

YAIY

# Beacon



Jul-Sep 2017 - Spreading the Word throughout the world - yaivy.org



Doth the eagle mount up  
at Thy command, and make  
her nest on high? (Job 39:27).



# YAIY Beacon



Volume 9

Number 3

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Nazirite Vows** 3  
**Being Torah Observant**  
 by Elder David Brett

**Philadelphia** 9  
 by Elder John Fisher (deceased)

**Where's the Belief?** 12  
**And how many people today really practice what they believe?**  
 by Elder Ralph Henrie (deceased)

**Actions for Life or Death** 14  
 by Elder Roger G. Meyer

**Dull of Hearing** 17  
 by Elder Donald R. Mansager (deceased)



21

**Revealing The Truth Television Broadcast**  
**Inside Back Cover**

## MISSION STATEMENT

### MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission and purpose is to reach people around the world with the message of the revealed personal Names of Yahweh and His Son Yahshua the Messiah, as well as teaching the salvation truths that have been neglected for centuries.

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.

© 2017 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](mailto:beacon@yaiy.org)



Internet:  
[www.yaiy.org](http://www.yaiy.org)

Cover: courtesy of dreamstime.com

# Nazirite Vows

---

## Being Torah Observant

---

We understand that the Torah (i.e., the first five books of Moses containing instructions, laws, etc.) is prominently taught and emphasized by Judaism, as well as by prominent Messianic teachers. We also, at Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua, put emphasis on Yahweh's Word which includes the foundation we see set from the beginning.

However, we also understand there are certain aspects of Torah that are not done today in Messiah Yahshua. In addition, there is no physical standing Temple today and no operational Levitical priesthood. These things are in the works to be restored for the physical people in the coming Kingdom, as prophecy indicates (Ezek. 40 - 46). For now all physical blood sacrifices and other aspects, such as purification rites, have been set aside.

Nazirite vows, some from birth by parents, others being temporary, are also something we find are unnecessary today in the New Covenant.

### **New or Renewed?**

A question sometimes comes up about whether or not the agreement to accept Yahshua the Messiah as our personal Savior, is to be understood as a new or, rather, a renewed agreement. Quite frankly, there is evidence to accept both as true, even though it can depend on the perspective of where one has been.

Some are coming directly out from current Torah observance, understanding the covenant of Abraham and promises to those who keep covenant with Yahweh. These same men and women are now coming to an understanding that the Savior had come in the 1st century, and is coming a second time in the near future. This has been a paradigm shift in thinking for them, but they are better equipped in some ways to more fully obey Yahweh, if they can unlearn and reject the many traditions that are not in line with the Holy Scripture, Matt.15:1 - 9.

Some of these are now looking to His Son for forgiveness of sins, as the Perfect Sacrifice in a newer covenant, still being obedient to the laws, statutes, and holy convocations of Yahweh, but on a higher spiritual level with the help of the Spirit.

To these, the covenant is joyfully renewed

through the Messiah with better promises, such as, eternal life and a portion of Yahweh's Spirit being granted to stay with the individual brother or sister.

Others, on the other hand, coming from nominal worship, have completely new perspectives of who they are and what they need to know to be doing. Many Christians, though they are accepting the Father and His Son, haven't understood the previous covenants and don't fully understand what is required today in Messiah, though clearly prophesied:

*A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put My spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them, Ezekiel 36:26 - 27.*

*Behold, the days come, saith Yahweh, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah, Jeremiah 31:31.*

What is happening for them is they are understanding, in part, that this is a New Covenant. They never were in covenant with Yahweh. They just believed superficially. They had a form of repentance, but it did not meet the requirement of the covenant. In effect, they were never in agreement with Yahweh.

Yet, there are still others who have been agnostic or even outright atheists, or who have believed in pagan deities all their lives, but who now recognize that there is an Almighty Creator of heaven and earth named Yahweh.

They are now seeing what they had believed previously was, in all actuality, error. They are now coming forward learning what they had not known before. This is all new to them, but they are being called out to live their lives to be holy unto Yahweh through Yahshua the Messiah.

They are learning about Israel and the grafting in process, through Messiah, not only of those who had lost sight of who they are as a people, but others who recognize they will be considered part of the family, if they join and abide by the house rules,

*Yahweh called thy name, A green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult He hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken. For Yahweh of hosts, that planted thee,*

*hath pronounced evil against thee, for the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have done against themselves to provoke Me to anger in offering incense unto Baal, Jeremiah 11:16 - 17.*

Romans 11:16 - 22 says,

*For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches. And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well, because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: for if Yahweh spared not the natural branches, take heed lest He also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of Yahweh on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in His goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.*

Whether new or renewed depends on the perspective of the one seeking salvation and eternal life in the Messiah. But to stay renewed all the time is to suggest that everything stays the same in the agreement through the Messiah, and that is just not the case.

## Higher Ground

The spiritual is emphasized for those in the Messiah, while abiding in the standard set forth from the beginning. The Messiah Himself not only quoted Scripture often, and quoted the Commandments as a foundation, but also spoke of keeping them from the heart.

We need to keep in mind, however, that not everything that is done today was done in the beginning. They (all the laws)

cannot all be done because to do so is to make Messiah's blood sacrifice of no effect, Rom. 4:11; Gal. 5:4. Circumcision of the flesh or sacrificing a Passover lamb are a couple of things that should be readily evident, but still we find other things we are no longer doing today.

While we are all called to walk on higher ground, there is a process of losing long held traditions through continued study from Genesis to Revelation to fully grasp our role as a set-apart people today in the body of Messiah.

The Spirit adds a missing dimension to us today by helping us to have fruits and character traits of the Spirit and weightier matters of the law, while not neglecting foundational laws that are to be kept holy, Lev. 11:44 - 45; Acts 5:32.

## Nazirite Origins

In all of this, what can we confidently say about Nazirites or the Nazirite vow? Where did the term even come from? Going back as far as we can in Scripture, on the surface, we find an entire section in the book of Numbers, starting in chapter 6 verse 2,

*Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, when either a man or a woman makes a special vow, the vow of a Nazirite, to separate himself to Yahweh, ESV.*

Here we have a special vow, separating an individual to Yahweh. The word Nazirite is from the Hebrew word *nazir* (naw-zeer), meaning consecrated, devoted, in this particular section.

There are some other closely related words, but if we look for this particular word (H5139, *nazir*) in the Hebrew, we find it is typically classified in three ways, depending on context.

One, it is considered a noun which is masculine, meaning a particular leader or ruler.

Two, it is considered a noun, as in proper, that is, a person who

is dedicated, consecrated, and separated.

And, three, an adjective, that is, descriptive, such as, meaning "an untended vine." This makes a little more sense when we look at the next two verses in Numbers.

*He shall abstain from wine and strong drink; he shall drink no vinegar, whether made from wine or strong drink, nor shall he drink any grape juice nor eat fresh or dried grapes. All the days of his separation he shall not eat anything that is produced by the grape vine, from the seeds even to the skin, Numbers 6:3 - 4 NASB.*

Today, there are individuals being encouraged to take vows such as this. They desire to be separated unto Yahweh.

It's commendable, but a bit misguided, especially when we can be set apart in the Messiah. Some other requirements of a Nazirite vow are found as we continue to read in Numbers.

*During the entire period of their Nazirite vow, no razor may be used on their head. They must be holy until the period of their dedication to Yahweh is over; they must let their hair grow long, Numbers 6:5 NIV.*

This would be easy enough for women to do, but it's not evident that this type of vow is for women. In verse two, when it says, "when either a man or a woman makes a special vow," it may be more of a reference to parents making a decision to dedicate their child to Yahweh for His service, rather than an individual woman making a vow for herself.

Noticing the NIV, which we've used here, it actually changes "his" to the word "they." While there are about three ways the Hebrew word *nazir* can be translated, the Nazirite vow itself is either lifetime, having been dedicated from birth, or temporary, as a personal vow. We find both in Scripture, but we find only men are mentioned in these vows.

## Samson's Strength

Before moving forward in Numbers, let's take a look in Scripture at those having been set apart from birth under the Nazirite vow. The first example we have is Samson, where the Angel of Yahweh goes to the wife of Manoah and speaks to her.

*And the angel of Yahweh appeared to the woman and said to her, "Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to Elohim from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines,"* Judges 13:3 – 5 ESV.

There are a number of things here, but essentially, this is the proclamation to Manoah's wife to make sure that the child Samson never breaks the vow and that she herself is not to defile herself since Samson is being set apart from her womb.

Becoming defiled by breaking any of the laws specific to the vow is not good. We know that the vow was broken with the cutting of his hair by Delilah who had found out how to defile him and it also removed Yahweh's blessings of strength from him. It removed his protection, and he was blinded by the Philistines and imprisoned.

After some time, with the help of a boy who held him by his hand, and probably with his hair having grown back, Samson received strength enough to remove two support pillars in a large building in which all the Philistines rulers were along with thousands of people. It says that there were 3,000 on the roof alone, so the number was substantial overall in this building.

## Samuel the Prophet, Priest, Judge, etc.

Another Nazirite vow, that was to be lifelong, was that of Samuel.

*So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, "Because I asked Yahweh for him." When her husband Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to Yahweh and to fulfill his vow, Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before Yahweh, and he will live there always,"* 1 Samuel 1:20 – 22 NIV.

Here is an example of where the woman alone dedicated her child under the Nazirite vow to Yahweh. She, of course, told her husband what she was planning on doing, but he didn't object.

