the authority to name every living creature (Gen. 2:19-20), and that whatsoever cognomen Adam assigned to each, that was the name thereof and which, incidentally, is the first example in Scripture of that authority explicitly mentioned in Matthew, Chapter 16, Verse 19b:

“... and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Lastly, we come to the Eighth Command, and the second Command implied in Genesis, Chapter 2, Verses 1-3 – the first implied, with Adam’s naming of every fowl of the air and beast of the field ...

• *Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day Yahweh ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And Yahweh blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His Work which Yah created and made.*

... and later codified in the Ten Words in Exodus, Chapter 20, Verses 8-11, and reiterated in Deuteronomy, Chapter 5, Verses 12-15:

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work. But the seventh day [is] the Sabbath of Yahweh thy Elohim: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For [in] six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: wherefore Yahweh blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Conclusion

Eight Creation-related Commandments – eight, which in Biblical Numerology means New Beginning, affirms that man’s obedience should have assured him always to have a New Beginning.

A New Beginning, we say, when once again, what was lost to man is restored. When, according to what is written by the Prophet Isaiah, in Chapter 11, Verses 6-9.

Yes, when? “when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Sovereign One ... the times of restitution of all things ... Glory to Yah in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” (Acts 3:19, 21; Luke 3:14).

-Elder John W. Reece

CUT OFF, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WEEK?



When our minds are illuminated with truth, we ache to share it with others. Though not having first done our due diligence, we naturally look for shortcuts and ways to simplify complex topics because of our impatience. It is like, when we were taught models in high school to introduce new concepts and later at university, found out that the models hardly reflected reality. Why? because the reality is complex! Similarly, with the Scriptures we are overcome by zeal and become expert regurgitators of tradition, rather than being studious in the book.

A few examples: prove from the Scriptures that Nimrod built the tower of Babel; or that the apostle Peter was the first pope; or that the Messiah's ministry on earth lasted for three and one-half years. What does the Bible say?

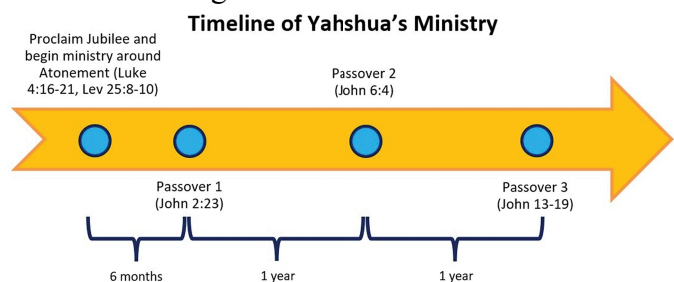
We know Nimrod was a strong hunter and ruled many cities including Babel. But was the tower of Babel built in his generation or later? Was he the one who came up with the idea and coordinated it? The Scriptures are silent. His name does not appear even a single time in the recount of the tower (Genesis 11)! While it is quite probable that he was heavily involved, we simply cannot prove it from the Scriptures.

As for the apostle Peter, we know he was active in Israel, Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) and various parts of the middle East (1 Peter 1:1). As for going to Rome and inaugurating the papacy, that is simply "profane and old wives' fables" (1 Timothy 4:7).

But what about the duration of Yahshua's ministry?

The evangelist John writes his entire record from this perspective – to prove that Yahshua is indeed "the Lamb of Elohim, Who takes away the sins of the world" (John 1:29; 20:30-31). In fact, half of the book is dedicated to the last week of Messiah on earth! Three Passover observances with the disciples are specifically mentioned – John 2:13, 6:4, and 13:1. Moreover, in John 5:1, there is mention of an unidentified "Feast of the Jews" – a euphemism referencing *the moedim* stipulated in the Torah – and perhaps, chronologically speaking, admitting the possibility of a Second Passover following John 2:13 and preceding the two in the 6:4 and 13:1 accounts.

We should be remiss not acknowledging the Evangelist's penchant for enumerating the occurrences of this notable Event during the Savior's ministry. Whether, however, the Master observed three, or possibly four, Passovers with His disciples, it is certain that we can prove from the Scripture, that He was with His disciples for at least two and one-half years. But because of the uncertainty of which "Feast of the Jews" is inferred in John 5:1, we have refrained from including it in the timeline that follows.



The Seventy Weeks' Prophecy

Many have come to realize that a “three days and three nights” entombment means Yahshua was impaled on a Wednesday and resurrected on the weekly Sabbath just before sunset. The ‘shortcut’ method to prove this, is to reference Daniel 9:26-27 which is made to say that Messiah was ‘cut off in the middle of the week.’ Really? Is this what the Scripture says, or has it been misconstrued? This will be the catalyst for the discussion to follow.

From the issuing of the decree to restore and to build Jerusalem until the time Mashiach, the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and 62 weeks ... Then after the 62 weeks Mashiach will be cut off and have nothing. Then the people of a prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary ... Then he will make a firm covenant with many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put an end to sacrifice and offering, Daniel 9:25-27 (TLV).

