

YAIY



Beacon



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Wise words are
like deep waters;
wisdom flows
from the wise like
a bubbling brook,
Prov. 18:4 NLT.

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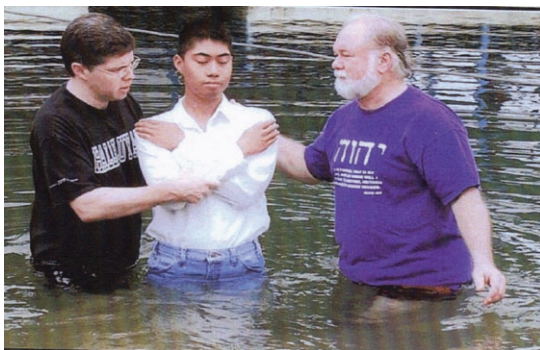


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MISSION STATEMENT

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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Mount Sinai

About seven weeks after the Israelites were released from bondage in Egypt, they arrived at Mount Sinai.

In the third month after the Israelites left Egypt — on the very day — they came to the Desert of Sinai. After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain, Ex. 19:1-2 NIV.

Moses and Mount Sinai

Many people may feel that Moses went up to the top of Mount Sinai once, maybe twice, to receive the two tablets of stone. However, by reading Exodus chapters 19 – 34, one will read that Moses went six times to the top of Mount Sinai to speak with Yahweh.

In Ex. 19:3-6, the first time Moses went up onto Mount Sinai, Yahweh told Moses to go down from the mount and remind the Israelites to keep His covenant because they were a “valued possession” unto Him. The Israelites told Moses that they would obey Yahweh, verse 8.

And all the people answered together, and said, All that Yahweh hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto Yahweh.

In Ex. 19:10-16, the second time Moses went up onto Mount Sinai, Yahweh told Moses to go down from the mount and tell the Israelites to “sanctify themselves today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes, and be ready against the third day: for the third day Yahweh will come down in the sight of all the People upon mount Sinai.”

The reason Yahweh wanted the Israelites to wash their clothes was not because their clothes were dirty from all the traveling they had done, but to do it as an act of purification because Yahweh was to “come down in the sight of all the People.”

In explaining Ex. 19:1 (*In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai*), Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Com-

mentary (Electronic Database. Copyright © 1997, 2003 by BibleSoft, Inc. All rights reserved) says, “according to Jewish usage, the first of that month – ‘same day,’ it is added, to mark the time more explicitly - i.e., 45 days after leaving Egypt—one day spent on the mount (Ex. 19:3), one returning people’s answers (Ex. 19:7-8), three days of preparation-making the whole time fifty days from the first Passover to the promulgation of the law. Hence, the Feast of Pentecost, i.e., the 50th day, was the inauguration of the Old Testament Church; and the divine wisdom is apparent in the selection of the same season for the restitution of the New Testament Church (John 1:17; Acts 2:1).”

Counting, this will bring the mentioned third day to be the fifth day of the third month. The Israelites left Egypt on the fifteenth day of the first month. By adding the number of days in the second month and the five days of the third month to this, it will bring the mentioned third day to be fifty days after they left Egypt.

In Ex. 19:20-24, the third time Moses went to the top of Mount Sinai, he spoke with Yahweh and Yahweh told Moses to go down and return with Aaron.

Before Moses went up unto Mount Sinai a fourth time he told the Israelites what Yahweh told him to say and this is recorded for us in Exodus, chapters 20-24:8.

Ex. 20:1-17 lists the Ten Commandments which form the spiritual basis of the Covenant, while verses 18-26 tell us that the Israelites were to make an earthly altar upon which sacrifices were to be made.

Ex. 21:1-11 give the judgments set for servants and their masters.

Ex. 21:12-36 speaks of what was to be done when personal injuries occur by man or beast.

Ex. 22:1-15 says what must be done if one causes harm to someone else’s animals or fields, or if someone else is keeping or has borrowed your animal and it dies, is driven away or is stolen.

Various evil practices are alluded to in Ex. 22:16 – 23:9 along with their punishment.

Ex. 23:10-19 speak of the Sabbath of rest for man (seventh day), the Sabbath of rest for land (seventh year), and three of the seven annual Sabbaths (Feast of Unleavened Bread, Feast of Firstfruits and Feast of Tabernacles, when man is to appear before Yahweh).

In Ex. 23:20-33, Yahweh says He will send an angel to accompany the Israelites as they travel. This angel will remain with them as long as they serve Yahweh. Who is this angel? Verse 21 says that Yahweh's name is in Him. This can only point to Yahshua.

Forty Days

Beginning with Ex. 24:9 – 32:14, we read of Moses' fourth ascent onto Mount Sinai and what Yahweh told him. In Ex. 24:12, Moses was told that Yahweh would give him tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which He has written; that thou mayest teach them.

It was during this ascent that Moses spent 40 days and 40 nights in the mountain, Ex. 24:18, during which time Moses did not eat bread nor drink water.

When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant which Yahweh made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water, Deut. 9:9.

Forty is a meaningful number in Scriptures. It rained for forty days and forty nights when the great flood of Noah's time came:

For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth, Gen. 7:4.

The Israelites ate manna for forty years in the dessert:

And the children of Israel did eat

manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan, Ex. 16:35.

Why did the Israelites have to wander for 40 years in the wilderness?

And thou shalt remember all the way which Yahweh thy Elohim led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldst keep His commandments, or no, Deut. 8:2

What was the purpose of the Israelites wandering for 40 years?

For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people that were men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of Yahweh: unto whom Yahweh sware that He would not shew them the land, which Yahweh sware unto their fathers that He would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey, Josh. 5:6.

The spies which Moses sent into the land of Canaan to search



Moses, with the two tables of stone written with the finger of Elohim, is ready to smash the tables against stone because of the disobedience of the children of Israel.

the land spent forty days searching:

And they returned from searching of the land after forty days, Num. 13:25.

Yahshua fasted for 40 days and 40 nights:

Then Yahshua was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry, Matt. 4:1-2 NIV.

The Companion Bible notes that the number forty denotes probation or the act of testing.

The Tables of the Covenant

During Moses' stay when he made his fourth ascent to the top of the mount, he was told many things, Ex. 24:9 – 32:14.

And Yahweh said unto Moses, Come up to Me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them, Ex. 24:12.

And He gave unto Moses, when He had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of Elohim, Ex. 31:18.

These two tables of stone are called the Tables of the Covenant:

And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, that Yahweh gave me the two tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant, Deut. 9:11.

Just how important were these two tables of stone? They were part of the covenant which Yahweh made with Israel.

There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb where Yahweh made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt, 1 Kings 8:9.

Since Moses spent some 40

days and 40 nights at the top of the mount communing with Yahweh, what were the Israelites doing during this time?

And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me. And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy mighty ones, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, Ex. 32:1-4.

They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, Ex. 32:8.

When Yahweh saw what Israel did what was His response?

And Yahweh said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people: Now therefore let Me alone, that My wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation, Ex. 32:9-10.

How did Moses reply?

And Moses besought Yahweh his Elohim, and said, Yahweh, why doth Thy wrath wax hot against Thy people, which Thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand? Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For

mischief did He bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from Thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against Thy people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Thy servants, to whom Thou swarest by Thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever, Ex. 32:11-13.

Was Moses convincing?

And Yahweh repented of the evil which He thought to do unto His people, Ex. 32:14.

The word "repented" is the translation of the Hebrew word *nacham*, which is a primitive root; properly, to sigh, i.e. breathe strongly; by implication, to be sorry, i.e. (in a favorable sense) to pity, console or (reflexively) rue; or (unfavorably) to avenge (oneself), Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright © 1994, 2003 Biblesoft, Inc. and International Bible Translators, Inc.

The NIV translation replaces "repented" with "relented," which makes it easier to understand since Yahweh can do no wrong.

The Colors Used in the Tabernacle

In chapters 24-31 of Exodus, Yahweh speaks of two subjects. First was the giving of the law. And, second, also of great importance and significance, He speaks of the physical parts of the tabernacle, the clothing of the priests and their consecration, the animals which are to be sacrificed, the liquids to be used in ceremonies, and the special Holy Days that are to be observed.

The reason why the tabernacle is of great importance and significance is that each major compo-

nent of the tabernacle points toward Yahshua. Even the four color scheme used does also.

White

White for purity, as Yahshua was pure. Therefore, since we have a great High Priest Who has gone through the heavens, Yahshua, the Son of Elohim, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have One who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin, Heb. 4:14-15 NIV.

Blue

Blue for heavenly and righteous things, as Yahshua was a heavenly, spiritual being Who came from the heavens to sacrifice His life for the sins of many.

