

YAIY



Beacon



Jan-Mar 2016 - Spreading the Word throughout the world - yaiy.org

A photograph of a marathon runner in a yellow and black singlet running on a city street. A crowd of spectators is visible on the right side of the road, some holding balloons. The background shows city buildings and trees.

Let us run with
patience the race
that is set before
us, Hebrews 12:1b.

YAIY **Beacon**

Volume 8 Number 1



TABLE OF CONTENTS

MISSION STATEMENT



Heavenly Minded 3
 It's a principle of the sinful flesh vs. obedience to the Spirit. Learn to live according to Yahweh's will in the Spirit by not committing the sins of the flesh.
by Elder David Brett



Your Place in the Spiritual Temple 7
 Is the assembly important? Do you have a place in it?
by Elder Donald R. Mansager (deceased)

They Have Their Reward 14
 From whom do you seek a reward — Yahweh or man?
by Elder John Fisher

2015 YAIY Beacon Index 22

Revealing The Truth TV Schedule 23

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.

This magazine, **YAIY Beacon**, is published quarterly by Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua, 2963 Co. Rd. 233, Kingdom City, MO 65262.

This magazine is sent free of charge, made possible through the tithes and offerings of those who desire to see the light of truth shine in our day.
 © 2015 Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua

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

Cover: courtesy of dreamstime.com



Heavenly Minded

Yahweh and Yahshua should be one of our main goals, if not THE main one; even Yahshua had this in mind for us, John 17. We are to be Heavenly Minded, where Yahweh and Yahshua are.

Since, then, you have been raised with Messiah and are to set your hearts on things above, where Messiah is, seated at the right hand of Yahweh. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things, Colossians 3:1–2 NIV.

We are to have priorities to be successful. Getting our life in line with Yahweh and Yahshua must be a priority.

The things we desire are of the heart, and the things we think about are of the mind. We are to have both of these set on Yahweh and His ways which are spiritual and are eternal.

Trust in Yahweh with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear Yahweh and depart from evil, Proverbs 3:5–7 NKJV.

This was Solomon's wisdom, but where did it come from? From heaven, of course. In Messiah, we have Wisdom from heaven we can tap into.

Spiritual discernment of the Word and the understanding that our lives are not our own, are purchased in Messiah's sacrificial offering.

Applying Wisdom

We are to apply our lives in accordance with the Word of Yahweh, which Yahshua did, and not worry so much about physical things.

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own, Matthew 6:33–34 NASB.

Yahshua had the full understanding that physical life is temporary and has troubles in it, but He also understood that the things we need will be provided to us, so we don't need to worry.

It may take time, but, if we have our priorities set up on Yahweh and His ways, then Yahweh Himself will take care of us as a Father cares for His children. He is our Comforter.

This is sometimes hard for us to comprehend, because we may have not been raised by a caring father. Maybe our own dad didn't do the things he should have done.

What we have to understand is that Yahweh is our spiritual Father and that He does care about us and has mercifully called us to have a better future than what our past may have been like. This calling, however, is not without effort on our part.

True Wisdom

Solomon said, "My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding—indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of Yahweh and find the knowledge of Elohim," Proverbs 2:1–5 NIV.

Again we find ourselves back in Proverbs, with Wisdom speaking. If one wants true Wisdom, one only needs to ask. But we can also read Proverbs and spend more time in the Bible overall.

It speaks of providing long and satisfying life, and of being in good spiritual health. But, again, there is a requirement of having our priorities straight.

The preacher, in Ecclesiastes 12:13 NASB, says, after saying many things,

The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear Yahweh and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person.

Why does it apply to every person? It does because everyone will be judged for the good or bad that they did. Not just for Israel and not just for brethren today who are actually going through a type of judgment process now, but for everyone.

Paul's Struggle and Ours

The Apostle Paul's words seemed like an illogical paradox at times, but the depth of what he said is important for us to understand.

Paul did his best to maintain a pure conscience:

But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the Elohim of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets ... And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward Yahweh, and toward men, Acts 24:14, 16.

And no one could accuse him of disobedience to the law:

Concerning zeal, persecuting the assembly; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless, Phlp. 3:6.

Not once did Paul say not to keep the commandments. He expressly confirmed them in speech ("Circumcision is nothing, and un-

circumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh," 1 Cor. 7:19.) and in action ("While he answered for himself, neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all," Acts 25:8.).

The struggle expressed by Paul in a frank admission that he didn't always do what was right (Rom. 7:15-21), puzzles some today. Even Paul didn't seem to understand what was going on (verse 15) at the time. If he was indeed blameless and couldn't rightfully be accused of breaking the law, then what was he talking about?

When speaking of the flesh, we can speak of the effect that the pulls have on us, some of which are not so easily identifiable to others. The ones fairly obvious to others would be stealing, openly lying and cheating, murder, adultery, and the list goes on. Another not so obvious fleshly attribute would be the internal struggle with our

attitude. For example, we can become angry about a situation and not fully be submitting to Yahweh's Spirit, only to repent afterwards for not having been fully in control as we would have liked to have been.

There are situations which arose for Paul that tested his attitude and there will be situations that will test ours. While we are to emulate the Fruits of the Spirit, having actions and an attitude as Yahshua did (Phil. 2:2-5), our flesh sometimes gets in the way.

To counter trying to be heavenly minded, Paul expressed his fleshly side when dealing with a situation that involved a couple of brothers. Mark, whom the book of Mark is attributed to, evidently had departed Paul's company earlier (Acts 13:13) and went to Jerusalem instead. In talking with Barnabas, who wanted Mark to come with them later, Paul became very irritated with the situation and had a "sharp disagreement" (NIV) which is related in the New Jerusalem Bible as a "violent

Solomon's Wisdom

When David was full of days, riches, and honor, he died and Solomon his son reigned in his stead (1 Chron. 29:28). Yahweh loved Solomon (2 Sam. 12:24) and one day he was visited by Yahweh.

In Gibeon Yahweh appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and Elohim said, Ask what I shall give thee. And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. And now, O YAHWEH my Elohim, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? And the speech pleased Yahweh, that Solomon had asked this thing. And Elohim said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days, 1 Kings 3:5-13 KJV.

2 Chron. 1:7-12 says the same thing.

That night Elohim appeared to Solomon and said to him, "Ask for whatever you want Me to give you." Solomon answered Elohim, "You have shown great kindness to David my father and have made me king in his place. Now, YAHWEH Elohim, let Your promise to my father David be confirmed, for You have made me king over a people who are as numerous as the dust of the earth. Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people, for who is able to govern this great people of Yours?" Elohim said to Solomon,

quarrel" (Acts 15:39). We are told immediately afterwards that Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus.

Did Paul regret and even repent of that altercation and his own attitude? This is evident, as later we see him having not harbored ill feelings towards either Mark or Barnabas (1 Cor. 9:6; 2 Tim. 4:11).

The Flesh vs. The Spirit

Don't be misled — you cannot mock the justice of Elohim. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up, Galatians 6:7–9 NLT.

It's a principle of the sinful flesh

vs. obedience to the Spirit. Learn to live according to Yahweh's will in the Spirit by not committing the sins of the flesh, such as stealing, lying, cheating, and the like. These are all which commandments are against doing.

There's nothing wrong with building a house or even starting a business; those are physical things in which there are no laws against, unless we consider building codes or other civil licensing statutes. And, unless one wants to start working and making purchases or selling on the Sabbath to provide for those things, then one is satisfying their flesh and rejecting the Spirit of Yahweh and His Truth.

One of the first teachings of the Messiah, based upon Yahweh's Word, was not only to repent, but also to not focus on material riches.

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for

yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart shall be also, Matthew 6:19–21 NASB.

He's basically saying to focus on the spiritual and to desire those riches which are from above. Put your energies and wealth toward the heavenly things, investing in those things which are eternal.

Does this mean we should neglect our family or other responsibilities? No. But, we are to have a balance, and have our priorities straight. We are to love Yahweh and Yahshua more than anything else, including our own lives.

Dead to the World

For you have died and your life is hidden with Messiah in Yahweh. When Messiah, Who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. Therefore consider the members of your

"Since this is your heart's desire and you have not asked for wealth, riches or honor, nor for the death of your enemies, and since you have not asked for a long life but for wisdom and knowledge to govern My people over whom I have made you king, therefore wisdom and knowledge will be given you. And I will also give you wealth, riches and honor, such as no king who was before you ever had and none after you will have," NIV.

Soon Solomon's wisdom become known to many people after he determined which mother was not telling the truth. In a nutshell, two women came to Solomon and both said that a certain child belonged to each of them. Solomon's judgment was quite unique as we read in 1 Kings 3:23-27.

Then the king said, "Let's get the facts straight: both of you claim the living child, and each says that the dead child belongs to the other. All right, bring me a sword." So a sword was brought to the king. Then he said, "Divide the living child in two and give half to each of these women!" Then the woman who really was the mother of the child, and who loved him very much, cried out, "Oh no, sir! Give her the child—don't kill him!" But the other woman said, "All right, it will be neither yours nor mine; divide it between us!" Then the king said, "Give the baby to the woman who wants him to live, for she is the mother!" (1 Kings 3:23-27 TLB).

