

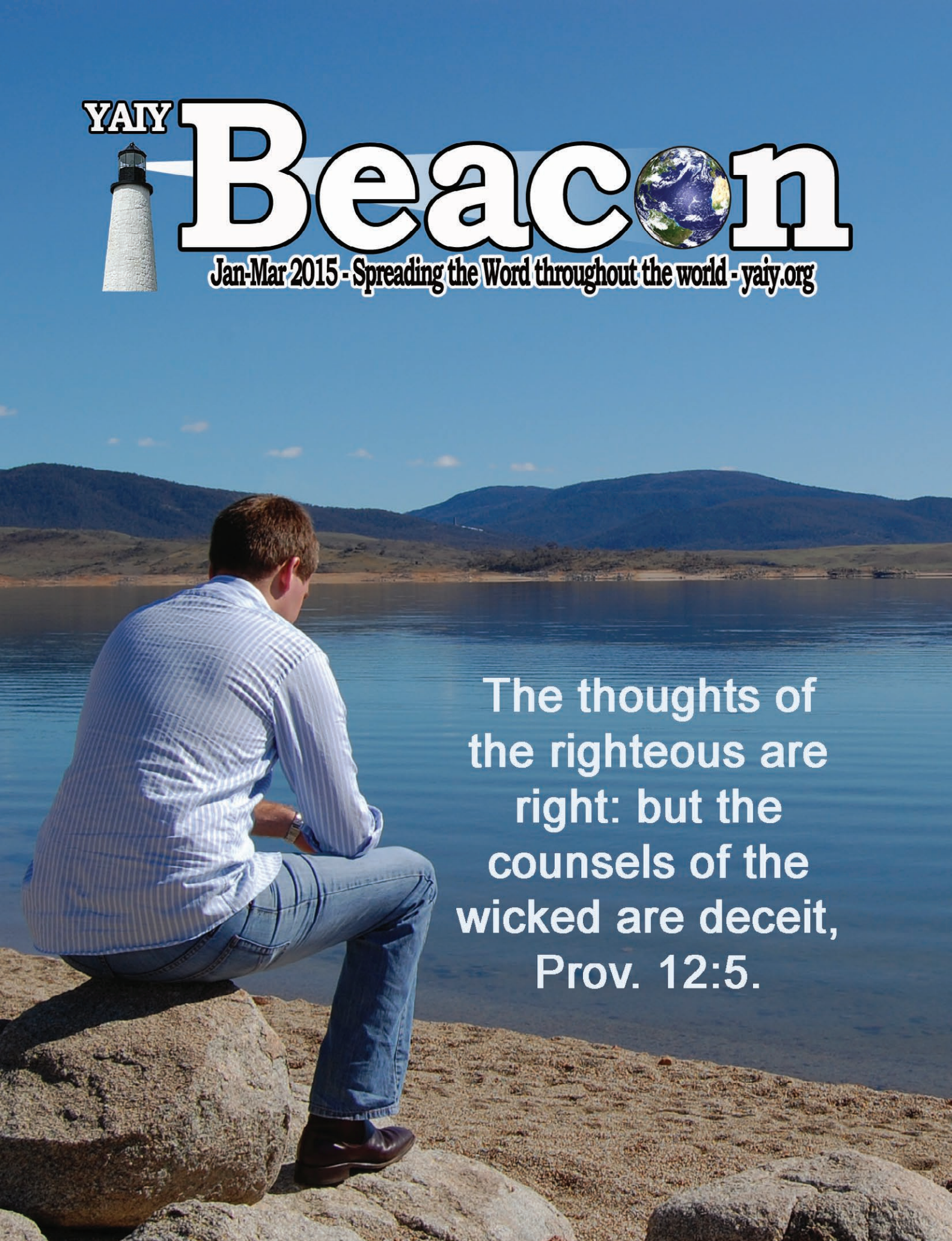
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The thoughts of
the righteous are
right: but the
counsels of the
wicked are deceit,
Prov. 12:5.

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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:
 1-573-642-4104

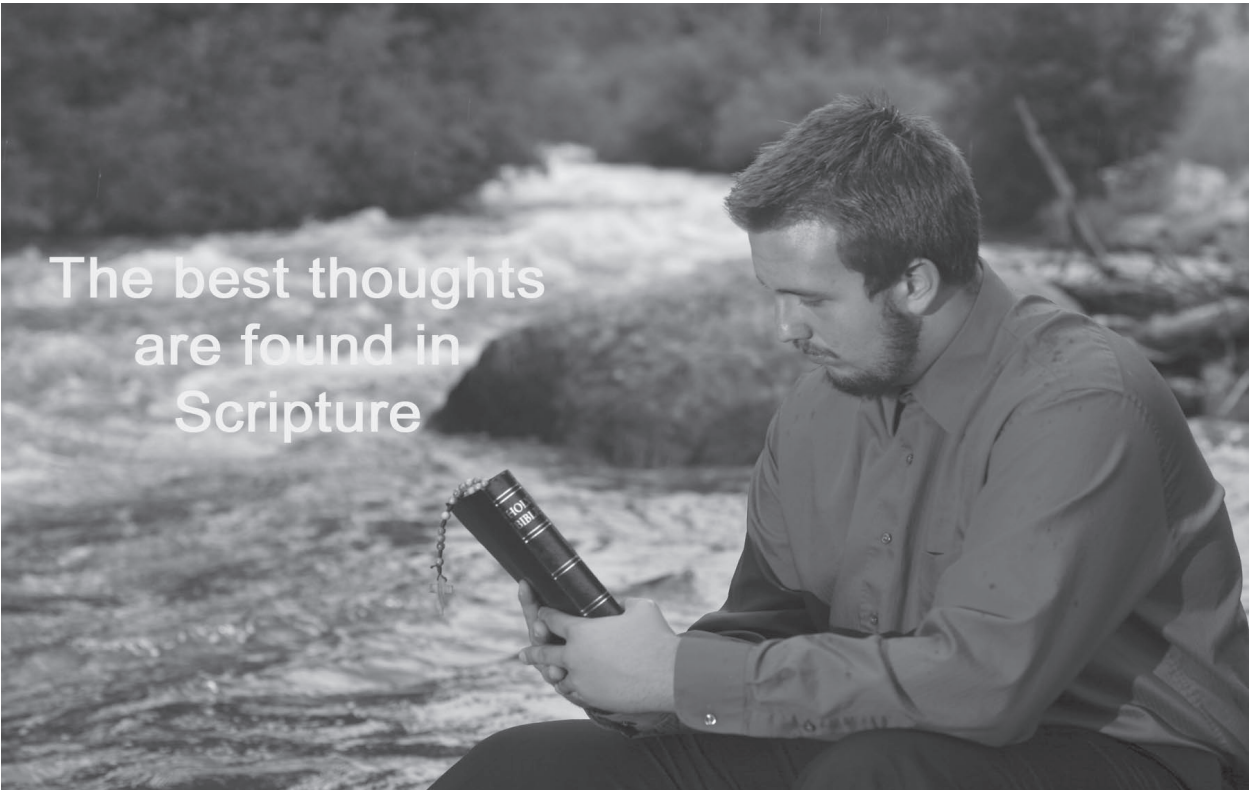


Email:
beacon@yaiy.org

Internet:
www.yaiy.org



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The best thoughts
are found in
Scripture

Good Thoughts To Live By

There is a school of thought where one seeks to achieve a relaxed state through meditation. Meditation is defined as engaging in continued or extended thought. Having our mind and body relaxed says we are apt to do a lot of thinking. But, what does the Bible say we are to think about? Common sense would tell us we should think of pleasant things and certainly not things which would upset us. We should know that the best place to find answers is from the Bible and in the Bible we can find references known as the “Guidelines of a Believer.”

But, before going further to find out what things Scriptures say we are to think on, let us look at two words which will be used to clarify why we should do the thinking in the first place. These two words can be found in Philippians 4:8b:

If there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

The first significant word here, “virtue,” is the translation of the Greek *arete* (ar-et'-ay), Strong's #703; meaning excellence, both intrinsic and attributed. Intrinsic means something is excellent by its own very nature and attributed means a characteristic or an attribute is assigned to something by interpretation.

Excellent Things

The Greek word translated “virtue” in the KJV, is translated “excellent” in the NIV and is “excellence” in the NASB translation. Hence, it seems these last two mentioned interpretations are more connected to Strong's definition.

Intrinsically Excellent

What is really meant by something which is truly intrinsically excellent? Look at Heb. 1:1-5:

Yahweh, Who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, Whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by Whom also He made the worlds; Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on High; being made so much better than the angels, as He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said He at any time, Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee? And again, I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son?

So, Yahshua's name is an excellent name in and by itself.

Let them praise the name of Yahweh: for His name alone is excellent; His glory is above the earth and heaven, Ps. 148:13.

This verse further clarifies that Yahweh's name is excellent in and by itself.

Excellent by Interpretation

What is said to have an attribute or has excellence by interpretation?

By contents, all of Proverbs 8 expresses excellence, where wisdom is said to be speaking of excellent things. Specifically, let us look at Prov. 8:6, which says:

Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things.

Job 37:23 also shows Who is attributed excellence by interpretation of a characteristic:

Touching the Almighty, we cannot find Him out: He is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: He will not afflict.

Ps. 36:7 relates that Elohim has more characteristics or attributes which are excellent:

How excellent is Thy lovingkindness, O Elohim! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings.