Purple

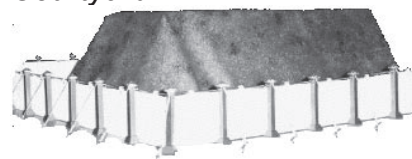
Purple for kingship, as Yahshua will be our King when He returns to set up the Kingdom.

Red

Red for the blood which Yahshua shed when He sacrificed His life.

The Parts of the Tabernacle

Courtyard



The tabernacle in the wilderness was surrounded by a curtain which had only one entry way on the east side. The measurements of the courtyard were 100 cubits by 50 cubits (about 175 to 200 feet long and half as wide). This door was the only entrance the Levites had for them to enter into the court-

yard of the tabernacle. This door symbolically represents Yahshua.

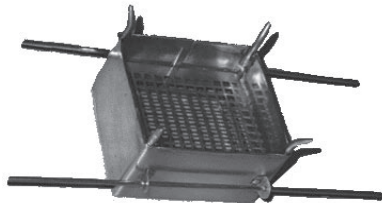
Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers. This parable spake Yahshua unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. Then said Yahshua unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before Me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture, John 10:1-9.

Yahshua saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me, John 14:6.

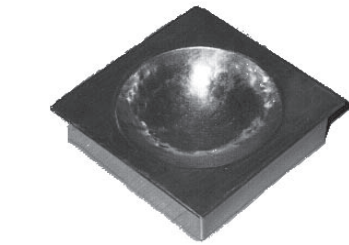
Furniture

Major pieces of furniture in the courtyard and the tabernacle:

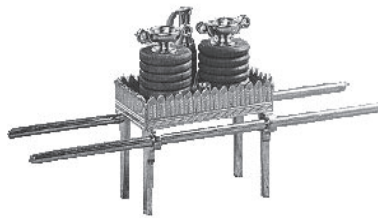
1. Brazen altar on which the sacrifices were made – do we accept the blood sacrifice of Yahshua to cover our sins?



2. Laver used by the priest to spiritually cleanse themselves – after accepting Yahshua's sacrifice are we willing to clean up our lives?



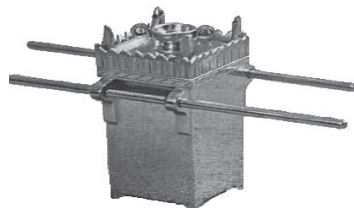
3. Shewbread – are we willing to consume unleavened bread representing Yahshua's body at Passover?



4. Candlestick – do we allow ourselves to be guided by the Light – Yahshua?



5. Altar of Incense – do we offer prayers to Yahweh in Yahshua's Name?



6. Ark and the Mercy Seat – are we aware of the New Covenant of grace available to us to obtain everlasting life and reign with Yahshua, our High Priest?



Moses' Fourth Descent

It is significant to know what happened when Moses went down from the top of the mount after his fourth ascent.

And Yahweh said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves, Ex. 32:7.

When Moses descended the mount what did he do when he saw the molten calf the Israelites made?

And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables 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 ground it to powder, and strawed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it, Ex. 32:19-20.

What excuse did Aaron, Moses' brother, give for allowing the people to make the molten calf?

And Moses said unto Aaron, What did this people unto thee, that thou hast brought so great a sin upon them? And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief. For they said unto me, Make us mighty ones, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break it off. So they gave it me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf, Ex. 32:21-24.

At this time the people seemed to be acting as if in a frenzy.

Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies, Ex. 32:25 NIV.

What did Moses do? He posed a question to the Israelites and got

a surprising answer.

Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on Yahweh's side? Let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him, Ex. 32:26.

With all the Israelites there, only those of the tribe of Levi showed their allegiance to Yahweh.

Moses told the people he had to return to the top of the mount to commune with Yahweh,

And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses said unto the people, Ye have sinned a great sin: and now I will go up unto Yahweh; peradventure I shall make an atonement for your sin, Ex. 32:30.

What was this grievous sin which the Israelites committed? It was idolatry.

Fifth Ascent

And Moses returned unto Yahweh, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them idols of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of Thy book which Thou hast written. And Yahweh said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against Me, him will I blot out of My book. Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee: behold, mine Angel shall go before thee: nevertheless in the day when I visit I will visit their sin upon them. And Yahweh plagued the people, because they made the calf, which Aaron made, Ex. 32:31-35.

The word "plagued," in verse 35, is the Hebrew OT:5062, a verb meaning to strike, to smite. This word is most often used within the context of warring nations when one nation struck another (Lev. 26:17; Num. 14:42; Deut. 28:7,25). At times, this was followed by the death of many (Judg. 20:35; 1 Sam. 4:10; 2 Sam. 18:7); at others, it merely signified defeat in war, with no mention of death (1 Kings 8:33; 2 Kings 14:12). [Yahweh] is often

the One Who smote, which led to incurable illness (2 Chron. 21:18; Zech. 14:12,18); or even death (1 Sam. 25:38; 2 Sam. 12:15). This word is also used to describe the stumbling of the foot (Prov. 3:23; Jer. 13:16); the causing of injury to another person (Ex. 21:22); or to an animal (Ex. 21:35). (From The Complete Word Study Dictionary: Old Testament Copyright © 2003 by AMG Publishers. All rights reserved.)

These are strong words which Yahweh said unto Moses. Subsequent Scriptures will show what Yahweh truly means since He knows the future before it happens.

Fifth Descent

At this time Moses told the Israelites what plans Yahweh has for them.

And Yahweh said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence, thou and the people which thou hast brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land which I swear unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, Unto thy seed will I give it: And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite: Unto a land flowing with milk and honey: for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people: lest I consume thee in the way, Ex. 33:1-3.

While Moses was still with the Israelites, he communed with Yahweh in a tent:

And Moses took the tabernacle, and pitched it without the camp, afar off from the camp, and called it the Tabernacle of the congregation. And it came to pass, that every one which sought Yahweh went out unto the tabernacle of the congregation, which was without the camp, Ex. 33:7.

The tabernacle spoken of here is not the Tabernacle in the Wilderness because this tabernacle was

yet to be built.

Here Yahweh had Moses hew two tables of stone to replace those which Moses broke, Ex. 32:19.

Sixth Ascent

On Moses' last trip to the top of the mount he stayed for another forty days and forty nights.

And he was there with Yahweh forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments, Ex. 34:28.

At this time Yahweh spoke to Moses concerning the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh, the Sabbaths (both weekly and annually), and the covenant. Yahweh also promised to drive out all the inhabitants of the lands before the Israelites if they would obey Him and "break down their altars, smash their sacred stones and cut down their Asherah poles," Ex. 34:13.

But, do they?

In the last six chapters of the book of Exodus we can read that the Israelites constructed the Tabernacle of Yahweh, the furniture and all the needed hangings. And, about one year after leaving Egypt the Tabernacle of Yahweh was completed and the Israelites were ready to continue their journey toward the Promised Land.

Pentecost Changes

Yahweh's promises and instructions to His people Israel concerning what He expected from Israel was clearly given in the Old Testament. The New Testament makes these verses more binding because the Holy (set-apart) Spirit was sent on Pentecost to remain on earth. We now seek the deeper spiritual sense and applications of His word and obey from the heart. Yahweh teaches spiritual truth and understanding from physical lessons. This is especially true of Pentecost and the other Feast days.

Yahweh's initial Covenant

(agreement) took place with Israel after they left Egypt and came to Mount Sinai. The ratifying of the Covenant by Israel took place 50 days after leaving Egypt, on Pentecost or on the "Feast of Weeks:"

And all the people answered together, and said, All that Yahweh hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto Yahweh, Ex.19:8 AV.

Chapter 20 of Exodus lays out the Ten Commandments.

And Moses came and told the people all the words of Yahweh, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which Yahweh hath said will we do, Ex. 24:3 AV.

Three requirements for Yahweh's appearance were the cleansing of the body and clothing (Ex. 19:10), confining Israel to the camp and limited freedom with sexual abstinence (Ex. 19:15). [Example see 1 Sam. 21:4-5] This precaution shows the seriousness and holiness of allowing the Spirit of Yahweh to remain on earth in Acts chapter two.

The New Testament was built on the Old Testament often having direct quotes as proof these indeed are Yahweh's Words. Having been given the "earnest" (down payment) of the Holy Spirit through our baptism, we find the New Testament open to our spiritual understanding. Our spiritual comprehension is taken to a higher level, allowing us to have Yahweh's point of view and see things from His vantage point. If every human kept the Commandments, what a great world this would be! We are in training now to live our lives in obedience to Yahweh's laws.

Pentecost brought with it a big difference by the New Testament. In the Old Testament the Holy (Set-apart) Spirit was given when needed, but was taken back to Yahweh when it had accomplished the task. Now Yahweh's Spirit became avail-

able to Yahweh's baptized people and remains on earth (Acts 1:4-5). Since Calvary, the Holy Spirit is indwelling Yahweh's obedient people and helps us keep the Law:

This [is] the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith Yahweh, I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; Heb. 10:16 AV.

