

YAIY BEACON

OCT. - DEC. 2025 - SPREADING THE WORD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD - YAIY.ORG



Angels
Adopted as Sons and Daughters
What Do You Think?
Free Will; Gift or Curse?

INTRODUCTION

Churchianity in general has not been faithful in following the Bible. Surprisingly, many of today's popular teachings and customs are not based in Scripture. We strive to return to the old paths of truth that have largely been ignored, and obediently follow in the footsteps of the Redeemer of Israel, Jude 3.

We observe the weekly Sabbath (on the seventh day) known as Saturday, just as did the Savior, Luke 4:16, as well as Paul and the Apostles, Acts 13:42-46; 17:2; 18:4.

We also call our Heavenly Father by His revealed, personal Name Yahweh, which He says is His memorial Name forever, Exodus 3:15. Most pastors, Bible scholars, and seminary students will acknowledge that Yahweh is the correct Name of the Heavenly Father. The short form of His Name, Yah, can be seen in many words, including the most popular hallelujah ("halleluYAH," meaning, "praise you Yah"). It is also found in the suffix of Biblical names like IsaYAH, (Isaiah), JeremYAH (Jeremiah), NehemYAH (Nehemiah), and ObadYAH (Obadiah).

Our membership comes from nearly all denominations and all walks of life. Most began searching for deeper truth when they learned that their former affiliation was teaching another Evangel from what they found in Scripture. We continue to search the Bible for deeper understanding. We believe that the Bible teaches a way of life through the commandments in the Old Testament and from the same example of obedience given us by our Savior in the New Testament.

- 2 - Introduction
- 3 - Angels
- 10 - Adopted as Sons and Daughters
- 15 - What Do You Think?
- 18 - Free Will, Gift or Curse?
- 24 - Related Scripture Verses
- 25 - Questions & Answers

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 salvational truths that have been neglected for centuries.

YAIY BEACON magazine, is published quarterly by Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua.

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.

© 2025 Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua
All rights reserved.

CONTACT US

MAIL: YAIY
2963 County Road 233
Kingdom City, MO 65262
PHONE: 1-573-642-4100
FREE : 1-877-642-4101
EMAIL: beacon@yaiy.org
WEB: www.yaiy.org

Join us for live streaming of
Sabbath Services @1:30 pm CT





Angels

The study of angels is intriguing. In this discourse, we will explore several characteristics of these spirit-beings.

Notably, angels and the human species share the same responsibility of submitting to, and fulfilling their Creator's will and failure to do so, will result in the same consequences that befell the fallen angels whose end we'll consider, as well as their beginning.

You alone are Yahweh. You have made the heavens, the heaven of heavens with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to all of them, and the heavenly host bows down before You, Nehemiah 9:6. (The **New American Standard Bible**, 1995 edition, is used throughout unless otherwise noted.)

Yahweh Created a Devil?

The heavenly hosts consist of innumerable (Job 25:3; Heb. 12:22) angelic beings, one-third of which went with Satan (Rev. 12:4). Satan is known as a covering (anointed) cherub, having his place upon the holy mountain of Elohim (Ezek. 28:14), similar to that which is found on the mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant (Exod. 25:18-22).

Of him, it was written, *You were the anointed cherub who covers, and I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of Elohim; you walked in the midst of the stones of fire. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until unrighteousness was found in you,* Ezekiel 28:14-15.

This cherub angel was adorned beautifully (Ezek. 28:13, 17), having responsibility of leading the chorale of the heavenly hosts before Yahweh's throne. However, this "shining one" (Latin: *Lucifer*) chose to go against Yahweh, demonstrating that angels, like men, possess free will and who are encouraged to choose life (Deut. 30:19) by keeping Yahweh's commandments, ordinances, and statutes.

Devil means adversary, and once this cherub turned from Yahweh doing his own will, he then became an adversary. Some will say Yahweh created evil and cite the following Scripture:

I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I Yahweh do all these things, Isaiah 45:7, **KJV**.

However, the word "evil" has more the connotation of Yahweh causing destruction, to crush, or to break, which Yahweh shall accomplish when the adversary and his angels are cast into the lake of fire. Darkness is the absence of light. To "create darkness" is a Hebrew idiomatic expression, and is understood as evil existing in the absence of good. With this in mind, we can appreciate that Satan is at variance with, and at enmity against, Yahweh.

Of a truth then, they whose "father" is the devil, will do as the devil does (John 8:44).

Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness. You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin. No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him. Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of Elohim appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. No one who is born of Elohim practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot (go on living in) sin, because he is born of Elohim, 1 John 3:4-9.

The Evil One

Besides titles like “Satan” and “the devil,” we also read the term “the evil one” as a descriptive cognomen. The Apostle Paul, in 2 Thessalonians 3:1-3 says, *Finally, brethren, pray for us that the Word of Yahweh will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you; and that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith. But the Master is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.*

In Yahshua’s explanation in the parable of the seed and sower, it is **the evil one** which takes away what is given.

When anyone hears the Word of the Kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road, Matthew 13:19.

Misusing Scripture

Being evil, Satan often takes Scripture out of context, as he did with Yahshua. Each time, Yahshua refutes what this adversary says by replying with the appropriate authority of Scripture. It is noteworthy, too, that in this dialog which Satan has with Yahshua, never once does he use Yahweh’s Name, but the Savior does in each of his replies. Following is one example:

Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “If You are the Son of Elohim, throw Yourself

down; for it is written, ‘HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU’; and ‘ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.’” Yahshua said to him, “On the other hand, it is written, ‘YOU SHALL NOT PUT YAHWEH YOUR ELOHIM TO THE TEST,’” Matthew 4:5-7.

Satan’s angels, also called demons, distort Yahweh’s Word, that is corrupting, or handling It deceitfully. It is written that at the end of the age, doctrines of demons will prompt men to fall away from the faith.

But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, 1 Timothy 4:1.

We read of false ministers and deceitful workers.

For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Messiah. No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds, 2 Corinthians 11:13-15.

Notice, their end is not about their estate of faith or belief, but is determined by their deeds. Since the Word of Yahweh clearly details what kind of behavior is good and acceptable to Yahweh, it will be easy to discern and judge how right or wrong one’s deeds were. For, *A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits, Matthew 7:18-20.*

One’s teachings are the foremost indicator of whether he is speaking the truth and provide evidence of which spirit he is following. They will either speak truth or they’ll tell lies (John 8:44; 1 John 4:5-5).

Isaiah writes, *To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this Word, it is because they have no dawn* (“because there is no Light in them,” **KJV**), Isaiah 8:20. The opposite of light is darkness; the opposite of Yahweh is Satan; the opposite of obedience is disobedience.

Regrettably, deception will worsen toward the end of the age as an evil spirit produces lying signs and wonders which will influence many people.



For false Messiahs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. Behold, I have told you in advance, Matthew 24:24-25. (See also, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12.)

Even now, the deception is alarming, with many going astray and failing to teach sound doctrines.

- *But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, 1 Timothy 4:1-2.*
- *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bring swift destruction upon themselves. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned, 2 Peter 2:1-2.*

Righteousness in the Kingdom

Though the entire world is in such chaos right now, we are confident that the confusion attributable to men continuing in sin will come to an end with righteousness ushered in, and prevailing, too, in the coming Kingdom of Yahweh.

Now it will come about that in the last days the mountain of the house of Yahweh will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it. And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the Elohim of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways and that we may walk in His paths." For the Law will go forth from Zion and the Word of Yahweh from Jerusalem. And He will judge between the nations, and will render decisions for many peoples; and they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they learn war. Come, house of Jacob, and let us walk in the light of Yahweh, Isaiah 2:2-5. (See also Zechariah 14:16-19 and Isaiah 66:23.)

The angels of Yahweh will remove evildoers from the world before the establishment of the Kingdom.

Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him and said, "Explain

to us the parable of the tares of the field." And He said, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, and the field is the world; and as for the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His Kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SHINE FORTH AS THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear", Matthew 13:36-43.

Not only are the wicked removed, but Satan himself is also ... ultimately cast into the lake of fire, marking the end of his existence (Rev. 19:19, 20:15; Matt. 25:41). (Read our free mini studies, *Is the Rapture Biblical?* and *Is the Kingdom Here Now?*)

Classes of Angels

Presently, we shall discuss the different classes of angels. We know of archangels, seraphim, and cherubim, which are expressly named in Scripture. As mentioned in Daniel, there are also unnamed ones, referred to as princes, who have been placed over kingdoms, such as Persia and Greece. An archangel, such as Michael, is also noted as one of the chief princes among Yahweh's angels. Here, we find another angel communicating with Daniel and speaking of this angel of Persia who is resisting him.

But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was withstanding me for twenty-one days; then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia. ... Then he said, "Do you understand why I came to you? But I shall now return to fight against the prince of Persia; so I am going forth, and behold, the prince of Greece is about to come. However, I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth. Yet there is no one who stands firmly with me against these forces except Michael your prince," Daniel 10:9, 20-21.

Paul in his letter to the Ephesians confirms that in a spiritual context, we don't strive against flesh and blood but against these principalities and powers; against the rulers of the darkness of this world; against spiritual wickedness in the heavenly

places (Eph. 6:12).

In Colossians we read concerning the preeminence of the Messiah over the created order, *For by Him (Yahshua) were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be **thrones**, or **dominions**, or **principalities**, or **powers**: all things were created by Him, and for Him: And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist*, Colossians 1:16-17 ... and **these** are understood to be ranks or classes of spirit-beings, though the specificity of their purposes or ministries is not generally understood.

