

# We Have Inherited Lies

*The Bible Prophecy Every Christian Should Know!*



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By Kevin J. Mullins (2019)

Throughout this informative booklet you will notice The author has chosen to use the Hebraic pronunciation of the name of God as “Yehovah” instead of the more popular variation “Yahweh.” The term “Jehovah” is the modern English pronunciation, but was originally pronounced with a “Y” sound. This is also in contrast to the man-made title, “LORD” which most Bibles use instead of the personal name.

At this present time the author adheres to the research findings of Nehemia Gordon who has the privilege of being one of the very few people who have access to thousands of Hebrew documents and ancient Scriptures regarding the personal name of our Creator.

Gordon holds a master's degree in Biblical studies from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and has been an assistant on various projects related to the translation and publication of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Likewise, along with the Greek/Latin name “Jesus”, you will also find the Hebraic pronunciation of our Messiah (Christ) as “Yeshua.” This is the short form of the name “Yehoshua” which in modern English is more accurately “Joshua.” The Hebrew word “yeshua” means “salvation”, so when you use this form you are proclaiming salvation in His Name!

*“Who established all the ends of the earth? What is His name,  
And what is His Son’s name, If you know it?”*

*~ Proverbs 30:4 ~*

## The Bible Prophecy Every Christian Should Know

“ ‘Because your fathers have forsaken Me,’ declares Yehovah, ‘and have walked after other gods and served them and bowed themselves to them, and have forsaken Me, and did not guard My Law ... I shall throw you out of this land into a land that you do not know, neither you nor your fathers. And there you shall serve other gods day and night, where I show you no grace.’ Therefore see, the days are coming, declares Yehovah, when it is no longer said, ‘as Yehovah lives who brought up the children of Israel, from the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘as Yehovah lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the North and from all the lands where He had driven them. For I shall bring them back into their land I gave to their fathers ...’ O Yehovah, my [Jeremiah’s] strength and my stronghold and my refuge, in the day of distress the Gentiles shall come to You from the ends of the earth and say, ‘**Our fathers have inherited lies**, futility, and there is no value in them’ ... ‘This time I [Yehovah] will make them know My power and My might; And they shall know that My name is Yehovah.’ ”

~Jeremiah 16:11,13-15,19,21 ~

Here we read of a prophecy concerning the Gentiles coming out “from the ends of the earth”, in repentance toward God, proclaiming that their “fathers have inherited lies.” What are these doctrinal “lies” that have “no value in them”? The answer is found in the opening sentence: “*your fathers have forsaken Me,*’ declares Yehovah, ‘and have **walked after other gods and served them and bowed themselves to them, and have forsaken Me, and *did not guard My Law.***”

Notice the consequences of their choices:

1. *I shall throw you out of this land into a land that you do not know.*
2. *There you shall serve other gods day and night.*
3. *Where I show you no grace.*

Now notice God’s promise of a restoration when He said:

*“For I shall bring them back [from the land of the North] into their land I gave to their fathers.”*

Why does this prophecy say “land of the North” and then say the Gentiles “shall come ... from the ends of the earth”?

After the death of Moses, Joshua gave the 12 tribes of Israel their land boundaries. In time, due to violent disagreements, the 12 tribes of Israel were divided into two major groups. To the **South** were the tribes of Judah and Benjamin. In Scripture they are collectively referred to as “Judah”, or “the house of Judah” since Judah was the principle tribe. To the **North** were the remaining 10 tribes. In Scripture they are collectively referred to by several names:

- *The house of Israel/Jacob (1 Kgs. 12:21; Jer. 31:31).*
- *The house of Joseph (1 Kgs. 11:28).*
- *Samaria (Hos. 7:1; 8:5,6; 13:16).*
- *Ephraim (Hos. 4:16,17; 5:3; 7:1).*



Sometimes in Scripture, all 12 tribes collectively are also called “the house of Israel.” As we will see, God’s true people as a whole (made up of Jews and Gentiles) are called “Israel.”

Both houses rebelled against God and were taken captive by heathen nations. The **northern kingdom** (which we will mostly refer to as **Ephraim**) was taken captive to Assyria while the southern kingdom (Judah) was taken captive to Babylon. Today the southern kingdom of Judah has retained their identity as Jews, while **the northern kingdom of Ephraim have lost their identity and have become assimilated into all the nations of the world** (see, Hos. 7:8; 8:8; 9:16-17). They are known

as “the Ten Lost Tribes” and “the lost sheep of the house of Israel”, although God knows right where they are! (See, Jas. 1:1).

When Jacob (whose name was changed to “Israel”) gave blessings to his 12 sons, he told his grandson **Ephraim** that “*his seed shall become a multitude of nations*” (Gen. 48:17-19). The Hebrew word for “multitude” here is מְלֵאָה (melo) which means “fullness” (see also, Psalm 24:1). The word for “nations” is הַגּוֹיִם (ha-goyim) which normally refers to “the Gentiles.” Thus Ephraim would become “*the fullness of the Gentiles*”, (Paul also refers to this in Romans 11:25-27). Now we see why the prophecy in Jeremiah referred to “the Gentiles” as being “from the land of the North” and from “the ends of the earth.”

*“For thus said the Master Yehovah, ‘See, I Myself shall search for My sheep and seek them out ... I shall seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered in a day of cloud and thick darkness. And I shall bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the lands, and shall bring them to their own land. And I shall feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys, and in all the dwellings of the land.’ ~ Ezekiel 34:11-13 (see also, Zech. 10:8-10)*

In the book of Hosea we read about a divine judgment upon Ephraim (the house of Israel). Because **Ephraim had committed spiritual whoredom** (or, adultery) against God, Hosea was told by God to go out and marry a prostitute named Gomer. God’s plan was to reveal a spiritual lesson by this strange command. He would reveal His mercy and redemptive character toward Ephraim and give them a way back into His Kingdom.

There were three children born of this strange marriage which would stand as a rebuke to Ephraim. The names of these three children were: *Jezreel* (Hosea 1:4), *Lo-ruhamah* (verse 6), and *Lo-ammi* (verse 9). The meanings of these three names are extremely significant:

- *Jezreel*: Comes from two Hebrew words: *Zarah*, which means “to sow” or “to scatter,” and *El*, which is the Hebrew title of God (Elohim) which means *Almighty*. Therefore, *Jezreel* means, “Elohim [or, the Almighty] will scatter.”
- *Lo-ruhamah*: Comes from two Hebrew words: *Lo*, which means “no, or not,” and *ruhamah*, which comes from the Hebrew word *racham* which means “mercy or compassion.” Therefore, *Lo-ruhamah* means, “no mercy or compassion.” “*Call her name Lo-ruhamah: for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel*” (Hos. 1:6).
- *Lo-ammi*: Comes from two Hebrew words: *Lo*, which means “no, or not,” and *ammi*, which comes from the Hebrew word, *am*, which means “people.” Therefore, *Lo-ammi* means “not a people.” “*Call his name Lo-ammi: for ye are not My people*” (Hos. 1:9).

Because of the spiritual adultery of both houses of Israel, they were both taken captive into other nations. Due to Ephraim’s continued idolatry among the multitude of nations (Gentiles), **God divorced the northern kingdom** (Hos. 4:17; Jer. 3:8). Although Judah also “cheated”, God did not divorce Judah (Jews) on account of His graceful covenant of promise made to Judah (Gen. 49:9-10); as well as to David (Ps. 132:11); **because the Messiah (Yeshua) would be of the bloodline of David (Judah/Jews; Is. 9:6-7; Lk. 1:31-32; Heb. 7:14; Rev. 5:5)**. Due to God’s providence, the southern kingdom of Judah returned to their land and never lost their identity as Jews. However, through the death of Yeshua, the Almighty would find a way to unite Judah and Ephraim back into one family/kingdom (Rom. 7:1-4; Rom. 11) which is what the parable of the prodigal son (Ephraim) and his jealous brother (Judah) is all about (compare, Lk. 15:11-32 w/Rom. 11:11). Notice what Peter wrote concerning the **Gentile believers** and how it relates to Hosea and Gomer’s three children:

“You [Gentiles] also, as lively stones, are built up as a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Yeshua Messiah. Wherefore also it is contained in the Scripture, ‘Behold, I lay in Zion a chief Corner Stone [the Messiah], elect, precious: and he that believes on Him shall not be **scattered** [Jezreel] ...’ But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light: Which in time past **were not a people** [Lo-ammi], but are now the people of God: which had **not obtained mercy** [Lo-ruhamah], but now have obtained mercy.”

~ 1 Peter 2:5,6,9,10 (see also, Hos. 1:10-11).

God had promised Abraham that the Messiah would come from his seed (loins, descendants). Paul says, if anyone (whether Jew or Gentile) accepts this Messiah, they will be counted (credited) as being a descendant of Abraham and receive all the covenant promises God gave

to him, then to his son Isaac, and ultimately to his son Jacob (Israel): *“And if you are Messiah’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise”* (Gal. 3:16,27-29). **Thus all believers, who remain in Christ (Messiah), are considered to be “Israel” (see also, Ez. 47:21-23) and will receive all the covenant promises to Abraham such as: 1). Land; 2). A nation; 3). To be a blessing to the whole world (Gen. 12:1-3; 17:7-8).**

Because Ephraim has been scattered throughout all the nations, they have become foreigners of the true assembly of Yehovah. Remember, God had said, they *“walked after other gods and served them and bowed themselves to them, and have forsaken Me, and did not guard My Law.”* Today, Gentiles (even those who profess faith in Yeshua/Jesus) usually regard the Law as something foreign to the gospel ~ or something that was meant for Jews. The Hebrew word usually translated as “Law” is תּוֹרָה (Torah). When you read the word *Torah* what do you first think of? Probably something Jewish right? Well, the Hebrew word *Torah* simply means “instruction or, teaching.” **The Torah is God’s instruction manual for the human race on how to live righteously.** The Torah is traditionally considered to be the first five books of Moses’ (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) because they expound upon what God defines as divine instructions, or His standard of righteousness according to His own character. Listen to what God says concerning the sinful condition of Ephraim:

***“I have written for him numerous matters of My Torah [Law], but they were regarded as strange” ~ Hosea 8:12***

Do you think God’s Torah (Law) is strange? Let’s see:

Most Christians accept that there is a divine Command to honor a day of rest and is why churches are filled every Sunday. However, if I were to tell you that the divine Command actually gives a specific day, namely the 7th day of the week (Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 20:8-11), would you think it was strange if you found out that, according to God’s calendar, the true 7th day is the time period commonly known as sunset Friday to sunset Saturday?

How about the Commands in the Torah which give divine instructions on what creatures are unclean to eat such as pigs, lobsters and clams (Lev. 11; Deut. 14)? Or Commands to observe yearly Festivals, which are not Christmas and Easter, but such as: Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles, etc. (Lev. 23)?

Most Christians don’t even know the biblical definition of what sin is. John says, ***“sin is the transgression of the Law”*** (1 Jn. 3:4). And of course, the word “Law” here is a Greek/Roman word and the word that John (being Jewish) would have used is *Torah*. Also keep in mind that this is a New Testament letter, therefore, this is a New Testament definition of sin. Sin has always been the transgression of the Torah (Ps. 119:1-3; Rom. 7:7).

## *Sin is the self-pleasing act of not submitting to God's standard of righteousness (His character) defined in His Torah!*

The definition of sin did not change between the Old Testament and the New! Worshipping other gods in place of the one true God (Yehovah) is still a sin today (Ex. 20:3; Matt. 4:8-10). Murder is still a sin (Ex. 20:13; Matt. 5:21-23). Adultery is still a sin (Ex. 20:14; Matt. 5:27-28). Stealing and Homosexuality is still a sin (Lev. 18:22; Rom. 1:24-28; 1 Cor. 6:9-10). Abandoning orphans and widows is still a sin (Ex. 22:21; Jas. 1:21-27). etc.; because all of these are in opposition to God's eternal character.

I'm sure most of you are saying "amen!" to this. However, breaking the 7th-day Sabbath is still a sin today as much as it was back then! Uh oh, now all of a sudden I'm sure you're quoting Romans 6:14 screaming, "We're not under the law, but under grace!" To which I would reply, "Why is it that the Sabbath Command is the only one of the Ten Commandments that gets this reaction?" Let's take a closer look at Romans 6:14.

### **Romans 6:14**

"For sin shall not rule over you, because you are not under the law, but under grace."

So, let me ask you this: according to this verse what are we not under? Sure, we are not under the law. But wait, the first part says "sin shall not rule OVER you." As you can see, we are not under the rule of sin. (Paul brings this point out in verse 12 as well). What is sin again? "*Sin is the transgression of the Law.*" So, Paul is saying, "Transgression of the Law will not rule over you ..." This means, **those who are truly "under grace" will be keeping the Law!** In verses 1 and 2 he says: "*What then shall we say? Shall we continue in sin [transgressing the Law] so that grace may increase? By no means! How can we who died to sin [transgressing of the Law] live in it [sin] any longer?*" He's saying, how can anyone keep breaking the Law if they are truly under the power of grace!

***Grace is not an excuse to sin; grace is God's protective power in us to overcome sin!***

Paul says:

"Through Him [Yeshua/Jesus], and on behalf of His name, **we received grace** and apostleship **for faithful-obedience** among the Gentiles ..." ~ Romans 1:5.

And then again in Titus 2:11-12 we read:

"For the **grace** of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world."

## God's Law: The Transcript of His Character



*"Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but My salvation shall be for ever, and My righteousness shall not be abolished. Hearken unto Me, you that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is My Law; fear not the reproach of men, neither be afraid of their revilings"*  
~ Isaiah 51:7-8 ~

God's righteousness is forever. It will never be abolished. Righteousness is the only life that's everlasting. When Yeshua (Jesus) promises you "everlasting life" He is not merely promising that you will never die, in the effect of arousing any selfish ambitions to simply live forever, but He's speaking of a lifestyle that reflects the Father's righteousness! This righteousness is transcribed for us in His Law (Torah) and was perfectly demonstrated in the life of the Son of God. When the Law is truly in our hearts we will "know" (experience) the Father's righteousness.

Scripture is clear: **"There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understands, there is none that seeks after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that does good, no, not one"** (Rom. 3:10-12). Notice that "righteousness" and "good" are synonymous with each other. When Scripture says our heavenly Father is "righteous" it is saying He is "good." Yeshua/Jesus echoes this by saying: *"Why do you call Me good? There is no one good but The One God"* (Mk. 10:18). Now, it would be dangerous for us to simply try to come up with the definition of "good" (righteousness) without using the Scriptures. Mankind defining what good and evil is, in our own fallen minds, is the result of eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. We will only co-mingle evil and good together. *"Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who turn darkness to light and light to darkness, who replace bitter with sweet and sweet with bitter. Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight."* (Is. 5:20-21).

So what is "good" and "righteous"? Well, let's go back to the beginning where God Himself first used the word "good"—at Creation! You will see in Gen. 1 that, after every day of Creation week, God called each day "good" then at the very end of the last day of Creation He said "very good." Paul wrote: *"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse"* (Rom. 1:20). So, the Father's attributes (His eternal character) are clearly seen in Creation, and we have seen that Creation displayed goodness. But what was it about each day that was "good"? Well, what do each of the things He made do? What does the sun do? It **GIVES** light. It **GIVES** heat. It **GIVES** life and vitality to plants, beasts, and humans. What about trees? What do they do? They **GIVE** resting places and food for birds and other creatures. They **GIVE** shade. They **GIVE** oxygen. They **GIVE** color to the world. How about grass? It **GIVES** food for the creatures. It **GIVES** oxygen and cools the air. It **GIVES** color to the world. How about water? Water **GIVES** a home for sea creatures. It **GIVES** us healthy nutrients and cleansing.

I think you get the point. The Father's character—His righteousness—is a life of **GIVING!** The conceptual meaning of "our Father" is that He is the eternal **PROVIDER** who **GIVES** to all His creatures what is needed for physical and spiritual health (Matt. 6:25-34). Yes, God is a **SERVER!** Through the life of Yeshua/Jesus we see that the Father is an affectionate, sacrificial **GIVER** (Mk. 10:42-45). All He does is **GIVE!** Even when most of the world chooses to hate Him, our Father still **GIVES!** *"For God so loved the world, that He GAVE His only begotten Son, that whoever believes [fully trusts] in Him, shall not perish, but have everlasting life"* (Jn. 3:16). Yes, we will receive "everlasting life"—the life of righteousness! Through the indwelling Spirit (life) of the Father, through His Son, we will display the life of sacrificial **GIVING**—the life of unselfish **SERVING**. A life that displays the love of God by loving our neighbor. A life of unconditional for-GIVE-ness toward those who hate, insult, and persecute us. A life that only promotes health and life and shuns away evil, destruction, retaliation, and violence. This we do, not by our own power, but by His indwelling righteousness; for *"It is because of Him that you are in Messiah Yeshua, who has become for us Wisdom from God: our righteousness, holiness, and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: 'Let him who glories, glory in Yehovah'"* (1 Cor. 1:28-30). We are to always *"Give glory to Him who made heaven and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them"* (Rev. 14:7).

Yeshua said, *"let your light shine before people in such a way that they will see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven"* (Matt. 5:16). Doing good (giving) works is never meant to earn favor with God. We cannot do good works unless the One who is good (giving) is living in us and through us! This is why our main focus in displaying "good works" is so that those around us will glorify our Father in heaven. They will see that **He** truly is good (giving) and righteous.



The Psalmist wrote: *"The heavens declare the glory of God, And the firmament reveals [displays] His handiwork"* (Ps. 19:1). Yes, *"The heavens proclaim His righteousness, and all peoples see His glory"* (Ps. 97:6). God's glory is His character of righteousness. Moses beseeched the Father saying, *"Please show Me Your glory."* God replied saying: *"I will cause all My goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name [character] of Jehovah before you. I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion"* (Ex. 33:18-19).

It is no wonder why Satan wants to destroy God's Law. He has infiltrated the churches deceiving those who proclaim that the Law has been done away. But we have seen, *"My righteousness shall not be abolished. Harken unto Me, you that know [experience] righteousness, the people in whose heart is My Law."* The Law is to be in our hearts so that we will declare, *"I delight to do Your will, O my God; yes, Your Law is within my heart"* (Ps. 40:8). There is another giver out there. Not a giver of life, but a giver of death. One who warps our understanding of Scripture which reveals the Father's love. In Ex. 12:12 we read: *"I [God] will pass through the land of Egypt that night and strike every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both people and animals. I'll execute judgments on all the gods of Egypt. I am Jehovah."* How do you read this? A surface glance seems to reveal God is a destructive and angry Father. However, Let us now look at verse 23: *"Jehovah will pass through to strike down the Egyptians, and when He sees the blood on the lintel and the two doorposts, Jehovah will pass over the doorway, and won't allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down."* God is not the one doing the destroying! He's the One protecting His people from "the destroyer"!

Paul counsels us to *"Neither murmur, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed by the destroyer"* (1 Cor. 10:10). Here Paul is referring to the time when serpents came and began to poison the people of Israel as they were wandering through the wilderness on their way to Mt. Sinai (Num. 21). The Greek work for "destroyer" here is *ὄλοθρευτής (olothreutés)* which means "venomous serpent." Again, who is this "destroyer"? In Num. 21:6 it says, *"And Jehovah sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, and many of the people of Israel died."* Why is this implying that Jehovah is the one who "sent" the serpents? Is the Destroyer and Jehovah working together? Never! (2 Cor. 6:14-16). In Num. 8:15 we read that God led the people of Israel *"through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water ..."* God was protecting them from the serpents that were already there. He did not gather up a band of serpents like a piper and lead them to destroy the people! The people murmured against God revealing their unbelief in His protective care (Deut. 29:2-5). This grieved our Father, so, **by their own request**, and because God is in opposition to forced obedience, He removed His protective hand permitting the serpents to bite; just as He removed His protective hand from the doorposts which did not have the blood of the lamb, permitting the destroyer to kill the firstborn in Exodus 12!

