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Beacon



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Valentine's

Day



What is
it really
all about?



YAIY



Beacon



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MISSION

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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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Mail:

YAIY
2963 Co. Rd. 233
Kingdom City, MO
65262



Phone:

573-642-4100
Toll free:
1-877-642-4101



Fax:

573-642-4104



Email:

beacon@yaiy.org



Internet:

www.yaiy.org

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Valentine's Day

One day a year when much of the world sets aside for one to show someone in particular how much they are loved. Should we not show our love for Yahweh and Yahshua every day?

The month of February has for a longtime been used as a month in which much of the world celebrates a day that has been set aside as a day to show one's love toward someone. Some feel that by not celebrating this day that one is unable to show love towards others. One has to be a little leery about celebrating such days because there might be some underlying reasons why it is not found in the Scriptures. One must therefore look into history to find how this celebration began. As it turns out, this day had many different beginnings which were eventually combined together.

How it Started

It may surprise you that Valentine's Day came from the same place as many other seemingly innocent secular pre-Christian observances such as Christmas, New Year's Day, Easter, and Halloween. These days can be traced directly to earliest pagan history. The "universal church", as she did with all these other observances, selected a popular pagan holiday, adopted it, and dressed it up with a "Christian name." And, what is this special day which seemingly has no pagan attachment? Valentine's Day!

Origin

What was Valentine's Day first called long ago? Its original name was Lupercalia. It was celebrated thousands of years before there were any people known as Christians or saints. Lupercalia was known in Roman mythology as an ancient Roman fertility rite or Feast of Lupercus, which took place on February 15. This rite was named after a Roman god named Lupercus who was said to watch over the shepherds and their flocks and keep them from the wolves. This feast was celebrated every February to honor Lupercus so that no harm would come to the shepherds and their flocks.

A Latin word for wolf is *lupus* and someone once wrote, "Today we still refer to one who fancies himself as the ladies man as something of a 'wolf,' and when a pretty girl walks



down the street young men give a 'wolf whistle,' which shows that the spirit of the Lupercalia is still with us."

Romulus and Remus

Lupercalia is also a celebration to honor the mythical founders of Rome, Romulus and Remus. It is said the wolf Lupa suckled Romulus and Remus in a cave named Lupercal. Later, priests (called Luperci), dressed in goatskins, would sacrifice a goat (symbol of fertility) and a dog (symbol of protection) to the gods, anoint themselves with the blood of the sacrifices and then run through the streets whipping onlookers with a thong made from the goat's skin. These thongs were called *februa* and the lashing the *februatio*, both stemming from a Latin word *Februarius* (February) meaning to purify through sacrificial offerings. Women in the city placed themselves in positions around the streets so that the priests could strike them with the *februa* to assure these women of fertility and easy childbirth.

In another part of the celebration, priests would pair up the young men and women in the city by writing down the names of the girls and collecting them in a box. Boys then individually drew the girls' names from the box, and became paired with them until the next years' Lupercalia celebration.

Juno and Faunus

This same festival was also used to honor Juno, the Roman goddess of women and marriage, and Faunus (associated with Pan), the god of nature. On the eve of this festival a lottery was held. Names of teenage women were placed in a box, teenage men drew a name and they were paired up for one year. At the following year's Lupercalia, another lottery was held and the process continued.

Webster's Universal Unabridged Dictionary defines Faun (Faunus) as a class of rural deities represented as men with the ears, horns, tail, and later also the hind legs of a goat.



From a picture which depicts St. Valentine

Pope Gelasus

Traditionally, mid-February was a Roman time to meet and court prospective mates. Over time the lottery as associated with Lupercalia was replaced with a lottery where both men and women were allowed to draw from the box and now this box contained the names of saints. When a saint's name was drawn the person was expected to imitate the life of the saint whose name they had drawn. Over time this new lottery lost favor with the populace. In its place the young men began a custom of offering women they admired and wished to court handwritten greetings of affection on February 14. Thus began the idea of Valentine's Day cards.

Emperor Claudius II

During the third century the Roman Emperor Claudius II was a warmonger. He enjoyed winning and the power that was associated with winning. Because of this he was continually recruiting soldiers for his wars. Soon the men refused to join his army and preferred to stay at home with their families. Because of this the emperor declared that all engagements were cancelled and that no more marriages could be performed.

This didn't sit too lightly with the populace. They began secretly getting married behind the emperor's back.

How did they accomplish this? There was a Roman priest, bishop of Interamma, by the name of Valentine. He thought the emperor's orders were unrealistic so he secretly began marrying people. As one might expect Valentine was soon found out, arrested, put in jail, and sentenced to die.

It seems that while he was in jail that he fell in love with the jailer's daughter who was blind. During his imprisonment he wrote letters to those in his parish and is said to have always signed them "From your valentine." Valentine was eventually beheaded on Palatine Hill at the site of the ancient altar to Juno. Since this time Valentine was considered a martyr who sacrificed himself in the name of true love.

Valentine's Day

In the fifth century the reigning pope declared February 14 as Valentine's Day in honor of St. Valentine. The tradition of drawing names on St. Valentine's Day continues in England and other places. Also the Europeans believe that on February 14 the birds began to choose their mates. This tradition of birds choosing their mates on St. Valentine's Day led to the idea that boys and girls should do the same.

Syncretism

All these are nice stories! However, they are examples of the ongoing efforts of the religious leaders of the Christian church to appease their members and new converts through syncretism. According to the dictionary, syncretism is "a combination, reconciliation or coalescence of varying, often mutually opposed beliefs, principles of practices into the new conglomerate whole typically marked by internal inconsistencies."

This is a form of compromise that allows one to side-step a difficult issue. This is a way to avoid taking a stand for your beliefs and having to defend the basis of that belief.

Most people today could remember the story of St. Valentine, but Lupercalia and associated deities of classified mythology are forgotten. We

rarely study them or see any significance in our lives. The St. Valentine story motif has the elements of a good story: love, honor, courage, and sacrifice. But, let's go deeper into the significance of Lupercalia and the mythology behind this.

Mythology

Ancient pagan fertility rituals have come down to our present time almost intact. The only difference in the ancient pagan rituals and their modern counterparts, is the fact that their names have changed in order to venerate them with Christian respectability.

Lupus is the Latin word for wolf. The wolf is the symbol for valor. Valerentine was a common Roman name, which Roman parents often gave to their children in honor of the famous man who was first called valiant: Valentine, in antiquity, Lupercus, the Hunter.

The Romans identified Lupercus with Faunus, a deity of nature. The Greeks called this deity of nature—Pan. Pan, the chief of the satyrs presided over rural occupations, was patron of fisherman, hunters and shepherds.



A statue which depicts a wolf suckling Romulus and Remus, the mythical founders of Rome

Faun was the Roman mythological name. It corresponded with the satyrs of mythology. They had pointed ears, short horns and a tail.

Pan was an Arcadian deity of light and, as evil, was equivalent to the Sun deity: Baal, also spelled B-A-L or B-E-L. Baal is any of the numerous local deities among Semitic peoples, typifying the productive forces of nature and worshipped with orgiastic rites. Baal simply meant lord.

Baal, which is mentioned often in the Holy Scriptures, was a title of Nimrod, the hunter who was against Yahweh. We read in the King James version Genesis 10:9,

He was a mighty hunter before Yahweh: wherefore it is said, even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before Yahweh.

The hunter, Nimrod, it is said, pursued wolves in the Apennine

Mountains of Italy, and acquired the title of Lupercus - wolf hunter or hunter of valor. Remember, valens means to be strong, powerful, mighty.

Nimrod not only was strong, powerful and mighty in a political sense, but he was also strong, powerful, and mighty in a sexual sense. The worship of the pagan people was centered on sexual activity to insure fertility.

Nimrod, Baal-Lord-Sun God of the ancients, is the basis for all mythology worldwide. His exploits and those of his wife Semiramis and their foundation of the satan-centered system of mythology are explained in great detail in the excellent book titled "The Two Babylons," written by Alexander Hislop.

If you study the origin and symbols of Valentine's Day, they are not simple and meaningless. They refer you to a pagan ruler Nimrod who rebelled against Yahweh. Perhaps to continue recognizing these holidays, we are giving support to that rebellion by Nimrod. Nimrod was not the first to rebel, however. The first was Satan. We do not wish to associate ourselves in any way to that great rebel.

Christianity Embraces Pagan Customs

It is a documented fact that pagan customs were grafted into Christian religion. Although Christianity swept the world in a relatively short time as histories of great religions go, the early missionaries faced an uphill task. The pagans were reluctant to give up their false deities and ancient practices. So, missionaries, unable to convert them easily to an entirely new code of worship, did the next best thing. They took the pagan festivals as they were and gradually grafted the observances of the new faith into these festivals and the rites and customs surrounding them.

Yes, the Christian missionaries took each of these pagan festivals and venerated them with Christian respectability by changing their names. That is why today we have Christmas rather than Saturnalia, Easter rather than the Festival of the


Goddess of the Dawn, and Valentine's Day rather than the Lupercalia.

Even though Christian missionaries took the pagan festivals as they were and gradually grafted the Observance of the new faith into their festivals, with their rites and customs, they are still abominations in the sight of Yahweh.

In fact, Yahweh has given us a direct command not to serve Him in the way that the pagans served their deities! In Deuteronomy 12:29-32, we read:

When Yahweh thy Elohim shall cut off the Nations from before thee, whither thou goest to possess them and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their land; Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before this; and that thou inquire not after their deities,

To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22

Mini - Study 

How the Savior's Name Was Changed

Superstition, ignorance, and the dynamics of language led to a change in the Savior's Name, to a name He never had!

The SAVIOR WAS BORN in Bethlehem of Judea of a Jewish virgin who spoke Hebrew (or perhaps Aramaic), a Semitic dialect. He was born into a society where Hebrew was the common language. The angel Gabriel had announced to Miriam (Mary) the mother that the Child about to be born would save His people Israel from their sins. His Name, therefore, would literally reflect this meaning and mission.

The Bible shows that whenever people were spoken to from On High, it was always to those who were familiar with or spoke the Hebrew language. Hebrew no doubt was spoken in the Garden of Eden. The Bible is a Hebrew book, given to spirit-filled Hebrew writers. The only language spoken for the first 1757 years until the Tower of Babel incident was Hebrew. We must conclude, therefore, that Hebrew is the heavenly language.


Genesis 10:30 reveals that the tribes of Shem did not join the project at the plains of Shinar (Genesis 11:2) where the tower of Babel was built. According to Genesis 10, they dwelled at Mesha, in the foothills of Mount Sephar. Their Hebrew language was not changed.

With all those facts before us, we must ask, why do our Bibles call the Savior by the name *Jesus* which is neither Jewish nor Hebrew? *Jesus* has no translation in any language.