Solomon's wisdom far exceeded the wisdom of many.

Elohim gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore. Solomon's wisdom was greater than the wisdom of all the men of the East, and greater than all the wisdom of Egypt. He was wiser than any other man, including Ethan the Ezrahite—wiser than Heman, Calcol and Darda, the sons of Mahol. And his fame spread to all the surrounding nations. He spoke three thousand proverbs and his songs numbered a thousand and five. He described plant life, from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of walls. He also taught about animals and birds, reptiles and fish. Men of all nations came to listen to Solomon's wisdom, sent by all the kings of the world, who had heard of his wisdom, 1 Kings 4:29-34 NIV.

People heard of his wisdom. Even the Queen of Sheba traveled some 1,500 miles to question and talk to him. She told him that his wisdom far exceeded the stories she heard about him, 1 Kings 10:1-7.

earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry, Colossians 3:3–5 NASB.

The wording here is death. In other words, we have died to these things. We are to be dead to the old way of living, which is contrary to Yahweh's way and life. We are not to resurrect those things, but when we are resurrected we will be with the One Who has saved us from such a sinful life.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Messiah Yahshua. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Messiah Yahshua from the law of sin and death. For Elohim has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, Romans 8:1-3 ESV.

Blood Gives Way to the Spirit

A couple of things should be pointed out here. First, we are forgiven of our sins by Messiah's sacrifice for us. His blood covers and purifies us. And second, we are granted the Spirit to indwell in us so we can meet the requirements of the law.

What are the requirements of the law? Obedience, of course. And, with that said, we acknowledge we are under the Melchizedek Order. Request your free in-depth booklet called, "Orthodox Believers."

By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit, Rom. 8:3-6 ESV.

How important is it for us to be Spiritually minded, to be Heavenly Minded? It's a matter of life and death.

And if you call on the Father, Who without partiality judges according to each one's work, pass the time of your sojourning in fear, knowing that you were redeemed from your futile way of life inherited from your fathers, not with what is corruptible, silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Messiah, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, 1 Peter 1:17-19 TS.

The greatest blood sacrifice ever given, Yahshua, the precious Son of Yahweh, was given as a lamb to the slaughter. He took our death penalty away, and kept it away, if we walk in the Spirit of Yahweh and don't fight against it by submitting to our flesh and our old way of liv-

ing life...the way we used to live life, that is, in the flesh, in sin.

The Apostle Paul, in Romans 8:6–9 NASB, says,

For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward Elohim; for it does not subject itself to the Law of Yahweh, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please Elohim. However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of Yahweh dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Messiah, he does not belong to Him.

Just Believe and Obey?

Just proclaiming the law and having faith in the Messiah is not enough. It's not enough because we're told to walk in the very Spirit of Yahweh and Yahshua. We are to have that intimate connection and walk with Them. It is being Heavenly Minded, when Yahweh's Spirit is recognized and submitted to.

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of Yahweh, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. For who has understood the mind of Yahweh so as to instruct Him? But we have the mind of Messiah, 1 Corinthians 2:14–16 ESV.

Paul is saying that even though Yahweh is high above all, we can understand the very mind of Yahweh by having the mind of Messiah in us. As Yahshua submitted to Yahweh's will, we are to do so also with the spiritual down payment of the Spirit we have received and with Messiah working with us.

A Living Stone

Coming to Him as to a living

<see Heavenly page 21>

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

Mini Study



Why Grace Leads to Obedience

"Guilty" was the jury's verdict. The judge's sentence: death by lethal injection. For Wey Ward, a convicted murderer, the nightmare of that December day seven years ago had played endlessly through his mind.

In a jealous rage he had taken a man's life. He realized that he deserved the death penalty for what he had done. No amount of agonizing could change that.

Regardless of how many times he pleaded for forgiveness from the victim's family, no matter how much he wished he could relive events, one persistent fact remained. Ward deserved to die. The law was the law. He was guilty of a capital crime and he had to pay the price for his sin.

With nowhere else to turn, he begged mercy from the governor.

"You Have Been Pardoned"

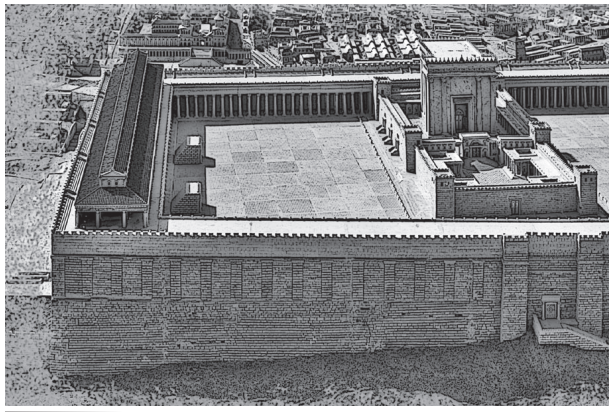
Just 10 minutes before his scheduled execution, Wey Ward heard the most unbelievably wonderful words ever spoken to a condemned man:

"By the grace of the governor of this state, you have been pardoned."

"I can't believe it," he said to himself. "He forgave me!"

Humbly thankful for the gracious pardon, Ward vowed from that point on that he would be a model citizen. And he never was in trouble with the law again.

Although fictitious, the foregoing illustrates the concept of scriptural grace and how it works in the



Your Place in the Spiritual Temple

Is the assembly important? Do you have a place in it?

Just why some 80 million Americans refuse to affiliate or even take part in "organized churches" was brought to light by Lutheran writer Russel Hale. He listed the following as typical among those who won't get involved:

- **The Anti-institutionalists**—those who see the church as primarily interested in its own self-preservation, meddling in secular affairs, and showing undue concern for finances or property. "I don't have to attend church to be a Christian, it is between G-d and me."

- **The Boxed-in**—those who feel the church stifles their independence to do their own thing. "I am an independent and I make my own decisions."

- **The Burned-out**—those who felt the church wanted too much of their time and too much money. "All they want is me to work and give."

- **The Cop-outs**—those who never really got involved and are apathetic to spiritual life, and are uninformed and indifferent. "Why all the fuss about attending church so much and joining up?"

- **The Happy Hedonists**—those who find fulfillment in a succession of momentary pleasures. "I come first."

- **The Locked-outs**—those who feel rejected, neglected or discriminated against by religious institutions. "What have they ever done for me?"

- **The Publicans**—those who view church people as hypocrites and frauds leading double lives; pious in church, outside like everyone else.

- **The Scandalized**—those who are disgusted with the church's disunity and denominational rivalry, backbiting one another.

While other classifications might come to mind, author Hale has undoubtedly touched upon some types you have noted over the years, or even may have identified with yourself. Those who want to can easily find an excuse for steering clear of religious groups.

Being separate, however, is not Yahweh's way or

desire. The Bible warns,

Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching, Hebrews 10:25, NIV.

Even ancient Israel was commanded to meet in "holy convocation"—that is, a set-apart calling together of His people,

For six days work may be done, but on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest, a holy convocation. You shall not do any work; it is a sabbath to Yahweh in all your dwellings, Leviticus 23:3 NASU.

Collective Worship Necessary

Israel had the Temple and priesthood among them to guide and keep them in the way of righteousness. The laws of offerings, sacrifices, and washings were a part of that system.

Today, our offerings and sacrifices are the praise of our lips,

By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to Yahweh continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name, Hebrews 13:15.

The sacrifices of our bodies that we present to Him are to be as obedient and living examples of faith,

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, Romans 12:1.

The Levitical priesthood has been set in abeyance. Today, our worship has taken on a deeper, spiritual aspect as we are guided by Yahweh's Holy Spirit. But it still involves interaction with others.

To help the saints overcome the world, our flesh, and the Adversary, Paul tells us that when Yahshua ascended to the Heavenly Father, the Holy Spirit was poured out and He gave gifts to mankind,

Wherefore He saith, When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men, Ephesians 4:8.

These gifts were the abiding of the Holy Spirit within, empowering qualified men, chosen by Yahweh, to become the guides and leaders of the assembly.

In Ephesians 4: 11-13 NIV, Paul explains,

It was He Who gave some to be Apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare Yahweh's people for works of service, so that the body of Messiah may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of Elohim and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Messiah.

Since the destruction of the Temple in 70 C.E., the followers of the Bible no longer have a central place to worship. Instead, Yahweh sent His Spirit to this earth at Pentecost in 31 C.E. His Holy Spirit does not dwell within the Holy of Holies in a Temple at Jerusalem. Rather, after the ascension of the Messiah, His Spirit came to earth to indwell repentant believers.

This is the promise Yahshua gave to the Apostles and to us in John 14:16-17 NIV:

And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept it, because it neither sees it nor knows it. But you know it, for it lives with you and will be in you.

