



**YAIY** **BEACON**

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*Know Them*  
**Which Labour Among You**

**THE ONENESS** *Doctrine*

**We VOID** *Warranties*

**COMMON THREAD**  
**APPROACHING THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

*Joshua* **LIKE** *Yahshua*

**SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION FOR RESPONSIBLE**  
*Financial Integrity and Security*



## 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 salvation truths that have been neglected for centuries.

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# Know Them Which Labour Among You



*And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force, Matthew 11:12. We can understand confusion as the nature of violence.*

The kingdom is still suffering violence, and the violent are still seeking to take it by force. We're not talking about a violence of guns and bullets...but a violence of words, as deadly as guns and bullets.

The "Hebrew *TORAH* Restoration," for want of a better cognomen, is suffering from an identity crisis. We're talking here about nomenclature — Sacred Namers, Two-House, Messianic Torah Observant, Hebrew Roots of Christianity, etc., etc. — and such division, that rivals the protestant Christianity from which many have come out. We're talking about four principal "works of the flesh:" variance, emulation, strife, heresies (Gal. 5:19, 20).

Many don't know who they are because they won't sit still long enough under one pulpit to find out. Quite, are they, fulfilling Daniel's prophecy: *Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased, Daniel 12:4.* But in their running to and fro, they're being tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of divers and strange doctrine (Eph. 4:14; Heb. 13:9). Always, will one only grow in

grace and knowledge where he is planted. Too much moving about, transplanted here, transplanted there, produces first, confusion and then, indifference.

Elsewhere, among some, pretending to be what they are contending to be, the outward adorning of tallets, tefillim, kippahs, and tzitzits (the longer, the better ... not really) are made to become a test of fellowship and, sadly, a replacement for "the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of Yahweh of great price" (1 Pet. 3:4).

## **Beware the Wolf**

Yes, too many instructors; too few fathers; too many persuasions of divers and strange doctrines presented on too many internet platforms. So many choices have produced so few connections and so little commitment but commensurately, made very many of them who think themselves "somewhat in conference" (Gal. 2:6) and very much of contentions, debates, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults, and strivings over Names, the Law, the calendar, etc., etc. (2 Cor. 12:20).



The very thing which the Apostles Paul and Peter warned against, is come to pass : *Brethren, ye have been called to liberty; only use not...your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness...but by love serve one another...as servants of Yah*, Galatians 5:13; 1 Pet. 2:15.

And annual convocations on unity have not been able to withstand this lawless, unruly free spirit — and the reason? Because at the heart of their meetings are the very things of contentions, debates, backbitings, whisperings, swelling, tumults, and strivings over Names, the Law, and the calendar and also, because there is yet, no King in Israel that has come to rule with a rod of iron (Judg. 17:6).

Men first in their own cause are come into the Assembly, emboldened to speak presumptuously spurious, perverse things (the better with which to draw disciples after themselves) bringing in even, “damnable heresies...doctrines of demons...lies-in-hypocrisy” (2 Pet. 2:1; 1 Tim. 4:1, 2). They come in, proclaiming everyone his own private interpretation and putting forth ways that seem right, unaware there are some who by reason of use, have their senses exercised to discern Truth from their error (Acts 20:30; 2 Pet. 1:20; Prov. 20:6, 18:17, 14:12; Heb 5:14).

Indeed, come are some...surreptitiously even, as wolves seeking to catch sheep and scatter them from the sheepfold (John 10:12) — *Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves*, Matthew 7:15 — distributing their media materials without having first obtained the imprimatur and nihil obstat (permission) of the resident presbytery of elders to do so. Their presumption but sows discord among brethren (Prov. 6:19).

Always, one thing leads to another. Left unchecked, that lawless, unruly free spirit going up and down, and to and fro; that lawless, unruly free spirit that’s found its way into, and among the Assemblies, will become so emboldened even, to give out itself as some great one (Acts 8:9), railing upon, and disrespecting resident elders as they which have the rule, and inciting others to do so (1 Tim. 5:1).

Presumptuously, will they usurp authority neither delegated them by Yahweh, nor by the resident

presbytery, under the auspices of assigning the words of the Apostle to themselves, saying, “I magnify mine office” (Rom. 11:13). (But note well, the Apostle was not magnifying himself; rather that appointment he had received of Yahshua who had counted him faithful; enabling him, putting him into the ministry and committing to him, the glorious evangel of the Blessed Elohim) (1 Tim. 1:12, 11). And so, left unchecked, none need to doubt whereunto this lawless, unruly free spirit will grow, and already, has grown. For the next step beyond giving out one’s self as some great one, is declaring himself the great power of Elohim (Acts 8:10).

“*Touch not Mine anointed; do My prophets no harm,*”

- 1 Chronicles 16:22

### **Touch Not, Harm Not Mine Anointed Prophets**

*And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Master, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake ... Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you and admonish you,* 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:17.

The Scripture says, *Rebuke not an elder, but entreat him as a father...* 1 Timothy 5:1.

Entreat? Yes. From 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, we have provided us fifteen definitions given us of LOVE. One of the fifteen definitions of LOVE is, IT is **not easily provoked**. (Oh, and incidentally, the Scriptures speak of only two kinds of provocation: a provocation to wrath (Eph. 6:4) and a provocation to love and good works) (Heb. 10:24). From James 3:17, we have provided us eight characteristics of WISDOM. One of the eight characteristics of WISDOM is, IT is **easy to be entreated**. So, we conclude that LOVE and Wisdom easily entreat and avoid easily provoking one to wrath.

Therefore, to presume to reprove or otherwise rebuke an elder without cause of sin, is not only disrespectful, but stands the speaker in jeopardy of JUDGMENT, as it is written: *“Touch not Mine anointed; do My prophets no harm,* 1 Chronicles 16:22; Psalm 105:15. To presume to reprove or otherwise rebuke an elder without cause of sin, is a presumptuous sin and crosses over the line.

If ever occasion should provide with opportunity, one needs only to ask Miriam and Aaron who in



Numbers 12:2, challenged the Elder, saying, “*Hath Yahweh indeed spoken only by Moses? Hath He not spoken also by us?*” And Yahweh heard it.

We trust, moreover, occasion should not provide opportunity to inquire of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram who in Numbers 16:3, asserted, *Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and Yahweh is among them, wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of Yahweh? And when Moses heard it, he fell upon his face.*

“... And Yahweh Heard It... And When Moses Heard It, He Fell Upon His Face,” why? because he knew, “It Is A Fearful Thing To Fall Into The Hands Of Consuming Fire” (Heb. 10:31, 12:29).

Aaron, Miriam, Korah, Dathan, Abiram - They found out the hard way, that it should have been better to have very highly in love, esteemed the Elder which labored among them; who was over them and admonished them, and to have obeyed him that had the rule over them, inasmuch as he was watching for their souls, that his accounting before the Throne, could have been done with joy and not with grief (1 Thess. 5:13, 12; Heb. 13:17).

They found out the hard way, had they been respectful of the Office, and of him who occupied the Office, they, together with “all the congregation,” might have avoided wandering the wilderness for forty years until everyone of them was reduced to carcass (Num. 16:3, 14:33-34). But of course, the unruly, lawless, free spirit won’t much care for what Yahweh says!

They found out the hard way, TOUCH YAHWEH’S ANOINTED, BE TOUCHED; HARM YAHWEH’S ANOINTED, BE HARMED!

Now, we’ll pause, right here, and digress to acknowledge what some may be thinking. “Well, what about Moses? Yahweh prevented him from traversing the Jordan into the Promised Land for having spoken unadvisedly and afterward, with uplifted rod, striking the Rock?” (Num. 20:10-11). Yeah, so what about Moses... this one whose shepherd’s heart suffered long, ten times enduring the contradiction of a disobedient and gainsaying people which opposed themselves but who nevertheless, supplicated in their behalf when Yahweh was disposed to slaying the whole lot of them and starting afresh, nation-building through his seed as he had with another elderly man, Abraham? (Num. 14:12).