Why would a Jewish maiden, whose native tongue was Hebrew, living in a Jewish community of Hebrews, who had been addressed by the celestial messenger Gabriel, give her newborn a hybrid Latin-Greek name that carries no such meaning as Savior in either lan-

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To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22

Mini - Study 

Is 'Elohim' A Pagan Title?

The Hebrews referred to Yahweh as El. The Canaanites did the same to their mighty one. So who has rights to it—Yahweh or an idol?

It is no secret that the Sacred Name Yahweh has been disguised, supplanted, and removed from our English Bibles. This gross mistake lies with the translators who through ignorance or by design substituted Kyrios and Theos for Yahweh's Name in the Greek texts.

They also translated the Hebrew titles "El" and "Elohim" into English as "god" and "God." Some believe that one must not use the terms El and Elohim in reference to the Heavenly Majesty because they are considered pagan.

But is the Hebrew word "El" or its plural "Elohim" so evil and wrong that we are condemned for employing it as a title to refer to Yahweh? If so, then why does the first verse in the oldest Hebrew manuscripts available refer to our Creator as "Elohim"? "In the beginning G-d אֱלֹהִים = Elohim) created the heaven and the earth." (Gen. 1:1)

'Elohim' A Word Given by Yahweh

If Yahweh refers to Himself as Elohim in the very Book He inspired Moses to write, then is not Elohim a term sanctioned by Yahweh Himself? If the inspired texts—breathed from Yahweh's very own mouth—occasionally refer to Yahweh as "Elohim" (meaning "Mighty One"), how can it be wrong for us to refer to Yahweh as an Elohim?

How can one arrive, then, at such an absurd conclusion that it is wrong to use "Elohim"? One



saying, How did these nations serve their deities? Even so will I do likewise. Thou shalt not do so unto Yahweh thy Elohim; for every abomination to Yahweh, which he hath, have they done unto their deities; for even their sons and daughters they have burnt in the fire to their deities. What thing soever I command you, observe to do it; thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

Does Yahweh have something to say about religious leaders who took the pagan festivals as they were and gradually grafted the observances of the new faith into these festivals and the customs and the rites surrounding them? Yes, He does. Let's look at what 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 says:

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of the Messiah. And no marvel; for satan is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Although these ancient fertility rituals have come down to us through Satan's ministers in forms of beauty, we are still creating, maintaining and renewing fertility to the same ancient pagan deities that Yahweh says are an abomination to Him. As described earlier, we are using new terms and stories, but they all have the same roots. The roots are found in the Old Testament Scripture. Yahweh was concerned with them and still is today.

Its Roots

Valentine's Day has its roots in pagan fertility celebrations. They were not acceptable in their original forms and even if we are using a "modern" approach, we are still practicing pagan celebrations which honor the pagan deities. Do not fool yourself. We are not honoring Yahweh in any way by associating ourselves with this type of holiday.

It is a Scriptural fact that we cannot serve Yahweh while serving in this world's style of pagan worship. Let's see what 1 Corinthians 10:20-22 says:

But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to Yahweh; and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of Yahweh, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of Yahweh's table, and the table of devils. Do we provoke Yahweh to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

In other words, we can't have it both ways. We have to choose whom we serve. In Romans 6:16, we are emphatically told that we are servants to whom we obey:

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Cupid

That symbol which is almost a Valentine entity in itself, Cupid, is the Roman mythological son of Venus, the goddess of love. In Greek he is called Eros, the god of love, and son of Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty. Cupid has always played a role in the celebrations of love and lovers. He is known as a mischievous, naked, winged child carrying a bow and a quiver of arrows. There is more to the stories of Cupid, but suffice it to say that Cupid has pagan origins.

The Heart

Along with Cupid another symbol used over and over again during the season of Valentine's Day is the heart. In the book, "The Two Babylons," the author, Alexander Hislop, writes on pages 188-189,

"The 'heart' was one of the sacred symbols of Osiris (Egyptian deity of the underworld) when he was born again, and appeared as Harpocrates, or the infant divinity, borne in the arms of his mother Isis. Therefore, the fruit of the Egyptian Persea was peculiarly sacred to him, from its resemblance to the human heart. Hence, this infant divinity was frequently represented with a heart, or the heart-shaped fruit of the Persea in one of his hands. . . Thus the boy-god came to be regarded as the 'god of the heart,' or, in other words, as Cupid, the god of love. To identify this infant divinity with his father, 'the mighty hunter (Nimrod),' he was equipped with 'bow and arrows;' and in the hands of the poets, for the amusement of the profane vulgar, this sportive boy-god was celebrated as taking aim with his gold-tipped shafts at the heart of mankind. His real character, however, as the above statement shows, and as we have reason already to conclude, was far higher and of very different kind. He was the woman's seed. Venus and her son, Cupid, were none other than the Madonna and the child."

There's more.
"How came it that the 'Heart' became the



recognized symbol of the Child of the great Mother? The answer is, 'The Heart' in Chaldee is 'Bel;' and as, at first, after the check given to idolatry, almost all the most important elements of the Chaldean system were introduced under a veil, so under that

veil they continued to be shrouded from the gaze of the initiated...Now, the worship of the 'Sacred Heart' was just, under a symbol, the worship of the 'Sacred Bel,' that mighty one of Babylon, who had died a martyr for idolatry; for Harpocrates, of Horus, the infant god, was regarded as Bel, born again."

The most predominant symbol of the fertility rite of Valentine's Day is the heart. In our country, the heart symbol has the same meaning as love. Almost everywhere one looks you can see examples of this symbolic representation of love. The heart is also a popular design for costume jewelry, saying love without saying it.

This symbol was also familiar in ancient Babylon where it symbolized the deity who was worshipped. This symbol did not come down to our day untainted and pure, despite what the world has been deceived to think.

Let us read a very revealing and astounding excerpt from Halley's Bible handbook. This will certainly put "the heart" of truth into proper context:

"The Imperial Church of the 4th and 5th centuries had become an entirely different institution from the persecuted church of the first three centuries. In its ambition to rule it lost and forgot the spirit of [Messiah].

"Worship, at first very simple, was developed into elaborate, stately, imposing ceremonies having all the outward splendor that had belonged to heathen temples.

"Ministers became Priests. The term 'priest' was not applied to Christian ministers before A.D. 200. It was borrowed from the Jewish system, and from the example of heathen priesthood. Leo I (440-61) prohibited priests from marrying, and Celibacy of priests became a law of the Roman Church.

"Conversion of the Barbarians. The Goths, Vandals, and Huns who overthrew the Roman Empire accepted Christianity; but to a large extent their conversion was nominal and this further the Church with Pagan practices."

We are warned "learn not the way of the heathen," Jeremiah 10:2.

Arrows

What about the significance of "Arrows"? J.E. Cirlot offers this in his Dictionary of Symbols:

"It was used to designate the sun's rays. But, because of its shape, it has undeniable phallic significance, especially when it is shown in emblems balanced against the symbol of the 'mystic center,' feminine in character, such as the heart. The heart is pierced with an arrow of conjunction."

The Blending of Pagan and Christian Values

During the fourth century the church seemingly swallowed up many people in the sake of religion. In doing so the people swallowed up brought along their own version of religion. This meant many pagan practices were incorporated into the practicing

religious celebrations. Even though they tried to rid themselves of these pagan practices, a book, "The Story of Valentine Symbols," says,

"Unable to abolish some of the pagan festivals that the people loved, they accepted them and gave them Christian names. So it was with the Lupercalia, which survived late into the fifth century. St. Valentine's name was given to a festival that was celebrated in the springtime and dealt with the fertility in human beings and other animals. And, doing what the church might, the ancient meaning never quite left it. Memories of the Lupercalia as a celebration of mating were handed down, attaching themselves to the saint's name."

The ideas connected to St. Valentine's Day were brought to the United States and that day was first celebrated in the United States during the Civil War.

To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22

Mini - Study

How to Be 'Born Again'

Few really understand this commonly used, evangelical expression.

It was President Jimmy Carter who help popularize the term "born again." The expression is misleading, however, in view of the way it is typically applied.

In common parlance, born again is understood to mean an experience of conversion, usually emotional, and associated with long sieges of prayer, preaching, and stirring music. For those undergoing the experience, born again means to be reborn in this life, with the implication that salvation is now assured.

A proper understanding of the concept, however, will lead to a significant truth in the way Yahweh is calling out a people for His Name.

The Meaning Behind 'Born Again'

The concept of being "born again" is taken from chapter 3 of the Evangel of John in Yahshua's response to the Pharisee Nicodemus:

"Yahshua answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of Elohim" (John 3:3).

"Born again" in the King James Version should more properly have been rendered, "begotten from above." "Born" here is the Greek *gemmao*, meaning the birth process — from begettal to birth. *Gemmao* is the same word used in Matthew 1:20, where the angel told Joseph that that which is conceived (*gemmao*, begotten) in Mary was of the Holy Spirit.

One must be begotten before one is born. The process of birth begins with a gestation period. It doesn't happen instantaneously. This whole concept relates to the spiritual begettal that Yahshua was speaking of in John 3.

To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22

MINISTUDY

Civic Responsibility

In a world out of step with the Bible, how far should a True Worshiper go—or not go—in becoming involved in the "system"?

WE LIVE UNDER the influence of an increasingly evil and satanic world. We as followers of the Bible dislike much of what goes on around us.

The government is pledged to aid the weakest or smallest elements of society to ensure that democratic principles and individual rights are upheld. These rights and principles then become the standard imposed upon the rest, who must learn to adjust.

Here are some examples: prayer or references to the Bible in public schools are prohibited; work on the Sabbath is often mandated, and by gaining governmental acceptance of immoral lifestyles, certain groups are gradually forcing the public into condoning behavior the Bible soundly condemns.

Activities of anti-religious groups are carefully guarded by the courts, which uphold their freedom and rights.

What Is the Believer's Role?

At times we may sympathize and even empathize with many who are demonstrating for the homeless or women's rights or against abortions, against wage cut-backs, crime, unfairness, and a host of causes. Yet, should a believer in the Bible get involved in social causes?

We in the United States and other democracies have a right to protest. So, should we spend our time attempting to change the downward plunge of our society? Is it our job to change the world? What does Scripture say?

The question is not whether abortion is wrong. It is wrong. The question is not whether alcohol

Retailers Thrive

No sooner does the Xmas celebration end that one finds retailers displaying their Valentine's Day goods. Retailers not only target adults with the schemes displayed above, they target young children also. They encourage school children to purchase a card for each child in their class. If a class has 30 pupils and each buys a card for the other children, then that totals 870 cards. Multiply this by a small monetary amount for each card and this will total in the hundreds of dollars. Then, multiply this by the number of classrooms in the country doing the same thing and what do we have? A business venture not left alone.

