

YAIY



Beacon



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At the front of this formation
is the leader of this flock of birds.
In Scripture, when dealing with mankind,
Whom are we told to follow?

YAIY **Beacon**



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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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Covenant Keepers

Galatians is often quoted to show we don't need to keep the law today in Messiah. A closer examination, historically, and, in context, shows why Paul wrote to the Galatian brethren. He saw they were dealing with two outside forces:

1. Former pagan practices from their polytheistic society around them, and
2. Men trying to convince the new brethren to turn back to the only Covenant and practices they knew to be true.

For the latter, they were covenant keepers, but they were wrong. Some things do indeed change when we come to the Messiah.

Paul gives one of the most powerful warnings to be found in the Bible which was addressed to the brethren in Messiah about both groups. With that said, we would do well to understand exactly what is being said by Paul in this letter, because it is also used to try to prove overall that the commandments are not applicable to us today. But, the truth is, they are.

He says in Galatians 1:8 - 9 ESV,

*But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you an evangel contrary to the one we preached to you, **let him be accursed**. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you an evangel contrary to the one you received, **let him be accursed**.*

This is one of the only letters, written by an apostle, proclaiming a curse on those teaching another evangel. The apostle's evangel, when defined, is essentially the good news of Messiah having come to shed His blood for us, to forgive us of the death penalty hanging over our heads for breaking Yahweh's law, which is sin (1 John 3:4).

What Laws?

One of the great things for us is that we have other witnesses to draw upon to know what the is-

ssues are here in this letter. One of the issues was former pagan practices. It's just a short section which addresses it, but it's to the point:

You observe days and months and seasons and years. I fear for you, that perhaps I have labored over you in vain, Galatians 4:10 – 11 NASB.

The rest of this letter addresses Paul's concern that some of the brethren are apparently giving heed to the idea that they need to do everything found in *Torah*. Laws, such as physical circumcision, are to be justified and right in Yahweh's sight.

It's easy, out of context, to see how these two verses might be considered to be none other than Yahweh's Sabbaths and Feast Days. However, knowing Yahweh's Sabbaths are forever (Lev. 23), we can see this is addressing the pagan days, months, seasons, and years.

Polytheistic practices, such as honoring the winter solstice, or even sun-day worship were common in the 1st century. For those today who have succumbed to such traditions over the generations, it is hard to see the truth when it is presented. But, present we must.

In Context

Let's consider what is being told to those in Galatia, compared to what is being addressed in Colossae.

Let no one therefore judge you in eating or in drinking, or in respect of a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths — which are a shadow of what is to come — but the Body of the Messiah, Colossians 2:16 – 17 TS.

Would Paul, on one hand, say, "I'm concerned for you that you are observing these days and times," and on the other, say, "Don't let anyone judge or condemn you for doing these things." Was he contradictory? Or do we need to examine each statement in context of the assemblies being addressed sepa-

rately for separate issues?

The key to understanding is to understand they are not the same days and times which he was addressing. One is pagan and the other is not. One is the way of the world, and the other is the way of Yahweh, the Almighty. There is a difference. It's our job to discern the difference and choose Yahweh's way over our own and/or other's traditions and practices.

As the letter from Paul to Galatia and also Paul's separate letter to those in Colossae were written to help the brethren in each location, they were also both dealing with two different issues.

Both have to be considered in context of what is written. Please read our mini-study on **Colossians 2 and the Law**, either online or order your free copy. You can also go directly to Colossians chapter 2 and look at both before and after the section quoted above. It should become very clear what is being said, in context. Here, however, we want to address mainly the letter to the brethren in Galatia and their going back to former pagan ways mentioned in Galatians 4:10 – 11.

Backsliding

This was the one outside source (pagan worship) that Paul was addressing for the brethren at Galatia. He evidently heard that they were falling back into pagan practices, through the pagan influences in the world surrounding them.

We could imagine how difficult it would be to be in a society that accepts many gods and many lords, and to think, "it wouldn't be that harmful to do the same with Yahweh and His Son, too." Today, we have something similar with the concept of Ecumenicalism even though the co-existence idea today is "we all serve the same One." Whether Buddha or Vishnu, or Allah or Yahweh, "it all goes back to one Supreme Being Who has many Names." Well, that's not what Scripture says (Isa. 42:8).

If we believe that the books and letters, from Genesis to Revelation, are inspired, we had better know what the words say, so we are not taken away into a fantasy belief system or accept every wind of doctrine that comes our way. Or as Paul said, "A different evangel" message.

Say What?

What was Paul saying to the brethren at Galatia? We know that as we looked at number one, he was addressing former pagan practices from their polytheistic society around them. But the main issue we want to address is the main problem he addressed, that is, number two: that men were trying to convince the new brethren to turn back to the only covenant and practices they knew to be true. Were they true? Yes. But, now we

have the good news of the Messiah and the coming Kingdom. And with it, there is a change in the law for those in Him.

The author of Hebrews says plainly,

If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood — and indeed the law given to the people established that priesthood — why was there still need for another priest to come, one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron? For when the priesthood is changed, the law must be changed also, Hebrews 7:11 – 12 TNIV.

This brings up the idea: "Yahweh cannot change." We're not talking about Yahweh changing; we're talking about a change in the law out of necessity. Yes, a change in the priesthood, but also within the law itself. One, without question, affects the other.

What changed with Yahshua's sacrifice? What has been done for us who accept Yahshua?

To make his point, the author continues to say, in Hebrews 7:18 – 19 NIV,

The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to Yahweh.

A former regulation? A former law that made nothing perfect? What law was that? Is a former regulation the whole law of statutes, commandments and ordinances? Is it all five books of Moses called the *Torah*? Of course not! Read on.

Job Description

What did the Levitical priesthood do? What was their job and responsibilities?

For the priests and the Levites were purified together, all of them were pure, and killed the Passover for all the children of the captivity, and for their brethren the priests, and for themselves, Ezra 6:20 KJV.

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Mini - Study

Colossians 2 and the Law

Does Colossians 2:14 negate Yahweh's law?

A POPULAR CHURCH DOCTRINE says that we are no longer required to obey the Ten Commandments or any law found in the Old Testament. Some preachers even call their message "New Testament Christianity," implying that theirs is a modern creed that leaves behind those archaic, Old Testament laws that bring mankind into such bondage.

The message from many pulpits today is not one of obedience to Yahweh's laws, but rather an emphasis on our Creator's love and the grace made available through His Son. Parishioners are told, "Feel good about yourself" or "The best things in life can be yours for the asking, so just believe." Messages based in human psychology and inspirational double-talk are common fare. But where have decades of no-law teachings led? To a society that knows little about standards of right and wrong and believes in no absolutes. The resultant toll in human suffering has risen proportionate to the success of anti-law doctrines.

Almost without exception Biblical passages often quoted as doing away with Yahweh's law are in a context teaching OBEDIENCE to His laws. His laws and statutes have a purpose: they are given to mold us into the image of His pattern Son, Psalm 19:7, Matthew 12:50. With such a sublime and important role, why the opposition to His laws—His way of life?

We all should strive to be open to understanding Bible truth and be as the noble Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

What About Colossians Chapter 2?

For some, Colossians 2 poses a huge obstacle in their way to observance of Yahweh's law. Does this chapter do away with the need for law? Or is that a forced interpretation? Understanding the situation prevailing

These were the captives from Babylon having been brought back to Jerusalem. Even today the Jews are recognizable. What is not so easily recognizable are the other tribes of Israel who were dispersed through Assyria.

There are Levitical priests with genetic markers (they are also known as part of the southern tribes), in training even now in Jerusalem, for when the Temple is reestablished.

Interestingly enough, the Negev desert has a tabernacle replica of the original. How quick could sacrifices be reinstated, if they were given permission to move this tabernacle up on the Temple Mount? Pretty quickly, though they would still technically need an unblemished and unspotted red heifer to sacrifice first to use as a purification rite according to the instructions given in Scripture.

The laws we are talking about concerning the Levitical priesthood are for the sacrificial and purification rites. What is Yahshua the Messiah for us today? He is the High Priest of the Melchizedek priesthood, not of the Levitical. He is also the sacrifice we needed. It is His blood, through the one sacrificial act, that we needed for purification so we can go on to perfection.

Keep the Feast

Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch — as you really are. For Messiah, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old bread leavened with malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, 1 Corinthians 5:7 – 8 NIV.