Is there any evidence in this passage, that Messiah will be ‘cut off in the middle of the week’? Noting that “weeks” (in original Hebrew *shabuim*) refers to sabbatical years, we see that:

1. The time to rebuild Jerusalem lasted seven weeks (i.e. 7 sabbaticals = 49 years)
2. Messiah came after 62 more weeks and was “cut off” (i.e. 62 sabbaticals = 434 years)
3. A coming prince (ruler) will bring Jerusalem and the sanctuary to ruins
4. He will establish a covenant (peace treaty) for “one week” (7 years)
5. He will stop daily sacrifices “in the middle of the week” (3½ years)

Messiah was NOT ‘cut off in the middle of the week.’ The middle of the week here is prophetically referring to the last three and one-half years in the final sabbatical (week) before the Messianic age, at which point the Antimesiah will: break a seven year peace treaty, introduce the abomination of desolation and stop sacrifices in the sanctuary (see also Isa. 63:18, Dan 8:13, 11:31, Psa. 79:1-7; Matt. 24:15; Rev. 11:2).

Islam’s Messiah – Bible’s Antimesiah

When you read the following remarks, who comes to mind?

“He will govern the people, the way David governed”

“The wolf and the lamb will live in harmony”

These are quotes from Islamic figures presenting

their Messiah in a documentary, *The Government of Imam Mahdi*. Islamic eschatology (doctrines about the end times) revolves around three prominent figures:

- Al-Mahdi (which means ‘the guided one’) who is the Islamic Messiah; and
- Isa ibn Maryam (i.e. ‘Jesus son of Mary’) who is subservient to the Mahdi; and
- Al-Masih ud-Dajjal (which means ‘the deceiving Messiah’).

In his book *The Islamic Antichrist*, Joel Richardson outlines a number of parallels between Islamic end time figures and the Biblical realities, a few of which are summarized below:

ISLAMIC BELIEF	BIBLICAL TESTIMONY
The Mahdi is a political, military, and religious leader	Antimesiah is a political, military, and religious leader (Rev. 13:1-10)
Isa (‘Jesus’) will be a prophet and servant to the Mahdi	The false prophet will be servant to the Antimesiah (Rev. 13:11-18)
They will establish Islamic (shariah) law and make Friday the day of worship	They will change times and laws (Dan. 7:25), namely Biblical laws
They will execute anyone who does not submit to Islam	They will kill those who do not submit to their religious practices (Dan. 7:21)
Executions will be administered through beheading specifically	The saints will be beheaded for their faith (Rev. 6:9-11, 20:4)
The Mahdi will rule from Jerusalem	Antimesiah will rule from Jerusalem (Dan. 11:45, 2 Thess. 2:4)
Jerusalem will be conquered	Jerusalem will be conquered (Luke 21:20)
The Mahdi comes riding on a white horse	Antimesiah rides a white horse (Rev. 6:2)
The Mahdi makes a peace treaty for seven years with a descendant of Aaron (a priest)	Antimesiah makes a peace treaty with Israel for seven years (Dan. 9:27; Isa. 28:15)
The Dajjal (false Messiah) will defend the Jews and fight against the Mahdi and Isa	Yahshua will save Judah first (Zech. 12:7-8) and fight against the beast and false prophet
Isa (‘Jesus’) is not Yahweh’s son but merely a prophet which Christians misunderstood	Antimesiah denies Yahshua as the Son of Yahweh (1 John 2:22-23)
Middle Eastern nations will submit to the Mahdi as the final Islamic leader	All the nations the Antimesiah rules are Islamic nations (Ezek. 38-39; Joel 3; Psa. 83)

Islamic theology is nothing short of “doctrines of demons” (1 Tim. 4:1). *Woe to them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter, Isaiah 5:20.*

What the Bible calls ‘Antimesiah,’ Islam calls ‘Messiah;’ what the Bible calls ‘false prophet,’ Islam calls ‘Jesus;’ and what the Bible calls ‘Yahshua,’ Islam calls ‘deceiver.’ How twisted and warped! Those who do not know the Bible, will fall prey to the conglomeration of truth and error, thinking they are one and the same, under the cloak ‘we all believe the same “god.”’

Yahweh’s Redemption Plan

Since the first transgression in Eden, Yahweh has made clear His plan of redemption through a promised Seed. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; He will crush your head, and you will strike His heel, Genesis 3:15 (NIV). This promised seed refers to Isaac (Gen. 21:12),

Israel (Deut. 4:5-8) and ultimately Yahshua (Gal. 3:16) through Whom all humanity will be reconciled to Yahweh. However, notice that the serpent *also* has a seed throughout history to try to thwart Yahweh’s plan. The manifestation of this treachery is reserved to the kingdom of the Antimesiah.