Michael the Archangel

Of Michael, we read of Michael at the end of the age, standing guard over Yahweh's people:

Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued, Daniel 12:1.

Some allege that Michael, "who is like El," refers to Yahshua. However, during this time alluded to in Daniel, chapter 12, Yahshua to Whom all judgment has been entrusted (John 5:24-27) is pouring out the wrath of Yahweh upon the world. It is the Lamb in Revelation, chapter six, Who is breaking the seals of the four horsemen of the apocalypse, not the archangel Michael.

And they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of Their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?" Revelation 6:16-17.

Truly, Michael as warrior and a sort of commander and a chief of princes over the host of heaven, figures in Revelation 12:7-9: *And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war, and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.*

Nevertheless, though Michael may be regarded as one of the chief princes of Yahweh's hosts, he is not said to be the Chief Prince – a Title reserved for Yahshua Himself.

Gabriel

Gabriel, "mighty like El," serves as a spokesman for Yahweh. The little horn in Daniel is being described in a vision to Daniel, and a spirit-being (perhaps, the pre-existent Yahshua? ... see Daniel 7:13) who looks like a man calls on Gabriel to tell Daniel what the vision means.

When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it; and behold, standing before me was one who looked like a man. And I heard the voice of a man between the banks of Ulai, and he called out and said, "Gabriel, give this man an understanding of the vision." So he came near to where I was standing, and when he came I was frightened and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Son of man, understand that the vision pertains to the time of the end," Daniel 8:15-17.

If, however, this first spirit-being may be thought himself, to be an angel, a thought arises as to why he assuming the appearance of a man simply doesn't tell Daniel what the vision means. Could it be, that he didn't himself know, as we are given to understand by Scripture, that some things of the economies of Almighty Yahweh are withheld from angels as, for example, the matter of this grace of Yahweh through the person of Messiah which even angels desire to inquire (1 Pet. 1:12). We may assume that those angels closer to Yahweh in rank might know more than others.

Gabriel appeared to Zacharias, as he was performing his Levitical orders, and announced that his wife Elisabeth, in her old age, should bear a child.

And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of Elohim; and I have been sent to speak to you, and to bring you this good news ... "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," Luke 1:19, 13-14.

Gabriel was also dispatched to Nazareth, and to a Hebrew maiden (Mary) to announce to her that she should bring forth a Son and call His Name, Yahshua.

Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from Elohim to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! Yahweh is with you." But she was very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering

what kind of salutation this was. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with Elohim. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Yahshua. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and Yahweh Elohim will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and His kingdom will have no end," Luke 1:26-33.

Talk about extraordinary news to bear and to hear! Many exalt her today, but it becomes similar to worshiping angels, which is forbidden (Deut. 4:19; Rev. 19:10, 22:8-9).

Winged Angels

The Scriptures present cherubim as having wings, and because so many cultures have, and yet do, venerate winged serpents and dragons. Thus, the reason Yahweh gave commandment, "You shall have no other elohim (mighty ones) before Me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, am Yahweh your Elohim, and a jealous El ..." (Exod. 20:3-5a).

Moreover, Yahweh forbade His people Israel to whom pertained the covenants of promise from looking to the hosts of heaven – the sun, the moon, the stars, planetary bodies – and, perhaps by extension, even spirit-beings which we know from Scripture may exercise mobility up and down, and to and fro, from the heavens to the earth (Job 1:7; 1 Pet. 5:8).

Satan, as we've already seen, was, before his fall, an "anointed" cherub. The iniquity that was found in him was that he, and likely his demons as well, desired worship (Ezek. 28:15; Isa. 14:13-1). He even thought he might entice Yahshua by presenting to Him, all the kingdoms of the world and their glory and suggesting these were his to give, if the Messiah would fall down and worship him (Matt. 4:9).

And with such sleight and cunning, he and his minions have drawn many away from according worship to Yahweh, making that which is forbidden – the deceitfulness of riches and the coveting of things – to appear, good, pleasant, and desired (Mark 4:19).

And Scripture reveals that while angels appear to men as having lifeforms of men, some are manifested having wings. These are of that class of seraphim and cherubim. We read, for example, of cherubim stationed in Eden with a flaming sword

which turned every direction to guard the tree of life, lest the fallen man should eat of its fruit and live forever (Gen. 3:22-24).

In Ezekiel, we read of winged cherubim, beings manifesting human and even animal physical features (Ezek. 1:4-21).

Isaiah, at the time of his appointment, saw in a vision, the Holy One "sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is Yahweh of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory." And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke. Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, Yahweh of hosts." Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth with it and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven" (Isa. 6:1-7).

Similarly, these are also described in Revelation as living creatures at the throne of Yahweh.

And before the throne there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal; and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind. The first creature was like a lion, and the second creature like a calf, and the third creature had a face like that of a man, and the fourth creature was like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY IS YAHWEH ELOHIM, THE ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS AND WHO IS AND WHO IS TO COME." And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, Revelation 4:6-9.

Obedience: The Connection with Angels

Bless Yahweh, you His angels, mighty in strength, who perform His Word, obeying the voice of His Word! Bless Yahweh, all you His hosts, you who serve Him, doing His will, Psalm 103:20-21.

And in the model prayer, example of what constitutes acceptable prayer is given – *Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven,* Matthew 6:10.

We said at the beginning that angels have the same responsibilities as we, regarding attitudes and conduct toward the Creator and of submitting to, and fulfilling the Creator's will

Maybe, this shared obligation is reason back of Yahshua saying, *I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance*, Luke 15:7

We, who are obedient on earth, have a strong connection with these spirit-beings by the Spirit of Yahweh.

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living Elohim, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to Elohim, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Yahshua, the Mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel, Hebrews 12:22-24.

Angels Serve and Protect

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation? Hebrews 1:14.

For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways. They will bear you up in their hands, that you do not strike your foot against a stone, Psalm 91:11-12.

Yahweh loves His people, and when their ways are pleasing in His sight, He takes care of their needs.

Daniel was dispatched to the lions' den where there, it was expected by his adversaries that he should be slain. But his confidence that Yahweh was able to deliver him, by shutting the mouths of the lions served as a witness to Nebuchadnezzar of the omnipotence of the Creator Who is not limited by the creatures which He has made.

Then Daniel spoke to the king, "O king, live forever! My Elohim sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths and they have not harmed me, inasmuch as I was found innocent before Him; and also toward you, O king, I have committed no crime," Daniel 6:21-22.

Thus, it is imperative, too, that we are found innocent, having committed no crime ... and especially, against children. In one place, Yahshua rebuked His disciples who would have precluded Him from blessing these little ones, and declared to them, "for of such is the kingdom of Elohim" (Mark 10:14) and that except one should receive

the kingdom of Elohim as a little child – innocent, having committed no crime – he could not enter therein (Mark. 10:15).

In another place, and on another occasion, when asked by them who would be the greatest in the kingdom, Yahshua took a little child and asserted that he who would humble himself as a little child, would also be the greatest in the kingdom (Matt. 18:4) saying, furthermore, *See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven*, Matthew 18:10.

Indeed, though we are adults, yet are we in relationship with Him, but children – a truth not lost on His disciples, seeing that He was but addressing their ambitions and the rivalry among themselves, who should be the greatest in the kingdom (Matt. 18:1).

The Angel of Yahweh

Angels, as we have seen, function as messengers. There is One, however, Who is above them, and Who is the Principal Messenger of Yahweh. Of all the angels, Yahshua has the preeminence. From the Book of Hebrews, we read:

For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You?" And again: "I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son?" But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of Elohim worship Him." And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire." But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O Elohim, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore Elohim, Your Elohim, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions." And: "You, Yahweh, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail." But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Hebrews 1:5-14, **NKJV**.

Nevertheless, even though Yahshua is the Principal Messenger, He never presumed to speak of Himself, declaring rather,

“I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me ... My teaching is not Mine, but His Who sent Me. If any man is willing to do His will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it be of Elohim, or whether I speak from Myself. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory ... the things which I heard from Him (Yahweh), these I speak to the world ... I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me” (John 5:30, 7:16-18, 8:26, 28).

Yahshua’s humility and obedience is worthy of emulation. The Apostle Paul writing to the Assembly at Philippi made this observation:

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Messiah Yahshua, Who, although He existed in the form of Elohim, did not regard equality with Elohim a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a torture stake. For this reason also, Elohim highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the Name which is above every name, so that at the Name of Yahshua EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Yahshua Messiah is Master, to the glory of Elohim the Father, Philippians 2:5-11.

The creation of all things is accredited to Yahweh – Yahweh, Who may be thought as the Draftsman, and His Son, Who is the Firstborn of all creation, become the Craftsman, as illustrated in the following passage:

He (Yahshua) is the image of the invisible Elohim, the Firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together, Colossians 1:15-17.

This is a clear statement, supported further by the evangelist, John:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim. He was in the beginning with Elohim. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being, John 1:1-3.

We may appreciate then, that Yahshua, come in the power of Yahweh’s Spirit and as a Messenger

sent by Yahweh and Ambassador for Yahweh, had full authority to speak and act on Yahweh’s behalf – very much like an emissary who bears his king’s signet ring, to seal covenants and to execute the king’s will.