Righteous Characteristics

Virtue is just one of eight characteristics of a righteous life we are to live. We find these listed in 2 Peter 1:3-7,

According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and righteousness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this,

giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

Each of these eight characteristics is not a separate entity by itself. Each is used to develop the next one.

Faith (assurance in our beliefs) is used to develop virtue (assurance something is of excellence), which is used to develop knowledge (information), which is used to develop temperance (self-control), which is used to develop patience (cheerful endurance), which is used to develop piety (devoutness), which is used to develop brotherly kindness (philadelphia – love of the brethren), which is used to develop charity (agape love which is the ultimate of all feelings one can have towards mankind).

Let us look at Philippians 4:8b once again:

If there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

The second word, "praise," is the translation of the Greek *epainos* (ep'-ahee-nos) Strong's #1868; meaning laudation or to sing or give praise or extol.

The Giving of Praise

Here are some examples of giving praise:

First is the story of Yahshua healing the blind man spoken of in Luke 18:41-43,

Saying, what said, Master, that I may receive my sight. And Yahshua said unto him, receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying Yahweh: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto Yahweh.

One should note here that all the people gave praise to Yahweh.

Second is a story concerning

Yahshua shortly before Passover and found in Luke 19:33-37,

And as they were loosing the colt, the owners thereof said unto them, why loose ye the colt? And they said, the Master hath need of him. And they brought him to Yahshua: and they cast their garments upon the colt, and they set Yahshua thereon. And as He went, they spread their clothes in the way. And when He was come nigh, even now at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise Yahweh with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen.

Third is a story which indicates that we should render honor and glory towards Yahweh through praise.

Now I say that Yahshua Messiah was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of Yahweh, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers: and that the gentiles might glorify Yahweh for His mercy; as it is written, for this cause I will confess to thee among the gentiles, and sing unto Thy name. And again he saith, rejoice, ye gentiles, with His people. And again, praise Yahweh, all ye gentiles; and laud Him, all ye people, Rom. 15:8-11.

We should praise Yahweh even as Yahshua did, which is written in Heb. 2:9-12,

But we see Yahshua, Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that He by the grace of Yahweh should taste death for every man. For it became Him, for Whom are all things, and by Whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the Captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both He that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, I will declare Thy name unto My brethren, in the midst of the assembly will I sing praise unto Thee.

Here, in verse 12 ("saying...), Paul is restating what Ps. 22:22 says that "I will declare Thy name unto My brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise Thee."

Now, let's look at Philippians 4:8, in its entirety, to find out what the phrase "think on these things," includes.

What Are Those Things?

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things, Philippians 4:8.

Restating this verse, i.e., placing the last at the beginning, as the usual form of a logic statement appears, we read:

Finally, brethren, if there be any virtue, and there be any praise, then think on whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, and whatsoever things are of good report, Philippians 4:8.

Now, to make it a little easier to understand let us replace "virtue," in the hypothesis, "if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise," with "excellence," to end up with,

If there be any excellence, and if there be any praise, then think on whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, and whatsoever things are of good report, Philippians 4:8.

Knowing that Yahweh's word is true ("Thy word is truth," John 17:17), this entire verse is likewise true.

It has been shown that the hypothesis is true and the logic statement itself is true. Hence, the conclusion must likewise be true.

Now what are we to think

about?

From Philippians 4:8, the things (key words) we are to think about are things which are:

- 1) True,
- 2) Honest,
- 3) Just,
- 4) Pure,
- 5) Lovely, and are
- 6) Of good report.

Directing Our Thoughts

What we shall now do is look at how Scripture uses these key words as our own interpretation might fall short.

The first key word in the list is:

True

This word "true" is the translation of the Greek *alethes* (al-ay-thace'), Strong's #227, which basically means sincere, genuine, and not fake.

Let us find some examples.

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

Unleavened bread is emblematic of purity and in this case sincerity means our thoughts and actions, which are to be true, are to be without any hidden agenda.

When our thoughts are centered upon things that are sincere, genuine, and are not fake, our thoughts and actions will not be hypocritical. This is spoken of Yahweh in John 3:31-33,

He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: He that cometh from heaven is above all. And what He hath seen and heard, that He testifieth; and no man receiveth His testimony. He that hath received His testimony hath set to His seal that Yahweh is true.

Also saying that Yahweh is true is found in John 7:28,

Then cried Yahshua in the temple as He taught, saying, ye both

know Me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of Myself, but He (Yahweh) that sent Me is true, Whom (speaking of Yahweh) ye know not.

A third verse saying that Yahweh is true is John 8:26,

I have many things to say and to judge of you: but He (Yahweh) that sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of Him.

Matt. 22:16 says that Yahshua is also true,

And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that Thou art true, and teachest the way of Yahweh in truth, neither carest Thou for any man: for Thou regardest not the person of men.

Also John 6:55-58 speaks of Yahshua's body and blood as being true - the true sacrifice,

For My flesh is meat indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He that eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth Me, even he shall live by Me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.

The word "indeed" in verse 55 is meaningful. It is the translation of the Greek *aleethees*. *Aleethees*, the adjective form of the noun *alethes*, was translated as "true" earlier.

Hence, John 6:55 should read:

For my flesh is the true meat, and My blood is the true drink.

The second key word in the list to direct our thoughts towards is:

Honest

This word "honest" is the translation of the Greek *semnos* (sem-nos'), Strong's #4586, meaning venerable, i.e. honorable. It is derived from from Strong's #4576, which means to revere, i.e., adore.

One can use this to modify "things" in Phil. 4:8 to mean "dignified" or "causing respect," relative to what we say, do and wear.

Paul wrote to Timothy, in 1 Tim. 2:2 KJV, of his desire to live a life in honesty:

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all righteousness and honesty.

1 Tim. 2:2 NASU says to live a dignified life:

First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all righteousness and dignity.

The NKJV uses reverence.

The American Standard Version and the Darby Bible uses gravity.

The Complete Jewish Bible uses upright in everything.

The Revised Standard Version uses respectful in every way.

We can see what a variety of meanings that "thinking on things which are honest" really involves.

The third key word telling us how to direct our thoughts concerning things which are, is:

Just

The word "just" is the translation of the Greek Strong's #1342 *dikaios* (dik'-ah-yos) from Strong's #1349; equitable (fairness, in character or act); by implication, innocent, holy (absolutely or relatively).

In general, this word is used of people relative to the execution of things which are considered right (or righteous), absolutely when that person is Yahweh or Yahshua, where it signifies a perfect agreement between their nature and their acts, and relatively, when that person is man.

This Greek word is translated as "righteous" as many times as it

is translated "just" in the KJV.

In John 5:30, we read what Yahshua spoke of His judgment ,

I can of Mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and My judgment is just; because I seek not Mine own will, but the will of the Father Who hath sent Me.

Yes, Yahshua's judgment is just (justified), is righteous.

Paul, in Acts 22:12-14, says that Ananias calls Yahshua the "Just One" or the righteous one:

And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there, came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. And he said, the Elohim of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know His will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of His mouth.

The NIV Bible uses righteous one in place of just one – same meaning.

In Rom. 7:12, Paul says this:

Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

Here again the NIV Bible uses righteous in place of just.

Rom. 2:13-14 NIV tells who are declared "just" or righteous in Yahweh's sight:

For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in Yahweh's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.

The KJV uses "just" here in place of righteous.

This verse definitely spells out what our thoughts must be directed towards - things which are declared just (or righteous). We are to be scriptural law abiding people.

The next type of thoughts we should exhibit are::

Pure

The word "pure" comes from the Greek *hagnos* (hag-nos') Strong's

#53; from the same as Strong's #40; properly, clean, i.e., (figuratively) innocent, modest, perfect, chaste, freedom from defilements or impurities.

What promise has been given to us? Answer found in 1 John 2:24-25 NIV:

See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. And this is what He promised us — even eternal life.

To remain in Him we must be obedient .

In 1 John 2:28 NIV, we are spoken of as children of Yahweh.

And now, dear children, continue in Him, so that when He appears we may be confident and unashamed before Him at His coming.

In the life we now lead, we must have this hope of living again. This will help us to remain in Yahweh's favor. To remain true we must remain obedient.

But we know that when He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure, 1 John 3:2b-3 NIV.

James 4:8 tells us we are to purify our hearts:

Draw nigh to Yahweh, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

The word "purify" is the translation of the Greek *hagnizo* (hag-nid'-zo) Strong's #48; from Strong's #53; to make clean, i.e. (figuratively) sanctify (ceremonially or morally).

Our thoughts are those which will help make us clean.

The next word in the list is:

Lovely

The word "lovely" is the translation of the Greek *prosphilos* (prosf-ee-lace') Strong's #4375; from a presumed compound of Strong's #4314 and Strong's #5368; friendly

towards, i.e. acceptable.

Yes, most certainly we are to be friendly towards and acceptable by others.

Rom. 12:1-2 gives us an idea of what our thoughts and actions should be:

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of Yahweh, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto Yahweh, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of Yahweh.

The last word (phrase) in the list is:

Of Good Report

This phrase is the translation of the Greek *euphemos* (yoo'-fay-mos) Strong's #2163; from Strong's #2095 and Strong's #5345; well spoken of, i.e. reputable.

The Greek word *euphemos* is used only here. It is derived from Strong's #2095 meaning "good"

and from Strong's #5345 meaning "fame," which is derived from the verb meaning "speak or make known." Thus, we should concentrate on things which are well-spoken of.