In Daniel 2, Nebuchadnezzar is shown in a dream, a metallic statue outlining what would happen to his kingdom after him. The dream is recapitulated and confirmed to Daniel in chapter 7 as a mysterious beast, ending with a courtroom scene in heaven, where Yahweh bestows upon Yahshua all kingdoms of earth and power to execute judgment.

Most commentators will say that the Roman Empire was the fourth kingdom in history. Contextually, however, the dream was first given to Nebuchadnezzar to explain what would afterward happen to *his* kingdom. Foreseeing well past the Roman Empire, the Islamic Caliphate, under the Ottoman Turks, had emerged to dominate what once was under Nebuchadnezzar ... geographically, religiously, culturally, and linguistically. In contrast, the Roman Empire tolerated, even accommodated, religions and embraced Grecian culture entirely.

The 10 toes of iron & clay (Daniel 2), correspond to the 10 horns (Daniel 7) which Revelation 17 clarifies belong to the kingdom of the Antimesiah and which cannot be assigned to a revived Roman Empire.

DANIEL 2	DANIEL 7	INTERPRETATION
Head of gold	Lion	Babylonian Empire
Chest and arms of silver	Bear	Medo-Persian Empire
Belly and thighs of bronze	Leopard	Grecian Empire
Legs of iron	Fourth beast	Islamic Empire
Feet of iron and clay	10 horns and a little horn	Revived Islamic Empire

In Revelation 17 we see a woman who rides the beast. This woman is the religious entity and region birthing the religion of the beast. She controls the beast through her harlotry (religion). The beast is described as progressive kingdoms bent on destroying Israel, through whom are the covenants and promises (Romans 9:4). *And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth,* Revelation 17:10-11.

“Five are fallen” – Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece

“One is” – Rome

“The other is not yet come” – Islamic Caliphate
 “The eighth” – Kingdom of the Antimesiah

The Roman Empire (“one is” – when the apostle John was writing) continued in the East as the Byzantine Empire and was at war with the Muslims between the 7th and 11th centuries C.E. Eventually the Islamic Caliphate (“the other is not yet come”) took control until its dissolution in 1923. Since then, the beast empire has suffered a fatal wound, with the seventh head (kingdom) broken. *And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast,* Revelation 13:3. It is important to recognize that the Scripture refers to both, the succession of kingdoms against Israel and the Antimesiah himself (the manifestation of Satan on earth) as “the beast.”

Turkey has been ambitiously waiting to revive the Islamic Caliphate under their rule as it formerly was. Current President of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has championed this effort by trying to reestablish Ottoman rule over the Middle East by 2023 (100 years after its fall) with him as the next Sultan. Without doubt, his ambitious feat will be a precursor to setting the stage for the man of sin, who will be revealed at the time appointed (2 Thess. 2:7-9).

Ezekiel 38-39 bears witness of a leader, “Gog of the land of Magog, the chief prince (in Hebrew *rosh* which means ‘head’) of Meshech and Tubal.” He will lead the Middle Eastern nations to battle against Yahshua and Israel just before the Messianic age.

Many will go down a rabbit trail and make stories of how *rosh* refers to Russia, when it is simply a Hebrew word which means head or chief. For example, we previously read in Genesis, “He will crush your head.” That word “head” is *rosh*, but no one is going to say that means Messiah is going to crush Russia, because the plain meaning is Messiah will destroy Satan.

Honest scholarship (without prophetic bias) will acknowledge that all the places which Gog is said to rule is in Asia Minor in what was called Lydia – today, part of Turkey – not Russia. For example, the *NIV Study Bible Commentary* for Ezekiel 38:2 says, “[Gog] king of Lydia ... [Rosh] identification with Russia is unlikely, and in any case cannot be proven ... [Meshech and Tubal] are probably located in eastern Asia Minor.”

As a final note on this point, Revelation 13:2 shows that the kingdom of the Antimesiah is a composite of the lion (Babylon), bear (Medo-Persia) and leopard (Greece). The Islamic Caliphate once revived, will truly be the beast with all three faces in terms of geography, people, culture, and hatred against the Holy Covenant.

Awake, For Now is High Time

What does all this mean for you and me today? Daniel was puzzled over the visions he was shown and asked for clarity. The angel replied, “Daniel this is not for you to know, but this scroll will be sealed until the end times, when many will diligently search and understanding will increase” (Dan. 12:4, 8-13).

This is not a message about hating Muslims at all! Yahweh loves all people, but not all love Him. The adversary is always looking for a vehicle to manifest his will and destroy the holy people. The reality is, in these days leading up to the return of the Messiah, the hatred for the Holy Covenant is most intense in the religion of Islam, which all the Middle Eastern nations embrace. Satan does not care about which method to use. It was prophesied that he would have a seed to oppose Yahshua the promised Seed.