This takes us back to a man or woman making a Nazirite vow. In this example, it was a woman making the vow for the child Samuel. The same Samuel was the one who anointed Saul King over Israel, and then David after him.

Eerdman's Dictionary of the Bible says this about Samuel:

"In these stories he appears in multiple roles of authority: priest, prophet, judge, military leader. Samuel occupies a unique role in Israel's story. He is the representative and defender of an older tribal covenant order in Israel, yet he is [Yahweh]'s prophetic agent for ushering in the new day of kingship."

## John the Baptizer

Another lifetime Nazirite was John the Baptist (Immerser). We find the account of this in Luke chapter 1.

*In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth,* Luke 1:5 – 6 NASB.

They were both righteous in the sight of Elohim, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of Yahweh. Want to be righteous, and without blame, in Yahweh's sight? Do what He says.

While we don't have a Temple to go to today, and we don't have the Levitical priesthood, we can still live righteous lives being obedient to those things fitting for us to do in Messiah Yahshua. He foretold of these days we're in now, in John chapter 4:21 - 24:

*Yahshua saith unto her, Woman, believe Me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. Yahweh is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.*

Continuing in Luke 1:7 - 12 NASB, we read,

*But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years. Now it happened that while he was performing his priestly service before Elohim in the appointed order of his division, according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of Yahweh and burn incense. And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering. And an angel of Yahweh appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. Zacharias was troubled when he saw the angel, and fear gripped him.*

One might be inclined to think this was the same Angel of Yahweh that first appeared before Manoah's wife, but this is actually Gabriel, another angel and spokesman for Yahweh, but not

The Spokes man as a study of the other Angel of Yahweh shows. Make sure you request the free in-depth booklet called, "Did the Savior Pre-exist?"

In Luke 1:13 - 16 NASB, we continue to read,

*But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. For he will be great in the sight of Yahweh; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to Yahweh their Elohim."*

## Sons of Jacob

Sons of Jacob (Israel's children) started to turn back to Yahweh from his preaching. He told the Pharisees to produce fruit worthy of this type of repentance, otherwise they would be as a tree cut down.

That may have hit home with them, since they would have considered themselves the Olive Tree of Israel.

Speaking of John the Baptist, the next verse, Luke 1:17 NASB, says,

*It is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for Elohim."*

Gabriel, who is believed to be an Archangel, is quoting, in part, the end of the book of Malachi. He gives us the meaning of what Malachi the prophet spoke about so long ago.

*Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of Yahweh. He will restore the hearts of the fathers*

*to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse, Malachi 4:5 - 6 NASB.*

## Disobedient to the Obedient

"The hearts of the children to their fathers," means "the hearts of the disobedient to the obedient." The Spirit of EliYah today has the specific purpose of leading people back to Yahweh and His ways of righteousness, according to His Commandments and laws kept by the fathers of old. Not the fathers of the Pharisees, and not the fathers of the 4th century of the Common Era. We're talking about Fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

What did Abraham do, and what did he teach his children to do? What was Abraham told?

*I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all*

*these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws, Genesis 26:4 - 5 NASB.*

## The EliYah Message

With the spirit (attitude) of EliYah at work today in the body of Messiah, we have the ability to understand and share with others what Malachi prophesied and what John the Baptist started to preach,

*Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand, Matthew 3:2.*

It's the same message Yahshua had (Matt. 4:17) and told His disciples to preach to the nations which are the descendants of the lost tribes of Israel, Matt. 10:6 - 7. He moves us with the Spirit of Yahweh to do the same.

Abraham was obedient to the foundational commandments and laws before the first five books of Moses were written; before any laws written in stone at Mt. Sinai; before any Levitical priesthood was known; before any Jew had ever been born, or for that matter, any Israelites, Gen. 26:5. Isn't it time to wake up to the facts of life? (Deut. 30:19; Matt. 12:50; 19:16 - 17).

## Temporary Vows

Now, let's shift gears and get back on track with the idea of being a Nazirite or the Nazirite vow.

There is recorded, besides the Nazirite making a vow for life, the making of a temporary vow, which could be taken.

*And this is the law for the Nazirite, when the time of his separation has been completed: he shall be brought to the entrance of the tent of meeting, Numbers 6:13 ESV.*

Surrounding this are a number of things which are done. As

To view this booklet go to our website at [www.yaiy.org](http://www.yaiy.org) or phone 1-877-642-4101

**In-Depth Study**

**Did the Savior Pre-exist?**

Order this booklet from:  
YAIY  
2963 Co. Rd. 233  
Kingdom City, MO 65262

noted in Ryrie's Study Bible:

"When the period of a temporary vow terminated, the Nazirite had to offer peace, grain, drink, and burnt offerings and shave his head and burn the hair."

The details are very specific on these things. Let's consider verses 18 - 19, for example:

*The Nazirite shall then shave his dedicated head of hair at the doorway of the tent of meeting, and take the dedicated hair of his head and put it on the fire which is under the sacrifice of peace offerings. The priest shall take the ram's shoulder when it has been boiled, and one unleavened cake out of the basket and one unleavened wafer, and shall put them on the hands of the Nazirite after he has shaved his dedicated hair, Numbers 6:18 - 19 NASB.*

Can this be done today? Not without the Levitical priests and not without the Temple. The Tent of Meeting was the Temple for the people. Today, there is no physical Temple standing.

No Nazirite vows are to be taken, not even temporary ones, because there is no way to end them properly. People get into a lot of trouble by making vows they can't keep.

However, one can and should be Torah Observant in Messiah, accepting His blood for atonement of personal sins, Acts 20:21; Rev. 14:12.

## The Apostle Paul's Vow

Someone might say, "But, didn't Paul take a Nazirite Vow?" To understand what was happening we need to go to when Paul met with

the other elders in Jerusalem

*The next day Paul and the rest of us went to see James, and all the elders were present. Paul greeted them and reported in detail what Elohim had done among the Gentiles through his ministry, Acts 21:18 - 19 NIV.*

These Gentiles may have been, in part, descendants from the northern tribes of Israel (James 1:1), but they lost sight of Yahweh in their lives and certainly didn't live according to His ways which are found in His laws.

In Acts 21:20 NIV, we read further,

*When they heard this, they praised Yahweh. Then they said to Paul: "You see, brother, how many thousands of Jews have believed, and all of them are zealous for the law."*

Being zealous for the law was a good thing, because it means they weren't sinning. The Gentiles were to come and learn, but here is what these Torah observant Jews were hearing of Paul:

*They have been told about you, that you are teaching all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs.*

*What, then, is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come, Acts 21:21 - 22 NASB.*

Paul had not told the people to forsake Moses, but that circumcision under the Abrahamic Covenant had to be understood in light of the Messianic Covenant.

And, evidently, the Torah observant Jews he had to deal with earlier in the 15th chapter of Acts, couldn't grasp the idea of having a different covenant. The covenant that they knew and already accepted was understood to be integrated into the Law of Yahweh.

They most likely reasoned that one could not forsake any of it, and still be saved. This included circumcision, but circumcision was a token of a previous blood covenant through Abraham, Gen. 17:11; Ex. 4:26. One cannot accept it, saying "you must have it to be saved," and still have the Covenant in Messiah.

In Messiah, some things changed (Heb. 7:12) because of the New Agreement. It's the nature of agreements that are made. Different agreements are not the same agreements, though we are still to be Torah observant.

Request the free in-depth booklet called, "Orthodox Believers."

One can find all the promises of Abraham and more, through the Messiah, if one accepts this better agreement. Indeed, it was better (Heb. 8:6), but some of the Jews were having a hard time understanding the implications of accepting it, because they weren't hearing nor understanding correctly.

To view this booklet go to our web site at [www.YAIY.org](http://www.YAIY.org)



Free Booklet @ [www.yaiy.org](http://www.yaiy.org)  
or call toll free: 1-877-642-4101

*Therefore do this that we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; take them and purify yourself along with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads; and all will know that there is nothing to the things which they have been told about you, but that you yourself also walk orderly, keeping the Law, Acts 21:23 – 24 NASB.*

Who is telling who to do what here? The other elders have told Paul to take four men that they know of who had taken vows (probably Nazirite vows), and they instruct Paul to also purify himself with them.

This would help counter the false rumors that Paul was not Torah observant. It would give them a foot in the door, so to speak, to proclaim the better covenant found in the prophesied Messiah.

Skipping down to verse 26 we read the conclusion of the vows:

*Then Paul took the men, and the next day, purifying himself along with them, went into the temple giving notice of the completion of the days of purification, until the sacrifice was offered for each one of them, Acts 21:26 NASB.*

I can imagine Paul did not even feel a need to do this, having already washed his hands of the Jews not accepting of Messiah (Acts 18:4), but he submitted to the others and even allowed sacrifices to be made along with other purification rites to put a stop to the rumors of not being Torah observant.

## **Different Laws for Gentiles?**

You might have noticed that we've jumped past verse 25, but want to address it here, and in context of the time of the standing Temple:

*As for the Gentile believers, we have written to them our decision that they should abstain from*

*food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality, Acts 21:25 NIV.*

Just prior to this statement is the wording "walking orderly, keeping the law," which implies that there are different rules for the gentiles now, but we need to understand the times they were living in.

Gentiles could not go into the Temple area, they could only go into the synagogues to continue to learn. There was a wall of partition that was set up to keep the gentiles out and a death sentence was on anyone who passed it. Any gentiles, that is.