So, all in all, Phil. 4:8 should be important to us:

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Yes, we should think on all these things: thoughts which are 1) true, 2) honest, 3) just, 4) pure, 5) lovely and 6) of good report.

Thoughts And Actions

Some simple thoughts go this way:

"The greatest events of an age are its best thoughts. Thought finds its way into action. — Bovee."

"Deep in thought? Guard well thy thoughts; our thoughts are

heard in heaven. — Young."

At the very beginning I mentioned we would look for the "Guidelines of a Believer." Those guidelines we should follow are displayed by our actions. Hence, the thoughts we conceive will play a large part in the actions we display. In our display it behooves us to:

1. Let our actions be "true" towards Yahweh and mankind.
2. Let our actions be "honest" towards Yahweh and mankind.
3. Let our actions be "just" towards Yahweh and mankind.
4. Let our actions be "pure" towards Yahweh and mankind.
5. Let our actions be "lovely" towards Yahweh and mankind.
6. Let our actions be "of good report" towards Yahweh and mankind.

Are you willing to display the actions necessary to obtain the gift of life eternal?

Elder Roger G. Meyer

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The Law Versus Legalism



What would this world be like under the individual governments if there were no instructions nor guidance by way of laws? There would be no consequences, because no one has set a standard of right or wrong.

Without rules, written or otherwise, we would be not much better off than animals. But we are more than animals, and there are rules to be followed. The law is to be obeyed, but legalism is not. How is that to be understood? Let's consider The Law vs. Legalism.

Governed From The Top

Isn't it obvious that Yahshua was governed? That He was and is still under Yahweh's governing rule. That is, under "The Law." It's not legalism. Yahshua never sinned.

I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him Who sent Me, John 5:30 (NASB used throughout).

As Yahweh calls us by His Spirit, we are to start changing our lives by expressing the fruit of obedience by the same Spirit, even before it is implanted within to stay with the individual throughout their life (Acts 5:32; 15:20-21). It operates within us afterward, continuing to help us further in our walk (2 Pet. 1:4-8), to be like Him Who walked before us.

Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances, Ezekiel 36:26-27.

How silly it is to think that a different Spirit is given today to just give us license to be law breakers of that old MOSAIC law! The reality is it was and is, Yahweh's Law, and it's the way we are to love Him.

For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous, 1 John 5:3.

This is the truth, but people have been believing lies for centuries. Why?

Deception Is Prevalent

What is happening today? Why aren't people waking up? Can we know the truth?

If the idea of legalism, as defined by Scripture, can be understood, it will open up a window into what is happening in the majority of Christianity today who think "law keeping" is "legalism."

Prophetically, 2nd Thessalonians 2:10–12 says, *And with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. For this reason, Yahweh will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.*

This is specific to the end of the age. A time comparable to the time of Noah, when everyone was doing their own things, managing themselves by relativism, but then the flood came and took them all away, except for Noah and his family who Yahweh would essentially start over with.

For those of the body of Messiah, we are to be like Noah, blameless in this wicked generation.

We have our work cut out for us; we are to witness to others about the basics of what Yahweh expects from His people.

Four Points Of History

There are definitely four things we can see from around the 4th century, which need to be covered and examined along with Scripture, the final authority which differentiates right from wrong.

1. Early 3rd and 4th centuries set the tone for anti-Semitism and the removal of anything Jewish.
2. Legalism has come to mean anyone trying to save themselves by works, rather than by grace.
3. The accumulation of these two items (anti-

Semitism and the Legalism "by works, not by grace" teaching) has driven people to explain away certain passages of Scripture, taking them out of context and distorting the intended meaning.

4. The law was to be kept in the OT and in the NT, and will be kept in the Coming Kingdom.

First Point

Early 3rd and 4th centuries set the tone for anti-Semitism and the removal of anything Jewish. Let's take a look at some history to confirm this and the other points. The following is from the History of the Christian Church, Schaff, P., & Schaff, D. S. (1997).

"In the course of the third century the Roman practice gained ground everywhere in the East, and, to anticipate the result, was established by the council of Nicaea in 325 [C.E.] as the law of the whole church. This council considered it unbecoming, in Christians, to follow the usage of the unbelieving, hostile Jews, and ordained that Easter should always be celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon succeeding the vernal equinox (March 21), and always after the Jewish Passover. If the full moon occurs on a Sunday, Easter-day is the Sunday after. By this arrangement Easter may take place as early as March 22, or as late as April 25."

In this historical record, we see the following problems:

1. Anti-Semitism.
2. Man-made calendar rules.
3. False days of worship implemented, with disregard to "Yahweh's Passover," Lev 23:5.
4. Shows the unscriptural power and influence of a religious organization.

Even before this, there was trouble for the Jews and believers alike in the 1st and 2nd centuries by rulers like Nero, Vespasianus, and Hadrian.

Nero accused Jews and other


believers of setting fire to the city. Vespasianus was at war with the Jews who had been in revolt in the year 66 CE. And Hadrian refused the Jews access to the new city of Aelia Capitolina.

Years after, there was noted to be at least 10 years of Jewish book burnings. Today, there is still anti-Semitism and trouble by others who claim to be followers of the Savior. When someone does start to understand the history of what has happened, and actually start living according to the Word, they get labeled as a Jew or as trying to save themselves through legalism. But the true meaning of legalism is rarely understood.

Second Point

Legalism has come to mean

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

Mini Study 

Colossians 2 and the Law

Does Colossians 2:14 negate Yahweh's law?

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

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

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

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

What About Colossians Chapter 2?

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

anyone trying to save themselves by works, rather than by grace. Let's try to understand what Apostle Paul, himself, said,

But I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified, 1 Corinthians 9:27.

There is a danger for us to be complacent. As we look around and find most people pursuing everything under the sun, we might ask, "Why shouldn't we also?"

The one thing that is different about the body of Messiah is that it is set-apart. It is to be holy and it is Yahweh Who decides what is holy and what is not.

Those in Messiah are called out and are chosen to do what Israel failed to do. They failed to be an example to the rest of the nations. And that is one of the problems today. Any traditional self-proclaimed Christian is going to say, "the law cannot be followed" and therefore Yahweh came up with a different plan of action so we can be saved by "faith alone," and they view any attempt to obey the law as legalistic.

While there are things we can't do today without a standing temple and being under a different priesthood, it doesn't make us legalistic to obey fundamental commandments, such as, observing the Sabbaths, or eating clean foods, or being specific as to what we should partake of during Passover observance. See our booklet, *Orthodox Believers*, for clarity.

It is the will of Yahweh that we're careful to observe these things properly in Messiah. What is not right, is doing what is right in our own sight. This takes us to seeing what legalism really is, as defined by what we find in Scripture.

Biblical Legalism

A specific point of Pharisical legalism has been noted about the following verse.

And immediately the man was

made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath. The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed, John 5:9-10.

The Companion Bible, by E.W. Bullinger, says, "The Rabbis, made the carrying of anything from a public place into a private place, or visa versa, unlawful."

The law from the 1st century is in the Talmud, as law. Their law, not Yahweh's law. Yahshua the Messiah knew it and so should we.

Then some Pharisees and scribes came to Yahshua from Jerusalem and said, "Why do Your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread." And He answered and said to them, "Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of Yahweh for the sake of your tradition?" (Matthew 15:1-3).

Today's so-called Legalism and how it is defined, is a false accusation against Yahweh's people? Yahshua Himself was lawful, as an example to us. We are lawful, being justified in Messiah Yahshua, as Yahweh's Word points out:

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of Yahweh is eternal life through Yahshua Messiah our Master, Romans 6:23.

We are forgiven through Yahshua's shed blood, a perfect sacrifice for us. It is not a sacrifice to take lightly, going our own merry way and living our life as we choose to.

Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the Assembly of Yahweh which He purchased with His own blood. I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples

after them, Acts 20:28-30.

Is it not perverse to suggest the law is done away with and we are now completely under Grace? Obvious to us is that we understand being under the law is being under the death penalty of the law. We are not trying to justify ourselves through the Levitical priesthood of sacrifices and ritual purification. For those who are just coming out of deception from false teachers, this is not as clear.

Therefore, we have articles, we have studies, and we have messages given at Sabbath services, which point all this out by making it clear and by correcting the wrong teachings and traditions of men.

Out of Context

Even though we see people

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



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,

taking Scripture out of context, we must not, and we must clarify ourselves so we are also not misunderstood.

Paul clarified himself, knowing that he could be taken out of context. After speaking about grace, in Messiah, he says the following:

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? (Romans 6:1).

He answered his own question by saying "May it never be." Why never? Because, for us, such a thought is absolutely perverted and against Yahweh's will. Paul knew this and said, "May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?" (Romans 6:2).

What Paul just said makes a very good question: "How shall we who died to sin still live in it?" He's letting us know that we are not to go on sinning. It goes against Yahweh's Word and the faith of Yahshua. The very things noted of the Saints:

Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of Elohim, and the faith of Yahshua, Revelation 14:12 .

Third Point

The accumulation of these two items (anti-Semitism and the Legalism "by works, not by Grace" teaching) has driven people to explain away certain passages of Scripture, taking them out of context and distorting the intended meaning.

Romans 14, Colossians 2, Galatians 4 and other specific areas have been proof texted to mean the law is no longer in affect for us, today, who are in Messiah.

Most of the teachers of Scripture today ignore Scripture, and have chosen relativism, the belief that they can decide what is right based upon how they feel about something at that time.