Many times, throughout the Scriptures we find Yahshua, **the** Angel of Yahweh at work. Even in the Old Testament, the “preincarnate” Messiah is at work, speaking and doing the Father’s will. (To discover eye-opening revelations of the “preincarnate” Messiah, request our free In-Depth booklet entitled, ***Did Yahshua Pre-Exist?***)

Conclusion

With all this discussion about angels, there are yet two more points we wish to make in conclusion.

In seeking to resolve an issue concerning brethren initiating civil litigation against them of their own fraternity, Paul poses a number of questions of his Corinthian constituency. He asks,

Do you not know the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts?

Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, matters of this life? 1 Corinthians 6:2-3. (emphasis, ours)

For sure, Satan dislikes our understanding of his fate and that of his disciples which should serve as a cautionary tale: for beings, unrepentant and disobedient, their outcome is assured.

So, what about those of whom the Apostle Peter alludes in 2 Peter 2:4, *For if Elohim did not spare angels when they sinned but cast them into Tartarus and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment? Are these they, of whom it is written in the Book of Jude,*

And the angels which 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 1:6. KJV.

Are these of whom Paul spoke, “Do you not know that we will judge angels?” (1 Cor. 6:3). Are these they who went with Satan and who, may have had second thoughts afterward? For if we can be forgiven, then could fallen angels not be forgiven if they repented immediately after sinning against Yahweh? It may be.

In the meantime, while we await that great and notable day, remember there are angels around and about – both good, and evil. Let’s do good ourselves and, by doing so, receive the blessings promised.

- Elder David Brett

Adopted as Sons and Daughters



When we think of who the children of Yahweh are, we may consider ourselves as they, having been redeemed from the world. Indeed, we were purchased with the price of Yahshua's innocent blood; grafted into the family of Yahweh through His Son, Yahshua; sealed by the Holy Spirit; and become co-heirs with the Son of Yahweh to physical and spiritual promises. But others are also being called to become sons and daughters of the Most High – an exceedingly great opportunity which is not well understood or appreciated by most people today.

Many Sons of the Father

Others past, are denoted as sons of Yahweh. In 1 Chronicles 28:5-7, King David acknowledges his son Solomon, and his successor to the throne, as a son of the Father.

Of all my sons (for Yahweh has given me many sons), He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of Yahweh over Israel. He said to me, "Your son Solomon is the one who shall build My house and My courts; for I have chosen him to be a son to Me, and I will be a father to him. I will establish his kingdom forever if he resolutely performs My commandments and My ordinances, as is done now," 1 Chronicles 28:5-7. (The **New American Standard Bible** (1995) is used throughout.)

Though a son, Solomon didn't obey the commandments and ordinances of Yahweh very well. Like his father before him, and contrary to the commandments of Yahweh (Deut. 17:16-17), he multiplied wives and strengthened his military might. Consequently, his pride and worship of the false deities of his many foreign wives turned his heart from Yahweh (1 Kings 11:1-13).

Of course, his disobedience and the recompense of his error serve as a warning to us not to follow his example. While we are as he, multiplying to ourselves horses and wives, the idolatries we indulge can turn our hearts away from serving Yahweh as we should.

As sons, we are saints, distinguished from the world as they who have faith in the Messiah (Rev. 14:12) and who as commandment-keepers, are figuratively, chaste virgins (Rev. 14:4) ... and first fruits, redeemed from among men, representing purity and free of every false way (Psa. 119:104).

Israel, Firstborn Son

This people called Israel, Yahweh considered His firstborn. Moses was told before the commencement of the ten plagues, to go to Pharaoh, and to declare to him,

Thus says Yahweh, "Israel is My son, My firstborn," Exodus 4:22.

The evangelist Matthew records Joseph taking his family to Egypt in order to flee Herod's fury. There, he remained, until the monarch's death, then returned to Nazareth – fulfilling the prophecy spoken by Hosea: *When Israel was a youth I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son,* Hosea 11:1. We understand, moreover, from the subsequent context of Hosea's discourse in chapter 11, that he was also addressing Israel's departure from Egypt and the oppression they suffered under Pharaoh's taskmasters.

Henceforth, Israel's history was marked by continued backsliding and false worship which ultimately led

to their divorce and disinheritance from Yahweh. First, this breach of covenant occurred with the ten northern tribes (Ephraim) who were removed and severally exiled among the provinces of Assyria. One hundred-fifty years later, the southern kingdom of Judah followed the idolatries (adultery) of her treacherous sister Israel (Jer. 3:1-10) committing evil in the sight of Yahweh. Judah, however, during the duration of its 70-year exile, was not assimilated among other peoples, probably owing to the prophesied Messiah proceeding through them.

Adoption: The Process of Grafting

I am telling the truth in Messiah, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed, separated from Messiah for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh, who are Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the temple service and the promises, whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Messiah according to the flesh, who is over all, Elohim blessed forever. Amen. But it is not as though the word of Elohim has failed. For they are not all Israel who are descended from Israel; nor are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but: "THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE NAMED." That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of Elohim, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants, Romans 9:1-8.

Adoption occurs through this process of grafting, Israel restored as sons and as parties to the covenants of promise through the Messiah. Paul clearly states that Yahweh is permitting the recovery of those who were once rejected by Him because of their sins and deems this restorative work as a mystery revealing how Yahweh purposes to fulfill His promise to graft them in, "if they do not continue in their unbelief" (Rom. 11:23). Indeed, is He not unmindful of a people come from Abraham's loins – people destined, through Isaac and Jacob, to become the children of Yahweh.

"Is Ephraim My dear son? Is he a delightful child? Indeed, as often as I have spoken against him, I certainly still remember him; Therefore My heart yearns for him; I will surely have mercy on him," declares Yahweh, Jeremiah 31:20.

But a people becoming Yahweh's children, a spiritual people through the Messiah, is contingent upon them qualifying and proving themselves

worthy, by overcoming all that is in the world: the lusts of the eyes and of the flesh and the pride of life (John 16:24; 1 John 2:16). (Read our Mini Study called *The Hope of Israel*.)

Predestined Before Birth

In a recent Bible study, we considered the idea of predestination as presented in Romans 8:28-31, in which the Apostle Paul says,

*And we know that Elohim causes all things to work together for good to those who love Elohim, to those **who are called according to His purpose**. For those whom He foreknew, He also **predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son**, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If Elohim is for us, who is against us? Romans 8:28-31. (**emphasis**, ours)*

*Blessed be the Elohim and Father of our Master Yahshua Messiah, Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Messiah, just as **He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him**. In love **He predestined us to adoption as sons through Yahshua Messiah to Himself**, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him, Ephesians 1:3-9.*

We understand that becoming saved requires first being called by the Father through His Spirit. Yahshua often said, "He who has ears, let him hear." How does one hear unless first granted that privilege? Yahweh took away that privilege in times past by allowing blindness and deafness to occur. But for some, spiritual blindness and deafness are being lifted now.

This process of being foreknown, called, predestined, justified, conformed into the image of Yahweh's Dear Son, Yahshua, and then glorified is Yahweh's ultimate will for those who are redeemed. But this does not mean they cannot be disqualified. After all, if the first requirement of being called is not met, then becoming conformed in the image of His Son is a doubtful outcome.

Respecting Our Father

We respect our earthly fathers as children, and when that respect is disregarded through disobedience, we face discipline. Similarly, this is the relationship we have with our heavenly Father (Deut. 8:5). We read of this dynamic occurring in ancient Israel's relationship with Yahweh. The standards of obedience by which they were identified as Yahweh's children have not been changed for us. We, perhaps, must show even greater respect, as the Law has been magnified through Messiah Yahshua. We walk on higher ground, so to speak, to meet the higher spiritual qualifications of obedience from the heart, which Yahweh had desired from His people.

Indeed, Yahweh's Spirit will accomplish His will, but the exercise of our free will can disqualify us from receiving the reward of eternal life. As the Messiah said, "MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT COMES OUT OF THE MOUTH OF ELOHIM" (Matt. 4:4; Deut. 8:3).

Therefore, prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does, James 1:22-25.

For there is no partiality with Elohim. For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law; for it is not the hearers of the Law who are just before Elohim, but the doers of the Law will be justified, Romans 2:11-13.

Messiah always did His Father's will and taught others to do the same:

*And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?" And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE YAHWEH YOUR ELOHIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; **DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE,**" Luke 10:25-28.*

Notice that Yahshua's reply, "What is written in

the Law?" addressed the query concerning not just life, but eternal life and implied that obedience or disobedience to the commandment to love Yahweh and one's neighbor as himself produced either a positive (eternal life) or a negative (judgment) outcome.

Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of Elohim, you may receive what was promised. FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY. BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul, Hebrews 10:35-39.

Walking in The Spirit

In overcoming this world, we need to be able to submit to the Father through the Son, and the common denominator between them is the Spirit of Yahweh. The Messiah has said plainly that His Father is looking for those who will walk in spirit and in truth. Without question, He is referring to the Father's Spirit and to His Truth.

But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. Elohim is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth, John 4:23-24.

The Law of Yahweh is spiritual (Rom. 7:14) and His Word, Truth (John 17:17), because the Law and His Word were inspired by His Spirit (Neh. 9:20).

The Apostle Paul speaks for all humanity. He acknowledged a struggle within himself, saying flesh was waging war against the Spirit.