Revelation 9:11 speaks of *"the angel of the bottomless pit"* calling him "Abaddon" and "Apollyon." This name means "Destroyer." In Rev. 9:1 it says this angel is the one who fell *"from heaven to the earth"* and was given *"the key to the bottomless pit."* Clearly this angel is the fallen angel known as *"that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, who deceives the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him"* (Rev. 12:9). It is Satan who is the Destroyer! Peter warned: *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour"* (1 Pet. 5:8). And Yeshua (Jesus), who displayed the Father's character perfectly, said: *"The Son of man [the Messiah] did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them"* (Lk. 9:56). And then again says, *"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it in all its fullness. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep"* (Jn. 10:10-11).

*"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty pride, but in humility consider others more important than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Messiah Yeshua."*  
- Phil. 2:3-5 -

## Comparison Between the Father and His Torah

### The Father Is:

Luke 18:19  
Isaiah 5:16  
Deuteronomy 32:4  
Matthew 5:48  
1 John 4:8  
Exodus 9:27  
Deuteronomy 32:4  
1 John 3:3  
John 4:24  
Malachi 3:6  
Genesis 21:33

GOOD  
HOLY  
JUST  
PERFECT  
LOVE  
RIGHTEOUS  
TRUTH  
PURE  
SPIRITUAL  
UNCHANGABLE  
ETERNAL

### The Torah Is:

Romans 7:12  
Romans 7:12  
Romans 7:12  
Psalm 19:7  
Romans 13:10  
Psalm 19:9  
Psalm 119:142,151  
Psalm 19:8  
Romans 7:14  
Matthew 5:18  
Psalm 111:7,8

That's what grace is! It's the power to live righteously "in this present world." 1 John 5:17 says, "*all unrighteousness is sin.*" Therefore, to live righteously is to NOT sin. It is the life of faithful-obedience to the divine Law (the Torah; Ps. 119:172)! In Romans chapter 8 Paul says:

"Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Messiah Yeshua. For in Messiah Yeshua the law of the Spirit of life has **set you free from the law of sin and death.** For what the Law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for [to expose] sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, **so that the righteous standard of the Law might be fulfilled in us,** who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh; but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. The mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace, because **the mind of the flesh is hostile to God: It does not submit to God's Law, nor can it do so.** Those controlled by the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are controlled not by the flesh, but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Messiah, he does not belong to Messiah. But if Messiah is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet the Spirit gives you life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of Him who raised Yeshua from the dead lives in you, He who raised Messiah Yeshua from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who dwells within you." ~ Romans 8:1-11.

So here it is. We are set free (or, no longer under) "*the law of sin and death.*" Because of our weakened flesh we could never obey the divine Torah. However, Paul says Yeshua came "in the likeness of sinful flesh" and was fully obedient to the Torah in every respect, thus He "condemned sin in the flesh" — He exposed sin for the disgusting thing that it is!

Since Yeshua came "in the likeness of sinful flesh" how did He keep the Torah perfectly since "*the mind of the flesh is hostile to God: It does not submit to God's Law, nor can it do so*"?

***In order to overcome sin in "sinful flesh" Yeshua had to rely upon fresh supplies of grace from His Father! It was through His Father's Spirit (selfless presence), living in Him, that gave Him the assured victory over sin (Phil. 2:3-8)!***

This is why Yeshua proclaimed, "*I can of My own self do nothing ... because I seek not My own will, but the will of the Father who has sent Me*" (Jn. 5:30). This victory weakened "the law of sin and death" to the point that we, **by the Spirit of Yeshua living in and through us,** will also live-out the righteous standard of the divine Law (Torah). Brothers and sisters, this is truly living under His grace! This is the true practice of righteousness by faith! The key to the victory over the sinful life is that **we must live by Yeshua's unfailing faith (that accepted the Father's true selfless character of mercy, love, tenderness and forgiveness) abiding in and through us (Gal. 2:20)!**

Yeshua said ...

*“Abide in Me, and I will abide in you. Just as the branch cannot produce fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, **neither can you unless you abide in Me.** I am the vine, you are the branches. The one who abides in Me while I abide in him produces much fruit, because **apart from Me you can do nothing.**” ~ John 15:4-5.*



Many teach that walking in the Spirit somehow means one is not walking in the Law (Torah). However, Paul says the exact opposite! He said, *“the mind of the flesh ... does not submit to God’s Law, nor can it do so ...”* So the mind without the Holy Spirit cannot submit to God’s Law, for it is impossible! He then says, *“You, however, are controlled not by the flesh, but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.”* He’s teaching that those who do have the Holy Spirit can and will submit to the Law of God! In fact, it is the only way! In his letter to the Messianic Hebrews he writes:

*“For we do not have a High Priest [Yeshua] who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one **who was tempted in every way that we are, yet was without sin.** Let us then approach the throne of **grace** with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and **find grace to help us in our time of need.**”*

~ Hebrews 4:15-16.

Did you fully catch what that says? **Paul is actually saying we can overcome sin the exact same way Yeshua did. How? By approaching “the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace [God’s protective power] to help us in our time of need [meaning, when we are tempted]” ~ just like Yeshua did when He was tempted!**

Remember, in Jeremiah’s prophecy on page 1 of this booklet, God said the people *“**did not guard My Law ... So I shall throw you out of this land into a land that you do not know ... And there you shall serve other gods day and night, where I show you no grace**”* (Jer. 16:11,13). As you can see, we are NOT under grace (His protective power) if we willfully break and teach against God’s Law! (1 Jn. 2:4). God will remove His protective grace if we continually choose to reject His love. Grace and Torah-keeping go hand in hand. The Psalmist wrote: *“Remove from me the way of falsehood, and give me grace through Your Torah [Law]”* (Ps. 119:29).

We’ve been looking at Romans 6:14, now let’s look at the very next verse: *“**What then? Shall we sin [transgress the Law] because we are not under the law, but under grace? By no means!**”* (Vs. 15). Isn’t that simple to understand? If you were given a ticket for speeding that means you are now “under the law.” You are guilty of breaking the law. After your fine is paid in full are you now allowed to keep speeding (breaking the law)? No!

How about this scenario ~ At court the judge himself stands up and pays your fine for you. You are now “under grace.” No longer “under the

law.” But does this mean you can continue speeding (breaking the law)? By no means! In fact, it would be a huge slap in the face to the one who paid your fine! (Now read, Isaiah chapter 53 and Hebrews 6:4-6).

Jeremiah said:

“Look, you’re trusting in deceptive words that cannot benefit. Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear by false gods, burn incense to Baal, follow other gods that you don’t know, and then come to stand before Me in this house that is called by My name and say, ‘We’re delivered so we can continue to do all these things that are repugnant to God?’ Has this house that is called by My name become a hideout for bandits in your eyes? Look, I’m watching,’ declares Yehovah.” ~ Jeremiah 7:8-11.

There’s a saying that goes, “The church is a hospital for sinners.” This is true, but what kind of hospital would it be if no one ever got well? God’s house is not to become “a hideout for bandits [sinners].”

***Living for Jesus is not the repetitive lifestyle of continuing in sin and then proclaiming, “We’re delivered [forgiven] so we can continue to do all these things that are repugnant to God.”***

That is NOT the gospel (Good News) of salvation! At some point we must get well and stop sinning (transgressing God’s Torah/Law). The ONLY way this can happen is if we stop relying on our own works of the Law and fully permit God’s grace to completely save us (Jude 24-25; Heb. 7:25). As to the adulterous woman He says to us: “Neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more” (Jn. 8:11). That’s the power of forgiveness!

The angel told Joseph to name the Child “Yeshua, for He shall save His people **from** their sins” (Matt. 1:21). That’s what “Yeshua” means; it is the Hebrew word for “salvation”, and salvation is being saved “from” sinning (transgressing God’s Torah/Law). John wrote, “No one who is born of God [born again] will practice sin, because God’s seed remains in them; they are unable to sin, because they have been born of God [born again]” (1 Jn. 3:9). That’s the power of grace! How many of us (including myself) too often fail Him, by resisting His grace, and “fall short of the glory [the righteous character] of God” (Rom. 3:23)? **Most people just shrug off sin by saying, “Oh well, I’m only human, I’m not perfect, just forgiven.” But how many of us truly hate (loathe/oppose) sin? How many of us truly hate (loathe/oppose) the practice of transgressing God’s holy Law (Torah) which is the divine transcript of His eternal selfless and affectionate character displayed by, and imparted in us, through His Son Yeshua Messiah?**

Yeshua (Jesus) is the very “Word of God” ~ the Torah in the flesh (see, Jn.1:1-3,14). He is the living, breathing, walking, and speaking Torah! Yeshua said He is “The Way, the Truth, and the Life” and no one comes to the Father except through Him (Jn. 14:6). “The Way”; “the Truth”; and

“the Life” ~ all three attributes of God’s Torah (Ps. 119:1, 142, Prov. 6:23). To say the Torah (Law) is done away with is to do away with Yeshua (Jesus) who is the only One who can save us from sin. Yes, save us from the satanic desire to want God dead (out of the way) and live to please self.

Yeshua promised, *“If you love Me, you will keep My Commandments. And I will ask the Father to give you **another Comforter** to be with you always. **He is the Spirit of truth**, whom the world [those who resist] cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows [experiences] Him. But you know [experience] Him, because He lives with you and will be in you”* (Jn. 14:15-17). Do you not realize Yeshua is speaking grammatically IN the third person and not OF a third person? He is speaking of His presence as *“the Spirit of truth”* who will live in and through us! In the next verse He continues saying, *“I will not leave you comfortless: **I will come to you**”* (Vs. 18). The Greek word for “Comforter” here is παράκλητον (parakletos) which is the same word, referring to Yeshua, which is often translated as “Advocate” in 1 Jn. 2:1. Yeshua is our “Advocate”; our “Comforter” ~ “The Spirit (presence) of truth” in us! (See, Ps. 51:11; 139:7; Jn. 15:4-5; Gal. 4:6-7).

Yes, we all must surrender and permit His Holy Spirit (the obedient life of Yeshua) to completely dwell in us *“until Messiah be formed in [us]”* (Gal. 4:19); because *“We know that when He [Yeshua] is revealed, **we will be like Him**, because we will see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope based on Him keeps himself pure, just as He is pure”* (1 Jn. 3:2-3). How is it that we remain pure as He is pure? John continues: *“Everyone who keeps living in sin transgresses the Law [Torah]. In fact, sin is the transgression of the Law [Torah]. You know that He [Yeshua] was revealed to take away sins, and there is not any sin in Him. No one who remains in union [oneness] with Him keeps on sinning. **The one who keeps on sinning hasn’t seen Him or known [experienced] Him**”* (Vss. 4-6; see also, 2 Cor. 3:18; Col. 1:27). Yeshua echoes Jer. 7:8-11 warning us:

“Not everyone that says unto Me, ‘Lord, Lord’, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that does the will of My Father who is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name? and in Your name have cast out devils? and Your name done many wonderful works?’ And then I will profess unto them, **I never knew you; depart from Me, you workers of Lawlessness** [iniquity].” ~ Matthew 7:21-23.

Yeshua says here that to “know” (experience) Him is to do “the will of My Father.” What is the Father’s will? *“I delight to do **Your will**, O my God, **Your Torah** is within my heart”* (Ps. 40:8).

***“Why do you keep calling Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ but don’t do what I tell you?”***  
~ Luke 6:46 ~



## Do Gentile Believers Keep the Sabbath?

Those who truly walk in the Spirit of Yeshua (Jesus) will lovingly obey all His Commands, including the Sabbath. On this day we are not to do “any work” (Ex. 20:8-11). In order to protect themselves from performing “any work” on this day, the Jewish leaders (known as the Pharisees) added all sorts of strict rules and incorporated their **own ideas** as to what God meant by “any work” (see, *the 39 Melachot*). All of the disagreements concerning the Sabbath between Yeshua and the religious leaders of His day were about these added man-made commands. The Pharisees taught that it was unlawful to heal people on the Sabbath. Yeshua, however, taught otherwise (Matt. 12:9-14). When John wrote that the religious leaders sought to kill Yeshua because “*He broke the Sabbath*” (Jn. 5:18), he was referring to the Pharisees’ own ideas of what the Sabbath is all about.

***Yeshua never broke the Sabbath, but kept it the way it was originally intended to be kept!***

If Yeshua had broken the Sabbath He would have sinned, but Scripture is clear He did not (Lk. 4:16; Jn. 15:10; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15; 1 Pet. 2:21-22). All of Yeshua’s followers (Jews and Gentiles) kept observing the Sabbath and the yearly Festivals after His ascension back to heaven.

- **The Sabbath:** Acts 13:14,42,44; 16:13; 17:2; 18:4.
- **The yearly Festivals:** Acts 2:1; 12:2-3; 18:21; 20:6,16; 1 Cor. 5:6-8; 16:8.

To the Messianic Hebrews Paul wrote: *“There remains, therefore, a Sabbath rest for the people of God to keep, because the one who enters God’s rest has himself rested from his own actions, just as God did from His. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one may fail by following their example of disobedience”* (Heb. 4:9-11). The act of converted Gentiles observing these things has always been God’s plan:

“... **the foreigners [Gentiles] who join themselves to Yehovah**, to minister to Him, to love the name of Yehovah, to be His servants, and to bless Yehovah’s name, **observing the Sabbath without profaning it**, and who hold fast **My covenant**—these I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer.” ~ Isaiah 56:6-7.

Many teachers today point to **Deut. 5:15** which says, “*You are to remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, but Yehovah your God brought you out from there ... Therefore, Yehovah your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.*” They quote this verse trying to prove that the Sabbath was only given to the Jews who were delivered from Egypt. This cannot be true due to the fact when God began speaking His Ten Commandment Law from on top of Mt. Sinai He began by saying, “*I am Yehovah your God, who has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You will have no other gods before*

Me”(Ex. 20:2-3). He then proceeds with the rest of the Ten. So, according to their false claim, the prohibitions against murder, adultery and stealing etc. must only be for Jews! However, God often reminded His people of their deliverance when He spoke of other Commands as well (see, Lev. 22:31-33; Deut. 24:17-18). In fact, holiness could be obtained only by Jews according to this erroneous doctrine (see, Lev. 11:45).

What most misunderstand is **Judah** (whose descendants are Jews) was only one of the tribes present at Mt. Sinai. The people as a whole were Israel (including the “mixed multitude” that came with them and accepted the God of Israel; Ex. 12:38; Lev. 19:33-34; Num. 15:15). Stephen calls them “*the church in the wilderness*” (Acts 7:38). Israel is the church made up of believers who have always kept “*the Commandments of God and the testimony of Yeshua Messiah*” (Mic. 5:2-4,7-8; Rev. 12:1-5,17). True repentant Israel of old accepted Yeshua every time they offered the sacrifices and oblations which pointed forward to “*that Prophet*” whom God foretold would come “*from your brethren ... and unto Him you shall listen*” because He would be “*the Voice of Yehovah*” in the flesh (Ex. 18:5-6; Jn. 1:1-3,14; Mk. 9:7; Acts 3:20-23).

So, the Sabbath cannot be for Jews only, it was given at Creation for all mankind (Gen. 2:1-3) and handed down to all Israel (the church) at Sinai, including **Ephraim** who would become “a multitude of nations” (the fullness of the Gentiles) and God said, “*Six days you may work, but **the seventh day is the Sabbath of rest, a sacred assembly**. You are not to do any work. It’s the Sabbath to Yehovah **wherever you live**” (Lev. 23:3).*

Some point to the fact that God seemingly gave a “death penalty” to all who broke the Sabbath (Ex. 31:12-17). Certainly the Sabbath is not for today since no one stones people to death for Sabbath-breaking right? Wrong! **Lev. 20:10** states that adulterers were stoned to death. So does that mean the Command against adultery has been done away with since no one stones people for adultery today? Of course not! **The concept of why a loving and forgiving Father, who only promotes life, would ever call for the act of stoning someone to death is to illustrate man’s disobedience which only brings self-destruction.** (This will be handled later on in this book).

In **Acts chapter 15:20** the Jerusalem council decided to help the newly converted Gentile believers by giving them 4 preliminary things they must be setting aside from their pagan customs. All of these things are from the Torah such as:

1. Abstain “*from idols*”(Ex. 22:20).
2. Abstain from “*sexual immorality*” (Lev. 18; Num. 25:1-3).
3. Abstain from “*things strangled*”(which is an instruction concerning the proper way to slaughter a creature; Gen. 9:4).
4. Abstain from “*consuming blood*”(Lev. 17:10-15; which refers back to the dietary instructions of Torah; Lev. 11; Deut. 14).

## Who Is Israel?

It is impossible to clearly understand the subject of Israel apart from a careful study of the Old Testament. The first time the name "Israel" appears in Scripture is when it was spoken to Jacob after his long night of wrestling with a powerful opponent. The heavenly stranger finally said, "Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed" (Genesis 32:28). Thus the name "Israel" was at first a name of heavenly origin applied to Jacob alone. It represented his spiritual victory over sin, through wrestling in prayer and claiming God's grace. Jacob had 12 sons who later moved into Egypt. The descendants of these sons eventually multiplied into the 12 tribes, which were later forced into slavery by the Egyptians until the time of Moses. Then God told Pharaoh through Moses, "Israel is my son, even my firstborn ... Let my son go" (Exodus 4:22, 23). Note here that the name "Israel" is expanded to include Jacob's descendants. Therefore, the name "Israel" first applied to a victorious man, then to his people.

About 800 B.C., the Lord spoke through the prophet Hosea, saying, "When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt" (Hosea 11:1). Yet by this time, the nation of Israel had failed to live up to the spiritual meaning of its name. You see this verse in Hosea explodes with tremendous importance, when we look at the New Testament. Approximately 800 years after Hosea's prophecy, we learn, "Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king" (Matthew 2:1). Because Herod felt threatened by this new child king, he sent soldiers who "slew all the children that were in Bethlehem" (v.16). Joseph was warned of the impending crisis in advance when "The angel of the Lord appeareth to [him] in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word" (v. 13). So the family arose and "departed into Egypt" (v. 14). Matthew writes that the child Jesus remained in Egypt "until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son" (v. 15). Notice that Matthew quotes Hosea 11:1—which originally referred to the nation of Israel coming out of Egypt—and actually declares it more perfectly "fulfilled" in Jesus Christ!

According to the New Testament, there are now two Israels. One group is composed of literal Israelites "according to the flesh" (Romans 9:3, 4). The other is "spiritual Israel," composed of Jews and Gentiles who believe in Jesus Christ. Paul writes, "They are not all Israel, which are of Israel" (Romans 9:6). How's that for proof! That is, not all are part of God's spiritual Israel who are of the literal nation of Israel. Paul continues: "That is, They which are the children of the flesh [physical descendants of Abraham], these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed" (v. 8). The children of the flesh are only natural descendants of Abraham, but the children of the promise are counted as the true seed. Today, any person—Jew or Gentile—can become part of this spiritual nation of Israel through faith in Jesus Christ. Paul also writes, "Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham" (Galatians 3:7). "For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh" (Philippians 3:3). Thus, according to Paul, a real Jew in the sight of God is anybody—Jew or Gentile—who has personal faith in Jesus Christ!

We all know that people are saved under the new covenant, right? Now notice the wording of this new covenant: "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their minds and write them in their hearts" (Hebrews 8:10). The new covenant is made "with the house of Israel"! God never makes a salvation covenant with Gentiles. In fact, nowhere in Scripture do you find any saving covenant made with anyone but Israelites! So if you want to be saved, you must be born again as a spiritual Jew. This is not to say that all Christians must now be circumcised and sacrifice lambs, but we must have the spiritual equivalent of these things—Jesus, the Lamb of God (the final sacrifice), and circumcision of the heart. God does not have one method of salvation for Jews and a different one for non-Jews. Everyone is saved the same way under the same program—by grace through faith. Paul uses the analogy of an olive tree to explain that all Gentiles who are saved are grafted into the stock of Israel. "And if some of the branches [Jews] be broken off, and thou [Gentiles], being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them [Jews], and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root [supports] thee" (Romans 11:17, 18).