As we have seen, becoming involved with the celebrations of worldly holidays and special days points overwhelmingly to pagan symbolism. This we are to avoid. We must never place anything above Yahweh and His way of life. The celebration of these days only shows that the spirit of disobedience is running rampant in the world. But, Yahweh's true spirit is here also and is available to all those who have a real desire to live according to His will. Yahweh has promised us a place in His kingdom if we are willing to obey His Truth.

Its Meaning is Lost

The Adversary has once again shown his ability to shadow the true meaning of this pagan celebration. As with other pagan days which society chooses to celebrate, as Halloween or Christmas, satan has convinced mankind that nothing is wrong with doing something good on this day. Mankind really has had the wool pulled over their eyes. By merely looking in a dictionary or an encyclopedia one can find out for yourself the origin of this day. You will be surprised what those reference books will say.

Don't let satan beguile any of us. It is of utmost importance you recognize the true meaning of this and all pagan celebrations. Yahweh is most assuredly not for them. He hates man-made festivals. We must turn from them if we want to have a position of rulership

in His Kingdom when our Savior, Yahshua, returns to set up that Kingdom.

Serve Yahweh, Not Man

If we obey Yahweh by practicing every Word that proceeds from His mouth without adding to his Word or taking from His Word, we are servants of Yahweh. However, if we follow after the servants or ministers of satan, who are deceived into grafting pagan customs into Christianity, then we are servants of Satan.

Servants of Satan! Now that is the truth without veneer or syncretic manipulation. That is a frank description of whom we obey when we acknowledge and honor Valentine's Day. It seems harsh and certainly not politically correct, but truth feels that way sometimes.

Yahweh warns us to come out of this pagan system. If we choose not to do this, we have made our choice and will be identified with it. Consider what Revelation 18:4 has to say:

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

Now that we have identified this world's holidays, the wrong ones to be associated with, what does Yahweh prefer?

Using Scripture to Prove All Things

How does it happen that we are unable to correctly discern what is true and what is false? How does the world innocently accept a holiday like Valentine's Day, which in fact has a history that leads you back to the deity of this world, satan?

Remember what we are told in Ephesians 6:12:

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the worlds forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

We learn more about the attributes of Satan in Ezekiel 28:12b-13a,

You had the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of Yahweh; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond.

Satan's demons are very intelligent and aware of reality. We find this in Mark 3:11:

Whenever the unclean spirit saw Him, they would fall down before Him and shout, "You are the Son of Yahweh."

In Ephesians 2:2, Satan is described as having a special power over us:

In which you formerly walked according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

Most people believe that is Yahweh's world or certainly Yahshua's world. But that is not true. This world was given to Satan to rule. He has twisted that opportunity and despoiled it.

These Scriptures confirm who the real ruler of this world is:

Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out, John 12:31.

I will not speak with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in me, John 14:30.

In whose care the mighty one of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Messiah who is the image of Yahweh, 2 Corinthians 4:4.

We know that we are of Yahweh, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one, 1 John 5:19.

These Scriptures confirm that this whole world is under the influence of Satan and his demons, who are able to manipulate, deceive, and confuse at will. They construct history and culture to meet their needs. The symbolism used during the Valentine's Day celebration is just another example of their work.

Elder Roger G. Meyer



That I May Know Him

(Author's Note: All Bible references are taken from the New King James Version – NKJV with the Holy Names inserted)

Man's Ignorance of Yahweh

Our age is witnessing the explosion of knowledge as prophesied in the book of Daniel.

In the midst of such abundant knowledge there seems little excuse for ignorance. Yet, on the things that really matter, the world lacks authentic knowledge. With blinded eyes, they are still content to accept man's theories of our origins and follow after man's ways, instead of learning and accepting the truths of the Bible. In John 1:10 we learn that though the world was made by Yahweh the world did not know Him:

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

Yahshua, the Messiah, came and lived in the world as man, but they did not know Him, and in their ignorance condemned Him to death. If only the many persons who heard Him or heard of Him had drawn close to Him, spent time with Him, and got to know Him, they would have availed themselves of the historic opportunity to get to know Yahweh made flesh. In their ignorance they chose a robber in preference to their Saviour. The world today continues to make other choices in preference to Yahshua.

Yahweh is everywhere, yet few recognize Him. He speaks loud and clear not only through the inspired words of the Bible, but all of creation is the expression and evidence of His greatness. Yet, many do not hear or know Him. The wisdom of Yahweh is like foolishness in their eyes. Instead of getting to know Him, they are constantly moving away from Him.

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of Yahweh, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned, 1 Cor. 2:14.

Even of greater consequence is the ignorance of many who claim to be His followers but are content to follow Him from a distance. They know of Him through scant reading of the Scriptures, and the teachings of others, but there is no personal commitment or motivation to know Him intimately and to be transformed by their close encounter

with Him. They may be able to illustrate some of the qualities of Yahweh through His intervention in the lives of others, especially the heroes of the Bible, but they have not experienced for themselves the evidence of who Yahweh is in their own lives.

There are many so called "believers" who believe only what Yahweh has done and can do, but seem to have difficulty in understanding that He will be to them today what He has been to others in the past.

For I am Yahweh, I do not change, Mal. 3:6a.

Persons with such mindset can think they know Yahweh when in fact they only know of Him. In such cases they are not enthused to seek for Yahweh with all their mind and strength.

They may talk about Him in words of endearment, loving Him from a distance, but never allowing their hearts and lives to be saturated with Him in an intimate deep and meaningful relationship. They *"...draw near with their mouths and honor [Him] with their lips, but have removed their hearts far from [Him]..."*, Isa. 29:13.

Yahweh Wants Us to Know Him

Since creation Yahweh has desired for His people to have a close relationship with Him.

When Adam and Eve sinned, they broke that personal contact with their Maker, and man has continued to stray further from Him.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way, Isa. 53:6a.

In the book of Jeremiah, Yahweh repeatedly said that His people did not know Him.

The priests did not say, "Where is Yahweh?" And those who handle the law did not know Me; The rulers also transgressed against Me; The prophets prophesied by Baal, And walked after things that do not profit, Jer. 2:8.

Those who should have known Him did not. They were ministering while in a state of ignorance or disobedience of Yahweh's laws, not having a personal relationship and commitment with their heavenly Father.

"Like their bow they have bent their tongues for lies. They are not valiant for the truth on the earth. For they proceed from evil to evil, And they do not know Me," says Yahweh, Jer. 9:3.

Yahweh earnestly desired for them to draw closer to Him in a loving relationship. His loving heart would reach out to them even when they strayed, pleading to them to return to Him.

How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing! (Luke 13:34b)

They had clearly shown by their backslidings that they were incapable of keeping the Old Covenant. Therefore, He would make a New Covenant with the House of Israel and of Judah, not by annulling His laws, but by placing them into their minds and hearts, so that they would know Him.

No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, "Know Yahweh," for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says Yahweh. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more, Jer. 31:34.

Why did Yahweh want them to know Him? It was not for His benefit, but theirs. He wanted to give Himself to them, to change their direction and to lead and guide them into His right paths, which would bring them into the blessings He had intended for them to experience.

Today, as in Bible days, there are many leaders who are causing their followers to stray from the truths and knowledge of Yahweh, by feeding them with fashionable watered-down doctrines, and Yahweh's people "are destroyed for lack of knowledge," Hos. 4:6.

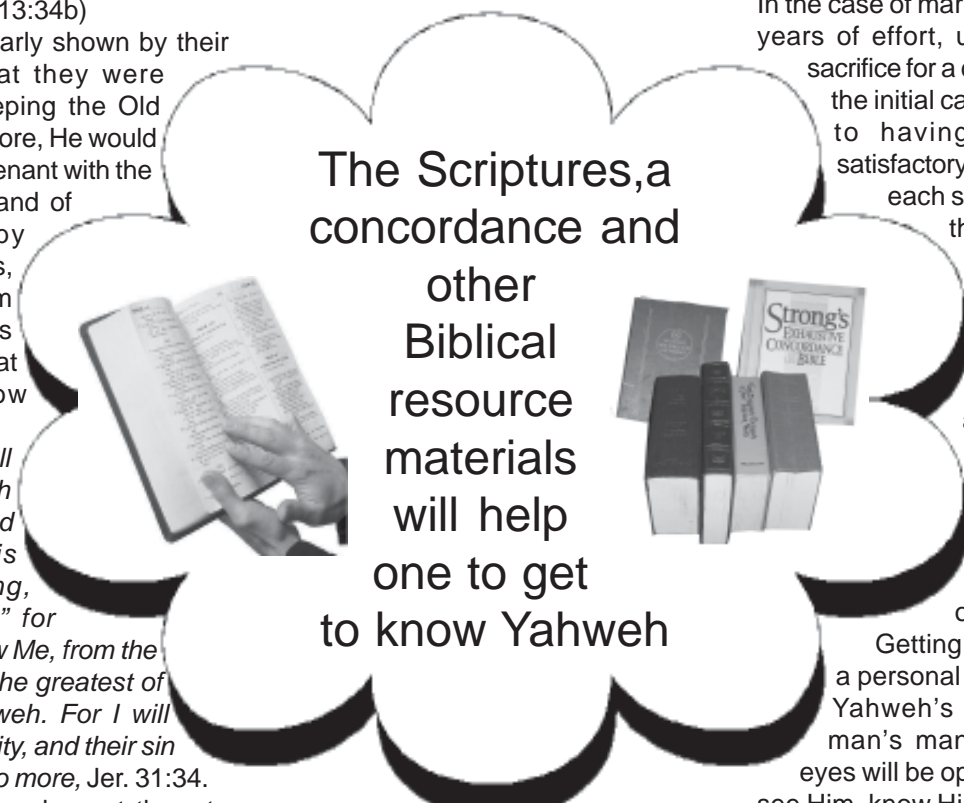
Yahweh does not want us to be severed from Him. His boundless love

caused Him to send His only Son into the world that we might know Him better, be conformed into His image, and have the blessing and assurance of eternal life with Him.

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of Yahweh! (1 John 3:1)

Yahweh desires the best for His people, but we can only receive it when we know Yahweh intimately.

The people who know their Elohim shall be strong, and carry out great



The Scriptures, a concordance and other Biblical resource materials will help one to get to know Yahweh

exploits, Dan. 11:32.

But, while we stay far from Him, we are in effect hindering His power from having full sway in our lives. It is no wonder that many of the so-called representatives of Yahweh in the earth are anemic and ineffective.

The closer we are to Him, the more intimate our knowledge of Him becomes and the greater is the manifestation of His characteristics and power in our lives. Above all, in the end we shall have the richest blessing He could bestow upon us – that of immortality.