Instead, they which put forth the finger, ought

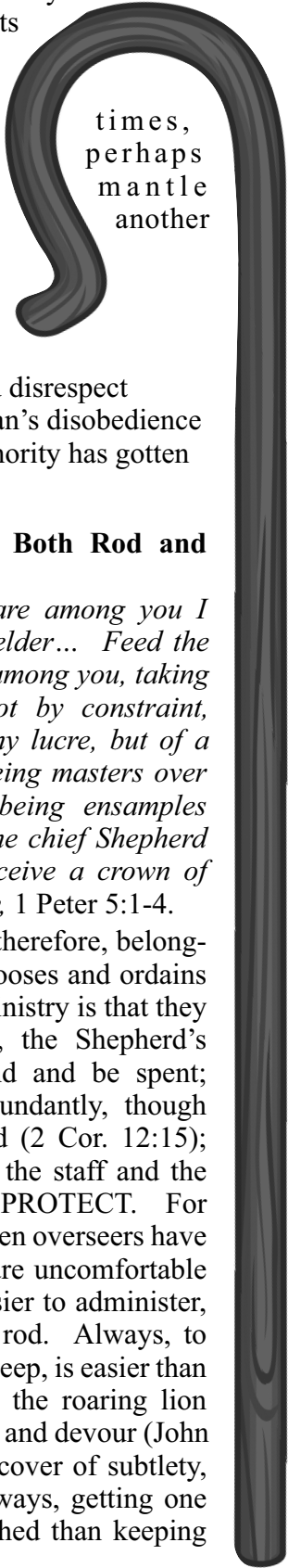
to consider it was Yahweh’s mercy to permit Moses to see from atop Mt. Nebo that Land of Milk and Honey without having to continue one more day, with a people whose every imagination of the thoughts of their hearts was only how to further withstand authority. How many we won’t know, that Joshua, too, wished the had been passed to instead of to him.

And from that time to this time, the only thing that’s changed in man’s disobedience and disrespect toward the authority, is man’s disobedience and disrespect toward authority has gotten worse.

### **The Shepherd’s Heart; Both Rod and Staff:**

*The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder... Feed the flock of Yahweh which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being masters over Yahweh’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away, 1 Peter 5:1-4.*

The first pre-requisite, therefore, belonging to those whom He chooses and ordains and sets into Oversight Ministry is that they must possess, as Moses, the Shepherd’s Heart ... willing to spend and be spent; willing to love more abundantly, though they should be less loved (2 Cor. 12:15); willing to use both ends, the staff and the rod : to SERVE and to PROTECT. For there will be occasions when overseers have to assume positions that are uncomfortable – the staff is, after all, easier to administer, than the wielding of the rod. Always, to SERVE, FEEDING His sheep, is easier than to PROTECT them from the roaring lion come to steal, kill, destroy and devour (John 10:10; 1 Pet. 5:7), under cover of subtlety, cunning, and sleight. Always, getting one saved is easier accomplished than keeping him saved!



times,  
perhaps  
mantle  
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Now, someone might say, "How come certain things are allowed to go on and on without the elders' intervention?" Well, another attribute of them possessing the Shepherd's Heart is that they, like Moses, and like Yahweh, are not willing that any should perish, but that all come to repentance and to acknowledging Truth and to recover themselves out of the snare of the tempter (2 Pet. 3:9; 2 Tim. 2:25-26). And perhaps each one of us should pause to consider, how long it has taken, and how long it takes, us to overcome what had, and does, so easily beset us and then, perhaps, we might appreciate the longsuffering of Yahweh's love, and that of spiritual oversight, toward ourselves and to every other one.

Nevertheless, the time does come, when one who being often reprov'd without presenting evidence of contrition and fruit meet for repentance (Matt. 3:8), will have to be shown the door with the instruction not to return unless and until, (1) Spiritual Oversight has discerned by the Measure of the Word, the Newness of Life (Rom. 6:4) apportioned him, and (2) That he will in the Assembly and in the world, behold what manner of person he ought to have been, and be (2 Pet. 3:11), by behaving himself in the House of Yahweh (1 Tim. 3:15) Whose House he is (Heb. 3:6): a holy temple, a habitation of Yahweh through His Spirit (Eph. 2:21-22).

The Scriptures are profitable unto all things, for instruction, correction, reproof, admonition and when occasion requires, the sharpness of such rebuke that will not spare what's in the flesh (2 Tim. 3:16, 4:2), and we may learn something of authority through a narrative that is given us in the Record.

In 1 Corinthians, Chapter 5, the Apostle Paul addressed a matter not commonly reported, even today ... a matter not so much as named among the heathen even, that a man should trespass (sleep with) his father's wife (see Lev. 18:8). This Apostle who had spent and was spent (2 Cor. 12:15), laboring among the Assembly at Corinth for a year and a half (Acts 18:11) was included among them about whom he wrote, *Besides those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the ekklesia*, 2 Corinthians 11:28, was repulsed that such sin was not addressed, and the sinner corrected unto repentance or excommunicated from the Assembly. Exercising what might be thought today, an uncommon authority, he was ready to deliver the subject of this transgression over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh (1 Cor. 5:5).

(Parenthetically speaking, delivering such a

one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh is an exercise purposed as a temporal chastisement for continuing in sin, the transgressor suffering in his flesh until he should cease from the sin that had beset him (1 Pet. 4:1) and begin to produce the peaceable fruit of righteousness (Heb. 12:11). Some, like our subject here in the 1 Corinthians narrative and Aaron and Miriam in the Numbers 12 account, repented and theirs was but a means to accomplish the end of contrition and repentance that should work redemption, salvation, and deliverance (2 Cor. 7:10). In the case of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, however, their deliverance to Satan might have been but temporary in duration and not had its fatal outcome, had it been accompanied by fruit meet for repentance. Nevertheless, whether but of short duration or fatal, its effect proposes to strike fear in them which give witness (Acts 5:11), lest a like thing should be imposed upon them for willfully continuing in sin.)

But Paul, like Moses, and like Yahshua, the Chief Shepherd, had the Shepherd's Heart...willing to spend and be spent; willing to love more abundantly, though he should be less loved (2 Cor. 12:15). But this was a situation, uncomfortable as it was, that called for the rod. Note well, his reticence: *But I determined this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness... And I wrote this same unto you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice... For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears... For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent...* 2 Corinthians 2:1, 3, 4, 7:8. Paul's "much affliction and anguish of heart," however, was honored by them to whom he addressed himself, and the Assembly was as refreshed with the transgressor's righteous repentance, and their own, as the Apostle was with the report of the same (2 Cor. 7:6-13).

But not every matter that is become subject to the overseer's purview is redressed with Redemptive Grace, however. For we read of other instances, besides the matter of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram (Num. 16): Ananias and Sapphira in Acts, Chapter 5:5, 9-10; Simon Magus, who might have fallen under the rod of the Apostle Peter in Acts 8:24; Elymas the sorcerer who in Acts 13:11 was smitten with blindness for withstanding the Apostles Barnabas and Paul; Hymaneas and Alexander, whom Paul delivered unto Satan in I Timothy 1:20 that they might learn not to blaspheme; in I Corinthians 11:30, the Apostle wrote that many



there, were weak and sickly, and many slept because they ate and drank, not discerning the Passover.

### Conclusion: What Will You Do?

So, faced with the several administrations of wholesome words and sound doctrine and hard sayings come from them who have studied to show themselves approved that they might rightly divide Truth and speak as an Oracle, that which corrects, reproves, instructs-in-righteousness, exhorts and rebukes (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 4:11; 1 Tim. 6:3; Tit. 2:1; 2 Tim. 3:16, 4:2; John 6:50), “What will you do, and which way will you take? Will you endure the Narrow Way, to the end? Or will you faint, stumble and fall along the broad way until you find the wide gate that opens to perdition?” (Matt. 6:13-14).

For there were many in His day, which followed the Master but who went back and walked no more with Him (John 6:66). Maybe, they, too, had witnessed “strange things...never so seen in Israel...on this fashion” (Luke 5:26; Matt. 9:33; Mark 2:12) of Whom it was affirmed, *Never man spake like This Man... How knoweth This Man letters having never learned*, John 7:46, 15. But others, always just the few, would choose that Good Part: sitting at His feet, hearing His Word (Luke 10:42, 39) and having heard, and giving heed, exclaim, To whom shall we go? Thou hast the Words of Eternal Life. And we believe and are sure that Thou art that Messiah, the Son of the Living El, John 6:68, 69. Now, Go, And Do Thou Likewise!

- Elder John W. Reece



## THE *ONENESS* Doctrine

What is this teaching? Is such a teaching scripturally sound, or poisoned by preconceived notions rooted in theory and speculation? To distinguish sound doctrine from fallacy, truth from error, right from wrong, we must look to scripture for guidance and understanding — the light of truth and way of life.