The Holy Spirit is to be with us forever (verse 16) and dwells with those who are called (verse 17). The Spirit is implanted within the believer who answers Yahweh's call and is baptized into Yahshua's Name,

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua Messiah for the remission of sins, and

ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, Acts 2:38.

Those called and chosen are expected to be faithful unto the end,

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life, Revelation 2:10.

Those called and chosen should also keep their bodies a fit place in which the Holy Spirit can reside.

Paul put it this way,

Know you not that you are the temple of Elohim and that the Spirit of Elohim dwells in you? (1 Corinthians 3: 16).

Paul adds that the body of Messiah is

Built upon the foundation of the

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

Mini - Study



Man Can't Choose His Own Day of Worship

A look at the meaning behind Romans 14:5. Does it allow us to make our own decision about which day to keep holy?

IN REJECTING THE OBSERVANCE of the weekly (Saturday) Sabbath, a number of groups rely heavily upon Romans 14 as a "proof text."

Indeed, verse 5 certainly has the appearance of allowing each individual the liberty to choose whatever day he wishes to worship:

"One man esteems one day above another: another esteems every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind."

If this verse really teaches that man may ignore the law and select any day he wishes in worship of Almighty Yahweh, then it runs counter to the other teachings of Paul in this same letter. Note that he quoted the Tenth Commandment, which is against coveting, Romans 7:7. And in verse 12 Paul writes that the law is holy and the commandment "holy, and just, and good."

Paul Kept and Taught the Law

In Romans 7:22 Paul says that he delights in the law of Elohim after the inward man. Paul held the law in high regard and admits that he was taught according to the perfect manner of the law, Acts 22:3. He further states:

"This I confess unto you, that after the way

apostles and prophets, Yahshua the Messiah Himself being the chief cornerstone, in Whom all the building fitly framed together grows unto an holy temple in Yahshua: in Whom you also are builded together for an habitation of Elohim through the Spirit, Ephesians 2:20-22.

People Form a Spiritual Temple

Paul reveals that the assembly of gathered believers is now the spiritual temple wherein Yahweh's Spirit dwells.

But each man has his own gift from Elohim; one has this gift, another has that, 1 Corinthians 7:7 NIV.

That is to say, each member of the Body of Messiah is given a special gift to complement and function as part of that body:

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit, 1 Corinthians 12:4.

We learn that we have all been immersed by the Holy Spirit into one body no matter what our nationality, origin, or sex is or where we reside,

For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit, 1 Corinthians 12:13.

Yahweh has given each believer a function to perform in the Body of Messiah, verses 18-27.

In His wisdom, however, Yahweh has gone a step further. To help guide the body of believers, Yahweh has set leaders in the Assembly. These include Apostles, prophets, teachers, workers of miracles, healings, helps, governments, and diversities of languages, verse 28.

Paul repeats the establishing of spiritual guides to the Assembly in Ephesians 4: 11-13,

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some,

evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Messiah: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of Yahweh, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Messiah.

He alludes to Yahshua as being the One Who had ascended to the heavens, after which, at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was sent to this earth.

The Apostles were given special power or a gift of the Spirit to be used to build and edify the Assembly, verses 7-8:

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Messiah. Wherefore He saith, When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and

gave gifts unto men.

These are the offices of Apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher, to prepare Yahweh's people for works of service as they continue their growth unto maturity, verse 12.

Whenever reference is made to the Body of Messiah or the Assembly, it is always as a unified and cooperative body. It is not a disorganized group of individuals all going their separate ways. The Body of Messiah is likened to a human body, all members working together for the common good of the body, all striving for that goal of spiritual perfection.

Each may have a different function,

For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Messiah, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness, Romans 12:4-8.

Thus, the whole Body is closely joined and knit together through contact with the Source of its life, Yahshua, from Whom we derive the power to grow.

We are not all going to have the same task to perform, nor will we all have the same position. Our desire is to take whatever talents and abilities Yahweh has bestowed upon us and use His gifts for His honor and glory by being an active member of that collective body. We are to help and encourage those brethren who are also striving to overcome, and be a compelling force in the world as well.

We Each Have a Role

First, we individually assume our responsibility of obedience to Him as we daily walk in the good works He has previously prepared for us:

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

We are to pattern our lives after the righteousness of the Savior.

Second, we are to collectively show our love for the brethren, esteeming others better than ourselves,

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others,

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

Mini - Study

Does Acts 20:7 Teach Sunday Worship?

Was Paul really preaching on Sunday in Acts 20:7? A close look dispels this popular belief and discloses important days for observing today.

A MOST CONTROVERSIAL AND DEBATED passage in the entire New Testament is found in Acts 20:7: "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight."

Often cited as proof that the early disciples had been instructed by the Savior to observe Sunday, this verse supposedly shows that they were indeed now keeping the first day of the week instead of observing the day we know as Saturday.

Certain translations of this passage render it the same as the King James Version, namely, "the first day of the week." However, other translations render it Saturday night (New English Bible, Good News for Modern Man). How are we to understand this enigmatic passage?

Churchianity's understanding of this passage is divided. Those who worship on Sunday insist this is a powerful passage in support of Sunday-keeping, and is a paramount verse used to show that the Apostle Paul was now keeping Sunday as a day of worship.

But Sabbath-keepers contend that it is indeed a Saturday evening message Paul preached that lasted into the night, into the first day of the week that begins at sunset (known to us as Sunday). They cite verses 8 and 9 to substantiate that it was evening and that there were many lights in the upper chamber. The evidence indicates that this latter understanding provides a clearer explanation. Biblical days end with sunset as well as start at sunset.

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

Mini - Study

Does Paul in, 1Corinthians 16:2, Teach Sunday Worship?

It was in early January when I finally went along with my neighbors to worship services on Sunday. After listening to the liturgy and hearing a simple sermon on faith and belief, all members were asked to go by a table in the rear of the sanctuary and pick up their box of envelopes for the new year. These were easy enough to find, all arranged alphabetically.

En route home in their auto, one of the youngsters tugged at my sleeve and handing me a pastel envelope from the box, asked, "Aren't these pretty?" They were indeed colorful. Written in bold letters were the words, "Stewardship Envelopes for Every Sunday of the Year."

Obviously they were offering envelopes intended for each Sunday's collection plate. On each envelope was written the following verse: "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as [Yahweh] has prospered him, that there be no collections when I come," 1 Corinthians 16:2.

Upon noting my examination of the envelope my friend quipped, "That makes it pretty plain, doesn't it, that we are to gather on the first day of the week?" With that my friend stopped at the curb and upon exchanging pleasantries, let me out.

As he drove away I pondered the meaning of the verse. It did not establish the first day of the week as the day of worship at all. Yet, many churches assert that because this verse seemingly commands that an offering be given on the first

Philippians 2:3-4.

In humility, we are to serve one another and be an example to those around us. It is difficult to see how one can consider oneself a follower of Yahshua, contending one is a part of the Body of Messiah, and yet keep aloof from others striving to be a part of that spiritual family of True Believers.

The relationship and loving concern each fellow believer has for the others is to be a sign to the world that this is the assembly that wholeheartedly is living the commandment given by Yahshua:

You love one another as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are My disciples if you have love one to another, John 13:34-35.

As our society continues to deteriorate and love of many grows cold, the True Believer stands in stark contrast to the grasping, selfish, hedonistic population bent only on enjoying the immediate pleasures of this world now.

Instant gratification and freedom from all pain, poverty, and frustration seems to be the goal of the day. Few desire to wait and save for the nicer things of this life and acquire only what they can afford. This Instant Generation wants everything now, and does not really care whether they step on or hurt others to satisfy their wants. Those who follow the Bible are looked on as being a bit odd and out of step with this high-tech, liberalized, hedonistic world. Indeed, they are.

Merchandising has played a big part in creating the "I need it now" attitude. Immediate relief from headaches and other hurts are pushed by drug manufacturers for those who don't have time for the pain.

For a minimum down payment, one can make a fantastic deal with Honest Charlie and drive a new car home today. If you don't have the cash, a credit card will do for what-

ever your heart lusts after.

Promises Lacking Substance

The closer we get to the truth, the narrower the pathway becomes, and the fewer who accompany us along that way. Surely, Yahweh's Word will bring separation according to the commitment and uncompromising zeal one has in following truth.

Many will give lip service to the Bible, and a few will even contend that they live by the Book. The vast majority, however, will exert but a minimal effort, hoping to meet minimal standards and expect Yahweh to be happy with that!

Precious few can honestly say they strive to live by every Word of Yahweh,

And Yahshua answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall

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

Mini Study



SABBATH KEEPERS: WHY NOT KEEP ALL THE COMMANDMENTS?

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Yahweh your 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 it's 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."

not live by bread alone, but by every word of Yahweh, Luke 4:4.

Those who indeed adhere to the Savior's words of Matthew 4:4 to live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh are to be commended. This should be the goal of everyone of us.

We should make the Bible a part of our very nature so that we live His law, while His words come to life as we put them into practice daily. But does everyone who alleges that he lives by the Bible sincerely do so?