The Christian religion is based on a Jewish manual called the Bible. (In this light, it is difficult to understand how any professed Christian could be anti-Semitic.) [True] Christianity is not a new religion, but rather the completion of the Jewish faith. So with this in mind, we can now better understand what Paul meant when he said, "And so all Israel shall be saved" (Romans 11:26). Some take this verse to mean that God will ultimately save all literal Jews. If this were true, it would contradict every principle of God's dealings with humans throughout history and Scripture. God is not a racist. In Jesus' eyes, "There is neither Jew nor Greek" (Galatians 3:28).

(Excerpted from, *Spiritual Israel*, by Doug Batchelor).



Of course, these are not all the things a believer is to forsake, but these instructions met the needs of these early Gentiles who were steeped in pagan customs (or, lies that their ancestors had inherited). Of course murdering, stealing, adultery, and coveting etc. are also forbidden. In fact, verse 21 of Acts 15 goes on to say that these Gentile believers will learn the way of God's kingdom more and more as they come and read the books of Moses (the Torah-portions) *"every Sabbath."*

Now read the following quote from historian W.D. Davies:

"Everywhere, especially in the East of the Roman Empire, there would be Jewish Christians whose outward way of life would not be markedly different from that of the Jews ... For them the new covenant, which Jesus had set up at the Last Supper with His disciples and sealed by His death, did not mean that the covenant made between God and Israel was no longer in force. **They still observed the feast of Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles; they also continued to be circumcised, to keep the weekly Sabbath and the Mosaic regulations concerning food.** According to some scholars, they must have been so strong that right up to the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 they were the dominant element in the Christian movement." (*Paul and Jewish Christianity*, p. 72).

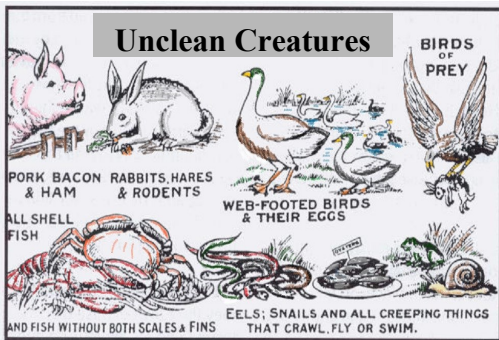
## **Do the Regulations Concerning Food Still Apply?**

One such area in Scripture that many get confused is **Acts chapter 10** where Peter, in vision, sees a sheet full of all sorts of creatures and Yehovah tells him to *"rise up, Peter, slay and eat."* Then we read, *"But Peter said, 'God forbid me Master, because I have never eaten anything common or unclean.'* And again a voice came to him a second time, *'What things Yehovah made clean, you do not make common.'*" Many teachers of today say that God is changing His Dietary Laws here. Not so!

This vision was given to Peter "three times" just before "three" gentiles arrive at his place and invite him to minister to Cornelius in the city of Caesarea (Vs. 16). When Peter reaches Cornelius he says, *"You know that it is not lawful for a Judean man to associate with or come near to a foreign man who is not a son of his tribe, but Yehovah showed me not to call any MAN common or unclean."*

***Peter understood the vision to be concerning not calling any "man" common or unclean. The vision has nothing to do with food!***

The creatures shown to Peter were both clean and unclean. It was the tradition of the Jewish Rabbis (not the Torah) that clean creatures were considered unclean if come in contact with an unclean creature. So too, as we just read, it was the tradition of the Jewish Rabbis (not the Torah) to believe that, if a Gentile associates with a Jew, a Jew then becomes unclean. The whole vision was teaching to put away the old rigid ways of the



added traditions and dogma concerning Jews and Gentiles; especially those Gentiles who were coming into covenant with Yehovah.

Paul speaks of this same issue in **Eph. 2:14-16**. Here, the “*dividing wall of hostility*” he speaks of was the *δόγμασιν* (dogmas/ordinances/decrees) in the added oral “law of

commands” created by Jewish leaders. The man-made oral torah is spoken of in the *Epistle of Aristeas* (139-142) and in the Jewish Mishnah (*Pirkei Avot 1:7*) as being a “fence” around God’s written Torah which was put in place to strengthen the separation between Jew and Gentile. It is this “wall” (fence) of **man-made** “dogma”, (not God’s Commands) that Yeshua “tore down” bringing peace between Jew and Gentile **in Him**, thus answering the prophecy in *Is. 11:13*; *Gal. 3:26-29*.

In Acts 11 Peter goes to his fellow Messianic believers in Jerusalem and recites the whole story to them explaining that the “*three times*” he saw the vision equates to the “*three [gentile] men*” who came to his door (Vss. 10-11). Then in verse 18 we read, “*And having heard this, they were silent, and praised God, saying, ‘Then God has indeed also given to the Gentiles repentance to life.’*”

Many teachers claim Yeshua changed or abolished the dietary instructions found in the Torah, but Peter, who had been with the Savior every day, knows nothing about any so-called change. He clearly says, “***for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean***” (Acts. 10:14).

Simply praying over an unclean creature will not cleanse it. It also has to be “*sanctified by the Word [the Torah].*” These are the only creatures that are “*good*” (1 Tim. 4:4-5). The book of Proverbs clearly says:

***“He that turns his ear from hearing the Torah, even his prayer shall be an abomination” (Prov. 28:9)***

Praying over ham, bacon, lobsters or clams etc. (which is out of harmony with Torah) is an abomination! (*Is. 66:15-17*).

But didn’t Jesus declare all “foods” clean in **Mark 7:19**? This a blatant addition by modern biased translators of Scripture (compare NIV w/KJV). Yeshua was not saying all creatures are now clean. He said all “foods” are purified through the process of excretion into the sewer. **Remember, anything considered unclean by God never was considered “food”!** The incident in Mark 7 is concerning the man-made traditional practice of **ceremonially** washing the hands before eating (see also, *Matt. 15:20*). Paul

dealt with this same issue in **1 Cor. 8; 10:19-33**. Although in Paul's case he was dealing with clean creatures which had been offered to idols by the Gentiles and now sold as meat in the marketplace. He echoes Yeshua's teaching that **no clean creature can become ritually (ceremonially) unclean**.

### **When and to Whom Was God's Torah (Law) Given?**

We must all understand that, unlike the instructions concerning the Aaronic (Levitical) priesthood, none of the Festivals, Sabbaths, and dietary instructions were temporary. The law of the Aaronic priesthood (with all its slaughter offerings and oblations) was later divinely "changed", or, "transferred back" [μετάθεσις] to the original Melchizedek priesthood with Yeshua as our eternal High Priest and our only payment for sin (see, Heb. 7:11-17; 10:4-18). He paid the ransom price sin demanded. The Festivals, Sabbaths, and dietary instructions (outlined in the 10 Commandments) have always been a part of God's Torah from the very beginning.

In Lev. 23:2 God says, **"These are My Feasts."** (KJV). Contrary to popular belief, these Feasts are NOT "Jewish Feasts"; they are God's! The word for "Feasts" here is the Hebrew word מועדי (mo'edim) which means, "Appointed Times." What is interesting is that this word also shows up in Gen. 1:14, and is most-often translated here as "seasons." When you see the word "seasons" here it is not merely referring to Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall, but to God's seasonal Appointed Times! So, we can see that **God had set up these Appointed Times (His Feasts/Festivals) all the way back during Creation week!** These "convocations" or, "rehearsals" are times when we receive a double portion blessing of His Spirit as we reflect on all of the ways God has shown, and will show, His Being as affectionate, selfless, and serving (giving) as it pertains to the plan of salvation.

Scripture is clear that Abraham, who was NOT Jewish, kept God's Torah even before it was written down at Mt. Sinai. God had said:

***"Abraham obeyed My voice, and kept My charge, My Commandments, My Statutes, and My Laws" (Gen. 26:5)***

Later, God tested the Israelites just before they reached Mt. Sinai **"... whether they will walk in My Law, or not"** (Ex. 16:4). God tested the Israelites to see if they would walk in His Law (Torah) like Abraham did. The test in Exodus chapter 16 focused around the Sabbath, and whether or not they would observe it. So obviously the Sabbath had already been a part of His divine Torah. The Sabbath was set-apart from the other six days of the week all the way back on the 7th day of Creation (Gen. 2:1-3).

The Israelites actually failed the test and God said, **"How long do you refuse to keep My Commandments and My Laws?"** (Ex. 16:28). The phrase, "How long ..." suggests that God's Law (Torah), including the Sabbath, had definitely been around and known long before this incident!

*Since these Israelites did not keep God's Torah (by not observing the Sabbath correctly) then obviously Abraham (who had kept the Torah) must have observed the Sabbath during his walk with God!*

Also keep in mind, that Abraham is commended for walking in "faith." Referring to Genesis 15:6 Paul wrote, "Abraham believed [had faith in] God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness" (Rom. 4:3). The way Abraham walked by faith is by walking in God's Torah! Paul wrote:

*"... those who **have faith** are Abraham's real descendants ... those who believe [have faith] are blessed together with Abraham, the one who believed [had faith]" ~ Gal. 3:7,9*

When the religious leaders arrogantly told Yeshua, "Abraham is our father", Yeshua responded:

*"If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing **the works** of Abraham" ~ Jn. 8:39*

Yes, Abraham understood the truth that "faith by itself, if it is not complemented by works, is dead." (see, Jas. 2:14-24). Faith is NOT against works; for in reality faith is a verb, therefore, faith works!

*"You see that [Abraham's] **faith was working** with his works, and as a result of his works, his faith was perfected." ~ Jas. 2:22*

Noah, a man who had found "grace in the eyes of God" (Gen. 6:8) and was "a righteous man, blameless in his generation, [and] walked with God" (Vs. 9), knew the difference between clean and unclean creatures long before Mt. Sinai. Many do not even realize that Noah only brought the unclean creatures onto the Ark "two by two", but the clean creatures he brought by "sevens" (Gen. 7:2). It's interesting how we are brought up as "Christians" to only focus on the unclean creatures!

Clearly God's Law (an understanding of His character) was known and experienced long before the time of Moses and before any Jew ever existed! Cain knew murder was a sin (Gen. 4:7-8). Joseph knew adultery was a sin (Gen. 39:7-9). Satan was perfect in all his ways until "Lawlessness" (sin/iniquity/unrighteousness) was found in him (Ez. 28:14-15).

## **Peter's Warning About Paul's Letters**

*"Some parts of his [Paul's] letters are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. Therefore, beloved, since you already know these things, **be on your guard not to be carried away by the error of the Lawless and fall from your secure standing.**" ~ 1 Peter 3:16-17.*

So, there has been, and will be, “ignorant and unstable people” who have and will “distort” Paul’s letters. Notice these people are called “Lawless.” These “Lawless” people stir up false accusations that Paul is against the Torah.

In Acts chapter 25 we read that Paul was actually put on trial for his faith. Verses 7 and 8 say that the Jewish leaders brought “*many serious charges [against Paul] that they could not prove. Then Paul made his defense: I have committed no offense against the Torah of the Jews or against the temple or against Caesar.*” In Acts 24:14 Paul said, “*I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Torah and in the Prophets.*” Paul NEVER spoke against God’s Torah. He only spoke against the legalistic view of trying to keep the Torah in order to earn salvation, as well as against the added Rabbinical oral laws which were wrongly considered and taught as being portions of God’s Torah.

Similarly, Stephen was also falsely accused of teaching against God’s Torah: “*They [religious leaders] presented false witnesses who said, This man [Stephen] never stops speaking against this holy place and against the Torah*” (Acts 6:13).

There are many false witnesses today who do in fact distort Paul’s letters by saying he taught that the Law (the Torah) was done away with. Let’s look at a few of them now.

## Colossians 2:14-17

One of these instances is found in the letter Paul wrote to the Colossians. Let’s read it from the *King James Version*:

“Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross ... Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.”

Right off you can probably guess that most pastors and teachers use this as evidence that we are no longer to be observing these (yearly) Holydays, (monthly) New Moons, and (weekly) Sabbaths. They teach their congregations not to let anyone try to tell them (judge them) that they should be observing these. However, this is NOT what Paul is saying at all!

What is often missed is the fact Paul is combatting those who were bringing in esoteric “*philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary matters of the world, and not according to Messiah*” (Vs. 8).

These false teachers were trying to bring in man-made instructions concerning “*meat [food] and drink*” on these Holy Days. One false teaching had to do with fasting and depriving oneself upon the Holy

Days. The problem here isn't the Festivals and Sabbaths, but what's being taught and done during the Festivals and Sabbaths! We read a similar instance in the book of Isaiah:

"How do your voluminous sacrifices benefit Me?" Jehovah is asking. I've had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts. I don't enjoy the blood of bulls, lambs, or goats. When you come to present yourselves in My presence, who has required you to trample on My courts? Stop bringing useless offerings! Incense is detestable to Me, as are your **New Moons, Sabbaths**, and calling of convocations. **I cannot stand iniquity within a solemn assembly.** As for your **New Moons** and your **appointed festivals**, I abhor them. They've become a burden to Me; I've grown weary of carrying that burden. When you spread out your hands in prayer, I'll hide My eyes from you. Even though you pray repeatedly, I won't listen. Your hands are full of blood, your fingers drenched with iniquity. Wash yourselves, and make yourselves clean; remove your evil behavior from My presence; stop practicing what is evil." ~ Isaiah 1:11-16.

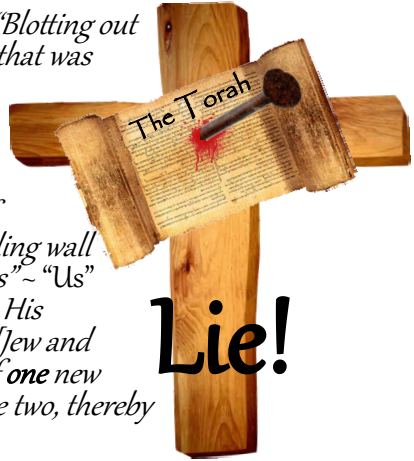
Here we see the same list of Festivals Paul uses in Colossians chapter 2. Please take careful note that God does NOT hate (oppose) His own Festivals and Sabbaths. He hates *"iniquity within a solemn assembly."* They began to misuse the sacrifices and oblations by offering up more and more sacrifices as an excuse to sin more and more! They reasoned that they could sin all they want and all they had to do is offer up more blood sacrifices thinking this would cover them. But God rebuked them saying, *"Your hands are full of blood, your fingers drenched with iniquity. Wash yourselves, and make yourselves clean; remove your evil behavior from My presence; stop practicing what is evil."* Again, He's not saying to do away with the Festivals, New Moons, and Sabbaths, but to do away with the "iniquity" within these Appointed Times. Paul says the same thing to the Corinthians concerning the Festival of Passover:

"Your boasting is not good. You know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough, don't you? **Get rid of the old leaven** [which is a symbol of sin and falsehood; Mk. 16:6-12; Lk. 2:41-49] so that you may be a new batch of dough, since you are to be free from leaven. For the Messiah, our Passover, has been sacrificed. So **let's keep celebrating the Festival**, neither with old leaven **nor with leaven that is evil and wicked**, but with unleavened bread that is both sincere and true." ~ 1 Corinthians 5:6-8.

Again, Paul is not saying to get rid of the Festival, but to get rid of the evil and wickedness during the Festival. In other words; STOP SINNING ... PERIOD! He clearly says, *"let's keep celebrating the Festival."* Modern teachers refer to Colossians 2:14 which says, *"Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross"*, as "proof" God's Festivals and Sabbaths were the "ordinances ... nailed to the cross" and done away with. However, God's Festivals and Sabbaths were NEVER against us! In fact, Yeshua said, *"The Sabbath was made FOR man"* (Mk. 2:27). It was made "for" us, for our benefit ~ not against us!

A more literal translation of this is, “Blotting out the handwriting of *dogma* [οδογμασιν] that was against us .... nailing it to the cross.”

He’s basically saying the same thing we learned earlier when he told the Ephesians how Yeshua took away the *dogma* found in the **man-made** “law of commands” by tearing down the “dividing wall [fence] of hostility” that was “against us” ~ “Us” meaning **Jews and Gentiles** ~ “Through His [Yeshua’s] flesh He made **both groups** [Jew and Gentile] one ... thus creating in Himself **one** new [selfless] humanity [kingdom] from the two, thereby making peace” (Eph. 2:14-15).



## οδογμασιν - Dogma.

**Dogma:** 1 a: Something held as **an established opinion**; especially: a definite authoritative tenet. b: A code of such tenets. C: a **point of view** or tenets put forth as authoritative **without adequate grounds**. 2: A doctrine or body of doctrines concerning faith and morals formally stated and authoritative **proclaimed by a church**.  
(Webster’s Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary)

The Jewish traditional added oral laws, passed down from generation to generation, are now compiled and written down in a number of books. These books are:

*The Mishna*—written around 200 A.D.

*The Jerusalem Talmud*—written around 350 A.D.

*The Babylonian Talmud*—written around 500 A.D.

*The Midrash*—written between 200-900 A.D.

### Blasphemous Dogma of the Pharisees Found in the Midrash:

“Even if they [Pharisees] instruct you that right is left, or left is right, you must obey them.”

“A person must not say, ‘I will not keep the commandment of the elders because they are not from the Torah [Scriptures].’ The Almighty says to such a person, ‘No, My son! Rather all that they decree upon you, observe! As it is written, ‘According to the instruction which they teach you’ (Dt. 17:11). Even I [God] must obey their decree, as it is written, ‘You will decree, and He will fulfill it.’ (Job 22:28).”

### However, Scripture says:

“You shall not add unto the word which I Command you, neither shall you diminish ought from it, that you may keep the Commandments of Yehovah your God which I Command you.” (Deut. 4:2)

“He [Yeshua/Jesus] answered and said unto them, ‘Why do you also transgress the Commandment of God by your tradition?... you have made void the Commandment of God for your tradition ... You hypocrites, well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, ‘These people draw near unto Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me. But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.’”

~ Matt. 15:3-9 ~

## ***In Colossians chapter 2 Paul is encouraging newly converted Gentiles who are now faithfully observing God's Festivals and Sabbaths!***

Paul warns the Colossian believers not to have these “disturbers”, who are bringing in man-made dogma, steer them off their focus of Messiah of whom the Holy Days (Festivals/Feast Days) and Sabbaths all point to! A literal and more accurate translation of this Scripture would be:

“Let no one judge you in eating and in drinking when partaking of a Festival or a New Moon or Sabbaths, which are shadows of things to come, but the body [the assembly/church] of Messiah” ~ Colossians 2:16-17.

That last sentence is often mistranslated by adding in the word “is” (“The body *is* of Messiah”), but the phrase, “*the body of Messiah*”, without the word “is” refers to the people of God, commonly known as “the church” (1 Cor. 12:27) with Messiah as “*the Head*” (Eph. 5:23). Remember, Paul is contrasting the “*philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men*” with the true teachings of the Messiah (Col. 2:8,22). Paul refers to this right in the beginning of his letter to the Colossians when he says, “*Now I am rejoicing while suffering for you as I complete in my flesh whatever remains of the Messiah's sufferings on behalf of his body, which is the church*” (Col. 1:24). And we see it again right in the context of Colossians chapter 2 when he says, “*And you have been made complete in Messiah, who is **the Head** over every ruler and authority*” (Vs. 11). He warns us not to listen to anyone and their man-made dogma who are outside the “body of Messiah” (Vs. 16). He's saying, all these Festivals, and Sabbaths, which belong to that Head, are rightly observed by “*the body of Messiah*” as long as we remain attached to that Head (Messiah) and do it His way! He continues:

“Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels [which are esoteric doctrines] disqualify you with speculation about what he has seen. Such a man is puffed up without basis by his unspiritual mind, and he loses connection to **the Head** [Messiah], from whom **the whole body** [the assembly], supported and knit together by its joints and ligaments, grows as God causes it to grow” ~ Vss. 18-19.