See also Heb 8:8-10.

The Old Testament teaches that a year old male lamb and a grain and drink offering were a part of the Pentecost service and the burnt offering and two loaves according to Leviticus 23:9-21 were a special offering on Pentecost:

And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto Yahweh, Ex. 24:5 AV.

The New Testament says we can have Yahweh's attention at anytime and address Yahweh if we sincerely seek Him and no animal sacrifice is required for we now have faith in Yahshua and put into practice what we have learned.

By a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh, Heb. 10:20 AV.

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. Elohim [is] Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship [Him] in spirit and in truth, John 4:23-24 AV.

Becoming A Member

The Old Testament

Circumcision is a physical sign of faith in an agreement or covenant that Yahweh and Abraham agreed upon.

This [is] My covenant, which ye shall keep, between Me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised, Gen. 17:10 AV.

The New Testament

The New Testament goes beyond the physical and shows the spiritual meaning of circumcision is that of an obedient and willing heart:

But he [is] a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision [is that] of the heart, in the spirit, [and] not in the letter; whose praise [is] not of men, but of Elohim, Rom. 2:29 AV.

Note that the New Testament emphasizes our attitude, our goals and our aspirations. We are to live Yahweh's laws and make His laws our way of life. We make Yahweh's instructions come to life as we learn to think like Him, act like Him, walk like Him and love like Him. Meditate how we can bring His words into action now that we already have been given the Holy Spirit through baptism into Yahshua's name. On Pentecost the Spirit of Yahweh came to earth to abide forever because of Calvary. We are now to seek the spiritual meaning and understanding of His Word.

Note the changes made in the New Covenant from the Old Covenant:

O Yahweh, How great are Thy works; and Thy thoughts are very deep! (Psa. 92:5.)

Highlight Of Pentecost

The Old Testament

The significant fact of what is associated with Pentecost while in the Wilderness of Zin, is the giving of the law to Yahweh's People at Mount Sinai.



The New Testament

The significant fact that is as-

sociated with Pentecost in the New Testament, just after Yahshua's sacrifice, was the giving of Yahweh's Holy Spirit.

Old Testament - New And



Living Way

Temple worship Jerusalem - Worship anywhere on earth,

Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. Yahweh is spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth, John 4:22-24.

Circumcised 8th day - Baptized into New Covenant,

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Yahshua Messiah for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit," Acts 2:38 NIV.

High priest of Aaron - Melchisedek priesthood,

But now hath He obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also He is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises ... And being made perfect, He became the Author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him; called of Yahweh an high priest after the order of Melchisedec, Heb. 8:6; 5:9-10

Males are circumcised - Men and women are baptized,

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Yahshua Messiah for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit ... But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of Yahweh and the name of Yahshua Messiah, they were baptized, both men and women, Acts 2:38; 8:12 NIV.

Spirit active by priest - Yahweh's Spirit resides in *ekklesia* (the assembly),

Don't you know that you yourselves are Yahweh's temple (assembly) and that Yahweh's Spirit lives in you? (1 Cor. 3:16 NIV).

Priests active in Temple - We are Living Temple, Living stones,

You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to Yahweh through Yahshua Messiah, 1 Pet. 2:5 NIV.

Temple destroyed 70 CE - Believer's Body a Living Temple,

What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy [Spirit] which is in you, which ye have of Yahweh, and ye are not your own? (1 Cor. 6:19).

Offer animal sacrifice - Spiritual worship from heart,

For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah Yahshua unto good works, which Yahweh hath before ordained that we should walk in them, Eph. 2:10.

Conclusion

Amazing indeed is the program Yahweh has for those He has called out of this world for His special purpose. Many who have been called simply do not realize they are being given the opportunity for a special work that is out of this world. It all began with Abraham shortly after creation, and will continue to grow until the called and chosen are all

selected and prepared. We await Yahshua's return as He restores all things,

Unto him be glory in the [assembly] by Messiah Yahshua throughout all ages, world without end, Eph. 3:21.

Pentecost is one of the three Pilgrim Feasts but has more New Covenant changes than either Unleavened Bread or Tabernacles. It is the true spiritual message we should grasp and live by as we watch for Yahshua's return.

Elders Donald R. Mansager (deceased) and Roger G. Meyer

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Mini-Study



Why Biblical Law?

A lesson from the Potter

THE POTTER stretched his wetted hand over the lump of clay as he started rotating the large stone wheel. Turning it slowly with his feet, he formed the revolving mass until a rounded shape began rising from the miry clump.

Adding water from time to time, the potter skillfully smoothed out the softened clay, eliminating minor imperfections.

What was once a shapeless blob on the wheel soon became a sleek, pliant jar in the deft hands of the potter.

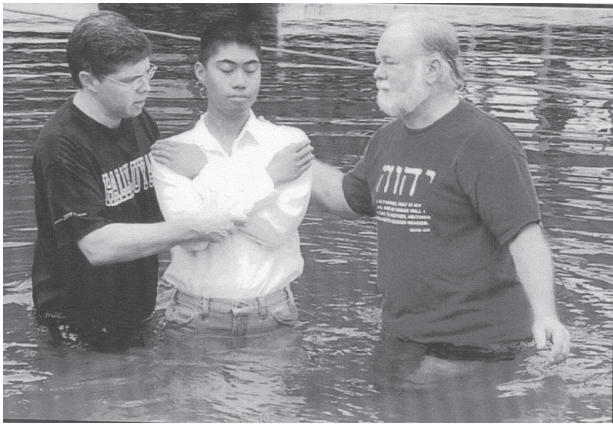
Next would come the firing of the kiln to bake permanently the shaped clay into a usable jar.

We in the Hands of the Maker

Have you ever considered looking at mankind through our Creator's eyes? He evidently sees humans as vessels of clay that can eventually be transformed into something wonderful and precious.

Paul addresses this concept in Romans 9:21, *"Has not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor?"*

We are clay in the hands of the Master Potter. He can mold of us whatever He wills. We are all individuals, each different from all others. We are unique beings on this earth,



Baptism in the Name of Yahshua

In the previous issue of YAIY Beacon, I discussed Matthew 5:17 – "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill" – which dealt with exactly what "fulfill" meant. Additionally, in the time of Yahshua, there existed a Hebrew idiom, crucial to understanding what Yahshua was communicating to those charged with the responsibility of guarding the Law – the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees. When He told the religious leaders not to even think that He came to destroy the Law but to fulfill the Law, He was using an idiom to argue the correct interpretation of Torah. The phrase, "To destroy the Law," meant, in the Hebrew mind, to MISINTERPRET the Law. Likewise, to "fulfill the Law" meant to CORRECTLY INTERPRET the Law. For example, a Rabbi who disagreed with another Rabbi, might say, "You are destroying the law!" Similarly, a Rabbi who agreed with another Rabbi might say, "You are fulfilling the law!" So, when Yahshua said, "He did not come to destroy the Law or the Prophets but to fulfill them," He is effectively, in context, saying, "I have not brought a false interpretation of the Law or the Prophets; rather, I am demonstrating their correct interpretation."

Interpretation Through Demonstration

How did Yahshua the Messiah "demonstrate the correct interpretation of the Law and the Prophets"? Through His actions! Every moment of His life here on earth was a demonstration of the correct interpretation of the Law and the Prophets! The false Scriptural interpretations made by the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees, lead to the false doctrines they established, and thus their behavior demonstrated that which destroys the Law and the Prophets. Examples, in Scriptures, are plentiful.

You have made the commandment of Yahweh of no effect by your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did

Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men," Matthew 15:6-9.

It is time for You to act, O Yahweh, for they have regarded Your law as void, Psalm 119:126.

How can you say, "We are wise, and the law of Yahweh is with us"? Look, the false pen of the scribe certainly works falsehood. The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken. Behold, they have rejected the word of Yahweh; so what wisdom do they have? (Jeremiah 8:8-9.)

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your Elohim, I also will forget your children, Hosea 4:6 NKJV.

"For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, and people should seek the law from his mouth; for he is the messenger of Yahweh of hosts. But you have departed from the way; you have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi," says Yahweh of hosts. "Therefore, I also have made you contemptible and base before all the people, because you have not kept My ways but have shown partiality in the law," Malachi 2:7-9.

Partiality in the Law

Let me ask you, "What is partiality?" The thesaurus says that partiality is synonymous with the words, "bias, prejudice, preconception, preference, predilection and inclination." Yahweh, through His Prophet, Malachi, is chastising the priests of Israel for their self-preferential and incorrect prejudice in teaching the Law of Yahweh. Comparatively, Yahweh is chastising the pastors, priests, ministers and shepherds of today who say they are teaching His Way, His Word and His Law, while, in fact, they are teaching a distorted, biased, prejudiced, precon-

ceived and preferential doctrines, many of which were founded in 325 CE at the Council of Nicaea.

Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law, Romans 3:31.

Paul is saying that faith establishes the Law. But, faith in what? I submit to you that, as Paul was a master of the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings, he holds strongly to the Word of Yahweh.

How long, you simple ones [the word translated "simple" comes from the Hebrew word, pethah, which means deluded]; How long, you deluded ones will you love delusion? For scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge. Turn [The Hebrew word is shuwb - Literally, "return to the starting point"] at My rebuke; surely I will pour out My spirit on you; I will make My words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, because I have stretched out My hand and no one regarded, because you disdained all My counsel, and would have none of My rebuke - I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your terror comes [properly, "when the object of your fear comes"]; when your terror comes like a storm, and your destruction comes [This Hebrew word for "destruction" is shoah; and if you remember, it is what is now translated Holocaust.] like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. THEN, they will call on Me. But, I will not answer; they will seek Me diligently, but they will not find Me, because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of Yahweh; they would have none of My counsel and despised My every rebuke. Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way, and be filled to the full with their own fancies. For the turning away of the deluded will slay them, and the complacency of fools [literally, fat ones; so, we read], ... and the complacency of the fat ones will

destroy them; but whoever listens to Me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil, Proverbs 1:22-33 NKJV.

Pointing to Yahshua

Virtually all churches in Christendom refer to the prophecies concerning the Messiah. In the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings, the Messiah was prophesied to be:

A descendant of Abraham; a descendant of David; a prophet like Moses; the Son of Yahweh; born at Bethlehem; born by a virgin; prophesied to come at a specific time; called a Nazarene; the "stone the builders rejected"; the "head cornerstone"; the One Who would heal the lame, the blind and the deaf; preaching first in Galilee; silent in the face of His accusers; hated for no cause; falsely accused;

betrayed by a friend; sold for thirty pieces of silver; scourged, spat upon, mocked and hair pulled from beard; pierced, hands and feet; nailed to a tree; men will cast lots for His garment; bones will not be broken; forsaken by His disciples; resurrected after 3 days in the belly of the earth (often leaving out the 3 nights); and ascend to Heaven and sit at the Right Hand of Yahweh

All of these prophecies are true and described in the literature written by members of the major religion of the world. But I ask you, why do we not find these "New Testament" authors writing about the most significant prophecies found in the Torah, Prophets and Writings or even in the New Testament?

Why do we not see a list of fulfilled prophecies that includes the Sacrifice of the Lamb of Yahweh, celebrated as Passover? Why do we not see a list of fulfilled prophecies that includes the removal of leavening, the taking away of our sins at baptism, celebrated as The Feast of Unleavened Bread? Why do we not see a list of fulfilled prophecies that includes the ascent of Yahshua into Heaven and return to earth in His spiritual body, called the Sheaf Wave Offering? Why do we not see a list of fulfilled prophecies that includes the counting until the Law and the Spirit are put into the hearts and minds of mankind, celebrated as The Feast of Weeks, or Pentecost?

We don't see the Feast Days of Yahweh in a Christian list of prophecies fulfilled by the Messiah, because most of the traditions of Christianity were created by people who hated anything that looked "Jewish" or written in Hebrew. Here are just a few examples (out of hundreds) of this prejudice:

c. 240 CE - Origen of Alexandria writes that the Jews "have committed the most abominable of crimes" in conspiring against Christ, and for that reason "the Jewish nation was driven from its country, and another

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Mini Study



THE AUTHORITY TO BAPTIZE

Does one walk into the neighborhood church and pick out a man in the congregation to officiate at the baptism? Of course not. That's the minister's responsibility. Yet some believe that anyone immersed into Yahshua's Name has the authority to go out and baptize as well, whether ordained or not. Is this so?

Within a very short time of deep Bible study, a sincere seeker of Bible truth feels an inner compulsion to be baptized. Baptism is an obligation we eagerly fulfill. The example of the Savior shows that He Himself was baptized by John the Baptist as the ultimate example for us:

"And Yahshua answering said unto him, Suffer [it to be so] now: for thus it becomes us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. And Yahshua, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of Elohim descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Matt. 3:15-17)

Yahshua Himself submitted to baptism as the pattern for us. We are to walk in His footsteps, 1 Peter 2:21. We are to do what He did. Even though He was sinless, Yahshua requested baptism by John who was of the priesthood. John protested that it should be the other way around. Yahshua should baptize John. Our Savior insisted that for now it was proper that He should be baptized by John.

At His baptism Yahshua was publicly recognized by Yahweh as His beloved Son. This obviously is also a sign for us that upon being immersed into Yahshua's Name we also are acknowledged as

people was called by God to the blessed election." [Talk about proof texting!]

In 248 – St. Cyprian writes that "the Jews have fallen under the heavy wrath of God, because they have departed from the Lord, and have followed idols." [Proof texting!]

c. 380 CE – St. Gregory of Nyssa refers to the Jews as "murderers of the Lord, assassins of the prophets, rebels and detesters of God ... companions of the devil, race of vipers, informers, calumniators, darkeners of the mind, pharisaic leaven, Sanhedrin of demons, accursed, detested ... enemies of all that is beautiful." [Proof texting!]

In 400 – St. Augustine writes: "the Church admits and avows the Jewish people to be cursed, because after killing Christ they continue to till the ground of an earthly circumcision, an earthly Sabbath, an earthly passover ... for it is revealed in the New Testament. While they will not turn to God, the veil which is on their minds in reading the Old Testament is not taken away ... the Jewish people, like Cain [? Here, St. Augustine is accusing all Jewish people as murderers], continue tilling the ground, in the carnal observance of the law, which does not yield to them its strength, because they do not perceive in it the grace of Christ." [Proof texting! Proof texting! Proof texting!]

In 768 – Pope Stephen IV decries [condemns] ownership of hereditary estates by "the Jewish people, ever rebellious against God and derogatory of our rites."

c. 1010-1020 – In Rouen, Orléans, Limoges [and] Mainz ... Jews are converted by force, massacred, or expelled.

In 1081 – Pope Gregory VII writes to King Alphonso of Spain telling him that if he allows Jews to be lords over Christians, he is oppressing the Church and exalting "the Synagogue of Satan." [Proof

texting!]

In 1096 – Massacres of Jews take place in the First Crusade, destroying entire Jewish communities in Mainz, Speyer, Worms, Cologne and other cities. The Jewish chronicler reports: "The enemies stripped them naked and dragged them off, granting quarter to none, save those few who accepted baptism. The number of the slain was eight hundred in these two days." The chronicler Guibert de Nogent reports that the Rouen Crusaders said: "We desire to go and fight God's enemies in the East; but we have before our eyes certain Jews, a race more inimical to God than any other."

c. 1270 – St. Thomas Aquinas writes that the Jews sin more in their unbelief than do pagans be-

cause they have abandoned the way of justice "after knowing it in some way."

By the year 1200, Jews had been expelled from France, England, southern Italy and parts of Germany and Austria.

In 1320 – The "Shepherds' Crusade." A Christian chronicler records: "The shepherds laid siege to all the Jews who had come from all sides to take refuge ... the Jews defended themselves heroically ... but their resistance served no purpose, for the shepherds slaughtered a great number of the besieged Jews by smoke and by fire ... The Jews, realizing that they would not escape alive, preferred to kill themselves ... They chose one of their number (and) this man put some five hundred of them to death, with their consent. He then descended from the castle tower with the few Jewish children who still remained alive ... They killed him by quartering. They spared the children, whom they made Catholics by baptism."

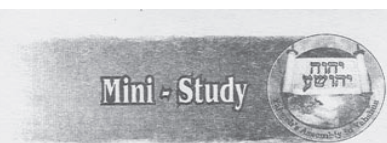
In 1347-1350 – During the Black Death, Jews are accused of poisoning wells in order to overthrow Christendom, and many thousands of Jews are killed.

In 1492 – After forcing many Jews to be baptized and then referring to them as Marranos (swine), and after an Inquisition in which some 700 Marranos were burnt at the stake for showing signs of "Jewish" taint, Spain expels all Jews from the country.

Fast-forwarding to 1921 - Speaking for Pope Benedict XV, a Vatican spokesman informed representatives of the Zionist Movement that they did not wish to assist "the Jewish race, which is permeated with a revolutionary and rebellious spirit," to gain control over the Holy Land.

As for the 1940's, we all know that anti-Jewish sentiment among Christians and politicians led to the Holocaust, which is well-documented and unnecessary to ex-

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BAPTISM'S DEEPER MEANING

Baptism is undoubtedly the most important decision one can make on this earth. Because our future is determined by it, we should be alert to all its conditions and significance. In the following study we will seek a deeper meaning of baptism according to Yahweh's word. We should comprehend what baptism accomplishes and seek to ensure our baptism is approved by Yahweh. Furthermore, we should know what to expect upon being baptized, for it is the foundation-stone of the promised salvation given us through our Savior Yahshua.