Truths We Have Learned — the Sabbath

Many of us came out of nominal churchianity when we learned that the Sabbath was the seventh day, not the first. We discovered that the Sabbath will yet be observed in the Kingdom and is a sign between Yahweh and His people,

Moreover also I gave them My sabbaths, to be a sign between Me and them, that they might know that I am Yahweh that sanctify them, Ezekiel 20: 12.

We found that the first day of the week is mentioned only eight times in the New Testament, and did not necessarily refer to a gathering for worship.

We could find no place where the Sabbath was set aside and no command to replace it with the first day of the week. Nor is there even a suggestion that it has displaced the Saturday Sabbath.

Convicted of this truth alone, we had to leave Sunday-keeping churches.

The Feast Days

Then came the Feast days. We discovered as we studied Leviticus 23 that the Feast days are mentioned along with the Sabbath, so they were to be observed as well. Leviticus 23: 14, 21, 31, and 41 say the Feasts are to be observed forever, for all time.

There are always dissenters who want to have the appearance of obedience, but lack the determination to live by every word of Yahweh. Meal and animal offerings were made on the Feast days, during those seven annual holy seasons. But because these offerings and sacrifices are done away, dissenters argue, so are the annual Feast days connected with them.

Such a stand poses a problem for the Sabbath-keeper, who must explain why he should keep the Sabbath when Numbers 28:9-10 points out that a sacrifice and offering are also required on every weekly Sabbath.

We must be consistent. If the Feast days are abolished because the old animal sacrifice was required on those days, it follows that the weekly Sabbath was also done away. The reasoning would go like this: animal sacrifices are required for the Sabbath under the Levitical priesthood. But the Levitical priesthood is now set in abeyance, therefore the Sabbath is too.

That's like arguing that because a couple gets divorced, that the institution of marriage is abolished as well! According to Exodus 12 and Leviticus 23, the Sabbath and Feast Days are for all time.

Having proved we are to keep Yahweh's times (without animal sacrifices), we found ourselves even more alone as we continued to walk on higher, but narrower, ground. We may not have willingly accepted Yahweh's Name when it was first revealed to us, nor did we immediately begin calling upon the majestic Name Yahweh.

After diligent search and inquiry, we proved it to ourselves and were impressed with the great importance Yahweh places on invoking His Name. When Yahweh showed us how important it is, we shamefully asked His forgiveness and gladly accepted His Name and clutched it close to our

hearts.

At this point the way really gets narrow and lonely.

Trials Strengthen Our Resolve

At times we feel all alone. Perhaps we understand in a measure how earlier believers felt as they were driven from their homes in the middle of the night and persecuted by religious groups. Foxe's *Book of Martyrs* is an excellent example of the price paid by many who clung to the Bible as their guide. We have "not resisted unto blood" as did some of those martyrs, but we may at times feel ostracized and shunned by society as a whole because we keep the weekly and annual holy days and call upon our Creator by His exalted Name Yahweh, which He so lovingly showed to us. We gave up the more popular and man-made generic titles that have no basis in truth.

Almost daily we become involved in situations that test our resolve and faith, and yet these experiences build character and per-

severance. Often we have no one in our locality who believes as we do and with whom we can share our trials and get support from. At those times we need to go to Yahweh in ardent prayer, believing.

If our situation is such that we are unable to worship Yahweh without the benefit of assembling with others of like faith each week, we will stand in good stead if we continue our dedication to serve Him. Conditions in our society will become increasingly difficult and even hostile toward those relying on the Bible as their guide for living and worship. We must prepare now to withstand by overcoming lesser trials.

We do not conform to the popular concepts of our society's religions. They cannot understand why we do not keep Xmas or Easter. These two holidays, right out of paganism, are the most "holy" of the so-called "Christian" world. All we need to do is recall Yahshua's words:

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven, Matthew 5:10.

Persecution often comes in degrees. First, we are made uncomfortable. Then comes a period when we are avoided or ignored. Gossip and verbal attacks are next, followed by ostracism and perhaps vandalism of our property. Finally, physical harm.

We have yet had to resist unto blood as many of the earlier believers had to do,

Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin, Hebrews 12:4.

This is a strong possibility as we near the end, however,

And when He had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of Yahweh, and for the testimony which they held: and they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Yahweh, holy

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

In-Depth Study

Biblical Holy Days

Yesterday Today Forever

and true, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled, Revelation 6:9-11.

That is one reason we must draw on one another's strengths through fellowship.

It is important that followers of the Messiah maintain a close relationship with one another to show the world that we are indeed brethren, a part of the family of Yahweh.

Through association with other believers, we are taught by them. Sometimes it is difficult to tolerate someone who might be crude or lacking in certain aspects of social graces. But we are told we are to love the unlovely, and esteem others better than ourselves. Thus, we are taught humility and compassion through interaction with others. Through lessons gained we take on the nature of Yahshua Who made Himself of no reputation.

Brethren Help Light the Way

The New Testament has many examples where a better understanding of the Bible was through another believer. Seldom did anyone receive a new revelation from on High all by himself. It was usually handed to him from another believer.

Paul pondered the only Bible available to him, the Old Testament. But he gained insight into the Word as he spent a number of days with the disciples at Damascus following his conversion,

And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus, Acts 9: 19.

To be sure, the Holy Spirit opened his eyes of understanding


to perceive the great truths of the Old Testament being unveiled in the death and resurrection of Yahshua.

Those who were with the Messiah learned directly at His feet. They could ask Him questions and He often explained truths that they understood immediately. At other times He spoke to them in parables and dark sayings, which they grasped at a later time,

And He said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Me. Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, Luke 24:44-45.

The Apostles later taught the Jews and Gentiles. Peter, for example, taught them in Acts 2,

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

Mini - Study 

Is the First Day of the Week Holy?

Here's a look at each of the passages where "first day of the week" is found in the New Testament

Only eight passages in the entire New Testament speak of the first day of the week. Or at least they seem to. In contrast, no fewer than 60 references to the Sabbath are scattered throughout the New Testament.

Astoundingly, when the case is made for Sunday worship, these 60 Sabbath references are completely ignored, while those few that seem to refer to Sunday are seen as confirming Sunday over the Sabbath.

Of these eight passages cited to support Sunday worship, most focus on the time of the Savior's resurrection. Using His resurrection as the rationale for a worship day is groundless in the Bible. Nowhere do we find that the day of worship was to change because of His resurrection day. What's more, we will show that our Savior had already risen by Saturday night. Therefore, He arose on the Saturday Sabbath, not Sunday!

Let's now take a look at these eight passages in question. Do they support worship on the first day of the week? You decide. Here is a verse-by-verse look at each of the eight instances where the first "day" of the week is found in the New Testament.

MATTHEW 28:1: "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first [day] of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre."

Analysis: These women were Sabbath keepers. They waited until the Sabbath was past — which

where he explained that what they witnessed in hearing others speaking in tongues was prophesied by Joel, Acts 2:16-39.

The Ethiopian did not understand Isaiah 53, and asked how he could "unless some man should guide me?"

And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him, Acts 8:31.

Philip began with that same Scripture and showed how these Old Testament verses spoke of the coming of Yahshua. The Ethiopian believed, and Philip immersed him.

Another example is Aquila and Priscilla, who had the opportunity to meet Apollos, a man mighty in the Scripture. But he did not comprehend the message of Yahshua. So Aquila and Priscilla expounded to him the way of Yahweh more perfectly,

And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of Yahweh; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of Yahweh, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of Elohim more perfectly. And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace: for he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publicly, shewing by the scriptures that Yahshua was Messiah, Acts 18:24-28.

As brethren gather, they discuss the Bible and are able to help one another come to a clearer understanding of the sense and meaning of His Word.

Ours is not a new revelation or some entirely different message that was given out of the blue sky.

The message Yahweh wants us to learn and follow is already there in His Word. It is up to us to prayerfully study it and comprehend what He means. Brethren can help us do that.

The Assembly — Yahweh's Focus

Yahshua said that the gates of the grave would never prevail against the assembly. That is, there would always be the true assembly somewhere on earth. In 1 Timothy 3:15 Paul refers to that body as the "pillar and ground of the truth,"

But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of Yahweh, which is the assembly of the living Elohim, the pillar and ground of the truth.

It is the gathered Body of Messiah that will be given the gems of truth as they faithfully meet and praise Yahweh.

One of the overlooked verses Paul wrote to the Corinthians tells of the assembled brethren meeting, and Paul is there in spirit. Together they have the power of Yahshua the Messiah among them to cast out the man involved in sexual sins too gross to even mention among the Gentiles.

Yahshua said that where two or three are gathered in His Name, He would be there among them,

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them, Matthew 18:20.

Do we realize that when we gather on the Sabbath that He is among us? His Spirit is there to guide us in praising Yahweh and giving us a deeper faith and understanding of His Word.

Giving the excuse that one is "independent" and does not get involved in organizations is really a cop-out for lacking the zeal and de-

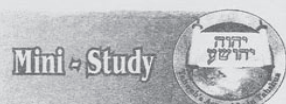
sire to obey Yahshua in all things. Not being willing to exercise dedication in following the Messiah's command to have love one for another is definitely not the mark of the True Believer.

