

# YAIY NEWS



## Engagements are Serious

When single couples date, it should be a date with the possible prospect of marriage in mind. Then eventually comes an engagement and future plans.

Engagements appear to have been more serious in the first century than for many in today's society. We see this with Joseph and Mary before they were officially married.

*Now the birth of Yahshua Messiah was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of Yahweh appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His Name Yahshua, for He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:18-21 (New American Standard used throughout).*

To quote out of the *The New American Commentary* concerning these verses, it says, "Engagement in ancient Judaism was legally binding and required divorce if it were to be broken, but sexual relations and living together under one roof were not permitted until after the marriage ceremony. Joseph could therefore be spoken of already as Mary's husband, but Matthew emphasizes this was 'before they came together.'"



A precedence for this is found in Genesis 19:8, 12, 14-15 which says Lot had two sons-in-law for his two virgin daughters. They had not yet married, but were considered engaged and bound to be married.

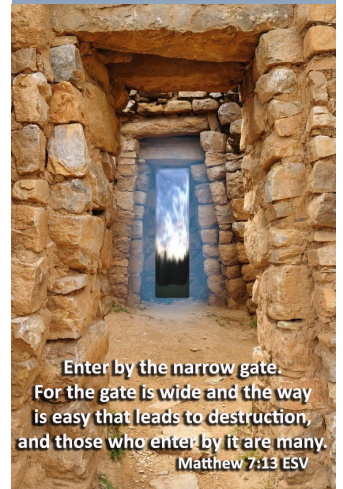
### Spiritual Application

We can also consider one's life in Messiah as one of being betrothed, like an engagement, to our Master and Savior.

*Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready. It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are*

Nevertheless,  
to avoid fornication,  
let every man have his  
own wife, and let  
every woman have  
her own husband.

1 Corinthians 7:2 KJV



Enter by the narrow gate.  
For the gate is wide and the way  
is easy that leads to destruction,  
and those who enter by it are many.  
Matthew 7:13 ESV

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## Engagements are Serious, ...cont.

*invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’ ” And he said to me, “These are true words of Elohim,” Revelation 19:7-9.*

If we are faithful, when the Messiah returns, we will be the bride who comes out to meet Him and afterward be fully married at the marriage celebration and feast.

The bride, we see, prepares herself first, just as the Husband does by preparing a place for the wife to dwell.

In John 14:1-4, Yahshua the Messiah says to His disciples, *“Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in Elohim, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way where I am going.”*

In all of this, we see a spiritual relationship one that will need to be nurtured and helped along the way, just as couples dedicating their lives to one another will need nurturing and help from each other in their life journey together.

A couple will want to both keep our Heavenly Father, Yahweh and His Son, Yahshua in the forefronts of their minds and hearts as they move forward.



## In Conclusion

It goes without saying, a couple making a commitment (engagement and/or marriage) will want to continue to love and accept one another. There will be highs and lows in life, but together they can face them all in true love.

*For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now may the El who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Messiah Yahshua, so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the Elohim and Father of our Master Yahshua Messiah. Therefore, accept one another, just as Messiah also accepted us to the glory of Elohim, Romans 15:4-7.*

By Elder David Brett

## What is a Saint?

A little girl wondered what a saint might be. One day, her mother took her to a great cathedral to see the gorgeous stained-glass windows with scenes from the Bible.

When she saw the beauty of it all, she cried out loud. “Now I know what saints are. They are people who let the light shine through.”

And, may we add yet another credential to what constitutes sainthood: They should quite disdain ‘portraits’ of them captured by gorgeous stained-glass windows ... instead, as the Master Whom they serve, made themselves of no reputation, taking upon themselves the form of a servant and become obedient daily, unto the death of their selves regarding these things, as but whole duty and reasonable service!

Whole duty and reasonable service, we say ... saints letting their light so shine before men, their good works seen by others — so that little girls need not to wonder what a saint might be — and have reason to glorify their Father which is in Heaven, and all without the accouterments of a great cathedral and stained-glass windows with scenes from the Bible.



By Elder John W. Reece

## Question and Answer

**Q:** While most Bible scholars tend to agree that the fig tree mentioned by Yahshua in Matt 24:32 is the restored nation of Israel, there is no agreement on what constitutes the generation referred to in verse 34. Over the years, I have read/heard different interpretations, namely: those of Yahshua's time who witnessed the destruction of the second temple; 40 years or 70 years or 100 years etc., from Israel's restoration on May 14, 1948.