Corinth was full of Greeks and Gentiles. What is Paul doing telling them to keep the Feast? No doubt, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is a 7 day feast after Passover, is observed. Is he confused, or are the ones who claim the law is done away with in Messiah?

Reread the verses.

There were most likely Jews there, too. But the point is the whole law is not done away with in Messiah. The prophecy about the saints at the end of the age tell us this in Revelation 14:12. The law was for both native born and foreigner (Ex. 12:49; Num. 15:15 - 16).

Think About It

Let's think earnestly about this, as it really puts things in perspective. Clarity comes when we understand what law is being spoken of in Galatians.

Paul said plainly in Galatians 3:1 – 3 NIV,

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Yahshua Messiah was clearly portrayed as impaled. I would like to learn just one thing from you:

Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?

He was impaled, that is, placed on the torture stake. He was killed and sacrificed, for us. Paul is essentially asking, "Did the sacrificial laws bring the Spirit of Yahweh into our/your life?" He's asking them, "Are you now going to be perfected by sacrifices?"

Messiah redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us — for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE," Galatians 3:13 NASB.

Yes, the penalty for sins is death; it is a curse. Yahshua's sacrificial blood cleanses us from the death penalty of transgressing Yahweh's laws. To accept Yahshua's sacrifice is faith based; it is Yahweh's grace given to us freely, but only after we repent. What it indeed is, is a sacrifice for us, that covers us. Yahshua covers us, not other physical sacrifices.

It is not based upon works that we do, but upon the promise through Abraham's seed, which ultimately points to the Messiah.

Brothers and sisters, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, Who is Messiah. What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by Elohim and thus do away with the promise. For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but Yahweh gave it to Abraham by promise. What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should

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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,

come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a Mediator, Galatians 3:15 – 19 NKJV.

What law was added because of transgressions? Don't confuse Paul when he speaks of a law 430 years later, which is speaking of the ratified 1st Covenant (known as the Old Covenant/Testament) with the people. The Abrahamic Covenant was brought in to it as a promise to it, and is now brought over in the New Covenant with Messiah. The Levitical sacrifices and purification rites are not. Over-all laws still stand and transcend covenants, being everlasting.

Sacrificial System

What happened when Adam and Eve sinned?

Yahweh Elohim made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them, Genesis 3:21 NIV.

An animal(s) had to die to make those skins. This process of slaying animals for the people continued, and we have a written example of Adam and Eve's children, such as Abel, who offered an animal sacrifice to Yahweh early on in human history. Cain was supposed to have done the same, but didn't and suffered the consequences.

Eventually, the Levitical priesthood was set up and established through the law and covenant, to perform these types of sacrifices and purification rites for themselves and for the people. If you remember, they were good with swords/knives, as they came to Moses when the people played the harlot during the Exodus.

Let's go back to the book of Galatians and see if what we're considering here doesn't all fit. Still thinking about the garments of skin, and why they were produced, let's look at the following:

For all of you who were baptized into Messiah have clothed yourselves with Messiah, Galatians 3:27 NASB.

Do we understand what Paul is ultimately saying here? Yahshua is our sacrifice! This also shows that Messiah didn't just cleanse us from within, but He takes care of the outside of the cup, too, so to speak. I mention this, as some will say we still need to perform *mikvah* or be purified on a regular basis through ritual water washing. Not so!

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Master, one faith, one baptism, Ephesians 4:4 – 5 KJV.

If we understand what Yahshua came to do, then, for us, there is only one immersion we need, and that is in the Name of the Son of Yahweh for remission of sins (Acts 4:12). Paul knew this, and so should we.

He says in Galatians 3:22 – 23 NASB,

But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Yahshua Messiah might be given to those who believe. But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed.

This is the first time in the letter to the Galatian brethren that Paul refers to the holy "Script" as a set of inspired Writings from Yahweh. The laws within it, which, if broken, causes sin and death (Ezek. 18:4). In Messiah, this is why it is so important not to go on sinning (Heb. 10:26).

Sacrifices were keeping those in the Abrahamic Covenant through Mt. Sinai, and in the Levitical priesthood, in custody. Not totally out of Yahweh's favor, but still not able to allow them to approach Him directly. That is, until Messiah, in the new priestly order of Melchizedek. We were shut out from being justified, until He came and was killed for all who would accept Him as the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf.

"Kept in custody of the sacrificial laws," is a correct understand-

ing. If we say "kept in custody of the law," as in the commandments, then we say "we can continue to lie, cheat and steal," because these things "are no longer done, now that the Messiah has come." It's just not true.

What is true is we are no longer under the tutor of the law of sacrifices.

So then, the law was our guardian until Messiah came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, Galatians 3:24 – 25 ESV.

Here is the same verse in the KJV:

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Messiah, that we might be justified by faith.

Again, but in the NASB:

Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Messiah, so that we may be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Word of Yahweh

Now, when Paul does speak of the Scriptures, he's speaking of the very Word of Yahweh that they had in the first century. He speaks of the same as "training in righteousness" to Timothy, who is left in Ephesus to teach the assembly there.

And that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Messiah Yahshua. All Scripture is inspired by Yahweh and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of Yahweh may be adequate, equipped for every good work, 2 Timothy 3:15 – 17 NASB.

Now, wait a minute, Paul. You said, in Galatians 2:21 NASB,

I do not nullify the grace of Yahweh, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Messiah died needlessly.

The same word for righteous-

ness is used. Righteousness is keeping the commandments, as they are righteous (Psalm 119:172). So, then, this has to be talking about the sacrificial law in which people sought to be justified.

Notice that the NASB capitalized the word for *law* here, and other places in Galatians, making it refer to the overall law. Not so, but nice try NASB.

Some of the words for "law" do in fact have the definite article prior to the word, as we've seen, but Paul, we find, was clearly talking about sacrificial laws in context within the book of Galatians. He was hard to understand, as Peter pointed out, but we can understand, and not be like lawless individuals using Paul's writings to justify lawlessness (2 Pet. 3:14 - 17).

Circumcision

There are other areas which speak specifically of circumcision, which goes back to Abraham and the cutting of the covenant with him, which was ultimately agreed upon with the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and anyone who would join.

Hence, the reason some from Judah, no doubt, tried to get believers in Messiah to convert all the way back into an original covenant of promise, was that physical circumcision was required to be part of that covenant. This was for all males only. No females were to be circumcised.

Male children today, of course, can and should be circumcised (on the eighth day, Lev. 12:1) for health reasons, if for nothing else. But male adults (having already lived all their life uncircumcised), when coming into the knowledge of the truth in Messiah,

do not need to be physically circumcised.

Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: "Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved," Acts 15:1 NIV.

As you may recall, the decision from the Apostles and Elders was to have new converts remove the most detestable and evident sins (i.e., sins relating to false pagan worship), and let them come and learn from the law of Moses, which was the law of Yahweh.

Telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath, Acts 15:20b - 21 NIV.

In other words, they'll continue to learn about Yahweh's ways from the continued preaching of the law of Moses. Not only the *Torah*, but also the Prophets and Writings (*Tanakh*). And it will be with the understanding of the justification of sins through the Messiah's perfect sacrifice and shed blood.

Paul proclaims,
But not even Titus, who was with me, though he was a Greek,

was compelled to be circumcised. But it was because of the false brethren secretly brought in, who had sneaked in to spy out our liberty which we have in Messiah Yahshua, in order to bring us into bondage, Galatians 2:3 - 4 NASB.

We are not compelled to be in covenant with Yahweh through the Abrahamic Covenant, but rather through Yahshua's sacrifice. We are not to offer blood sacrifices; being in bondage to these or other personal sacrifices or purification rites through the Levitical priesthood. Still, we are at liberty to be obedient and not to steal, fornicate, cheat, break Sabbath, swear falsely or commit other crimes against Yahweh's law.

Paul further states:

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Yahshua Messiah, so we also have believed in Messiah Yahshua, in order to be justified by faith in Messiah and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified, Galatians 2:15 - 16 ESV.

Bloody sacrifices and purification rites would be the only aspect of the law that gives temporary appeasement, but does not truly justify. Yahshua's sacrifice allows us to have the indwelling work of the Spirit which helps cleanse the conscience on a spiritual level, and allows us to have a heightened sense of right and wrong from the written Word and the Spirit, when we're reminded what the Word says.

There are some analogies that Paul uses, such as, the free woman versus the



one who is a slave. He says Hagar is Mt. Sinai and corresponds to Jerusalem. What was happening in Jerusalem at the time of the 1st century was physical sacrifices in which all those bound by the law must perform all sacrificial rites for temporary appeasement.