From time to time we all have realized how far we have fallen from the high expectations of Yahweh's word, and felt we were the lost generation much like those Peter was preaching to. When the Jews in Acts chapter two realized it was their sins which put the Savior to death, they asked, "What can we do?"

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua Messiah for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as Yahweh our Elohim shall call." (Acts 2:38-39 AV)

BAPTISM IN THE ONLY NAME

Most baptisms done throughout churchianity are done according to Matthew 28:19, "In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit." However, not one of these is a name, but only a title. There are many "fathers" on this earth, and all of us have a human father. Fathers are also sons, as are all males. The Holy Spirit is the power emanating from Yahweh, and shared by the Son. A number of scholars believe this verse is spurious, including the Catholic Jerusalem Bible. (For a deeper study of this verse, request your copy of our mini-study, "Trinitarian Baptism And Matthew 28:19.")

pand upon.

In 1965 – The Second Vatican Council issues its Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions: "True, authorities of the Jews and those who followed their lead pressed for the death of Christ; still, what happened in His passion cannot be blamed upon all the Jews then living, without distinction, nor upon the Jews of today ... The Jews should not be presented as repudiated or cursed by God ... The Church decries hatred, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism, directed against Jews at any time and by anyone."

And in the year 2000 – Pope John Paul II visits Israel. He pays tribute to the victims of the Holocaust at Yad Vashem (the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority), and he leaves the following prayer between the ancient stones of the Western Wall in Jerusalem:

"God of our fathers, you chose Abraham and his descendants to bring your Name to the Nations [Let me read that again] You chose Abraham and his descendants to bring your Name to the Nations: we are deeply saddened by the behavior of those who in the course of history have caused these children of yours to suffer, and asking your forgiveness we wish to commit ourselves to genuine brotherhood with the people of the Covenant."

Now, in reference to the above statement acknowledging that, "Abraham and his descendants were chosen to bring the name of Yahweh to the Nations"; in 2009, the Pope issued a decree that the NAME of Yahweh will not be uttered in their liturgy, in deference to Jewish tradition.

If efforts were made, since 1965, to reduce antisemitism, then why do we not see Passover, Unleavened Bread, the Sheaf Wave Offering and the Feast of Weeks added to the list of fulfilled prophecies?

I will tell you why. For the same

reason we do not see prophecies that ARE YET TO BE fulfilled, according to Scripture! And, these are: the return of the Messiah, called the Day of Trumpets; the gathering of the Lost Sheep of the House of Israel and the House of Judah, called the Day of Atonement; the entering into the Kingdom of Heaven, the New Jerusalem, called the Feast of Tabernacles; and the White Throne Judgment, when all evil is thrown into the Lake of Fire, which is called the Last Great Day! It is seen as JEWISH! "Heaven forbid" we entertain the notion that the Feasts of Yahweh [not the "Feasts of the Jews"] are prophetic celebrations and rehearsals for Yahweh's Plan of Salvation, of which ALL of the FEASTS are about the Messiah Yahshua!

Jewish

I submit to you that, in spite of the last 45 years in which people have been entertaining the idea that we should not hate the Jews, the past 1,800 years of persecution of the people of the Covenant – which includes the persecution of the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings – has instilled within most Christians, if not within all of mankind, an almost "natural" prejudice against anything that looks like or sounds like something "Jewish."

It is this prejudice (much of it subconscious) that has instigated, established, maintained and supported doctrines contrary to the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings from its onset. This prejudice has given rise to doctrines within the most popular religion in the world that, "the Law of the Jews, the Law of Moses, including the 7th day Sabbath and all their festivals, have been done away with, because 'Jesus has fulfilled everything'" [a reference to Matthew 5:17]. It is taught that, "We, of the faith, will be raptured out of the world before the Tribulation comes to do away with the wicked." And who are the wicked? "Those who do not believe in 'Jesus.' We are saved and nothing we do can change that! We've made it; we're in, and someday we'll meet our family in Heaven. Halleluyah! Praise the Lord!"

These doctrines are false. If we repeat a lie enough times, it becomes the truth, especially if everyone around us is doing the same thing. These false doctrines are the creation of men seeking power and authority, who want things done THEIR way and not the way of our Heavenly Father. False doctrines have become part of our culture, part of our lives. Upon them, we, as a Christian nation, attach the warmth of family gatherings, security, bondedness and yes, love and hope. These are feelings that mankind cannot live without. To change them, to take these traditions away,

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Mini - Study



Before And After Baptism

What You Need to Know and Why

is heart-breaking. I understand.

Changing

To entertain a change in belief immediately puts us in a state of fear, guilt, powerlessness and confusion. Every fiber of our bodies wants to reject change. Why? Because we want to survive. The urge to survive is built within us; it is the most natural instinct we are given. And, because we are thinking beings, the most serious threat to our being, our life, is a change in our thinking. Security to us humans is, "everything today is just the same as it was yesterday." What happens when we move to a different house or a different state? What happens when we get fired and can't find a job? We don't like change. And, since even our MORALS are based on religious beliefs, we especially don't want to change the interpretation of our religious texts. Satan takes great pleasure in manipulating the establishment of doctrinal differences. And what are doctrinal differences except changes in interpretation of religious texts. This, of course, leads to arguing, fighting, warring and even killing. What nations, warring against one another, do not believe that, "God is on our side"?

So. Now that I've fully dispelled any hope of changing this world to accept Scripture the way WE interpret it, let me just say that the obvious truth is, we have NO power to change others' minds and hearts. Does that mean we should stop preaching the Word according to how we see it? No. In fact, for there is even a better reason to continue teaching what we are convicted of. We are given the Great Commission, as stated in Matthew 28:18-20:

And Yahshua came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in My name of the Father and

of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

I must advise you, however, of a perversion in this rendering of or no-longer-existing Greek manuscripts, by Latin scribes seeking to manipulate the text to support their doctrinal stance. From the "De vita Constantini, IV, 37", we read, "According to [the historian] Tischendorf, Codex Sinaiticus was one of the fifty copies of the Bible commissioned from Eusebius by Roman Emperor Constatine after his conversion to Christianity." From Milne and Skeat's 1938 text, Scribes and Correctors of Codex Sinaiticus, we read, "Between the 4th and 12th centuries, seven or more correctors worked on this co-

dex, making it one of the most corrected manuscripts in existence." Bruce Metzger, in 1991, wrote in Manuscripts of the Greek Bible: An Introduction to Palaeography, "Tischendorf during his investigation in Petersburg enumerated 14,800 corrections only in the portion which was held in Petersburg (2/3 of the codex). Tischendorf also believed that four separate scribes copied the work ... and that five correctors ... amended portions."

To further support my assertion, I offer several historical writings in the Dictionary of Christian Biography and Literature, where we find, written by F.C. Conybeare [kon'i-bay-ahr'], in the Hibbert Journal, October 1902, the following:

"Of the patristic [fatherly] witnesses to the text of the New Testament as it stood in the Greek Manuscripts from about 300-340 A.D., none is so important as Eusebius of Caesurae, for he lived in the greatest Christian Library of that age; that, namely which Origen and Pamphilus had collected. It is no exaggeration to say from this single collection of manuscripts at Caesurae derives the larger part of the surviving ante-Nicene literature [that is, after the year 325]. In his Library, Eusebius must have habitually handled codices of the gospels older by two hundred years than the earliest of the great uncials that we have now in our libraries." [the word, *un'-shial*, refers to a form of lettering found in Greek and Latin manuscripts from the 3rd to the 9th centuries, - from 200 to 800 BC]

Conybeare continues:

"According to Ludwig Knupfer, the editor of the Christadelphian *Mo natshefte**, Eusebius, among his many other writings, compiled a file of corrupted variations of the Holy Scriptures, and ... the most serious of all the falsifications denounced by him, is without doubt the traditional reading of Matthew 28:19." [The verse we just read above, which we'll come back to.]

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Mini-Study



TRINITARIAN BAPTISM AND MATTHEW 28:19

Many have been baptized into a trinitarian formula, basing their actions on Matthew 28:19. Now learn the facts about this verse and the proper prescription for immersion.

A profound feeling of guilt swept over the Apostle Peter's audience. Those gathered learned that it was their breaking of Yahweh's law (their sin, 1 John 3:4) that caused the Savior's death! A feeling of despair overwhelmed them and they earnestly and urgently asked Peter, "What must we do?"

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Yahshua the Messiah for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)

Baptism is the initial, compelling act one considers after learning of one's own sinful record. Baptism is a willing, voluntary step assumed by a contrite heart, seeking spiritual restoration and the grace and forgiveness freely promised us by the Heavenly Father through His Son.