How Do We Get To Know Yahweh?

You cannot get to know someone as long as you maintain a distance from that person. Getting to know someone is about drawing closer to that individual, sharing thoughts, working alongside him/her, gaining confidence to bare your innermost thoughts. It takes time. It does not happen in a first handshake or a hurried meeting. Even the desire to know someone well does not necessarily make it happen. In the case of marriage, it takes many years of effort, understanding and sacrifice for a couple to move from the initial casual acquaintance, to having a settled and satisfactory relationship, where each spouse really knows the other. If so much exertion is required in the case of persons we can see, touch and communicate with audibly, how much greater effort is required to really know Yahweh and Yahshua who we cannot see, touch, or hear?

Getting to know Yahweh is a personal experience. It is by Yahweh's Spirit and not by man's manipulation that our eyes will be opened, and we shall see Him, know Him, and be changed into His likeness. We cannot cause that to happen. Nevertheless, the Scriptures give proof that those to whom Yahshua or Yahweh has been revealed played a vital part. Yahweh does not reveal Himself to all and sundry, but to a select few who seek after Him with all their heart.

You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart, Jer. 29:13.

David cried out to Yahweh when he was in the wilderness of Judah,

O Yahweh, You are my El; Early will I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and

thirsty land where there is no water, Ps. 63:1.

If we are to know Yahweh, it will come in answer to our longing hearts as we thirst after Him.

Yahshua is not in the business of casting His *"pearls before swine."* For those who seek, He has promised they will find, but the seekers must show their earnestness. He demonstrated this in the narration of the friend seeking to borrow bread at midnight and only obtaining it as a result of his persistence (Mark 11:5-8).

The teaching here is that whatever we seek after from Yahweh, we will obtain it only after incessantly seeking, knocking and asking. If we desire to have our spiritual eyes and ears opened and our touch sensitized that we may know Yahweh, it will not come from our first attempt or expressed desire. It will come when like a deer panting after water brooks, we leap expectantly and with determination never giving up until we find Him. But first, like the deer, we must be motivated by a thirst, to get to the Water of Life. No one can do this for you, or cause you to be thirsty. A make-belief thirst will not motivate you. You must feel from deep within, your own emptiness and inadequacy, long to know Yahweh to experience His sufficiency, and make the necessary adjustments in your daily life to let this happen.

It is when we are motivated to seek after Yahweh more than anything else - more than our greatest ambition, passion or necessity - that we will find Him. He is ever present everywhere, yet He can only be found by those who draw near to Him.

Draw near to Yahweh and He will draw near to you, James 4:8.

Yahshua said we must abide in Him and be continually connected to Him just as a branch must remain connected to the vine if it will bear fruit (John 5: 1-7).

One of the key pre-requisites to knowing Yahweh is to be joined to Him in heart and mind, endeavouring in all we do to preserve that inseparable bond with Him, that will bear fruit.

By maintaining our union with Yahweh we will get to know Him and will really love Him, not merely with our lips or even our hearts but also with our lives. We will become living epistles of Yahshua, demonstrating all that He taught.

Yahshua said,

If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him, John 14:23.



A house built on a rock as its foundation can withstand the wind and the rain. Spiritually speaking, the house is us, the foundation is the rock, and the rock is Yahshua. 1 Cor. 10:4.

With Yahshua in the house of our hearts, changes will be made that will reflect His abiding presence.

We cannot know Yahshua if we do not meditate upon and apply His words to our lives.

Whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock, Matt. 7:24-25.

We would have great difficulty developing our physical relationships without at least one of the senses of

hearing, touching or seeing, and it would be much easier if we were able to exercise all three. The physical senses on their own are inadequate tools for developing a relationship with our divine headship. We need the exercise of spiritual senses in order to get to know Yahweh and Yahshua. By drawing near to Yahweh, maintaining our connection with Him and meditating on His word, He will open our eyes. His revelation power will be at work causing us to see and understand things that were unclear before. We will learn to know and hear His voice.

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me, John 10:27.

By His Spirit in us we will reach out in faith and touch Him.

Eyes But No Sight

For persons who do not want an intimate knowledge of Yahshua, their eyes and ears are kept shut. After telling the multitude the parable of the sower, Yahshua was asked by some of those who were around Him, the meaning of the parable. He said to them

To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of Yahweh; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables, so that seeing they may see

and not perceive, and hearing they may hear and not understand, Mark 4:11-12.

We will never have our eyes and ears opened to know the inner secrets of Yahweh, while Yahshua considers us to be in the category of *"those who are outside."* It is not your opinion of whether you are on the "inside" that matters. In most believers' eyes they are on the inside and are the ones to whom Yahshua reveals His secrets, yet when faced with the challenges and stresses of life, they react in a similar manner as those who do not know Yahshua. They have not acquired, through intimacy with Yahweh, the faith

and strength that He so freely imparts to those who know Him. When our spiritual eyes and ears are opened, we are able to absorb the deeper meanings behind the sayings in the Bible. The Word of Yahweh opens up before us in a deeper more meaningful way than before, and impact upon our lives. Revelation power is activated, unveiling to us *“the mystery of the kingdom of Yahweh.”*

When this happens we will stop seeing everything through our natural senses and begin to have the mind of Yahshua, seeing the experiences and encounters of everyday living in the way that He would see them.

This, however, will not be the experience of all believers, indeed not even of all long established pilgrims. There will be a long interval between finding Yahweh and getting to know Him, as it is in finding a spouse, and really getting to know him/her intimately, but in the end perseverance will bring its benefits. Our eyes will be opened, and He will reveal, as unto babes, the things that are hidden *“from the wise and prudent,” Luke 10:21.*

There is so much that Yahweh wants us to know about Him, in order that we will no longer have a superficial knowledge of Him. Yahshua said to His disciples *No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you,* John 15:15.

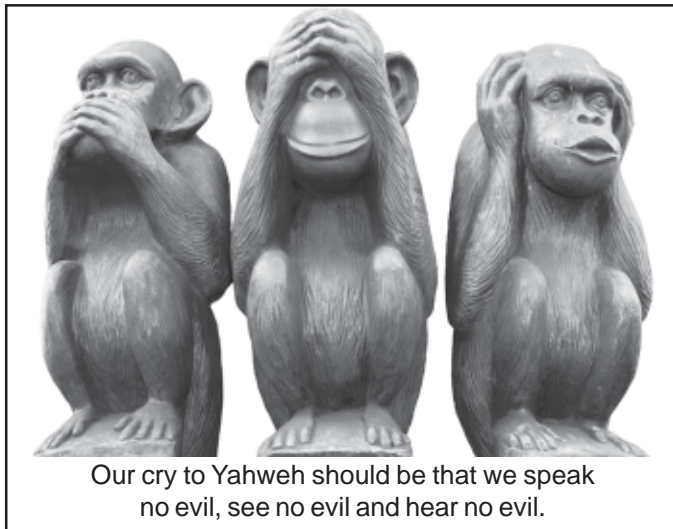
In like manner He wants to reveal *“all things”* to us. But first, as His disciples, we must daily invest our time and lives with Him and become His friends.

The Opening of Eyes *The Blind Beggar*

As Yahshua was approaching Jericho, a blind beggar hearing the noise of the passing multitude, asked what it meant. He was told Yahshua was

passing by. Immediately he cried out, saying,

“Yahshua, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” So Yahshua stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, “What do you want Me to do for you?” He said, “Rabbi, that I may receive my sight.” Then Yahshua said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying Yahweh. And all the people,



Our cry to Yahweh should be that we speak no evil, see no evil and hear no evil.

when they saw it, gave praise to Yahweh, Luke 18:34-43.

This man had obviously heard about Yahshua but had never met Him. One thing he knew is that he could not see. Getting his sight was paramount. He would not allow himself to be silenced by those who could already see. There was an irrepressible urgency in his shout: *“Son of David, have mercy on me!”* He maintained his piercing cry until finally he was brought to Yahshua. When Yahshua asked him what he required there was no hesitation in his reply: *“that I may receive my sight.”* His persistent faith in the Son of David caused his eyes to be opened.

We will be blessed with opened eyes and the revelation of Yahshua if with indomitable passion we never cease to cry out to Yahshua to open

our blinded eyes that we may see and know Him. After this man’s eyes were opened he followed Yahshua, glorifying Yahweh, and through him, others also praised Yahweh. This man could not have caused his eyes to be opened. It was not by his power or might, but by calling upon Yahshua and getting close to Him, he played a vital part in the opening of his blinded eyes. Yahweh wants to reveal Himself to us but we must earnestly desire Him and be willing to seek after Him with all of our heart and strength.

With the experience of his eyes being opened, came his revelation of Yahshua. At that moment, like Job, he could have said,

I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You, Job 42:5.

Oh, that we would be determined to seek after Yahshua with all our strength, for our eyes to be opened and that we would become true followers of Yahshua. Like this blind beggar, our intense cry would be answered and from the depths of our appreciative hearts we could really praise and honour Yahweh, as we

ought.

The Emmaus Experience

Two men were walking along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus discussing the surprising events of Yahshua’s resurrection that had been discovered that day.

While they conversed and reasoned, ... Yahshua Himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him, Luke 24:15-16.

Yahshua spoke to them, discussing the fulfilment of the Scriptures to them, but they neither knew his voice nor recognised his physical features.

These men were in the very presence of Yahshua, yet they could not recognise Him. As their hearts were stirred by what He had said and the

daylight was almost gone, they invited Him to their home, and He broke bread with them. Then their eyes were opened, and they knew Him.

These men did not cause their eyes to be opened, but it was during the time of extending Yahshua's meeting with them, that they knew Him. If they had not invited Yahshua into their home, they would have missed this unique opportunity to witness the revelation of the resurrected Messiah. Like these men on the Emmaus road, we, too, will experience the awesome revelation of Yahshua when we are willing to take time out of our regular schedule and instead spend it with Yahshua, feasting upon "the bread of heaven." Getting to know Him takes time.

How Well Do You Know Him?

Philip

How often have we not been surprised to find that we did not know someone as well as we had thought? Philip had this same problem when he said to Yahshua in John 14:8,

"Rabbi, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." Yahshua said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Philip's knowledge of Yahshua had not gone beyond what his physical eyes had seen and his ears had heard. Up to this point his mind had not comprehended the deeper things Yahshua had repeatedly said to His disciples about His relationship with His Father. So, too, we could be following Yahshua for some time, but fail to know Him. It is not merely the length of acquaintance that matters but the depth of understanding and the relationship that is developed in that time.

Job

Yahweh said of Job,

There is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears Yahweh and shuns evil, Job 1:8.