I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. For I joyfully concur with the Law of Elohim in the inner man, but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? Thanks be to Elohim through Yahshua Messiah our Master! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the Law of Elohim, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin, Romans 7:21-25.

Paul had a portion of Yahweh's Spirit, and he was sensitive to It. Otherwise, he could not have

recognized the nature of the conflict that warred within him.

As we set our minds on heavenly things, the Spirit of Yahweh is at work within us, helping us overcome our flesh, and conforming us into the sinless image of the Son. This work is begun at baptism, in burying the old person and being raised out of the water to walk in newness of life.

From henceforth, *all who are being led by the Spirit of Elohim, these are sons of Elohim. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of Elohim, and if children, heirs also, heirs of Elohim and fellow heirs with Messiah, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him,* Romans 8:14–17.

We are warned, therefore, not to quench the Spirit we have received as a down payment, waiting for the adoption, that is, the redemption of what's been purchased (Eph. 1:14). We can, in fact, rejoice.

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is Elohim's will for you in Messiah Yahshua. Do not quench the Spirit, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19.

How does one not quench the Spirit of Yahweh? Abstain from every form of evil, 1 Thessalonians 5:22. The Spirit is stronger than our flesh, and we can abstain from every form of evil because we have been granted the Power from on high to do so. We can do all things through Him who strengthens us (Phil. 4:13). We just need to remember that evil is the opposite of what is good, right, and true, according to Yahweh's Word. and that Messiah Who was perfect and never sinned, is the living, breathing example for us to follow.

But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF YAHWEH, THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT HIM? But we have the mind of Messiah, 1 Corinthians 2:15-16

Those that have the mind of Messiah are walking in the Spirit as He walked.

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. Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE OF YOU WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we

are members of one another. BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity. He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need. Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of Elohim, by Whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as Elohim in Messiah also has forgiven you, Ephesians 4:22-32.

Grieving Yahweh?

Grieving the Spirit is the same as grieving Yahweh. Since evil is the opposite of Who Yahweh is, to continue in sin grieves Him. Read our Mini Studies, ***Why Grace Leads to Obedience?*** And, ***Why Biblical Law?***

In Noah's day, as in our day,

Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Yahweh was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart, Genesis 6:5-6.

The heart is seen as the core of our being. Yahweh was deeply affected by His creation walking contrary to, and at enmity against, His way of life. Evil impacts Him, and we must not forget this lest we be forgotten and cast aside as they were.

Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of Elohim, and the earth was filled with violence. Elohim looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. Then Elohim said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth," Genesis 6:11-13.

In a sense, Yahweh adopted Noah and his family to continue replenishing the earth. But throughout millennia, mankind has continued to corrupt their way upon the earth.

And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. It was the same as

happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed, Luke 17:26-30.

“... Fire and brimstone ...” – the result of men grieving Yahweh. Thankfully, Yahweh is a just Judge. “The son will not bear the punishment for the father’s iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son’s iniquity” (Ezek. 18:20).

It is further said in Luke, and elsewhere in other parables, that some will be taken and others will be left (Luke 17:31-36). This is the result of the righteous living at the end of the age, they will not be removed. However, they will also not outnumber the evildoers.

Set Apart

Experiencing the adoption process is akin to being set apart for a special purpose. It is the will of a loving Father that we comprehend the care He bestows upon us.

See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of Elohim; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of Elohim, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is, 1 John 3:1-2.

Our purpose now is to grow and to become conformed to the image of the Son (Rom. 8:29), actively participating in the Family ... with each member, having the same mindset and goals. Ultimately, we look forward to when He returns to the earth, and our transformation becomes entirely spiritual as He is now, a Spirit Being.

Therefore be imitators of Elohim, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Messiah also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to Elohim as a fragrant aroma. But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints, Ephesians 5:1-3.

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Yahshua Messiah. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior;

14 OCTOBER - DEC. 2025 YAIY BEACON

because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.” If you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay on earth; knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Messiah, 1 Peter 1:13-19.

Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Messiah with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? Or what agreement has the temple of Elohim with idols? For we are the temple of the living Elohim; just as Elohim said, “I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR ELOHIM, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE,” says Yahweh. “AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAR; and I will welcome you. And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me,” Says Yahweh El Shaddai, 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.

Conclusion

The adoption into the Family of Yahweh is the greatest gift ever offered humanity. It is, therefore, incumbent upon us to make our calling and election sure (2 Pet. 1:10).

For it was fitting for Him, for Whom are all things, and through Whom are all things, in bringing many sons [and daughters] to glory, to perfect the Author of their salvation through sufferings. For both He Who sanctifies [set apart] and those who are sanctified [set apart] are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying, “I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN, IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE.” And again, “I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM.” And again, “BEHOLD, I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM YAHWEH HAS GIVEN ME,” Hebrews 2:10-13.

- Elder David Brett





What Do You Think?

The greatest endowment of Yahweh to mankind is the gift of free will, and the engine that powers that gift, is our ability to think. In the beginning, man's first task was to decide whether or not, if "Elohim created me, then He knows what is best for me." Thus, reasoning instead, "I think it's best if I go ahead and do what Elohim says," the man and his wife were not ashamed (Gen. 2:25).

Thoughts, Wondrously Created

As far as physical matter is concerned, no two atoms can exist in the same spot at the same times. Atoms can share mutual space – that is, make bonds, as when electrons are shared between atoms, forming what is called a covalent bond – but, for example, though your two feet can share the same ground, your left foot can never stand where your right foot is standing at the same time.

Similarly, in the metaphysical world, as in the spiritual world, two thoughts cannot occur concurrently. Sure, you can think one thing and say another, but there will never come a time when one can meditate on two diametrically opposing ideas in the same moment.

For example, it is doubtful anyone ever thought, "I love watching Anna Pavlova perform." While also thinking, "I loathe ballet." There has never been a time when someone thought, "I can't wait to watch the Detroit Lions play football tonight," while in their heart having a disdain for organized sports. (Might we conjecture, that society would be better off, worshiping Yahweh without the distraction of the NFL.) No one at six o'clock in the evening has ever been in the drive-thru lane at McDonald's with a back seat full of youth, barking into the menu screen, four Happy Meals while thinking, "Fast food is the root cause of childhood obesity and the breakdown of family values in America."

Get a gauge on what is truly on your mind, then assess your emotional state. You cannot feel sad while dwelling on happy thoughts. And if you do feel sad, discover its cause; then adjust your thoughts by ceasing to create the psychological vibrations that are formed from worry, sorrow and before the burden becomes overwhelming and the persistent drip of thought after negative thought becomes a flood of anxiety.

Thought patterns which send you down an angry or depressed road will manifest physical signs: loss of appetite, restlessness, mood changes, sudden onset of physiological changes in wellness of being. Recognize these as red flags' a spiritual 'check engine light'; a signal that the spiritual 'foundations of your little world are out of course' and that this is not the time to assuage your feelings by making that 'mean-spirited' phone call; to 'drown' your problems in the neck of a bottle; to 'shoot up', or 'light up', a recreational drug; to seek out some sexually-promiscuous activity, go to that porn website or otherwise, to make provision for the affections and lusts of the flesh (Rom. 12:14); to load your Glock!

Better, much better ... and healthier, too, when thought patterns attempt to send you down an angry or depressed road, to just reply, "Not today, Satan; not today!"

Know this: Yahweh is faithful and able, to make you able to cast all your care upon Him (1 Pet. 5:7) – He can do something more with troubling thoughts than you can, anyway. So, make your request known "by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving" (Phil. 4:6), confessing your emotional state is not in line with the peace He has promised in His Word, "*Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid,*" John 14:27.

If still, you do find yourself in a cloud of 'stinking thinking', try singing a song of praise or hum the melody to your favorite worship song if you do not know the words. For as the psalmist noted of Yahweh, *But Thou [art] holy, [O Thou] that inhabitest the praises of Israel*, Psalm 22:3 remembering also, that where Yahweh's Light is, the darkness of fear, sadness, worry, anxiety, doubt, anger, and envy, cannot exist.

That is not to say at some point in time in our lives. We won't be forced to deal with an ethical conundrum such as when a person who does not believe in abortion, on the grounds of Exodus 20:13 that commands, "Thou shalt not kill," is now unsure because the doctors say that a mother come to full term and giving birth to her child likely result in her own mortality.

The focus of this discourse is to get you to consider, "What are you giving your mind to? What you investing your time in? What is in the abundance of your heart? Throughout the day, what are you thinking?"

The Mind Leads the Heart

The songwriter of Israel in Psalms 1 says in reference to the man that does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, neither stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers, declares *His delight [is] in the Torah of Yahweh; and in His Torah doth he meditate day and night*, Psalm 1:2.

The Apostle Paul, in his epistle to the assembly at Philippi, writes, "...whatsoever things are true, whatsoever are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things" (Phil. 4:8).

The mind determines what proceeds out of

the abundance of the heart. How so? The Master Yahshua Messiah replied to Peter, when asked to expound on what He had just told the scribes and Pharisees, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies ..." (Matt. 15:19) which corroborates His earlier declaration in His sermon on the mount, *Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, "Thou shalt not commit adultery:" but I say unto you, "That whosoever looketh upon a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery her already in his heart,"* Matthew 5:27-28.