This is why verse 25 is mentioned here and it was a decision that they could learn the other basics of the law of Yahweh at the synagogues. But, going into the Temple was not allowed, as is clearly seen in context here:

*When the seven days were almost over, the Jews from Asia, upon seeing him in the temple, began to stir up all the crowd and laid hands on him, crying out, "Men of Israel, come to our aid! This is the man who preaches to all men everywhere against our people and the Law and this place; and besides he has even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place." For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple, Acts 21:27 – 29 NASB.*

Clearly we can see what was happening in the first century. Discovered in 1871 on the site of the Temple area was a large stone block with the inscription written in Greek: "No man of another nation to enter within the fence and enclosure round the Temple and whoever is caught will have himself to blame that his death ensues."

The gentiles, as also mentioned in Acts 15, were instructed to get the worst things out of their

lives immediately and then they could continue to learn. They would continue to learn at the synagogues what the Scriptures spoke of, that is, the main teachings and commandments coming from the books of Moses, verse 20; the same teachings the Messiah walked in, John 15:10; Heb. 4:15; 1 John 3:4 - 9.

## **Messiah the Nazarene**

A question that is sometimes asked is "Was Yahshua the Messiah, a Nazirite?" He was a Nazarene, after all, and Torah observant.

When you look at some of the Bible Dictionaries the word "Nazarene" and "Nazirite" are right next to each other, which gives the impression they are connected.

Why some today proclaiming the Messiah would be called Nazarene may lay in the idea that somehow a "Nazarene" is automatically born out of when a person takes a Nazirite vow, Num. 6:2. It's in error to think that.

The term "sect of the Nazarenes" (found in Acts 24:5), for those following the Messiah, was evidently given since Yahshua was from Nazareth, or alternatively, the prophecy of the branch/shoot (H5342 *netzer*) from Isaiah 11:1, which reads, "A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit."

Jesse, of course, was the father of King David, of the tribe of Judah. The "Branch," "Netzer," is specifically referring to the Messiah.

We received an e-mail recently that was pointing out that *netzer* is a specific shoot that springs up later out of the original trunk of an olive tree. We already know that in Jeremiah chapter 11, the olive Tree is descriptive of the whole house of Israel. As already

<see **Vows** page 11>



# Philadelphia

---

Today, I want to write about “philadelphia.” I have a birth certificate, a legal document of the State of Pennsylvania, that says on February 8, 1948, John Michael Fisher was born at the Frankfort Hospital in Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania, to Jenina Constanca Biernacki, mother, and John Louis Fisher, father. It is embossed with the official seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It confirms and testifies of my citizenship in the State of Pennsylvania and in the United States of America for as long as I live. I am free to obtain an education and work, and I am kept safe by the armies which these authorities command. With that birth record comes privileges, responsibilities, rights and obligations. And, when I think about these things, I feel a sense of worth, empowerment, security, connectedness and hope in that document – which I keep in a locked metal box in a safe place in my house. It is very valuable to me, and I don’t want to lose the rights and privileges that come with its ownership. So, I am also willing to obey the laws, ordinances, judgments and statutes which tell me and remind me how to act as a citizen and member of this august and dignified body.

When I die, this document will have no value to me. I will have lost the legal and lawful rights and privileges, the duties and obligations attached therein. The laws, statutes, ordinances and judgments will no longer be in effect, because ... well, I will be dead and not capable of benefiting from its privileges, nor will it be possible for me to demonstrate my loyalty to its edicts. I can’t obey, nor can I disobey; and they aren’t going to dig up my bones and throw me in jail until I finish paying off my legal debts to society.

That’s all well and good, yet I hope to be born again in a different Philadelphia.

## Brotherhood of Love

*Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent [zeontes, not zumees] in spirit, serving the Messiah; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality, Romans 12:10 - 13 NKJV.*

*Now, about brotherly love we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by Elo-*

*him to love each other, 1 Thessalonians 4:9 NIV.*

*Let brotherly love continue, Hebrews 13:1 KJV.*

The concept of the importance of brotherhood is found in the Old Testament as well:

*Thus saith Yahweh; For three transgressions of Tyrus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, and remembered not the brotherly covenant: [“brotherly” is the Hebrew word, “ach” #251, meaning brother, literally and metaphorically]. But I will send a fire on the wall of Tyrus, which shall devour the palaces thereof. Thus saith Yahweh; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever, Amos 1:9 - 11 KJV.*

Apparently, Yahweh takes commitments to one’s brothers very seriously.

Returning to the New Testament, “brotherly love” is the Greek word, Strong’s #5360 *philadelphia* (fil-ad-el-fee’-ah); from #5361, *philadelphos*; which means fraternal affection: also used in the KJV as “love of the brethren,” from the Greek word, Strong’s #5384, *philos* (fee’-los); meaning “dear,” i.e., a friend; or in an active sense, “fond,” i.e., “friendly,” and as a noun, an associate or neighbor. The other half of the word *philadelphia* comes from the Greek word, Strong’s #80, *adelphos* (ad-el-fos’); from *delphus* (the womb); a brother (literally or figuratively) near or remote. So, *philadelphia* means to show affection to, and care for, another as if you and they shared the same womb, as if we have the same father and mother. Is it not, therefore, a breaking of the Fifth Commandment to abandon or disrespect your brother? Honor your father and your mother – love your brother.

## Born Again in Philadelphia

Earlier, I said that I hope to be “born again” in philadelphia. Let’s read from John 3:1 - 3:

*Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; this man came to Yahshua by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, [hra-bee] we know that You have come from Elohim as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless Elohim is with him.” Yahshua answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is*

*born again he cannot see the kingdom of Yahweh."*

[The word "born" is the Greek word, Strong's #1080, *gennaō* (ghen-nah'-o): to procreate, and to regenerate, from #1085, which means "kin." The word "again" is the Greek word, Strong's #509, *anōthen* (an'-o-then); from #507, which means from above.]

Continuing with verses 4 – 8:

*Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" Yahshua answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of Yahweh. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."*

Yahshua is saying you cannot enter the Kingdom of Yahweh if you are not "regenerated by Yahweh into kinship." Let me speak frankly, here. If you leave the Assembly of Yahweh (and, I'm not saying this assembly, per se), if you leave those whom you have accepted as your brethren, you do not have the Spirit of Yahweh.

Yahshua is using the words, "born again," that we will become Spirit, in the same manner that He became Spirit – after He was raised from the grave. Of all who read our literature or listen/watch our DVDs, none of us are yet "born again." We are yet in the womb, *adelphia*, gestating. Our spiritual birth, if you will, occurs when we are raised from the grave at the time of the First Resurrection. It is then that we will be able to say, "I am born again. I am a Philadelphian." And, not before.

Now, "womb" is a key word, here. In Greek, it is, "Delphi,"

meaning "brother." Baptism is symbolic of this future event, being "born again." Let us read Romans 6:4 - 7 NASU:

*Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as the Messiah was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old self was impaled with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin.*

### **Freed From Sin?**

Are we freed from sin? No. No one is yet freed from sin.

*O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank Yahweh through Yahshua the Messiah our Sovereign. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of Yahweh; but with the flesh the law of sin, Romans 7:24 - 25 KJV.*

Was Paul born again? Nope. Not yet.

*So this I say, and affirm together with the Master, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of Elohim because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. But you did not learn the Messiah in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Yahshua, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of*

*your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of Elohim has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth, Ephesians 4:17 - 24 NASU.*

There is an English word that sounds exactly like the word, born. "Borne," spelled B-O-R-N-E. It means to "bear" or to "endure." Using that word, I hope to have another birth certificate recorded, and it, too, will say I was borne, or "I endured," in *philadelphia*, in brotherly love. This certificate will also be embossed with a seal of Great Authority and confirms my citizenship in its Kingdom for as long as I live, eternally. It, too, will allow me to acquire knowledge and work; and I will be kept safe by the armies over which its King commands. With that record comes privileges, responsibilities, rights and obligations. When I meditate on these things, I feel a sense of worth, empowerment, security, connectedness and hope in that document – which I keep in a locked, safe place in my "house," my heart. It is very valuable to me, and I don't want to lose the rights and privileges that come with its ownership. So, I am also willing to obey the laws, ordinances, judgments and statutes, written by the Sovereign of that Kingdom, which tell me how to act and also sets the limits of those actions.

*He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels, Revelation 3:5 NKJV.*

When this fleshly body dies, that record, called the Book of Life, will be of extreme value to me. I will NOT have lost the rights, privileges, duties and obligations attached therein. The laws, statutes, ordinances and judgments of Yahweh will STILL be in effect, because my bones WILL be dug up, so to speak. I will be lifted up, I will no longer

ave the opportunity to demonstrate my obedience, and I WILL be held accountable for any debt I owe to this Great Authority, Yahweh Almighty. I will also receive, if qualified, the rights and privileges promised for my good citizenship while in this mortal body.

*Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with Yahweh's people and members of Yahweh's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Yahshua the Messiah Himself as the Chief Cornerstone. In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in Yahweh. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which Elohim lives by His Spirit, Ephesians 2:19 – 22.*

We are, here and now, in these fleshly bodies, to be citizens of "Philadelphia," to act as one who is "born of love." To love our Brethren, near and far. To nurture and care for those whom we call Brethren as well as those who may someday be called – to believe as we believe. To be honest and not harbor resentment.