Some translations of Colossians 2:17 use the phrase, “*were shadows of things to come.*” However, Paul is not speaking past tense here. The Festivals and Sabbaths “are” (continue to be) shadows (rehearsals) of past, present, and future events revealing the Messiah and His priestly ministry, leading to His 2nd coming.

***In Col. 2:14-17 Paul is not condemning God-ordained Feast-keeping and Sabbath-keeping, nor the Dietary Commands, because they are not from “the commands and teachings of men” (Vs. 22), but are clearly the Commands and teachings of Yehovah (Lev. 23)***



## Romans 14:5

“One man regards a certain day above the others,  
while someone else considers every day alike.  
Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.”

Romans 14:5 is an extremely interesting text many use to combat Sabbath observance. The conclusion most-often is that any day can be the Sabbath now, not just the 7th day. But Paul isn't even talking about the Sabbath here. In fact, Paul doesn't even specifically speak about the Sabbath in the entire letter to the Romans! You must read the context!

In verses 1-4 Paul is speaking about “eating.” According to the *King James Version* Paul says the word “eat” 6 times in these first 4 verses. Then in verse 6 to the end of the chapter he says the word “eat” 8 times and the word “meat” (food) 4 times. Do you get the suspicion Paul's main focus here is about “eating” or “not eating”?

### ***The certain “days” Paul refers to in Romans 14:5 are dealing with days for fasting!***

Among those of the 1st century A.D., who were still caught up in the heavy yoke of the Pharisees and other religious leaders, there was a debate on what days to fast during the week. One group said Wednesdays and Fridays, while another said Mondays and Thursdays. Paul is simply telling them that the Torah gives no such command for these man-made fasting days so stop judging one another concerning these “*doubtful disputations*” or “*differences of opinions*” (See, Vs. 1). Yeshua briefly mentions these man-made fasts in Luke 18:10-14.

The whole argument, that Paul is referring to the Sabbath day, is utterly ridiculous. Most Christian teachers make the false claim that Jesus and His disciples changed the weekly day of worship from the 7th day to the 1st. They refer to a few times in the New Testament where it seems to mention “the first day of the week” (Sunday) declaring that the disciples held this day sacred. For eye-opening information on this topic request the booklet entitled, “*The Sabbath Still Counts*”.

With that in mind, how does their interpretation of Romans 14:5 make any sense? If Jesus changed the holy day, from the 7th to the 1st, would it not matter what day we observe? Surely it would matter and we would want to observe the 1st day of the week now. But, according to these same teachers, Romans 14:5 says it doesn't matter what day we observe. Is Paul against the day Jesus is claimed to set aside? Do you see the confusion?

I once talked with a Christian teacher who believed Sunday was the new Sabbath. He too came to the same conclusion in Romans 14:5 as most do. He actually told me, “If you want to observe the 7th-day Sabbath that's fine, but don't put me under that yoke of bondage!” But wait a minute. If

it doesn't matter what day we observe, why would observing the 7th day put anyone in bondage? The fact of the matter is, it does matter! And the 7th day Sabbath (commonly known as, sunset Friday to sunset Saturday) is NOT a yoke of bondage. How can a day of rest be bondage?

*It matters what day we observe and the **only** weekly day God hallowed (set-apart) and blessed is the 7th day which He calls, "My holy Day!" (Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 20:8-11; Is. 58:13-14)*

Yeshua (Jesus) clearly pointed out what the yoke of bondage is. It is any added man-made requirements and substitutions to God's Torah (see, Matt. 11:28-30; 15:1-9; 23:1-39). **John declares God's Commands are "not burdensome"** (1 Jn. 5:2-3; see also, Deut. 30:10-12; Prov. 29:18) because walking in God's Torah (character) is true "**Liberty**" (Ps. 119:45; Jas. 1:25).

### **Galatians 4:9-10**

"Now that you know God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you are turning back to those weak and worthless principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? You are observing special days and months and seasons and years! I fear for you, that my efforts for you may have been in vain."

Teachers today say Paul is condemning them for observing the "Jewish" Festivals and Sabbaths ~ "special days, and months, and seasons and years." But the exact opposite is the case!

Look back to verse 8: "*Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods.*" Paul is writing to Gentile believers who used to serve false gods.

*The "special days, and months, and seasons and years" are referring to the old pagan festivals that they used to celebrate*

Paul cannot be referring to God's Festivals and Sabbaths because he asked them, "*Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?*" How can pagan Gentiles become enslaved to keeping God's Festivals and Sabbaths "again" if they had never even observed them? And how can keeping God's Sabbaths make someone enslaved to false gods when the Sabbath points to the true Creator-God (Ex. 20:11; see also, Jer. 10:10-12)?

The truth is, this is just another one of those verses which is cherry-picked and distorted by those who wish to steer away from anything that seems "Jewish." We have already seen that Paul applauded the newly converted Gentile Colossians for keeping God's Festivals and Sabbaths (Col. 2), but here we see Paul rebuking converted Gentile Galatians for mixing pagan holidays with the worship of God.

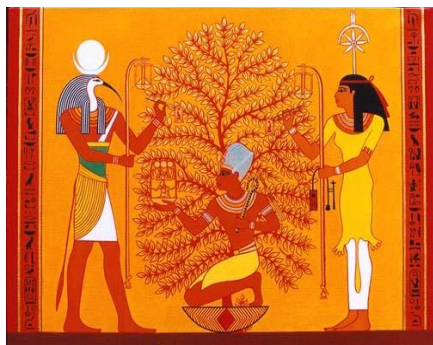
It's sad how "Christians" today steer away from God's Festivals and Sabbaths but yet observe the ancient winter solstice customs such as decorating evergreen trees (Jer. 10:1-4) in honor of the sun-god Tammuz (aka Mithras, who was born on Dec. 25th.). Then half a year later, in the spring, participate in the customs of celebrating the goddess Ishtar (aka Astarte), along with her fertility emblems of rabbits and eggs; "weeping for Tammuz" for 40 days (aka Lent); then participate in a sunrise service on Easter (Ishtar) Sunday (Ez. 8:14-16; 1 Kgs. 11:33; Jer. 7:8; Rev. 18:1-4).



*"The term 'Easter' is not of Christian origin. It is another form of Astarte, one of the titles of the Chaldean goddess, the queen of heaven. The festival of Pasch [Passover] held by Christians in post-apostolic times was a continuation of the Jewish feast ... From this Pasch the pagan festival of 'Easter' was quite distinct and was introduced into the apostate Western religion, as part of the attempt to adapt pagan festivals to Christianity." (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, "Easter").*

*"The ancient peoples of Egypt, Persia, Greece, Rome, and China exchanged eggs at their spring fertility festivals.*

*In Babylonia, eggs were presented to the goddess of fertility, Astarte (Eostre)." (Donna and Mal Broadhurst, Passover, Before Messiah and After, p. 157).*



*"... This is what Yehovah says: 'Don't learn the way of the nations, and don't be terrified by signs in the heavens, though the nations are terrified of them. For the practices of the people are worthless. Indeed, a tree is cut down from the forest; it's the work of the hands of a craftsman with an ax. They decorate it with silver and gold. They secure it with nails and hammers so it won't totter.' - Jer. 10:1-4*

*"In December, the Zoroastrians of Iran celebrated Valda "the birth" and decorated an evergreen tree (Rocket Juniper/Cypress tree). The tree was symbolic of [the god] Mithras. Young girls had their "wishes" symbolically wrapped in colorful silk cloth and hung them on the tree with lots of presents for Mithras, to answer their prayers." (119 Ministries.com).*



Christmas, Easter and even Sunday observance as a weekly holy day all come from ancient pagan sun-worship. Yeshua was not born on Dec. 25th, but in September around the time of the Feast of Sukkot (Tabernacles). The wise men (Magi) were Magian Jews; they were not astrologers nor magicians; they were not kings; there were more than three of them; they did not visit the “baby Jesus”; they didn’t arrive until He was a young boy at least two years old. To learn more on this topic request the booklet: *Are Your “Christian” Festivals Kosher?*

*“... your fathers have forsaken Me,’ declares Yehovah, ‘and have walked after other gods and served them and bowed themselves to them, and have forsaken Me, and did not guard My Law.’”*

*~ Jeremiah 16:11 ~*

## The True Balance of Law and Faith

To the Jewish leaders, the Law (as a list of rules), along with their own rabbinical blessing, was the means to salvation. This is brought out in Acts 15 where the Jerusalem council was discussing this very thing. Verse 1 sets the stage for us: *“Then some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, ‘Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.’”* Peter utterly denied this idea by saying, *“... God, who knows the heart, showed His approval by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as He did to us. He made no distinction between us and them, for He cleansed their hearts by faith. Now then, why do you test God by placing on the necks of the disciples a yoke that neither we nor our fathers have been able to bear? On the contrary, we believe it is through the grace of the Master Yeshua that we [Jews/the circumcised] are saved, just as they [Gentiles/the uncircumcised] are”* (Vss. 7-11). Paul assures us that circumcision is an outward example of revealing we *“have no confidence in [our] flesh”* and that our only confidence (assurance of salvation) is in the works of the Messiah (Phil. 3).

Keep in mind that the debate is not whether the Gentiles should keep the Torah in general, but rather if circumcision is a means to salvation. In fact, this is the council we read about earlier which showed the Gentiles were given preliminary instructions of the Torah. Both Paul and Peter believed in salvation by grace through faith alone; teaching that Abraham was credited with righteousness before he was circumcised (Rom. 4), but that does not mean we throw out the Law (Torah). Paul wrote:

*“Do we then make void the Law [Torah] through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we uphold the Law [Torah].” ~ Romans 3:31.*

Paul is saying they are not making void the Torah by teaching grace and faith because, as we have seen in the examples of Noah and Abraham, the Torah itself upholds (establishes/teaches) grace and faith!

## When you teach the **true** concept of salvation by grace through faith you are teaching Torah!

John echoes this balance by saying:

“Here is the patience of the set-apart ones, here are they who **keep the Commands of God and the faith of Yeshua.**” ~ Revelation 14:12.

John says he was exiled to the Isle of Patmos “for the Word of God, and for the testimony of Yeshua Messiah” (Rev. 1:9). The Word of God is the Torah (Ps. 78:1) including all the Commands and instructions expounded upon throughout the entire Hebrew Scriptures. So, John (who was a Jew) not only kept and taught the Torah, but also kept and taught “the testimony of Yeshua Messiah” which is now recorded in “the New Testament.” John says, the very last remnant of believers, living in the end of time, will be doing the same under similar persecution:

“And the dragon [a symbol of Satan] was enraged with the woman [a symbol of God’s people], and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, who keep the Commands of God and have the testimony of Yeshua Messiah.” ~ Revelation 12:17.

As we have seen, one of the biggest lies out there is that “the Old Testament” was all about Law, and “the New Testament” is all about grace. The word “testament” is more accurately translated as *covenant*. And the word “new” is the Greek word *καινός* (*kainos*) which carries the sense of *renewed*. Yeshua uses this word in **Jn. 13:34** referring to a “new” Command which is “Love one another.” But is that really “new” as far as time is concerned? Is that only a “New Testament” teaching? Not at all! John says loving one another is a “Command ... which you have had from the beginning [ἀρχή; Genesis]” (1 Jn. 2:7-11). The “New Testament” is simply God renewing (confirming/strengthening) His covenant of promise with His people (compare, Dan. 9:26-27; Matt. 26:28) under a better administration ~ the Priesthood and blood [perfect life] of Yeshua “**once and for all**” (see, Heb. chapters 7-10; more on this in a bit).

“... Look! The days are coming, declares Yehovah, when I will establish a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors at the time when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. Because they did not remain loyal to My covenant, I ignored them, declares Yehovah. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says Yehovah; **I will put My Torah [Law] into their mind, and write it in their hearts:** and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to Me a people.” ~ Hebrews 8:8-10 (see also, Jer. 31:31-33).



Does that sound like God doing away with His Law (Torah) to you? And look who this covenant is with ~ “the **house of Israel** [Ephraim] and with the **house of Judah**.” The reason God says “It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors” is because “they did not remain loyal to My covenant.” They resisted the Torah being written in their hearts and minds! (Heb. 8:8<sup>a</sup>). **This time, however, in the final restoration, God’s everlasting covenant will not be resisted and He will have a people, upon this earth, who will faithfully permit His grace to fully transform them into the image (likeness, selfless-obedient character) of Yeshua Messiah just prior to His return (Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 10:4-5; 1 Jn. 3:1-2); for God promises: “This time I will make them know [experience] My hand [selfless works] and My might [protective grace]; And they shall know [experience] that My name is Yehovah” (Jer. 16:21; Rev. 14:1).**

Yes, we will experience His name ~ Yehovah. In Scripture the Creator’s name is יהוה which are the Hebrew letters YHVH and the way I (and many others) currently pronounce it is, YeHoVaH (emphasis is on the “vah”). The name means, “I Will Be Who I Will Be” (or commonly, “I Am”; Ex. 3:14-15). The root word of YHVH is יהי (hâyâh) which means, “To Be.” The *New Strong’s Expanded Dictionary of Bible Words* says, “The use of hâyâh in such passages declares **the actual release of power, so that the accomplishment is assured.**” For example: “Let there BE light, and there was light” (Gen. 1:3; Ps. 33:6,9). Yehovah’s name assures us that He will “be” everything we need Him to “be” (Ps. 34:15,17,19; 91:14-15; Jer. 33:2-3) and we will “be” everything He declares us to “be” (Is. 1:18). And He has declared, “**You will be holy unto Me, for I, Yehovah, am holy; and I have set you apart from the peoples to be Mine**” (Lev. 20:26; Matt. 5:48). We live out holiness as He (the Holy One) lives in and through us (Jn. 17:3-7, 26)! He promises: “**I will be to [you] a God [an affectionate Server], and [you] shall be to Me a people [affectionate servants]**” (Jer. 31:33; Heb. 8:10).

“For just as the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, yielding seed for the sower and bread for eating, **so will My message be that goes out of My mouth; it won’t return to Me empty. Instead, it will accomplish what I desire, and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.**” ~ Psalm 55:10-11.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** is often sited to separate “works” and “Faith.” It surely says, “For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.” But does this mean “works” have nothing to do with our salvation? No! Let’s read verse 10: “For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah Yeshua unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” You see, we are not saved by OUR own works, otherwise we could “boast.” No, we are saved “by grace through faith ... unto [submissively-towards] good works.” We are saved “by grace through faith” so we will

walk in the way of righteousness ~ “good works.” Notice it says this is all possible because *“we are His [God’s] workmanship.”* Salvation by grace through faith is the work of God recreating us anew into His image and likeness that man was “before ordained” to display (Gen. 1:26-27). So, in that sense, we are saved by works, not our own works, but by HIS works alone! *“We are His WORKmanship.”* He is leading us back to primitive godliness (His image and likeness), back to Eden, before sin/death ever existed (Is. 11:6-9). *“So He drove out the man: and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword [His purifying Word] which turned every way, to guard the way to **the tree of life** [you can only enter through one way; Yeshua the Word]”* (Gen. 3:24); *“Blessed are they that do His Commands, that they may have right to **the tree of life**, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”* (Rev. 22:14). 2 Cor. 3:18 says:

“But we all, with unveiled faces, beholding as in a mirror **the glory** [selfless character] of Yehovah, are **changed into the same image** from glory [from our own selfishness] to glory [to His selflessness], even as by Yehovah the Spirit.”

“I’m going to give you a new heart, and I’m going to give you a new spirit within all of your deepest parts. I’ll remove that rock-hard heart of yours and replace it with one that’s sensitive [submissive] to Me. I’ll place My Spirit [presence, life, attitude] within you, empowering you to live according to My statutes and to keep My judgments.” ~ Ezekiel 36:26-27.

***We are not saved by keeping the Torah (Law) of God, but keeping the Torah (Law) is how saved people live!***

## Mistaken Identity

It’s interesting to note that most modern teachers claim Yeshua (Jesus) is the one responsible for doing away with God’s Law (Torah) including the Festivals and Sabbaths when **Scripture is clear that it would be a religious system that arises in Rome.** In Daniel chapters 2 and 7 the prophet Daniel prophesied of four kingdoms that would rise in opposition against God and His people. Most every Bible student knows who these kingdoms are: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome.

In Daniel chapter 7 the fourth kingdom (Rome) is described as a dreadful beast with “ten horns” which we are told represent “ten kings/kingdoms.” Among these ten horns rises a “little horn” (king/kingdom) that speaks blasphemies against God and persecutes His people. This little horn is



commonly known as the Antichrist. In Daniel 7:24-25 we read:

“And the ten horns are ten kings who will rise from this kingdom. After them another king, different from the earlier ones, will rise and subdue three kings. He will speak out against the Most High and oppress the saints of the Most High, intending to **change the set times and Laws**, and the saints will be given into his hand for a time, and times, and half a time.”

This section of the book of Daniel is written in Aramaic. The word used for “set times” here is **קָדָשׁ** and is speaking of God’s “Appointed Times.” It is clearly the Antichrist who would “change” God’s Festivals and Law ~ Not Christ Himself! So the question now is: Is there a religious system based in Rome that has set out to change God’s “Times” (Festivals) and “Law”?



**“... The Catholic Church abolished not only the Sabbath, but all the other Jewish Festivals.”**

*(Bishop T. Enright, Letter, dated April 26, 1902)*

*“We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.” (Peter Geiermann, CSSR, A Doctrinal Catechism, 1957 edition, p. 50).*

*“We have made the change from the seventh day to the first day, from Saturday to Sunday, on the authority of the holy, Catholic, apostolic church of Christ.” (Bishop Symour, Why We Keep Sunday).*

*“It is well to remind the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, and all other Christians, that the Bible does not support them anywhere in their observance of Sunday. Sunday is an institution of the Roman Catholic Church, and those who observe the day observe a commandment of the Catholic Church.” (Priest Brady, in an address, reported in the Elizabeth, N.J. “News” of March 18, 1903).*

*“Protestants ... accept Sunday rather than Saturday as the day for public worship after the Catholic Church made the change ... But the Protestant mind does not realize that ... on observing the Sunday, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the church, the Pope.” (Our Sunday Visitor, February 5, 1950).*

*“The Catholic Church for over one thousand years before the existence of a Protestant, by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday.” (The Catholic Mirror, September 23, 1893).*

*“Of course I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of paganism, and christened with the name of the sun god, when adopted and sanctioned by the papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism!” (Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, in a paper read before a New York ministers’ conference held November 13, 1893).*

*“The Pope has the power to **CHANGE TIMES**, to **ABROGATE LAWS**, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ ... **The Pope has the authority** and often exercised it, **to dispense with the command of Christ**” (Decretal, de Tranlatic Episcop. Cap.; The Pope Can Modify Divine Law. ~ Ferraris’ Ecclesiastical Dictionary).*



**Changing Times and Laws is rejecting (profaning) God’s character by setting up man’s own ideas (Theology) of what true worship really is**



## Protestants Vs. Counter Protestants



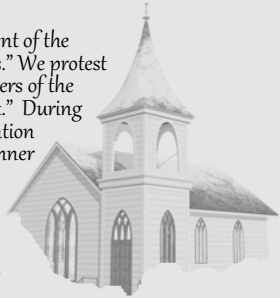
**The Waldensians, 1100 A.D.:** "Antichrist, the predicted murderer of the saints, hath already appeared in his true character, **seated monarchally in the seven-hilled city** [Rome, see Rev. 17:9]." (*The Waldensians, The Noble Lesson*, 1100 A.D.).

**John Wycliffe (1324-1384):** "Why is it necessary in unbelief to look for another Antichrist? Hence in the seventh chapter of Daniel Antichrist is forcefully described by a horn arising in the time of the 4th kingdom ... the ten horns are the whole of our temporal rulers, and the horn has arisen from the ten horns, having eyes and a mouth speaking great things against the Lofty One, and wearing out the saints of the Most High, and thinking that he is able to change times and laws. [Daniel 7:8, 25 quoted] ... **For so our clergy foresee the lord pope, as it is said of the eighth blaspheming little head.**" (Translated from Wycliffe's, *De Veritate Sacrae Scripturae*, vol. 3 pp. 262, 263).