They look at moral principles, but neglect clear and simple in-

structions that are for us in Messiah today. Yahweh, the Almighty, said,

For this commandment (speaking of the commandments, verse 8) which I command you today is not too difficult for you, nor is it out of reach, Deuteronomy 30:11.

This is a contrary statement to those that say "we cannot keep the Mosaic law." Who is lying? Is Yahweh a liar? Absolutely not. The liars are those that Peter pointed out:

But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, 2 Peter 3:13–14.

Have we read this in context? Yes, and what follows is an eye opener.

And regard the patience of our Master as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction, 2 Peter 3:15–16.

The untaught and unstable distort the Scriptures. They are not spotless and blameless, they are sinners and they are teaching, using Paul's letters, that the law was done away with in Messiah. It is a lie!

You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, 2 Peter 3:17.

Can one fall from grace? Yes. The way to do it is to start living an unlawful life, which is what the word literally means underneath the translation of unprincipled men. The wording means, "lawless men."

What letters are prominently used to try and show the law was done away with? Romans, Colossians, Galatians, etc. In other words, Paul's writings. Just like Peter said, and most people are still oblivious to the fact. Wake up!

Fourth Point

The law was kept during Old Testament times and during New Testament times, and will be kept in the Coming Kingdom.

Let's try to go back to the earliest time concerning keeping the law, the earliest Commandments.

Yahweh speaking, says, "I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws, Genesis 26:4-5.

Genesis 18:19 goes back even further, with Yahweh speaking of Abraham,

For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of Yahweh by doing righteousness and justice, so that Yahweh may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him, Genesis 18:19.

The Elijah message, as we have taught in the past and one that Scripture teaches, is not just that our "El is Yah[weh]," which is what the name means, but the message is one of repentance and going back to the hearts of the fathers. The hearts of the fathers, like Abraham, was to obey Yahweh. Simple and clear, but false teachings in most of churchianity today has lost sight of this, and teach the laws of the Father are done away with. It's a lie, and we will now see who is the father of lies.

Yahweh commanded Adam and Eve from the very beginning, saying, "Thou shalt not." But, we read

in Genesis 3:1-4,

Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which Yahweh Elohim had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has Elohim said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?' The woman said to the serpent, 'From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, Elohim has said, "You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'" The serpent said to the woman, 'You surely will not die!'"

What about the law of Moses? Mosaic Law? Laws of Moses are the laws of Yahweh. They have always been His laws (instructions). What does Scripture say?

Keep the charge of Yahweh your Elohim, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to what is written in the Law of Moses, that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn, so that Yahweh may carry out His promise which He spoke concerning me, saying, "If your sons are careful of their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel," 1 Kings 2:3-4.

New Testament Laws?

Were Yahweh's laws taught in the New Testament? Please keep in mind, that's what they had in the New Testament. The New Testament is a collection of letters written to brethren and is called the New Testament today. These letters were not ever teaching against the commandments of Yahweh. They uplifted them and the other instructions and insights from Genesis to Malachi.

All Scripture is inspired by Yahweh and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of Elohim may be adequate,

equipped for every good work, 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

All is all, but some throw away the very thing we are to use for instructing and for being instructed.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 points not only to the first five books of Moses, but also the other writings, such as the Psalms and Proverbs. We are also to pay attention to what the minor and major prophets spoke, as it is all inspired by Yahweh. It teaches of His ways. His way is the right way. Sit down and read Psalm 119, the longest chapter in Scripture, to see what King David, "a man after Yahweh's own heart," was inspired to say.

As pointed out earlier, there are certain things that have changed due to a change in the priesthood (Heb 7:12), but the foundational laws and instructions do not change. They are the same yesterday, today, and forever.

The Coming Kingdom

Are Yahweh's ways going to be kept in the coming Kingdom? What does the major prophet Isaiah point out? He says, on behalf of Yahweh,

And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the Elohim of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways And that we may walk in His paths. For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem," Isaiah 2:3.

When you look at what this is saying, it's saying that His ways, paths, laws, and word, are pretty much all on equal ground. The interesting thing is, the people coming into the kingdom, as a physical people, are not saying let's go up and learn the law, they are saying let's learn of His ways and His paths.

It sounds as if they are Christianized and not yet willing to say they want to learn the law. Interesting, isn't it?

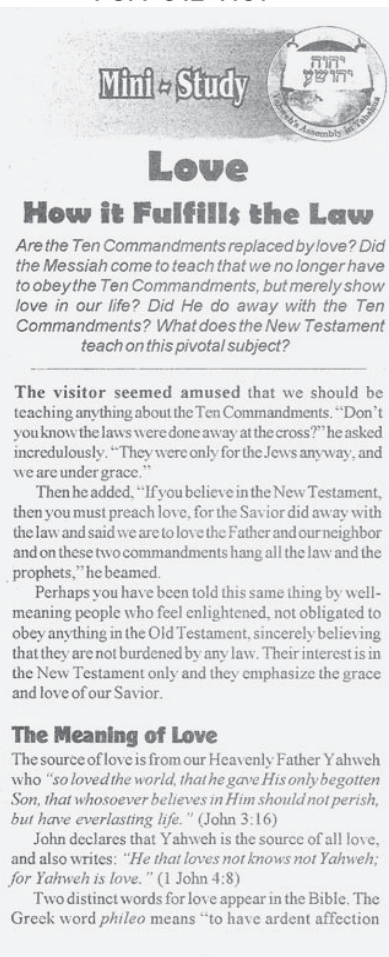
The Truth


If Yahshua the Messiah came to do away with the laws of Yahweh, then there is no longer any sin, because sin is the transgression of the law, 1 John 3:4. If there is no longer sin, then there is no need for Yahshua.

The truth is, there is a forgiveness of sins that Yahshua's sacrificial blood brings, but it does not do away with the overall law as is so often taught in the Christian faith today.

Remember, Paul, evidently understanding he could be misunderstood, but wanting to make sure that didn't happen, he said, "Do we then make void the law through faith? Elohim forbid: yea, we establish the law," Romans 3:31.

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Mini-Study 

Love

How it Fulfills the Law

Are the Ten Commandments replaced by love? Did the Messiah come to teach that we no longer have to obey the Ten Commandments, but merely show love in our life? Did He do away with the Ten Commandments? What does the New Testament teach on this pivotal subject?

The visitor seemed amused that we should be teaching anything about the Ten Commandments. "Don't you know the laws were done away at the cross?" he asked incredulously. "They were only for the Jews anyway, and we are under grace."

Then he added, "If you believe in the New Testament, then you must preach love, for the Savior did away with the law and said we are to love the Father and our neighbor and on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets," he beamed.

Perhaps you have been told this same thing by well-meaning people who feel enlightened, not obligated to obey anything in the Old Testament, sincerely believing that they are not burdened by any law. Their interest is in the New Testament only and they emphasize the grace and love of our Savior.

The Meaning of Love

The source of love is from our Heavenly Father Yahweh who "so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

John declares that Yahweh is the source of all love, and also writes: "He that loves not knows not Yahweh; for Yahweh is love." (1 John 4:8)

Two distinct words for love appear in the Bible. The Greek word *phileo* means "to have ardent affection"

Paul isn't the only one making plain statements. James says, "faith without works is dead" in James 2:26. Those works can easily be identified in 2 Timothy 3:15-17.

Yahshua Himself quoted the Old Testament (better stated as a 1st agreement) and stated we are to live by every word that proceeds from Yahweh's mouth, Deut 8:3; Matt 4:4.

The fundamental 10 Commandments of Scripture are found in chapter 20 of Exodus and chapter 4 of Deuteronomy.

If we want to condense those down, we can do so by considering the first five as pointing us to Yahweh and the last five toward our fellow man.

Yahshua, Who knew the law completely, presented these two great commands. The common element noted in both is love.

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE YAHWEH YOUR ELOHIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets," Matthew 22:36-40.

The capitalized words are quotes from Scripture. The word "depend" is translated from a word that means "hang," like as in hanging a door by the "hinges" to the house. Understand, love is not separate from the house nor the door.

True Love

Love is not just an emotional feeling. What standard is there in a feeling, if not connected with obedience? What does the Father think? What will He do? Scripture tells us: "...showing loving kindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments,"

Exodus 20:6.

This is the law, and not legalism. This is true love, and not just a feeling or some other moral relativism.

John also makes these things clear in the New Testament, by saying,

By this we know that we love the children of Yahweh, when we love Yahweh and observe His commandments. For this is the love of Yahweh, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of Elohim overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Yahshua is the Son of Yahweh? (1 John 5:2-5).

Yes, love, and keep His commandments. Love is said to be supreme, and it's true, but it is not supreme if the instructions and will of Yahweh are ignored. That is the missing point in so many love, grace, and faith messages being promoted today. The Messiah kept the law, in love, grace, and faith! We are to do the same! We are to have true love.

Without Sin

Some say that Yahshua broke the law to prove that He came to do away with the law. Is this true?

For you have been called for this purpose, since Messiah also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH, 1 Peter 2:21-22.

Sin is transgression against the laws of Yahweh. Something that the Messiah was not guilty of, and the very example for us to live by. Notice the following:

Yahshua answered them and said, "My teaching is not Mine, but His Who sent Me. If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of Elohim or whether I speak from Myself," John

7:16-17.

We can know Yahshua, the Son, by being obedient to Yahweh, the Father. This is not rocket science folks! Yahshua said, plainly,

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love, John 15:10.