To begin this study, let us consider the words of Deuteronomy 6:4 which says, *Hear O Israel, Yahweh our Mighty One is Yahweh one*. This verse in Hebrew uses the word *Eloheinu*, translated as “our mighty one” (Deut. 6:4) — the word *Elohim* with the first-person plural suffix attached. Now the *im* ending in the Hebrew word *Elohim* is masculine plural, that is like adding an *g* to an English word to show more than one. But when *Elohim* is used in reference to Yahweh it is always translated in the singular due to the surrounding verbs being in the singular (*Elohim* is **Strong’s** #430.)

Looking now at Genesis 1:26 we read, “And *Elohim* said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...’” Here the words Us and Our are a true and correct translation of the Hebrew text, thus showing more than one personage involved in creating man. This would be in agreement with Colossians 1:14-17, which speaks of Yahshua being “the image of the invisible El,” saying, “for by Him were all things created” and “by Him all things consist.” In John 17:21 Yahshua prayed, *that they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me and I in Thee, that they all may be one in Us; that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me*. (See also John 10:30).

Becoming one with Yahweh and Yahshua requires a transformation of the flesh to Spirit. That is to say, the fleshly desires must be denied, sanctified and replaced by things which are spiritual. Romans 8:4-6 tells us, *That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be*



*spiritually minded is life and peace.* Herein lies the key to becoming one with Yahweh — “the righteousness of the law.”

Two times the tablets of testimony, i.e., the Ten Commandments, were given to Moses. The first set of tablets were broken when Moses saw the golden calf, as stated in Exodus 32:16-20, *And the tables were the work of Elohim, and the writing was the writing of Elohim graven upon the tablets. And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses. “There is a noise in the camp.” And he said, “It is not the voices that shout for mastery (war), neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear.” And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he cast the tablets out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount. And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and the ground it to powder, and strawed (scattered) it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it.*

The reason for Moses breaking the tablets of testimony was because of Israel’s disobedience and not that Yahweh’s commandments were defective. This we see in Exodus 34:1, *And Yahweh said unto Moses, “Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first and I will write upon these tablets the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest.”*

These are the same words, no revision, no additions or subtractions. This is because Yahweh changes not as we are told in Malachi 3:6, *For I am Yahweh, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed,* and Hebrew 13:8-9, *Yahshua Messiah the same yesterday, and today and forever.* We also read in James 1:17 that, *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with Whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of His own will begat He us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of His creatures.*

As Yahweh and Yahshua are united in oneness, so are the commandments which Yahweh gave to Moses on Mount Sinai. John 1:1-3, 14, in speaking of Yahshua says: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim. The Same was in the beginning with Elohim. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that*

*was made. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we behold His glory, the glory as of the only Begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

To become one with Yahweh requires obedience to His law as seen in Isaiah 8:20, *To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. And Matthew 12:50, For whosoever shall do the will of My Father which is in heaven, the same is My brother, and sister, and mother.*

For the Jews and those who join themselves to them are governed by one law, as stated in Numbers 15:15-16, *One ordinance shall be both for you of the congregation, and also for the stranger that sojourneth with you, an ordinance for ever in your generations: as ye are, so shall the stranger be before Yahweh. One law and one manner shall be for you and for the stranger that sojourneth with you.*

Yahshua was asked, “What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?” He answered, “If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments”

(Matt. 19:16-17). Yahshua then quoted from the Ten Commandments (vs.18-19).

The oneness of Yahweh extends to all who will do His will. Yahshua, who was with Yahweh at creation and lived among men, gave us an example to follow. He said, *Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give 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,* Matthew 11:28-30.

Commandment keeping is not a burden to those who love Yahweh and seek to do his will.

- Brother Richard Anderson



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# WE **VOID** WARRANTIES

These words “We Void Warranties” advertise a local large truck diesel engine repair business, sound as if the enterprise nefariously sets out to void warranties by modifying manufacturers’ specifications. However, understood is their confidence in their technicians’ abilities to fix mechanical problems by warranting their work during the warranty period of the diesel engines they service. But “We Void Warranties” has a spiritual inference, too.

Imagine the adversary, the prince of this world and power of the air, and his minions — principalities and powers, spiritual wickedness in high places and the rulers of the darkness of this world (Eph. 6:12) — looking believers in the eye, and saying, “We Void Your Warranty” of “Once Saved, Always Saved”:

- that doctrine upon which some stake their salvation;
- that doctrine which gives license to its adherents to ‘continue in sin’ because of ‘a strong delusion’ that supposes “Always Saved” means GRACE will “Always Abound”;
- that doctrine predicated upon such untenable grounds as “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor power, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of Yahweh” (John 14:30; Eph. 2:2; 2 Thess. 2:11; Rom. 8:38; 39).

## “ALWAYS SAVED” implies “STAYING SAVED”

But Romans 8:38-39 is hardly a proof text of “Once Saved, Always Saved” because though ‘none of the aforementioned’ may separate from the love of Yahweh, there is yet one thing that will: Your iniquities have separated between you and your El, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear, Isaiah 59:2.

Indeed, implied in ALWAYS SAVED is STAYING SAVED that will require one,

- giving diligence to make his calling and election sure;
- working out his salvation with fear and trembling;
- watching and praying, lest he enter into temptation;
- earnestly contending for the faith once delivered;
- becoming set for the defense and confirmation of the truth;
- abstaining from the appearance of evil;
- escaping the corruption that is in the world through lust;

“*Pure and undefiled religion is still, keeping one’s self unspotted from the world (James 1:27)*”

- casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of Yahweh;
- bringing into captivity every thought, every word, every deed, into obedience to Yahshua the Messiah (Phil. 2:12; Matt. 26:41; Jude 3; Phil. 1:17; 7; Psa. 101:3; 1 Thess. 5:22; 1 Pet. 1:4; 2 Cor. 10:5).

And after having done all these things, one has but fulfilled whole duty and reasonable service, and but the beginning of walking unto all pleasing, and worthy of the vocation wherewith he’s been called, every day: every one of 24 hours; every one of 1,440 minutes; every one of 86,400 seconds (Eccl. 12:13; Rom. 12:1; Col. 1:10; Eph. 4:1). Indeed, every day, presenting himself holy, harmless, undefiled, incorruptible, separate from sinners...just like Yahshua, and all this, among an evil, wicked, adulterous and sinful, faithless, perverse, and untoward generation (Heb. 7:26; 1 Pet. 1:4; Matt. 12:39; 16:4; Mark 8:38; Matt. 17:17; Acts 2:40).

Well, “pure and undefiled religion is still, keeping one’s self unspotted from the world” (James 1:27)!

## Let Him Manifest...

So, whosoever has apprehended and comprehended, followed after, reached forth, pressed toward, and attained unto perfection, let him manifest,

- a life that is no longer unequally yoked with, neither fellowships the unfruitful works of darkness, a life that spends and is gladly spent, laid down for others;

- a life whose mind is in perfect peace because of always thinking upon things true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, of virtue and praise;

- a life that has no further need to boldly approach the throne of Grace to obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need;

- a life that has no further need of a righteous sorrow that worketh repentance unto salvation;

- a life that has no further need to be transformed from vain deceit, the traditions of men, and the rudiments of this world;

- a life that has no further need to be renewed in the spirit of its mind;

- a life that has no further need to be conformed into the image of sinless Yahshua;

- a life that has no further need of Yah's Workmanship, created in Messiah Yahshua unto good works;

- a life that has no further need of reproof, correction, rebuke, instruction in righteousness, and exhortation;

- a life that has overcome the lusts of the flesh, the lusts of the eyes, and the pride of life (Phil. 3:12; 2 Cor. 6:4; Eph. 5:11; 2 Cor. 12:15; Isa. 26:3; Phil. 4:8; Heb. 4:16; 2 Cor. 7:10; Rom. 12:2; Col. 2:8; Eph. 4:23; Rom. 8:29; Eph. 2:10; 2 Tim. 3:16; 4:2; 1 John 2:16).

Are you getting the picture? Perhaps he who yet professes himself "Once Saved, Always Saved," might want to consider a trespass of any one of these is enough to, VOID HIS WARRANTY!

- Elder John Reece

# COMMON THREAD

## APPROACHING THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE



It happens daily. One is called to go to a funeral; another is invited to be present at a wedding. People around the world are attending functions and appointments they have to keep. One goes to a job interview, while another is called as a witness before the government's court.