Paul says that we, however, are from the free woman, and are in that covenant, rather than the other. We are in the better agreement, in Messiah.

But the son by the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and the son by the free woman through the promise. This is allegorically speaking, for these women are two covenants: one proceeding from Mount Sinai bearing children who are to be slaves; she is Hagar, Galatians 4:23 – 24 NASB.

He further shows that one is physical and one is spiritual. But why use Hagar as a representative of Mt. Sinai and then corresponding to what was happening in Jerusalem? After all, we're talking about Ishmael, who is said to be a wild donkey of a man! Maybe Paul was thinking he was the very one that needed to give the sacrifices, so that he'd learn not to be such a wild one, but rather an obedient one.

Nevertheless, he relates those in Messiah as those of heavenly Jerusalem, and her as a mother to us. Throughout, we see Paul relating the spiritual more than the physical. He also shows we need to make up our mind as to which covenant we want to be under.

It was for freedom that Messiah set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery. Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Messiah will be of no benefit to you. And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law. You have been severed from Messiah, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace,

Galatians 5:1 – 4 NASB.

Speaking of the yoke of slavery, do you think it would be hard to see the blood of innocent animals killed on your behalf? It was a terrible thing, but it was training to learn that there are consequences for sinning. The message of sin-equating-death came through loud and clear each time.

It was a type of slavery in which one had to perform according to the law. The law agreement that came through Abraham and was signified or identified through physical circumcision of all the males.

Speaking of "the whole law," we could ask, "Do we keep every single aspect of the law?" The answer is, "In Messiah, we don't." Paul says if we do try to be justified by the law, we will be cut off from Messiah. Plain and simple. However, we obey the overall laws because it is the expression of the inward change within us and our love for the Father and the Son.

Circumcision Without Hands

Interestingly enough, Paul says he still preached circumcision. In light of what we have considered, it has to be the circumcision without hands. He explains this to the brethren in Colossae:

In Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, in the putting off of the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Messiah, Colossians 2:11 TS.

We're now buried with Him and have died to sins. Essentially, we have died to sinning and we have the help to do it in the Spirit which writes the laws on our heart.

For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do, Galatians 5:17 ESV.

Speaking of analogies, like a

magnet which repels against another magnet, one magnet can represent the evil that appeals to the flesh and the other magnet can relate to the Spirit which cannot mix with evil. So our lives in Messiah are not always at peace. There is a spiritual war going on. In some cases, it has to do with our physical flesh that Satan would like to appeal to with all sorts of evil in the world. Hence, we have to overcome the world.

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law, Galatians 5:18 ESV.

Are we led by the Spirit? If we are, then we are not under the death penalty of the law. But, the spirit of error would have everyone believe that Paul is saying that we no longer have to obey the law. Again,

Now those who belong to Messiah Yahshua have impaled the flesh with its passions and desires, Galatians 5:24 NASB.

Does that mean none of us slip up at times? Paul didn't think this, as he also writes:

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted, Galatians 6:1 ESV.

So we are to help one another and build one another up, but sin is still not to be tolerated. Any transgression against the law is sin.

And let him who is instructed in the Word share in all that is good, with him who is instructing. Do not be led astray: Elohim is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he shall also reap, Galatians 6:6 – 7 TS.

The Word is the Word of Yahweh. Scripture, in other words.

As many as wish to make a good show in the flesh, these compel you to be circumcised, only so that they should not be persecuted for the stake of Messiah, Galatians 6:12 TS.

Is this not a good example of the Pharisees, who did things to be

seen by men? Not that you could see their circumcision, but they no doubt would tell you of it and say you would do the same. It happened in the 1st century and it happens today, believe it or not.

There was division and persecution for those in Messiah in his day due to the Pharisees and others who said you must be circumcised according to *Torah*. We had better be able to discern the same deception being presented in our day, in the 21st century.

But, Paul was clear:

For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation, Galatians 6:15 NASB.

As a new creation do we neglect the commandments of Yahweh? Yahweh forbid, as Paul might say. Consider what he wrote to those in Corinth:

Was anyone called while circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Was anyone called while uncircumcised? Let him not be circumcised. The circumcision is naught, and the uncircumcision is naught, but the guarding of the commands of Elohim does matter! (1 Corinthians 7:18 TS).

Do we guard the commandments of Yahweh? Does this relate only to the circumcision? Of course not. He addresses both circumcised and uncircumcised who come into Messiah.

This is just another example of why Galatians is not talking about the law overall, but aspects of it. Specifically, anything to do with blood and the Levitical priesthood and the purification rites thereof.

The Galatian

brethren and outside troublemakers had made it difficult, but with the inspired letters we have today, reading them in context, we can guard ourselves against the same type of false doctrines which would affect our relationship with Yahweh and Yahshua. A relationship which will stay good, if we stay connected to Them, having the circumcision made without hands. In the New Testament, this includes both males and, now, females.

In Conclusion

While this article can help give an overview, it is still recommended one rereads the book of Galatians. Underline those areas which stand out. Learn more about the Levitical vs. the Melchizedek orders by requesting our free booklet **Orthodox Believers**.

Highlights from the book of Galatians, along with a breakdown of the pertinent covenants, are listed below for your consideration:

The evangel (the good news) of Messiah Yahshua is paramount.

Yahshua broke down the wall of partition between Jew and Gentile.

Those of faith in Messiah are blessed with Abraham the

believer.

Spiritual circumcision needed, not physical.

Justification is by Yahshua's blood sacrifice, not by any other means.

We are to walk in the Spirit of Yahweh and Yahshua, not in the flesh.

Don't go back to worldly pagan ways and days of false worship.

Look forward to righteousness in the Kingdom.

We have been adopted as sons and daughters through Messiah.

We are heirs to the promises made to Abraham, and more, in Yahshua.

Understanding the progression of covenants/agreements:

Y a h w e h ' s l a w s
(commandments from the beginning, Gen. 26:5; Ex.16:28, 34).

Sacrifices (Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Job, Noah, leading into the Levitical order of priesthood).

Abraham (Abrahamic unilateral covenant/promises, sign of physical circumcision).

Understanding the 1st (Old) and 2nd (New) Covenants:

1st Covenant
(Yahweh, Moses and all of Israel at Mt. Sinai in Levitical priesthood w/ physical circumcision).

2nd Covenant
(Y a h w e h ,
Yahshua and all of Israel in Melchizedek order w/spiritual circumcision).



Elder David Brett

A Synopsis of Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread

In ancient times there were three harvest seasons - spring, summer and fall. One of the major crops in the spring was barley. In early summer it was wheat and in the fall it was many other field crops. It is true that other crops are harvested during each of these times, mainly because of the advances made in agriculture. It is interesting to note that these three times in a year coincide with the three times we are commanded to gather together to celebrate some of Yahweh's annual Holy Days.

Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto Me in the year. Thou shalt keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before Me empty:) And the Feast of Harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the Feast of Ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field. Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before Yahweh Elohim, Exodus 23:14 - 17.

During these three times there are five of the seven annual feasts we are commanded to keep. The two that are not included, but still required to keep, are the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. Each of Yahweh's Holy Days point directly or indirectly to our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah.

Passover – Precedes Unleavened Bread

Ancient Israel was told to keep Passover as a day of remembrance and to celebrate it as a feast in Yahweh's honor, pointing to Yahshua.

And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to Yahweh throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever, Exodus 12:14.

The word "memorial" comes from the Hebrew (Strong's #OT:2146) *zikrown* (zik-rone'); from OT:2142; a memento (or memorable thing, day or

writing); and is translated memorial or record in the King James Version of the Bible.

The root word of *zikrown* is Strong's #2142, *zakar* (zaw-kar'). *Zakar* has numerous translations in the KJV, among them being remember or to make to be remembered.

Does Christianity today remember the day of Yahshua's death, once a year? No, certainly not. Instead, they celebrate the day of His birth as Christmas and the day of His resurrection as Easter. Each of these celebrated days has pagan origins. Celebrating these also counters Eccl. 7:1, which tells us which day is more important.

A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth, Ecclesiastes 7:1.

The Encyclopedia Judaica tells us: "The Feast of Passover consists of two parts: the Passover Ceremony and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Originally, both parts existed separately, but at the beginning of the exile they were combined" (vol. 13, "Passover," p. 169).