He obeyed His Father's law. We are to walk as He walked. Can this be any simpler? We are not to sin against Yahweh.

By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of Elohim has

truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: the one who says he abides in Him bought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked, 1 John 2:3-6.

Do we want to be called a liar? Do we want to follow in the footsteps of the father of lies? We have Yahweh Who gave instructions to His people, the people sinned, and Yahshua came as a sacrifice to take away the death penalty that sin brings, not so we can continue in sin!

"Yahweh forbid," as Paul stated. Yet, people resist, and say the Savior came to do away with His Father's laws.

Magnifying the Law!

It isn't well known that Yahshua was actually "fulfilling" (building or filling up) Yahweh's word, which it says in the KJV:

Yahweh is well pleased for His righteousness' sake; He will magnify the law, and make it honourable, Isaiah 42:21.

Yahshua did just this by bringing the law up to a higher level, e.g., thinking of murder and adultery, and not just doing it. He lifted up the law, not legalism.

He lifted up and gave the example of love in action, not love without action. And, not the love in the wrong kind of action, which the Pharisees did, by making up their own laws which covered Yahweh's laws.

The NASB reads in Isaiah 42:21,

Yahweh was pleased for His righteousness' sake to make the law great and glorious.

If you have read Psalm 119 already, you would have seen that righteousness is equated with the law of Yahweh.

Essentially, His righteousness is shown in the law which is His way and path for us. This is also clearly seen in the Son of Yahweh, who

<see **Law** page 22>

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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 Elohim 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."



Really, What Is Valentine's Day

Every February, not only in this country, but in many countries around the world, candy, flowers and gifts of all kinds are given in the name of love. This is because many years ago someone, in the name of love, it is rumored, did that same thing. It seems that the origin of St. Valentine's Day is shrouded in a little bit of mystery. What we do know is that this day contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. Today, the Roman Catholic Church does recognize different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. Each of their stories honored these men with feasts on February 14. Over time their stories were all combined into one story about St. Valentine.

St. Valentine

The story which evolved was about a Roman Catholic priest, bishop of Interamma, who lived during the third century under the reign of Emperor Claudius II. During his reign, Claudius was involved in many wars. Recognizing his need for young men to serve in his army, Claudius forbade men to marry. The reason for this was the fact that the men would refuse to join the army because of being married.

Valentine thought this to be totally unfair and he began to secretly marry couples in spite of the emperor's orders. When Valentine was found out, he was arrested, placed in prison and sentenced to die. During his imprisonment he wrote letters to those of his parish and signed them "From your valentine." Is this not being carried on today – sending cards on Valentine's Day?

Pagan Connection 1 – Lupercalia

Lupercalia was known in Roman mythology as an ancient Roman fertility rite called the Feast of Lupercus, which was celebrated on February 15

and named after the Roman god Lupercus who was to protect flocks from being attacked by wolves at night.

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 Lupercalia is still with us."

What else is associated with wolves in Roman mythology?

Pagan Connection 2 – Romulus and Remus

Lupercalia is also a celebration to honor the mythical founders of Rome, Romulus and Remus, who were supposedly suckled by the wolf Lupa in a cave named Lupercal. Further, in this celebration of Lupercalia, the priests (called Luperci), dressed in goatskins, would sacrifice a goat (a symbol of fertility) and a dog (a symbol of protection), 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. Women would desire to be whipped with these goatskins because it meant fertility and easy childbirth.

Interestingly enough, these thongs were called *februa* and the lashing the *februatio*, both stemming from a Latin word *Februarius* (February) meaning to purify through sacrificial offerings.

Pagan Connection 3 – Juno and Faunus

Another part of this Lupercalia celebration was to honor Juno, the Roman goddess of women and marriage (somewhat connected with what St. Valentine

did which caused imprisonment for him), and Faunus (associated with Pan), the god of nature. In this part of the annual celebration women would put their names in a box and teenage males would draw a name and the two of them would be pair up for one year until next year's celebration of Lupercalia.

Over time this lost favor with the populace and 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.

Faun (Faunus) is defined as a class of rural deities represented as men with ears, horns, tail, and later also with the hind legs of a goat.

Syncretism

All these are nice stories! Even so, they are examples of the ongoing efforts of religious leaders of the Christian church to appease their members and new converts through syncretism. By definition, syncretism is "a combination, reconciliation or coalescence of varying, often mutually opposed beliefs, principles or practices into the new conglomerate whole typically marked by internal inconsistencies." Most people today could remember the story of St. Valentine, but not so with the different celebration noted here. Mostly, mythological stories are soon forgotten.

Pan

Pan was an Arcadian deity of light and, as evil, was equivalent to the Sun deity of Baal, also spelled B-A-L or B-E-L. Baal, which is mentioned often in the Holy Scriptures, was a title given to Nimrod, the hunter who was against Yahweh. We read about Nimrod in 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, the word **valens** means to be strong, powerful, mighty.

Nimrod, the Baal-Lord-Sun God of the ancients, is the basis for all mythology worldwide. His exploits are well noted in a book entitled "The Two Babylons" by Alexander Hislop. The symbols associated with Valentine's Day are not simple and meaningless.

Cupid

The symbol which is almost a Valentine entity itself is Cupid, the Roman mythological son of Venus, the goddess of love. Some view him, along with his mother, as the "Madonna and the child."

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, including those of a mischievous, naked, winged child carrying a bow and a quiver of arrows. Because of this visionary picture he is sometimes regarded as taking aim with his gold-tipped shafts at the heart of mankind.

Birds and Valentine's Day

One popular custom associated with Valentine's Day in England and France was that it was the time of the year for birds to pair up. Thus, in Chaucer's Parliament of Fowles, we read:

"For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne's day,

When every foul cometh there to choose his mate."

Both the French and English literatures of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries contain references to the practice of writing love letters and sending lover's tokens. In the Paston Letters, Dame Eliza-

beth Brews writes about a match she hopes to make for her daughter (spelling modernized), while addressing a favoured suitor:

"And, cousin mine, upon Monday is Saint Valentine's Day and every bird chooses himself a mate, and if it like you to come on Thursday night, and make provision that you may abide till then, I trust to [Yahweh] that ye shall speak to my husband and I shall pray that we may bring the matter to a conclusion."

Embracing Pagan Customs

Even though Christian missionaries took the pagan festivals as they were and gradually grafted their observance into their festivals, with all their rites and customs, they are still abominations in the sight of Yahweh. Read what He says in Deut. 12:29-32:

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

What does Yahweh say about the leaders who lead people to follow such pagan beliefs?

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Messiah. And no marvel; for Satan himself is

<see **Valentine** page 22>

He Came To Fulfill

~ The Will Of Yahweh ~

For what real purpose did Yahshua come to this earth? Did He come to destroy? Let us use Yahweh's Word to answer that question. In fact, let us use Yahshua's own words to answer.

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill, Matthew 5:17.

Yahshua came to fulfill the Law of Yahweh. "To fulfill," here, does NOT mean, as many have interpreted it, "To put an end to the Law and the Prophets." To think of it this way is simply evidence for doctrinal programming; for, doesn't the phrase, "to put an end to" something mean to "destroy" something? This result of the "blind leading the blind" is perpetuated by the oft-quoted phrase, "The Law is Dead," meaning, "It is destroyed."

Now, to prove my assertion, simply insert this doctrine into Matthew 5:17 – "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to destroy." No! I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. I did not come to destroy but to destroy?

This is what is being taught out there, that Yahshua came to fulfill the Law of Yahweh – so that WE DON'T HAVE TO. Don't have to ... what? OBEY! Yahshua came to fulfill the Law of Yahweh – so that we don't have to OBEY. Yahshua says, "Abide in Me," "Follow Me" and "If you love Me, obey My commandments." What did He mean? He also said that "No man has seen or heard the Father." Well, then WHO was speaking to Moses? Who, exactly, spoke to the Prophets? Who speaks to YOU? It is Yahshua! So, which commandments was He referring to when He used the phrase, "Obey My commandments"? Virtually, everything written in the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings of the Tanach. He is the Angel, the Messenger, of Yahweh Who spoke to Moses in the burning bush and elsewhere. He is the Messenger Who calls us out, according to the will of His Father, the Almighty Yahweh.

To understand what Yahshua is truly saying in verse 17, we need to know what the opposite of "destroy" is, because it's absolutely clear that He is referring to its antithesis. Does this make sense? Listen to the heart of Yahshua. "I did not come to judge, I came to forgive." "I did not come to be

served, I came to serve." "I did not come to change My Father's will, I came to restore My Father's will." The Thesaurus defines the antonym of "destroy" as "build." To "destroy" means to tear down. The opposite is to "build up." To build also means to "put together," to "assemble" and to "encourage." What is Yahshua's purpose in His first appearance? To put together the two houses of Israel, the "stick" of Judah and the "stick" of Ephraim.

In the same manner that the laws of this land, the civil and criminal statutes, are designed to protect and prosper the innocent, so, too, are the Laws, commandments, statutes and ordinances of Yahweh designed to protect and prosper the innocent. Those who understand the strengths, choices and freedoms afforded to those who obey these laws are "not under" the Law. In this world, who is under the law? Well, that's why we have prisons. This is what Paul was trying to teach in Galatians 5:18 – "But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law." So, I ask you, if you are led by the Spirit, will you transgress the Law of Yahweh? Yahweh forbid.