## Conclusion

In this regard, I now must say, to those who see my actions as demonstrating condemnation, judgment or threat, I humbly ask for your forgiveness. In those ways in which you have demonstrated condemnation, judgment or threat, I freely forgive you. To those who desire to be citizens of Yahweh's People, or, "Philadelphians," and are considering joining us here at our home office, either in person or through the media: Welcome! To those who have once made that decision to be a part of our gathering and have left, or are contemplating leaving, I say, "Reconsider, come, let us reason together." Certainly, as

members of this family, as brothers of the same womb, we can listen and share. We can humble ourselves and value others above ourselves. We can forgive as we have been forgiven. We can love as we have been loved, looking beyond our own needs to those of the body of Messiah. We can endure, if by the Spirit of Yahweh, we have a birth certificate of the state of *philadelphia*.

May the Peace of Yahweh prevail in your minds and in your hearts, and may we someday be born in *philadelphia*. Shalom!

---

### Elder John Fisher (deceased)

<from **Vows** page 8>

touched upon, the same family of Israel we are being grafted into through Messiah, the Jew who only came to search out the lost children, Matt. 15:24.

In thinking about Yahshua the Nazarene, we find key verses in the New Testament which helps us to understand prophesy a little better.

Matthew 2:23 NASB says,

*And (speaking of Joseph, Mary, and Child) came and lived in a city called Nazareth. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets: "He shall be called a Nazarene."*

As one studies the word Nazareth, it appears it could mean, "City of the Branch." When we consider everything, it appears that City of the Branch could also relate to the coming Kingdom.

One who is called a Nazarene can be identified as one who belongs to the "City of the Branch"; in the case of Messiah, the "Righteous Branch," of Whose city is "New Jerusalem." One can refer to: Isaiah 11:1;

Zech. 6:12; Jer. 23:5; 33:15 - 17 for further study of this.

## Following in His Footsteps

A point of interest is that Yahshua had taken no Nazirite vow, and we are to follow in His footsteps. He drank of the fruit of the vine and even touched dead people, something against the law for those under a Nazirite vow.

Most scholars would concur He most likely had short hair (1 Cor. 11:15) and couldn't easily be picked out from a crowd, John 5:13. Yet, we see the images of a long haired handsome Savior from the Renaissance Era.

We need to understand what Scripture says in light of the whole of Scripture, being aware of what is said from Genesis to Revelation.

Taking a Nazirite vow is being Torah observant, but it's not something we can do today. In fact, Yahshua Himself speaks of not making vows:

*Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, "YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FALSE VOWS, BUT SHALL FULFILL YOUR VOWS TO YAHWEH." But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of Yahweh, or by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it is THE CITY OF THE GREAT KING, Matthew 5:33 – 35 NASB.*

What Yahshua is basically telling all of us, is "Don't be doing things you don't need to be doing." Today, one of those things we don't need to be doing, is taking Nazirite vows.

---

Elder David Brett



# Where's the Belief?

---

And how many people today really practice what they believe?

---

Everyone knows from observation that no one can save himself from physical death. Instinctively, everyone also knows that only a giver of life could restore the dead to life.

Scripture says,

*He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned,* Mark 16:16.

But now notice.

*The ones along the path are those who have heard: then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved,* Luke 8:12 RSV.

Believe what? Yahshua's parable of the sower and his seed explains what must be believed. Yahweh's Word must be believed. Mark 16, John 8:24, and John 1:41 - 45 tell us that Yahshua is the Messiah, the Son of Yahweh, Who was raised from the dead. These truths from the Word must be believed. If no one believed these facts about Yahshua, would anyone believe He could save others?

"Believe the Word" means believe the whole Word. It does not mean believe only that part of the truth that bears witness to the death and resurrection of Yahshua the Messiah. Certainly a person must hold fast to these beliefs, but to be among those symbolized by the good soil a person must hold fast to every word of truth.

Moses wrote,

*Man does not live by bread alone, but that man lives by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh,* Deuteronomy 8:3.

To be saved, meaning to enter into eternal life with the Messiah, one must not only believe the Word but also live the Word. James affirms this by saying,

*But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves,* James 1:22.

## One Way Satan Deceives

The problem is not that people do not believe the truths about the Messiah. The problem is that few people are really doers of the Word. They will not obey, nor will they call upon "the only Name under heaven given among men by which they can be saved," Acts 4:12.

Others, who claim to be believers, do not even know what the Bible says.

Those who do know a little of the Word generally

know little more than the elementary truths about the Savior Yahshua,

*And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of Yahweh. For I determined not to know anything among you, save Yahshua Messiah, and Him crucified,* 1 Corinthians 2:1 - 2.

The very few who seem to know more than the elementary truths seldom understand anything beyond traditional interpretations of certain Scriptures that seem to support their doctrines.

Such people know what they believe and nothing is going to deceive them into being blown about by winds of doctrine,

*That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive,* Ephesians 4:14.

In their own eyes they are standing firmly upon the Rock and everything else is shifting sands of false doctrine.

Consequently, changes in the wording of a verse in recent translations that change the traditional understanding of the Scripture are rejected and the doctrine founded upon traditional understanding remains unchanged.

Could it be that Yahshua's statement is as applicable to such people now as it was to the Pharisees?

*In vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men,* Matthew 15:9.

Could it be that such people are among those along the path from whom the Word will be taken unless they believe truth and be saved? Considering such a possibility includes knowing how Satan removes the Word from those along the path.

There are fragments of the original writings of the prophets and the apostles in existence. However, complete copies of the New Testament dating from about 325 C.E. to about 350 C.E. do exist, as thousands of fragments of older copies no longer exist. Scholars have studied these copies and fragments along with thousands of references to and commentaries about Scriptures written by ancient rabbis and so-called early church fathers.

The consensus of the scholars is that the Scriptures we have and use are essentially the same as originally written. This is very crucial to Satan. If it could be proved that any part of the text had been

altered from the original, the credibility of Scripture would be destroyed and the Bible would no more be the Word of Yahweh than the writings of any pagan religion.

Satan has operated far more subtly than even this. Through nearly undetectable changes in Scriptures, such as the mistranslation of some key words that cause people to misunderstand the author, Satan has caused people to exchange the truth for lies and to forget the Names of Yahweh and His Son.

Satan has operated on the principle of the adage, "The biggest lie is the one that contains the most truth." Such a lie is the most deceptive and the most difficult to discover technique of Satan.

He has not literally removed Yahweh's Word. He has merely changed people's understanding of Scripture in a way that does not prompt them into really seeking truth. His technique leaves them thinking they already know the truth.

They adhere to the passage reading,

*And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free,* John 8:32.

When asked, "Freed from what?" most will answer (from Romans 8:2), "Freed from the law of sin and death." They think the Apostle Paul means that the law of the Spirit of life in Messiah Yahshua has removed them from the requirement of obedience to Yahweh's law. If this is true, then Paul contradicts himself, for he also wrote,

*You are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin [transgression of the law, 1 John 3:4] which leads to death [“For the wages of sin is death,” Romans 6:23], or of obedience, which leads to righteousness, Romans 6:16.*

Note the word "obedience" in verse 16. Eternal life results from

obedience in verse 16. Eternal life results from obedience to the law; death results from disobeying the very same law. Paul is not telling us that on one hand the believer is not required to obey Yahweh's law and that on the other hand the believer is required to obey the law. Many are confused about this.

This is only one illustration of how Satan takes away the Word. By altering people's understanding of the Word, he has caused them to misinterpret many truths, build precepts and doctrines upon erroneous interpretations, and, worst of all, fail to fulfill other requirements besides believe and be baptized to be saved.

According to Paul, a person must be sanctified by the obedience that leads to righteousness to enter into eternal life. That means that obedience to Yahweh's law is as much a requirement as belief and baptism. These are not the only requirements Yahweh's Word reveals to those who seek salvation.

The mystery of iniquity or lawlessness began working in the Garden of Eden and has never ceased.

## **The Only Name for Salvation**

Scholars have written volumes explaining how the Hebrew Tetragram YHWH was altered so as to be pronounced "Adonai" meaning "my lord," and was translated "the Lord" in English every place.

"YHWH" appeared in the Hebrew text.

Other volumes have been written attempting to prove that titles like Elohim and Mighty One are often used by the prophets as names for the Eternal of Israel. The prophets often referred to Yahweh by a title, as was just done here, but it is not true that they used titles for His Name.

The Hebrew Name Yahshua, meaning "Yah's Salvation," has

been corrupted to Joshua in English. Yahshua or its equivalent in Greek is not used in Greek New Testament manuscripts.

This is puzzling because a brother to the high priest Onias, about 175 B.C.E., supported the efforts of Antiochus IV of Syria to Hellenize the Jews. This man's Hebrew name was Yahshua, but he called himself by the Greek name Jason. If Jason in Greek is equivalent to Yahshua in Hebrew, why is Yahshua the Messiah's name changed to *Iesous* in the Greek manuscripts?

Not even learned scholars can explain why an angel of Yahweh, speaking the Hebrew dialect of Aramaic to a Galilean Jewess, would command her to name her child Jesus, a name of uncertain meaning, in a language that would be foreign to her and an abomination to her.

It is a well-known fact that nearly all Galilean Jews of her day were adamantly opposed to the infusion of anything Greek into Judaism. This had been the Jews' attitude since the time of the Maccabees and the desecration of the temple by Antiochus Epiphanes.