I am also thinking aloud here, that Yahshua could possibly mean that those who were alive at the time of Israel's restoration will not all die before He returns. What's our position on this passage?

**A:** We generally concur with the common understanding of a generation. It is true that some live to be 100 today, but Scripture shows most will only live to 70-80 years old.

A deeper understanding might be gleaned by looking at the Aramaic. In verse 34 it shows the word "*sharbata*," which translated, means "tribe." In *Ryrie's Study Bible*, he says that the Greek can mean "race" or "family."

The latter sense would be that the nation of Judah would be preserved and not come to an end before His return. This is good to know since Russia, Turkey, and Iran just met together, along with Iran now saying they have enough nuclear material to make a bomb. The Matthew 24:32 passage may just be letting us know that Judah will not be eliminated as many Muslims would like to see at the end of the age.

## Ask for Wisdom

G-d, grant me the serenity to accept the  
things that I cannot change, courage to  
the change the things I can, and the  
wisdom to know the difference

*Karl Paul Reinhold Niebuhr, Wright City, Missouri*

wisdom · understanding · discernment · prudence · discretion

A five-star prayer, needing more practice and less quoting on a *Hallmark* or *American Greeting Card*.

Sadly, most men lack that foundation which undergirds serenity (tranquility, calm): wisdom ... and for that reason, experience difficulties from which they struggle to extricate themselves.

Quite, ought men pray another prayer, as it is written:

*If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of Elohim, that giveth to all [men] liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Sovereign. A double minded man [is] unstable in all his ways,* James 1:5-8.

Finally, a wise and prudent man, by reason of exercising discernment,

- ponders the path of his feet, (Prov. 4:26);
- looks well to his going, (Prov. 14:15);
- foresees trouble and hides himself, (Prov. 22:3);
- guides his affairs with discretion, (Psa. 112:5);
- walks circumspectly, not as a fool but as wise, (Eph. 5:15).





## Your Faithfulness!



## YAIY NEWS

### Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua

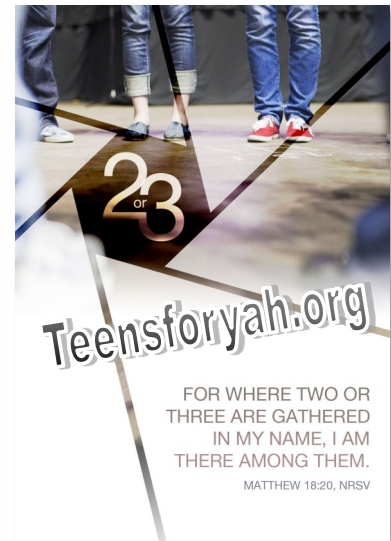
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## Prayer List

David & Barbara Creel, Robert Dorchester, Stella Rogers, Sean Rogers and Family, Loretta Reyes and Family, Michael Hutchinson, Chauncey Hargrove, David & Nancy Wilson Family/Friends, Jerry Castle, Mary Giles Family, Kenneth Faulkner, Quinnten Allen, Kat Durban, Isaiah Davis, Dulcena Tessner, Marylyn Patterson Family, David Andrews, Kenya Washington, Elder Lionel Gets Family, Joseph Miller, Adam Galvan Family, Neville & Maryke Stanton, Antionette Swart, Bertha Tidwell, Annette Heyward, Tammy Boucher, Magdalena M. Torres, Angela Bradley, Luann Campbell Family, Dwayne Mariam, Randell Serfess, Sonja Morgan, Dianne E. Wright Family, Victor Kiiru Family, Maria Nelson Family, Hilda Driedger, David Nathaniel Malm, Susana Malm, Mike and Sheila Kemper, Susan Freeman, Paul Ingram, Elder Cornelius Kigen, Ruth Bamba, Charlie Pelton, Eric Perkins Family, Marcy Mallinson, Monica Kleb, James Penn Family, Elder Jerry Healan Family, Sheila Sendeyo, NyHuff/Thompson family, Ronald Tidwell, Eugene and Rockie Family, Robert Creech, Emma Moss, Diane Crocker, Valerie Freeman, Lucas Bentley.

Also include in your prayers individuals seeking Yahweh from within prison facilities and for their families, plus overseas brethren and especially for the peace of Jerusalem (Psa. 122:6). The world's leaders could also use our prayers (Jer. 29:7; 1 Tim. 2:2).

*And give Him no rest, till He establish, till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth, Isaiah 62:7.*