Each situation is different, but there is a common thread. That thread is the clothes they wear; however, they are not common clothes, but rather uncommon. They dress with appropriate clothing, fitting for the occasion, function, activity or appointment which is kept. A proper attitude of heart and common courtesy, along with respect, is what causes us to wash and dress ourselves appropriately before we present ourselves.

The question is, shouldn't we do the same when coming before our heavenly Father during a worship service? Not only are we coming before Him, we're also in the presence of the other brethren, who will, if overcoming to the end, be co-rulers with Yahshua Messiah in the coming Kingdom.

### Scriptural Examples

Though the examples are thousands of years old in the Bible, we find that they are not antiquated nor archaic, but serve as an example to future generations of the proper heart one is to have.



Take the example of Joseph, Yahweh's servant who was able to tell Pharaoh his dream by divine revelation.

Genesis 41:14 says, *Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.*

Just as men shave themselves today and dress up before going to an appointment, Joseph also prepared to go before the Pharaoh. Common sense tells us that he did not disrespect the ruler by haphazardly preparing.

Another example is the priests of Elohim who did not dress any way they desired, but rather followed very specific protocol and dress codes.

Moses was told, *And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty*, Exodus 28:2. You read of this also being done for all of Aaron's sons further along in chapter 28, who were to be servants of the Most High.

It should be noted that we, too, are striving to qualify to be priests (Rev. 5:10). This does not mean we are to wear white robes here in America. However, we are to wear the appropriate attire for the cultural setting we're in.

In Yahshua's time one could be seen wearing something similar to what we consider today as a robe, and even today in other cultures, such as Arab countries, robe type clothing is considered "best dress" for men.

Scholars believe Yahshua wore a respectable garment. He was evidently wearing acceptable clothes within His culture, hence the reason the Roman soldiers desired the clothing and cast lots, saying, "Let us not tear it..." (John 19:24), this for the seamless garment they took from Him.

### **Be Clean as He is Clean**

What is our example when going before others? Does our outward appearance show our inward heart? Can we be physically unclean and yet be spiritually clean? Depending on the circumstances, the answer is both "yes" and "no."

The children of Israel were told to wash their clothing after being sanctified, *And Moses went down from the mount unto the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their clothes*, Exodus 19:14. It was Yahweh that commanded them to wash their clothes, verse 10.

Yahweh told the priests and the people of old and tells us today, *You must distinguish between the holy and the common, between the unclean and the*

*clean*, Leviticus 10:10 (NIV).

Certainly, there are days to work in the garden and play in a neighborhood baseball game, but those are separate times, just as going to a job interview is a separate event.

Are we to go to a job interview looking like we just came from working in a garden? Of course not! You'd brush your teeth, and groom yourself, not to mention taking a shower, and we'd be careful in picking out what we would wear, would we not? Or, do we hold a spirit of rebellion, being proud of one's own individuality, essentially self-aggrandizement?

Many times, we must purchase appropriate clothing to get that new job we desire. It doesn't have to be expensive, just appropriate and clean. Many new or nearly new clothes can be purchased at a used clothing store. Yahweh certainly provides our needs (Matt. 6:30). During the Exodus, this was clear, even down to their clothes they wore (Deut. 29:5). He'll provide for us too, but not necessarily in such a miraculous way. Though, sometimes it is miraculous, such as finding a rack of clothes at a department store discounted 90%, and they just happen to be your size.

Wearing appropriate clothing may require wearing a dress, being a sister in the faith; or a tie and dress shirt with slacks, if you're a man. There are also slacks that are made for women, which are appropriate in many cases.

Maybe the job is at a hotel, restaurant, or just a local furniture store. Whatever the case may be, you'll not want to go as if you're applying to dig a ditch for a construction crew. And even with a job interview like that, you'll most likely want to wear at least a dress shirt and a good pair of pants. Not something with holes in them from wear and tear.

### **Meeting Yahweh and Yahshua**

What is considered "best dress" in today's culture? Would we wear shorts and a tank top to meet the President? If invited to a formal wedding event, would we leave our best at home and go in whatever we are wearing at the moment?

Let's think about attending Sabbath services. In fact, let's consider going before the Groom since we are symbolically and literally to be the bride. Has not the bride prepared herself?

What does Scripture say about the wedding feast? In the parable of Matthew 22 about the Kingdom, we can glean some insight:

...those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, Matthew 22:10-13.

Here there is the principle application both physically and spiritually. Physically the man came and did not wear what was appropriate even though he knew he was invited to a wedding. Spiritually we must put on Messiah (Gal. 3:27) and cannot enter into the Kingdom as Spirit beings without Him. Even though we may be called, we may not be chosen, verse 14.

The overall thought is that we need to do what is right to be accepted, and this is but one example in the Bible that tells us this.

If you know you're going before the King of the universe, and are going before the very throne of Yahweh, along with the bride at your side...would it be a small matter? Could you choose the way you'd like to worship before Yahweh, with Yahshua at His side, and think it doesn't matter?

If we take so much thought and action going to an interview for a better job, what kind of action should we take before coming to services on a commanded Sabbath day? Certainly, we should meditate upon this and examine ourselves (2 Cor. 13:5).

### **Be a Light**

As ambassadors of Messiah we should strive to set an example in both conduct and action. *For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Master: walk as children of light*, Ephesus 5:8.

In all things we are to set the right example, both physically and spiritually. *In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness (decency) and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array*, 1 Timothy 2:9.

The latter is not to have the emphasis. The intent of our heart must not be to show-off as the Pharisees did with evil inclinations, but rather to show ourselves a respectable people as ambassadors of the Kingdom that will soon rule this dying world.

The Apostle Paul explained that we are to be a people, "...without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless" (Eph. 5:27 NIV). We clean and iron out not only the physical wrinkles and stains in our clothes, but also in our spiritual lives we wash and straighten ourselves out to be in line with Yahweh's Word.

We look forward to be dressed in white symbolizing righteousness (Rev. 3:4-5; 19:8). Right now, we strive to do the right things and we wear clean and appropriate clothes in His presence... not torn, wrinkled, or stained apparel.

What kind of light are we to those who might visit at a Sabbath service if we can't even come together wearing appropriate attire that's clean and well fitting? These things should express and say, "Yahweh is to be respected."

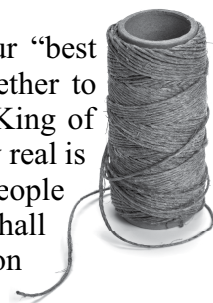
When His people come before Him it is a special time and not a regular day or time. It is the gathering of the saints before the Most High! Even the angels (Psa. 8:4-5) are at times shown to be dressed in clean white clothing when they are seen by men (John 20:12).

How will we go before Yahweh in the presence of other brethren who come to do the same? Will those on the outside looking in see a clean and respectable people going before Yahweh?

More importantly, will Yahweh see the heart of the people is in obedient reverence toward Him? Or, will Yahweh see that the heart of the people is desiring to worship Him anyway they want, because it's more comfortable their way?

The latter inward heart is more important than the outside appearance. However, as an analogy, we might consider what Yahshua told the Pharisees about their perfection of tithing. While being exact as to how they did that, they neglected the weightier matters of the law by their lack of justice, mercy and faith in their lives (Matt. 23:23). He said plainly to them, these they should have done without neglecting the other. We are to be inwardly and outwardly, a clean people.

What better time to wear our "best dress" than when we come together to worship in the presence of the King of the universe! Think about it, how real is He to us? Are we not a special people and is He not our Mighty One? Shall we come before Him with common thread?



- Elder David Brett





We had a visitor some time ago at the Assembly who was tech savvy. He was sharing what his cell phone could do; and, actually, what it couldn't do. When we tried the voice search for "Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua," it had difficulties in identifying the Names Yahweh and Yahshua. What it did finally start showing was the name Joshua.

I was actually surprised that it didn't identify Yahweh's Name, because it is in just about every Bible commentary that you can pick up today. But Yahshua should have also been easily identified.

Today, we really don't want to get into the etymology (origin) of the Names, but do want to show a comparison which can be made between Joshua, the son of Nun, and, Yahshua, the Messiah, the Son of Yahweh.