Israelites were brought into the Covenant through involuntary circumcision at infancy. Today, the New Covenant is entered into of one's own volition.

Sadly, not everyone who is called to be grafted into the Abrahamic promise willingly responds. Some may turn their backs upon Yahweh's invitation and though called, are not chosen.

"So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many are called, but few chosen." (Matt. 20:16)

To the dutiful, seeking Bible student, the question is often raised, "Unto what are we to be baptized?" This very question was foremost among many of the

Conybeare's source material has been lost, as he later wrote:

"... through events of war I have lost all of my files and other materials connected with the magazine. But various authorities mention a work entitled *Discrepancies in the Gospels*, and another work entitled *The Concluding Sections of the Gospels*."

According to Conybeare:

"Eusebius cites this text (Matt. 28:19) again and again in works written between 300 and 336, namely in his long commentaries on the Psalms, on Isaiah, his *Demonstratio Evangelica*, his *Theophany* ... in his famous history of the Church, and in his pan•e•gyr•ic [meaning extravagant praise] of the emperor Constantine. I have, after a moderate search in these works of Eusebius, found eighteen citations of Matthew 28:19, and always in the following form: 'Go ye and make disciples of all the nations in My name, teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I commanded you.'"

Therefore, if Eusebius and those attesting to his credibility are correct, Matthew 28:18-20 should read, by virtue of the historical writings closest to the oldest texts:

And Yahshua came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in My name, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

What is missing in this correct translation of the words of Yahshua about baptism? The phrase, in "the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." This phrase was added to Scripture. Why? To support the false doctrine of the "Trinity," formally established in 325 AD, as part of the Roman Catholic Church.

In Ivor Davidson's *The Birth of*

the Church, he wrote, "Catholic Christianity was legalized in 313 [AD] under Constantine's Edict of Milan, and declared the state religion of the Empire in 380 [AD]. From M'Clintock and Strong's Cyclopaedia, we read, "After its legalization, a number of doctrinal disputes led to the calling of ecumenical councils. The first seven Ecumenical Councils, from the First Council of Nicaea (in 325 [AD]) to the Second Council of Nicaea (in 787 [AD]), sought to reach an orthodox consensus and to establish a unified Christendom [that is, a 'traditional standard faith']. The doctrinal formulations resulting from these ecumenical councils were pivotal in the history of Christianity."

From the *Encarta Dictionary*, the word, "ecumenical," relating to the councils that formulated Catholicism, means "involving, or promoting the unity of different Christian churches and groups." Historically, and in the present times, the Roman Catholic Church continues to develop the doctrine of ecumenism, the same format used at the first Ecumenical Council at Nicaea. They are continuing to create a consensus within all Christian Churches – based on Catholic doctrines. And why not? Christianity, claiming NOT to be connected to Catholicism, retains Catholic doctrines in the form of Sunday worship in place of the Scriptural Sabbath, Christmas to New Years in place of the High Sabbath of the Feast of Tabernacles to the Last Great Day, Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday in place of Passover to the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and St. Patrick's day, Valentine's day, and Halloween on All Saints Day.

From *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* (Oxford University Press, 2005), we read, "Since the beginning of the third century the doctrine of the Trinity has been stated as "the one God exists in three Persons and one substance, Father, Son, and

Holy Spirit. Trinitarianism, belief in the Trinity, is a mark of Roman Catholicism, Eastern and Oriental Orthodoxy as well as of the "mainstream traditions arising from the Protestant Reformation, such as Anglicanism, Baptist, Methodism, Lutheranism and Presbyterianism. The *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* describes the Trinity as 'the central dogma of Christian theology'."

Baptism In Yahshua's Name

Are there Scriptural witnesses to the fact that baptism is to be done in the name of Yahshua, and not in the Trinitarian doctrine of "the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost"?

For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: "Yahweh said to my Master, 'Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.' Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that Yahweh has made this Yahshua, whom you executed, both Master and Messiah." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Yahshua the Messiah for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as Yahweh our Elohim will call," Acts 2:34-39.

Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of Yahweh, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet the Holy Spirit had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Master Yahshua. Then they laid hands on

<see **Baptism** page 22>

Conforming to the Spirit

(Spirit vs. Flesh)

We will understand, if we don't already, that it is Yahweh's Spirit at work to accomplish and finish the work He has started in the Body of Messiah.

And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak," Matthew 26:40-41 NASB.

Yahshua, in the Garden of Gethsemane, though grieved, appeared that He was teaching a profound truth about the difference between the Spirit and the flesh. It could also be that He's not speaking directly about the Spirit of Yahweh, but more of the mind and spirit of a person which is different than just the flesh of a person. The disciples, for example, were willing to come and submit to the Master, but their flesh was weak and caused them to sleep.

After the death and resurrection of Yahshua, the actual Spirit of Yahweh was offered. It's the same Spirit Yahshua had. If we consider this particular Scripture verse, He could have been referring to Himself versus His disciples.

Nevertheless, their weakness would be helped by the Spirit Yahshua would soon provide. It was foretold to happen, and we are now witnesses to the fact some 2000 years later.

New Covenant

"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares Yahweh: "I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their Elohim, and they shall be My people," Jeremiah 31:33 ESV.

This is speaking about the Spirit being given to us today in the New Covenant. Different than just being told about the Law of Yahweh, it will be written on our hearts by the very Spirit of Yahweh, to submit to His ways, laws, statutes, and judgments. This very thing we read about in Ezekiel 36:26, which is a bit of a parallel prophecy speaking of what the purpose for the Spirit being given to us is.

Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh, NASU.

King David had this Spirit given to him. It was a special thing back at that time for anyone to have

Yahweh's Spirit so intimately within their lives.

We read of what David said in Psalm 40:8 NASB,

I delight to do Your will, O my Elohim; your Law is within my heart.

The Spirit was helping him to be obedient, and the Spirit is given to us for the same reason.

With us, it is a cutting of a New Covenant, through Yahshua's sacrifice, which provides not only all the help we need to overcome the world and ourselves, but also to receive the promise of eternal life.

The Spirit Given Within

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you, John 14:16–17 NKJV.

How can we conform to the Spirit unless we recognize it working within us? We can start by being obedient to Yahweh's Word.

The outpouring received in the 1st century by the disciples was so strong they could perceive it and recognized it dwelling within them. Otherwise, the Apostle John wouldn't have spoken as matter of fact saying, "you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."

Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what Yahweh's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, Ephesians 5:17–18 NIV.

If a person is filled with wine, then, obviously, they will recognize they are filled with wine. Hence, if a person is filled with the Spirit of Yahweh, they will recognize that they are. Others should also recognize it, by the actions of the person. What are those actions?

Fruit of The Spirit

Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us, 1 John 3:24 NKJV.

As a person is called by Yahweh and seeks Him with their whole heart, they will start to be obedient to Him. Through the gift of the Spirit, they will be even more engrafted into the law of Yahweh and His

ways, because the Spirit is guiding and directing their heart and mind.

This is why Yahshua said that He did nothing of Himself, but only the will of Him Who sent Him. The reason for this is that He had the fullness of Yahweh's Spirit.

We're given a down payment of this Spirit when we were baptized. Through obedience, it should be growing within us so that we recognize it and submit and conform to it. And by doing so, we'll walk as Yahshua walked, because we'll be conforming to Him as He submitted to the Spirit of Yahweh producing the fruit of the Spirit.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from Whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Messiah may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Messiah that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of Elohim, Ephesians 3:14-21 ESV.

Do You Understand?

Do you really understand? If you do not recognize the working of the Spirit within you and in your life, helping you to be obedient to the Father in the Messiah Yahshua, then it's time to fast and pray more earnestly for spiritual growth.

It's time to examine your life and see what things there might be that are hindering growth of Yahweh's Spirit within you. We're speaking, of course, not only to those who are baptized, but also those who are being called to bow their knees and hearts before Yahweh and ask for the help of His Spirit to be present in their lives to help them come to full repentance and submission

to His ways and to be baptized and have that same Spirit implanted deep within the heart (which is, essentially, the core being of the person).

Don't go back to sin, which is promoted through Satan's spiritual influence.

Flesh Brings Death

And you were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once lived in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, as also the rest, Ephesians 2:1-3 TS.

"Son's of disobedience" is not a title we want. We want the title of "obedient children"; we want the title of "Saints." It's ours if we submit to Yahweh's Spirit, even the title "children of Yahweh."

Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of Elohim is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them, Colossians 3:5-7 NKJV.

If we are no longer living in them, then we are doing well, but if not, we must die. That is what Scripture says in Romans 8:13-14 TS:

For if you live according to the flesh, you are going to die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of Elohim, these are sons of Elohim. .

Living According to the Flesh

So, what does it mean to live according to the flesh?

We read in Galatians 5:19-21 NIV,

The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of Elohim.

In living a life for Yahweh, we must overcome our former life of sin and put it far behind us.