Passover – A Vigil To Be Kept

Exodus 12:42 reads,

It [is] a night to be much observed unto Yahweh for bringing them out of the land of Egypt: this [is] that night of Yahweh to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.

The Jewish Tanakh gives the following reading for this verse:

That was for [Yahweh] a night of vigil to bring them out of the land of Egypt; that same night is [Yahweh's], one of vigil for all the children of Israel throughout the ages.

The word translated "observed" is Strong's #8107 (*shimmui*), from #8104 (*shamai*), meaning an observance. On #8104 Strong says "A primitive root; properly to hedge about (as with thorns), i.e., guard; gen. To protect, attend to, etc.: beware, be circumspect, take heed, keep, mark, look narrowly, observe, pre-

serve, regard, reserve, save, sure, wait, watch." Clearly the meaning is watching.

The Greek word translated "watch" is Strong's #1453, *gregoreo*, and means to be vigilant and wide-awake; to be alert: be or stay awake, to keep awake, be alert, i.e., watch.

Passover – A Night To Be Remembered

Can we fathom in our minds what the Israelites were feeling during the night of the Passover? It seems reasonable that they could not sleep because they knew that the destroying angel would be coming to kill the firstborn. They were told to place the blood of the sacrificial lamb on the doorposts and lintels. They were warned to remain within the protection of their blood-marked houses the entire evening. Psalm 30:5 is referring to this:

Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

The Israelites did leave Egypt by night – the night after Passover:

Observe the month of Abib, and keep the Passover unto Yahweh thy Elohim: for in the month of Abib Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee forth out of Egypt by night, Deuteronomy 16:1.

Some believe Deut.16:1 says that the Israelites left the land of Egypt to start their trek to the Promised Land. However, the Israelites kept the Passover after the



An O. T. Israelite placing the blood of the sacrificial lamb



Moses pleads the Pharaoh to let Yahweh's people go. But it takes to the end of Yahweh's plagues for the Pharaoh to finally let Yahweh's people go.

sun set beginning the 14th of Abib as recorded in the Scriptures.

Passover Day – Israel Prepares To Leave Egypt

During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship Yahweh as you have requested. Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go. And also bless me." The Egyptians urged the people to hurry and leave the country. "For otherwise," they said, "we will all die!" So the people took their dough before the yeast was added, and carried it on their shoulders in kneading troughs wrapped in clothing. The Israelites did as Moses instructed and asked the Egyptians for articles of silver and gold and for clothing. Yahweh had made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for; so they plundered the Egyptians, Exodus 12:31 - 36 NIV.

After the Israelites spent the entire night portion of Passover in their houses they did as they were instructed to do by Moses.

The events of the day portion of Passover are relatively easy to reconstruct. On the morning of the 14th the remains of the sacrificial lamb were taken out, the people

began gathering their family, flocks, and herds and assembled at Rameses, some 30 miles from Goshen (Num. 33:3). They also proceeded to spoil the Egyptians as Ex. 12:35 says.

First High Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread

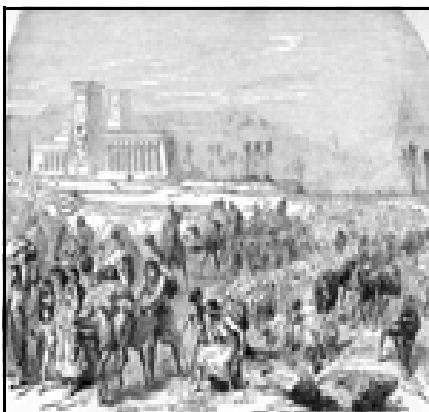
On the first High Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread was the time when the Israelites left Egypt,

The Israelites set out from Rameses on the fifteenth day of the first month, the day after the Passover. They marched out boldly in full view of all the Egyptians, who were burying all their firstborn, whom Yahweh had struck down among them; for Yahweh had brought judgment on their elohims, Numbers 33:3 - 4 NIV.

The first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is then a memorial for the time when the Israelites left Egypt.

Last High Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread

Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years, Exodus 12:40.



The Israelites preparing to leave Egypt

We learn that the Israelites spent 430 years in Egypt before they left to return to the Promised Land. How did they know where to go?

And Yahweh went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people, Exodus 13:21 - 22.

When the Israelites left Egypt, where did they head?

So Yahweh led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt armed for battle, Exodus 13:18 NIV.

In the parting of the waters of the Red Sea, we find that Israel became completely free of Egyptian influence because Yahweh caused all of the Egyptians who followed Israel to die.

Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath He cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea, Exodus 15:4.

Passover - Yahshua Kept it

Yahshua kept the Passover at the right time and thus fulfilled all righteousness up to the time of His death. His disciples did not have



Moses at the Red Sea

any difficulty keeping Passover at the right time (Luke 22:8 - 14).

After Yahshua celebrated Passover with His disciples they went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. Here Yahshua told them to be alert and watchful, just as the Israelites were told to do on the night of Passover.

And when they had sung a Psalm, they went out into the mount of Olives ... My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with Me ... And when He came unto the disciples, and found them asleep, and said unto Peter, What could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, that you enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed [is] willing, but the flesh is weak, Matthew 26:30, 38, 40 - 41.

Shortly, Yahshua was taken prisoner and then impaled the following day before the Jews had celebrated their late Passover.

Since Yahshua kept the law perfectly, should we not also keep Passover on the beginning of Abib 14?

Passover - Paul Kept It

Paul was of the tribe of Benjamin, a Pharisee. He was an apostle to the Gentiles and he taught them to observe what some call the "Feasts of the Jews."

Corinth was a Hellenistic, metropolitan community and a crossroads of trade and commerce. In 1 Corinthians 5:7 - 8, Paul tells the people of Corinth that Yahshua is the Passover Lamb sacrificed for us:

Purge out therefore the old leaven that you may be a new lump as you are unleavened. For even the Messiah our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast.

For Paul to write this it is quite evident that these days are not done away with by Yahshua's death. It is obvious that Passover and the feast days referred to are still obligatory.

Passover Preparation For Unleavened Bread

Passover, Abib 14, is the day preceding the first High Sabbath of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The King James Version of Scriptures describes Passover as the preparation day, the day Yahshua was put to death for the sins of mankind.

It is indeed a preparation day. It is a day when one is to prepare for the days of Unleavened Bread by cleansing their houses of all leaven. The day following Passover is a High Sabbath. So the followers of Yahshua wanted to take His body down before the first day of Unleavened Bread began:

The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the [tree] on the Sabbath day, (for that Sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away, John 19:31.

Feast Of Unleavened Bread

Yahweh had made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for; so they plundered the Egyptians. The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Suc-



The Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea

coth. There were about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. Many other people went up with them, as well as large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds. With the dough they had brought from Egypt, they baked cakes of unleavened bread. The dough was without yeast because unleavened bread and the cup containing the fruit of the vine (grape juice) are the emblems to be taken at Passover time. They had been driven out of Egypt and did not have time to prepare food for themselves, Exodus 12:36 - 39 NIV.

When the Israelites left the bondage of Egypt they did not have time to prepare leavened bread. From the time of their departure (first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread) until they crossed over the Red Sea (the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread) they ate unleavened bread.

Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. In the first month you are to eat bread made without yeast, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day. For



Unleavened bread and the cup containing the fruit of the vine (grape juice) are the emblems to be taken at Passover service.

seven days no yeast is to be found in your houses. And whoever eats anything with yeast in it must be cut off from the community of Israel, whether he is an alien or native-born. Eat nothing made with yeast. Wherever you live, you must eat unleavened bread, Exodus 12:17 - 20 NIV.

The first day and the last day of the seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread are two of Yahweh's seven annual Holy Days. During this period of time no leaven is to be found within the house nor is to be eaten. Any product containing leaven is also not to be found within the house nor eaten. Actually, these verses also state that one is to eat unleavened bread at this time.

Spiritual Housecleaning

To properly keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread we must do so both physically and spiritually. Physically, we are to remove all leaven products from our homes. Spiritually, we are to remove any and all things that may cause us to be led astray.

Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Messiah our Passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, 1 Corinthians 5:7 - 8.

Leaven - Physical

Physically, leaven is that which produces fermentation in a mass of dough.

A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump, Galatians 5:9.

The word leaveneth is the translation of the Greek *zumoo* meaning to cause to ferment.

Leaven breaks down flour, causing decay in the dough.

On the other side, there are two verses, Lev. 7:13 and Lev. 23:17, which show that the showbread

and a praise offering to Yahweh both contained leaven, which sweetened the bread.