### Servants

*Now it came about after the death of Moses the servant of Yahweh, that Yahweh spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' **servant**, saying... Joshua 1:1 NASB.*

We want to stop here and notice the word servant, i.e., Joshua was a servant. The word used denotes specifically, in context, one who is a willing servant. One who will do what is asked of him because he joyfully wants to, not one who is a slave by force or to somehow pay off a debt. Many slaves willingly did, because they had no other way to pay their debt.

It's interesting to note that in the *New Testament*, we are told we are bought with a price, so we are actually slaves and servants to Yahweh because

of the purchase through Messiah's sacrifice. His example to us:

*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many, Mark 10:45 NASB.*

Here, of course, is a parallel of Joshua and Yahshua, both being servants.

Scholars have noted that Moses is to Yahweh, as Joshua, son of Nun, is to the Savior. When we think of Joshua the son of Nun, serving Moses, we have a picture of Yahshua serving Yahweh. This is not literal of course, but allegorical or figurative. Literally we find Moses was Yahweh's servant.

*Moses My **servant** is dead; now therefore arise, cross this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel, Joshua 1:2 NASB.*

### Promised Land

The connection here is obvious. Yahshua the Messiah is leading us today into the Kingdom of Yahweh, with the directive from Yahweh to do so.

Before, at this time, it was the physical people being led into the promised land by Joshua (whose name really is Yahshua), but today it is Yahshua leading us by the Spirit of Yahweh as He continues to submit to Yahweh's will. Read our mini-study on ***How the Savior's Name Was Changed.***

Today we, if we are not spiritually killed in the wilderness, will enter into the Promised Land. *Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of Elohim and*

*of Messiah and will reign with Him for a thousand years, Revelation 20:6 NASB.*

Here are those who overcome and are able to come into the Kingdom as firstfruits, Spirit beings, changed in the twinkling of the eye. Scripture says they did not love their lives, even to death. Neither must we, as we continue to strive to overcome; to be obedient children of Yahweh no matter the cost. Yahshua said those that try to save their lives will lose it (Luke 17:33). As we take the attitude that He must increase, while we decrease, then we will be on the right track.

It's interesting to note the point made in the **Old Testament** that there were very few who entered into the promised land. Many died off and were not allowed in because of their disobedience. This is why we are to do the opposite and be obedient, even if it means losing out on the riches in this life (Heb. 11:25-26). For we know that eternal life and the rewards there will far outweigh any perceived loss here in this world.

### **Spiritual Strength**

Yahshua has been given the directive to bring us in and we are helped by the Spirit of Yahweh. As Scripture says in Zechariah 4:6, "Not by might nor by strength (i.e., not by human might nor strength), but by My Spirit says Yahweh of Hosts."

This is what Yahweh told Zerubbabel concerning the physical Temple of Yahweh being built. Today we understand the same process is occurring, but each spiritual stone is being built up in the body of Messiah and He is the figurative Corner Stone.

Is there strength in this building? Absolutely. And strength was also provided to Joshua. Look at what Yahweh told him:

*No man will be able to stand before You all the days of your life. Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you, Joshua 1:5 NASB.*

This is the promise to Joshua and also to Yahshua, and also to us. I suspect the boldness which came from Joshua was not only that he was a bit of a military man, but that the very promise of Yahweh was given directly to him, that he would be able to stand and that no man could prevail against him all the days of his life. Yahshua Messiah also knew that no man could stand against Him, as long as He submitted to Him.

### **Warriors**

This is most likely why we read of courage

and humility we see from Joshua in the following account.

*And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?" So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of YAHWEH I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Master say to His servant?" Joshua 5:13-14 NKJV.*

The long-held image I've personally had of this over the years was Joshua is the one with the drawn sword. But, as I've taken a closer look at the wording, I now realize it is the Angel of Yahweh which has His sword drawn.

We understand this was the pre-existent Yahshua approaching, battle ready. We don't normally think of Yahshua as a warrior, but indeed He is. This is yet another comparison of Joshua and Yahshua, but this makes Joshua's courage that more impressive than what I had originally thought, because Joshua went right up to Him to confront Him even though His sword was already unsheathed and out in the open ready for battle.

The other thing we see here is Joshua, though courageous and a warrior himself, humbles himself before this Messenger of Yahweh. Why? Because He recognizes His authority over him. Over us as well, we have Yahshua and Yahweh. In the Kingdom it will be that every knee will bow before Yahshua as King, placed in His position by Yahweh the Ancient of Days.

Thinking of Yahshua as a Warrior, we have an account in Revelation:

*And they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him Who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of Their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?" Revelation 6:16-17 NASB.*

Who was able to stand against Joshua? No one. He conquered and brought the people into the promised land. Yahshua, with Yahweh's help, will also bring us into the Promised Land (the coming Kingdom).

All governments will be laid low, the only government that will ultimately stand is Yahweh's and His law will go forth from Zion. It's the same laws we see now in Scripture, the very ones Yahshua upheld when He walked the earth.



## Judicial Judgment

Going back to Joshua conquering and removing the evil out of the land, we read: *They utterly destroyed everything in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword,* Joshua 6:21 NASB.

This is Jericho that they went into, of which we have the archeological proof today standing or rather, laying in ruins. It's referred to as "the oldest city in the world" in some circles. The account is given that the walls fell and the people went in, the ramparts are seen which broke apart and in which the walls came down.

The question sometimes comes up as to why Yahweh would allow entire cities and nations to be wiped out this way? The answer is, most likely, that they were not able to be rehabilitated. They had gone too far in utter abominations.

Just as there have been archaeological evidence of cities like Jericho, there have been findings of human venereal diseases within animal remains which archeologists have also found and which scientists have confirmed.

The only cure for such cancer is to cut it out. Yahweh had the right of judicial judgment over them.

Now when these people are brought up in the second resurrection, will they be told what is what? Will they be given the facts of life? We would certainly think so. Will they have an opportunity to accept Yahweh's instructions and live according to His ways? We also would think so, but that judgment is not ours to make.

Whatever Yahweh chooses to do will be the just and right thing to do, because He is a just and merciful Judge. This judgment has actually been handed to the Son to delineate (John 5:22), but that does not change the headship. The Son is with the Father even now as a High Priest interceding on our behalf (Heb. 4:14-16).

Similar to a just and equitable judge today, the Righteous Judge will punish this world for its evil practices, which are contrary to His laws and ways of doing things. This is why we are told in the book of Revelation, a book of revealing:

*Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come*

*out of her, My people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues; for her sins are heaped high as heaven, and Yahweh has remembered her iniquities,* Revelation 18:4-5 ESV.

Is this being spoken on behalf of Yahweh? Yes. Is it Yahshua? Is it Gabriel? We're not told, but this is end time prophecy.

Is Yahweh going to allow sin to continue? No. And, by the way, if there is no more law or need for it as some say, then there can't be any sin. Because sin is the transgression of Yahweh's law (1 John 3:4). If there is no more law, there is no need to come out of what the world does against Yahweh's laws. Therefore, the idea that there is no law is false. Especially, since this is specifically a message for Yahweh's people at the end of the age, written after Yahshua had already died and went to heaven.



When He comes back, He comes back with tribulation and the wrath of Yahweh first (Rev. 7:16), then He will stand on the Mount of Olives to begin the establishment of the Kingdom of Yahweh at the end of the tribulation period.

*And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him Who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh,* Revelation 19:21 NASB.

Joshua conquered with a sword and so will

Yahshua, which is described on this white horse. This is not to be confused with the false messiah riding a white horse in Revelation, chapter 6.

Going back to the account of Jericho, we can find an area of which there is a parallel concerning the timing of events with Joshua and Yahshua.

### **Trumpet Blasts**

*At the seventh time, when the priests blew the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For Yahweh has given you the city,"* Joshua 6:16 NASB.

The trumpets were blown for seven days, and in Revelation we see the trumpets blown seven times to conclude the tribulation and the start of Yahshua's reign as King of kings.

*The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdoms of the world are become the kingdom of our Master and of His Messiah, and He will reign for ever and ever,"* Revelation 11:15–16 NIV.

We find a similar mention of the last trumpet and shout, which is what the people did at Jericho. They were told specifically not to shout or speak until the very end:

*For the Master Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of Elohim, and the dead in Messiah will rise first.* 1 Thessalonians 4:16 NASB.

This is quite the ending when you consider the beginning of Yahshua's birth and childhood. Yahshua had to actually be taken and hidden away from those that would want to harm Him.