Here, the Messiah established the importance of having right(eous) content in our hearts. Solomon wisely observed, as a man thinks in his heart, so is he (Prov. 23:7) or, more contemporarily speaking, "I think, therefore I am" – words attributed to the French author and philosopher, Voltaire – and which is not to be equated with Yahweh's revelation to Moses of His cognomen, "I AM THAT I AM" (Exod. 3:14). While both King Solomon and philosopher Voltaire might agree, that he who thinks evil thoughts will perform evil deeds, he who hides Yahweh's Word in his heart, that he might not sin against Yahweh (Psa. 119:11), is less likely to willfully, that is, presumptuously, sin.

Thoughts are the drivers of our actions, what's unseen spiritually navigating through the physical. The Bible then, is the Perfect Mirror to reflect who, or rather what, we are in the sight of the One Who "is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). And since what constitutes the abundance of the heart finds its expression, principally through the tongue, we should give the more earnest heed to the commandment, *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers*, Ephesians 4:29.

A Practical Application

So, what do these things have to do with atoms, and ballet, and football, and the drive-thru lane at McDonald's? Allow me to make it relate.

Recently, I was sitting with the opened Word in front of me, having begun my studies with a matter of the heart which I set aside. And getting well into my studies, the Word became life to me; understanding of mysteries were unveiled; His will was revealed when all of a sudden, matters of the heart I had been able to set aside became the heart of the matter ... seizing my conscious thinking. For more than a few minutes, I was consumed with

cogitating upon personal issues.

Ultimately, and thankfully with the help of the Holy Spirit, I was able to recover my original focus on the important matter at hand: rightly dividing the Word of Truth. I had to retrace my steps and start again to where I was, before having been distracted and drawn away to superfluous concerns – sort of like when we were young adventurers on our bicycles and on our way to meet the fellas at the clubhouse, we'd stop to marvel at a long line of ants coming from seemingly nowhere and heading who knows where. After a moment of distraction, realizing we're getting off track from our purpose, we start cycling again, but we didn't just immediately resume the speed at which we were going before we'd stopped. Some slow, heavy pedals preceded our return to full speed.

There is a lesson to be learned here. Sometimes, inadvertently and unwittingly, we permit distractions to derail us from That Higher Purpose of seeking to comprehend the fellowship of the Mystery – that is, “what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height” of the fullness of Yahweh (Eph. 3:9, 18, 19) – when it should be better, *casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of Elohim, and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Messiah*, 2 Corinthians 10:5. We simply can't think upon of two diametrically opposing matters at the same time.

Moreover, in lending our mind space to dissect other matters, we violate the admonition of Scripture: ***Quench not the Spirit***, 1 Thessalonians 5:19. Ironically, when we are heart deep in principle and precept and are saturated in the study of, and meditation upon, His statutes, commandments, and ordinances, then oftentimes, are we confronted with the strongest of temptations which, if entertained, will quench the Spirit.

Choose the Master, Find Peace

In that illustrious discourse atop a mountain in Palestine, Yahshua affirmed to the multitudes assembled there, “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other” (Matt. 6:24).

The prophet Isaiah wrote, “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, *whose* mind is stayed on *Thee* ...” (Isa. 26:3). Yahweh has called us to peace, but a momentary distraction that is tolerated, or pursued, can effectively interrupt the flow of “the peace of Yahweh, which passeth all understanding” (Phil.

4:7) and make it difficult, or even impossible, to recover, or resume, an inquiry into the spiritual economies.

You say that you want His will performed in your life; that you want to grow spiritually; that you are ready to receive a word from Yahweh; but how often do you think upon His will being performed in your life? upon your spiritual growth? upon being ready to receive a word from Yahweh?

Consider for a moment, the gravity of our subject matter: “... and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared Yahweh, and that thought upon His Name” (Mal. 3:16). What, do you suppose, will be the content of your record in His book?

Conclusion

Feelings are the metaphysical manifestation of the spiritual world where thoughts exist. So, what are you thinking? Are you rejoicing in hope? patient in tribulation? continuing instant in prayer? (Rom. 12:12). If not, encourage yourself. Walk past a mirror sometime, look ... really look into it, and out loud, say, “I’m stronger; I’m wiser; I’m better ... oh, so much better with Yahweh in my life. Ah, He loves me so much!”

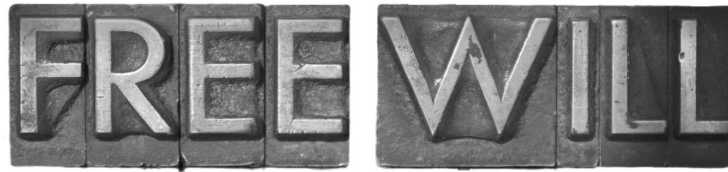
Don't worry if people look at you as if you were crazy. You're not crazy. You're just a peculiar people, zealous of Good Works! (Titus 2:14). We have permission, no, an exhortation from Scripture to do just that (Eph. 5:18-20).

Then, while the lines of communication are open to the Most High, there is no time or space for the adversary to occupy your thoughts.

The next time you are meditating on Yahweh's Word and random thoughts occur, or even worse, “stinking thinking” begins to surface, take it as a sign that you are on the right path; doing what you are supposed to be doing; making the right connection, because the accuser never distracts people while they are sinning. Neither does he wake the slothful man from slumber. Give the thought to Yahweh, and continue on the path of enlightenment that you were on.

Remember: Those things you entertain in your mind will be those things that proceed into your heart, which will eventually come out of your mouth and be displayed through your actions. So, if you want to produce good spiritual fruit, that is, holy manifestations through your words and deeds, take time to ponder this: What do you think?

- Joshua Bey with Elder John W. Reece



GIFT OR CURSE?

Free will implies choice and one can exercise it either positively or negatively. Another's response to its exercise will either be positive or negative. And Yahweh's response to its exercise will either be positive or negative, blessing or judgment of its exerciser.

In this discourse, we will first consider some who executed their free will positively and others, less acceptably.

We begin with the following Scripture:

*For this [is] thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward Eloha endure grief, suffering wrongfully For what glory [is it], if, when ye buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer [for it], ye take it patiently, this [is] acceptable with Eloha, 1 Peter 2:19-20. (The **King James Version** used throughout, unless otherwise noted.)*

Joseph

Joseph, at age 17, was sold into slavery to Potiphar whose wife exercised her free will by casting her lustful eyes upon this Hebrew youth, beckoning him day by day, saying, "lie with me" (Gen. 39:7). And he, in turn, exercised his free will day by day, refusing her cunning and she yielded to her free will by asserting a false accusation against him, which resulted in his incarceration – protracted longer, because of the chief butler with whom he was imprisoned exercising his free will in not recompensing this youth's interpretation of a troublesome dream by making mention of him to Pharaoh when he should be restored to the king's service (Gen. 40:14).

Yes, not until Pharaoh himself was disturbed by nocturnal busyness as he slept, and found no redress from the magicians and wise men of Egypt, did the butler remember, and with the exercise of his free will – some two full years later (Gen. 41:1) – confess, saying, "I do remember my faults this day" (Gen. 41:9) and rehearse his own experience and relationship with Joseph.

Moses

Remember, [and] forget not, how thou provokedst Yahweh thy Eloha to wrath in the wilderness: from the day that thou didst depart out of the land of Egypt, until ye came unto this place, ye have been rebellious against Yahweh. Also in Horeb ye provoked Yahweh to wrath, so that Yahweh was angry with you to have destroyed you. When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, [even] the tables of the covenant which Yahweh made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water: And Yahweh delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of Eloha; and on them [was written] according to all the words, which Yahweh spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly. And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, [that] Yahweh gave me the two tables of stone, [even] the tables of the covenant. And Yahweh said unto me, "Arise, get thee down quickly from hence; for thy people which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt have corrupted [themselves]; they are quickly turned aside out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten image." Furthermore Yahweh spake unto me, saying, "I have seen this people, and, behold, it [is] a stiffnecked people: Let Me alone, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under heaven: and I will make of thee a nation mightier and greater than they." So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire: and the two tables of the covenant were in my two hands. And I looked, and, behold, ye had sinned against Yahweh your Eloha, [and] had made you a molten calf: ye had turned aside quickly out of the way which Yahweh had commanded you. And I took the two tables, and cast them out of my two hands, and brake them before your eyes. And I fell down before Yahweh, as at the first, forty days and forty nights: I did neither eat bread, nor drink water, because of all your sins which ye sinned, in doing wickedly in the sight of Yahweh, to provoke Him to anger. For I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure, wherewith Yahweh was wroth against you to destroy you. But Yahweh hearkened unto me at that time also. And Yahweh was very angry with Aaron to have destroyed

him: and I prayed for Aaron also the same time. And I took your sin, the calf which ye had made, and burnt it with fire, and stamped it, [and] ground [it] very small, [even] until it was as small as dust: and I cast the dust thereof into the brook that descended out of the mount. And at Taberah, and at Massah, and at Kibrothhattaavah, ye provoked Yahweh to wrath. Likewise when Yahweh sent you from Kadeshbarnea, saying, “Go up and possess the land which I have given you;” then ye rebelled against the commandment of Yahweh your Eloha, and ye believed Him not, nor hearkened to His voice. Ye have been rebellious against Yahweh from the day that I knew you. Thus I fell down before Yahweh forty days and forty nights, as I fell down [at the first]; because Yahweh had said He would destroy you. I prayed therefore unto Yahweh, and said, “O Sovereign Eloha, destroy not thy people and Thine inheritance, which Thou hast redeemed through Thy greatness, which Thou hast brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand. Remember Thy servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; look not unto the stubbornness of this people, nor to their wickedness, nor to their sin: Lest the land whence thou broughtest us out say, ‘Because Yahweh was not able to bring them into the land which He promised them, and because He hated them, He hath brought them out to slay them in the wilderness’. Yet they [are] Thy people and Thine inheritance, which Thou broughtest out by Thy mighty power and by Thy stretched out arm, Deuteronomy 9:7-19.