Doing this is accomplished through the indwelling of the Spirit of Yahweh and our humble submissive attitude toward Him.

Overcoming the Flesh, with The Spirit

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace, Romans 8:5-6 NIV.

How important is it to recognize the Spirit within us and submit and conform to it? Overcoming the flesh with the Spirit brings life, even eternal life. The opposite is true concerning the flesh and living according to it.

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please, Galatians 5:16-17 NASB.

If the Spirit is in opposition to the flesh, then the Spirit is going to help prevent you from living in the flesh. But, this is done only if you make the decision to live according to the Spirit. This means you must recognize that Yahweh's Spirit is working within you and then conforming to the Spirit of Yahweh.

Otherwise, you will be conforming to the influence of satan and carrying out the things of the flesh which leads to death, even eternal death.

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not, Galatians 6:8-9 KJV.

If we sow to the Spirit, if we submit and conform, then we won't faint, we won't give up and walk away. Remember, "if" is conditional.

Additionally, we'll also gain the spiritual attributes above and beyond the basic laws of Yahweh. We'll be growing in the very character of Yahweh and of the Messiah.

Emphasizing the Spiritual

Therefore, as the elect of Elohim, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Messiah forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Elohim rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Messiah dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Master, Colossians 3:12-16 NKJV.

Emphasizing the spiritual attributes within our lives by conforming to the Spirit is one of the greatest blessings in this life, because it is these attributes and character traits of the Spirit which we can take with us into eternal life.

All the negative and wrong fleshly attributes will be left behind. So,

it's important to understand what the fruit of the Spirit is and have these things in abundance.

No Laws Against These

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law, Galatians 5:22-23 NIV.

There is no law stating you cannot have love or joy or peace. In fact, obeying the law in many respects produces these very things.

Think of it this way: the Spirit helps one to keep the law of Yahweh which in return produces the fruit of the Spirit. Conforming to the Spirit of Yahweh helps us to conform to the law, which in turn produces good character traits which can be taken into eternal life.

To say, however, that we can just conform to the law of Yahweh and be saved is not accurate because we are only saved through Yahshua's sacrifice. This is why the saints are said to have both attributes of commandment keeping and also hold to the testimony and faith of Yahshua in both Revelation 12:17 and 14:12.

So the dragon was enraged with

the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of Yahweh and hold to the testimony of Yahshua, Rev. 12:17 NASU.

Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of Yahweh and their faith in Yahshua, Rev. 14:12 ASU.

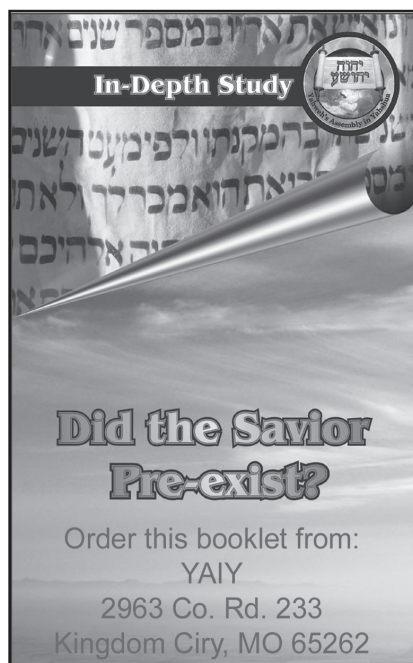
We need to be obedient, we need to also have faith that Yahshua's sacrifice cleansed us from our previous sins.

And for this reason do your utmost to add to your belief uprightness, to uprightness knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control endurance, to endurance reverence, to reverence brotherly affection, and to brotherly affection love. For if these are in you and increase, they cause you to be neither inactive nor without fruit in the knowledge of our Master Yahshua Messiah. For he in whom these are not present is blind, being short-sighted, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his old sins, 2 Peter 1:5-9 TS.

This says a lot; it says that the law wasn't done away with when you consider that "old sins" is law-breaking, 1 John 3:4. You also cannot have uprightness without obedience to the commandments of Yahweh.

If anyone loves Me, he shall guard My Word. And My Father shall love him, and We shall come to him and make Our stay with him. He who does not love Me does not guard My Words. And the Word which you hear is not Mine but of the Father Who sent Me. These Words I have spoken to you while still with you. But the Helper, the Set-apart Spirit, whom the Father shall send in My Name, He shall teach you all, and remind you of all that I said to you, John 14:23-26 TS.

It's said that the word of Yahweh is as a double-edged sword, able to discern and judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hence,



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if you are about to step out of line and Yahweh's Spirit is strong within you, you will be reminded of the Master's own words.

Confirming and Conforming

We do believe this is applicable to us today and not just to the disciples of the 1st century. The question is, will we conform to the Spirit of Yahweh, which is also found in Yahshua the Messiah? That is, in such a way that we will be able to discern the Spirit and the Master in our own lives and receive the help we need.

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Messiah, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Yahshua Messiah, to the glory and praise of Elohim, Philippians 1:9-11 ESV.

It cannot be emphasized enough that we need to conform to the Spirit and to Yahweh's ways by walking in the Master's footsteps.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you prove what is that good and well-pleasing and perfect desire of Elohim, Romans 12:2 TS.

The renewing of our minds means to conform to Yahweh's Spirit and ways of living this life and the next. Not just talking the talk but thinking it and walking it.

We've talked about maturing in the stature of Messiah. What we're talking about is growing in the Spirit and being as the Messiah in word and action. We are still individuals with individual

problems. But, we should be individuals who are allowing the Messiah to grow within us as we confirm we are in Messiah.

Into His Image

We read the Apostle Paul saying in Galatians 4:19 YLT,

My little children, of whom again I travail in birth, till Messiah may be formed in you.

The Apostle Paul was in anguish, like birth pains, trying to make sure he was doing all that he could to encourage the brethren to grow in Messiah, or as he put it here, that "Messiah may be formed in you." This is quite a dramatic and profound statement, which is founded in fact.

It is the reality we find today, that Yahshua is in us and helping us to grow and He Himself is growing within us.

Paul spoke about how Moses had to cover himself to prevent the esteem of Yahweh from being viewed and overwhelming the people when he had come down from the presence of Yahweh. But, today, we have a portion of the Shekinah glory and presence within us through the Messiah.

So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of Yahweh. And Yah-

weh—Who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like Him as we are changed into His glorious image, 2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT.

A whole debate could take place at this point about the so called "Trinity," but we hope and trust we do not need to continue to argue or debate what the Spirit is. Scripture says Yahweh is the Spirit. It's the Spirit by which the Messiah lives and by which we can also live if we submit to Yahweh. See our in-depth studies on, "The Truth about the Trinity" and "Did the Savior Pre-exist?"

Exact Representation

Beloved ones, now we are children of Elohim. And it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is, 1 John 3:2 NKJV.

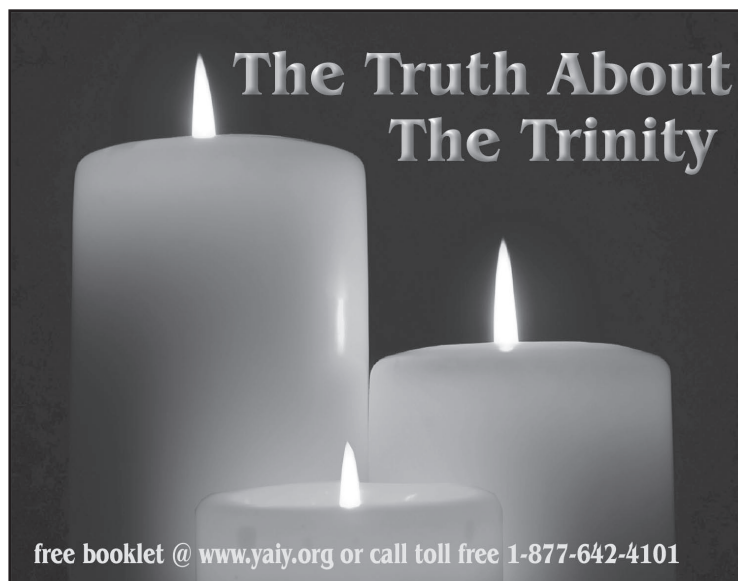
Yahshua, of course, is the exact representation of Yahweh. He is now at His right hand, is also, through the power of Yahweh's Spirit, able to be in us.

This same Scripture verse is somewhat related to what Paul was saying here:

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known, 1 Corinthians 13:12 NASB.

We are fully known to Messiah and also to Yahweh, but we will not fully and completely know Them until Yahshua returns and we are changed in a twinkling of an eye. In the mean time, we have an opportunity to conform to and to grow in Messiah in the Spirit of Yahweh. This means we will be growing in

<see **Spirit** page 22>



QUESTION & ANSWER

Q I read in one of your newsletters that there is still the physical Torah today, even though there is no temple today. How are we to conduct the Passover today if there is no temple? There are specific instructions in the Torah concerning where it should be offered, etc.