Peter likened us to "living stones," 1 Peter 2:4-5, being built on the cornerstone of Yahshua the Messiah. The building of this spiritual temple is best done by interaction between the gathered believers especially on the days that Yahweh has set apart for the worship of Himself.

The chiseling, shaping, and polishing of these "living stones" is taking place now. When the last of these stones, "elect and precious," is accomplished, the Master Workman will bring us all together in the first resurrection. The temple will then be filled with His glory.

The present mission of the Assembly is the perfecting of the

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



Mini-Study

Must We Meet with Others for Worship

How important is gathering regularly on Sabbaths?

When Yahweh offered His Covenant with Israel in Exodus 24:1-7, He promised them certain blessings and protection. Israel readily agreed to this covenant. Exodus 25 onward reveals Israel's responsibilities. They were to offer some of their "spoils" taken from the Egyptians so that a sanctuary might be constructed for Yahweh to dwell in and be among the people. Yahweh asked only for a portion of that which He had given them.

Precise instructions were given for building both the Tabernacle and the furniture, along with the required instruments to be used in a specific way in His worship. Similarly, Yahweh has given us guidelines that reveal how He wants to be worshiped today.

The Book of Leviticus deals with specific instructions for mankind in our worship of Yahweh. Chapter 23 gives us the seven Annual Holy Days and the weekly Saturday Sabbath, which are to be observed forever, we find. All Israel was to gather in holy convocation at these special times.

We Do Not Worship at Jerusalem

With the destruction of the Temple and the razing of Jerusalem in the year 70 C.E, worship could no longer continue at Jerusalem. Yahshua had alluded to this with the woman at the well in

saints for the future work of service for the Master. We are to develop every grace and be Yahweh's witnesses to the world. Our goal is to prepare ourselves to be fit kings and priests in the next age, Revelation 1:6 and 20:6.

It is next to impossible to partake of such a noble task by ignoring the Body of Messiah. Only by interacting and encouraging one another through whatever gift Yahweh has given us can we show that we are worthy of that heavenly calling. To love the unlovely is indeed difficult at times. Some of those called into the Body of Messiah have some mighty rough edges.

Are you willing to have some of your rough edges smoothed out by associating with those who will be co-heirs with the Messiah in the Kingdom? Nobody said it would be easy nor will it always be joyful.

Yahweh is building a spiritual house of believers who will one day live in His Kingdom. Those who have built physical houses know of the many trials and problems that accompany such an endeavor. How much more trying is it to build a spiritual house that is worth infinitely more than anything material we can put together on earth? Expect trials, but then overcome them. Your reward will be worth it all.

How you treat those of the Body of believers is as if you are doing it to the Messiah Yahshua Himself,

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me, Matthew 25:40.

Let Him shape and polish you to be a fit member of the Kingdom! Don't ignore the Body of Messiah, and therefore — don't ignore Yahshua.

**Elder Donald R. Mansager
(deceased)**

They Have Their Reward

From whom do you ... seek ... reward? That is, from whom do you seek approval or reinforcement for doing what is 'right' or 'good'? We could ask the question this way, "From whom do you seek love, encouragement, companionship, help and knowledge?" for, aren't all of these 'things' rewards for our soul? If you were to ask this question to a stranger without making reference to Scripture, you would undoubtedly get a variety of responses. From whom do you seek reward, love, encouragement, companionship, help and knowledge? We might hear, "From my wife, my husband, my mother, father, brother, sister; from my boss, my neighbor, my pastor, priest, professor or from my sponsor." If the question were posed with the condition, "From a Biblical perspective, from whom do you seek reward, encouragement and reinforcement for doing what is 'right' or 'good'?" I would venture to speculate that the answers would be the same, but with the addition of a term referencing the Creator.

Having said this, from whom does Scripture teach that we should seek all of these things; and, in what context? Remember, "A text without a context is a pretext for a proof text." In other words, if we do not understand the context in which a Scriptural text is written, we are bound to misinterpret the meaning the author originally wrote. "Context," as I am defining it, refers to, "Who wrote it, in what language, to whom is it being written, for what purpose and what do the words mean in the time it was written?" "Pretext" refers to concepts, or ideas that are foundations for a "Proof text" which is a verse used to teach false doctrines. And, when we speak of the author of Scripture, to whom are we ultimately referring? To the Spirit of Yahweh and Yahshua.

Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward, Matthew 6:1-2.

Charitable Deeds

We need to examine these two verses in context, so that we do not create a pretext for misunderstanding leading to false doctrine.

Lest we think that these two verses are simply about donating food to the poor at certain designated holidays at specific times of the year, understand this: The phrase "charitable deeds," plural, in verse 1, is from the root, *di-ké*, meaning 'justice'; or, in the broader sense, correct judgment or discernment. The same phrase "charitable deed," singular, in verse 2, has a different root, hence a different meaning. It is from the root, *eleos*, meaning 'compassion for the poor,' or simply and more broadly, 'mercy.' Yahshua is speaking here of justice and mercy, not in a singular context as translated here; but, in all contexts. In everything we do, do it correctly and with compassion for others.

'Sunagogé,' here, means "an assemblage of persons" and does not necessarily refer to the liturgical practices of the synagogue itself. The phrase, "in the streets," serves to clarify its meaning. In "Hebrew block logic," the context for this verse is the whole world. We who have dedicated our lives to obey Yahweh know that we are under His watchful eye in every location, not just in the Assembly, on Sabbath.

We believe that Hebrew was the original language, which Yahweh will eventually restore.

In Zephaniah 3:8-9 (see top of next page), there is a remarkable example of the powerful wisdom within Scripture; that is within the Hebrew text. Verse 8 contains all of the letters of the Hebrew *alphabet*, including their final forms (that is, the five letters that are written when they are the last letter of a word).

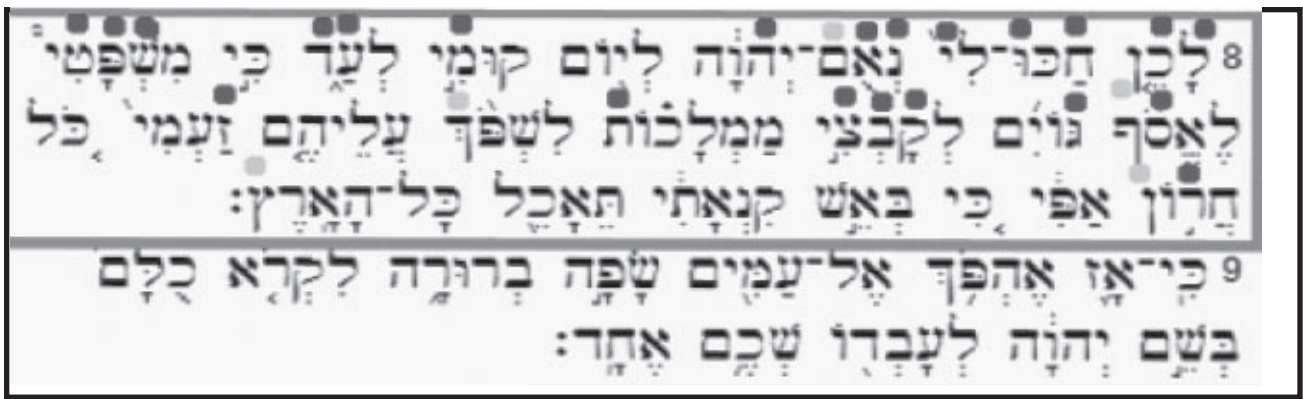
"Therefore wait for Me," says Yahweh, "Until the day I rise up for plunder; My determination is to gather the nations to My assembly of kingdoms, to pour on them My indignation, all My fierce anger; all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of My jealousy. For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, that they all may call on the name of Yahweh, to serve Him with one accord, Zephaniah 3:8-9.

One Language

Yes, He will restore that which was true in the beginning:

Now the whole earth had one language and one speech, Genesis 11:1.

Yahweh sent His Son, Yahshua, to restore all things, including His Word (the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings), His people Israel, His language,



the Tree of Life, His Kingdom and His Bride. How much do we miss in Scripture by not examining it from a Hebrew point of view!

“Hebrew block logic” is a phrase that is used to describe the supernatural power of the words in the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings, as opposed to the common power of words in all other languages and in all other writings. May Yahweh rebuke those who destroyed the Hebraic writings of the Brit Chadashah, the New Testament.

In the phrase, “They have their reward,” ‘reward’ here means “payment for services rendered.” Yahshua is drawing attention to the conditional gifts of sustenance to the poor, and calling such donors ‘hypocrites’ — actors, who assume a role that is not who they really are. That is, these hypocrites expect a reward in return for giving these gifts. Their gifts to the poor are not like the gifts of mercy that Yahweh shows to us. After all, He GAVE His Son as a propitiation for our sins. Yahshua stood in our place to take the stripes and execution for judgment which is placed on our heads. There is no presumptuous precondition with Yahweh.