People who are complaisant in the belief that they are among those who hold fast to the Word should ask themselves:

- How can people call upon the only name by which Scripture says they can be saved, if they do not know the name?

- How can people call upon the only name given, if they refuse to use it?

Matthew 7:7 - 11 does not imply that Yahweh is limited to answering prayers only in Yahshua's Name, but, in Luke 11:13, we read,

*If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?*

<see **Belief** page 22>

# Actions for Life or Death

---

## Guard Your Heart

Proverbs 4:20 - 23 typifies a father making a plea to his son to adhere to his words because they are important:

*My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health [healing] to all their flesh. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.*

Verse 23 is of great importance because here we are told to guard our heart, for out of it are the source and outgoings of life, whether they be good or bad. How can others tell which they are? "For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh," Luke 6:45. Matthew 12:34 - 35 says the same thing:

*O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.*

If your heart is filled with good things, then good things will come out of your heart, manifested in the fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5: 22 - 23); while, if your heart is filled with evil things, then your actions will be as the works of the flesh (Gal. 5:19 - 21) and "they which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh,

*Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh,* Galatians 5:21.

Jeremiah 17:9 tells us of two adjectives which properly describe our heart.

*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*

The Hebrew word *bq)u\** `aqob (aw - kabe') translated as "deceitful" here, also lists the synonyms of fraudulent, crooked and polluted. The Hebrew word *vnaw\** 'anash (aw - nash') translated here as "desperately wicked" also lists synonyms of woeful, incurable and sick.

Yes, indeed, things which proceed out of the mouth, meaning come from the heart, Yahshua speaks of what those items can do to man and some are listed in Mark 7:20 - 23,

*And Yahshua said, That which cometh out of the*

*man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: all these evil things come from within, and defile the man.*

One can now appreciate the importance of Proverbs 4:23,

*Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.*

The Hebrew word *rx^n\** natsar (naw-tsar') translated as "keep" here, means, in a good sense, to guard, protect, maintain, obey, etc.

So, one is to guard their heart, for out of it comes the source and outgoings of life. A further reason of this importance can be found in each of the following four Scriptures:

*For Yahweh shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil,* Ecclesiastes 12:14.

*I Yahweh search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings,* Jeremiah 17:10.

*Who [Yahweh] will render to every man according to his deeds,* Romans 2:6.

*Be not deceived; Yahweh is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap,* Galatians 6:7.

Yes, a good tree brings forth good fruit and a corrupt tree evil fruit and we shall be judged accordingly.

## Good Versus Evil

*I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of Yahweh after the inward man: but I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members,* Romans 7:21 - 23.

In these verses, Paul warns us of the existence of two laws within each of us: the Law of the mind - used to serve Yahweh and do good, and the law of the flesh - used to serve sin and do evil. Paul also tells us of this same conflict in Galatians 5:16 - 17:

*This I say then, "Walk in the Spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would."*

We must be continually on guard against, and



watchful of, fleshly lusts because, in a moment of weakness or hesitation, Satan will be there to swallow us up.

*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour, 1 Peter 5:8.*

This is why, when we feel temptation coming on, or during difficult times, we should go to Yahweh and seek protection. This what is spoken of many times in the book of Psalms. For reminders read Ps. 9:9; 14:6; 46:1, 7, 11; 59:16 - 17; 62:6 - 8; 91:2 - 9; and 94:22.

## Refuge — A Place of Deliverance

Yahweh tells us that His children do have a place of refuge,

*In the fear of Yahweh is strong confidence: and His children shall have a place of refuge, Proverbs 14:26.*

And, He also says He will deliver the righteous ones from trouble,

*The righteous is delivered out of trouble, Proverbs 11:8.*

"He that diligently seeketh good procureth favor" (Prov. 11:27) for "a good man obtains favor of Yahweh" (Prov. 12:2) because it is his desire to do good: "the desire of the righteous is only good" (Prov. 11:23); "the thoughts (or plans) of the righteous are right (or just)" (Prov. 12:5); and "to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward" (Prov. 11:18).

## Yahweh's Favor

The word "favor," in Prov. 12:2 (see last paragraph), is an interesting one. On the outside one might believe it to mean a friendly regard for or an approving attention given, as Webster defines it. However, the Scriptures give a much more meaningful explanation of what this "favor" is, as Ps. 5:12 reads:

*For Thou, Yahweh; wilt bless the righteous: with favor; wilt Thou compass him as with a shield?*

The secret of all blessings is whether Yahweh delights in us. A careful study of the following Scriptures will show what it means when Yahweh delights in us. Deut. 10:15; 2 Sam. 22:20; 1 Kings 10:9; Ps. 18:18 - 19; Ps. 22:8; and Ps. 147:10 - 11.

Yes, Yahweh delights in those who fear Him and He promises deliverance to them. This is why Yahweh's favor is compared to a shield in Ps. 5:12. A shield is a protective device and the Hebrew word *zinnah*, translated "shield" in Ps. 5:12, is the largest possible shield which is to cover the entire body.

## Yahweh's Favors

- Yahweh is our buckler:

*Yahweh is a buckler to all those that trust in Him, Psalm 18:30b.*

- Yahweh is our defense:

*My defense is of Yahweh, Psalm 7:10a.*

- Yahweh is our shield:

*Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, Genesis 15:1b.*

*Thou art my hiding place and my shield, Psalm 119:114a.*

*Behold, O Yahweh our shield, Psalm 84:9a.*

- Yahweh shows favor to His People (everlasting life):

*For whoso findeth Me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of Yahweh, Proverbs 8:35.*

- Yahweh shows favor to His People (preservation):

*Preserve my soul; for I am holy: O Thou my Elohim, save Thy servant that trusteth in Thee, Psalm 86:2.*

- Yahweh shows favor to His People (security):

*By this I know that Thou favourest me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me, Psalm 41:11.*

- Yahweh shows favor to His People (mercy):

*For in My wrath I smote thee, but in My favour have I had mercy on thee, Isaiah 60:10.*

## Must Do Good

Yes, to obtain Yahweh's favor we must be good and do good as we are told:

*Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of Yahweh: but he that doeth evil hath not seen Yahweh, 3 John 11.*

*Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Messiah. Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Messiah, doing the will of Yahweh from the heart. With good will doing service, as to Yahweh, and not to men, knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of Yahweh, whether he be bond or free, Ephesians 6:5 - 8.*

*Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of Yahweh are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. The face of Yahweh is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth, Psalm 34:14 - 16.*

We should let our conversation, our behaviour, be good to all people, no matter who they are,

*As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith, Galatians 6:10.*

*Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. In all things showing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you, Titus 2:6 - 8.*

*But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such*

sacrifices Yahweh is well pleased, Hebrews 13:16.

By doing so, others learn of the workings of the Holy Spirit in us and we are promised glory, honor and peace for doing so,

*But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile, Romans 2:10.*

## Labor For Life

*The labour of the righteous tendeth to life: the fruit of the wicked to sin, Proverbs 10:16.*

We are to be laborers with Yahweh,

*For we are labourers together with Yahweh: ye are Yahweh's husbandry, ye are Yahweh's building, 1 Corinthians 3:9.*

We must perform the work of Yahweh and not the work of men,

*And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought. But if it be of Yahweh, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against Yahweh, Acts 5:38 - 39.*

It is true we are to be willing workers — or we should not eat,

*For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat, 2 Thessalonians 3:10.*

This can be taken to mean not only physical food but also spiritual food.

We must project our energies along the narrow (straight) way which leads to everlasting life and its riches and not along the wide (broad) way which leads to destruction, for everyone will receive his due reward,

*Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour, 1 Corinthians 3:8.*

We are told to follow after righteousness (1 Tim. 6:11) and not after wickedness for "the way of the wicked is an abomination to

Yahweh" (Proverbs 15:9) and "Yahweh is far from the wicked"(Prov. 15:29). "The root of the righteous shall not be moved" (Prov. 12:2) because his foundation is built upon a rock and not upon the earth,

*Whosoever cometh to Me, and heareth My sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: he is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great, Luke 6:47 - 49.*

To view this mini-study go to our website at [www.yaiy.org](http://www.yaiy.org) or phone 1-877-642-4101



**Mini Study**

**A Matter of Death and Life**

Do we really die when we pass away or does our soul live on in heavenly bliss while our loved ones mourn us down here on earth?

**Most of my early life** I had been bothered by a nagging question. If when we die our souls waft off to a joyful eternity in heaven, then why so much mourning at funerals?

If the popular teaching and belief is that man has an immortal soul, then why do ministers talk about "death" when administering last rites?

And if our soul lives on after we die, what's the point of a resurrection of the "dead," which the Bible speaks of?

We hear people say that good ol' Uncle Ben has died. Is Ben really dead? Or do we go to his funeral just to mourn his lifeless body, while our uncle lives on, rolling around heaven, playing his harp and testing the aerodynamics of his wings?

There he is, lounging serenely, propped up by one arm as he peeks over a cloud's edge and smiles down at those glumly carrying his corpse in a casket. Or at least that's what so many think. They want to believe that the dead aren't actually gone, we just can't see them anymore.

Let's face it. Most people don't like to talk about this subject. They're too into the present: too busy trying to get ahead, raising a family, getting a promotion, working for retirement — going for the gusto of life. The seriousness of the subject weighs heavily on the conscience, and we'd rather not be reminded of our own mortality.