In this passage, we read a lot of expressions of free will – from Moses, submitting to Yahweh’s summons to come atop Sinai, and abide there for forty days and nights, fasting from food and water during this time; to communing with Yahweh Who committed to his trust the two stone tablets of the Covenant; to obeying Yahweh’s command to get himself down from the mount; to declining Yahweh’s proposal of making of his seed, a greater and mightier nation than they whom He had delivered from Egypt; to Moses’ display of anger in casting down the tables of stone, breaking them into fragments; to confronting Aaron and the assembly for their affront toward Yahweh in the matter of the calf of gold; to breaking up and grinding to powder the molten image of the calf and making the assembly drink of the solution of powder and water; to returning to Sinai and making supplication in behalf of the people whose fathers Yahweh had made a compact to bring them into the land; to assuaging Yahweh Whose mind and execution of will was changed through Moses’ intercession.

In Numbers 12:3, we read parenthetically, (*Now the man Moses [was] very meek, above all the men which [were] upon the face of the earth.*) The authorship of these words might not be attributed to Moses, whose attitude of will in having to bear with Yahweh the ten documented temptations with which Israel provoked Yahweh was one generally, of forbearance.

We read in the 40-year Wilderness account, only one instance, in which where Moses exercised a negative expression of free will ... only one instance, when he’d lost his.

The Psalmist in Psalm 106 provides us with a brief digest of the wilderness experience, beginning with Israel’s provocation of Yahweh at the Red Sea as they observed Pharaoh’s army coming down upon them through to their coming into Canaan and their assimilation with the people there.

Of particular note, are verses 32 and 33, *They angered [him] also at the waters of strife, so that it went ill with Moses for their sakes: Because they provoked his spirit so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.*

The psalmist here, is rehearsing a matter first recorded in Numbers 20:7-11. There, Yahweh had directed Moses to speak to a rock wherefrom the people who, once again, were grumbling that Moses had brought them out into the wilderness to die, and that it had been better for them had they remained slaves to Pharaoh and to his taskmasters might be

satisfied with water to supply their animals and to refresh themselves.

We note, however, it wasn't so very much Moses speaking unadvisedly with his lips, as it was his disobedience to Yahweh Who had instructed him to "speak ye unto the rock (Num. 20:8) as it was his disobedience in lifting "up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice ..." (Num. 20:11) – an expression of free will that had been better subdued and he, ruling his spirit – seeing that Rock is later identified by the Apostle Paul as the pre-incarnate Messiah (1 Cor. 10:2-4).

So, it was his hand and not his tongue by which Yahweh was not sanctified in the eyes of the children of Israel and which precluded him from bringing this congregation into the land which Yahweh would give them.

Furthermore, much more do we read in the Torah account of this man Moses respectfully beseeching Yahweh to "COOL" inflicting the full weight of His fury against this people who had three times covenanted with Him, affirming, "All The Words Which Yahweh Hath Said, Will We Do, And Be Obedient" (Exod. 19:8, 24:3, 7) and reminding the Almighty One, that if He did unleash His hot displeasure upon this people, the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob with whom He had over generations made covenant promises, then His indignation and wrath would become occasion for His enemies to greatly blaspheme His Worthy Name.

Though Moses was spent numerous times appealing the Almighty One to withhold the execution of His anger, He was not successful, supplicating in his own behalf.

O Sovereign Yahweh, Thou hast begun to shew Thy servant thy greatness, and Thy mighty hand: for what El [is there] in heaven or in earth, that can do according to thy works, and according to thy might? I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that [is] beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon. But Yahweh was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and Yahweh said unto me, "Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto Me of this matter, Deuteronomy 3:24-26.

From that time to this time, Yahweh has had many millennia experience dealing with a stiff-necked, hard-hearted people who are also, iron-clad, dyed-in-the-wool apostates.

Elijah

In 1 Kings, chapter 18, Elijah is distinguished as having done that which none other had ever done.

He dared to exercise his free will, in mocking the 450 prophets of Ba'al, urging them at the altar upon which they had dressed a bull.

"And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, 'Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked'. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them" (1 Kings 18:27-28).

Then, following their failure to intreat Ba'al to send fire to consume their sacrifice, Elijah freely and willingly repaired the altar, made a trench about it, and three times, poured four barrels of water upon it, the wood upon it, the sacrifice upon the wood, and the trench around it, and called upon Yahweh Elohim Who immediately rained fire from heaven to consume the sacrifice, the wood, the stones of the altar, and the dust, and even the water in the trench (1 Kings 18:30-38).

Afterward, he and Israel as an expression of their corporate free will, and without consideration as to its consequence, slew the 450 prophets of Ba'al, and the 400 prophets of the groves as well, and according to his word three and a half years earlier that it should not rain upon the earth until he summoned the rain, he called for the rain and the heavens were black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain (1 Kings 18:40-45).

And then, he fled from before the wrath of Jezebel who was resolved to slay him (1 Kings 19:2-3), making his complaint before Yahweh:

"It is enough; now, O Yahweh, take away my life; for I *am* not better than my fathers." ... And he said, "I have been very jealous for the Yahweh Eloha of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away" (1 Kings 19:4, 10, 14).

Being very jealous for Yahweh is a positive exercise of free will, though as we have seen, its exercise sometimes produces discouragement, despair, and depression as an outcome of a negative disposition of free will from those affected by its acceptable initiative.

But because Yahweh is Strength and encourages us in discouragement, despair, and depression, He assures Elijah that He has reserved 7,000 in Israel as an acceptable expression of their free will, who have neither bowed to, nor kissed, the image of Ba'al.



Isaiah

In chapter 1 of Isaiah, Yahweh shows us the converse of the Apostle Peter's *quadrivalent*, of a people, through their exercise of free will becoming "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people" (1 Pet. 2:9) which is exactly, what He desires we should aspire toward becoming ... transformed from "a sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters" (Isa. 1:4).

Isaiah's ministry spanned 60 years, from 740 BCE to 680 BCE and during the reigns of four kings of Judah: Uzziah, Jothan, Ahaz, and Hezekiah. He is thought to have been martyred – tradition says, "sawn asunder" ... perhaps a reference to him recorded in Hebrews 11:37, a method of execution used by the wicked king Manasseh who succeeded Hezekiah, and of whom it is recorded, bathed the streets of Jerusalem with blood.

Reading the breadth of Isaiah, leaves us with the impression by the time we get to Chapter 65, that Isaiah, now an octogenarian, was worn out.

I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way [that was] not good, after their own thoughts; A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick; Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable [things is in] their vessels; Which say, "Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou." These [are] a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day, Isaiah 65:2-5.

Jeremiah

Jeremiah is called the weeping, or sorrowing prophet. He, too, could have said, "All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people" (Rom. 10:21, the Apostle Paul's reference to Isaiah 65:2).

By the time we get to chapter 20 of 51 chapters of Jeremiah, he's had enough, complaining,

O Yahweh, Thou hast deceived me, and I was deceived: Thou art stronger than I, and hast prevailed: I am in derision daily, every one mocketh me. For since I spake, I cried out, I cried violence and spoil; because the Word of Yahweh was made a reproach unto me, and a derision, daily. Then I said, "I will not make mention of Him, nor speak any more in His Name." But [His Word] was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not

[stay]. For I heard the defaming of many, fear on every side. "Report, [say they], and we will report it." All my familiars watched for my halting, [saying], "Peradventure he will be enticed, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him," Jeremiah 20:7-10.

What we perceive here is a man wrought up in emotion which he has permitted to define the execution of his free will – discouraged, despairing, and depressed, he, too, is ready to give up, yet constrained is he, for reason of the dispensation of the Word that has been committed to his trust and revealing, that but with the decision of one's will, it is possible to change the exercise of free will from what is a negative expression, into that which is good and acceptable ... though the outcome of the latter, should bring sorrow of heart and a grief of mind.

Ezekiel

Yahweh tells the Prophet Ezekiel,

Also, thou son of man, the children of thy people still are talking against thee by the walls and in the doors of the houses, and speak one to another, every one to his brother, saying, "Come, I pray you, and hear what is the word that cometh forth from Yahweh." And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee [as] My people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, [but] their heart goeth after their covetousness. And, lo, thou [art] unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not. And when this cometh to pass, (lo, it will come), then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them, Ezekiel 33:30-33.

Disappointment, despair, depression – but common experiences among prophets and others, who have relinquished their own free will, submitting such to His good, and acceptable, and perfect will. Nevertheless, 'tis better for him to whom His Word is committed, not to long permit himself to languish in the 3D's, lest he should discover that his estate to have come into communion with them to whom he was come, but who neither received him, nor the Word which he sought to distribute.

Yahshua

A common experience, we say, likewise Yahshua's of whom the Revelator spoke, saying, *He came unto His own, and His own received Him not*, John 1:11.

The Master, Who knows what is in man, that is, in his flesh, needed not that any should testify of Him (John 2:24-25). In commissioning the twelve, He foretold them to whom He committed the Evangel to the exercise of their free will, to expect rather, that they to whom He would send them as His emissaries (apostles) would counter their positive exercise of free will with a negative free will response.