In our continuing study of the Book of Matthew, AKA "The Book of the Messianic Age," we should all be familiar with Matthew 5:17, for a number of reasons. Primarily, we should understand that out of Yahshua's mouth comes the indisputable and undisputable, irrefutable and conclusive proclamation that the Law (that is, the Instruction of Yahweh) is forever! We shall see that this proclamation was foretold by Yahweh, through Moses, in the Torah.

Another important reason for us to clearly understand what Yahshua is telling us here, for example, is the title given to these four verses in my Bible: (here it is) "Christ Fulfills the Law," an ambivalent phrase that can easily be used to teach that "The Law has been fulfilled." The editors of this version of Scripture use the present tense to describe Yahshua's statement 2,000 years ago, the effect of which implies that "The Law was fulfilled – and remains fulfilled." The truth is that the Messiah showed us 2,000 years ago how we are to fulfill the Law of Yahweh up to this present day.

Now, notice that the subject of this section title is not Messiah, but "Christ," the Greek and Latin alternative title, used to avoid referencing anything He-

brew or Jewish. We cannot ignore that the “Universal Church’s Christ” bears a stronger resemblance to the pantheon of Greek and Latin sun deities than to the description of the Hebrew Messiah written in the Scriptures. Who, but a pagan deity would be assigned the same birth date as Mythra, Zeus, Tamuz and others; determined to have been raised from the grave on a day dedicated to the goddess of fertility, Ishtar, or Easter, at sunrise; and worshipped on the venerable day of the sun, s-u-n?

Have those who seek to know Yahweh and His Son, Yahshua, set aside the false doctrines of this Universal religion? In truth, yes, some have, but most others remain entrenched in the subtle – and sometimes not so subtle – hatred of anything Hebrew, in large part due to historical attempts by writers to perpetuate hatred for anything, quote, “Jewish.”

It may surprise you to know that Martin Luther, the “Great Reformer,” was one of those writers, who published a pamphlet entitled, “On the Jews and Their Lies.” I want to quote a few G-rated excerpts from his writings, not to belabor his obvious anti-Semitic values, but to emphasize how his notoriety has influenced Protestantism not only against anything resembling Jewishness or Hebraic, but that how his prejudice has taken people away from Scripture itself. He seems to completely lack the understanding that Yahweh will “save all Israel.” He will “raise up a Savior for Israel,” that “through the Messiah you [that is, we] have been brought near to the Commonwealth of Israel” and that Yahweh will restore the House of Judah and the House of Ephraim to Himself. As it turns out, Luther is NOT a great reformer, but rather a great Destroyer. Listen to his words, unedited:

“Therefore a Christian should be content and not argue with the Jews. But if you have to or want

to talk with them, do not say any more than this: ‘Listen, Jew, are you aware that Jerusalem and your sovereignty [meaning their relationship with Yahweh], together with your temple and priesthood, have been destroyed for over 1,460 years?’ For this year, which we Christians write as the year 1542 since the birth of Christ, is exactly 1,468 years, going on fifteen hundred years, since Vespasian and Titus destroyed Jerusalem and expelled the Jews from the city. Let the Jews bite on this nut and dispute this question as long as they wish.

“For such ruthless wrath of God is sufficient evidence that they assuredly have erred and gone astray. Even a child can comprehend this. For one dare not regard God as so cruel that he would punish His own people so long, so terribly, so unmercifully, and in addition keep silent, comforting them neither with words nor with deeds, and fixing no time limit and no end to it. Who would have faith, hope, or love toward such a God? Therefore this work of wrath is proof that the Jews, surely rejected by God, are no longer His people, and neither is He any longer their God. This is in accord with Hosea 1:9, ‘Call his name Not my people, for you are not my people and I am not your God.’ Yes, unfortunately, this is their lot, truly a terrible one. They may interpret this as they will; we see the facts before our eyes, and these do not deceive us.”

Now, I have to step in here, because Luther is clearly performing “proof texting.” Just guess what the very next series of verses says. Just listen to this:

Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, “You are not My people,” There it shall be said to them, “You are sons of the living Elohim.” Then

the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and appoint for themselves one head; and they shall come up out of the land, For great will be the day of Jezreel!, Hosea 1:10-11.

How can a reputed scholar make such outlandish accusations. One wonders if he has even read the Scripture. Certainly, I surmise, the Spirit of Yahweh did not abide in this man. Let’s continue reading his pamphlet:

“Accordingly, it must ... not be considered a trifling matter but a most serious one to seek counsel ... to save our souls from the Jews, that is, from the devil and from eternal death. My advice, as I said earlier, is: First, that their synagogues be burned down, and that all who are able, toss sulphur and pitch; it would be good if someone could also throw in some hellfire ... Second, that all their books – their prayer books, their Talmudic writings, also the entire Bible – be taken from them, not leaving them one leaf, and that these be preserved for those who may be converted ... Third, that they be forbidden on pain of death to praise God, to give thanks, to pray, and to teach publicly among us and in our country ... Fourth, that they be forbidden to utter the name of God within our hearing. For we cannot with a good conscience listen to this or tolerate it ...”

Luther ends his book with these incomprehensible, if not confusing, words:

“The merciless punishment of the wicked [that is, the Jews] is not being carried out just to punish the wicked and make them atone for the evil desires that are in their blood, but to protect the righteous and to maintain peace and safety. And beyond all doubt, these are precious works of mercy, love, and kindness.”

I ask you, “How twisted and perverse can an individual be to use his power to influence others to vio-

late the Word of Yahweh, by judging one's fellow being and by condemning people to death because of their religious beliefs?"

Additionally, Martin Luther condemned the Jews for their ability to make money by usury. Truth be known, it is written in the Torah and in the New Testament that Israel is allowed to charge interest to those outside the faith. Hear this clearly; no one forces an individual to take out a loan, knowing that there is a fee for such service. Ultimately, "the Jews," or anyone of Israel, is "Torah observant," by lending money at interest to those outside the faith, while those who borrow money at interest can easily be viewed as ... well, actually, lawless if you think about it.

Unto a stranger you may lend upon usury; but unto your brother you shall not lend upon usury: that Yahweh thy Elohim may bless you in all that you set your hand to in the land where you go to possess it, Deuteronomy 23:20.

So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with usury, Matthew 25:27.

Luther goes so far as to proclaim:

"We are at fault in not slaying them, for avenging the death of Jesus Christ."

Daniel Johah Goldhagen wrote a book entitled, "Hitler's Willing Executioners," and in the foreword to the volume, he applauded the burning of the synagogues and the coincidence of the day: "On November 10, 1938, on Luther's birthday, the synagogues are burning in Germany." The German people, he urged, ought to heed these words "of the greatest antisemite of his time, the warner of his people against the Jews."

This is the last thing I'll say in reference to Martin Luther. In *Mein Kampf*, Hitler listed Martin Luther as one of the greatest reformers.

And similar to Luther in the 1500s, Hitler spoke against the Jews. The Nazi plan to create a German Reich Church laid its bases on the "Spirit of Dr. Martin Luther." The first physical violence against the Jews came on November 9-10 on Kristallnacht (Crystal Night) where the Nazis killed Jews, shattered glass windows, and destroyed hundreds of synagogues, just as Luther had proposed. This was the beginning of the Holocaust.

Now, back to:

I Came to Restore

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to restore, Matthew 5:17.

Yahweh Eloheka (Eloheka means "your El", "your Mighty One") will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear [and obey], according to all you desired of Yahweh Eloheka in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, "Let me not hear again the voice of Yahweh Eloheka, nor let me see this great fire anymore, lest I die." And Yahweh said to me: "What they have spoken is good. I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. And it shall be that whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require it of him," Deuteronomy 18:15-19.

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Yahshua of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Yahshua saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in Whom is no deceit!" (John 1:45-47).

Yahweh prophesied that He will

raise up a Prophet like Moses. Like Moses, the man who spoke face-to-face to Elohim.

So Yahweh spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle. Then Moses said to Yahweh, "See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people.' But You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.' Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people." And He said, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest," Exodus 33:11-14.

Moses wanted to see the Way of Yahweh, because he wanted to KNOW Yahweh.

Yahshua answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father Who honors Me, of Whom you say that He is your Elohim. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" Yahshua said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM," John 8:54-58.

Thomas said to Him, "Master, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" Yahshua said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him." Philip said to Him, "Master, show us the

<see **Fulfill** page 22>

What Does It Mean To Be Spiritual?

(Emphasis mine, throughout)

There are a number of religious organizations who inform their members that they are the spiritual church of Israel in this day and age. But, do they honestly know what is meant by the Biblical term: "SPIRITUAL"?

Let us look into this word as it is used in the Scriptures, and see if there could be a physical connotation to it in any way.

Why we need to do this is to understand that we, being physical in all manner of means, can still be able to apply the spiritual motivation in anything we do or think. I have used Scripture to impart its meaning as far as I can. The first text that comes to mind is Romans 7:14,

For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin.

Read what Matthew 5:19 has to say:

Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Yet, we being physical, Almighty Father knew we were capable of applying something spiritual in our lives! We are not concerned with religions who teach that the law is done away with, because to anyone with an open and logical mind, that would be a total lie. And, in no way, are we referring to the spiritualistic churches for that type of doctrine is totally contrary to the Word of Yahweh.

Teach The Truth

The ministry is to teach believers the True Word, pointing to that part of salvation as it is written in Scripture, and by that they shall receive the physical blessings for their daily needs.