Conclusion

As we approach that 100-year anniversary since the fatal head wound of the beast empire, we can know with certainty that the kingdom of the Antimesiah will be exposed not many years thereafter. It is very likely that many who are reading this right now, will be eyewitnesses of the ‘gut-wrenching’ events which were prophesied long ago. Some will be taken captive, others will die as martyrs (Rev. 12:11) and some will be given the overwhelming task like Jonah, to preach a warning message of repentance to those who yield themselves as “instruments of unrighteousness” (Rom. 6:13).

It is important to keep in mind that there are a number of things that must first happen before the Messiah comes. We need to watch and pray, but most importantly watch ourselves that we build the faith required to endure to the end now!

And do this, understanding the present time: the hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed, Romans 13:11 (NIV).

- Brother Rohan John (Australia)

Prior to final “week”	1st of “week”	2nd of “week”	3rd of “week”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Muslim Kingdom to rise again - Sanctuary and altar need to be set up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peace treaty signed by Antimesiah and Israel - Daily sacrifices continue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Peace, peace (Ezek 38:11, 1 Thess 5:1-3) - Daily sacrifices continue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily sacrifices continue
4th of “week”	5th of “week”	6th of “week”	Sabbatical year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily sacrifices continue fo 1/2 year - Abomination of desolation around Passover - Many killed, final captivity, others flee to the wilderness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Great tribulation and violence (Zech 14:2) - Times of the Gentiles continue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Times of the Gentiles continue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deliverance of captives around Passover - Yahshua comes to Jerusalem and fights around Trumpets - Jubilee begins on Day of Atonement



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The True Nature of **THE MARK**

The mark, everyone's concerned about it. Everyone thinks about it. But is it purely about keeping the Sabbath or breaking one of Yahweh's laws? Many over-spiritualize the mark, explaining it away with talk of one's heart or one's mind. Is it actually just about heart and mind?

The Scriptures tell about a day that "No one can make war with the beast" or, "Who is like unto the beast" (Rev. 13:4), or give specific times which the beast will rule such as forty-two months, or three and one-half years. There will also be a day when those who do not have their name in the Book of Life will worship the beast! Is this in just the Spirit realm, or does it manifest itself into the physical realm too? And are these just platitudes given by our forefathers as a moral lesson?

The Book of Revelation is a strange and mysterious book, but it holds the key to the future. Remember the Book of Revelation is a revelation of Yahshua Messiah given to John through His messenger.

Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and guard what is written in it, for the time is near, Revelation 1:3.

This author hopes this article guards the words of this prophecy. ***The Scriptures*** by the Institute for Scripture Research, is used throughout this article.

Ezekiel's Vision

In the Book of Ezekiel, chapter eight, we have an account of Ezekiel in a vision, taken away to a future Jerusalem. We are told of the many abominations in which Israel and Judah were engaged, including idol worship, women weeping for Tammuz, and sun worship! This vision is descriptive of men given over to reprobate minds throughout all of history, but specifically addresses the end times pointing to Yahshua the Messiah in His glory:

And I looked and saw a likeness, like the appearance of fire. From His waist and downward the appearance was like fire, and from His waist and upward the appearance of brightness, like glowing metal, Ezekiel 8:2.

Chapter 9 begins with a calling out:

"And He called out in my hearing with a loud voice, saying, 'Let the punishers of the city draw near, each with his weapon of destruction in his hand.' Six men with battle axes prepared to punish the wayward, a single man stood ready with an ink-horn at his side, he was dressed in linen ..." (Ezek. 9:1-2).

It was proclaimed in Ezekiel 9:4-6:

4 And יהוה said to him, "Pass on into the midst of the city, into the midst of Yerushalayim, and you shall put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it. 5 And to the others He said in my hearing, "Pass on into the city after him and strike, do not let your eye pardon nor spare. 6 "Kill to destruction old, young men, maidens and children and women, but do not come near anyone upon whom is the mark, and begin at My set-apart place." So they began with the elders who were in front of the House.

In this case it was righteous men who were marked and not unrighteous men, as in the end times. The man who did the marking would distinguish those who were not marked from them which were. Furthermore, Yahweh had a plan to punish them, as it is written in verses 7-11:

7 And He said to them, "Defile the House, and fill the courts with the slain. Go out!" And they went out and struck in the city. 8 And as they were striking them it came to be that I alone was left.

And I fell on my face and cried out, and said, “Ah, Master יהוה! Are You destroying all the remnant of Yisra’el in pouring out Your wrath on Yerushalayim?”
9 And He said to me, “The crookedness of the house of Yisra’el and Yehudah is exceedingly great, and the land is filled with bloodshed, and the city filled with that which is warped. For they say, “יהוה has forsaken the land, and יהוה is not seeing!”
10 But as for Me, My eye shall not pardon, nor would I spare, I shall recompense their deeds on their own head.”
11 And see, the man clothed with linen, who had the ink-horn at his side, reported back and said, “I have done as You commanded me.”