For Yahweh so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For Yahweh did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved, John

3:16-17.

There was no requirement that we had to meet in order for Him to grant this gift. However, we have to ask, “Is there a condition for KEEPING this gift?”

Oh, To Be Redeemed

It is taught in the largest religion in the world that Yahshua freely gave His life for our salvation, and that there is nothing we can do to repay Him. This is true; however, John 3:16 is a text that has become a pretext for a proof text leading to a false doctrine. In addition to these truths, the largest religion in the world teaches that there is nothing we have to do to be redeemed for the Kingdom. Is that true?

No! Doesn't Matthew 6:1 say,

Do not do your charitable deeds for the purpose of being seen by men; or else you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

Hmm. OR ELSE? Sounds conditional to me. In fact, it sounds a bit like a warning; but only if you are seeking to please the Father through obedience to His word! Yahweh can not contradict Himself, or else He could not be the same forever, meaning past, present and future! We will receive no reward unless we do what is right (justice) and act compassionately to the poor (mercy), without ‘drawing attention to ourselves’ (hypocrisy). And, what reward do you think is in question here? Eternal life! Yahweh is not just testing us for His sheer enjoyment, like Greek,

Roman or other pagan deities do, never knowing what these whimsical, imaginary gods will do next! No! Yahshua is actively teaching us the will of His and our Heavenly Father's eternal will.

Secrecy Is The Key

But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly, Matthew 6:3-4.

Interesting! Not only are we not to act righteously with mercy to be seen by others — but, we should not do it in such a way that even WE see it! How do we do THAT? Yahshua is saying that our acts of righteousness and mercy are to be automatic. Having made the decision to do rightly with mercy toward others, we are to practice such decisions until we don't have to contemplate the right and merciful thing to do. We are to act as He would. How else could He KNOW us ... and where we are from; that is, from which SEED is our fruit? Is our fruit from the seed of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil? Or, is our fruit from the seed of the Tree of Life?

And He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able [Many of you will seek redemption]. When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you

begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Master! Open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.' There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of Yahweh, and yourselves thrust out," Luke 13:23-28.

What Is The Torah?

But, isn't the Torah, Prophets and Writings just a bunch of stories? Apparently NOT. They are, in fact, vital for our redemption. Where does Yahshua get all of His wisdom?

Then Yahweh sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: "There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds. But the poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him. And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him." So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As Yahweh lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity." Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man!" (2 Samuel 12:1-7).

Scripture goes on to explain how David had sinned by commit-

ting adultery with Bethsheba, who became pregnant as a result. After deceiving Uriah in order to get him to have sexual union with his wife — and thereby avoid responsibility for adultery and the pregnancy — and having failed, he had the man killed in battle. There are at least three violations of the Ten Commandments here, and Yahweh punished David in a number of ways, but spared his life.

He who has pity on the poor lends to Yahweh, and He will pay back what he has given, Proverbs 19:17.

Do not be deceived, Yahweh is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life, Galatians 6:7-8.

Seeking Reward

From whom will you seek reward, love, encouragement, companionship, help and knowledge? I pray that we may more completely go to Yahweh, in the name of Yahshua, to seek these rewards that come only from Yahweh: our salvation by accepting the atoning sacrifice of our Master, Yahshua, and our redemption that comes only through obedience to the will of Yahweh. May we do right and act with mercy without thinking.

The question was asked, "From whom do you seek reward?" Now, being social creatures, that is, having been created with the healthy need to establish relationships with other "like kind," we naturally seek reward from others. It is the foundation for the physical being, and for many of this world, it is the only source of reward. It is, in fact, a commandment.

Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets, Matthew 7:12.

We learned that the two phras-

es, "charitable deeds" and "charitable deed," though seemingly conveying the same concept, are two different Greek words; one means "justice," in other words, "doing what is right," and the other means "mercy" — actively demonstrating your caring for others, without seeking honor among mankind.

These two concepts paint a picture of the Messiah, Who, in the most humiliating way, gifted to those who love obedience, the most glorious reward — eternal life in the family of Yahweh.

For Yahweh so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life, John 3:16.

And what does it mean to "believe"? Four verses later, this is made clear:

For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in Yahweh, John 3:20-21.

What Rewards?

The phrase "they have their reward," is also found in verses 5 and 16 of Matthew 6, which we will get to presently. The fact that this phrase is repeated three times bears witness to the theme delineated earlier in Yahshua's teachings in His Sermon on the Mount. Of all of the rewards listed, I find Matthew 5:7 the most profound:

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy, Matthew 5:7.

This is as unpretentious, equivalent and seamless a reward — as only Yahweh could create. No man could manufacture a more perfect justification for his own judgment, for it literally puts control of his future in his own hands. It is an exact measure of judgment due him in the end. It means: we have no ex-

cuse for the reward given to us, either eternal life or the second death — the metaphorical death of being consumed in the fires of Gehenna.

This message is written throughout Scripture. Here are a few examples:

Do not be deceived, Yahweh is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life, Galatians 6:7-8.

The idea of sowing implies casting seed taken from the fruit you produce, either the seed of the Tree of Life, or the seed of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. The difference between these two seeds, and these two Trees, will be the subject of a future study.

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace, James 3:17-18.

Even as I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same, Job 4:8.

Notice how the Spirit of Yahweh uses simple, basic truths of physical survival to convey His Truths for Eternal survival. He has embedded His Plan of Salvation in a language of simplicity, a language of action, function and purpose; not a language of philosophical contemplation and formality. It seems that the entire message that Yahweh is giving to us in Scripture is this: “Do what is good and right. Therein is your salvation.”

Search For Instruction

And, where do we find such good and right instruction? In the Law, the Word of Yahweh; and, essentially, the Ten Commandments, written by the finger of Yahweh. The words inscribed upon these

tablets succinctly tell us of the things to DO and the things NOT to do. You know, like, honor the name of Yahweh and His Sabbath. Don't murder or adulterate that which Yahweh has created.

Hmmm. They teach us of the Good things and of the Evil things. Does this ring a bell for you? The Knowledge of Good and Evil? Seeds? Fruit? From a Tree? Could the Law of Yahweh, as delineated in the tablets of the Ten Commandments, be a picture of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, planted next to the Tree of Life in the midst of Paradise? If you remember, these two tablets set next to the once-dead almond branch of Aaron that budded into ... life. Could this represent the Tree of Life in the midst of the Garden of Eden — and inside the Ark of the Covenant? ... upon the Mercy Seat on which sits the Shekinah glory? ... next to the bowl of manna from Heaven, the Living Bread, like Yahshua, all of which are in the Most Holy Place ... in the Midst of Paradise? Could all these things be connected? Let's go back to Matthew chapter 6, where we are examining momentary versus eternal reward.

And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites [like actors, who portray a certain character in front of an audience, but live a completely different life]. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward [the reward of self-aggrandizement, of fame]. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father Who is in the secret place; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you openly, Matthew 6:5-6.

This is an amazing verse! In literal Greek, it describes a hidden, or covered, chamber, closed or forbidden to those outside. It is a place of prayer, where our Heavenly Fa-

ther lives! Now, where in Scripture do we read of such a place? Why, in the House of Yahweh, in the Holy of Holies, in the midst of the Temple, into which only the High Priest may enter once a year! Now, Yahshua says that we, the body, the assembly of believers, are the living stones of the Spiritual Temple, that we ourselves are a type of temple, and that when the Spirit of Yahweh resides within our hearts, we do not sin. What is located in the Holiest Place? The Law of Yahweh! How amazing is this? Can you see the continuity of Scripture, from beginning to end? Can you also see the cyclic or repetitive nature of Scripture? In the beginning, in *B'Reshiyt*, the Plan of Salvation is laid out for us, and it is repeated over and over ... you know, till we “get” it? The problem is always disobedience. And the solution? ... is always obedience.

The Model Prayer Tells Us

Matthew 6:7-9a tells us,

And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. In this manner, therefore, pray.

And Matt. 6:9b begins the model prayer,

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

The opening verse of this quintessential prayer that Yahshua teaches us praises the purity, singularity and power of the Holy name and character of our Heavenly Father, the Almighty Yahweh. We read in Joel 2:32, in Acts 2:21 and in Romans 10:13, the exact same quote:

And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of Yahweh shall be saved.

This is, of course, not only a reference to using the name of Yah-

weh, but the word, "calls," has a profound meaning and conveys the true Spirit of these verses. In Hebrew, it is the word, *yikrah*, which happens to be the name of the Book of Leviticus, *W'Yikrah*, which begins "And Yahweh called to Moses" This is the picture of our calling, that is, being called out by the Spirit of Yahweh. The phrase, "those who call upon the name of Yahweh," is a phrase that speaks only to those who have the Law of Yahweh written on their hearts and in their minds, as spoken in Jeremiah 31:33:

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says Yahweh: I will put My Law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be My people.