What high commendation from the highest authority in the universe! Yet, even a man of Job's stature discovered to his utter amazement that he had not really known Yahweh as much as he had thought. Amid Job's intense anguish of his depressed and troubled heart, Yahweh challenged Job, by revealing to him His awesome omnipotence. Job's inner 'eyes' suddenly opened. For the first time, Job understood Yahweh's enormous unequalled power and confessed,



Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me, Rev. 3:20.

I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes, Job 42:5-6.

It is Yahweh's desire that, like Job, we will no longer know of Him through hearsay. He wants us to move on from knowing of Him to really knowing firsthand for ourselves who He is. Will you require in your life, the depth of suffering that Job went through, for your eyes to be opened and that you may know Yahweh? It does not have to be that way. Yahshua pleads with you today,

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him

and dine with him, and he with Me, Rev. 3:20.

The Pharisees

The Pharisees, by their outward rigid adherence of the law, thought they knew and were pleasing Yahweh, yet when they met His Son they did not know Him. They disbelieved that Yahshua was from the Father, so with confidence in their knowledge, they said to Yahshua,

"Where is Your Father?" Yahshua answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also," John 8:19.

Except we know the Son, we cannot know the Father. We may claim

like the Pharisees to be repositories of the truths of Yahweh, and may try to adhere to His commands, yet fail to know Yahweh by not recognizing and giving the honour and glory to His Son as we ought.

We know that the Son of Yahweh has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Yahshua the Messiah. This is the true Elohim and eternal life, 1 John 5:20.

Paul

In Phil. 3:10, Paul expressed a deep longing for a more intimate and personal knowledge of the Messiah than anything He had experienced before:

That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.

Paul already knew a great deal about Yahshua, but the longing of his heart was not for knowledge of Him. Paul was referring to something far deeper than his conversion on the Damascus road, which was only an introduction to the Messiah. He wanted the full measure of the resurrected Messiah to be revealed to him, and for

him to be conformed as fully as possible into the likeness of Yahshua, being willing even to be identified with Him through the experience of suffering. What deeper and more overwhelming desire could there be! He wanted more than head-knowledge. His desire was for experiential knowledge that would demonstrate his union with Yahshua. He was prepared to share in the pain as well as the gain.

Getting to know Yahshua is like a long journey, over a variety of terrains and in different weather conditions. This is a hard lesson that Peter learned on the night he denied Yahshua. It is a harsh test that all of His 'friends' go through on their way to knowing Him. May we all have the strength and commitment to stay with Him to the journey's end.

Yahweh's Attributes

The Bible tells us much about the attributes of Yahweh. He is incomparable, 2 Sam. 7:22; invisible, John 1:18; inscrutable, Isa. 40:28; unchangeable, Num. 23:19; unequalled, Isa. 40:13-25; unsearchable, Rom. 11:33, 34; infinite, 1 Kings 8:27; omnipotent, Jer. 32:17, 27; omnipresent, Ps. 139:7-12; omniscient, 1 John 3:20; foreknowing, Isa. 48:3, 5; and all-wise, Acts 15:18.

The more we get to know Yahweh, the more we will trust in His ability to strengthen and help us in times of greatest need. But, there is much more to Yahweh than these attributes. He is the embodiment of the finest and best moral qualities. He is holy, Rev. 4:8; impartial, 1 Pet. 1:17; just, Ps. 89:14; longsuffering, Ex. 34:6,7; loving, 1 John 4:8,16; merciful, Lam. 3:22,23; Truth, Ps. 117:2; great, Ps. 31:19; enduring, Ps. 52:1; and satisfying, Ps. 65:4.

As we get to know Yahweh for ourselves, we will become more confident that He will apply these qualities in His relationship with us, and we will desire to display them in our lives.

We will also understand that He is not just the benevolent Elohim that many in their ignorance would like to think He is. He is too pure to tolerate sin. He will pour out His wrath and vengeance upon those who disobey Him, Deut. 32:22, 34-41.

Knowing, therefore, the terror of Yahweh, we persuade men, 2 Cor. 5:11.

It is good to know and exalt the mercy, love, kindness and forgiveness of Yahweh. But, those who truly know Yahweh will affirm that the day of reckoning is coming, when He will separate the wheat from the tares. When we know Yahweh we will declare the truths of Yahweh and not join the bandwagon of popular sentiments and traditions that are based on hearsay or an incomplete understanding of Yahweh.

Proof of Knowing Him

Know His Name

You cannot really know someone without knowing his or her name. Yahweh has a name, not the generic title that Christendom says is His name. What is more He wants His people to know and proclaim His name:

My people shall know my name, Isa. 52:6.

Those who know Him do not call Him 'Lord' or 'God' but by the name that He had revealed to Moses. Our Father's true name was erroneously removed from the Bible. Those who know Him do not walk in the traditional error. They walk in truth and not in ignorance. They are not children who do not even know their father's name. Instead they are proud to bear His Name like a banner, waving it for the world to see, as they journey to that

To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22

Mini - Study



YAHWEH: Known by the Patriarchs

Does Exodus 6:3 tell us that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob never knew Yahweh's Name? Understand what this passage is really saying!

A PUZZLING BIBLE VERSE for many who are aware of the sacred Name Yahweh is found in Exodus 6:3, which reads:

"And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of G-d Almighty [El Shaddai] but by my name [YAHWEH] was I not known to them"

Some Bible expositors contend that this passage shows that Yahweh had not revealed His Name to the patriarchs. That even Moses did not know that His Name was Yahweh, but knew Him only as Elohim or El Shaddai. This notion is false, as we see from the events three chapters prior to this verse.

The Memorial Name Yahweh

When conscripted by Yahweh to be the leader for His people Israel, Moses wondered what he should say when presenting himself before Israel. Moses asked, *"The Elohim of your fathers has sent me unto you: and they shall say to me 'What is His Name?' what shall I say unto them?"* Exodus 3:13. From His response it is clear Yahweh invoked His personal Name and revealed it to Moses:

"Elohim said unto Moses, 'I AM THAT I AM:' and He said, Thus shall you say unto the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me unto you.'

"And Elohim said moreover unto Moses, Thus shall you say unto the children of Israel, 'YAHWEH, the Elohim of your fathers, the Elohim of Abraham, the Elohim of Isaac, and the Elohim of

To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22

Mini - Study



Yahweh's Name at the End of the Age

His people will know His Name.

SINCE THE EARLY 1930s the sacred Name of the Heavenly Father, Yahweh, has been proclaimed in earnest. The earliest Sacred Name pioneers realized that most readers of the Bible were ignorant of Yahweh's great Name. The omission of His Name and substitutes for it can be traced to early Bible translators who followed superstitious Jewish traditions against using the sacred Name Yahweh.

Few translators were conversant in Hebrew, and detested anything Hebrew or Jewish, just as many do today. They could neither read nor speak Hebrew fluently and resorted to the Greek translation of the Old Testament known as the Septuagint, bypassing the original Hebrew texts.

From the Greek Septuagint was made the Latin version of the Old Testament. From the Latin came our English Bibles.

Septuagint Had Yahweh's Name

The original Greek Septuagint of the Old Testament had Yahweh's Name (known as the Tetragrammaton—meaning four letters) inscribed in gold letters in Hebrew: יהוה. Later copyists, being ignorant of Hebrew, substituted the Greek words Kyrios and Theos with the excuse that if the Tetragrammaton were sacred in the Hebrew, Kyrios and Theos were sacred in the Greek.

The translators of the 1611 English Bible, the highly revered King James "authorized" version, followed the custom of earlier Bible translators in supplanting the sacred Name Yahweh with the

day when His Name will be written on their foreheads, Rev. 22:4 NIV.

Obey Him

Yahshua said in John 15:14,

You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

We will not know Yahshua except we are His friends, and we are not His friends if we do not obey Him. It is not the talking or the feelings that really matter but doing as He says and becoming more like Him.

In Matt. 7:22-23 Yahshua said,

Many will say to Me in that day, "Rabbi, Rabbi, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?" And then I will declare to them, "I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!"

1 John 2:3 says the evidence of knowing Yahshua is to obey Him:

Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

This is what makes our knowledge of Yahshua different from most other relationships. It involves not merely familiarity with Him, but conformity to what He says. The litmus test of those who claim to know Yahweh is simply this: "Do you do what He says?"

Yahshua will not unveil the hidden mysteries so that we can look at them in amazement and marvel or spout our newly found knowledge. No, they are for our transformation. The more we learn from His words, the more we ought to apply them in our lives. This is the evidence that we have been sitting at His feet, and getting to know Him.

1 John 2:4 takes this a giant step further. It says:

He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Keeping His commandments is not only a proof of knowing Him; it is also an indicator of your truthfulness. Your life cannot be inconsistent with your profession. It is dishonest to "profess to know Yahweh, but in works ... deny Him," Titus 1:16.

Those who say Yahweh's laws have been abolished with the death of Yahshua do not even believe the words of His Son. In Matt. 5:17-18 Yahshua said:

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

When we know Him, His words will be deeply planted in our hearts that we will not sin against Him. (Ps. 119:11)

Become like Him

Children normally show the physical characteristics of their parents. Seldom are there short children where both parents are tall, or white children from a black couple, or children with no resemblance whatsoever to at least either parent. As they grow up, they begin to imitate their parents, and will


learn more about family background and of their potential inheritance through their parents. When we get to know Him, we will develop more of His qualities. The more you discover of the height, depth and breadth of Yahweh's unlimited nature, possessions and plans, the more you will find out who you are, in and through Him. You are not just anybody. You are a child of the Creator and King of the universe. He chose you for the purpose that you might be conformed into His image.

For we are His workmanship, created in the Messiah Yahshua for good works, which Yahweh prepared beforehand that we should walk in them, Eph. 2:10.

He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked, 1 John 2:6.

In a spiritual sense, our Father is too rich that we should be poor, too strong that we should be weak, too

To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22



Mini - Study

**Sabbath Keepers:
Why Not Keep ALL
The Commandments?**

Many acknowledge the Bible as the Book of books, which contains the very words of our great Creator. But few fully pursue the deeper truth of His Word. Many are like the puzzling, would-be treasure hunter who was satisfied with just knowing which mountain contained the gold vein, but would not dig down to get the precious mineral it held.

Just as difficult to understand are those who are satisfied to stop short of digging out of Scripture the great treasure of salvation truths, believing that somehow these truths will all be given to them eventually, without any effort on their part. Yet the Bible tells us in Ephesians 4 that each of us is personally responsible to develop into a "perfect" (meaning complete and full-grown) individual in truth.

The Savior forewarned us in Luke 13:24: "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able" (Luke 13:24).

Stopping short of less than a sincere, complete effort is unacceptable to our Heavenly Father. He tells the lukewarm person, "I will spue you out of My mouth" (Rev. 3:16).