The philosophy is, why worry about it? Just live a decent life, be an honest citizen, do your share, and it will all work out in the end. You'll get to heaven, they believe. But is that true?

The writer of the book of Ecclesiastes presents a very good question in chapter 1, verses 2 and 3:

*"Vanity of vanities," saith the Preacher, "vanity of vanities; all is vanity. What profit hath a man of all his labor which he taketh under the sun?"*

Yes, what profit is there in man's labor if it is done under the sun (connected with earthly things and done apart from Yahweh)? A man may increase or multiply his possessions whether they be houses, vineyards, orchards, forests, servants or gold and silver (Eccl. 2:4 - 8) but what profit is there in this type of labor? Ecclesiastes 2:11 gives the answer:

*Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labor that I had labored to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.*

Vanity means that which soon vanishes.

*Yes, I hated all my labor which I had taken (toiled) under the sun: because I should leave it unto the man that shall be after me, Ecclesiastes 2:18.*

If a man labors only for the riches of this earth there is no profit in doing it because it will be left to others to enjoy. But, if a man labors for heavenly riches, namely everlasting life, no man can take this away nor will it be left to another, for this incorruptible crown of life shall not fade away.

*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.*

*And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible, 1 Corinthians 9:25.*

*And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away, 1 Peter 5:4.*

# Dull of Hearing

---

In 2 Timothy 2:16 - 17, the Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy the following,

*All Scripture is given by inspiration of Yahweh and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness that the man of Yahweh may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

Take special note that the last part of this verse is directed toward "the MAN of YAHWEH!" In other words, this is written to those who are mature, and the Bible is for those who have grown Spiritually and not for babies. The Bible is given to us so that through it we might become perfected. There are lessons to be learned, and things to be done so that we will arrive at a higher plane of spiritual growth than when we first believed. We cannot remain babes in the Word. Stagnation will produce degeneration.

To comprehend some of the great spiritual truths in the Scriptures, it is imperative that we put into practice the lessons of the things of Yahweh. It does require a certain measure of spiritual capacity which we do not all possess in the same degree, and much of it is for want of abiding in fellowship with our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah. We are expected to grow up in Him, to experience some of the identical attitudes, goals, and desires that are His. We are to become mature in our thinking and to view the very life we are now living as He sees it. We are to look upon the fields of the world that are white and ready to harvest and see through His eyes the goal before us of taking His message to the world.

Too many people feel that once they have repented and become a convert to the Messiah, after Baptism nothing more remains for them to do. But, we read in

(1) Acts 2:38: *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 Spirit.* Thus, following baptism we will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, and

(2) 1 Thessalonians 5:19 says we are not to quench the Holy Spirit (1 Thessalonians 5:19: *Quench not the Spirit.*), but to grow in grace and knowledge (spiritual strength - Living Bible) of our Master and Savior Yahshua the Messiah, *for Messiah died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to Yahweh. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit,* 1 Peter 3:18 NIV.

There are many denominational groups today

who preach that the shed blood of our Redeemer is the power of eternal life, and rightly so! Were it not for the innocent suffering of Yahshua Messiah and the life He gave for our sins, there would be no salvation available to us. Many of the great reformers in past ages stressed this Scriptural Truth, and thus shed an entirely new light on our redemption. It is not by our own works nor is it by doing penance or through indulgences that we are promised salvation. It is through the shed blood of Yahshua and His death upon the tree that we can lay claim to life everlasting.

Were we to stop with the glorious news of the death of our Redeemer, however, we would be likened to the children of Israel who understood the striking of the blood of the innocent lamb upon the lintel and doorpost but did nothing more in obedience to Yahweh. This is indeed a glorious Truth! But we cannot muddle around in the shed blood and not go beyond that.

Just as the children of Israel could not stay in Goshen and discuss the miraculous salvation in the blood, but had to prepare for the journey out of Egypt (a type of sin), so we today must go on to perfection. We cannot forget what Yahshua has done for us, and we must be ever mindful of His innocent death for each of us, but we cannot just remain in the elementary teachings of Messiah. Hebrews 6:1 - 3 reads,

*Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Messiah, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward Yahweh, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if Yahweh permit.*

We must go on to perfection. There are things to be learned, things to be done, once we have accepted the atonement provided by Yahweh. Yet, there are many who never seem to get beyond the milk stage of spiritual food,

*For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe,* Hebrews 5:13.

The writer of Hebrews indicates that certain people who have become believers in Yahshua are still spiritual babies. They still need milk, and cannot take strong meat for they are still on the bottle.

A baby sucking on a bottle is not strong enough to do the work of a mature follower of our Savior. A baby, clutching a bottle of milk will never be able to persuade others of the reality of the Holy Spirit.



Anyone seeing a baby with a bottle of milk will certainly not stop and listen to any words of wisdom coming from an uneducated infant! Yet, verse 12 of Hebrews 5 clearly says that Yahweh expects us to GROW in the Word so that we can teach others.

*For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of Yahweh; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat, Hebrews 5:12.*

If we stay only with the milk of the Word, we will be children-believers, not knowing the way to righteousness. We are told in verse 14 that our senses are to be exercised to advance still further in the Word of righteousness.

*But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil, Hebrews 5:14.*

The more we exercise (or put into practice) the knowledge we find in the Word, the greater our spiritual growth will be. We must get to the place where we will be taking strong meat.

The expressed goal of Yahweh's ministers is to teach strong meat. Not all people are ready for it and without really trying to prove from the Bible the veracity of the Truths we teach (Acts 17:11), many immature people go right back to the milk bottle. They reject the deeper things of the Scriptures and regress to rehashing the death of the Messiah at Calvary, His love for us, His shedding of His righteous blood for the sins of the world, His coming again. All these are Bible Truths indeed, but an unbalanced view of what the Bible teaches.

It is the point of basic Truth or "milk" from which we are to go on to perfection,

*Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Messiah, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of*

*repentance from dead works, and of faith toward Yahweh, Hebrews. 6:1.*

We must grow up and mature in the FULNESS of the Messiah so that we will no more be children, blown about by every wind of doctrine that comes along, by the craftiness of men, Ephesians 4:13 - 15:

*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: that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the Truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Messiah.*

We should be able to know the teachings of the Bible and follow them, so that we will not be veering off course in our goal to follow the Head of the Assembly, Yahshua the Messiah.

## Questions Which Need Answers

Too many believers are still basically carnal in their attitudes. We read in Romans 8:7 that the carnal mind is enmity against the Law of Yahweh. How about you? Are you hostile to some of the Laws Yahweh has given us for our own good? Do you willingly obey them, or do you strive to evade them? Do you search the Bible for those verses that may show that you do not have to do something that is difficult to do, or different from the activities of the world? Do you scoff and jeer at anyone trying to walk in the footsteps of Yahshua? Do you try your best to understand the reason for some of the Laws given in the Bible? Or do you summarily reject them and go your way of disobedience toward your eventual destiny in the lake of fire?

Many people will read Peter's

great sermon given on Pentecost in which he exhorted Israel to

*Repent and be baptized everyone 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.*

A great number of newly baptized people will think that by being baptized they have fulfilled all righteousness and feel there is nothing more to do. Just as the children of Israel had to do more than apply the blood to the doorposts and lintels of their houses on that first Passover, we cannot apply the shed blood of the Messiah to our sins and feel that's all there is for us to do.

The receiving of Yahweh's Spirit upon repentance and baptism is not the end of the Spiritual walk. IT IS THE BEGINNING! From the time we are given of Yahweh's very Divine Power in the form of the Spirit, we are expected to grow in the fullness of the stature of the Messiah. We cannot remain stationary in basic infant-level thinking or activities. We are expected to grow and mature into full-grown saints. Having been given the very Spirit of Yahweh, we are urged by Yahweh to develop the talents and gifts that He has given us for the UPBUILDING of His Assembly. There is much to be done. The fields are white unto harvest, and the laborers are few.

Just as the children of Israel could not stay in Egypt, so we must leave the world of sin and strive for the higher realm of Spiritual growth. We have but to look at Israel's history after the destroying angel passed over them. There was much more yet to come besides being granted salvation from the destroying angel. There were the goods to be gathered from the Egyptians. There was the gathering together of all Israel in preparation to leave Egypt. There was yet the crossing of the Red Sea and the destruction of the Pharaoh and his ar-

mies. They were to see the Cloud and the Pillar of Fire to lead them on their journey. Miracles were stagnate around the salvation exhibited by the shedding of the Passover blood and applying it to the door post and lintel. This was but the BEGINNING of the history of Israel as a nation. The shedding of blood was but the start of a new life.

The great fulfillment of your life lies beyond the present day. Being a child of Yahweh is but the beginning. We have a work to do and we either do it, or Yahweh will raise up a people who will do it. Being immersed in the name of Yahshua is but the beginning of the spiritual growth of His people. The energy required to do the job demands strong, mature laborers in the vineyard. It cannot be done by those who are sucking on a milk bottle. The Scriptures stress that strong meat belongs to them that are of full age,

*But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age,* Hebrews 5:14a.

Continuing on with last half of the above verse, we find that "by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern good and evil." As Weymouth reads, "that is, for those who through constant practice have their spiritual facilities carefully trained." In other words, we are to practice what He has commanded us to do, and by so doing, we exercise our perception of what is correct and what is wrong. We live His laws and make them come alive. His Word becomes His Laws in action as we willingly obey Him,

*And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him,* Hebrews 5:9.