Where leaven is the translation in the Old Testament of the King James Version, it refers to the physical usage (yeast).

Leaven - Spiritual

Where leaven is the translation in the New Testament of the King James Version, it may refer to the physical usage at times, but it usually will have a spiritual meaning also.

Then understood they how that He bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees, Matthew 16:12.

And He charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod, Mark 8:15.

In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, inasmuch that they trode one upon another, He began to say unto His disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy, Luke 12:1.

To view this booklet go to our website at www.yaiy.org or phone 1-877-642-4101



From the first two Scriptures we learn that there are three groups of people that Yahshua tells His disciples to watch out for: the Pharisees, the Sadducees and the Herodians.

Luke 12:1 speaks to the leaven of the Pharisees as the religious hypocrisy exhibited in their external ceremonialism. The leaven of the Sadducees was their disbelief in an afterlife and the coming of the Messiah. The leaven of the Herodians dealt with a political family who opposed Yahshua.

Matt. 16:12 specifies that the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees is their doctrine while Luke 12:1 says the same thing about the Pharisees.

Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, 1 Corinthians 5:8.

In the last two Scriptures there are three words of interest: hypocrisy, malice and wickedness. Through examination we will find that they are related to unhealthy attitudes.

Hypocrisy is a translation of the Greek *hupokrisis* (Strong's #5272), whose root word means to play a part, deceitful pretending.

Malice is a translation of the Greek *kakia* (Strong's #2549), whose root word means to have ill will, desire to injure.

Wickedness comes from the Greek *poneria* (Strong's 4189), whose root word means to be hurtful or evil.

1 Cor. 5:8 then says that one must avoid those activities which center on deceiving others or which have evil purposes directed towards others.

Sincerity is a translation of the Greek *eilikrineia* (Strong's #1505), whose root word means to be genuine.

Truth comes from the Greek *aletheia* (Strong's #225), whose root words mean not concealing.

Our actions then, at the time of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, should be genuinely truthful.

Wave Sheaf

That part of the Passover/Unleavened Bread season that is overlooked deals with the wave sheaf offering.

Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it, Leviticus 23:10 - 11.

The Sabbath spoken of here is the Hebrew *shabbath* and speaks of the weekly Sabbath. The harvest spoken of here is barley. This wave sheaf was not offered until the Israelites entry into the Promised Land and raised a crop as it was not possible for them to raise crops during their sojourn in the Wilderness of Zin after leaving Egypt. This wave sheaf offering was to be made on Sunday, the day after the weekly Sabbath which occurs during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

The Feast of Firstfruits is also called the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Harvest in the Old Testament, Pentecost in the New Testament. The grain harvested at this time was wheat. The harvest spoken of in Lev. 23:10 is barley. This sheaf is often referred to as the first of the firstfruits.

Pentecost points ahead to the time when the firstfruits will be gathered. Yahshua, Himself, is referred to as the first of the firstfruits because He arose during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end, Exodus 34:22.

But every man in his own order: Messiah the firstfruits; afterward they that are Messiah's at His coming, 1 Corinthians 15:23.

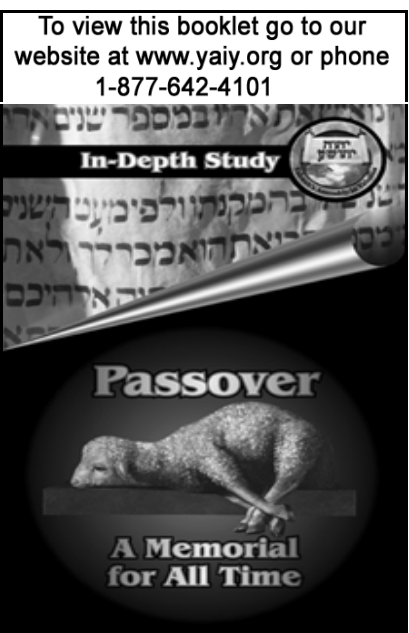
Just as the wave sheaf had to be presented unto Yahweh (Lev. 23:10 - 11) on the first day of the week, Yahshua could not let Mariam cling to Him until He had presented Himself unto His Father as an acceptable sacrifice,

Yahshua saith unto her, Touch Me not; for I am not yet ascended to My Father: but go to My brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto My Father, and your Father; and to My Elohim, and your Elohim, John 20:17.

Conclusion

Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread are not celebrated by the Christian world today. Instead, they celebrate Easter, which has its pagan origins. The Christian world is more interested in Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and hot cross buns. Yahweh's Word tells us to remember Yahshua's death, not His resurrection. Without the sacrifice of Yahshua we would not have any hope for a future in the Kingdom. To be part of the coming Kingdom, Scriptures tell us that we are to be faithful to the end.

Elder Roger G. Meyer



Our Marriage To Yahshua

Why did Yahweh command His chosen people to assemble on Pentecost? If we know the reason we can prepare for what is coming, because Yahweh's Feasts are prophetic as well as representative of His overall plan. Important events happened on Pentecost that are critical to salvation.

After their dispersion in 70 C.E., the Jews could still consider Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread a commemoration of the Exodus. But the Feast of Firstfruits (also known as the Feast of Weeks and Pentecost) could no longer be thought of as merely a harvest festival.

Yahweh had commanded Israel to keep the feasts throughout all generations and, because there were now no longer any harvests by Israel in Palestine, the Feast must have a deeper spiritual significance than had been hitherto understood.

The rabbis were compelled to search Scriptures for a more meaningful understanding of the Feasts and they found that Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread really did commemorate the Exodus.

The search resulted in a reinterpretation of the meaning of the Feast of Firstfruits. It revealed that Yahweh had brought Israel out of bondage in Egypt so that Israel could serve Him. With this knowledge, the rabbis concluded that the Feast of Firstfruits really commemorates the giving of the Law at Mt. Sinai and that without the law the Exodus would have been meaningless. (*To Understand the Jews* by Stuart E. Rosenberg).

They also determined that the covenant entered into at Sinai is really a marriage between Israel and Yahweh and that the Torah, the Law, is the wedding contract (*The Jewish Catalog*).

The meaning of the word "covenant" is contract. No contract is legally binding without terms of agreement. The Law is the terms of our marriage contract with Yahweh.

To Christians, Pentecost commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of the Assembly, Acts 2:1 - 41. They also think of the Assembly as the bride of Messiah, 2 Corinthians 11:2. But without the law, the coming of the Holy Spirit is meaningless and there is no marriage contract.

Keeping Pentecost on the correct day is an important aspect of obedience, but understanding why, as well as when, should change a ritualistic obedience to the letter of the Law to a joyful, willing compliance with the spirit of the Law. An insight, therefore, into

the spiritual significance of Pentecost will enhance true worship during all Feasts.

We know that Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread commemorate Old Covenant Israel's release from bondage in Egypt. We should also understand that Passover celebrates the fact that Yahweh's wrath will pass over those under the blood of His Messiah.

We know too that the Feast of Unleavened Bread not only commemorates Old Covenant Israel's release from Egypt, but also foreshadows New Covenant Israel's release from bondage to false religions and abominations of this world, Revelation 17:5; 18:4.

We Are Married to the Messiah

Let's look at a few significant points Yahweh reveals about Pentecost.

Acts 2:39 tells us there is a promise in the covenant, while Ephesians 2:12 indicates there is more than one covenant, but only one promise.

Galatians 4:21 - 28 informs us that there are two marriage contracts. The first is symbolized by the bondwoman, Hagar, and mediated by Moses at Mt. Sinai.

The second, symbolized by the free woman Sarah, was mediated by the Messiah at the heavenly Jerusalem. The first covenant was made with bloodline descendants of Abraham. The second is open to anyone brought near by the blood of the Messiah.

There are two covenants but only one promise. Does the promise apply to both covenants? Yahweh has made many promises to His chosen people of both covenants. The covenant promise, however, is, "I will take you for My people, and I will be your Elohim," Exodus 6:7.

Israel accepted the terms of the marriage contract when the people said,

All the words which Yahweh has spoken we will do ... All that Yahweh has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient, Exodus 24:3, 7.

The same promise applies to the New Covenant. Peter wrote,

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, Yahweh's own people ... Once you were no people but now you are Yahweh's own people, 1 Peter 2:9 - 10.

Baptism into Yahshua's Name constitutes acceptance of the terms of the marriage contract with the

Messiah. Peter frankly tells us that Yahweh expects obedience.