### **Escaping Trouble**

Even the Apostle Paul had to be lowered in a basket down from a wall to get away from those wanting to kill him. Not too far from being a parallel to Yahshua.

Though not directly a parallel comparison, one of the things we see with the spies dispatched by Joshua is that they were taken and hidden. And by a known harlot, of all people.

*But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them, and she said, "Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from."* Joshua 2:4 NASB.

In the *New Testament* we have Yahshua as a child, somewhere in the age range of one or two most likely, since Herod sent his men to kill all male infants at and under the age of two:

*Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of*

*Yahweh appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him,"* Matthew 2:13 NASB.

We find both Joshua and Yahshua had to be hid to be protected. These are some of the parallels we find, but there may even be more as we search for some for the deeper things of Scripture.

Hopefully, as technology gets better, cell phones will be able to better identify the Names of the Father and Son, but in the meantime our brains still work a lot better with the help of Yahweh's Spirit and we can see not only proof of Their Names, and what They mean, but we have clear evidence that Yahweh's Word is inspired.

Since we know these things, now is a good time to prepare and be ready for Yahshua's return. The last thing we need to do is be found without proper clothing for the wedding Feast to come.

### **Feasting**

One of the other things that Joshua and his men did once in the land was to feast. No longer manna, which they may have gotten a little tired of, but food provided in the promised land. Similarly, those who come into the coming Kingdom as firstfruits eating of the spiritual food in abundance. Even now we are given what we need to sustain us from on high.

They made it through the wilderness and we can too, with Yahweh's help, as His Son leads us like Joshua led the people.

### **Trust and Obey**

There is another comparison we can consider today, which we will want to keep in mind for the rest of our lives and emulate ourselves. Joshua like Yahshua, followed Yahweh fully.

*I was forty years old when YAHWEH's servant Moses sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out this land. I brought an honest report back to him. The men who went with me, however, made our people afraid. But I faithfully obeyed YAHWEH my Elohim. Because I did, Moses promised me that my children and I would certainly receive as our possession the land which I walked over. But now, look. It has been forty-five years since YAHWEH said that to Moses. That was when Israel was going through the desert, and YAHWEH, as He promised, has kept me alive ever since. Look at me! I am eighty-five years old and I'm just as strong today as I was when Moses sent me out. I am still strong*



enough for war or for anything else,  
Joshua 14:7–12 TGNT.

What a powerful testimony of someone who trusted and obeyed Yahweh and entered into the promised land in a strong way, and was just as strong as when he started out; with zeal and vigor for Yahweh's Word.

Yes, he most likely got tired during the battles and trekking through the wilderness. But he stuck with it and didn't give up, just like Yahshua.

One last parallel we should consider of Joshua being like Yahshua, is here at the very end of Joshua's life. He says, at the threshold of the people receiving their inheritance of the promised land which flows with milk and honey:

*"...take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of YAHWEH commanded you, to love YAHWEH your Elohim, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul."* Joshua 22:5–6 NKJV.

Yahshua, wholeheartedly, is in agreement.

*And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?" And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE YAHWEH YOUR ELOHIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE,"* Luke 10:25–28 NASB.

Joshua and Yahshua are much more in agreement and alike than many are willing to admit, but in the end all those that love Yahweh and do His will, as Joshua and Yahshua did, will end up inheriting all things.

- Elder David Brett



## SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION FOR RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL INTEGRITY AND SECURITY

*And Yahweh shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of Yahweh thy Elohim, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them,* Deuteronomy 28:13.

Very many in the faith find themselves instead, the tail and beneath, rather than the head and above only. And their position is attributable to not having heard, observed and done Yahweh's commandments, perhaps the chief of which is the responsible exercise of dominion and stewardship of what by Him, is received-in-trust.

I am not an accountant nor a financial adviser, but I am one who has obtained mercy of the Master and also learned firsthand what it means to be the tail instead of the head, and beneath instead of above.

### My Testimony

I have learned firsthand, that the institutions of finance care little of Yahweh's Triad Principle of Grace, Mercy and Truth, and also that the borrower is servant to the lender (Pro. 22:7).

Thirty-three years ago, my wife and I became a slave to debt. My story begins in March, 1986. I was employed as an insurance agent for a large mid-west health and life agency. My wife was employed as a math teacher in an area high school, and we were pursuing the American dream. In the spring of that year, we began searching for a home to buy, and after looking at several with a realtor, we settled on the home we have made for the past 33 years.

On a Tuesday evening in that March, we had dropped off our taxes at the local H & R Block office, and then conferred with a mortgage loan correspondent, paying him \$1,500 down on the property we were considering. Returning to H & R Block, we discovered we had a tax liability of more than \$3,000...due in three weeks, with absolutely no way of even making a dent toward it because we had scraped very nearly every discretionary dollar to affect the down payment on the house. Yikes! What were we going to do?

We had often borrowed against our title; were delinquent in paying the tuition and fees owed against our children's Christian academy education; were making car payments on a 1985 Mercury we had purchased 9 months before, and had taken risks writing checks on insufficient bank accounts. And now, we owed more than \$3,000 in taxes; the Internal Revenue Service, also cares little or nothing of Yahweh's economies, extending us a rigorous payment plan of \$225 monthly, \$180 of which was applied to penalties and interest. We were also required to maintain current taxes due.

Our captivity lasted for many years, the better part of a decade during which we cashed in an IRA, taking the 10% penalty imposed by the Internal Revenue Code; borrowed money against what little equity we had on our home; and occasioned the use of introductory 3-month and 6-month 0% interest credit cards, revolving these as they expired. All these became avenues with which to defray past due accounts; stay current on taxes, a mortgage payment, tuition, a car payment, groceries, insurance, clothing, utilities. In May, 1987, came the assumption of another debt: a new Chevrolet Suburban I still own, financed through GMAC, with nothing down and 12.75% interest for five years. (Imagine how embarrassing it is to drive your new Suburban to 1st day church — yes, we were first day attendees thirty-two years ago — and have to face the church business manager who knows your delinquency in tithes, offerings, and tuition!)

One guiding his affairs with discretion wouldn't permit himself to get to the bottom of the hole and once there, continue to dig! Oh, yeah! We looked prosperous and talked prosperous. After all, wasn't "G-d" blessing us? But not like so many Laodiceans of whom Yahshua observed, "Thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing." We knew we were "...wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" (Rev. 3:17).

In May, 1988, I went into business for myself, becoming a General Agent with several large insurance companies. My wife had left her teaching position, and began to accompany me on sales presentations, eventually becoming licensed herself and establishing her own clientele.

In 1989, we had retired the note on the '85 Mercury and sold it. The '87 Suburban was paid off in early '92; our tax lien had been paid down considerably as we had been able to pay much more than the \$225 monthly installment and our credit card debt also. From then, until now, we have been faithful in our resolve to never, ever purchase anything we didn't have the cash for, confirmed then, by shredding all our credit cards.

But by the spring of 1993, the feast or famine nature of insurance sales had burned me out. I came home one evening after having spent the day just driving around. I couldn't even get myself out of the

car to the first door. And so, at age 45, I announced to my family I was going to apply to nursing school.

My acceptance in nursing school was a boost to my self-confidence. Residual renewal insurance commission income and Deborah's continuing to work supported my nursing school endeavor, our elder son's university tuition and our second son's Christian academy tuition. With much studying in disciplines completely foreign to my formal educational experience. Six weeks before graduation I'd secured a nursing position at a skilled nursing facility, and two days later was offered another.

In March 2001, we refinanced our home to obtain a lower interest rate. A \$50,050 mortgage contracted in March 1986 had in fifteen years, only been paid down by \$16,000. But eleven months, two weeks and \$36,000 later, in March 2002, we paid off the mortgage, with only \$900 cash to our name, but we felt rich, very rich, indeed. And for the past 17 years, there has been NO MORE DEBT and neither will there be any more debt!



### **Acknowledge Where the Money's Going**

Principal to getting out of debt, and staying out of debt, is to acknowledge where the money is coming from and where it is going! Contrary to what the world will tell you, and contrary to what the "Prosperity Gospel" will preach to you, gain is not righteousness, but righteousness with contentment is great gain, moreover, having food and raiment, therewith be content (I Tim. 6:5, 6, 8).