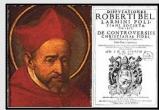
**Matthew Henry (1662-1714):** "It is desirable to obtain the right and full sense of what we see and hear from God; and those that would know, must ask by faithful and fervent prayer. The angel told Daniel plainly. He especially desired to know respecting the little horn, which made war with the saints, and prevailed against them. **Here is foretold the rage of papal Rome against true Christians.**" (*Matthew Henry's Concise Whole Bible Commentary*, Daniel Chapter 7, vss. 15-28, p. 1122).

From the beginning all Protestants saw the papacy as the fulfillment of the "little horn" power in prophecy. This is why we are called "Protestants." We protest the blasphemous dogma within the papacy. As time went on the leaders of the Roman church got together in what is known as "the council of Trent." During this council, which lasted several years, the task of diverting the attention from themselves as being the antichrist system was given to an elite inner circle known as "The Society of Jesus" (or, *The Jesuits*). They were to counter the Reformation by any means possible. As a result they came up with the theory of Futurism. Futurism teaches that "the Antichrist" power has nothing to do with church history. Therefore, from the time the book of Revelation was written (95 A.D.) to the mid 1500s not one single prophecy concerning "the Antichrist" had been fulfilled yet! The Protestant teaching, that the antichrist is a system within, was changed to only one evil super-man from without who rises at the end of time.



Because of his dedication and allegiance to the Pope, **Francisco Ribera (1537-1591)**, a Jesuit priest and doctor of theology from Spain, conveniently came to conclusions vastly different from those of the Protestants. He claimed these prophecies don't apply to the Catholic Church at all, but to only one sinister man who will rise up at the end of time! This viewpoint was quickly adopted as the official Roman Catholic position on the Antichrist.

Following close behind Francisco Ribera was another Jesuit scholar, **Cardinal Robert Bellarmine (1542-1621)** of Rome. Between 1581 and 1593, Cardinal Bellarmine published his *Polemic Lectures Concerning the Disputed Points of the Christian Belief Against the Heretics of This Time*. In these lectures, he agreed with Ribera. The futurist teachings of Ribera were further popularized by an Italian cardinal and the most renowned of all Jesuit controversialists. His writings claimed that Paul, Daniel, and John had nothing whatsoever to say about the Papal power. The futurists' school won general acceptance among Catholics. They were taught that the Antichrist wasn't a system imposing it's own laws and dogma above Scripture, but was a single individual who would not rule until the very end of time.



In 1830 a Presbyterian minister named **Edward Irving (1792-1834)**, who had accepted the teaching of the future "Antichrist", added the teaching that Christ would come in two stages - first secretly, then after a seven-year Tribulation, He would come again in glory. This teaching also claims all the chapters of the book of Revelation (from 5-22) are not to be fulfilled until after this so-called secret rapture. Thus denying the Protestant *Historicist* view that all the prophecies in Scripture, which deal with the Antichrist, apply to the ongoing controversy between Christ and Satan within the Messianic congregation (true Christian church), its history and present truth, as outlined throughout the Book of Revelation.





“And he [the angel] said, ‘The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth [Rome], which shall be different from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be different from the first [ten], and he shall subdue three [of the first] kings. And he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.’”

~ Daniel 7:24-25

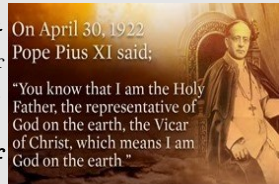
1. **“The ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise.”** Rome was divided into ten nations in the year 476 A.D. when the Barbaric tribes from north of Europe and Asia overran the Roman empire dividing it into exactly ten parts which later became the nations of modern Europe. They were: Alemanni (Germany), Franks (France), Burgundians (Switzerland), Suevi (Portugal), Visigoths (Spain), Lombards (Italy), Anglo-Saxons (England), Heruli (Extinct), Vandals (Extinct), Ostrogoths (Extinct).

2. **“And another shall rise after them; and he shall be different from the first [ten].”** The eleventh king, or power, that rises from the kingdom of Rome, comes into complete power sometime “after” the establishment of the other ten horns. Therefore, this power would come into complete power soon after 476 A.D. The papacy is “different” than the former political powers because it is a religious/political power with the church controlling the state.

3. **“He shall subdue three [of the first] kings” (see, also Dan. 7:8).** It is of no coincidence that only seven of the ten horns have modern names today. Three became extinct by the very acts of the papal power. They were the Heruli who were subdued in 493 A.D.; the Vandals who were subdued in 534 A.D.; and the Ostrogoths who were subdued in 538 A.D. Most of the barbarian nations had bowed to the authority of the Bishop of Rome. However, these three nations rejected it and the papacy uprooted them.

5. **“He shall speak great words against the Most High.”**

“The pope is of so great dignity and so exalted that **he is not a mere man, but as it were God**, and the vicar of God ... Hence the pope is crowned with a triple crown, as **king of heaven and of earth** and of the lower regions ... So that if it were possible that the angels might err in the faith, or might think contrary to the faith, they could be judged and excommunicated by the pope ... The pope is at it were **God on earth**, sole sovereign of the faithful of Christ, **chief king of kings**, having plenitude of power, to whom has been entrusted by the omnipotent God direction not only of the earthly but also of the heavenly kingdom ...” - (*Prompta Bibliotheca Canonica* [Roman Catholic Dictionary] vol. 4, pp. 438, 442, article “pope”).



On April 30, 1922  
Pope Pius XI said:

“You know that I am the Holy Father, the representative of God on the earth, the Vicar of Christ, which means I am God on the earth.”

“All the names which are attributed to Christ in Scripture, implying His supremacy over the church, are also attributed to the Pope.” - (*On the Authority of Councils*, book 2, chapter 17).

“**The Pope and God are the same**, so he has all power in Heaven and earth.” - (Pope Pius V, quoted in Barclay, Chapter XXVII, p. 218, Cities Petrus Bertanous).

**Blasphemy?**

Pope Leo XIII  
(1878-1903):  
“We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty.” (Encyclical Letter, June 20, 1894)



“[The Pope is] forever a priest of the Most High **with power over the Almighty**. The Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but **he is Jesus Christ himself**, hidden under veil of flesh.” (*The Catholic National*, July 1985).

6. **“And shall wear out the saints of the Most High.”** It is estimated that during the “Dark Ages” 50,000,000 - 70,000,000 people were put to death by the papal power. All because they did not fully bow to the papal authority! In his book, *Rise and Influence of the Spirit of*

*Rationalism in Europe*, William Edward Lecky writes, “That the church of Rome has shed more innocent blood than any other institution that has ever existed among mankind, will be questioned by no Protestant who has competent knowledge of history” (p. 32).

**7. “They shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”**

The key to this time-prophecy is “Time” = 1 year. “Times” = 2 years. And a “dividing (or half) of Time” = half a year. We thus have three and a half years. However, did you know that, in calculating the time prophecies in Scripture, you must use what’s called “the-year-for-a-day principle”? Countless teachers use this method today, as well as those in the past, even before the time of Yeshua/Jesus, and it is the only way the time-prophecies make sense. God used this year/day principle when dealing with His people in Ez. 4:6 and Num. 14:34. Yeshua even used this year/day principle when He told the Pharisees “Go ye, and tell that fox [king Herod], Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third day I shall be perfected [or, completed]” (Lk. 13:32). Yeshua had received word that king Herod was going to kill Him, but Yeshua said His ministry of casting out demons and healing people would continue for another three days. From that point on Yeshua’s ministry actually lasted a full three years! According to 30 days in a Hebrew month there are 1,260 days in three and a half years, so the full reign of this power would last 1,260 years. Remember, this power was to rise into complete control sometime after 476 A.D. and history tells us it did just that in the year 538 A.D.



“The legally recognized supremacy of the pope began in **538 AD** when there went into effect a decree of Emperor Justinian, making the bishop of Rome head over all the churches, the definer of doctrine and the corrector of heretics [those who oppose their authority]. Vigilius ... ascended the papal chair (538 AD) under the military protection of Belisarius.” - (*History of the Christian Church*, vol. 3, p. 327).

Adding 1,260 years to 538 brings us to 1798 A.D. When John describes this power in Revelation chapter 13 he says it reigns for 42 months. This again adds up to the same time period. When John mentions the end of this power’s reign he describes it as being a “*deadly wound*” which would later be “*healed*” (Rev. 13:3). It’s amazing to learn that exactly in 1798 A.D. the papacy was considered to have been “dead” when Napoleon’s chief of staff, Berthier, entered Rome and took the pope prisoner, all his property was sold and the papal states were abolished and Rome was declared a republic.

“When, in 1797, Pope Pius VI. fell grievously ill Napoleon gave orders that in the event of his death no successor should be elected to his office, and the Papacy should be discontinued ... But the Pope recovered; the peace was soon broken; Berthier [General of the French Revolutionary forces and Napoleon’s chief of staff] entered Rome on 10th February **1798**, and proclaimed a Republic. The aged Pontiff [pope] refused to violate his oath by recognizing it, and was hurried from prison to prison into France. Broken with fatigue and sorrows, he died ... [in] August 1799, in the French fortress of Valence, aged 82 years. No wonder that half of Europe thought Napoleon’s veto would be obeyed, and that with the Pope **the Papacy was dead.**” - (Joseph Rickaby, “*The Modern Papacy.*”; *Lectures on the History of Religions*, vol. 3, [Lecture 24, p.1] *Catholic Truth Society*, 1910).

But remember, the deadly wound would be “healed.” The first part of the healing process began in **1801** A.D. when an agreement was drawn up between Napoleon and the papacy. From there the papacy aimed to redeem its religious power while leaving its political power on the back burner. However, political power was given to the papacy on February 11, **1929** when Mussolini and Rome signed a peace treaty which re-established the Vatican as a state under its own political power. At this time the *San Francisco Chronicle* published an account of this peace treaty on the front page of its newspaper. The heading actually read like this, “Mussolini and Gasparri Sign Historic Roman Pact ... **Heal Wound of Many Years.**” Unknowingly the newspaper used the exact wording found in the book of Revelation! In the newspaper article the writer also used this wording by saying “Cardinal Gasparri for Pope Pius XI and Premier Mussolini for King Victor Emmanuel III” signed their “autographs to the memorable document, **healing the wound ...**” (*San Francisco Chronicle*, Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1929, p. 1).



And we all know how the papacy is gaining more and more power today as Jesuit Pope Francis continues to make headlines as he receives world-wide admiration for his talks of peace and climate change in order to push his Sunday-law agenda. “*And through his policy he shall also cause craft [deceit] to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many*” (Dan. 8:25).

## What is “The Daily”?

In Daniel chapter 8, the *King James Version* (KJV) says the “little horn” power “... magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily *sacrifice* was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down” (Vs. 11). Please take note that in most Bibles the word “sacrifice” is in italics showing that this word is not in the original. The phrase actually says, “and by him the daily was taken away.” In the original Hebrew the term “the daily” is *ha tamid*. This word means “the continual.” It is used as a noun and not a verb. When Daniel says “taken away” he uses the Hebrew word *rum*. This word means “to exalt,” “to go on high,” or “to lift up.” In fact, every use of this word in Scripture has this meaning in its context. In Daniel 4:37 *rum* is translated as “extol” in the KJV meaning “exalt.” The *Jubilee Bible* says, “build up.” The *Contemporary English Version* says, “honor.” In Daniel 5:19 *rum* is translated as “set up” in the KJV meaning “exalt.” The *ISR* (1998) version says, “raised up.” In Daniel 5:23 *rum* is translated as “lifted up” in the KJV and most other versions. In Daniel 11:36 *rum* is translated as “exalt” in the KJV and most other versions as well. If Daniel used the word *rum* to mean “exalt,” or “lift up” all through his book why would he change the meaning to “take away” in chapter 8:11-12? It should be used in the sense of “taken up” or “incorporated”, not “taken away.” So here’s what we have:

“Yea, he [the little horn] magnified himself even to [opposed to] the Prince [Yeshua] of the host, and by him the daily [the continual] was taken up [exalted] ...”

So whatever this “daily” is it is “exalted” or, “taken up” by the little horn power, not done away with. Verse 12 in the KJV says, “And an host was given him against the daily *sacrifice* by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.” Again the word “sacrifice” is not in the original. The “host” is simply a group of people or army that would join the little horn “against the daily.” The Hebrew word “against” here is *al* which means, “above,” “in charge of,” “beside,” “among,” “joined with,” or, “touching.” The phrase, “the daily by reason of transgression” is *ha tamid be pasha*. The Hebrew word *be* here is not “by” but “in.” The phrase literally says, “the continual in transgression.” Therefore, “the daily” is in connection with (or, at one-with) “transgression.” If you really need to put a word after “the daily” it would be “transgressions” or, “desolations” and not “sacrifice.” So here’s what we have so far:

“Yea, he [the little horn] magnified himself even to [opposed to] the Prince [Yeshua] of the host, and by him the daily [the continual] was taken up [exalted] ... and an host [people/army] was given him [joined with the little horn] in charge over the daily [the continual] in transgression.”

It was because of this army (the host), who joined with the little horn power “in transgression,” that “the daily” was exalted or taken up. In other words, because of the continual transgression against God’s truth (His character/Torah, see, Ps. 119:142), “the daily” was taken up (or, incorporated) by the little horn and his people! When Daniel was a captive in Babylon (later Medo-Persia) the concern of God’s people was, “How long shall be the vision concerning The Continual, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled under foot?” (Dan. 8:13). This same terminology is used elsewhere in Scripture at times when God’s people were held captive by pagan nations. Notice the following perfect parallel:

“Oh God, why hast thou cast us off forever? why doth thine anger smoke against the sheep of thy pasture? ... Lift up thy feet unto the **perpetual** [tamid = continual] **desolations**; even all that the enemy hath doth wickedly in the sanctuary ... They have cast fire into thy sanctuary, they have defiled ... the dwelling place of thy name to the ground ... O God, how long shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever? - Psalm 74:1,3,7,10 (KJV).

It was the “continual desolations” that defiled Jehovah’s sanctuary. The question “how long?” was a question throughout Scripture in times of exile in pagan nations (Ps. 79:5; 80:4; Zech. 1:12). The word *tamid* (continual) is also present during these times of exiles in pagan nations (Is. 52:5).

The only place in the entire Scriptures that the word *tamid* is used with a definite article (“the”, or, “ha”) is in the book of Daniel (*ha tamid* - “The Daily” or, “The Continual”). This title (*ha tamid*), in Daniel chapter 8, is used in reference to all the other times that we have seen *tamid* (continual) was used for the “continual desolations” of paganism that suppressed God’s people all throughout history. Thus “the little horn” which rises from ROME, and becomes involved with religious activities, would “take up” (exalt, or, incorporate) the “continual desolations” of PAGAN SUN-WORSHIP, which were handed down from Babylon, to Medo-Persia, to Greece, and then to Rome, and amalgamate it with Christianity! Yes, the abomination of desolation!

## The Abomination of Desolation

*"Forces from him [little horn/king] shall appear and profane the temple and fortress, and shall take-up [exalt/incorporate] The Continual [pagan transgressions]. And they shall set up the abomination that makes desolate . . . And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished." ~ Daniel 11:31,36.*

In the Apocrypha book of 1 Maccabees it says, in the year 164 B.C., Judah Maccabeus purified the temple after it had been defiled by Antiochus Epiphanes. In chapter 1 it says, *"Now the fifteenth day of the month Casleu, in the hundred forty and fifth year, they set up the abomination of desolation upon the altar, and built idol altars throughout the cities of Judah on every side"* (1 Macc. 1:54). Antiochus Epiphanes had set up an altar to Zeus in the Second Temple in Jerusalem, and sacrificed a pig on it around the year 167 B.C. He also **outlawed Judaism including the Feast Days and the weekly Sabbath**. Today the Festival of Hanukkah is celebrated in remembrance of the cleansing of the temple from the abominations of Antiochus Epiphanes.

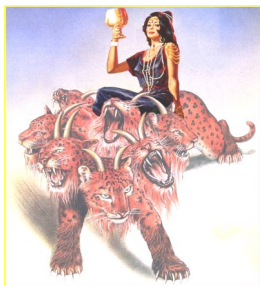
Although Judah calls this *"the abomination of desolation"*, Yeshua also applies the phrase to a future event from His time. In Matthew 24 Yeshua, foretelling the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., said, *"When you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, set up in the holy place [of the temple]... then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains."* (Vss. 15,16). Take note that Yeshua plainly teaches that this "abomination of desolation" was still in the future from His day.

Paul also spoke of this "little horn" calling it "the man of lawlessness" who would be revealed after a "falling away" occurs. He echoes Daniel's prophecy saying this "man of lawlessness" *"opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God"* (2 Thess. 2:1-4). Paul is writing these things in a letter to the Thessalonians. He adds, *"Do you not remember that I told you this while I was still with you?"* (Vs. 5). Although he is now writing these things in a letter, he reminds them that he personally spoke these things to them while he was visiting them earlier. We read of this visitation in Acts 17 where it says, *"they came to Thessalonica, where there was a congregation of the Jews. And according to his practice, Paul went in unto them, and for three Sabbaths was reasoning with them from the Scriptures"* (Vss. 1-2). What Scriptures would Paul have used to teach them of this "man of lawlessness" who would exalt himself as high as God? It must have been from the book of Daniel (Dan. 8:10-11; 11:31,36).

Just as Antiochus Epiphanes set up "the abomination of desolation" in his day (167 B.C.), after the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. the Temple Mount was covered over with rubble and a pagan temple dedicated to Jupiter was built when Hadrian became Caesar (117 - 138 A.D). Hadrian installed on the mount two statues: one of Jupiter and another of himself. In addition, Hadrian expelled the Jews from Jerusalem; outlawed the practice of Judaism, including circumcision, the study of Torah, the Feast Days and the weekly Sabbath. As a result, the following *Profession of Faith* was drawn up from the Church of Constantinople in the year 325 A.D. under the Roman Emperor Constantine:

*"I renounce all customs, rites, legalisms, unleavened breads & sacrifices of lambs of the Hebrews, and all other feasts of the Hebrews, sacrifices, prayers, aspersions, purifications, sanctifications and propitiations and fasts, and new moons, and Sabbaths, and superstitions, and hymns and chants and observances and Synagogues, and the food and drink of the Hebrews; in one word, I renounce everything Jewish, every law, rite and custom . . ."* (Cited in: *The Conflict Of The Church And The Synagogue*, pp. 397-398, by James Parks).

Do you really think that's what Paul, being a Jew, had in mind when he wrote Col. 2:14-17? Hardly! The Roman priests began to take control claiming forgiveness could only be achieved through them. Passover being replaced with Easter; Hanukkah replaced by Christmas; the Sabbath replaced by Sunday; Praying to dead "saints"; the sale of indulgences; Mary worship; appeasement based atonement; etc. is "the Abomination of Desolation" (the profaning of God's character) within God's holy Temple (His people; 1 Cor. 3:16-17) which wouldn't begin to be cleansed (set right) until an "Appointed Time" during "the time of the end" (Dan. 8:14; 11:35; 12:4-10; Rev. 10) typified by the Day of Atonement (Lev. 16:12-19; Rev. 8:3-6; 11:15-19).



In the 17th chapter of the book of Revelation the prophet John sees a harlot woman riding upon the ten-horned beast. This represents an apostate mother-church system (she is called, “the mother of harlots”) controlling the kingdoms of the earth. It is a man-made church and state religious/political system based in Rome. Take a close look at the colors John uses to describe this woman: “*the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, decked with gold and precious pearls*” (Vs. 4). Did you know these three colors are mentioned together all throughout the book of Exodus to describe the garments of God’s priests? (See, Ex. 28:5-6,8,15,33; 39:2-3,5,8).