It must have been some sight to see the men that were killed piled up in the courts of Elohim! Many look over the account in Ezekiel and think, this is just a vision ... yes, but a prophetic vision yet to come! There is so much in Yahweh’s Word about things to come we cannot dismiss them as allegory, or merely a lesson. Yahweh makes His Word happen! He follows through in each instance, whether it be a judgment or a blessing. He makes His Word manifest! Yahweh’s apparent harshness in Ezekiel 9:6 is an example to us and for us. Though it’s our position to “wait upon Yahweh” (Isa. 40:31), in these end times it’s not a season for us to be slack or lazy.

There are many physical examples of Yahweh and Yahshua fulfilling their word. For example, think about Yahshua’s immersion, and the Spirit falling like a dove – an ultimate fulfilling of something Spiritual, by something physical.

We also have to consider what is Spiritual, what is physical, or both. Many of Daniel’s visions and John’s visions occurred with them taken away “in the Spirit,” being shown in heaven what would happen on the earth.

What, and for Whom is the Sabbath?

In this section we will examine the characteristics of Sabbath, starting with the law of first mention. In Exodus 16:23, 26-28, we find the seventh-day being set-apart for the worship of Yahweh:

23 And he said to them, “This is what יהוה has said, ‘Tomorrow is a rest, a Sabbath set-apart to יהוה. That which you bake, bake; and that which you cook, cook. And lay up for yourselves all that is left over, to keep it until morning ...
26 Gather it six days, but on the seventh day, which is the Sabbath, there is none.’”
27 And it came to be that some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather, but they found none.
28 And יהוה said to Mosheh,

“How long shall you refuse to guard My commands and My Torot (Torah Laws)?”

This ordinance of the Sabbath was codified in Exodus, chapter 20:8-11:

8 Remember the Sabbath day, to set it apart. 9 Six days you labour, and shall do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath of יהוה your Elohim. You do not do any work – you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. 11 For in six days יהוה made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore יהוה blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart.

We find something interesting in verse 10 – the command prohibiting work, even for the “stranger” in your gates. The Hebrew word is ger (***Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance***, H.1616) meaning a sojourner, foreigner, a person living out of his country. This person was to observe the Sabbath refraining from work. Nevertheless, if a stranger “rests” with us during the time of tribulation and he had the mark, we should not think him exempt from Yahweh’s wrath? In other words, he will not escape judgment just because he observed the sign of the Sabbath!

Buying and Selling

*And he causes all, both small and great, and rich and poor, and free and slave, to be given **a mark** upon their right hand or upon their foreheads, and that no one should be able to buy or sell except he that has **the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name**, Revelation 13:16-17.*

These Scriptures pose a problem for those who say **the mark** is just spiritual. Let’s examine further. “He causes all (except those written in the Lamb’s ***Book of Life***) both small and great, and rich and poor, and free and slave ...” This is not an allegory. These are real people, from the poorest to the richest, from freeman to slave. Those without Yahweh in their lives will be subject to receiving **the mark**.

Think, brethren! They will have to have something outwardly identifying themselves, to distinguish THEM from US! Otherwise, how do they know from whom to buy or to sell? Imagine being a merchant and doing business during this time. The beast system will have to identify people, somehow. Those who are trying to get you to believe it’s OK to take a **chip** or **mark**, are in the employ of the adversary. And beware of ‘the believer’ who

says, "It's no big deal."

Blessed is the man who does endure trial, for when he has been proved, he shall receive the crown of life which the Master has promised to those who love Him, James 1:12.

There is, however, an exceeding great and precious promise of reward to them who remain steadfast, walking by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7) in this time.

Yahshua forewarns us in Revelation 2:10-11:

10 Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. See, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, in order to try you, and you shall have pressure ten days. Be trustworthy until death, and I shall give you the crown of life, 11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. He who overcomes shall by no means be harmed by the second death.

Be not deceived. The second death is very real.

Blessed and set-apart is the one having part in the first resurrection. The second death possesses no authority over these, but they shall be priests of Elohim and of Messiah and shall reign with Him a thousand years, Revelation 20:6.

Some will say this is an allegory as well, but when we obtain that "better resurrection" (Heb, 11:35) ... this will be our reward.

Grievous Sores

And I heard a loud voice from the Dwelling Place saying to the seven messengers, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of Elohim on the earth." And the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and an evil and wicked sore came upon the men, those having the mark of the beast and those worshipping his image, Revelation 16:1-2.

These verses apply to them left upon the earth. The sores could be from whatever chemical substance **the mark** is made of, but the result is allowed (or directed) by the angel at the appointed time. Once again, such is the punishment for taking something so abominable.

The effect of taking **the mark** is so grievous, one

would ask, "Why do men want to take **a mark**, or teach the people that **a mark** only exists in their hearts and mind?"