Chosen and destined by Yahweh the Father and sanctified by the Spirit for obedience to Yahshua the Messiah and for sprinkling with His blood, 1 Peter 1:2.

Many contend that obedience to Yahshua is New Covenant and the law is irrelevant. This misconception apparently results from misunderstanding such Scriptures as Galatians 5:2 - 3:

Now I, Paul, say to you that if you received circumcision, Messiah will be of no advantage to you. I testify again to every man who receives circumcision that he is bound to keep the whole law.

The sign of righteousness required by Old Covenant law is circumcision of the flesh, Romans 4:11, Acts 15:1, Exodus 12:43 - 49, and Joshua 5:2 - 9. Paul is not saying, or even implying, that Yahshua set aside the law in the New Covenant. He is just saying that the man who receives the Old Covenant sign of righteousness is committing himself to obey all Old Covenant law.

Circumcision of the heart is the New Covenant sign of righteousness. Real circumcision is spiritual, not literal,

For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 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 Yahweh, Romans 2:28 - 29.

It is the circumcision of Messiah (Col. 2:11) that comes with the gift of righteousness (Rom. 5:17) and the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). Baptism into Yahshua's Name commits the man or woman to obedience of the changed law of the New Covenant, Hebrews 7:12.

Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary, Hebrews 9:1.

The baptized believer indwelt by Yahweh's Holy Spirit is the earthly sanctuary in the New Covenant. The implication of the word "even" is unmistakable. The New Covenant definitely has regulations (laws) for worship. The Law is in the mind and heart of the believer,

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith Yahweh; I will put My laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them an Elohim, and they shall be to Me a people, Hebrews 8:10.

Hence even the first covenant was not ratified without blood, Hebrews 9:18.

The word "even" in this verse has the same implications as in verse 1.

Indeed, under the Law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins, Hebrews 9:22.

Sin is transgression of the law, 1 John 3:4. Yahshua did not shed His blood merely to forgive transgressions of Old Covenant Law. Can there be any doubt that the New Covenant has laws? Therefore, it behooves the person committed to obeying Yahshua to understand the change in the Law.

Not all physical obedience to Old Covenant law is relevant in the New Covenant and this is the point of Paul's comments on circumcision.

Like the Feast of Firstfruits, all the Feasts Yahweh commanded in His law foreshadow events in His plan of salvation. Because the New Covenant was instituted on the day Yahweh appointed for Pentecost, why do some believe He would revoke the laws pertaining to the other Feasts He appointed?

We Are Yahweh's Representatives

This brings up another facet of Pentecost that should be under-

stood. What is the purpose of the covenants? We do not have to guess what it is. He tells us.

I, Yahweh, in My grace, have summoned you, and I have grasped you by the hand. I created you, and appointed you a covenant people, a light of nations, Isaiah 42:6 JSPA.

Why did He make Israel a light of the nations?

It is too little that you should be My servant in that I raise up the tribes of Jacob and restore the survivors of Israel: I will also make you a light of nations, that My salvation may reach the ends of the earth, Isaiah 49:6 JSPA.

The purpose of the New Covenant is the same as for the Old Covenant. Yahshua is the Light of the World and salvation is through Him only.

Old Covenant Israel — the Jews — rejected Yahshua as the Messiah. Consequently, the mission to bear witness of the light and carry Yahweh's salvation to the nations was taken from them and given to New Covenant Israel, Acts 13:46 - 47 and Matthew 28:19 - 20.

The New Covenant really opens the door to the nations,

Then said Yahshua unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep, John 10:7.

Nothing shall be established without the testimony of two or three witnesses,

In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established, 2 Corinthians 13:1b.

Yahweh has not left Himself without witnesses,

Nevertheless He left not Himself without witness, Acts 14:17a.

The spiritual power to bear witness with signs and wonders that were given at Pentecost, seems to have been withdrawn for a while, but Yahweh promises such power will be given again in the last days:

And I will grant My two witnesses power to prophesy for one thousand two hundred and sixty

days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands which stand before the Elohim of the earth, Revelation 11:3 - 4.

It doesn't require unscriptural speculation and conjecture to identify Yahweh's witnesses.

You are My witnesses, and My servants whom I have chosen, Isaiah 43:10.

Yahweh once called you, "A green olive tree fair with goodly fruit," Jeremiah 11:16.

And the seven lampstands are the seven assemblies, Revelation 1:20.

Yahweh became angry with Israel's infidelity and said He would burn the branches of the olive tree,

Yahweh called thy name, a green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult He hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken. For Yahweh of hosts, that planted thee, hath pronounced evil against thee, for the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have done against themselves to provoke Me to anger in offering incense unto Baal, Jeremiah 11:16 - 17.

The fig tree, another symbol of Israel, withered when Yahshua cursed it because He found no fruit on it,

Now in the morning as He returned into the city, He hungered. And when He saw a fig tree in the way, He came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away. And when the disciples saw it, they marvelled, saying, How soon is the fig tree withered away! Yahshua answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done, Matthew 21:18 - 21.

Yahshua was looking for fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22. Branches (symbol of Old and New Covenant Israel) that do not bear goodly fruit are cut off the vine and cast out to wither and be burned,

If a man abide not in Me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned, John 15:6.

Spirit Given to the Obedient

Yahweh is not a merciless Elohim Who will remain angry with Israel forever,

Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith Yahweh; and I will not cause Mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith Yahweh, and I will not keep anger for ever, Jeremiah 3:12.

Revelation 11:3 must mean that Yahweh will give both Old and New Covenant Israel spiritual power in the latter days. It is not likely, however, that anyone who has not repented of transgressing the Law and turned to abide in the truth will be given power,

And I will give power unto My two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth, Revelation 11:3.

Spiritual power was given only to those who obeyed the command to assemble at the time appointed. It is not likely, however, that anyone who has not repented of transgressing the Law and turned to abide in the truth will be given power. Pentecost must foreshadow another pouring out of spiritual power at the time of the end. The implication of the account in Acts 2 is that His power will be given only to those who obey His command to assemble at the time appointed.

Can people who don't know the truth be expected to bear witness to truth? Of course not. Therefore,

at the time of the end, Yahweh's witnesses will have to know how to rightly handle the word of truth,

Study to shew thyself approved unto Yahweh, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, 2 Timothy 2:15.

Satan's witnesses will also have great power at the time of the end,

Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 2 Thessalonians 2:9.

Yahweh's witnesses will be killed,

And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them, Revelation 11:7.

Faith (trust) in Yahweh and His Messiah will give true witnesses courage to finish their testimony before Yahweh grants Satan power over them, John 19:10.

Yahweh is Spirit and He seeks those who will worship in spirit and truth, John 4:24.

The law is spiritual, but we are carnal and cannot submit to the law without Yahweh's indwelling Holy Spirit, Romans 7:14; 8:7.

The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak, Matthew 26:41.

The weakness of the Old Covenant was in the weakness of the flesh,

For what the Law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, Yahweh sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh, Romans 8:3.

An omniscient Elohim would know that without His Holy Spirit human beings could not resist the lure of false religions and idolatrous worship. He knew that without His Spirit, humans could not understand the spiritual intent of His law. Surely He knew that even those who tried to obey the law would make a show of obedience

<see **Marriage** page 20>

Passover

Should we keep Passover or Easter? Should wine or grape juice be served? Should we keep Passover on the 14th or the 15th? These are just a few of the questions that have been asked of us, who, as True Believers, keep Passover on the even of the 14th and who serve unleavened bread and grape juice as the Scriptures instruct us to do.

There are several spring festivals celebrated by many different religions. Most have their origins in the pagan beliefs of long ago. Where did the Passover originate? Do we still celebrate it the same way as the first one? Do the Jews still keep it the same way? In order to answer these and other questions, we need to go to the Scriptures and look in the book of Exodus. This is where we will find the events leading up to the first Passover. The first six chapters and the first seven verses of chapter 7 explain how and why Moses and Aaron were sent to Egypt. The Egyptians worshiped many pagan mighty ones. The Pharaoh was worshiped as the incarnation of the sun deity, the deity of light. On his head he had a coiled snake as the symbol of his power. We read in Exodus 7 verse 8 thru chapter 10 verse 20 how each and every one of these so-called deities were defeated by Yahweh, using Moses and Aaron as HIS spokesmen.

Then YAHWEH said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even a darkness which may be felt." So Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days. They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, but all the sons of Israel had light in their dwellings, Exodus 10:21 - 23, NASU.