Throughout the whole of His Word, Yahweh



instructs us not to “dwell carelessly” (Isa. 47:8). Yes, there is a difference between ‘carefree’ — He is wanting us to live ‘carefree,’ casting all our cares on Him, for He cares for us (1 Pet. 5:8) — and carelessly.’ Indeed, He commands us to “walk circumspectly” (Eph. 5:15) and to “guide our affairs with discretion” (Psa. 112:5)...including our financial affairs!

He promises to supply our need, not our greed. This, exceedingly abundant, above what could be thought or asked, according to the riches of His Glory by Messiah Yahshua (Eph. 3:20; Phil. 4:19).

So, let’s see what responsible financial integrity and security looks like.

Before proceeding further, I’ll speak to what some may be thinking. Some think that any pulpit exposition, or literature come therefrom, on the subject of money and its use is contrary to sound doctrine and wholesome words. These are they which misread 1 Timothy 6:10: *For the love of money is the root of all evil.* But there are fewer topics, themes, and subjects throughout the breadth of *The Holy Bible* that have received as great or more, treatment that the subject of what some call, ‘filthy lucre.’

Nevertheless, responsible financial integrity and security begins with a PLAN. It’s true. IF YOU FAIL TO PLAN, YOU HAVE JUST PLANNED TO FAIL!

### **The First Principle to Responsible Financial Integrity and Security**

Your income determines your expenses, and that is why income occupies the first column. In Ephesians 4:28 and 2 Thessalonians 3:11-12, 10, we read: *Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with [his] hands that thing which is good, **that he may have to give to him that needeth**...For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Master Yahshua the Messiah, that with quietness they work... [For] if any would not work, neither should he eat.*

No one, not even Yahweh, owes you your living. Even in the garden, He commanded Adam to dress and to keep it (Gen. 2:15).

### **A Brief Digression**

Briefly, we return to the above highlighted portion from Ephesians 4:28, **that he may have to give to him that needeth...**

Yahweh loveth a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7). Indeed, and so also, does the receiver of the giver’s benevolence. However, becoming weary in well doing can, and often does, occur when the receiver of the other’s munificence neglects a cardinal principle: *Love worketh no ill to his neighbour;* Galatians. 6:9; Romans 13:10. But ill is worked when the receiver declines from bearing his own burden (Gal. 6:5).

And so, interdiction (restraint) must be imposed upon the receiver who perhaps, for reason of NOT having been trained, nurtured and admonished, or maybe who, because of having a predilection toward slothfulness, seeks an advantage. The blesser may have to save himself by bringing correction and instruction, and just maybe rebuke to **the taker**, and therewith maintain cheerful giving to such who will exercise stewardship of what is received.

So, if one is not willing, no one can help. But if one is determined, no one can stop. On the one hand, **the taker** needs a renewing of his mind, and the benefactor needs to prefer his munificence (liberality) toward empowering and not enabling the other. Again, *some walk disorderly, working not at all, except to work ill to their neighbor, the one without conscience seeking the abundance of the other to supply his want!*

Sadly, non-profits and government bureaucracies have produced a culture of transgenerational welfare mentality that has transformed a sovereign people into becoming indigent, enslaved to the discretion of them from whom they have their hope and not at all to the will of Yahweh, Whose thoughts are much the more inclined toward the prosperity of His creation than to its impoverishment (Jer. 29:11).

And so, the conclusion of this matter rests in the Scripture: *If there be first a willing mind...a readiness to will, so [there may be] a performance also out of that which ye have... For [I mean] not that other men be eased, and ye burdened: but by an equality, [that] now at this time your abundance [may be a supply] for their want, that their abundance also may be [a supply] for your want: that there may be equality,* 2 Corinthians 8:12, 11, 13.

The Golden Rule expresses well this relationship: *Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is Law and the prophets,* Matthew 7:12.

In the faith community, the purpose of one man’s distribution of his abundance is to relieve

one's NEED, not his GREED. Indeed, if we look at the content of James 2:15-16, the emphasis here is on those things which are needful to the body, as in, "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food." And so, in continuing to give to another who will not, after correction and instruction, guide his affairs with discretion, is to become a partaker in that man's sin of working ill to his neighbor.

This may sound heartless, but hey, I didn't write **The Book**. One should not be enabled through another's munificence, to continue in sin, taking of another's blessing to support his own indiscretions.

As we noted earlier, Yahweh has called us to empower one another; to provoke one another unto love and good works and there's nothing there permitting us to enable another to continue in impudent conduct (Heb. 10:24).

And neither, incidentally, the giver permit **the taker** to put a guilt trip on him, by citing Words, as, *He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto Yahweh; and that which He hath given will He pay him again: and: For whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of Yah in him?... As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise... Give to every man that asketh of thee... Do good and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for He is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil... Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again,* Proverbs 19:17; 1 John 3:17; Luke 6:31, 30, 35, 38.

Yes, these words have a place but there are certain who are not worthy to eat at the altar set apart from them who will not neglect the first works. So, to appropriate these words and to exclude consideration of correction and instruction, is to neglect *rightly dividing the Word of Truth*, 2 Timothy 2:15.

Quite, will one find it helpful, to appropriate the spirit of 1 Timothy 5:1-14 in which the Apostle gives a judgment concerning them that are widows indeed!

### **The Second Principle to Responsible Financial Integrity and Security**

The natural man esteems and grants greater accord to what he can see more than to what he

cannot see. Yahweh is Spirit, and it is therefore, in the heart of man, always to give Him what is left, instead of what is right!

The world applauds your possessing the abundance of things (Luke 12:15). The world tells you, "Pay Yourself First." The problem is, you'll cheat. That's why on a balance sheet, some will list "Discretionary" in the first column, and "Tithe" and "Alms," in the last. The world stands beside you, and behind you, as you muse to yourself, and to every other who will hear you, *Is this not great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?* Daniel 4:30.

But again, the Apostle Paul makes it clear: *The love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they HAVE ERRED FROM THE FAITH and pierced themselves through with many sorrows... They that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition,* 1 Timothy 6:10, 9.

They that live as if life consists in the abundance of things that can be possessed and who labour toward that end, for things which are highly esteemed by men but which are certain to perish with using, *HAVE ERRED FROM THE FAITH!*

For this reason, the follower of Yahweh is enjoined to flee the snare and the root of all evil — the love of money and instead, *follow after righteousness, piety, faith, love, patience, meekness, to fight the good fight of faith, and to lay hold on to eternal life,* 1 Timothy 6:11-12.

Little wonder, the Master accorded to us these words: *Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also,* Matthew 6:19-21.

### **The Third Principle to Responsible Financial Integrity and Security**

We who have knowledge, are without excuse. Yahweh is saying, beware that you forget not Who fed you and led you; that you muse not within your heart, "My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth," (Deut. 8:11, 14-17). For we have nothing but what we haven't received of Him (1 Cor. 4:7).

Firstfruits is what is good, acceptable, and



perfect. First, be rich toward Yahweh. He is saying, “Pay Me that thou owest,” (Matt. 18:28).

I remember my first day (Sunday-keeping) days, when the offering basket was passed. Mine were more among the Washingtons, Lincolns, and Hamiltons and not so much, among the Jacksons, Grants, and Franklins. Those of us in the United States understand the values of these currencies. Scarcely for most of us, however, do the Washingtons, Lincolns, and Hamiltons represent the first fruits of our daily, weekly, monthly and annual harvests upon which to pay tithes, freewill offerings and almsgiving.

While we do suffer at times from other’s actions and we are allowed to be tested by various trials (remember Job?), don’t be surprised if He is not, for your sake, rebuking the devourer (Mal. 3:8-11) if you decide to withhold tithes and offerings from Yahweh!

Sure, you can borrow against your tithe, but why would you, when He requires the fifth part (twenty percent) (Lev. 27:31) to be added thereto? His usury rate is more than that of a bank, approaching rates imposed by Pay-Day loan outlets, also not a good place with which to do business.

Someone will surely retort, “Yeah, but ...” — “buts” ALWAYS cancel what preceded it. Listen to what Yahshua says: *Render therefore...unto Yahweh the things that are Yahweh’s*, Matthew 22:21.

This is not a word subject to being loosed on earth, and therefore loosed in Heaven! *For ever, O Yahweh, is Thy Word settled in heaven*, Psalm 119:89.

### **The Fourth Principle to Responsible Financial Integrity and Security**

First of all, if you consistently have more month left after the money’s all gone, then you’re the tail and beneath and in trouble. More debt is not the way in which to retire debt. You’ll have to scale back, because you’ll never, ever, become the head and above only, if you’re supporting debt relief by maintaining debt.