Matt. 6:10 reads,

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

This verse points to the New Jerusalem that comes down from Heaven AND to the willing obedience its inhabitation will accomplish, as written in Revelation 21:2-3:

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from Yahweh, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of Yahweh is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. Yahweh [ho Theos] Himself will be with them and be their Elohim.

Under what conditions will Yahweh be our Elohim? Under the conditions described in Jeremiah 31:33, and in Hebrews 8:10 and further clarified in Hebrews 10:16. I believe that every book of the Bible sends this message of obedience, loud and clear.

Matt. 6:11 says:

Give us this day our daily bread.

This verse references a prom-

ise made by Yahweh and found in Psalms 33:18-19:

Behold, the eye of Yahweh is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy, to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

Matt. 6:12 reads this way:

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Father, we ask that you forgive us of our transgressions of Your Law, in the same manner that we forgive others who harm us in the same ten ways: those who reject us for others, who manipulate us for their gain, who call us profane and vulgar names, who isolate themselves from us, who consider us to be worthless, who act to destroy us, who steal from us, who betray us, who lie to us, and who hatefully envy us. This is made absolutely clear in verses 14 and 15 of Matthew 6:

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do NOT forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

So, who, exactly, is in control of the judgment we will receive from our Heavenly Father and His Messiah? Salvation has nothing to do with us. It was a free gift by way of the grace and mercy of our Heavenly Father through the sacrificial punishment and death of His Messiah, Yahshua. Redemption, on the other hand, is NOT free, but is conditional upon our willingness, at least, to receive sacrificial punishment unto death in the most drastic sense. But, in the world, this translates to a demonstrable willingness on our part to be shamed by others for our calling upon the name of, and our obedience to the Law of, Yahweh.

Does Yahshua not say in Scripture:

And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

(Matthew 7:23)?

Matt. 6:13a reads:

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

I can't imagine Yahweh LEADING us into temptation; however, Scripture does say that He will ALLOW us to walk according to our own ways.

Therefore Yahweh also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of Yahweh for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, Who is blessed forever. Amen, Romans 1:24-25.

But My people would not heed My voice, and Israel would have none of Me. So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels. Oh, that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways! I would soon subdue their enemies, and turn My hand against their adversaries. The haters of YAHWEH would pretend submission to Him, but their fate would endure forever. He would have fed them also with the finest of wheat; and with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you, Psalms 81:11-16.

Yahweh also TESTS us to see if we really mean what we say, when we commit ourselves to His ways. This is evident in the books of Job and Exodus.

Lastly, from the model prayer, is Matt. 6:13b:

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen, Matt. 6:13b.

This verse is a bit controversial. The top of the next page shows how it looks in the Interlinear:

You'll notice that all the words in the phrase, "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen," have "9999" where Strong's Concordance usually lists the numbers for the Greek words in the verse. Using "9999" is its way of saying that these words were not

13	καὶ	μὴ	εἰσενέγκης	ἡμᾶς	εἰς	πειρασμόν,	ἀλλὰ
	And	not	lead	us	into	temptation,	but
	<u>2532</u>	<u>3361</u>	<u>1533</u>	<u>2248</u>	<u>1519</u>	<u>3986</u>	<u>235</u>
	Kai	meé	eisenéngkees	heemás	eis	peirasμόn	allá
	ῥῶσαι	ἡμᾶς	ἀπὸ	τοῦ	πονηροῦ.	For	thine
	deliver	us	from	τοῦ	evil:	<9999>	<9999>
	<u>4506</u>	<u>2248</u>	<u>575</u>	<u>3588</u>	<u>4190</u>		
	rúσαι	heemás	apó	toú	poneroú		
	is	the	kingdom,	and	the	power,	and
	<9999>	<9999>	<9999>	<9999>	<9999>	<9999>	<9999>
	the	glory,	for	ever.	Amen.		
	<9999>	<9999>	<9999>	<9999>	<9999>		

in the earlier texts.

The Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary states that Matthew 6:13 “is found in a majority of manuscripts, though not the oldest; it is found in all the Syriac versions, even the Peshita.” That is, this verse comes from the Aramaic versions of Scripture, which many scholars hold as being more accurate than the Greek or Latin.

Without being able, in the moment, to research the meanings in the original texts, we have only to accept the meaning in English, which is quite clear. It is Yahweh Who will rule over the nations of this world. He, only, has the power and authority to do so.

For if we sin [If we transgress the Law of Yahweh], willfully, after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain [but a clear] fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of Yahweh underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him Who said, "Vengeance

is Mine, I will repay," says Yahweh. And again, "Yahweh will judge His people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living Elohim, Hebrews 10:26-31.

What We Have Seen

I saw a plaque on the wall of the office of a wise man. It read, “No one can tell me that worrying doesn’t work. I have proof! Ninety-nine percent of the things I worry about – never happen!”

Scripture has already told us that if we seek the rewards of love, encouragement, companionship, help and knowledge from mankind, then our salvation and redemption are here and now. If, however, we seek the rewards of love, encouragement, companionship, help and knowledge from Yahweh, through Yahshua, then our salvation has already been won for us by the atoning sacrifice of our Master, Yahshua — and our redemption, which only comes only through obedience to the will of Yahweh, now, shall be in the future ... and for eternity. With the gift of the Spirit of Yahweh, we are able to do right and act with mercy toward all others.

Also, Scripture has shown us that the two phrases, “charitable deeds” and “charitable deed,” though seemingly conveying the same concept, are two different Greek words; one means “justice”

(in other words, “doing what is right”); and the other means “mercy” — that is, actively demonstrating your caring for others, without seeking honor among mankind. With this in mind, we examined the meaning of Matthew 5:7 — “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.” This verse describes an unpretentious, impartial and seamless reward — one that only Yahweh could create. No man could manufacture a more perfect justification for his own judgment, for it literally puts control of his future in his own hands. This verse’s counter-part is also an unpretentious, impartial and seamless reward, “Cursed are those who condemn others, for they shall receive condemnation.” Our rewards are exact measures of judgment and mercy due us in the end. That is, we have no excuse for the reward given to us — on the one hand, eternal life; and, on the other hand, the second death — being consumed in the fires of Gehenna.

Trusting Yahweh

Lastly, we will examine Matthew 6:16-34, where we hope to learn more about trusting Yahweh in Yahshua, and trusting those who have been called out of the rewards of Babylon, Egypt and those rewards this world has to offer.

Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting [no doubt, seeking the love and companionship of men]. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father Who is in the secret place; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you openly, Matthew 6:16-18.

A fast is recorded in Daniel 10:5-6 in regard to his vision of, “a certain man clothed in linen, whose

waist was girded with gold of Up-atz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude." Interestingly, the word, beryl, in Hebrew is *KaTarshish*, perhaps referring to the 6-sided crystals of differing colors that are shipped out of the city of Tarshish.

In Daniel 10:3, we read of events prior to this vision.

I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

What, therefore, was Daniel's reward for seeking love, encouragement, companionship, help and knowledge from Yahweh, in this case by fasting?

Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands. And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you." While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling. Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your Elohim, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words, Daniel 10:10-12.

Daniel's reward for his humility before Yahweh and setting his heart to understand the ways of Yahweh was a lengthy set of prophecies about Yahshua and the end time scenarios that were revealed and expanded upon in the Book of the Revelation of Yahshua the Messiah, given to John the Revelator.

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust de-

stroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also, Matthew 6:19-21.

Where Is Your Treasure?

Yes, where is your treasure? Where is your delight? Where is your excitement? What do you guard and protect? Where do you spend MOST of your time? Whose words dictate your actions and choices? These are difficult questions. I mean, have you ever been asked, "How often do you fast?" "How often do you sit still and pray?" Wow. Talk about guilt trips! Ever feel pressured? We are, after all, commanded to work six days per week. How many people essentially work seven days per week? I mean, do mothers and fathers not work on the Sabbath? Do Elders not work on the Sabbath, writing, leading worship, attending to the needs of the flock? How many really get a full 8 hours sleep every night? How many take showers every day, prepare food, eat food, take a break to relax? How much time is left for Yahweh in the name of Yahshua? How many take time to pray for mercy? 'Cause we will certainly need it. Praise Yahweh and His Son, Yahshua, for Their longsuffering and grace and mercy. And, for Their love for us.

The lamp [lit. source of light] of the body [which comes from the Greek word sozo, which means saved, delivered and protected] is the eye [implying clarity or insight]. If therefore your eye is good [which is the translation of two Greek words, meaning clear and complete], your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad [lit. if your morality is hurtful, chaotic, degenerate or wicked], your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! (Matthew 6:22-23).

What is Yahshua trying to tell us here? I believe He is saying that

He is the source of clarity for those who are saved, who have been delivered from the bondage of sin and who are now being protected by Yahshua. If we receive the clarity that Yahshua gives to us, then the body of Messiah, the *ecclesia*, the called-out ones, will be filled with truth. However, if we engage in harming others, creating chaos or disobeying the Law of Yahweh, we will be consumed. Does "outer darkness and gnashing of teeth" ring a bell?