Revelation 14:9-11 seals the fate of them which receive **the mark**:

*9 And a third messenger followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives **his mark** upon his forehead or upon his hand, 10 he also shall drink of the wine of the wrath of Elohim, which is poured out undiluted into the cup of His wrath. And he shall be tortured with fire and sulphur before the set-apart messengers and before the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torture goes up forever and ever. And they have no rest day or night, those worshipping the beast and his image, also if anyone receives **the mark** of his name."*

Conclusion

But on the other hand, we read in Revelation 20:4-6:

*4 And I saw thrones – and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them – and the lives of those who had been beheaded because of the witness they bore to עֲשׂוּדָי and because of the Word of Elohim, and who did not worship the beast, nor his image, and did not receive **his mark** upon their foreheads or upon their hands. And they lived and reigned with Messiah for a thousand years 5 (and the rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended) – this is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and set-apart is the one having part in the first resurrection. The second death possesses no authority over these, but they shall be priests of Elohim and of Messiah, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.*

The Scriptures state that sin starts in your heart (Matt. 15:19) and mind (2 Cor. 10:5) and then manifests itself outwardly. Taking **the mark** represents an ultimate rejection of Yahweh and Yahshua, a choice of having taken the broad way that leads to death (Matt. 7:13).

- Brother Chris Avalos





Words of Life

The wonderful Words of Life which Yahweh gave to man for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness, so he may be found perfect and a doer of good works – therein lies the division between those who have ears to hear and a willing heart to obey, and those who despise the Light of Truth.

Yahshua said, *Verily, verily, I say to you, “He that enters not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that enters in by the door is the Shepherd of the sheep. To him the Porter opens; and the sheep hear His voice: and He calls His own sheep by name, and leads them out,”* John 10:1-3.

From Tares and Goats to Wheat and Sheep

Whether they are the tares among the wheat, or the goats among the sheep, there are those who profess to believe but lack the discipline to conform to a life of obedience. For example: the eating of pig, catfish, rabbit, and other unclean animals is a favorite, even though Scripture calls it an abomination; or curse words spoken, proceeding from an uncircumcised tongue. However, in times past, we, too, have been counted among the gentiles, uncircumcised and without Messiah. *But now in Messiah Yahshua you who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Messiah,* Ephesians 2:13.

Regardless of how rough one may appear, Yahweh’s Word is able to transform, cleanse, and renew the most vile soul. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, we read, *Therefore if any man [be] in Messiah, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

To be in Messiah is more than a mere profession of faith – it extends to choices made and deeds done. *For even hereunto were you called: because Messiah also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth: Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed Himself to Him That judges righteously,* 1 Peter 2:21-23.

Sin and Yahweh's Standard Defined

When speaking of sin, it is sad to say that many do not know its Scriptural definition. For one person's "standard" will differ from that of another. It is because people have been taught Yahweh's Law has been done away with, that there is no standard. But, *Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the Law: for sin is the transgression of the Law*, 1 John 3:4. Indeed, people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge, and because they have rejected knowledge, Yahweh will also reject them (Hos. 4:6).

Speaking of the standard – the Prophet Isaiah wrote, *To the Law and to the Testimony: if they speak not according to This Word, it is because there is no Light in them*, Isaiah 8:20. They which listen to false teachers, believing they will not be led astray, need to be aware that Satan himself is able to appear as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14). *Therefore [it is] no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works*, 2 Corinthians 11:15.

Whom shall He teach knowledge? and whom shall He make to understand doctrine? [them that are] weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, and line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little, Isaiah 28:9-10. For every one that uses milk [is] unskillful in the Word of Righteousness; for he is a babe. But strong meat belongs to them that are of full age, [even] those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil, Hebrews 5:13-14.

Yahshua: The Living Word, the Bread of Life

When Yahshua was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, He said to the tempter, *It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word That proceeds out of the mouth of Elohim,"* Matthew 4:4. It is Yahweh's Word which gives Life. Yahshua was the Living Word of Yahweh, that is, the Word of Yahweh made flesh (John 1:1-5, 14).

His Word is everlasting – *Seeing you have purified your souls in obeying the Truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, [see that you] love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of Yahweh, Which lives and abides forever*, 1 Peter 1:22-23.

It is not man's doctrine or commentary that has power – no matter how well spoken – nor the traditions of men, if contrary to Yahweh's Word. Both scribe and Pharisee boasted themselves seated

in Moses' seat (Matt. 23:2), though they themselves transgressed the Commandment of Yahweh, making It of none effect by their tradition of teaching for doctrine the commandments of men (Matt. 15:3,6, 9).

May we not be found as babes, relying upon the milk of the Word but rather, may we be found skillful, able to use the Sword of the Spirit (Yahweh's Word) when we find temptation knocking at the door. May we be able to explain to a listening soul the faith that is in us with Scripture (1 Pet. 3:15; Col. 4:6). *Your Words were found, and I did eat them; and Your Word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of my heart: for I am called by Your Name, O Yahweh Elohim of hosts*, Jeremiah 15:16.