Such action is called "works." Carnal Israel could not keep the Law of Yahweh by their own power. But in this time, since Pentecost, we are expected to keep His Laws in their full spiritual intent as exemplified by the Sermon on the Mount, Matt. 5, 6, and

7. It is that remnant of seed upon whom the dragon makes war,

*And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of Yahweh, and have the testimony of Yahshua Messiah,* Revelation 12:17.

So here we have a small group of people, a remnant, who are keeping or obeying the commandments of Yahweh and having the testimony by so doing that they are indeed Yahshua's body.

Certainly, if the goal Yahweh had placed in His Assembly was to gather a large following, we could change the things we teach to make them smoother and more palatable for the babes. We could continually talk of repentance, the innocent blood of the Savior being shed for you and me. We could water down the keeping of the Law and preach a nebulous "love" instead. We could speak continually of the joy of being a believer, that we are a part of the family of Yah. We could talk incessantly of our "experience" and the love of our Heavenly Father. We could talk about sin in general, and say that we abhor it without really defining it. We could talk about being saved without really explaining what it means. But then, we would be doing nothing more than is being done in nominal churchianity, and the body of Messiah would stagnate in ignorant bliss.

A baby on the milk bottle does not understand the conversation of a mature adult. A baby is still walking around in diapers and hasn't developed his craving for strong meat. He is unable to chew strong meat. He is content with his milk bottle. Even though he may be the heir of a fortune or a kingdom, it is beyond his comprehension. He may be the rightful owner of a vast empire with huge fortunes being his. As long as he is a baby, he never will advance in understanding beyond the impotent stage. The goal of

the Assemblies of Yahweh is to prepare people to go beyond the milk of the Word into the strong meat they need to prepare them for the traumatic events at the end of the age.

There is more said in Holy Writ about the righteousness of Yahweh than about any other single subject! The divine attributes of our Heavenly Father are the sum and substance of the Scriptures. He possesses everything that is good and proper. He represents everything we should be, and yet we fail miserably. Everything we should be, HE IS! And the message of the Good News is that we can have a part in HIS attributes and goodness. We can be partakers of His Divine Nature by escaping that corruption that is in the world,

*Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust,* 2 Peter 1:4.

If we overcome the carnal nature by allowing Yahweh's Spirit to dominate our lives and minds, then we will grow to be like Him.

The crux of the messages given to the seven Assemblies in Revelation 2 and 3 is that if the people overcome and hold fast to the Truth, they will be given rulership over the nations! When Yahshua returns to this earth and establishes His rule upon this earth, those who have been faithful and diligent in their obedience to Him will be given positions and authority in His Kingdom, Rev. 2:26, 3:21. This is the same promise given to the disciples,

*And Yahshua said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of His glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel,* Matthew 19:28.

Rulership, authority, teachers ... this is what the Bible is

really about. We are told that to prepare to be judges of the fallen angels,

*Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? And if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? How much more things that pertain to this life? (1 Corinthians 6:2 - 3).*

*And the angels who kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, He hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day, Jude 6.*

The judges and magistrates of our contemporary society spend YEARS in preparation for their position. The training and learning goes on even after they are in office. The necessary understanding of the principles and precepts comes only after they have matured to the point they can comprehend their duties and apply to their life what they have learned.

If the children of this world are preparing themselves for positions by education and study, can we do any better? How can we learn the deeper things of the Scriptures; learn the Laws that will govern this earth; become proficient in discerning what is proper and what is not acceptable? The only way we can understand what is required of us in the school of life (which is really what this life is all about — a training program to learn the Law of Yahweh so that we can help others) is to live the Law of Yahweh right now so that it becomes a part of us, a part of our being, a part of our very thoughts.

How about you? Are you tired of hearing the smooth things? The ear-tickling things? Have you listened to sermons that preach repentance and forgiveness and it really moved you? Have you then listened the next day in a vain hope to hear what else you should do to attain that higher spiritual growth? And all you

heard was another plea to accept the Messiah as your personal Savior? And the next sermon was the same thing? And the next?

Yahweh's ministers teach that Yahshua died for our sins. It is He that has the words of Eternal Life. Once we have accepted His Atonement for our dirty, rotten, sinful life, and have been forgiven of those sins that are past (Rom. 3:25), then we are told to walk in His footsteps,

*For even hereunto were ye called: because Messiah also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps, 1 Peter 2:21.*

We are to deny ourselves, renounce our own desires, take up our burdens and follow Him,

*Then said Yahshua unto His disciples, If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his torture stake, and follow Me, Matthew 16:24.*

Were it not for the love bestowed by the Heavenly Father to us, we could never have any part in the grand and glorious future awaiting those who willingly follow the pattern set by Yahweh's Son.

Yahshua will once again keep the Passover in the Kingdom (Matt. 26:29, Ezek. 45:21). We learn that the Sabbath will be kept in the Kingdom (Isa. 66:23), as will the new moons. The Feast of Tabernacles will again be kept, even forced upon the disobedient (Zech. 14:16 - 19). Isaiah 2 and Malachi 4 state that the Law of Yahweh will once again go forth and rule the world. It will be up to the saints to administer that Law,

*Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom, Daniel 7:22.*

For this reason, Yahweh's ministers are to teach both from the Old and the New Testaments, so that we get the harmony of the Scriptures and a better understanding of the Spiritual meaning of Yahweh's Word. This life is a physical training ground for spiri-

tual lessons of the future age.

How about you? Are you dull of hearing the shallow things of the Scriptures? Do you desire strong meat? Do you rebel at having to keep His Sabbaths? Do you hate His Holy Days? Do you think you can call Him any name you please, even though He has said that Yahweh is His memorial — for all generations?

*And Yahweh said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, Yahweh Elohim of your fathers, the Elohim of Abraham, the Elohim of Isaac, and the Elohim of Jacob, hath sent Me unto you: this is My name for ever, and this is My memorial unto all generations, Exodus 3:15.*

Do you hunger and thirst after righteousness — His Laws? Do you search the Scriptures for instructions in living so that you might better please Him? If you are not striving for that walk in the Spiritual realm of the heavenlies, praying that His Kingdom will soon come to this earth, with its righteous Laws, judgments and statutes, then you had better stop and ask yourself if you really are one of His children. This is not a game; your eternal life is at stake.

Do you honestly feel you can demand obedience to the Laws of Yahweh in a position of rulership in the Kingdom if you hate these laws and disobey them now? How can you pass judgment upon

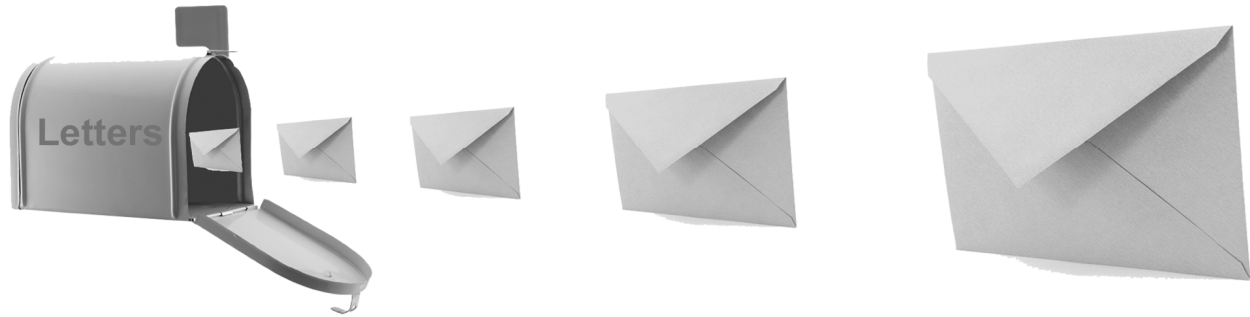
others for neglecting His Holy Feast Days when you yourself do not keep them? We will all face the Righteous Judge one day. Oh, that all of us would hear Him say,

*Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things, enter thou into the joy of thy Master, Matthew 25:21.*

---

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





I was just recently given a couple of your study guides. Please allow me to express my love to your congregation because for the first time I finally found out what I was missing — the truth. All these years attending Christian groups and Bible studies I always felt something was missing or my beliefs didn't feel right. Thank you. — **MJ, CA**

I do with all my heart appreciate all your assembly has done for me over these many years. I have learned and been guided to many, many of His truths by and through your organization. Your assembly is such a breath of fresh air and a light so very needed in a world gone astray. You have been a wonderful light to me. Thank you. — **TA, FL**

The literature you have sent me is great and I love it. It gives me great understanding and I read it over and over. Shalom Aleichem. — **MK, GA**

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the kindness you showed me, and for the great knowledge and wisdom I have gained from the organization "Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua." I will always carry-on the message to others out there who truly need it. Thank you for such fruitful teachings and continue to captivate minds out there that are thirsty for the truth.. — **US, TX**

You've been a great assistance to me through your books and pamphlets in expanding my knowledge and understanding of the Holy Scriptures.— **SW, NV**

Thank you so much for sending me study material. Halleluyah. I'm learning so much. I'm excited to receive my second lesson. The lesson was sent right on time and it answered questions I had been praying about. Thank you very much. I will be learning a lot from your ministry. — **JM, MI**

Greetings and thank you for the studies and the Beacon. I have enjoyed both the studies and the Beacon. I have so much to learn. They are so exciting to read and study. — **AH, UT**