However, there is one color missing that God’s priests have, but this woman does not. It’s the color **blue**. Why is this missing from the garment of the harlot? In Numbers 15 God tells His people to make tassels (tzitzit) and attach them to the four corners of their garments. Each of these tassels had to have at least one strand of **blue** (Vs. 38). Why blue? God declared, “*That you may look upon it and remember all the Commandments of Yehovah and do them, and that you do not seek after your own heart and your own eyes of which you use to go whoring*” (Vs. 39). The whore (harlot) of Revelation 17 is revealing an end-time world-wide mother church/state system (which has other harlot daughters/church systems) that has forgotten (rejected) “*the Commands of Yehovah*” and works, in a last stitch satanic effort, to force people into submission (Rev. 13:16-17).

“My people are destroyed for lack of the knowledge [of God’s character]: because you have rejected that knowledge, I will also reject you as being a priest for Me. Since you have forgotten [rejected] the Torah [character] of your God, I will also forget your children [remove My protection].” ~ Hosea 4:6.



The very calendar we use today with its pagan names for days (such as Sun’s-day, Moon’s-day, Thor’s-day); months with their names of Roman Caesars (July/Julius; August/Augustus); pagan festivals (Christmas, Lent/Easter, Valentine’s Day, Halloween); time of day from midnight to midnight (instead of the biblical day of sunset to sunset) is all of Roman origin! “*For the earth has been defiled under its inhabitants, because they have transgressed the Torah, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant*” (Is. 24:5).

Listen to the following testimony of Yeshua:

**“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For I tell you truly, until heaven and earth pass away, not a single jot, nor one tittle, will disappear from the Torah until everything is accomplished. So then, whoever sets aside one of the least of these Commands and teaches others to do likewise will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”** ~ Matthew 5:17-19.



Today many Christians are beginning to realize that Jesus did not walk this earth with the purpose of doing away with the Torah nor to start a new religion called “Christianity” (Rom. 11:25; Mic. 4:1-2). Yes, He taught against the added traditions of the religious leaders, but never against any of God’s holy character traits. Many, however, are confused as to what Yeshua means when He said He came to “fulfill” the Torah. They teach that He fulfilled it so we don’t have to thus putting an end to it. Yes, **Romans 10:4** certainly says, “*Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone who believes*”, but the word τέλος (end) simply means “goal”; “purpose”; “end-objective” (see, Jas. 5:11, KJV; more on this later).

***Yeshua is the righteousness (the standard) of the Torah, and with Him (the Living-Torah) dwelling in us, He will continue being Torah-observant through us! (Rom. 8:4; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 2:13)***

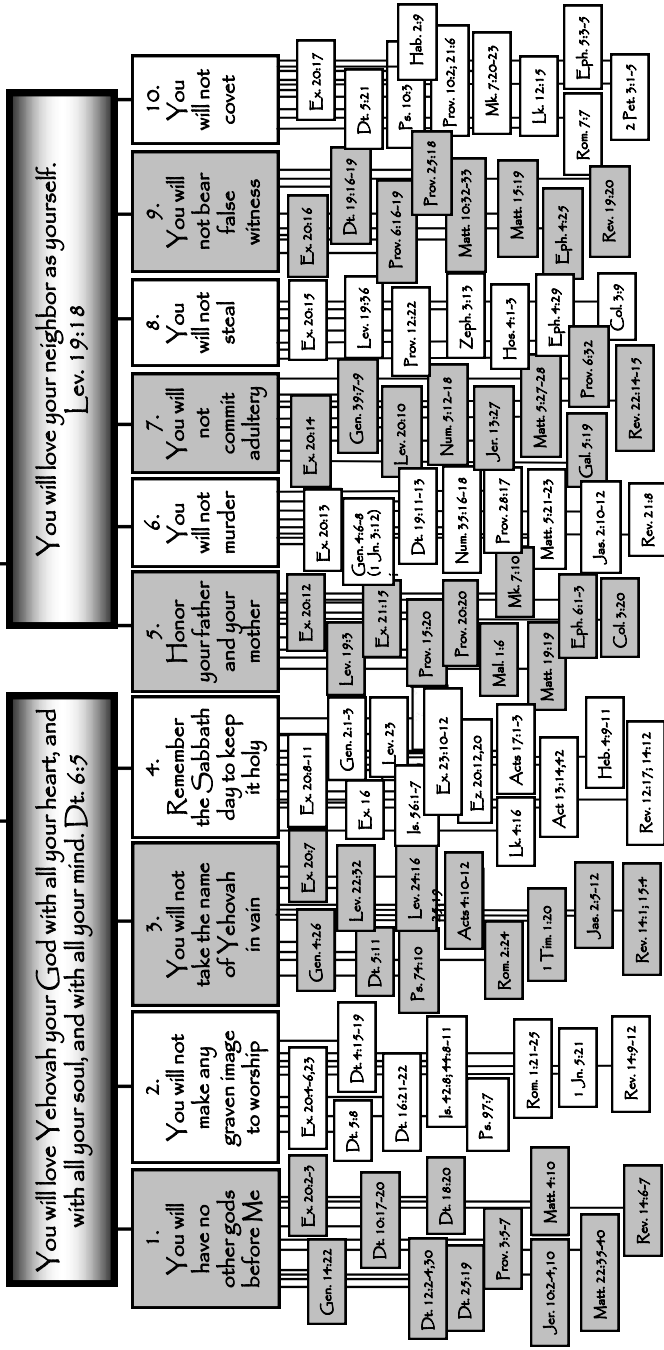
The Greek word for “fulfill” in Matthew 5:17 is πληρώω (pleroo). Paul uses this same word in Romans 15:19 which is translated “*I have fully preached the gospel of Messiah.*” This is exactly what Yeshua came to do ~ He came to fulfill (fully and correctly teach), through word and action, “the Torah and the Prophets” (see, Is. 42:21); just as He has also commissioned all of us to do (Matt. 5:19; 28:19-20)!

In Romans 13:8 Paul says, “... *he that loves another has fulfilled the Torah.*” He’s telling us to fulfill the Torah as well! He then goes on to list certain Commands concerning loving your neighbor straight from the Ten Commandments (Vs. 9) and then adds, “... *love is the fulfilling of the Torah*” (Vs. 10). When Yeshua was asked what the greatest Command in the Torah was, He answered:

**“Love Yehovah your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest Command. And the second is like it: **‘Love your neighbor** as yourself.’ All the Torah and the Prophets hang [derive] from these two Commands.” ~ Matthew 22:37-40.

# “On these two Commandments hang all the Torah [Law] and the prophets”

Mark 12:29-31



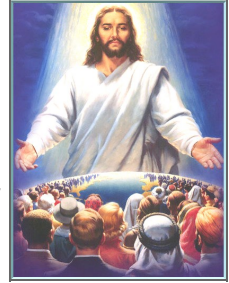
“Don’t think that I [Yeshua/Jesus] came to destroy the Torah [Law] or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill [perfectly demonstrate]. For I assure you: Until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass from the Torah until all things are accomplished.” - Matthew 5:17-18



Yeshua is NOT making this up as the foundation of a new religion or denomination here. He is simply quoting and teaching what was already written in the Torah (see, Deut. 6:5; Lev. 19:18); for the Torah-life proves **“God is love!”** (1 Jn. 4:7-21). The first 4 Commands outline how to love Yehovah our God. The last 6 Commands outline how to love our fellow man. The rest of the Torah gives us all the details (the jots and tittles).

Remember, the New Testament assembly (aka “church”) is simply a continuation of *“the assembly [church] in the wilderness”* during the time of Moses (Acts 7:38; see also, Acts 2:46-47); and there is NOT a Torah (Law) for Jews and another Torah (Law) for Gentiles! God said ...

*“There is to be a **single standard for the whole assembly**, one statute for you and the foreigner [Gentile] who lives [is grafted in] with you, a long lasting statute throughout your generations. **You and the foreigner [Gentile] are the same before Yehovah.** There is to be **one Torah** and one ordinance for you and for the foreigner [Gentile] who lives [is grafted in] with you.”*  
 ~ Num. 15:15-16. (See also, Ex. 12:49; Lev. 24:22; Eccl. 12:13-14; Rom. 11:11-27; Gal. 3:26-29; Eph. 4:4-6)



Just as many (within Ephraim) are confused as to who really is intending to do away with God’s Torah/Law, many (within Judah) are also confused as to who would take away the blood sacrifices. The most common teaching is that there will be a third temple built in Jerusalem and, during a so-called future seven-year tribulation, the Antichrist will take away the sacrifices. So, the modern mainstream doctrine is: Christ would take away the Torah/Law and the Antichrist would take away the animal sacrifices. So far we have seen how untrue it is to even think Christ would take away the Torah, and saw that it was the Antichrist power. Could the same mistaken identity also effect our understanding of the animal sacrifices?

Scripture is absolutely clear that the old elementary teachings through the temple sacrifices are now *“dead works”* (Heb. 6:1; 9:1-15) because those insufficient temple sacrifices were a tutor bringing us to the complete and final all-sufficient offering of forgiveness in Yeshua (Jesus) the Messiah (Jn. 1:29; Gal. 3:24-25; Col. 3:11; Heb. 7:11-12,18,23-28; 1 Pet. 1:18-19).

Although on the surface it can be confusing, Daniel 9:24-27 is saying *“the Messiah the Prince”* (Vs. 24) would *“cause the sacrifice [slaughtering] and oblation to cease”* (Vs. 27).

**“And after sixty-two weeks the Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself: (and the people of the Prince [the Messiah] that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined). And He shall confirm [strengthen/renew] the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week He shall cause the**

**sacrifice and the oblation to cease**, (and for the overspreading of abominations He shall make it [the city] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate).”

When Daniel says the city and the sanctuary would be destroyed he’s prophesying of the destruction of Jerusalem and its temple in 70 A.D. This is clear evidence that the Messiah would come before this time as He would be “cut off” (killed) 40 years before its destruction. Yeshua (Jesus) even mentions this coming destruction when He said, “*When you shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet stand in the holy place [of the temple] ... Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains ... But pray that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the Sabbath day*” (Matt. 24:16-20). Interesting how Yeshua mentions to these Messianic Believers (Christians) to pray that this event wouldn’t happen in the winter nor on the Sabbath day. Why mention the Sabbath day if it was going to be done away with at the cross? He obviously still expected His followers to still be keeping the Sabbath 40 years later at the time this came to pass (70 A.D.)! Luke records Yeshua’s words this way:

“And when you shall see **Jerusalem compassed with armies**, then know that the **desolation** of it is near. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains ... For these are the days of vengeance, **that all things which are written may be fulfilled** ... for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be **led away captive into all nations**: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, **until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled**.” - Luke 21:20-24.



This prophecy was fulfilled exactly the way Yeshua had said by the Romans! In August of 66 A.D. Cestius attacked Jerusalem and, for some unknown reason withdrew his troops. Then in 67 and 68 Vespasian attacked and subdued the city of Galilee and Judea. However, due to the death of the Emperor Nero, he delayed the attack of Jerusalem. As a result of this, the followers of Yeshua remembered His warning and migrated to a town in Perea called Pella (see, *Ecclesiastical History*, by Eusebius). Then in 70 A.D. Jerusalem and its temple were destroyed by Vespasian’s son Titus, and not one Christian died!

Jerusalem being compassed with armies is in fulfillment with Daniel’s words “*and the people [army] of [from; sent by] the Prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.*” The people who destroyed Jerusalem are not “followers” of God but, like the story of Joseph, God in His great wisdom will even use pagan armies and kingdoms to achieve His redemptive purposes for good (Gen. 45:4-8; Ez. 29:19-20). Yeshua explained all this in the parable of the wedding banquet. Pay close attention to the references in brackets as they explain the parable more fully:

“Again Yeshua spoke to them in parables. He said, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king [**the Father**] who gave a wedding banquet for his son [**Yeshua**]. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited to the wedding [**Judah/Jews**], but they refused to come [**Jn. 1:11**]. So he sent other servants after saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited, ‘Look! I’ve prepared my dinner. My oxen and fattened calves have been slaughtered. Everything is ready [**Yeshua has paid the ransom price for sin; Heb. 9:11-15; 10:4-10**]. Come to the wedding!’ [**2 Cor. 11:2**]. But they paid no attention to this and went away, one to his farm, another to his business [**Matt. 23:37**]. The rest grabbed the king’s servants, treated them brutally, and then killed them [**Acts 7:54-60**]. Then the king became outraged. He sent his troops, and they destroyed those murderers and burned their city [**destruction of Jerusalem; Matt. 23:38; 24:1-2**]. Then he told his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy [**Matt. 21:43**]. So go into the roads leading out of town and invite as many people as you can find to the wedding.’ Those servants went out into the streets and brought in everyone they found, evil and good alike, and the wedding hall was packed with guests [**Acts 13:44-47**]. When the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes [**Is. 61:10; Rom. 9:6-8; Rev. 19:6-9**]. He asked him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?’ [**Jn. 14:6**]. But the man was speechless. Then the king told his servants, ‘Tie his hands and feet, and throw him into the darkness outside!’ In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth [**Rev. 22:14-15**], because many are invited, but few are chosen.”

~ Matthew 22:1-14.

So, as you can see, they chose not to remain under God’s protection, therefore God let go, which permitted the Roman troops (army) to come and destroy the Jerusalem temple as a result of Judah being “cut off” as a nation (Rom. 11:17-23). Yeshua foretold of the destruction of the Jerusalem temple (Matt. 24:1-2) because they had rejected the head Corner Stone (Matt. 21:42-44) — the Messiah who came to “confirm the covenant with many for one week” (Matt. 26:28; Rom. 15:8); “and in the midst of the week He shall cause the slaughtering and the oblation to cease” (Dan. 9:27; See pages, 42-44).



“He [Yeshua] says, ‘You [Father] never wanted or took delight in sacrifices, offerings, burnt offerings, and sin offerings, which are offered according to the [Levitical] law.’ Then He says, ‘See, I [Yeshua] have come to do Your [the Father’s] will.’ He [Yeshua] **takes away the first** [the animal offerings] in order to establish the second [true sanctification; 1 Thess. 4:3]. By God’s will we have been **sanctified ONCE AND FOR ALL** through the sacrifice of the body of Yeshua the Messiah ... For by a **SINGLE OFFERING** [payment] He has **perfected** for **ALL TIME** those who are being **sanctified** ... where there is forgiveness of these sins, **there is no longer any offering [payment] for sin.**” ~ Hebrews 10:8-10,14,18.

Always keep in mind that, just because animal offerings are written in “The Torah” (the 1st 5 books of the Scriptures), does not mean we need to keep them today. As we will see, the slaughtering of animals came as a **result** of breaking what God had Commanded ~ His moral Torah of righteousness as outlined in the Ten Commandments.

## “In the Midst of the Week”

*“Seventy weeks are determined upon your people [Judah/Jews] and upon your holy city [Jerusalem], to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and sixty-two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after the sixty-two weeks shall Messiah be cut off; but not for Himself: (and the people of the Prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined). And He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations He shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.” ~ Daniel 7:24-27.*

According to this prophecy God gives Daniel's people (Judah) a “seventy week” probationary period. We should calculate this time-prophecy the same way we did the 1,260 day period allotted to the reign of the “little horn” power in Daniel 7-8. Seventy weeks is 490 days, and calculating a day for a year we see this period spans a full 490 years and no more. But when does this time period begin? The angel Gabriel told Daniel, “from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and sixty-two weeks.” The time period begins when the command was given to restore and to build Jerusalem. From that starting point Gabriel tells Daniel that they would know who the Messiah is after “seven weeks and sixty-two weeks” (69 weeks). There are 483 days in 69 weeks, so the Messiah would begin His ministry upon the earth 483 years from the date when the command to restore, and to build Jerusalem was given. Archaeology has shown that this date is set at 457 B.C. and is recorded in Ezra 7:11-26. Now all you have to do is calculate 483 years from 457 B.C. and we get 27 A.D. (Remember that a calculator will add in a zero year so if you use a calculator you must add one year).

27 A.D. was the very year Yeshua was baptized in the Jordan River by John the Immerser/Baptist! How do we know this? Luke writes that John the Baptist began his ministry in the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar (Lk. 3:1). Archaeology reveals that Tiberius became co-ruler of the provinces along with his father in 12 A.D. Since John began his ministry in the 15th year of Tiberius' rule we now need to add these 15 years to the date 12 A.D. and we come to the year 27 A.D. which is the very year the Messiah was anointed in the Jordan River! And then, right after John the Baptist dies, Yeshua proclaims, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent! and believe the gospel” (Mk. 1:14-15; Gal. 4:4). Yeshua was proclaiming the fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy and the beginning of His ministry as the Levitical priesthood of John began to transfer to the Melchizedek priesthood of Yeshua (Jn. 3:28,30).

Now remember, we have only covered 69 of the 70 weeks (or 483 years of the 490). What most modern teachers do now is they take the last week (the 70th week/the last 7 years) out from the prophecy, press pause, and stick the final week way off into the distant future saying the temple in Jerusalem will be rebuilt and the Antichrist will put an end to the sacrifice and offering “in the midst of the week” or, “in the midst of the seven years.” But as we have already seen, it's the Messiah who does this by being “cut off” (murdered; Dan. 9:26) in the midst of these last seven years of the 490 (Vs. 27). Seven years from 27 A.D. brings us to 34 A.D. placing Yeshua's death in 31 A.D. and probation closes on the Jews as a nation by their final rejection of the Messiah as they stoned Stephen to death (Acts 7) and the gospel begins to be proclaimed to the Gentiles by Paul exactly in 34 A.D. (Acts 13:46).

**70 weeks/490 years**  
(Dan. 9:2-4-27)

**69 weeks/483 years**



**Fall of 457 B.C.**  
Command by Artaxerxes to  
Restore and Rebuild Jerusalem  
(Ezra 7:1-26)



**Spring of 27 A.D.**  
Yeshua (Jesus)  
Baptized in Jordan River



**Fall of 27 A.D.**  
John the Baptist Beheaded  
Yeshua (Jesus) Begins His Ministry  
(Mk. 1:4-15)

**Spring of 31 A.D.**  
Yeshua (Jesus) Crucified  
"In the Midst of the  
Week 7 years"

3 1/2 yrs.

3 1/2 yrs.



**Fall of 34 A.D.**  
Stephen Stoned  
&  
Paul's Conversion  
Gospel Goes Out To  
the Gentiles

The Hebrew word used for the words "prince" and "ruler" in this prophecy is *nagid*. In verse 25 Daniel uses the word "Messiah" in connection with *nagid* - "Messiah the Prince [Messiah *nagid*]." In the first part of verse 26 Daniel only uses the word "Messiah." In the second part of verse 26 Daniel only uses the word "prince [*nagid*]." What does this mean? "This pattern suggests that all three references are to the same Messiah Prince designated by the first occurrence of this word pair in verse 25" (William H. Shea, Daniel 7-12, p.75). Thus this prophecy is all about Yeshua Messiah and His work. Let's not take it away from Yeshua and try to apply it to the antichrist!

The prophecy says, "Then He [the Messiah] will confirm the covenant with many for one week, and in the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice and oblation to cease" (vs. 29). He would confirm the covenant "with many." This is a Hebrew idiom meaning "all those who are His." Concerning the Passover cup of redemption Yeshua said, "for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the removal of sins" (Mat. 26:28). Paul wrote, "For just as through the disobedience of one man [Adam], many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of one Man [Yeshua/Jesus], many will be set right forever" (Rom. 5:19). The phrase literally is, "the many" and again means all, or the totality of the lost or redeemed. In the verse prior to this Paul confirms this idea when he says, "So then, through the transgression of one [Adam], condemnation came to all men, likewise, through the righteousness of One [Yeshua/Jesus] came righteousness of life to all men" (Verse 18). Here's what we have:

"Condemnation came to all men" = **Mary** were made sinners."  
"Righteousness of life to all men" = **Mary** will be set right forever"

"For I tell you that the Messiah became a servant of the circumcised [Jews] on behalf of God's truth in order to confirm the promises given to our ancestors, so that the Gentiles may glorify God for His mercy. As it is written, "That is why I will praise You among the gentiles; I will sing praises to Your name." ~ Romans 15:8-9.