A This is part of the discernment in Yahshua, because the emblems are emphasized by Him and also by Paul who wrote most of the New Testament letters. In fact, Paul basically says eat at home if you're hungry (1 Cor. 11:34), but only quoted the emblems (1 Cor. 11:24-25) to teach the brethren this point of them coming together. Yahshua prophesied about the period of time we're in now to the Samaritan woman at the well in John chapter 4. We are to worship Yahweh in Spirit and in Truth. Certain aspects of the law have changed for us today, and we are to be obedient to the best of our abilities in His Spirit. There are those who will be on the wrong side of the fence when Yahshua returns.

Not every one that saith unto me, Master, Master, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Master, Master, have we not prophesied in Thy name? And in Thy name have cast out devils? And in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity, Matt. 7:21-23.

We find in Deuteronomy, it specifically instructs that Passover is to be kept where Yahweh places His Name.

Thou mayest not sacrifice the Passover within any of thy gates, which Yahweh thy Elohim giveth thee: but at the place which Yahweh thy Elohim shall choose to place His name in, there thou shalt sacrifice the Passover at even, at the going down of the sun, at the season that thou camest forth out of Egypt, Deut. 16:5-6.

Also, with the assembly structure set up today, under instruction of 1 Timothy 1&2 and Titus, we find Yahweh's Name and a place to keep the New Testament Passover Memorial, in remembrance of Yahshua.

In Ezekiel chapter 40 and on, we see indication that the Levitical priesthood will be restored and the physical people will be required

to keep Passover as was done previously. They will learn for 1000 years. Hope we are there to help the people, as they live their lives, Yahweh's way, in the Kingdom of Yahweh, Isa. 30:20-21. Concerning Passover, Yahshua said to perform the Passover today in remembrance of Him,

And He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is My body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of Me, Luke 22:19.

It does not include the Passover Seder, as is performed by Messianic Jews today, who use 4 glasses of wine and have jelly donuts, along with eggs, and the like. That is tradition, plain and simple, and not of Yahweh.

Q Are the Palestinians in Jerusalem today the Jebusites mentioned in Joshua 15:63 and Judges 1:21? Or, rather, are the Palestinians of today the Philistines of old? In Exodus 23:32-33 Yahweh states not to make a covenant with the Philistines nor let them dwell in their land. Does this hold true today with the Palestinians?

A When Israel crossed the Jordan, they were told to kill off the seven vile nations in the land and let none survive, nor were they to marry or have any social contact with them. They were to destroy their idols and images, burn their altars and rid the land of paganism:

When Yahweh thy Elohim shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou; And when Yahweh thy Elohim shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, [and] utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them, Deut. 7:1-2 AV.

Israel never did cleanse the land of these seven heathen nations, for they are still a problem described in the book of Judges. The offspring of these nations may well be there even today and are the ones Yahshua fights with even before He attends the wedding supper, where His garments are stained with blood.

And He [was] clothed with a ves-

ture dipped in blood: and His name is called *The Word of Yahweh*, Rev. 19:13.

He comes from Edom (Esau), Isaiah 63:1-7.

Q **What Bible backup do you have that shows that the Israelites suffered the first three plagues in Egypt?**

A It may be of help to think of "all the land of Egypt" as including "the land of Goshen," but then Yahweh makes a distinction between Egypt and Goshen even though Goshen is in Egypt, Exod. 8:22. In the first three plagues Yahweh made no distinction. The pattern appears to hold true for the end of the age, in which Yahweh makes a distinction between those who are His (His bride, during the "time of trouble") and those who are not, Rev. 9:4 and Deut. 22:4:

And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads, Rev 9:4.

Q **Are we to tithe every week 10% of our money? Thank you. What about the third tithe for every third year?**

A We do believe the commandments to tithe are applicable, but the third tithe is typically covered under our taxation within this country. What that means is, local shelters, food banks, United Way, Serve, etc. are subsidized in part by our taxes. In fact, there is a program for non-profit organizations which is funded by the government in which people are hired and wages are paid for by the government. These people who are in need themselves, help the non-profit organizations, which, in turn, help the community's poor, widows, orphans, etc. Still, if one is retired and able, the third tithe (e.g., pension, S.S., etc.) can be taken and used to help any non-profit service organization or needy persons in need in one's local community. Of interest, the "year of tithing," mentioned in Scripture (Deut. 26:12), gives the idea of only once during a sabbatical cycle, not every three years. Though, every three years is acceptable. Either way, the taxation we already receive on wages would exceed what Yahweh requires.

Concerning when to tithe the first tithe, it is recommended it be done once an increase comes in, since Yahweh specifically says not to delay (Ex. 22:29). For some this is once a week, for others once a month or even quarterly. In addition, one may ask, "Do I tithe on the net or the gross?" Tithing is a personal matter between Yahweh and the individual, but if the net is decided upon, tax refunds should then

be considered an increase and therefore tithed from.

Q **In Leviticus 21, many rules are given for the high priest and other priests, i.e., who they can marry, etc. Does that apply today?**

A Even though we do not dress as did the Israelites, we can comprehend the message Yahweh gives us here. We are in training to be kings and priests (Rev. 5:10), and should seek the spiritual lessons that apply to us. Thus, we are to live clean, think clean, talk clean and live a life above reproach and keep ourselves pure. We are not to wed a non-believer:

The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Master, 1 Cor. 7:39 AV.

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Messiah with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? (2 Cor. 6:14-15 AV.)

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

A *For whatsoever man [he be] that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous,* Lev. 21:18 AV.

Smith and Goodspeed translate this differently:

For no one who has a defect may come near, no one who is blind, or lame, or has any perforations, or has a limb too long, Lev. 21:18.

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

Q **Please explain Leviticus 27 regarding the "redemption of Vows." Does it mean the priest was to place a monetary value on a man's family and belongings? And for what purpose?**

A Much like Samuel's mother, who donated her son to the Temple, individuals could do the same with animals, children, con-

secration of property, etc., all of which provided funding for the sanctuary. Because some would overvalue their vow to the Temple, the priest was expected to assess fair value. It was possible for one to donate his work (man-hours—not himself) to the TEMPLE.

Q Why did the armies of Israel kill Balaam, son of Beor, along with the Midianites, when he had prophesied for Israel earlier?

A Balaam is a (prophet for profit), a picture of greed (Numbers 22-24). Moab King Balak sought to have Balaam curse Israel, but each time Yahweh turned the curse into a blessing. Balaam advised the Midianites to lure the Israelites into the worship of Baal-Peor instead of making war with them. Thus, Israel became Baal worshippers, and, for this, he was eventually killed along with the Midianite kings by Israel.

Q In Numbers 33: 51-56, does the “Promises of Conquest” hold true today for Israel?

A Israel never did drive the seven nations out of the land and the nations still there are not friendly to those in Jerusalem today. If there is to be a temple built in Jerusalem in our day, the outer court will be filled with Gentiles who are not Yahweh’s people, neither do they follow Yahweh’s laws. They may be the answer to your question:

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of Elohim, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty [and] two months. And I will give [power] unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days, clothed in sackcloth, Rev. 11:1-3 AV.

<Baptism from page 15>

them, and they received the Holy Spirit, Acts 8:14-17.

Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him Who would come after him, that is, on Messiah Yahshua." When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Master Yahshua. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. Now the men were about twelve in all, Acts 19:4-7.

So, in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, we find three witnesses to baptism in the name of Yahshua.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away, Matthew 24:35.

What are Yahshua’s words? When you hold the Scriptures, from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22, you are holding Yahshua’s words.

May we read the Bible for what it says, and not according to what we have been taught by the mouth

of mankind. May we allow Yahweh to speak for Himself through Scripture and through His Spirit. May Yahweh’s will be done on earth AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. HalleluYah!

Elder John Fisher

<Spirit from page 19>

spiritual and lawful attributes, and leaving fleshly desires in the past.

But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him Who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Messiah is all and in all, Colossians 3:8–11 NKJV.

Can we hear what the Spirit is saying to the assemblies? That is, the people of Yahweh. Grow and overcome, and be conformed to the Spirit of Yahweh in Messiah. No matter what your background

is, we are one in Him.

In Humility

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Messiah Yahshua, Philipians 2:3–6 ESV.

Can we say we have the mind of Messiah? We can, if we are overcoming and drawing closer to Him, being as and thinking as and walking as He did.

It’s hard because we still have the pulls of the flesh today. But, thankfully, we have a big Brother Who has walked the walk and talked the talk already to help us to be able to do the same.

He walked in human form as a fleshly man, but resisted the flesh and submitted to Yahweh’s Spirit. May we do the same with Yahweh’s help.

Elder David Brett



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