Conclusion

Has Yahweh's Word become the joy and rejoicing of your heart? If not, why not? Sabbath observance, sundown Friday through Saturday (Exodus 20:8-11); Yahweh's annual festival day observance (Leviticus 23); dietary observance of clean food (Leviticus 11, Deuteronomy 14). Do you use the Sacred Names, Yahweh and Yahshua, or follow the traditions of men, using replacement titles of "L-rd," "G-d," or the hybrid, "J-hovah," and "J-sus?"

Thus speaks Yahweh of hosts, saying "Execute true judgment, and show mercy and compassion every man to his brother: and oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart. But they refused to hear, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear. Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the Law, and the Words which Yahweh of hosts has sent in His Spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from Yahweh of hosts. Therefore it is come to pass, [that] as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear" says Yahweh of hosts, Zechariah 7:9-13.

But your iniquities have separated between you and your Elohim and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear, Isaiah 59:2. Has sin (the transgressions of the Law) separated you from Yahweh?

Seek you Yahweh while He may be found, call you upon Him while He is near: let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto Yahweh, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our Elohim, for He will abundantly pardon, Isaiah 55:6-7.

- Brother Richard Anderson



In Paul's writings, are the words, *All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient; all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any*, 1 Corinthians 6:12. In this verse of Scripture, is the justification for disobedience rooted. As Peter wrote concerning Paul's writings, *As also in all [his] epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as [they do] also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction*, 2 Peter 3:16.

Of Law, Liberty, and Light

Oh, that it might be in the heart of man to seek Yahweh and to walk willfully in the light of His Word. But just what is this light and what is the liberty Paul was speaking of when he wrote, "All things are lawful unto me?" For some, the answer is straightforward and simple, or so they believe — "Oh, we are no longer bound by the Old Testament restrictions and all things are permissible! The dietary laws, Sabbath keeping, and festival observance are no longer required!"

Is this what Paul was truly saying? Or has there been a twisting of Scripture made so that the darkness of disobedience in them refuses to step into the Light.

To gain an understanding of Scripture, one must look therein and drink deeply from the Living Waters, the Wellspring of Life. After all, is it not eternal life we are seeking when we open up the pages of Scripture and read therefrom? Or is there some other reason not so apparent, such as wanting to belong to a social group with no restrictions?

To what end will such rationale lead? Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death!" What is sin? 1 John 3:4 states, *Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the Law: for sin is the transgression of the Law*. And we find Paul saying in Romans 3:31, *Do we then make void the Law through faith? Yah forbid: yea, we establish the Law*. In other words, the path leading to life is obedience to the Law; whereas the path leading to death is transgression of the Law. Obedience leads to life; disobedience leads to death.

Isaiah 8:13-16 reads:

Sanctify Yahweh of Hosts Himself; and [let] Him [be] your fear, and [let] Him [be] your dread. And He shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the Houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken. Bind up the Testimony, seal the Law among My disciples. Verse 20 goes on to say, To the Law and to the Testimony; if they speak not according to this Word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them. Here, the Hebrew word translated as "light" is **Strong's #7837, shachar**, (*shakh'-ar*) referring to: the dawn of day, early light, morning. In other words, if the Law of Yahweh is not central to your faith, defining righteousness and sin, then you will not see the Sun (Son) of righteousness arise, spoken of in Malachi 4:2:

But unto you that fear My Name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in His wings; and you shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

And yet, continues the argument, "Well, that's Old Testament! I'm under the New Covenant," as if to say that it's okay to sin. Regrettably, this is the doctrine taught by the lying pastors who themselves do not know what sin is, or worse yet, don't care to know. The lure, "Just come as you are, and with your mouth confession of belief in the Savior will secure your salvation" (Rom. 10:9-10) has deceived many.

To those with blinded eyes and ears which cannot hear, no amount of quoting Scripture will change their mind. But for those who have sincere hearts, those willing to walk through Scripture in search for Truth, there is hope that the Light of Truth will begin to shine and understanding will be given.

For those not understanding the New Covenant, the writer of Hebrews 8:10, 12 (citing Jeremiah 31:33-34) says:

For this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says Yahweh; I will put My laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts... and their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Obedience and forgiveness go hand in hand. Without obedience there is no forgiveness; one must repent from sin, ask forgiveness, and sin no more! Remember, sin is the transgression of the Law (1 John 3:4).

Yahweh's Law of Liberty

The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:6-21):

1. You shall have no other Elohim but Yahweh.
2. You shall not make unto you a graven image or bow down unto it or worship it.
3. You shall not lift up Yahweh's Name to falsehood.
4. Remember the Sabbath Day; do no work therein.
5. Honor your father and mother.
6. Do not murder.
7. Do not commit adultery.
8. Do not steal.
9. Do not bear false witness.
10. Do not covet.

The Holy standard is called "the perfect law of liberty" in James 1:25, and whoever looks into it, "and continues therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." Moreover, James further writes, *So speak you, and so do, as they shall be judged by the law of liberty*, James 2:12.

With no Law there is no sin, as Paul stated in Romans 7:7:

What shall we say then? [Is] the law sin? Yah forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the Law: for I had not known lust, except the Law had said, "You shall not covet."