First off, I would like to say praise Yahweh and thank you guys for those awesome studies and booklets that you offer! Not only are they a tremendous help for my journey and obedience to our King Yahshua the Messiah and the one true Elohim Yahweh, but they also are a major help when I am witnessing to others and bringing people closer to YHWH. — **TS, MI**

I want to thank you for all the literature that you send. They are a big help in my study of Yahweh's Word. I want to say that your ministry has been a blessing. — **TW, PA**

I received your Beacon and must say the articles are great. I am trying to learn how to better my walk in Yahshua. — **TB, NV**

Please accept my tithe. Please use it for spreading the truth of Yahweh and His Son Yahshua—**JS, WA**

Greetings. May Yahweh and Yahshua continue to grant you and your ministry shalom, grace and abundance. I write to thank you for your magazine "YAIY Beacon." So far they are very informative with helping me to better understand the Torah. I have become a very diligent and zealous disciple and wish to follow His commandments given in the Torah. I thank you for your time and resources in helping those like myself. — **BF, FL**

I would like to start off by saying thank you for everything that you're doing. You have been a true blessing to me and many others. I love the Bible Study Course and enjoy the Beacon magazine. It is super informative and nice to finally read something with the restored names of our Heavenly Father and His Son. — **KF, GA**

Grace and peace to you in the name of Yahshua ha Messiah. Thank you for responding to my letter. The literature you provide is a blessing to myself as well as others incarcerated here at SCI Fayette. We are a small group, but we are zealous and intent on winning hearts with the truth. — **RC, PA**

I write for several reasons. The first, and most important, is to convey my gratitude for the work you and others have put into your online video offerings, both on YouTube and the Bible Correspondence Course. Thank you. — **JC, MD**

I pray all things are well at your assembly and in your personal life. Here in prison, those who turn to look for a spiritual awakening go right to Protestantism or Catholicism. It is amazing how people will not allow their beliefs to be challenged. I do appreciate the way your ministry provides Bible studies and various literature. With your pamphlets I can pass along something as well with my effort to assist spiritual maturity. — **KH, CA**

Thank you for the literature received from you. The Word of Yah is really coming alive for me now that I can tell I'm learning sound doctrine. Be encouraged knowing that Yahweh is using your ministry to shine light in the darkness. — **RC, PA**

Pleasant greetings in Yahshua. How are you at YAIY? I trust, hope and pray that all is well. I received a couple of your booklets several months ago which were very inspiring to me. — **TW, FL**

Blessings to you in the name of Yahweh. I am writing to request the Beacon magazine, YAIY Newsletter, Scripture Correspondence Course, and any literature to help me in my Spiritual growth. I have been in the faith for about three months and no longer wish to participate in anything pagan. I want to learn the truth about what Yahweh gave to the world. — **SH, OH**

May Yahweh bless you and keep you in Yahshua. Thank you for placing me on your Bible Correspondence Course for believers. The moment I received it I quickly got out my Bible and began to look up Scripture and as I read I understand so much more. — **PB, PA**

I am a follower and believer of Yahweh and Yahshua the Messiah. I am writing this letter to thank your assembly for aiding me and providing me with the appropriate materials to conduct Bible studies. Your assembly has made a tremendous impact on my life. You guys have been so much help in helping me seek the truth and stop using the false deities. — **KW, FL**

---

<from **Belief** page 13>

## Requirements for Salvation

We know from Acts 2:38 that the Holy Spirit is given to those who repent and are baptized in Yahshua's Name. Acts 5:32 tells us the Holy Spirit is given to those who obey Him.

It should be understood from these considerations that the Holy Spirit is not given except to those who fulfill the requirements for salvation, even if Yahweh does answer prayers other than prayers in Yahshua's Name.

Something to really think about is Romans 8:9,

*Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Messiah does not belong to Him.*

The Bible reveals five requirements for salvation that must be fulfilled to be saved:

- Believe — that Yahshua is the Messiah, the Son of Yahweh, and that He was resurrected from

the dead.

- Repent — feel total remorse for past sins and make a complete turnaround in one's conduct.

- Be baptized — baptism must be in Yahshua's Name.

- Obey — transgression of the law is sin; obedience leads to righteousness.

- Call on the Name — pray in Yahshua's Name.

The idea of obedience to the law has been a real bugbear to believers in the doctrine of justification by faith alone. Much of the writings of the Apostle Paul has been twisted to supposedly support this doctrine, in spite of the fact that James flatly contradicts it by saying justification is not by faith alone.

*You see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only, James 2:24.*

We are admonished in 1 John 5:3 that Yahweh's commandments are not burdensome.

Satan has caused people to

fail to understand that all Yahweh's commandments, even the Ten Commandments, are law and that all His laws are commandments to be obeyed with Yahweh's grace. Grace is the influence of Yahweh's Holy Spirit. That influence is what enables one to obey the law.

Our prayer is that reading about these requirements for salvation will stimulate your study of the Scriptures. We will gladly help anyone who desires Bible understanding.

Our lives are always influenced — sometimes even forced — by others. Beliefs, feelings, emotions, and attitudes are an individual's own choices. Satan does influence people into making wrong choices, but Yahweh's Holy Spirit will show a person the path to choose.

Saints can help in understanding, but they can only pray that a person will choose life.

---

**Elder Ralph Henrie (deceased)**



# Revealing the Truth

Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua's television program is on the air in the cities listed below. Visit [www.yaiy.org](http://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, 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

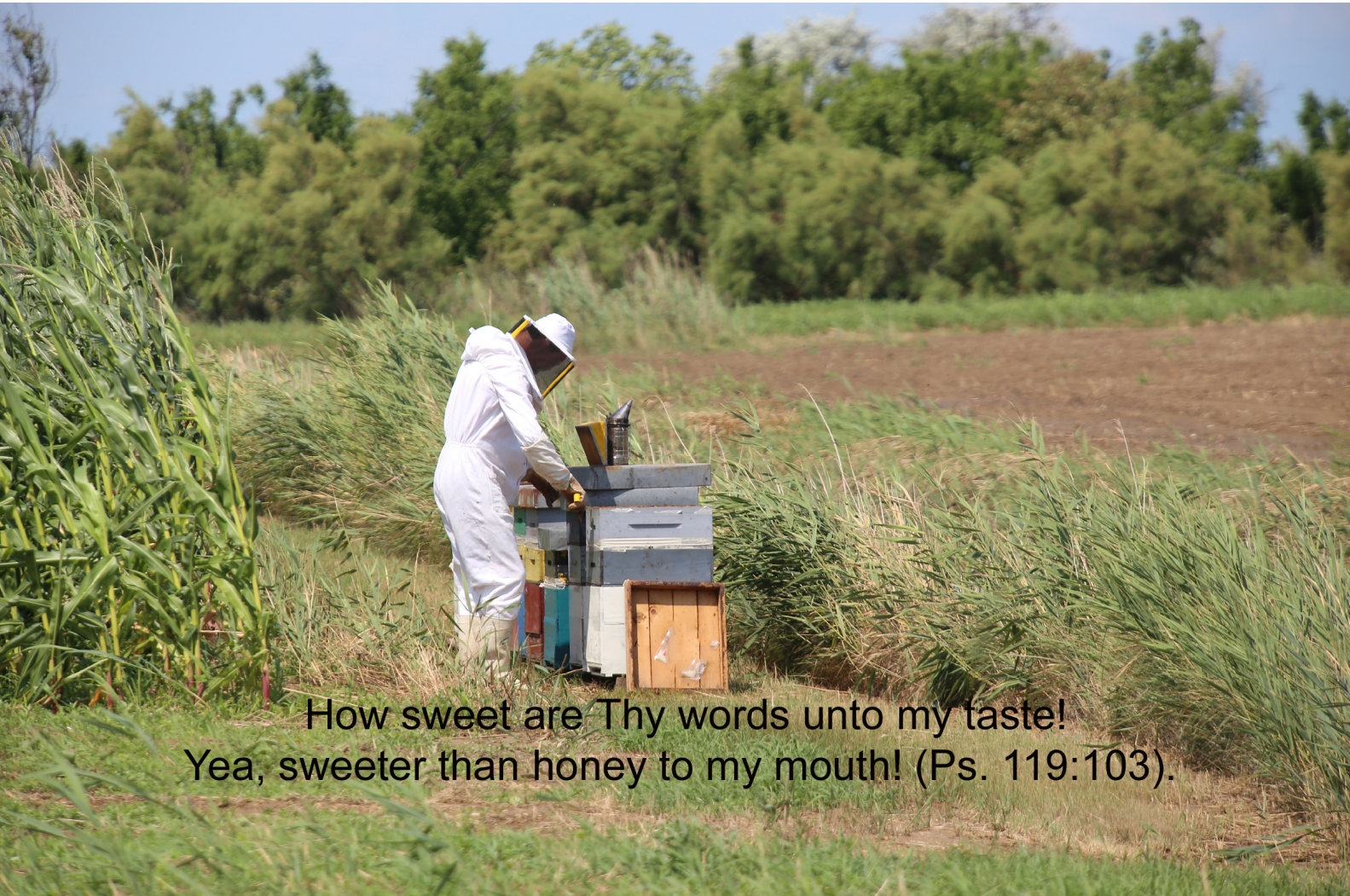


**YAHWEH'S ASSEMBLY IN  
YAHSHUA  
2963 CO. RD. 233  
KINGDOM CITY, MO 65262**

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!

---



How sweet are Thy words unto my taste!  
Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! (Ps. 119:103).