## The Destruction of Jerusalem: A Solemn Warning For This Generation

After the destruction of the temple, the whole city soon fell into the hands of the Romans. The leaders of the Jews forsook their impregnable towers, and Titus found them solitary. He gazed upon them with amazement, and declared that **God had given them into his hands**; for no engines, however powerful, could have prevailed against those stupendous battlements. Both the city and the temple were razed to their foundations, and the ground upon which the holy house had stood was "plowed like a field." Jeremiah 26:18. In the siege and the slaughter that followed, more than a million of the people perished; the survivors were carried away as captives, sold as slaves, dragged to Rome to grace the conqueror's triumph, thrown to wild beasts in the amphitheaters, or scattered as homeless wanderers throughout the earth.

The Jews had forged their own fetters; they had filled for themselves the cup of vengeance. In the utter destruction that befell them as a nation, and in all the woes that followed them in their dispersion, they were but **reaping the harvest which their own hands had sown**. Says the prophet: "O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself;" "for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity." Hosea 13:9; 14:1. **Their sufferings are often represented as a punishment visited upon them by the direct decree of God. It is thus that the great deceiver seeks to conceal**

**his own work. By stubborn rejection of divine love and mercy, the Jews had caused the protection of God to be withdrawn from them [Matt. 21:42-43; Lk. 13:34-35], and Satan was permitted to rule them according to his will. The horrible cruelties enacted in the destruction of Jerusalem are a demonstration of Satan's vindictive power over those who yield to his control [Jn. 8:37-44].**



We cannot know how much we owe to Christ for the peace and protection which we enjoy. It is the restraining power of God that prevents mankind from passing fully under the control of Satan. The disobedient and unthankful have great reason for gratitude for God's mercy and long-suffering in holding in check the cruel, malignant power of the evil one. But when men pass the limits of divine forbearance, that restraint is removed. **God does not stand toward the sinner as an executioner of the sentence against transgression; but He leaves the rejectors of His mercy to themselves, to reap that which they have sown.** Every ray of light rejected, every warning despised or unheeded, every passion indulged, every transgression of the law of God, is a seed sown which yields its unfailing harvest. **The Spirit of God, persistently resisted, is at last withdrawn from the sinner, and then there is left no power to control the evil passions of the soul, and no protection from the malice and enmity of Satan.** The destruction of Jerusalem is a fearful and solemn warning to all who are trifling with the offers of divine grace and resisting the pleadings of divine mercy. Never was there given a more decisive testimony to God's hatred of sin and to the certain punishment that will fall upon the guilty.

... The world is no more ready to credit the message for this time than were the Jews to receive the Savior's warning concerning Jerusalem. Come when it may, the day of God will come unawares to the ungodly. When life is going on in its unvarying round; when men are absorbed in pleasure, in business, in traffic, in money-making; when religious leaders are magnifying the world's progress and enlightenment, and the people are lulled in a false security—then, as the midnight thief steals within the unguarded dwelling, so shall sudden destruction come upon the careless and ungodly, "and they shall not escape."

(Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, p. 35-36,38).

Right after God declares His Sabbaths as being a sign between He and His true people (Ez. 20:12,20), He says, *"I lifted up My hand unto them also in the wilderness, that I would scatter them among the nations, and disperse them through the countries; because they had not executed My ordinances, but had rejected My statutes, and had profaned My Sabbaths, and their eyes were after their fathers' idols. Wherefore I gave them over to statutes that were **NOT GOOD**, and ordinances whereby they should not live"* (Ez. 20:23-25). Take heed to what Jeremiah 7:21-24 says:

"Thus says Jehovah of hosts, the God of Israel: Add your burnt-offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat flesh. **For I spoke not unto your fathers, nor commanded them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt-offerings or sacrifices;** but this thing I commanded them, saying: 'Hearken unto My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people; and walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.' But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in their own counsels, even in the stubbornness of their evil heart, and went backward and not forward."

When God says, *"Add your burnt-offerings unto your sacrifices, and eat flesh"* He's saying the same thing He did when the people craved flesh food in the wilderness and so He sent them quail to eat until it made them sick and ran out their nostrils (Num. 11:4,31-35). God gave them this flesh food as a rebuke so they would repent and live. He gave it to them to expose their own selfish lusts: *"He stirred up the east wind in the heavens and drove the south wind by His might. He caused meat to rain on them like dust and winged birds as the sand of the sea. He caused these to fall in the middle of the camp and all around their tents. So they ate and were very satisfied, **because He gave them their own desire**"* (Ps. 78:26-29).

So, going back to Jeremiah 7 we see that God is not commanding them to add more burnt-offerings and sacrifices and eat flesh, instead He is declaring His displeasure at their way of worship as He did through Isaiah (Is. 1:11-16)! He's saying, "Go ahead and multiply your useless animal sacrifices. Eat their flesh until it comes out of your nostrils! You are no more righteous than your Father the devil!" (Jn. 8:39-44; Rev. 2:9).

"For it is love that I seek, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. But like man they broke the covenant; in this they have acted deceitfully against Me." ~ Hosea 6:6-7

In the book of Hebrews Paul is clear that, in the old administration, under the Levitical Priesthood and its services, they offered *"both gifts and slaughtering that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience"* (Heb. 9:9). These slaughtering were permitted, not to appease an angry God, but to prick the sinner's heart into experiencing that our sin kills the innocent along with the guilty. These offerings, *"stood only in foods and drinks, and different washings, and carnal [fleshly] ordinances, **IMPOSED ON THEM until the time of***

*when things would be set right*" (Vs. 10). All these temporary ceremonial rituals concerning clean and unclean (not the moral/laws of cleanliness in Lev. 11 and 12) are superseded by the one time washing of baptism through Messiah Yeshua since His offering, and His baptism, is once and for all. There is no more need to offer bloody sacrifices and to partake of various washings over and over again. The Levitical administration has fulfilled its purpose and is superseded by the Melchizedek priesthood of which Yeshua is High Priest (Ps. 110:4; Heb. 5:9-10).



"But when the Messiah came as a High Priest of the good things that have come, He went through the greater and more perfect tent [heavenly temple] that was not made by human hands and that is not a part of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with **His own blood** He went into the Holy Place [heavenly temple] once for all and secured our eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are unclean purifies them physically, **how much more will the blood of the Messiah, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences [prick our hearts] from dead works so that we may serve the living God!** This is why the Messiah is the mediator of a New Covenant; so that those who are called may receive the eternal inheritance promised them, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the offenses committed under the first covenant." - Hebrews 9:11-15.

### Statute/Ordinance:

**OT #2706; Choq, khoke;** from 2710; an enactment; hence an appointment (of time, space, quantity, labor or usage): - appointed, bound, commandments, convenient, custom, decree, ... set time, statute, task.

**OT #2708; Chuqqah, khook-kaw;** as the fem [feminine] of 2706, and means substantially the same: - appointed, custom, manner, ordinance, site.

"The word *statute* OT #2706, translated from the Hebrew word *choq*, applies most often to the *statutes of sacrifices and oblations*. These, we know, were fulfilled at Christ's death, type meeting antitype. The word *statute* OT #2708, translated from the Hebrew word *chuqqah*, applies most often to the *statutes of the moral law*, permanently binding statutes of sanctification.

Not only do these two Hebrew words, *choq* and *chuqqah*, represent the two laws, sacrificial and moral, but these two words are gendered. Notice in the definition of OT #2708, it says, "feminine of OT #2706." For 2708 to be the "feminine" part of #2706 the logical conclusion is #2706 is masculine ... Here we see a dual part in our covenant agreement hidden in definitions of Hebrew words. Christ our Bridegroom [masculine/the head] has fulfilled His part and the bride's [feminine/the body/church's] part is soon to be fulfilled [through her sanctification]." (Pam Benton, *Diamonds in the Sand*, pp. 96,97).

*"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb [Yeshua] is come, and His wife [the church] has made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness [selfless morality as defined in the Torah] of the set-apart ones."* - Revelation 19:7-8.



## The True Temple of God

The bottom line here is found in the writings of Paul who said, “Do you not know that **you yourselves are God’s temple**, and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him; for God’s temple is holy, and **you are that temple**” (1 Cor. 3:16-17).

You see, Paul knew the prophecy of Zechariah which said: “Behold, a Man whose name is the Branch [another name for the Messiah], He will branch out from His place and build the temple of Yehovah. Yes, **He will build the temple of Yehovah**; He will be clothed in splendor and will sit on His throne and rule. There will also be a Priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace will be between them Both” (Zech. 6:12-13). Paul knew that Yeshua would build His temple; and we, His people, are that temple!

And please keep in mind, Paul makes it absolutely clear that this temple, which we are, is the temple prophesied by the prophets: “For we are the temple of the living God, **just as God said**: ‘I will live and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be My people’ [Lev. 26:11-12; Ez. 37:26-27]” (2 Cor. 6:16). Yes! We are Ezekiel’s prophesied temple!

Peter taught the same:

“As you come to Him [Yeshua], the Living Stone, rejected by men but chosen and precious in God’s sight, you also, like living stones, **are being built into a spiritual house** to be a **holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God** through Messiah Yeshua ... You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people to be His very own and to proclaim the wonderful deeds of the One who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God. Once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” ~ 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10.



The Psalmist describes these “spiritual sacrifices”:

“Deliver me from **the guilt of shedding blood**, God, God of my salvation. Then my tongue will sing about Your righteousness. Master, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. Indeed, You do not delight in sacrifices, or I would give them, nor do You desire burnt offerings. **True sacrifice to God is a broken spirit. A broken and chastened heart**, God, You will not despise.”

~ Psalm 51:14-17 (See also, Rom. 12:1-2).

The Psalmist then makes the symbolic connection between the shadowy figure of the “*burnt offering and whole burnt offering*” with “*the sacrifices of righteousness*” (Vs. 19). During the old administration the people were to bring their sacrifices and offerings to the temple in Jerusalem. Malachi and Yeshua, however, prophesied of a time when this will not need to be:



**Malachi 1:5,11:**

“Your own eyes will see this, and you will say, ‘Great is Yehovah even **beyond the borders of Israel!** ... Even so, from where the sun rises to where it sets My name will be great among the **Gentiles**. **Incense will be offered unto My name everywhere**, along with pure offerings, because My name will be great among the Gentiles,’ says Yehovah of the Heavenly Armies’.

**John 4:21,23-24:**

“Yeshua said unto her, ‘Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming, when you shall neither in this mountain, **nor yet at Jerusalem**, worship the Father ... for salvation is of the **Jews** [in that they have ‘the Oracles of God’, Rom. 3:1-2] ... But the hour is coming, and now is, when **the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth:** for the Father seeks such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”



And this is why Paul echoes this by saying, “For you have not come unto the mount that can be touched ... But you have come unto **Mount Zion**, and unto the city of the living God, **the heavenly Jerusalem** ... and to the company and assembly of the firstborn [all those who have been born again from all ages of earth’s history], which are written in heaven ... To Yeshua, the Mediator of the New Covenant ...” (Heb. 12:18,22-24). And now compare that to **Micah 4:1-2**.

You see, those of us who “keep the Commandments of God and have the testimony of Yeshua Messiah” are the temple in this “heavenly Jerusalem.” The prophet Amos and the apostle James bear witness to this truth as well:

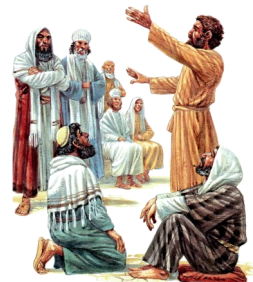


**Amos 9:11-12:**

“In that day I [God] will raise up the tabernacle of David **that is fallen**, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up its ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old. That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen [Gentiles], **which are called by My name,**’ says Yehovah that does this.”

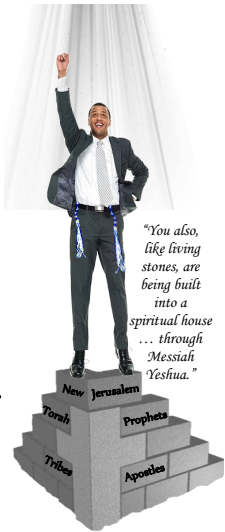
**Acts 15:13-17:**

“Men and brethren, hearken unto me [James]: Simon Peter has declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for His name. And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, ‘After this I will return, and will **build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down**; and I will **build again the ruins** thereof, and I will set it up: That the residue of men might seek after Yehovah, and all the **Gentiles, upon whom My name is called**, says Yehovah, who does all these things.”



## Are we beginning to finally see why Yeshua said He came to fulfill, not only the Torah, but also the prophets?

“So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth were called ‘the uncircumcised’ by those who called themselves ‘the circumcised’ [Jews]. They [Jews] underwent physical circumcision done by human hands. At that time you [Gentiles] were without the Messiah, excluded from citizenship in Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise. You had no hope and were in the world without God. But now, in union with the Messiah Yeshua, you [Gentiles] who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of the Messiah. For it is He [Messiah] who is our peace. Through His flesh He made both groups [Jews and Gentiles] one by tearing down the wall of hostility that divided them ... **thus creating in Himself one new humanity from the two**, thereby making peace, and reconciling both groups to God in one body through the cross, on which He eliminated the hostility. He came and proclaimed peace for you [Gentiles] who were far away and for you [Jews] who were near. For through Him [Messiah], both of us [Jews and Gentiles] have access to the Father by one Spirit. That is why you are no longer strangers and foreigners but fellow citizens [one church] with the saints and members of God’s household, having been **built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, the Messiah Yeshua Himself being the Chief Cornerstone**. In union with Him **the whole building** is joined together and **rises into a holy sanctuary for Yehovah**. You, too, are being built in Him, along with the others, into a **place for God’s Spirit [selfless life] to dwell.**” ~ Ephesians 2:11-22. (See also, Is. 11:10-13)



Earlier we learned how Zechariah referred to the coming Messiah as “the Branch.” The Hebrew word here is **צֶמַח** (*tsemak*). Isaiah also prophesied of the Messiah as being the Branch, and although he also uses the same Hebrew word throughout his writings, he uses another word when he said, “*And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots; And the Spirit of Yehovah shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of Yehovah*” (Is. 11:1-2). Here the word for “Branch” is **נֶצֶר** (*netzer*).

We have also seen how Zechariah, prophesying of this Branch, said, “*He will branch out from His place and build the temple of Yehovah. Yes, He will build the temple of Yehovah.*” So this Branch, the *Tsemak/Netzer* will “branch out” unto a living temple. After Peter made the declaration that Yeshua (Jesus) was “*the Messiah, the Son of the living God*”, Yeshua told him, “*I tell you that you are Peter [petros, a rolling stone], and it is on this rock [petra, immovable stone] that I will build My congregation, and the powers of hell will not conquer it*” (Matt. 16:18). Yeshua was not to build His congregation (His temple/church) upon the rolling stone of Peter, but upon Himself, the immovable Rock,



*“the Messiah, the Son of the living God”!* (See also, Ps. 31:7-5; 1 Cor. 10:1-4). And it’s no wonder why, when the chief priests falsely accused Paul of teaching against the Torah and against the temple in Jerusalem, they said, *“For we have found this man a perfect pest and an agitator among all Jews throughout the world. He is a ringleader in the sect of the Nazerenes [Netzerim]”* (Acts 24:5). This is also where we get the word “Nazareth.” The Messiah, the *Netzer*, had branched out, building His temple of *Netzerim*. Yes, the followers of the Messiah (both Jews and Gentiles) called themselves *Netzerim*, but to those on the outside, in the city of Antioch, they were called *Christians* (Acts 11:26).



Now listen carefully. In the 4th century A.D. church historian Epiphanius writes of the sect of the “Nazarenes” (Netzerim), “when the disciples were living in Pella, having left the city [Jerusalem] according to Christ’s word [Lk. 21:20-24] and migrated to the mountains because of its imminent siege” (*Adversus haereses*, p. 42). Epiphanius describes this sect of the Netzerim by saying, “They believe in the resurrection of the dead and that the universe was created by God. They preach that God is one and that Jesus Christ is His Son. They are very learned in the Hebrew language ... they fulfill till now Jewish rites as the circumcision, the Sabbath and others.” (p. 41).

So, since Paul was the “*ringleader in the sect of the Netzerim*”, no one can rightfully say that he taught against God’s Torah since, even in the 4th century A.D., this sect was still observing “circumcision, the Sabbath” and other rites erroneously claimed to be “Jewish.”

This temple, which we are, is the very temple Paul speaks of when he warns: *“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [the 2nd coming of Yeshua/Jesus] shall not come, except there come a falling away [an apostasy] first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God”* (2 Thess. 2:3-4).

Many people today teach the modern doctrine of a so-called secret rapture when the people of God will all of a sudden disappear and go to heaven leaving the wicked behind to be evangelized by converted Jews. At this time the Antichrist power will enter into a newly built temple in Jerusalem claiming to be God. However, as we have seen from page 29, this false doctrine was originated by two Roman Catholic Jesuits who were assigned the task to steer the Protestants away from teaching that the Roman papacy is the beast power who has infiltrated God’s temple (His true people) in order to cause confusion of God’s character and truth. For a detailed study of this request the booklet: *Every Eye Shall See Him*.

## Binding and Loosing:

Right after Yeshua (Jesus) declares He will build His congregation (church) upon His Messiahship He says to His disciples: *“And I will give unto you [the disciples] the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven”* (Matt. 16:19). In her blog on [buldozerfaith.com](http://buldozerfaith.com), Christine Egbert explains:

“The Roman Catholic church has selected this passage and interprets it to mean that Yeshua gave Peter the power and authority to change Biblical Law. They interpret it that Peter, and later the Pope (whoever has that title at any given time), can declare what is allowed or permitted from Earth, even if it goes counter to Torah, and Heaven has to follow along. They, of course, are wrong! The Hebrew words for “bind” is *acar* and for “loose” is *pathach*. In rabbinic literature the meaning found for “bind” is “prohibited”, and “loose” means “to allow.” The Greek translators, however, used the literal and not intended idiomatic meaning for bind and loose. A more appropriate understanding is that all the things that Heaven has declared to be allowable (permitted) or **whatever Heaven has already prohibited** are to be Peter’s [and the disciples’] (and later the ‘church’) guide for behavior. Those are the ‘keys’ to enter into the kingdom of heaven for everyone. Instead of giving man the authority to decide between good and evil, this passage is intended to reinforce that all power and authority comes from Heaven and we are to be reflections of that standard.”

The Roman Papacy has totally twisted Yeshua’s words to mean that Yeshua was inaugurating Peter as being the first Pope and whatever the Roman church claims to be holy or not holy heaven itself has to follow along. This doctrine of pure blasphemy extends to the confessional where it is decreed that God Himself has to submit to their (the Catholic priests’) authority on weather or not they chose to forgive the sinner:

“Seek where you will, through heaven and earth, and you will find but **one created being who can forgive the sinner**, who can free him from the chains of hell, **that extraordinary being is the priest, the (Roman) Catholic priest**. Yes, beloved brethren, the priest not only declares that the sinner is forgiven, but he really forgives him. The priest raises his hand, he pronounces the word of absolution, and in an instant, quick as a flash of light the chains of hell are burst asunder, and the sinner becomes a child of God. **So great is the power of the priest that the judgments of heaven itself are subject to his decision.**” ~ (*The Catholic Priest*, pp. 78,79).

“And God himself is obliged to abide by the judgment of his priests, and either not to pardon or to pardon, according as they refuse to give absolution, provided the penitent is capable of it.”  
~ (*Dignity and Duties of the Priest*, by Liguori, p. 27).