When it comes to the Ten Commandments, many will acknowledge a complete obedience. Pressing the issue, we discover otherwise.

Accepting the Fourth Commandment and Saturday as the Bible's true seventh-day Sabbath brings us into deeper Bible truth. Beyond that, though, how many understand, let alone take to heart, the commands of the preceding Third Commandment? This Commandment deals with our Creator's personal, revealed Name:

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Yahweh your Elohims in vain; for Yahweh will not hold him guiltless that takes his name in vain" (Ex. 20:7).

The most common interpretation of the Third Commandment is that one must not curse using the Father's Name. That is part of what the commandment enjoins, but its the lesser part. If we examine the Hebrew for the word "take" in this commandment, we find the word *nasa*, meaning to "lift" or "bring to."

To obtain a printout of the following mini-study go to page 22



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,

big that we should be small, too holy that we should be impure and too wise that we should be foolish. We are commanded to “*be imitators of Yahweh as dear children*” (Eph. 5:1) and to “*be renewed in the spirit of (our) mind,*” Eph. 4:23.

Yahweh wants us to demonstrate in this life His transforming power that is at work in us.

Be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of Yahweh, Rom. 12:2.

Unless a change takes place in our lives, there is no evidence that we know Him. For instance, in 1 John 4:8 we are told that,

He who does not love does not know Yahweh, for Yahweh is love.

Those who know Yahweh must be the light on a hill shining forth His brilliant rays in this world of darkness, or as the salt of the earth, must add the essential missing ingredient to the unrighteous, blind and self-obsessed people who do not know or care to know Yahweh.

O that we may know Him intimately, and be the human expression of who He is!

Does He Know You?

Many will be shocked when they meet Yahshua and hear His words “*I know you not,*” Matt. 25:12. Like the five foolish virgins these will be persons who thought they knew Him, were known of Him and were ready to greet Him. They will be deluded believers who assumed that because of length of service, positions held, great things they had done, their knowledge of the Bible, their fellowship with saints, or their pretended ‘love’ of Yahweh, that they were qualified to spend eternity with Him.

Knowing Yahshua is not optional, for knowledge of Yahshua is not to be only in our heads but also in our lives. Except our presumed knowledge of Yahshua impacts on our lives, we do not really know Him. There is a Great Examination coming where we cannot cheat by hiding behind some façade. The All-seeing eye will compare what

He sees in us with His standard, and if we do not measure up He will not know us. You need to make sure you know Him, but more importantly, that He knows you. Yahshua has said that the secret of Him knowing you on that day will be determined by whether or not you had kept His words.

Many will say to Me in that day, “Master, Master, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?” And then I will declare to them, “I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!” (Matt. 7:22-23)



will be culminated in Him who is the Alpha and Omega. Therefore,

Let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, Jer. 9:24.

The day is coming when all other knowledge will be cast away like an unnecessary crutch and instead,

The earth shall be full of the knowledge of Yahweh as the waters cover the sea, Isa. 11:9.

For those of us who have known and obeyed Him, He will be fully unveiled in that day before our immortal eyes.

Beloved, now we are children of Yahweh; 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 (clearly) as He is, 1 John 3:2.

Our vision will be no longer blurred and our imagination will suddenly become useless, when He is revealed in all of His splendour.

All persons will not have this experience. It is reserved for the true and faithful - for those who drew near to and obeyed Yahweh and availed themselves of the privilege to get to know Him while in their human form. For such, their greatest goal would have been achieved, their grandest expectations realized, their thirsting souls quenched and their famishing hunger satisfied. At last our blinded eyes would have been fully opened, our ears would hear the voice we have always longed to hear, and we would know Him in all of His fullness and glory, HalleluYah! As a song says, “It will be worth it all when we see Yahshua.” Yahshua is coming again so that He can complete the work He began in bringing us to maturity and to the presence and full knowledge of the Father. There is so much Yahweh has in store for us if we would truly get to know Him personally in a Father-and-son relationship.

Come, Yahshua! Hasten that glorious day when we will “see (You) more clearly, love (You) more dearly, follow (You) more nearly” and know You more really, eternally.

Many persons who believe they know Yahweh, underestimate the importance of obeying His words, and dismiss those who try obeying Him as being legalistic. Tragically, they will find out when it is too late that they were the deluded ones. If we will make it into the Kingdom, we must accept His sacrifice for us, know Him and know that He knows us. Like being fully prepared for an examination with the confidence that we cannot fail, even so we must be prepared to meet Him. We must know that we have done all that He required of us, that on that crucial day He will know us and from Him we will hear the welcoming words:

Well done ...enter into the joy of your Master, Matt. 25:21.

Are you ready for that great day? Do you know Him, as you ought, and does He know you?

The Final Revelation

The abundant knowledge that surrounds us is of little worth compared with the eternal benefits of knowing Yahweh. All knowledge originated and

Elder Buel Hallpike

Handling the Tests/Problems of Life



My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of Yahweh, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed, James 1:2-6 KJV.

The Bible assures us that happiness can be a living reality for every believer. Through a good stand and pondering of the Word of Yahweh, I do firmly believe that a believer can be triumphant and successful even in times of great trials and problems. Each time you are faced with problems I urge you to remember at least these three things:

Firstly, everyone of us face problems at one time or another. No one is free from problems. Problems are a part of our daily living.

Secondly, problems are temporary and transitory. In other words, problems though difficult are for a little while. They last only for a period of time.

Thirdly, problems bring lessons that should always be learnt. After each difficult situation, problems often help to shape us to be better persons.

Problems are Yahweh's Purpose

James tells us in the verse above that Yahweh has a purpose for us in the problems and testings we experience. He assures us that these demanding times of difficulties can be instrumental for the progress in our spiritual growth. Yahweh has a definite aim in allowing problems in your life, because there is a purpose in the midst of problems. These outward afflictions and troubles are temptations to you. The devil endeavours by sufferings and crosses to draw men to sin and to deter them from their duty, or to make them unfit for it. But, as our afflictions are in Eloah's hand, they are intended for the trial and improvement of our graces. As the gold is put into the furnace that it may "be purified," these problems and testings are doing the same. As you are facing all the difficulties and problems in life today, you can actually be joyful and thankful that Yahweh is working in your life.

Be Joyful in Yah Elohim

In the above quoted Scripture, we are commanded that we should be glad and joyful, and to count it all joy even when we find ourselves surrounded by various problems at any one time. No one is free from problems. The keen competition in school work, facing date-lines at the office and factories, even our daily situations at home, all these often provide us with a whole range of problems. James also knew that El does have a specific purpose for the difficulties that face each one of us. The genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold which though perishable is tested by fire, may redound to praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Yahshua the Messiah. So continue to praise Yahweh for this, even though now for a little while you may have had to suffer various trials. We shall have to learn to live more positive, happy, and praise-filled lives in obedience to this commandment if we want to hear His "Well done" on that day (cf. 1 Pet 1:6).

Patiently Endure

This we may have questioned, "Why should we be happy and glad under pressure? Why do James, Peter, and others say to be happy in the midst of testing and trouble?" The Bible teaches us that basically the testing of your faith produces patience. Patience is the quality of enduring hardship with calmness. Patience, therefore, develops your spiritual stamina in life. In other words, the problems and difficulties which Yahweh allows each one of us to experience are intended to make us more reliable and constant in our walk with the Master. To have patience means to have the quality of life which makes a man able, not only simply to suffer things, but to welcome them and to overcome them.

The purpose here is to bring you to full growth and maturity as a Believer so that you may be complete. To be complete means to be fit for the task in the world which Yahweh has placed you to do His service and to provide service towards our fellow man. Many believers today are incompetent and ineffective to do Yahweh's work because of the lack of patience and steadfastness. In our daily encounters with pressures and problems of modern living,

<Problems see page 22>

Life, Love and Pleasing the Creator

Heavenly Father, it is with humble minds and hearts that we approach You to thank You for Your many blessings and challenges that you have given to us for our edification, sanctification, instruction and encouragement so that we may understand and do Your Will above our own, that we may be instruments of Your continuing work to bring those whom You have called, and those Your Son has chosen, to be Your children in Your Kingdom here on earth. We ask you to touch our hearts and speak truth to our minds that we may live in Your peace, Your strength and Your hope. In the name of Yahshua Messiah, HalleluYah!

I have had the desire, since being called out, to speak to people who have not heard the profound truth contained within the Scriptures and who are seeking truth. This article is, in essence, my effort to draw those who have been called out of Babylon, but have not yet found the Way that leads to salvation and redemption spoken of by Yahweh's anointed, Yahshua Ha Mashiach.

I offer greetings and blessings to you who are reading this writing. By doing so, you have demonstrated your desire to grow and mature in the light of the Holy Spirit, the Set-apart Spirit of Yahweh; and I pray that you may be richly rewarded for your curiosity and desire to understand more about Life, Love and Pleasing the Creator, our Heavenly Father, Yahweh Almighty.

Meaning and Purpose of Life

What I hope to address is the meaning and purpose of Life, the character and process of Love, and the message that our Heavenly Father has given to us about what He expects of us in order to please Him.

If I may, let me first tell you a little about myself, so that you might understand what I'm saying, in the light of my life's experiences. I was born into a home where my mother was raised Catholic, my father was raised Presbyterian and I was raised ... by mid-American TV evangelism. I remember, as a child, in my innocence and naiveté, setting up a make-shift altar at the foot of the TV, using some pillows and a brass fruit bowl off the kitchen counter. As I look back upon that scene, I now see how the ancient Israelites had the child-like desire to create an idol, impatiently waiting for Moses to come down from the mountain. In this case, I bowed down to the god of the TV – which had become my deity, my source of comfort, understanding and wisdom. It preached the wisdom of the world, and today, our TV is disconnected from the air waves.

I was never taken to church by my parents; however, a Baptist neighbor, inquiring of my mother about our family's

church affiliation, discovered that my sister and I had never been to church, and she volunteered to take us to her place of worship. My parents consented, and that is where I first had the opportunity to make a place in my heart for the Savior. Later, as a young teenager, returning to that neighbor's church to seek a connection to the Creator, I had what I would call my first "manifestation of the Holy Spirit." I felt, and visualized, the hand of the Creator coming down from heaven and enveloping me in His gentle grasp. I had been "called." Amazingly, though, when I "answered the call" to "come down" to the altar at the end of the service, I was ushered into the pastor's office to answer the question, "Do you want to be baptized?" I answered, "No," not fully understanding the connection between that fresh spiritual experience and the formality of baptism. Having given that answer, I was then ushered through another door out of the pastor's office – and into the parking lot! I had been rejected as effectively as if I had been flushed down the toilet. At least, that's what I thought in response, as I stood there wondering what just happened.