They were pleased to do this, and indeed they owe it to them; for if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material things, Romans 15:27.

We speak of these gifts, not in a language taught by human philosophy, but those which the Holy Spirit teaches, combining spiritual words to men with spiritually opened minds. But the natural man rejects the teachings of the Spirit, for it is nonsense to them, because it takes spiritual insight to see its true value, 1st Corinthians 2:13-14.

I charge thee therefore before Yahweh and the Master Yahshua Messiah, Who shall judge the quick and

the dead at His appearing and His kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables, 2 Tim 4:1-4.

I at first, could not talk to you as spiritual people, but had to deal with you on a natural plane. You were as little children in the Faith of Messiah, 1st Corinthians 3:1.

We have been busy planting spiritual seed in you. Is it too much to expect from you a material harvest? (1st Corinthians 9:11).

They all ate of the same spiritual food, 1st Corinthians 10:3. (These were the Words of the Old Testament which we are to ingest through our eyes and ears by study and searching.)

And they all drank the same spiritual drink, 1st Corinthians 10:4. (And they drank of the Spiritual Rock that followed them. This Rock was Messiah.)

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be without understanding, 1st Corinthians 12:11. (We are not to be ignorant of these things.)

Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual gifts need not be inanimate objects, but they can be. By reading 1st Corinthians chapter 14, one can relate to that statement.

Make love your aim, but still keep cultivating your spiritual gifts. The highest gift you can wish for is to be able to speak the message of Yahweh. When a man speaks with a strange tongue that no man knows, but Yahweh, for no one understands the meaning, yet in spirit he is speaking in mysteries. On the other hand, when a man preaches to his fellow men words that have power to build up faith, they stimulate and encourage them. He who speaks in an unknown language, only encourages himself. But when speaking Yahweh's Word you will build up faith in the assembly. I would like all of you to know foreign languages, but I would rather have you speaking Yahweh's Word. The man who speaks with real prophetic insight renders greater service, which is better than speaking in various tongues, unless indeed he can explain its meaning, so build up faith and knowledge in the congregation. Now brothers, if I came and spoke to you in an unknown language, what profit would you have from

it? Unless my words convey some revelation, or some knowledge in spiritual things. Even musical instruments are examples of the need to speak plainly rather than in an unknown language, unless the notes are sounded out clearly, we could not recognize what melody the flute, or harp is playing. For if the trumpet gave an uncertain sound, how would the army know what to do? So likewise, you, unless you speak with a clear meaning that all who listen may understand, you may as well be speaking to thin air. There are now, and will be many more languages spoken in this world, and none of them fail to convey some meaning. Therefore, if I do not know the words of a speaker, I shall be as a foreigner to him, and he would be a foreigner to me. So with yourselves, since you are eager for the gifts of the Spirit, be eager to excel in such as will build up the faith of the assembly. Therefore, let a man who speaks in a foreign language, pray that there is an interpreter to explain his words. If I pray in a strange tongue, my spirit indeed prays, but my words are helping nobody who hears me. What then is my conclusion? I will pray with the Spirit, and I will pray with a language everybody understands, I will sing with the Spirit, and I will sing in a language we all understand. Or else when you bless with the Spirit, how can the people you are with in the congregation be able to say, "So be it," since they do not know what you are talking about? You are indeed doing right to give thanks, but your fellow neighbour is not enlightened. I thank my Yahweh, I can speak more foreign languages than all of you. But in the assembly I would rather speak five intelligible words, that by my voice I might teach knowledge to others, rather than a thousand words which no one understands. Brothers, do not be content to think childish thoughts, but to shun evil ways, keep on be-

ing children in Yahshua the Messiah, and in your understanding, be mature. In the law it is written, "With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak to this people, and even then they will not listen to Me," says Yahweh. Therefore, languages are for a sign of power for those who do not believe, it is not for those who already believe, while Yahweh's Word is not meant for the unbeliever. Therefore, if the whole assembly assemble in one place, and all of us speak different languages, then in come those who do not understand, being unlearned or unbelievers, would they not say that we are all mad? But if all speak Yahweh's Word, and one entered who did not believe or unlearned, all these sermons will convince him of the fact that he is a sinner, and his conscience will be pricked by everything he hears. And thus the secrets of his heart are laid bare, and so falling down on his face, he will worship Yahweh, and declare that Yahweh is among you indeed. Then what is this conclusion brothers, when you come together, each one of you has a psalm to sing, or a lesson to teach, a strange language to utter, some spiritual truth to speak about, or an explanation of something. Let all things be done to the building up of faith and knowledge in the assembly. And if any man speaks in a foreign tongue, let it be limited to two or three people at the most, and let there always be someone there to interpret what ever has been said. But if there be no interpreter, let him pray be silent in the assembly, and let him speak to himself, and to Yahweh. Do not have more than two or three preachers at a service, while the others think over what has been said. But should a message of truth come to one who is seated, he must not interrupt, but wait his turn, for one person should stop before another begins to speak. For in this way you can all preach to one another, as you are

inspired, that all may learn, and all may receive encouragement. The spirit of a true preacher is always under that preacher's control. For Yahweh is not the author of confusion, but of peace, such teachings I give in all the congregations of the saints. Let you women keep silent in the assemblies, for it is not permitted that they should speak, but should take their place as the law directs. If there is something they want to know let them ask their husbands at home, for it is a shame for a woman to speak in the assembly. What! Did Yahweh's Word to the world originate with you? Are you the only people it has reached? If anyone claims to have the prophetic spirit or any other spiritual gift, let him acknowledge all the things I have written to you has the authority of Yahweh. If anyone does not recognize this, let him be ignorant and pay no attention to him. Therefore brothers, cultivate the gift of prophetic speaking, while not forbidding the use of foreign languages. Let all things be done decently and in order.

Physical/Spiritual Body

What about our physical body? It does not say we have an immortal soul!

It is sown as a physical human body, and raised as a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. As it is written, "The first man Adam was made a living soul (body), the last Adam was made a living spirit. (Note: still had to be made a living spirit!) Observe, the spiritual does not come first, the natural life came first, then the spiritual. The first man is of the earth, the second Man is from Yahweh in heaven, 1st Corinthians 15:44-47.

That is why, from the day we heard of you, we do not cease to pray for your constant desire to be filled with the knowledge of His Will, in all spiritual understanding; (Note: they were not spirit beings,

but they receive spiritual understanding and knowledge). Then you will live lives worthy of the Master, and so please Yahweh in every way, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of Yahweh, Colossians 1: 9-10.

Physical Singing Of Spiritual Songs

Let the Word of Messiah dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing Yahweh's praises with joyful hearts, Colossians 3:16.

Praise be to Yahweh our Father of our Master Yahshua the Messiah, Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessings in the heavenly realms in Messiah, Ephesians 1:3.

For the outcome of Life in the Light may be seen in every good form of goodness, righteousness, and sincerity in Truth, Ephesians 5:9.

Express yourselves to one another by singing spiritual psalms and hymns, making melody with the music in your heart to Yahweh, Ephesians 5:19.

Spiritual Wickedness

Beware, there is also spiritual wickedness on this earth!

For we wrestle not against physical flesh and blood, but against principalities, and powers, and great evil ruling princes of darkness who control and govern this dark world, and spiritual agents from the very headquarters of evil, Ephesians 6:12.

Spiritual Analogies

Their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, spiritually called Sodom and Egypt, where our Messiah was slain, Revelation 11:8.

Almighty Father is building a Spiritual House!

And as Living Stones form yourselves into a spiritual House, to be a holy priesthood, for the offering of spiritual sacrifices of which Yahweh gladly accepts through Yahshua Messiah, 1st Peter 2:5.

A sad state of the world is prophesied at the end time by Hosea concerning those who stay close to the Words of our Creator. Everything will be so misrepresented by worldly teachers that this is what they will think and say about the ones who teach the Truth.

The days of punishment has come, the days of recompense has come; Israel cries, "The prophet (True preacher) is a fool, the Spiritual man is mad!" Because of your great iniquity, your hostility is great (As it is today!), Hosea 9:7.

Necessary Questions

With all this shown to us, we must answer some questions that arise concerning Spiritual Israel: Is there not a physical connection intertwined with a spiritual understanding?

Yahweh promised Abraham that his seed will inherit the land He shall give them forever! :Was this just a spiritual promise?

The nation of Israel mentioned so many times by the prophets: Was that just spiritual?

Messiah's Death on the stake: Was that just spiritual?

The Almighty said that He will divide the goats and the sheep: Was this just to be spiritual?

James's letter to the twelve tribes of Israel scattered abroad: Was that just spiritual?

John's letters to the assemblies: Were they just spiritual?

The tribes stated in Revelation chapter 7: Is this just a group of spiritual names and figures?

The plagues to fall upon the unrighteous at the end time: Are they only spiritual?

The last days Yahweh will send an angel to mark those who are to be protected from the

plagues to fall upon mankind: Will this also be just a spiritual undertaking ?

Please note that it will be not left to a church or any type of human organization to do this job, but it will take the power of an angel to sort out the mess we, as mankind, placed ourselves into. That is the di obedient way we throughout history as a nation have mixed the seeds, and that is not only in the agriculture sphere!

This study is to bring us to a point of understanding the close relationship between the physical and spiritual application of the Word of the Almighty. Scripture states: "His Word is Truth." Do you believe that statement?