Yahshua said in Matthew 11:28-30:

Come unto Me, all [you] that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.

Conclusion

The pathway to salvation is not difficult; it is a way of mercy and truth, repentance and forgiveness, grace and compassion. One choosing this path will enter into the blessings of Yahweh, whereas those walking in rebellion will receive curses and judgment (Matt. 7:21-23):

Wherein in times past you walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience ... You [hath He quickened] who were dead in trespasses and sins, Ephesians 2:2, 1.

For though the adversary, Satan, called the prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2), and his minions,



principalities and powers; the rulers of the darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph. 6:12), have the rule over this present evil world (Gal. 1:4), the believer in Yahshua need not fret, if he guard the portals of his mind (his eyes and ears).

With the proliferation of digital media, the adversary has reached far and wide into the lives of many. To what extent are people being led astray? To spend hours on end using devices would be, in essence, a form of worship (idolatry) and a breaking of the Second Commandment (Exod. 20:3-5; Deut. 5:7-9). How often have you been led to the gutter by those things you see or hear?

Isaiah 33:14-16 reads:

The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness has surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the Devouring Fire? Who among us shall dwell with Everlasting Burnings? He that walks righteously, and speaks uprightly; he that despises the gain of oppressions, that shakes his hands from holding of bribes, that stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed, and shuts his eyes from seeing evil; he shall dwell on high; his place of defense [shall be] the munitions of rocks: bread shall be given him; his waters [shall be] sure.

Choose you this day Whom you will serve. Will you choose Yahweh and walk in obedience to His Law, or follow after the world and the lusts of the flesh?

- Brother Richard Anderson



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q “Are we children of Abraham?”

A Yes, we are called to be the children of the faith of Abraham (Rom. 4:16). Righteousness was imputed to Abraham, because of His faith (Rom. 4:22). And consider his faith, and what is determined should be ours: *Who against hope, believe in hope ... And being not weak in faith ... He staggered not at the promise of Yah through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to Yah; And being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform*, Romans 4:18, 19, 20-21.

And what is the definition of faith? the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen (Heb. 11:1) and without which, it is impossible to please Him (Heb. 11:6) because whatsoever is not of faith is sin (Rom. 14:23) and believing, moreover, that Yah calls those things which be not, as though they were (Rom. 4:17); that He chooses things which are not – the foolish things, the weak things, the base things and things which are despised – to confound and bring to nothing, things that are: the wise, the mighty, the noble (1 Cor. 1:26-29); that by the Word of Yahweh, things which are seen were not made of things which do appear (Heb. 11:3). Galatians 3:26-29 defines who we are – by faith, the children of Abraham.

Q I have a question regarding Daniel 8:14. When does that mean, in the future, or is it taking place now?

A It’s a prophecy alluding to two time periods – literal days, and apparently years (see also Dan. 8:19; Matt. 24:12). Whichever, days and/or years, its expiration comes down to the day of the Man of Sin whose identity we do not yet know (2 Thess. 2:3). So, on the one hand, Antiochus Epiphanes (171-165 BCE) who is reported to have sacrificed a pig on the altar and on the other hand, the Man of Sin (Year CE?) who will enter into the Holy of Holies

(2 Thess. 2:4). Daniel 8:14’s reference to literal days marks the persecution of the Jews under Antiochus, and its hint to years defers to the Man of Sin yet to be revealed. Does this mean that there is about 100 years left to that time if we count from Antiochus’ desecration of the Temple? Maybe so. Nevertheless, in the end, Yahshua will take care of the end time Man of Sin and be recognized as King of kings in the day He returns from heaven (2 Thess. 8-9).

Q There are some brethren who have expressed a desire to be baptized in Yahshua’s Name, but we have delayed their baptism for some time now. They are still continuing to follow as zealously as they can. I, however, have an issue with one of the followers concerning the length of his hair. My question is how long can his hair be to be accepted for baptism?

A It’s good to lay hands on no one too quickly (1 Tim. 5:22). We have seen individual men come and go, because they would not cut their hair to an acceptable shortened length. They typically are smokers, as well. Smoking is one of the other things we want to see corrected before any immersion happens.

Some men, on the other hand, are willing to give up their traditions and habits, understanding what a great treasure they’ve found in Messiah Yahshua. Hair past the shoulder makes a man look like a woman from behind. Therefore, we would ask that men’s hair be cut above shoulder length. Such things for men today portray rebellion and effeminate traits, neither of which will be allowed to enter into the coming Kingdom of Yahweh (1 Cor. 6:9-11).

If the individual brings up the Nazirite Vow, let him know that without a Levitical priesthood such a vow cannot be ended (Num. 6:20). This would mean Passover today would not be able to be kept (Num. 6:2). While Peter alludes to us being priests (1 Pet. 2:9), we are actually in training for that role in the Kingdom. Yahshua received His High Priesthood position after He proved Himself...not before.

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