“And when ye come into an house, salute it. And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you. And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city. Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against [their] parents, and cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all [men] for My Name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come,” Matthew 10:12-23.

An ominous outcome of evil, a negative expression of free will, in exchange for what was purposed to be a positive exercise of free will? Yes, but so much the more necessary was it for them, and necessary for us, too, to first count the cost of executing a positive expression of free will. For it is certain, that in espousing the truth, we shall, as they were, be counted as enemies (John 8:40; Gal. 4:16). It is worthy of our notice, that prophets, and later, apostles, were sent, scourged, stoned, and otherwise killed ... their successors, acknowledging, too, that in freely and willingly assuming this mantle of the

Evangel, that others might with the execution of their free will reject Yahweh's offer of grace and mercy.

Following that notable Pentecost of Acts, chapter 2, we read of men, now emboldened, being brought before the tribunal of the Sanhedrin for preaching the simplicity that is Messiah, beaten and commanded to speak no more in That None Other Name Under Heaven, Neither Is There Salvation In Any Other, Given Among Men, Whereby We Must Be Saved – an unacceptable exercise of Free Will.

The Acts of Apostles

In the Acts of the Apostles, which is perhaps more, a record of the Apostle Paul's ministry – the Apostle Paul who declared in one place, “for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the Evangel! For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward ...” (1 Cor. 9:16-17).

Nevertheless, wherever he and his company itinerated, Jews to whom the Oracles were first committed, and the covenants of promise, and the giving of the Law, and service of Eloha (Rom. 3:2, 9:4), and to whom it was necessary they should be the first to hear the terms of this Renewed Covenant (Acts 13:46), instead followed seeking to destroy him and doing injury to the Word he preached, and to undermine the works he did, ascribing these latter to the devil.

Moved with envy, because he was making more disciples than they were of proselytes, they expressed their free will seeking out “certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gather[ing] a company, and set[ting] all places in an uproar” (Acts 17:5).

He was given a new cognomen: “a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the Sect of the Nazarenes” (Acts 24:5).

Before the “authorities,” these of his opponents put on a demonstration of their free will: casting off their clothes, throwing dust into the air, and crying out, “Away with this fellow from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live” (Acts 22:23, 22). Free will, we say, exacerbated the more through stonings and beatings and imprisonments and sundry perils (2 Cor. 11:23-28 and his own free will response of continuing steadfastly in, and earnestly contending for the faith that was delivered to him as he tarried in a house on a Damascus street called Straight (Acts 9:11) ... in weariness and in pain; in hunger and thirst; in fastings; in cold and nakedness; and besides all this, that which was imposed upon him daily – the care of all the assemblies!

All these, we say, and like prophets and apostles before him, he and others could only conclude, “I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice” (2 Cor. 2:3). Oh, but rather had they, been able instead to joy to their constituents’ favor, “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in Truth” (3 John 1:4).

Better had they received the commendation of others’ expression of free will, acceptance and appreciation of men like Cornelius, a centurion of the band that is called the Italian band, and who’d said to Peter when he was come, “Now therefore are we all here present before Eloha, to hear all things that are commanded thee of Yahweh” (Acts 10:33) or of Lydia, a seller of purple of Thyatira, who said to the Paul, “If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Master, come into my house, and abide there” (Acts 16:15).

Of Prophets & Apostles: Some Last Observations

Joseph, Moses, Eliyah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Yahshua, and the Apostles Peter and John and Paul, and all since who have occupied their respective Sacred Desks and who spent, and were spent, who had, and have, this common experience – discouragement, despair, depression (the 3D’s) – sometimes even, together with anger and frustration as their recompense come from the lips and the hands of them who with the exercise of their free will repudiated that surrender of the others’ to Yahweh’ good and acceptable and perfect will ... what more can we say, except the only thing that kept them in the ring, fighting the good fight and enduring to their end, was that a Message had been committed to them and woe to them, if they should not preach Its Content.

No, more often than not, because they, as Word Expositors, and as many, too, who have succeeded them to the Sacred Desk can testify, were, and are, always at odds with this Gift which Yahweh has endowed every man and woman: this gift of free will, which every man and woman struggles to bring into captivity and into subjection to both willing and doing Yahweh’s good pleasure. For many, free will is set at *variance* with, at *enmity* against, and *contrary* to Yahweh’s will. For them, free will has become a curse, rather than a gift.

Free will – men don’t much deliberate or premeditate its use in ordering their activities. More often than not, response and reaction to stimuli are autonomous – that is, occurring without much immediate thought, consideration, or planning as to consequences. Or if we do first think, consider,

or plan, our thinking, considering, or planning are usually transformed into making provision for the affections and lusts of what is fleshly and sensual.

Some of religion are fond of quoting parts of Scripture, “For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty ...” (Gal. 5:13) and adding the Apostle Peter’s, “as free” (1 Pet. 2:16) dispensing with other, more definitive words which read, “... only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another ... and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of Eloha” – yes, where liberty here, is understood to mean free will.

’Tis the reason, some with their lips honor Him while their heart is far removed from first, willing and then, doing His Good Pleasure.

’Tis the reason, some choose to be encumbered about like Martha, instead of choosing that good part like Mary, who was found instead, sitting at the Master’s feet, hearing His Word.

And that is precisely the reason why, so very much of what is said, is rehearsed again and again, because until a Spiritual Foundation is laid, the Building cannot be erected!

And we should not be remiss in commending prophets and apostles past who had, and they which are occupying the Sacred Desk today, also freely and willingly exercising their free will for necessity was, and is, laid upon them. For His Word was in theirs, and is, in our hearts as a burning fire, shut up in theirs, and our and woe to them, and us, if they, and we, should forbear!

This work of His emissaries has to be met with their conscious submitting their free will to a Higher Will.

And some will think to misappropriate His Word, “to will is present with me, but how to perform that which is good I find not” (Rom. 7:18) for the purpose of excusing themselves, not considering that in Yahweh’s economies, they will never find how to perform what is good and acceptable and perfect without first seeking to perform what is good and acceptable and perfect.

So, where to begin? Provided us is this admonition: “TO DAY ... NOW is the accepted time ... if ye WILL hear His Voice ... harden not your heart ...” (Psa. 95:7, 8; 2 Cor. 6:2)

Notice, the peculiar wording here: “TO DAY ... NOW ... if ye WILL hear His Voice ...” – with its emphasis on the words, “TO DAY ... NOW ... WILL!”

- Elder John W. Reece

The Relationship between *Exodus 28:9-12, Deuteronomy 27:12-14, and Malachi 2:4-7*

Theme	Exodus 28:9-12	Deuteronomy 27:12-14	Malachi 2:4-7
Priest as Representative	Priest literally bears tribal names to intercede before Elohim	Ritual role of priests in invoking blessings/curses	Priests fail in this mediatorial function, corrupting what they represent
Covenant Responsibility	Priestly vestments symbolize responsibility over Israel	Covenant blessings/curses publicly proclaimed	Priestly breach brings curse, showing failure in covenant role
Symbolic Weight of Priestly Office	High priest visibly symbolizes Yahweh's presence and justice	Warnings of blessings or curses depend on obedience	Priests have corrupted this office, inverting their intended role

In essence, Exodus 28:9–12 emphasizes the sacred weight of the priesthood — they physically bear Israel before Elohim. Deuteronomy 27 and 28 establish that obedience triggers blessing, disobedience brings calamity. Malachi 2 laments that priests have failed both symbolic and covenantal duties — they’ve broken the covenant they were meant to uphold and have defiled their representative office.

In all of this, we understand that the one who sins is the one who will die (Ezek. 18). Therefore, everyone is subject to the rules of blessings and curses. At the same time, there is significantly greater judgment on leadership representing Yahweh. *Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment,* James 3:1 *NASB*.

Searching for Truth?

Download or order FREE YAIY Literature at YAIY.ORG - Over 100 Studies and Booklets are available!

Sample titles available:

- A Matter of Death and Life
 - Babylon, The Great Pagan Influence
 - Baptism's Deeper Meaning
 - The Counterfeit Called Easter
 - He Arose! But When?
 - Hebrew: The Original Language
 - Is The Rapture Biblical?
 - How the Savior's Name Was Changed
 - Let's Pull the Mask From Halloween
 - The Man of Sin
 - The New Covenant: What is it?
 - Do You Have an Immortal Soul?
 - Scriptural Age of Accountability
 - Understanding Hellfire
 - Why Biblical Law?
 - Yahweh's Feasts
- Plus many more titles!*



Literature Translations!

Our Literature is available in many languages (English, Spanish, French, German, Danish, Burundi, Serbian, Bosnian, Telugu, Malayalam, Turkish, Tagalog, Visayan & Hmong)!

FREE Bible Course!

Our Free Bible Course is available online or through the mail. It is currently available in English and Spanish with more translations coming soon!

Visit all our websites!

- www.yaiy.org (main site)
- www.newmoonreport.org (moon sightings)
- www.sistersforyah.org (site for sisters)
- www.teensforyah.org (site for teens)
- www.kidsforyah.org (site for kids)



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q I would like to know about Cain's wife. Where did she come from? Were there people outside of the garden?