Another question I would like to put before you, is about something written in the very first Book of the Bible. A prophecy giving identifying characteristics which will be with the tribes of Israel right down to the last days. Read it for yourselves in chapter 49 of Genesis, note the first verse. Is this just a spiritual pie in the sky series of statements?

The worldly way of teaching is that Israel, in Scripture, is only spiritual. This becomes a diabolical way of making void the rich recorded history of the nation's blessings and curses she went through, depending on her obedience or disobedience to Almighty Yahweh.

We thank Almighty Father that He will fulfill all His Promises, despite our human reasoning and interference with panel beating His Word through false teachings, just to suit our own ego.

May Yahweh bless you as you study into His Wonderful Word. How wonderful it will be to share with others in the new age to come, the original Tree of Life, which John wrote, that it shall be here on this earth! (Many have been told that "story"! You can read about it in Genesis chapter 2 & 3.) Do you truly believe His Word ?

In Conclusion

With what we have covered in this article, I hope and pray that the reader will now fully understand the close relationship there is between the spiritual and the physical, showing that the spiritual always has the predominant power.

For example: If there were no law, how then could there be sin? Can you see or touch a lie? Yet, look at the damage it can do. Can you see a thought of lust? Yet, look at the result when a life is snuffed out because of it. Can you see the Sabbath Day? Yet, our Creator tells us that it is a sign between Him and His people. These laws are as stable as the law of gravity, which, by the way, can you see it? But, even a child knows it works! We would be in a great deal of trouble if Almighty Father decided to change these laws, whether spiritual or physical, would we not? But, He promises He will not change!

For I am Yahweh, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed, Malachi 3: 6.

Blessed are they who do His Commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of Life, and may enter through the gates of the city, Revelation 22 :14.

And He said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments," Matt.19:17.

Elder Lionel C. Gets

<from **Law** page 13>

gave His life so that we may live righteous lives according to Yahweh through the gift of His sacrifice and the granting of the Holy Spirit. Not in a legalistic way, but a lawful way.

Elder David Brett

<from **Valentine** page 15>

transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works, 2 Cor. 11:13-15.

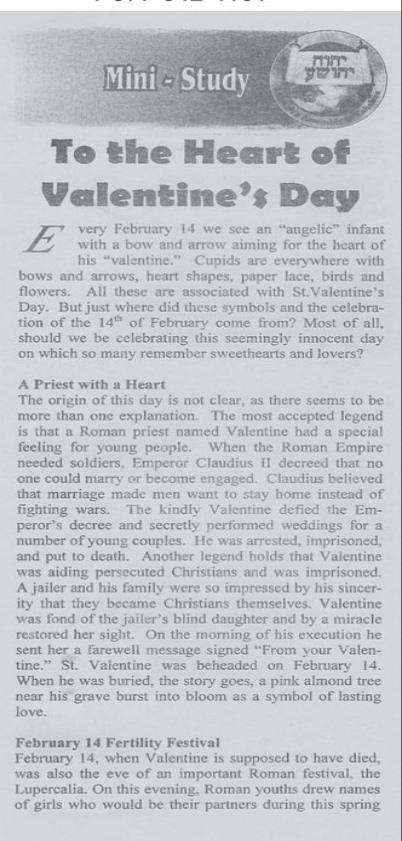
Besides North American countries celebrating Valentine's Day, one can easily go on the internet and find out how this day is celebrated in many countries in Europe, Asia, South America, etc.

What To Do

Yahweh, quite clearly, says that we are 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 the following Scripture,

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

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



Mini - Study

To the Heart of Valentine's Day

Every February 14 we see an "angelic" infant with a bow and arrow aiming for the heart of his "valentine." Cupids are everywhere with bows and arrows, heart shapes, paper lace, birds and flowers. All these are associated with St.Valentine's Day. But just where did these symbols and the celebration of the 14th of February come from? Most of all, should we be celebrating this seemingly innocent day on which so many remember sweethearts and lovers?

A Priest with a Heart
The origin of this day is not clear, as there seems to be more than one explanation. The most accepted legend is that a Roman priest named Valentine had a special feeling for young people. When the Roman Empire needed soldiers, Emperor Claudius II decreed that no one could marry or become engaged. Claudius believed that marriage made men want to stay home instead of fighting wars. The kindly Valentine defied the Emperor's decree and secretly performed weddings for a number of young couples. He was arrested, imprisoned, and put to death. Another legend holds that Valentine was aiding persecuted Christians and was imprisoned. A jailer and his family were so impressed by his sincerity that they became Christians themselves. Valentine was fond of the jailer's blind daughter and by a miracle restored her sight. On the morning of his execution he sent her a farewell message signed "From your Valentine." St. Valentine was beheaded on February 14. When he was buried, the story goes, a pink almond tree near his grave burst into bloom as a symbol of lasting love.

February 14 Fertility Festival
February 14, when Valentine is supposed to have died, was also the eve of an important Roman festival, the Lupercalia. On this evening, Roman youths drew names of girls who would be their partners during this spring

not of her plagues, Rev 18:4.

Once one has decided not to participate in this world's holiday celebrations, but to learn and keep Yahweh's Sabbaths, a feeling of accomplishment will definitely be felt and a desire to do His Will will lighten one's burden.

Elder Roger G. Meyer

<from **Fulfill** page 18>

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'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father Who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves," John 14:5-11.

Yahweh also told Moses, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was the Messiah, 1 Corinthians 10:1-4.

Conclusion

Can you see how Yahshua has fulfilled the will of Yahweh? He continues to fulfill the Way of Yahweh by the Spirit of Yahweh, and with His Spirit, we shall assist in restoring the Law of Yahweh, that is, the TEACHINGS of Yahweh.

Elder John Fisher



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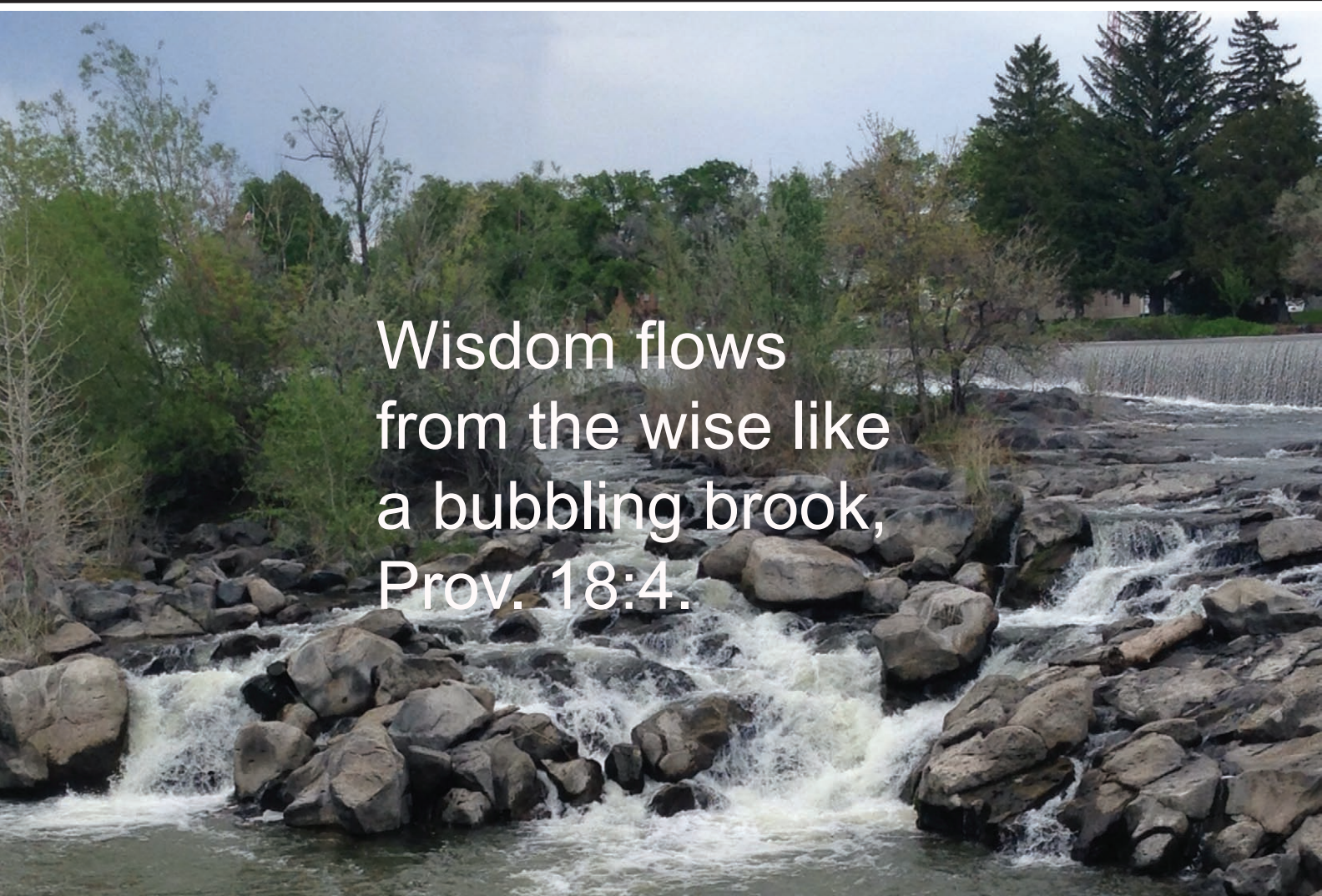
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