From that point, my confusion led me to various attempts to discover truth, including submersion (not immersion) into Transcendental Meditation and the philosophical teachings of the Maharaji Mahesh Yogi, dedication of myself to Mormonism, then rebellion to Mormonism into Agnosticism, diversion to drugs and country rock music, acquiescence to conventional Protestantism, and then seduction into "Signs and Wonders Pentecostalism".

Lastly, I think the Creator took pity on my soul, and spoke to me directly (not auditorily), while writing 3 words on my heart. As I sat in a pew, after a Sunday service which was, as I recall, directed at the value of grace over works, these 3 words transformed me into a new being. There were no fireworks; and, no volcanoes erupted that morning; there were no horns blasting, and I had no compulsion to "go out on the street corner to preach the good news." I simply had a profound sense of peace, a gentle assurance of a deep change within me. The three words were, "Honor My Sabbath."

There was no question in my mind that I was being called to set the 7th day, the Sabbath of Yahweh, aside to read Scripture, pray and sing. And, that's all I did. In doing so, I received an inordinate amount of energy; I became maniacally obsessed with reading the Word. The first Scripture "given" to me was Romans 3:4 – "Let Yahweh be true and every man a liar." That's what the text said; but I knew that, for me, it meant that I should set in abeyance

everything ever preached to me and, instead, read the Scripture for myself, for what it actually says.

What I discovered unsettled me, for what I read did NOT correspond with what was being preached from the pulpit! And, I spent months meeting with the pastor in an effort to reconcile these differences. But, I could not be reconciled, and the last words this pastor spoke to me was this, "Don't read the Old Testament; it's only good for a few stories!" In that moment, I knew that I could not go back to my former complacency, sitting in the pew, listening to words that contradicted THE Word.

I found myself again, "out in the parking lot," so to speak; except, this time, I had been CALLED OUT of Christianity, since being PUSHED out apparently didn't take. I wonder if those who ushered me out of the church were working to do Yahweh's will? Was I too blind to see His hand in this matter? One day, maybe I'll find out.

I had severed the umbilical cord to tradition, denomination, dogma – and to the institution of Christianity itself. At the same time, though, I was given a deeper testimony of the One who took the stripes for me, bled and sacrificed His life so that I might have life, and have it more abundantly. I was dragged out of religion, and my eyes were opened to the light of the truth contained in the Bible. This experience was, for me, as if a veil had been lifted from my face – I could see clearer now; though, be advised, I know that I am NOT the holder of the truth. I instruct you who are reading these words to follow the admonition of Paul, "Let Yahweh be true, and every man a liar." You are to consider me to be a liar – not as a means of condemnation, but for the purpose of seeking out the truth for yourselves. I know that "a man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still." Don't believe ME! Believe the Word of the Creator. Read the Book for yourself and see if the words contained in it speak to you. I suggest that you set aside, as I was led to do, the notion that "the man behind the pulpit knows MUCH more than I; after all, he went to school to

learn all this stuff. Who am *I* to contradict what a minister preaches?"

People, we are admonished to "work out our OWN salvation – with fear and trembling," Philippians 2:12. Do not rely on me or anyone else for the truth. Take the veil from off your face and seek the Spirit of the Creator for the truth. Seek the Heavenly Father, whose name is Yahweh.

And, with that last bit of knowledge, let me begin to describe to you what I have discovered, or more accurately, let me teach you what the Holy Spirit has given to me.

I must tell you an astonishing story of how my wife and I came to know the Sacred Names of our Heavenly Father, Yahweh, and His Anointed Son, Yahshua. It is astonishing for two reasons:

1) An acquaintance of my wife came into our lives, having an abiding and enduring strength of testimony of the truths contained within the Old and New Testaments. She did not know about this revelation of mine, and the first time she came over to our house, to go for a walk with my wife, she saw me sitting at the table, reading the Bible. She was struck with the sight of someone actually reading the Bible. She enquired about my study, and I spoke to her about my call to honor the Sabbath. Her eyes bugged out and, for the next 6 hours, she, my wife and I shared about our experiences and Scriptural understandings. She had studied the Bible for years and had an amazing ability to quote and teach the truths contained in the Word. She introduced us to some amazing facts contained in Scripture, including the Name of the Creator and the Name of His Son.

Who has ascended into heaven and descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has wrapped the waters in His garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name and what is the name of His Son? Surely you know! (Proverbs 30:4)

Yet, now, she has abandoned these truths and seriously doubts the legitimacy of the entire Bible, including the redeeming work of salvation

suffered by our Savior. She is, for all intents and purposes, lost. I pray for her return to faith in the Creator. I don't know if it was a blessing or a curse that, when the opportunity to be baptized in the name of Yahshua came, she relented to do so. For me, if there was ever a picture of someone who had extinguished the Holy Spirit within them, this was it. That's not to condemn her; clearly, I have no right to do that; but her story only serves me as a possibility of what the only unforgivable sin might look like.

2) Secondly, I have no knowledge of this woman having an impact on anyone else's life that had any resemblance to the impact she had on my life and on that of my wife. It was as if she had been raised up for one purpose - to bring light to me and my wife. I know that sounds terribly self-serving and grandiose; however, I have witnessed her speaking to others what she shared with us, and I can absolutely say that I have no evidence that anyone ever accepted her words of wisdom. All whom she spoke to rejected her teaching. Once, while simply READING the Scripture to someone, that person stood up and yelled, "The Bible does NOT say that!!" Wow. How powerful is the influence of false teachings over the very words of Scripture?! After she, herself, fell away, she tried to convince us of the error of faith in the words of the Bible. Sadly, for her, she again found rejection of her teaching and we remained faithful to Yahweh's Word.

I have much to share with you; and, normally, an instructor might take his time introducing new ideas so that he doesn't overwhelm his audience. Even so, I'm going to risk giving you the whole ball of wax in a briefly-worded list of truths I have discovered pertaining to the names of the Father and Son, the Bible, the plan of salvation, and so on.

The Father's Name

The name of our Heavenly Father is Yahweh. His Name may be new to you, but it has been known since the beginning of time, and has not been removed from the Hebrew text of the

Old Testament. It is my assertion that the pronunciation of His name has not been lost, a concept that has been promoted by the Jewish people. The meaning of His Name AND the pronunciation of His Name is found in the two Hebrew words, hayah and haweh, which both, interestingly, mean "to be, to become or to exist." Hence, His Name is translated and interpreted in English, in Exodus 3:14, as "I am that I am." To the extent that any human being can know history, we can be assured of the pronunciation of His Name. What more can be expected of us?

The Son's Name

The Name of Yahweh's Son is Yahshua. His Name in Hebrew means "the Salvation of Yah." "Yah" is the poetic name of Yahweh. "Shua" means Salvation. This is the Name that the Angel Gabriel spoke to Miriam to name the Savior of all mankind.

The Law of Yahweh

The Law of Yahweh, which was given to Moses to give to the Children of Israel, is NOT dead, and has NOT been nailed to the tree to be erased from memory. It is still alive and living in the hearts of those who worship Yahweh and His Son, Yahshua, who was the example given to us so that we might more fully obey. After all, Yahshua said, "If you love me, you will obey My commandments," John 14:15, 21; John 15:10.

The Definition of Sin

Sin is lawlessness. What law? The Law of Yahweh, and most importantly the Law written by the hand of Yahweh on two tablets of stone at Mount Sinai and called the Ten Commandments.

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law, 1 John 3:4.

The Weekly Sabbath

Sabbath ... the day set aside for the remembrance, honor and worship of the Creator of the Heavens and Earth, is the seventh day of the week. It begins on the sixth day at sunset (the day identified on the Gregorian calendar as Friday). It ends at sunset on the day referred to as Saturday.

*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy [or set apart]. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is *a* Sabbath of Yahweh your Elohim; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. For in six days Yahweh made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore Yahweh blessed the Sabbath day and made it Holy, Exodus 20:8-11.*

Yahweh consecrated and blessed this day as belonging to Him. He wrote in stone that He and all of those who worship Him have a weekly

Appointment with Him at His Sacred meeting place.


In Exodus 20:10, it says "but the seventh day is a Sabbath of Yahweh your Elohim." It is *a* Sabbath of Yahweh. The *other* seven Sabbaths, or Appointed Times, of Yahweh are found in Leviticus 23. There, we find the Plan of Salvation. There, we can discover how Yahshua has fulfilled the first three of the seven Appointed Times (the seven annual Sabbaths), foreshadowing what must happen before the end of time. The Appointed Times are, after the weekly 7th day Sabbath, Passover (in memorium to the blood of the unblemished Lamb of Yahweh placed on the door posts and lintels of our "houses," protecting us from the "destroying angel"). Next are the Appointed Times of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, or coming out of sin, (meaning *Purity* in Greek) and leaving the idolatry of Egypt. The third Appointed Time is that of Pentecost, also called the Feast of Weeks, the day of the giving of the Law at Mount Sinai and the day upon which the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples of Yahshua in the Temple or House of

Yahweh. The Feast of Weeks is thought to foreshadow the coming together of the House of Judah and the House of Israel. These three Appointed Times, Passover, Unleavened Bread and Pentecost, have been fulfilled by Yahshua. The remaining four Appointed Times are yet to be fulfilled: the Feast of Trumpets, which foreshadows the heralding of the Revelation of the Messiah; the Day of Atonement, when Heaven and earth become "at one;" the Feast of Tabernacles, when Yahshua will tabernacle with us in His thousand year reign; and the Last Great Day, when all evil will be put away and the earth renewed to its former paradise.

What I've described here, to me, are the most relevant issues that we need to absorb and hold on to because it makes the rest of Scripture

To obtain a printout of the following booklet go to page 22

Biblical Holy Days



Yesterday Today Forever

understandable. It serves to clarify what is seemingly nonsensical in the Bible. For example, we find in the King James Version in Matthew 28:1,

In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

In some other versions the 1st phrase reads, "After the Sabbath...", which implies that Sabbath is over, and we are now on Sunday. However, that same verse in the American Standard Version reads,

Now late on the Sabbath day, as it began to dawn toward the first (day) of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

When the English ear hears the word "dawn," we naturally think sunrise. Right? But, it is used here in the sense that "It dawned on me that I was late for my appointment," having nothing to do with sunrise. We know this to be true, because in ancient times, one day ends and another day BEGINS at sunset. So, Mary went to the sepulchre BEFORE the sun set, on Sabbath, to visit the grave of the Messiah, and found Him gone. Yahshua was raised from the grave on the Sabbath, the day of which He is the Master and Sovereign. He did not rise on Sunday.