So, now that you have recorded your income — for the day, the week, the semi-monthly, or monthly — you’ll have a good idea of the parameters established for expenses.

Following are practical applications of the four principles to responsible financial integrity and security toward resolving to live within your means:

1. Assess your income;
2. Shred the plastic in your wallet or purse;

3. No more coffees and donuts from the C-Store (convenience);
4. No more supporting your hobby or avocations;
5. Cancel/non-renew gym memberships;
6. No more Sunday afternoon joy rides;
7. Skip the trip, you can’t afford it;
8. Plan combined shopping trips;
9. No more going out to breakfast, lunch, and dinner;
10. No more sodas and chips at the C-store when fueling your vehicle;
11. No more lottery scratchers;
12. Cancel newspaper and magazine and internet subscriptions;
13. Change cell phone carriers;
14. Turn off the lights when you’re not in the room;
15. Set the AC & furnace thermostats higher or lower;
16. Don’t fill the tub with so much water, and don’t linger in the shower;
17. When grocery shopping, prepare a list before leaving home, and absolutely buy nothing that’s not on the list. Forgot something? Put it on next week’s list;
18. Shop vehicle/homeowner’s insurance: increase deductibles and co-pays; drop collision and comprehensive coverage on vehicles fully depreciated (if allowed by state law);
19. Don’t purchase new vehicles that depreciate 50% in value the first two years, be content with an old beater; purchase a low mileage two- or three-year-old vehicle that will likely have a remaining transferable manufacturer’s service warranty, and do NOT purchase an extended warranty on the vehicle;
20. Rent/house payment including insurance and real estate tax should not be more than 29% of your monthly gross income; if it is, downsize, refinance, or secure more income;
21. Render to Yahweh what is Yahweh’s, including the ministry-needs of the Assembly as administered by the Presbytery and to them who are His, without respect of person of any for whom also, He paid the price of Innocent Blood;
22. Establish an emergency fund, (save up to 3-6 month’s income) designated **only** for those unexpected expenses that occur, like necessary home and automotive repairs, out-of-pocket medical expenses, unemployment, temporary disability, etc. — place savings in an interest-bearing, checking privilege money-market account;

23. Seek debt relief through faith-based consolidation counseling for the purpose of reducing higher rates of interest paid to service debt, especially credit card, student loan and Automotive Credit Company interest - if consolidation of all debt into one is not a viable option, pay the lowest balance(s) first as a morale booster, so you can see and feel you are making progress;
24. *'Lay aside every weight that besets you'* - liquidate unused or unwanted appliances, furniture, real estate, automobiles and apply proceeds to debt reduction to consignment shops, consignment auction houses, garage/yard/trash-treasure sales;
25. If you have student loan liabilities, inquire whether your employer will contribute to, or reimburse your scheduled repayment arrangements;
26. Don't spend money you don't have on things you don't need, to impress people you don't even like;
27. If you must use a credit card (discouraged to them who are fiscally irresponsible), pay the balance off every billing cycle;
28. Stay current on income, property tax and income tax liabilities;
29. Do NOT go surety (co-sign) a note for anyone, see Proverbs 11:15, 22:26;
30. Consider term life insurance (face value, 3-5 times annualized income...not whole life, or graded whole life) and health insurance, *For every man shall bear his own burden*, Galatians 6:5;

31. NEVER make purchases against an anticipated windfall, e.g., a court judgment on a liable/liability claim, an insurance settlement, an inheritance, because your rich uncle may have left you out of his will, and your ship may never come in;
32. Exercise wisdom in conservative investment instruments for use during years of retirement & for bequeathing a legacy to children and grandchildren; the goal is not to outlive your resources and become a dependent on another's charity, or upon the commonwealth of the State, *For every man shall bear his own burden*, Galatians 6:5.
33. advance plan discretionary expenditures, e.g. vacations, trips, etc. — REMEMBER, if you fail to plan, you have just planned to fail;
34. to aid in fiscal accountability, budget and maintain a month-by-month, multi-column account ledger — faithfully recording every expense and all income will give you a record of how well you are doing.

Yeah, it's gonna hurt — like chastening, grievous now, but joyous later.

Some may conclude this was not particularly Spiritually-uplifting homiletics. However, I know, Yahweh, our Elohim, is a holistic Elohim, caring as much that we should, in the words of the Apostle John, *above all things prosper and be in health*, 3 John 1:2.

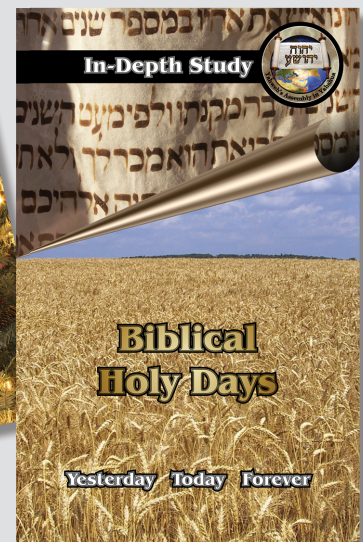
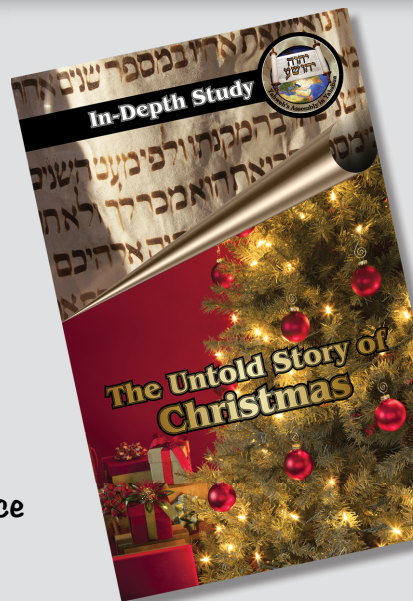
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# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q** Doesn't Isaiah prove Yahshua is the One, Yahweh the Father?

**A** When studying a matter out, we must consider the big picture. What we find are Two Individuals, the One doing exactly as the Other One directs. It is not One in the sense of One Individual only, even in areas where you find Yahweh proclaiming in anger that He is the One to be worshiped in Isaiah 43:10-1; 44:24, 45:5; 46:9, due to the rampant idol worship. We understand that it is Yahshua Who is mediating that message for the Father, and He is in fact alluded to shortly after in Isaiah 48:13. Even He points to His Father, Mark 10:18. Read our free booklet, *Did the Savior Pre-Exist?*

**Q** Where did Enoch, Eliyah and Moses go before the resurrection of Yahshua? Was Enoch taken by Yahweh alive to heaven? Where did the horses from heaven bring Eliyah to?

**A** Moses and Elijah were shown with the resurrected Savior. Of course, this was a vision (Matt. 17:9), as Yahshua had not even died yet. We are not sure where Enoch and Elijah were taken, but they evidently were able to live out their lives and will be raised up with other patriarchs in the coming Kingdom. Elisha, it was said, went to Mt. Carmel (2 Kings 2:25). I imagine the places Enoch and Elijah were taken to were somewhat secretive, since the people evidently sought to kill them for their messages (1 Kings 19:10,14; notice the message Enoch gave: Jude:1:14-15). Elijah is noted as having wrote a letter some years later (2 Chron. 21:12), note that two kings named Jehoram ruled at the same time. The one who ruled over Judah reigned 8 years (2 Chron. 21:20).

**Q** Hi, I just want to ask some questions concerning the lost books of the Bibles. I had read some of them, such as the book of *Jubilees, Jasher, Enoch, Adam and Eve*. I am not sure about whether these books are really inspired by Yahweh. Is it possible that these books could be inspired by the devil? If these books are inspired by Yahweh, why are some of the stories in the lost books contradictory to each other, such as, the death of Cain.

**A** Most all of them have been noted as psuedographical (meaning, false writings of actual people). The exception would be the books of *Maccabees* which are seen as historically accurate. The first part of *Enoch* (book 1) appears to be authentic, as noted by some scholars, but then eventually the book gets into ideas of 4,000-foot people, which is fantasy, at best. We know that there were individuals such as Enoch and Jasher, but these writings appear for the most part to be falsely attributed to them. That's how books were sometimes sold for higher prices in times past.



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causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so  
my Sovereign Yahweh will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring forth before all nations.**

**- Isaiah 61:11**