Yahweh brought this darkness over the land and the Pharaoh, the deity of light, could do absolutely nothing about it. He was defeated, but with a hardened heart he would not let Yahweh's people go. Now, in chapter 11 we read of the last plague to be sent upon Egypt:

Now YAHWEH said to Moses, "One more plague I will bring on Pharaoh and on Egypt; after that he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out from here completely. Speak now in the hearing of the people that each man ask from his neighbor and each woman from her neighbor for articles of silver and articles of gold." YAHWEH gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Furthermore, the man Moses himself was greatly esteemed in the land of Egypt, both in the

sight of Pharaoh's servants and in the sight of the people. Moses said, "Thus says YAHWEH, 'About midnight I am going out into the midst of Egypt, and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of the Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the slave girl who is behind the millstones; all the firstborn of the cattle as well. Moreover, there shall be a great cry in all the land of Egypt, such as there has not been before and such as shall never be again. But against any of the sons of Israel a dog will not even bark, whether against man or beast, that you may understand how YAHWEH makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel. All these your servants will come down to Me and bow themselves before Me, saying, Go out, you and all the people who follow you,' and after that I will go out." And he went out from Pharaoh in hot anger. Then YAHWEH said to Moses, "Pharaoh will not listen to you, so that My wonders will be multiplied in the land of Egypt." Moses and Aaron performed all these wonders before Pharaoh; yet YAHWEH hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the sons of Israel go out of his land, Exodus 11:1 - 9 NASU.

Now YAHWEH said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, " This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year to you. Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'On the tenth of this month they are each one to take a lamb for themselves, according to their fathers' households, a lamb for each household. Now if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take one according to the number of persons in them; according to what each man should eat, you are to divide the lamb. Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it at twilight. Moreover, they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that same night, roasted with fire, and they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled at all with water, but rather roasted with fire, both its head and its legs along with its entrails. And you shall not leave any of it over until morning, but whatever is left of it until morning, you shall burn with fire. Now you shall eat it in this manner: with your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff

in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste--it is YAHWEH's Passover. For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the elohim of Egypt I will execute judgments – I am YAHWEH. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt," Exodus 12:1 - 13 NASU.

They were told to take some of the blood of the sacrificed lamb and to put it on the doorposts and lintel over the door of the house in which they ate of the lamb. This was to be a sign of their protection. They had to roast the sacrifice over fire; it could not be boiled. They could not eat it raw. It had to be roasted with the head, legs and entrails intact.

The Egyptians had to know that something was going to happen that night. Everything had to be eaten that night, whatever was leftover had to be burned. They ate with their loins girded, sandals on their feet and staff in hand. They ate in haste and were ready to travel. This was the first Passover.

For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the elohim of Egypt I will execute judgments – I am YAHWEH. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt, Exodus 12:12 - 13 NASU.

The blood on the houses was the saving redemption from that plague. We don't see an orderly service with the drinking of wine and all the other trappings. This came later.

There was to be a memorial of this redemption every year at the same time. Chapter 12 continues

on with the exodus out of Egypt. Verses 42 - 51 gives the ordinances of Passover:

It is a night to be observed for YAHWEH for having brought them out from the land of Egypt; this night is for YAHWEH, to be observed by all the sons of Israel throughout their generations. YAHWEH said to Moses and Aaron, "This is the ordinance of the Passover: no foreigner is to eat of it; but every man's slave purchased with money, after you have circumcised him, then he may eat of it. A sojourner or a hired servant shall not eat of it. It is to be eaten in a single house; you are not to bring forth any of the flesh outside of the house, nor are you to break any bone of it. All the congregation of Israel are to celebrate this. But if a stranger sojourns with you, and celebrates the Passover to YAHWEH, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near to celebrate it; and he shall be like a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person may eat of it. The same law shall apply to the native as to the stranger who sojourns among you." Then all the sons of Israel did so; they did just as Yahweh had commanded Moses and Aaron. And on that same day YAHWEH brought the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts.

The Jews of today keep a Passover that is a memorial of the Exodus. However, over the centuries things have been added and other things may have been dropped. For example, several glasses of wine and several courses of foods are served and a ceremony that the family participates in.

Also, the Passover has been merged into the Feast of Unleavened Bread by some. We as true believers do not believe that this should be. We are to keep the Passover that Yahshua instituted just prior to His death on the stake. Most of churchianity has abused the memorial by the improper use.

Some serve it daily, some weekly, some monthly, or every other month, or quarterly. It has been called by many names and served in different ways.

How do we observe it? We have to follow the example set forth by Yahshua. In Matthew 28:20, He admonished us to go and teach others to observe all that He had commanded us to do. In order to do this we must DO as He did.

When the hour had come, He reclined at the table, and the apostles with Him. And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of Elohim." And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of Elohim comes." And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the New Covenant in My blood," Luke 22:14 - 21 NASU. (see also Matthew 26:26 - 29; Mark 14:22 - 25).

There are similarities between the first Passover that seem to foreshadow the new. In Exodus chapter 12 we learned that the Israelites had to put blood on their doorposts and lintels above the door and stay inside to be saved from the last plague: the death of the first born in Egypt. It is by the blood of Yahshua that we receive the forgiveness for our sins. Just as the first Passover lamb had to be perfect, so also is Yahshua, our Passover Lamb, perfect. Have you ever wondered why the first lamb had to be roasted? In Exodus 12:9 tells us they were not to eat it raw or boiled in water. What is the significance here? If it were boiled in water, chances are they would

have had to break bones and cut it up. Remember this is a fore-shadow of Yahshua on the stake. He had no bones broken. The ordinance of Passover in Exodus tells us that a sojourner or hired hand was not to eat of it. Only those who were circumcised could take of it. Likewise today, we serve only to those who have been baptized into the Name of Yahshua. This is our circumcision of the heart and qualifies us to receive the new Passover. What are we to serve? We serve unleavened bread and grape juice. It would make little sense to clean your house of all leavening and then turn around and serve leavened bread. We do not offer wine as some assemblies do as it is fermented. Nowhere does the Passover cup contain wine, only grape juice, the fruit of the vine.

Leviticus 10:8 - 9 gives a very good reason not to serve wine.

YAHWEH then spoke to Aaron, saying, "Do not drink wine or strong drink, neither you nor your sons with you, when you come into the tent of meeting, so that you will not die – it is a perpetual statute throughout your generations – and so as to make a distinction between the holy and the profane, and between the unclean and the clean.

We will be priests in the new kingdom and should not come before Yahweh or Yahshua drinking wine or strong drink.

Foot Washing

The foot washing is done prior to the receiving of the symbols of the body and the blood of the Messiah. It is overlooked by most of Churchianity and seldom done even when they do remember.

Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Yahshua, do You wash my feet?" Yahshua answered and said to him, "What I do you do not realize now, but you will

understand hereafter." Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Yahshua answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." Simon Peter said to Him, "Yahshua, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head." Yahshua said to him, "He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "Not all of you are clean." So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Master; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, the Master and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them, John 13:1 - 17 NASU.

There is a blessing for doing these things. Yahshua gave us an example and we should follow it. Each person needs to search his or her own heart and mind to be sure that you are worthy to receive the Passover emblems.

Most of Christianity keeps Easter in place of Passover. I have not been able to understand what eggs, bunnies, baby chicks and the other trappings have to do with Passover. There are instructions on keeping Passover in Scriptures, but I have been unable to find anything on the pagan holidays, other than to not keep them. Easter is found only in Acts 12:4 in the KJV translation. This is a mistranslation and has since been corrected in newer translations.

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and self-abasement with additions and traditions that do nothing to meet the weakness of the flesh,

Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh, Colossians 2:23.

Obedience Possible with the Spirit

Without revealing His Messiah or giving individuals His Spirit and power, Yahweh must not have intended Old Covenant Israel to bear witness to His salvation in spirit and truth. Yet, in spite of weakness and faithlessness, Yahweh used Israel to bear witness to the truth.

What truth? That there is only one true Elohim and obedience to His laws brings blessings and life.

Disobedience brings curses and death, Deuteronomy 6:4 and chapter 28.