A Thanks for contacting us and for your questions. In the creation narrative, Adam and Eve were given commandment to be fruitful and multiply (Gen. 1:28). But if we understand the content of Genesis, chapters 3 and 4, from a chronological perspective, Adam and Eve did not conceive children until after their expulsion from Eden.

Cain is given as the first child born them (Gen. 4:1). In 4:17, it is written that Cain "knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch." Cain married one of his sisters from the other children born to his parents, Adam and Eve. Chapter 5 of Genesis is a genealogical record of their descendants. They lived hundreds of years outside of paradise, during which they had children and theirs, had children of their own. But this brings up a question: In the Torah (Lev. 18:6-9) doesn't Yahweh forbid incestuous relationships?

We need to consider the broader context. Yahweh is not so rigid that He cannot do what He will with His own. We know that there have been adjustments made over time. Initially, green leaf and seed-bearing plants that produce fruits and vegetables were given for food (Gen. 1:29) but later, after the Flood, clean animals, fish, and birds were also permitted man for his consumption (Gen. 9:3; Lev 11; Deut. 14).

We have a Levitical order wherein blood sacrifices were offered (Lev. 1) but now in the Melchizedek order, our sacrifices proceed from the abundance of our hearts and lips (Heb. 13:5).

Boys were circumcised on the eighth day (Lev. 12:1-3), but girls were never circumcised. Today, in Messiah, we find both adult men and women are circumcised in their hearts by Him through the administration of water for the remission of their sins (Col. 2:11).

Recently, in a message covering Numbers chapter

27, we considered added laws addressing daughters' inheritances; previously, inheritance was reserved only to sons.

Some would rejoin that Yahweh doesn't change. Yes, His character does not change. He never lies; He always does what is right. But these characteristics do not preclude Him from, out of necessity, making or allowing amendments along the way. (Read Hebrews 7:12).

We find He is merciful and kind, and a Keeper of His covenants. He made a way for Israel to return to Him (Heb. 9:15-17), even though they who had been espoused to Him had gone astray like an adulterous woman. His ways are beyond our ways, and His thoughts are above our own (Job 11:7; Isa. 55:9; Rom 11:33).

Thus, we may conclude that in the beginning, and in order for Yahweh to effect His plan that the good earth should be inhabited, Yahweh allowed marriages between brothers and sisters (after all, Eve is the mother of all mankind, Gen. 3:20), but afterward forbade such intermarriage.

Q Did Noah sin by being drunk, or did Ham by his actions?

A While not the best judgment, Noah may not have purposely become inebriated. Scripture indicates he was "a just man and perfect in his generations" (Gen. 6:9). One that continues in the pattern of drunkenness, however, has a significant sin that would prevent his admittance into the Kingdom (1 Cor. 6:10; James 4:17). The other sin of not honoring one's parents (5th Commandment) is evident. An evident mocking of Noah had occurred (Gen. 9:22-24) by Ham who incurred a transgenerational curse toward his progeny, as his son Canaan became a dishonorable child to him. Some postulate that either Ham or his son Canaan perpetrated a homosexual act with the drunken elder, or that Ham had had an incestual relationship with his mother. But these conjectures are without merit, having not the text of Scripture as a foundation upon which to build suggestion.



Q I had a question in understanding a few verses in scripture that I was hoping you could provide some insight on. It's regarding the Hebrew word "H1616 – gar". I will use the **KJV** for the following verses.

In Numbers 15:15 it says, *One ordinance [shall be] both for you of the congregation, and also for the stranger that sojourneth [with you], an ordinance for ever in your generations: as ye [are], so shall the stranger be before Yahweh.*

In Deuteronomy 14:21 however it says, *Ye shall not eat [of] any thing that dieth of itself: thou shalt give it unto the stranger that [is] in thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien: for thou [art] an holy people unto Yahweh thy Elohim. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.*

Can you help explain in Deuteronomy 14:21 why the Israelites can give an animal that dies of itself to a stranger (**Strong's Exhaustive Concordance**, gar, H.1616) and the stranger can eat the animal if it says in Numbers 15:15 that there is one law for each and they are to abide by the same instruction (Torah)? If you have a teaching that talks about this, please let me know where to find it.

A Israelites would have known that anyone making a covenant with Yahweh would be under the exact same law. I believe the same word is used with the two Scriptures you've mentioned but in two contextually different situations.

When leaving Egypt, a foreign element (the mixed multitude, Exod. 12:38) accompanied the people of Israel. Most, if not all, would have entered into a covenant with Yahweh through circumcision and been integrated into certain tribes through marriage, and would be keeping the laws of Yahweh.

However, in the promised land, Yahweh recognized that eventually, there would be people living there who were not in covenant with Him. These individuals would have a different relationship with Israel. (See Deuteronomy 14:21, 23:20.)

For instance, the Gibeonites made a deceptive covenant with the Israelites, which allowed them to reside in the land ... but, as we know, as servants

– “hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of Yahweh” (Josh. 9:27). They were not in covenant with Yahweh and, therefore, would be treated somewhat differently.

This is even the case in the New Testament in which Yahshua gives instructions in dealing with brethren who are unrepentant and defiant toward Yahweh. In Matthew 18:15-17, **NASB**, He says, *If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the Assembly; and if he refuses to listen even to the Assembly, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.*

Q Matthew 27:5 and Acts 1:18. Are these the same person?

A In both verses, it is the same man, Judas, who betrayed Yahshua. It is reasonable to suppose that to effect his purpose, that he was situated upon something from which he could leap (“falling headlong, Acts 1:18). “... he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out” may be a reference to bloating, the result of gases expanding in his abdomen (like roadkill that's lay in the elements for a time). Also, evacuation of the bowels and incontinence of the bladder often occurs as the sphincter muscles attending these body orifices relax.

According to the Matthew account, the Pharisees purchased the field with the money that had been given Judas but which he returned before he went out and hanged himself.

“Field of Blood” (Matt. 27:8; Acts 1:19) may also have been the location where Judas hanged himself

and which perhaps, was purchased by the chief priests for burying the indigenous. Admittedly, this is a conjecture on our part, but there aren't enough details provided for any other reasonable explanation. In Matthew 27:8, saying, “to this day,” indicates a substantial time between the time it happened and the time the account was written.



Q I hope you can assist me with this: Is the reign of the fourth beast from Daniel 7 sequential? Specifically, do the ten horns and the little horn appear in order with the beast that supports them, or are there gaps in time within the symbols? In other words, does the fourth beast's reign happen in stages, implying an immediate and distant fulfillment? This would mean that the fourth beast represents the historical Roman Empire, while the ten horns and the little horn are reserved for a future period known as the time of the end?

A We believe that the beasts of Daniel are sequential periods, with the head of gold being rightly identified as Babylon, the breast and arms of silver being the Medes and Persians, and the belly and thighs of brass/bronze representing the Greek empire.

The fourth beast with legs of iron would rightly be identified as the Roman Empire with two regions. The word sear (H7606, remainder or remnant) is used in Daniel 7:7 to describe the feet and ten horns. This parallels with Daniel 2:41-44 as an end-time empire.

The two proposed options include first, the divided nations of Western Europe, often referred to as a revived Roman Empire, and second, an Islamic Caliphate composed of countries that surround Israel. We believe the latter is more likely, with iron representing strength and clay representing weakness, as is often the case with terrorist groups (a mix of strength and weakness, yet united in beliefs).

Psalms 83:6-11 supports that latter theory since it explicitly names 10 Islamic countries.

Q In your bookmark, you teach that during the "Days of Unleavened Bread," we are symbolically to remove false doctrines or teachings from our lives and to strive for a sin-free life, but the Bible teaches we are to remember these days to remember that Yahweh brought us out of Egypt with a powerful hand (Exod. 13:8-9). What do you say about this?

A Let's look at another example to clarify our position. We teach that the Feast of Tabernacles (FOT) is symbolic of the one-thousand year reign of Yahweh's coming Kingdom on earth. However, we also see that in Leviticus 23:43, the FOT specifically reminds us of the exodus and having inhabited temporary dwellings:

And ye shall keep it a feast unto Yahweh seven days in the year. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh

month. Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths: That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am Yahweh your Elohim, Leviticus 23:41-43, KJV. (emphasis ours)

We admit that it was our error for not having mentioned Exodus 13:8-9 in YAIY's *Yahweh's Appointed Times* bookmark under the subheading, "Feast of Unleavened Bread." We have now corrected this with the newest printing. On the subject of leavening, and its pertinence to false doctrines and teaching, the Master had this to say:

And Yahshua said to them, "Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." And they began to discuss among themselves, saying, "It is because we took no bread." But Yahshua, aware of this, said, "You men of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves that you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets you took up? Or the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many large baskets you took up? How is it that you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? But beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees," Then they understood that He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees, Matthew 16:6-12, NASB.

Furthermore, the Apostle Paul had this to say:

Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Messiah our Passover also has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 NASB.

We strive to live sin free, and we check our doctrines to ensure we're teaching correctly, especially during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

More Questions and Answers and over 100 studies are available for viewing online @ yaiy.org. Contact us if you have other Biblical questions.



YAHWEH'S ASSEMBLY IN YAHSHUA
2963 COUNTY ROAD 233
KINGDOM CITY, MO 65262

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

KINGDOM CITY, MO

PERMIT NO: 7

MOVING?

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



“Now, brothers, as to the times and seasons, you do not need to be written to. For you yourselves know very well that the day of Yahweh comes as a thief in the night.”

- 1 Thessalonians 5:1-2