Obtaining Life

In His role as Shepherd to us, as sheep, the Savior says these words in John 10:10,

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

He contrasts the concept of life and death to the concepts of something that is valuable being stolen, having died or being destroyed. Life, as the Savior is describing it, must therefore mean to be restored, to be born and to be built up. I take it that He is restoring us to a former state of being, BEFORE we were stolen, killed or destroyed; perhaps to that state in which Adam and Eve originally found themselves in the Garden of Eden. Life, to Him, means being born from Above, a re-birth into the Kingdom. And, the Messiah seems to be saying that Life involves a

continual state of being built up, learning knowledge and developing wisdom. May His words bring us closer to that Kingdom.

Showing Love

Deuteronomy means a retelling. In chapter 6 and verse 5, Moses is reminding the Chosen People what Yahweh had formerly covenanted with them,

You shall love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

In Deuteronomy 7:13, Moses describes Yahweh's part of this covenant,

And He will love you and bless you and multiply you, NKJV .

Pleasing the Creator

Luke 2:14 says,

Glory to Elohim in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased, NASU.

Glory to Elohim in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests, NIV.

Upon whom does His favor rest? Our Shepherd and Redeemer says, "If you love Me, you will obey My commandments." For me, He is describing what He expects of us in order to be favored, or chosen, by Him. Remember, He harshly turned away those who "drank in His presence, taught in their streets, and who prophesied, cast out demons and did many wonders in His Name." He rejected them because they practiced ... lawlessness. See Luke 13:26-27, Matthew 13:41-43 and Matthew 7:22-23.

There are many, many more jaw-dropping discoveries to explore, found within the books of the Scriptures. For example, do you know the ONE sign that Yahshua gave that He was, indeed, the awaited Messiah? Do you know the sign that shows that you are a Child of our Heavenly Father, Yahweh? Is Christmas mentioned in the New Testament? How about Hanukah? In Biblical times, when does a day "dawn"? Upon what day did sun-worshippers meet for worship? Do you know who Easter is, or whose birthday

was celebrated on December 25? In what book and chapter of the Old Testament is the Plan of Salvation laid out? (Hint: blood is shed to protect from death, sin is removed, the "Firstfruit" is lifted to Heaven, the Spirit is given, the Messiah returns, order is restored, He reigns [for a thousand years], and Death is put-away). Can the Creator lie? Did he lie about saving a remnant of Israel? For whom did women mourn for 40 days and make candled cakes for the Queen of Heaven? Where, in the Old Testament, is the New Testament described? How is the New different from the Old? Who comprises the House of Judah? Who comprises the House of Israel? What does Scripture say will happen to them, some day? Why did the Messiah send His disciples out to "the lost sheep of the House of Israel"? What did He mean when He said that He has only come for "the lost sheep of the House of Israel"? Who did James (whose real name is Ya'akob) write to? When Peter (Kepha) wrote to the Pilgrims of the Dispersion, who was he writing to? If he wrote letters to them, do you suppose he knew their address? When does a day begin, according to Hebrew culture? When Mary went to the grave "as the first day of the week dawned," what time of day was that? John said that the Messiah's body had to be off the cruel tree by sundown because the "High Sabbath" was approaching. What's a High Sabbath? The Messiah said that He was the Sovereign of the Sabbath. Which day of the week was that, the 1st or the 7th? Who created the entire universe? "What is His name; and what is the name of His Son? Surely you know." James likened a dead body to one's faith. He said that spirit brings that body to life. What is it that brings one's dead faith to life? If you do not know the answers to these questions, then study the Bible, the Word, the Scriptures. As a final note, we hear snippets from the Bible (and sometimes NOT from the Bible) that generate false understandings and false beliefs about who Yahweh is. One of them is found in Luke 2:14, which says,

Glory to Yahweh in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



The key to the proper handling of life's tests and problems lies in the

Great! Right? Yahweh is bringing peace and good will toward all mankind. Cool. It implies that the Father will "save" everyone. In a very important sense, that is true, because Yahshua offered His life's blood for all mankind. However, Biblical scholars have seemingly found a flaw in this translation. The phrase, "Good will toward men" is a reading much disputed. A.T. Robertson, who wrote Word Pictures of the New Testament, says that a better translation would be, "peace among men in whom He is well pleased" (as translated in the American Standard Version). The NASU Version writes, "Glory to Yahweh in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased." The idea here is that "He loved us first." That's why we are to love Him. Yahshua did the work of salvation for us. We are ALL able to accept what He paid for us. But, many reject Him. Luke 2:14 says that those who receive Yahweh's Son and act according to Yahweh's Laws are pleasing to Him and will receive peace in their souls. We are in a covenant with Yahweh. He provides for our salvation; but to be redeemed, we must uphold our part of our agreement. We who obey Yahweh's Law will be redeemed. He paid the price and will return to redeem those who did not rot on the vine, who did not fall to the earth or were not plucked up by birds of the air and who were not stolen by thieves. He offers to make of us new wine, placed in new wine skins for eternal joy.

May Yahweh Bless you and enrich your understanding of His Word. HalleluYah!

Elder John Fisher

<Problems from page 17>

let us seek for a more positive and lively cooperation with Yahweh's purpose working in our lives.

Seek Wisdom From Above

By facing problems and temptations, not only is your patience developed, but it also produces divine wisdom in your life. To have wisdom from above is to have His guidance to know how to handle your life as you pass through each day. The Word of Yahweh directs all of us to seek and heartily trust Yah Elohim for His help when we face such testings and problems in life. When you are down, hurt, and discouraged when you are faced with making a tough decision, look to Yahweh for guidance and it (wisdom) shall be given to you. To be wise in trying times is a special gift of Yahweh, and to Him we must seek it. Let us confess our want of wisdom to Yahweh and daily ask it of Him. We have the greatest encouragement to do this: "He giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not," James 1:5. Yea, it is expressly promised that it shall be given to every one who seeks or asks Yahweh for

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Bible

Wisdom. I am sure, Yahweh will help you in this and you may able to see His plan and purpose for your life.

Ask Yahweh in Faith

When Yahweh gives to all men generously and without reproach, He gives without any conditions and questioning as to whether you deserve it or not. One thing you have to bear in mind is that without faith you will receive nothing. Faith in Yahweh is a vital element in all of life. When the storms of life come down hard on you, keep your eyes fixed on Yahshua our Messiah. Yahshua can sustain you. He will keep you from falling. Let us not forget that Yahweh is taking this opportunity to shape us into the person He wants us to be. There is one thing necessary to be observed in our asking, namely, that we do it with a believing, steady mind. A mind that has but one single and prevailing regard to its spiritual and eternal interest, and that keeps steady in its purposes for Yahweh, will grow wise by afflictions, will continue fervent in its devotions, and will be able to sustain all trials and oppositions. As you, yourself, are facing all the difficulties and problems in life today, you can actually be joyful that Yahweh is working in your life.

But the Elohim of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Yahshua the Messiah, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever, 1 Pet.5:10-11 HNB.

Isaac Mung



Dear brothers and sisters in Yahshua,

Many thanks for your excellent newsletters and websites! I pray that many more people will be reached and blessed through the work that you do in teaching about Yahweh's Name and Esteem. My family and I certainly find it an invaluable resource.

For one, the arrival of each "Kids for Yah" newsletter always leads to great excitement with my two children and the new website no doubt will be equally enjoyed. We have been looking at the tabernacle with them in recent weeks, so this month's Kids for Yah piece comes in good time.

Many thanks again and shalom to all.

— **P du P and family, South Africa**

HalleluYAH! Yahshua led me to your site a couple of weeks ago, I am more tuned in to your (our) Yahshua's WAY of interpreting the scriptures, just finished studying Orthodox Believers and knew from the heart without having to search the scriptures, that this is more noble truth than I have yet found in the U.S. I am isolated in this city, I have no where to worship with a congregation, because of past sins and also there are no Assemblies or Congregations in the area that I can reach in LIKE MAGNITUDE!!! I have no way to reach anyone and came out of babylon 3 years ago!!! Please let me know when someone will be in the Charlotte area as I want to be baptized in the Name of Yahshua, I pray it will soon happen, please get in touch with me about this if you can! Sincerely in Messiah Yahshua, —**TS NC**

Recently I received a nice YAIY [Newsletter] for my study and records, and sharing it with everybody, elderly, youth, sisters and good recipes simply wonderful and exquisite. Thank you. I congratulate all Elders, Deacons, Staff...

—**YP, INDIA** (e-mail)

To Yahweh be the glory! I am writing on the behalf of your magazine...We find the magazine to be very educating; we love it! We would count this to be a true blessing if the both of us could also receive this glorious magazine to further us as a group in our walk with Yahshua and our Heavenly Father Yahweh. We will be in constant prayer for your Assembly as well as you and your families. Thank you. —**CD, CA**

Dear YAIY, thank you for all the information that I have received...May Yahweh bless you all. — **NB, AL**

Shalom Sisters and Brothers in Yahshua's Name. Enclosed is a donation for the continued work of our Great Heavenly Father, Yahweh Elohim. I support your continued efforts and faith in Yahweh's Word, for His word is truth. May He bless you greatly. — **BD, OH**

Greetings to all of you brethren in the USA but especially in your area in Yahweh's great and wonderful Name and in Yahshua the Messiah, our great Savior. Surprisingly and gladly we were when or upon reading the good news....We were so much touch[ed] that tears were rolling down our cheeks unnoticeable. Yahweh heard and granted our heartfelt prayers....in order to proclaim much better Yahweh's truth. Many are yet to harvest...Therefore we will resume Yahweh's work in our new name which is Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua. — **Elder SO, Philippines**

O' Magnify Yahweh indeed!...Greetings in the esteemed Name of Father Yahweh and Yahshua. I truly praise Yahweh for seeing us through the difficult waiting period, for equipping you and the rest of the saints with the fruit of the spirit and bringing about justice for His Name's sake. He truly is a wonder. Bless His Name... — **DL,NY**

Dear Precious folks, Yes! I would like to receive the new issue of YAIY Beacon magazine. I'm "starving" for the Word and you all seem to be able to fill my soul with the right "food"...I ask our dear Father Yahweh to multiply my small mite, so it can be used to further your good work. Bless you all—let's get crackin', huh? — **FT, DE**

I am deeply inspired and encouraged for the zeal that lives in all the Assembly at YAIY. Keep that light high up for the world to see the endless hope that lives within His true followers...your work and deeds have not gone unnoticed because of your tireless pursuit in teaching TRUTH... If it weren't for your literature that you send out freely I would just be another lost and deceived soul in this wasting world. — **RN, OH**

It is my greatest pleasure to write this mail. I've been visiting your page for a month now, and what I saw was very informative, educative, and thought-provoking. Your teachings has enlightened my knowledge and contributed a lot to my life. Moreover, it has changed my life from one step to another...May Yahweh guide and guard you in all your endeavors. —**EN,Ghana**(e-mail)

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