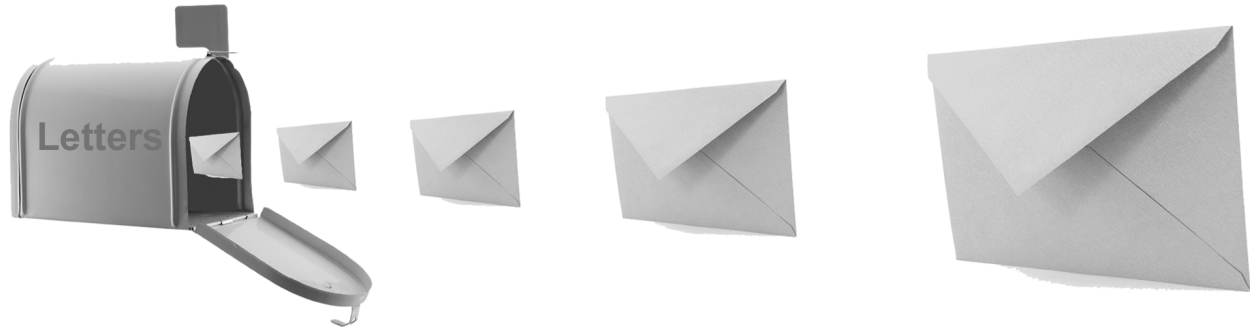
It could be that Yahweh not only intended for Israel to prove the weakness of the flesh, but also the impossibility of true worship without the influence of His Holy Spirit, i.e., grace.

If this is the message the prophets and the apostles are trying to convey by their testimony, then Old Covenant Israel will not learn the truth until the Jews cease to reject Yahweh's Messiah and the testimony of the Apostles.

New Covenant Israel won't learn until Christians cease transgressing the Law and ignoring the Spirit.

Elder Ralph Henrie (deceased)

Elder Dick Vaow (deceased)



Thank you for the literature I received from you. The Word of Yah is really coming alive for me now that I can tell I'm learning sound doctrine. Once again, I thank you. Be encouraged knowing that Yahweh is using your ministry to shine light in the darkness. May you be blessed, in the name of Yahshua the Messiah.

— **TC, PA**

Praise our heavenly Father Yahweh for His faithfulness and compassion. I thank Him and you for your immediate response to my request.

— **RB, FL**

Shalom! Greetings in the most holy name of Yahweh, Halleluyah! First of all, I would like to thank you for sending me a booklet which can help me to increase my knowledge about the truth. For seven years I was a preacher on the radio, preaching the name of Jesus. I have now decided to believe on Yahweh's name and Yahshua, His Son's name. Maybe Yahweh has a plan for me. Only He knows. I put my trust only in Him.

— **SS, Philippines**

I greet you in the names of Yahweh and Yahshua and bid you Shalom. I thank you for sending me the beautiful calendar to replace the pagan calendar I have. All the articles in your magazine are scripturally balanced and teach the truth.

— **RB, TN**

Thank you for allowing your magazine to inspire me and others in this day. Each issue that I receive taught me valuable lessons about Yahweh and Yahshua. As I learn new truth about Yahweh and Yahshua, I am constantly praying that the Holy Spirit will give me the courage to remain faithful. May Yahweh's blessings sustain you and the ministry. HalleluYah.

— **AF, Bahamas**

Please continue my subscription to the Beacon magazine. Your articles are a very big help to my understanding of the Scriptures.

— **BB, PA**

It is indeed an eye opener for me to come across your publication, "What Happened To Christianity?" I

am a young minister. My present assembly is really teaching and practicing (what we teach) the truth of Yahweh's Word. And your publication confirms this to my utmost surprise. We would love to be listed on your mailing list since you have aroused our appetite in knowing Him, His Word and in doing them, too.

— **JE, Nigeria**

I am truly grateful for the literature that you have sent to me. I am learning the Word all over again. I am a Bible School graduate and nothing that I've learned in school has come close to the learning that I've retained from you. For that I thank you.

— **TH, MA**

Yahweh's blessing rest upon you in the name of Yahshua the Messiah. We enjoy your literature and pray that we continue in obedience to our Father.

— **JO, TX**

I received your studies an hour ago. Thank you very much for sending it. I really appreciate it. I know I will get a lot of good use out of it. I have enjoyed all your studies for they have opened my eyes to whole new light.

— **JW, TX**

It gives me much joy and courage to receive your booklets and magazine. As I have said before we are now increasing in the faith. We also pray our heavenly Father Yahweh to increase your blessing and knowledge with which you have turned so many away from destruction.

— **AU, Nigeria**

Thank you very much for sending me the magazine that opened my mind and heart to know the new and real names of the Father and our Savior. I hope your office will continue to send me your magazine, mini-studies and booklets so I can share this knowledge with my friends and relatives.

— **OD, Philippines**

Greetings in ha Mashiach. I want to thank you for your ministry as it is and has been, a true blessing in my life. Please keep me on your mailing list.

— **DL, CA**

I am a new follower of the way of Yah. I happened to read one of your books and have since found no other publication that even comes close to the way my spirit was called through your booklet. I believe that Yah led me to you guys so that I may receive, through you, the truth. — AC, WV

May Yahweh bless and guide your every effort. Keep up the good and strong witness for Yahshua and our Father Yahweh. Thank you so much for the wonderful articles in your newsletter. — TB, TN

Yahweh bless you and I send my love, peace and gratitude along with this letter. I really enjoyed your Beacon and I eagerly await the next one. — MW, NC

Over the years I have been very blessed to have received your magazine. I've always enjoyed reading the many thought provoking articles provided for your readers. Having been in prison for many years, I have relied upon your literature for a deeper understanding of Biblical truths. I have learned a great deal and have much to share with others along the way. Because of the spiritual awakening I found due to the truths I read in your magazine and other literature, I was inspired to go into the Scriptures and search these things out for myself. Having learned the importance of keeping the Sabbath and the festivals was the beginning for much more Biblical truth. Thank you for showing me the real Hebrew Messiah of Israel, Yahshua ha Mashiach. — KH, CA

I just want to thank you for all your support you give me. I look forward to each issue of the "Beacon." I read it over and over again before I pass it on. — TK, CO

Peace unto you in the name of our heavenly Father Yahweh and His Son Yahshua Messiah. I praise Yahweh for keeping me healthy and in my right mind. Thank you for all your support through your ministry and by reading your magazine Beacon and using your correspondence course. Also, thank you for the pages of Kids for Yah. This info will be very helpful when I allow my grandchildren to read and ask questions about certain holidays in the Bible and ones that are not. — DT, IL

I just wanted to tell you thank you for providing the correspondence. The lessons are a great blessing. I enjoy the background information you provide and the Scripture references keep me digging in the Word of Yahweh. — JH, FL

I write to thank you for sending me the Beacon magazine and ask you to continue my subscription as Yahweh may provide. I have found each issue to

be instructive and have shared them with others.

— WJ, FL

I am a Messianic believer. I have been receiving your YAIY Beacon and it has been a real blessing to read about truth. Can you please renew my annual subscription. Praise Yahweh!

— RG, CO

I pray that this letter finds you and yours prospering and resting in His peace and joy. Thank you once again for making your materials available. I find them very informative as well as insightful. I have found no other assembly that I agree with more on their doctrinal viewpoint as YAIY. Thank you again for your wonderful literature. I'm also glad that everything you send out can be proven by true study of the Scriptures and by using said Scriptures in their entirety and correct context. — MS, TX

Thank you, YAIY, for this Bible correspondence course! I am learning so much and am able to put away false teachings which I grew up with that never made sense. My Yahweh richly bless. — TF, SC

May Yahweh shine His face upon you and fill your life with blessings. I would like to thank you for your correspondence course. It has opened my eyes to so much false teaching and given me a better understanding of the Scriptures. — RA, NJ

I am writing these few lines to thank you and your assembly for your generosity in making it possible for me to receive your magazine and the literature you make available to receive. I do enjoy reading the Beacon. I get a lot of knowledge out of it. The articles from different elders have a lot of knowledge and wisdom in them. — JT, TX

Glory be to El Shaddai, Almighty Yahweh, and to Yahshua's precious name. I thank you for the correspondence course's lessons, and for the wonderful literature you sent. It is always a joy to correspond with Yahweh's assembly. I am learning so much truth and, at times, it is overwhelming, but very rewarding, especially during the Feast days. May Yahweh continue to shine His face upon and through your ministry. — CD, CA

Shalom! I hope this letter finds you in the very best of health and spirits, and most of all, Yahweh's loving protection. — TC, OR

Peace and blessings to you. I am writing to say thank you for the literature you send me. The eyes of all faiths I share it with have their eyes opened.

— LB, WV



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— trees that were
pleasing to the eye and
good for food,
Genesis 2:9a NIV.