Whom Do You Serve?

No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve Yahweh and mammon [lit. personal wealth], Matthew 6:24.

People often quote this line, "You can't serve Yahweh and money," which makes abundant sense, in view of the fact that the love of money sometimes drives people to harm others in favor of increasing their wealth. Anyone attempting to obey Yahweh's Law and then breaks the Law, will do one of two things. He will either repent and not do that behavior again, or he will rationalize his behavior with a thought like, "Well, it's really not a salvational issue," or, "I'm not really disobeying the commandment." Eventually, this individual may feel the need to leave the assembly in order to avoid the guilt and shame over behavior that cannot be denied in the light of the truth. Human beings do not like to experience what is called cognitive dissonance, which means "holding conflicting ideas simultaneously," often leading to a feeling of ambivalence or confusion.

Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look

at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? (Matthew 6:25-27).

Don't Be A Worrywort

Here's where that refrain I mentioned earlier comes in, "No one can tell me that worrying doesn't work. I have proof! Ninety-nine percent of the things I worry about – never happen!" Now, worrying is not the same as planning for the future. Worrying involves a constant focus on obtaining something, usually material, out of the fear of not having something that is important in one's culture. In other words, for example, we don't want to stand out in a city environment and be VIEWED of as a country bumpkin or, on the other hand, in a rural community, we don't want to APPEAR as a city slicker. These are rough examples, but they illustrate that we don't want to be SEEN by others as bad, wrong or just weird. As Paul said to believers:

So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a Feast or a new moon or Sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Messiah. Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility, Colossians 2:16-18a.

Paul, too, is asking us not to worry about criticism from others, when our choices are to abide in the Messiah, following the Word of Yahweh. We can only be cheated out of our REWARD by worrying, by thinking about the loss of our position, our station, our importance in the community of men. If we worry about our standing among men, then, as Yahshua stated, we have our reward, here and now, but not necessarily in the Kingdom of Yahweh.


So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the

field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if Yahweh so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? (Matthew 6:28-30).

When Yahshua speaks of us as "O you of little faith," I don't see a harsh taskmaster with a whip in His hand. I see a loving Father Who uses truth and honesty to discipline His children, whom He loves; and, Who is not afraid to forewarn them of the consequences of their behavior. So, when will we be clothed as lillies of the field?

Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife [His betrothed?] has made herself

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

ready. And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints, Revelation 19:7-8.

How does the Bride make herself ready for the Bridegroom? Through righteous acts.

Therefore do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of Yahweh and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble, Matthew 6:31-34.

What better advice could we receive from the One Whom we follow, that we may be joined in Righteous Union with our Bridegroom? He will provide. He will protect. He will heal our wounds. He will save us from this world and redeem us for His Glory. He will restore His chosen to His Father in the Kingdom of Yahweh, and we will say:

Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart fail; but Elohim is the strength of my heart and my portion forever, Psalms 73:25-26.

Elder John Fisher

*<Heavenly from page 6>
stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by Elohim and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to Yahweh through Yahshua Messiah, 1 Peter 2:4-6 NKJV.*

We, each individually, are being built up. The point being, for us, we are in process. There is shaping and chiseling and moving, so that we may fit properly. The process continues as we are worked with

by the Spirit and by Messiah within us.

In fact, we may not even perceive the Spirit until after we are matured and have been converted enough into the body of Messiah for a time.

The Apostle Paul was converted and matured. The Spirit was indeed perceived by him, but not only him. By Peter and John and others, also. It is granted that these were anointed men who were no doubt granted extra help to preach the Word accurately and effectively. Truly, they were Heavenly Minded.

Even today, we are being built up spiritually to offer spiritual offerings to Yahweh through Yahshua. We are to be one with Them by submitting and learning from Them.

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and Truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. Yahweh is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and Truth,

John 4:23–24 NKJV.

This takes us back to Proverbs 3:5-7, which says:

Trust in Yahweh with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear Yahweh and depart from evil, Proverbs 3:5–7 NKJV (see also Deut. 10:12, 16; 11:1).

Consequences of Sin

Walking on higher ground is being Heavenly Minded. It's a wonderful and awesome thing. Yet, if we lean on our own ways and do what is right in our own sight, running after evil and doing evil...what then?

Because of these things the wrath of Yahweh is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth,

Colossians 3:6–8 NASB.

The listing just before this, in Colossians 3:5, was fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, all of which Paul likened to idolatry. Evidently, he wanted to make the point that such things were indeed an abomination in Yahweh's sight.

He also says,

Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him Who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Messiah is all and in all, Colossians 3:9–11 NKJV.

There are a wide variety of members in the body; all are accepted as equal in Messiah. We are also to have one thing in common; we are all to be Heavenly Minded.

Elder David Brett

2015 YAIY Beacon Index

January - March Good Thoughts To Live By /3 2014 YAIY Beacon Index /7 The Law Versus Legalism /8 Really, What is Valentine's Day? /14 He Came To Fulfill /16 What Does It Mean To Be Spiritual /19 Revealing The Truth TV Schedule /23

April - June Mount Sinai /3 Baptism in the Name of Yahshua /10 Conforming to the Spirit /16 Question & Answer /20 Revealing The Truth TV Schedule /23

July - September Going to Heaven? ... Not So Fast! /3 Life, Death and Your Soul /8 Going It Alone /14 Letters /21 Revealing The Truth TV Schedule /23

October - December Overcoming The Good Fight - (Overcoming Idleness) /3 Halloween /7 Building Yahweh's Sanctuary /9 What is the Truth About the Christmas Story Myth? /16 Question & Answer /20 Revealing The Truth TV Schedule /23



Revealing the Truth

Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua's television program is on the air in the cities listed below. Visit www.yaiy.org for the latest information and to download select programs.

New locations are added regularly. Become a local sponsor to get Revealing the Truth on the air in areas not listed. Contact us by calling toll free: 1-877-642-4101.

USA, California, San Diego
Cox Cable Community Access, Channel 23
Saturdays (Sabbath), 1:00 pm

USA, Delaware, Dagsboro
Ocean 60 Broadcasting, WEWETV, Channel 24
Sundays, 8:30 am and 9:30 am

USA, Delaware, Millsboro
WRBG 107.9 FM (radio)
Check local listings for air times

USA, Florida, Tallahassee/Thomasville
CTN45 - WVUP, Channel 45
Mondays, 2:30 am

USA, Hawaii, Honolulu
Olelo Community Television, Channel 55
Saturdays (Sabbath), 6:30 am

USA, Kentucky, Highland Heights
Campbell County Community Media, Channel 17
Wednesdays, 5:30 pm; Fridays, 10:00 pm

USA, Massachusetts, Mashpee
Mashpee Public Access, Channel 99
Saturdays (Sabbath), 11:00 am; Fridays 3:00 pm

USA, Massachusetts, Sandwich
Sandwich Public Broadcasting, Channel 13
Saturdays (Sabbath), 3:00 pm

USA, Missouri, Columbia
Columbia Access Television, Channel 3
Sundays, 8:30 pm; Mondays, Wednesdays, 2:00 pm

USA, Missouri, Jefferson City
Jefferson City Access Television, Channel 3
Mondays, 11:30 am; Fridays, 8:30 pm

USA, New Mexico, Albuquerque
Quote...Unquote, Inc., Channel 27
Sundays, 5:00 pm

USA, New Mexico, Los Alamos
Public Access Channel, Channel 8
Check local listings for air times

USA, New York, Rotterdam (Upstate New York)
Time Warner Cable, Channel 18
Mondays, 7:30 pm

USA, New York, Schenectady
Schenectady Public Access, Channel 16
Tuesdays, 7:00 pm

USA, Oregon, Ashland
Rogue Valley Community Television, Channel 15
Saturdays (Sabbath), 5:00 pm

USA, Oregon, Portland
Portland Community Media
Channel 22 - Tuesdays, 10:00 am
Channel 23 - Saturdays (Sabbath), 8:30 am

USA, Oregon, Salem
CCTV, Channel 23 - Thursdays, 5:00 pm;
Fridays, 1:30 pm; Sundays, 2:30 pm

USA, Oregon, Salem
KPJC 1220 AM (Hebrew Nation Radio*)
Monday thru Fridays, 1:30 am, 12 Noon;
Saturdays (Sabbath), 3:30 am, 12:30 pm;
Sundays, 1:30 am

*Hebrew Nation Radio is available on-line.

HOLY BIBLE

YAHWEH'S ASSEMBLY IN YAHSHUA
2963 CO. RD. 233
KINGDOM CITY, MO 65262

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
KINGDOM CITY, MO
PERMIT NO. 890236

MOVING?

Help us save 55¢ per issue by
sending us your new address!

A photograph of a dirt path that splits into two directions, leading into a lush green field. The path is light brown and appears to be made of compacted earth. The grass is vibrant green with some yellow wildflowers scattered throughout. The overall scene is bright and natural, suggesting a rural or farm setting.

Listen, my son, and be
wise, and keep your
heart on the right
path, Prov. 23:19 NIV.