*“The beast was given a mouth to speak arrogant and blasphemous words, and authority to continue for 42 months [1,260 days/years]. And the beast opened its mouth to blaspheme against God and slander His name and His tabernacle—those who dwell in heaven.”*  
~ Revelation 13:5-6 ~

There is a work going on today to build a temple in Jerusalem. All the pieces of furniture are ready. They have even started breeding a very rare Red Heifer for sacrifices. This should raise multiple red flags! On Monday Dec. 10, 2018 an altar was dedicated in anticipation of this temple and sacrifices to be restored. However, Paul is clear: ***“We have an altar [Yeshua], and those who serve in the tent [keeping the Levitical law/rejecting Yeshua’s sacrifice] have no more a right to eat at it. [as they used to; Lev. 2:10; 6:25-26; Num.18:9]. For the bodies of animals, whose blood is taken into the sanctuary by the high priest as an offering for sin, are***



*burned outside the camp [Lev. 4:21]. That is why Yeshua, in order to sanctify the people by His own blood, also suffered outside the city gate. Therefore GO TO HIM outside the camp [eating of the 'spiritual meat' of Messiah; 1 Cor. 10:3] and endure the insults He endured. For here [Jerusalem] we have no permanent city but are looking for the one that is coming. Therefore, through Him let us always bring God a sacrifice of praise [not an animal offering], that is, the fruit of our lips that confess His name [character]" (Heb. 13:10-15).*

As to Abraham Paul wrote, "By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who also inherited the same promise, **because he was waiting for the city with permanent foundations, whose architect and builder is God ... For the promise that he should be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith.** (Heb. 11:9-10; Rom. 4:13). The prophet John wrote, "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **I saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband [Yeshua]" (Rev. 21:1-2).**

Did you know that on August 15, 1871 thirty-three degree grand Mason, Albert Pike, laid out the blueprints of how the Illuminati and the kings of the earth plan for the whole world to "receive the true light through the universal manifestation of the pure doctrine of Lucifer"? This plan would go into effect by causing three world wars! In this letter Pike describes what must take place during each of these wars. In his description of The Second world War he states, " ... **This war must be brought about so that Nazism is destroyed and that the political Zionism be strong enough to institute a sovereign state of Israel in Palestine.** During the Second World War, International Communism must become strong enough in order to balance Christendom, which would be then restrained and held in check until the time when we would need it for the final social cataclysm."

Unbelievable! Israel was declared a state on May 14, 1948, not by the favor of God, but by the powers of the earth to gain control once again to manifest "the pure doctrine of Lucifer." The teaching that God is showing favor to His true people of Israel by them becoming a state and declaring their independence is a deception!



Israeli Flag

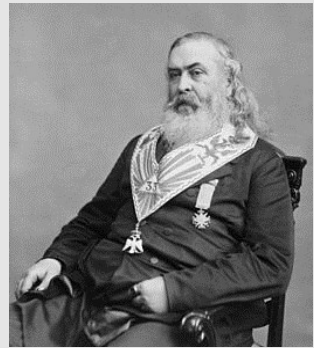


Symbol in Masonic Lodge  
(Esoteric Kabbalah Worship)



**Kabbalah:** The ancient Jewish tradition of mystical interpretation of the Bible, first transmitted orally and using esoteric methods (including ciphers). It reached the height of its influence in the later Middle Ages.

**The First World War** must be brought about in order to permit the Illuminati to overthrow the power of the Czars in Russia and of making that country a fortress of atheistic Communism. The divergences caused by the “agentur” (agents) of the Illuminati between the British and Germanic Empires will be used to foment this war. At the end of the war, Communism will be built and used in order to destroy the other governments and in order to weaken the religions.



**The Second World War** must be fomented by taking advantage of the differences between the Fascists and the political Zionists. **This war must be brought about so that Nazism is destroyed and that the political Zionism be strong enough to institute a sovereign state of Israel in Palestine.** During the Second World War, International Communism must become strong enough in order to balance Christendom, which would be then restrained and held in check until the time when we would need it for the final social cataclysm.

**The Third World War** must be fomented by taking advantage of the differences caused by the “agentur” of the “Illuminati” between the political Zionists and the leaders of Islamic World. The war must be conducted in such a way that Islam and political Zionism mutually destroy each other. Meanwhile the other nations, once more divided on this issue will be constrained to fight to the point of complete physical, moral, spiritual and economical exhaustion...

We shall unleash the Nihilists and the atheists, and we shall provoke a formidable social cataclysm which in all its horror will show clearly to the nations the effect of absolute atheism, origin of savagery and of the most bloody turmoil. Then everywhere, the citizens, obliged to defend themselves against the world minority of revolutionaries, will exterminate those destroyers of civilization, and the multitude, disillusioned with Christianity, whose deistic spirits will from that moment be without compass or direction, anxious for an ideal, but without knowing where to render its adoration, will receive the true light **through the universal manifestation of the pure doctrine of Lucifer**, brought finally out in the public view. This manifestation will result from the general reactionary movement which will follow the destruction of Christianity and atheism, both conquered and exterminated at the same time.

Albert Pike, August 15, 1871

“Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, ‘O you **house of Israel**, have you offered to Me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness? Yes, you took up the tabernacle of **Moloch**, and **the star of your god Remphan**, and symbols which you made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.’”

~ Acts 7:42-43 ~



Remphan/Moloch

Many are looking for a literal fulfillment of the temple envisioned by the prophet Ezekiel. And because Ezekiel mentions there will be animal sacrifices at this temple, many believe the Messiah will reinstate animal sacrifices again during His Millennial reign. This is obviously a misinterpretation of Ezekiel. We have already seen that the New Testament writers refer to the Old Testament prophecies concerning the temple and apply them to the church of Israel with Messiah as the chief cornerstone. For Yeshua did say:

“‘Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.’ The Jews replied, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and You are going to raise it in three days?’ But **the temple He had spoken of was His body.** After He was raised from the dead, His disciples recalled what He had said. They believed the Scripture and the words Yeshua had spoken” ~ John 2:18-22.

“They believed the Scripture”? Yes, everything the prophets spoke of the temple. After all, the glory of Yehovah never did enter the second temple as it did Solomon’s temple (2 Chron. 7:1) and the temple that Ezekiel prophesied (Ez. 43:17). John says, *“And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, ‘Come here, I will show you the bride, the Lamb’s [Yeshua’s] wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and he showed me **that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God ... I did not see a temple in the city, because Yehovah God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple**”* (Rev. 21:9-11,22). Yes, the glory (selfless character) of Yehovah in His people!

### Ezekiel’s Temple

“Then the man [angel] brought me back to the entrance of **the temple**, and I saw **water flowing from under the threshold of the temple** toward the east (for the temple faced east). The water was coming down from under the south side of the temple, south of the altar ... Along both banks of the river, **fruit trees** of all kinds will grow. Their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. **Each month they will bear fruit**, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will be used for food and their **leaves for healing.**”

~ Ezekiel 47:1,12.

### John’s Vision of the Throne

“Then he [the angel] showed me the **river of the water of life**, as clear as crystal. It was **flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb [the Temple]**. Between the city street and the river, **the tree of life** was visible from each side. **It produced twelve kinds of fruit, each month** having its own fruit. **The leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.**” ~ Revelation 22:1-2.

Please keep in mind John is seeing these things after the “*new heaven and the new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away*” (Rev. 21:1-3).

And please take notice that in Ezekiel chapter 43 he mentions “burnt offering” three times (Vss. 18,24,27); and “sin offering” four times (Vss. 19,21,22,25). Why would we be participating in these offerings when Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said, *“In burnt offerings and*

Cont. on p. 56



## The Jewish Sabbath Vs. The Sabbath of the Lord Vs. The Papal Sabbath

“There is such a thing as ‘the Jewish Sabbath,’ or the Sabbath of the Jews, but it is a far different thing from the Sabbath of the Lord. **Many people imagine that if one observes the seventh day he is keeping the Jewish Sabbath;** but that does not at all follow ... There is the same difference between the Jewish Sabbath and the Sabbath of the Lord, that there is between a man and God.

... The seventh day is ‘the Sabbath of the Lord;’ but we have seen that the Lord’s rest is spiritual rest, which the seventh day commemorates [Ex. 31:16-17; Is. 40:28]. A man may cease from physical toil on the seventh day of the week, and not keep the Sabbath of the Lord.

... To keep the Sabbath of the Lord is to delight in the Lord [Is. 58:13-14]. Those who do not delight themselves in the Lord [the Creator], do not keep His Sabbath, no matter when they abstain from labor. It is absolutely impossible for one who is not a Christian [Messianic believer in Yeshua/Jesus] to keep the Lord’s Sabbath; for, as we have seen, **God’s rest comes only from His perfect work, which is found only in Christ [the Creator; Col. 1:15-17; Mk. 2:28]** ... Therefore no Jew, so-called, as distinguished from a believer in Christ, keeps the Sabbath of the Lord, even though he apparently rests on the seventh day of the week. His rest is his own rest, and not the rest of the Lord [Jesus; Ex. 33:14; Matt. 11:28-30; Heb. 4].

Do you see the difference? **The Jewish Sabbath falls on the same day of the week as the Sabbath of the Lord, but it is not by any means the same thing.** It represents only the man himself, and his own work. Instead of being the sign of justification by faith in the work of the Lord [Jesus], it is the sign of self-righteousness, as indicated by the question which the Jews asked of Jesus: ‘What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?’ [John 6:28]. They counted their own works equal to God’s works. Their obedience was not the obedience of faith, but only of form. From such a Sabbath may the Lord deliver us. It is from it that we are delivered in the Sabbath of the Lord, for we are saved from [not, by] our own works, and given the perfect works of the Lord. **‘The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord [Jesus],’** but let us beware of making it a mere caricature of rest. Let us take it for what it is: the rest of the Lord [Jesus].

... The papal Sabbath; This is something entirely different from the sabbath of the Jews, and infinitely different from the Sabbath of the Lord. The Sabbath of the Lord is the acceptance of God’s own works, and rest in them alone, allowing Him to work both to will and do of His good pleasure [Phil. 2:13]; the Jewish sabbath represents the vain attempt of zealous and self-confident men to do the works which God Himself does, and which God alone can do [Ex. 19:8]; but **the pope’s sabbath signifies the substitution of man’s work for God’s work, as being not only as good, but even better.** It dispenses with even the form of the commandment of the Lord ... Thus a Roman Catholic book, entitled ‘A Sure Way to Find Out the True Religion,’ says: *‘The keeping holy the Sunday is a thing absolutely necessary to salvation; and yet this is nowhere put down in the Bible; on the contrary, the Bible says, ‘Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy’ (Ex. 20:8), which is Saturday, and not Sunday; therefore the Bible does not contain all things necessary to salvation.’*

... Notice that the citation speaks about necessity of ‘keeping holy the Sunday.’ But **God has not made the Sunday holy.** In fact, the Bible knows nothing about such a day. It does know the first day of the week, which it calls a working day, but the Sunday, a day composed of parts of two days, was made in Rome. **The only day that God has ever spoken of as holy is the seventh day of the week. That day He Himself has made holy, and all He asks of us is keep it holy.** But since God has not made the Sunday holy, it follows that if man is to keep it holy, a man himself must make it holy. All the sacredness in the world that Sunday has is that which man gives to it. **The Sunday sabbath, therefore, stands as the sign of man’s pretended power to make things holy.** For if man can make one thing holy, it is evident that he can make anything holy. If man can make and keep a day holy, then he can make and keep himself holy. **The papal sabbath is thus the sign of the pope’s claims to take the place of the Lord [Jesus] as the sanctifier of sinners.**

While the seventh day is the sign of God’s power to save by His own works [Ez. 20:12,20], **the Sunday is the sign of man’s assumed power to save himself by his own works, entirely apart from and in spite of the Lord [Jesus].** It repudiates the Lord in repudiating His Word. Take notice that this is said of the papal Sunday, and not of all those who regard it as a holy day. There are thousands who are keeping the papal day, honestly supposing it to be the Sabbath of the Lord. Such, of course, believe in justification by faith, although **they unwittingly observe the sign of justification by works.** It is for the benefit of such that this article is written, that they may be wholly consistent in their profession of faith. We are dealing with facts, regardless of how men may stand related to them; and the facts are that **the Lord’s Sabbath is justification by faith; the papal sabbath means justification by works, and that of man’s own works.** On which side will you stand? [Josh. 24:15; Acts 5:29].

(E.J. Waggoner, *The Three Sabbaths*)

*sacrifices for sin You have no pleasure*” and, because of Yeshua’s death, “*there is no more offering for sin*” (Heb. 10:6,18)? This is why, all throughout the book of Revelation, Yeshua is referred to as “*the Lamb that had been slaughtered*” (See Rev. 5:6). He is our “burnt offering” for a “sin offering” who was offered “*once and for all.*”

## The Battle of Armageddon

Remember, Paul foretold that the “man of sin” (Antichrist power) “*sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God*” (2 Thess. 2:3-4). When Satan first rebelled in heaven he said, “*I’ll ascend to heaven, above the stars of God. I’ll erect my throne; I’ll sit on the Mount of Assembly in the sides of the north; I’ll ascend above the tops of the clouds; I’ll make myself like the Most High*” (Is. 14:12-14). Notice, “the temple of God” and the “Mount of Assembly” are synonymous. The “Mount of the Assembly” is said to be situated in “the north.” Isaiah 48:2 says, “*Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.*” And then we read, “*Hearken unto Me, My people; and give ear unto Me, O My nation: for a Torah [Law] shall proceed from Me, and I will make My judgment to rest for a light of the people ... Hearken unto Me, you that know [experience] righteousness, the people in whose heart is My Torah [Law] ... I have put My words in your mouth, and I have covered you in the shadow of My hand, that I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, you are My people*” (Is. 51:4,7,16).

So, Satan wants to be “*as God*” and “*sit on the Mount of the Assembly*” which is situated “*in the sides of the north*” which is named “*Mount Zion*” and is a symbol of God’s people. Satan attempts to accomplish this task through the Antichrist power in order to put a stop to the work of experiencing and teaching God’s Torah (Law) to the people. He does not want God’s true character revealed; for when it is revealed (through God’s people) Satan’s end will come.

The Hebrew word for “Mount of the Assembly” is *Har-Mo’ed*. We have seen that *mo’ed* (or, *mo’edim*) means “Appointed Times” or “Appointed Feasts.” Satan wants to distort, profane, and make-void God’s “Mount of Appointed Times” (His Sabbaths and Feast Days) which bring us into union with our heavenly Father.

In Revelation chapter 16 we see that the final battle between Yehovah and Satan is called “Armageddon.” Because “mageddon” sounds like an area in Palestine called “Megiddon” (Zech. 12:11), many believe that World War Three will be fought there. However, Zechariah 12:11 speaks of “*the Valley of Megiddon*” when the word *Ar* (or, *Har*) in “Armageddon” means “mountain.” There are many scholars who reveal that the Hebrew root

word for “mageddon” actually comes from the word *Mo’ed*, which would mean “Armageddon” is referring to the same “Mount of Assembly” (or, Appointed Times/Festivals) as Isaiah 14:12-14 speaks of! In fact, on page 672 of *George Wigram’s Englishman’s Hebrew and Chaldee Concordance of the Old Testament* (originally published in 1874 and recently republished by Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., in 1996), *Mo’ed* is said to be pronounced as “Moh-gehd.” (See, right).

4150

מוֹעֵד *mōh-ḡēhd’*, m.

Gen 1:14. let them be for signs, and for seasons,  
17:21. at this set time in the next year.  
18:14. At the time appointed I will return  
21: 2. at the set time of which God had spoken

With this definition we can see that “Armageddon” is the final battle of authority (truth vs. error) over our hearts and minds. John writes that *“spirits of devils, working miracles, [will] go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty ... And they gathered together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.”* (Rev. 16:13-16).

Remember Paul’s words in the book of Hebrews: *“For you [believers in Yeshua] have not come unto the mount that can be touched ... But you have come unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem ... and to the company and assembly of the firstborn, which are written in heaven ... To Yeshua, the Mediator of the New Covenant ...”* (Heb. 12:18,22-24). This is all in fulfillment of Micah 4:2 which says:

“In the last days the mountain of the house of Yehovah will be established as the chief of the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream to it. And many nations will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yehovah, to the house of the God of Jacob [Israel]. He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths.’ For the Torah [Law] will go forth from Zion and the word of Yehovah from Jerusalem ... But now many nations have gathered against you, saying, ‘Let her be defiled, and let us feast our eyes on Zion.’ But they do not know the thoughts of Yehovah or understand His plan: that He has gathered them like sheaves to the threshing floor.” ~ Micah 4:1-2,11-12.

Earlier we read in Isaiah: *“Hearken unto Me, My people; and give ear unto Me, O My nation: for a Torah [Law] shall proceed from Me, and I will make My judgment to rest for a light of the people ...”* Yeshua told His followers: *“You are the light of the world. A CITY THAT IS SET ON A HILL cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it gives light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”* (Matt. 5:14-16).

This is what Satan is trying so desperately to stop. He knows the Torah is a transcript of God’s very own character and when that Torah (God’s character) is in the hearts of believers, God’s glory (character) will

enlighten the whole earth and the people will glorify the Father by coming out of “Babylon” (modern-day error and confusion) as they submit to His Holy (selfless) Spirit (presence, attitude, life) and allow Him to renew their minds and give them new hearts inscribed with His Torah (His Character; Ez. 36:26-27; Heb. 8:10; Rev. 18:1-4). *“And I looked, and, lo, a **Lamb** [Yeshua] stood on **Mount Zion**, and with Him **144,000**, having His Father’s name [character] written in their foreheads”* (Rev. 14:1; Neh. 1:9).

So, who is in control of your life? God or this man of sin (Lawlessness)? Do you still hold onto the “apostasy” - the “falling away” from God’s truth? Or are you heeding the final call to “*come out of her [modern-day Babylon] My people, and take no part in her sins, or receive of her plagues*” and “*keep the Commandments of God and the faith of Yeshua/ Jesus*” (Rev. 18:1-2; 14:12)? Do you want to blindly cling to the lies you have inherited, or will you “*love Yehovah with all your heart, and with all your mind, and with all your strength*”?

## The Final Gathering

Jeremiah prophesied of an end-time exodus that would happen all over the earth ~ an exodus greater than the one from Egypt (see, Jer. 16:14-15). This will result in Ephraim (the fullness of the Gentiles) and Judah becoming one nation [kingdom] again (Is. 60:1-3; Ez. 47:21-23), under one King (Hos. 3:5), which again is what Paul spoke of in Eph. 2:14-15. Yes, “one new humanity” (kingdom) in Yeshua, (King) as foretold by Ezekiel:



“And the word of Yehovah came to me [Ezekiel], saying, ‘And you, son of man, take a stick for yourself and write on it, ‘For **Judah** and for the children of Israel, his companions.’ Then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph, the stick of **Ephraim**, and for all the house of Israel, his companions.’ Then bring them together for yourself into **one stick**, and they shall become one in your hand ... ‘See, I am taking **the children of Israel from among the Gentiles**, wherever they have gone, and shall gather them from all around, and I shall bring them into their land. And I shall make them **one nation** in the land, on **the mountains** of Israel. And one King [Yeshua] shall rule over them all, and let them no longer be two nations, and let them no longer be divided into two kingdoms. And they shall no longer defile themselves with their idols, nor with their disgusting matters, nor with any of their transgressions. And I shall save them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and I shall cleanse them. And **they shall be My people, and I be their God.**”

~ Ezekiel 37:15-18,21-23.

Today, all over the world, there is a movement going on. Jews and Gentiles are both uncovering the lies that have been propagated within

main-stem Judaism and Christianity. In Bible Prophecy “the house of Judah” represents those who are zealous for the Torah (Law) without Yeshua. “The house of Ephraim” (the fullness of the Gentiles) represents all those who are zealous for Yeshua without the Torah (Law). Neither group is able to see Yeshua (Jesus) in the Torah.

**The Dispensational Error**



However, today converted Jews are discovering that Yeshua is their Messiah (Matt. 23:37-39) and their oral laws are but empty inherited myths and man-made commands (Titus 1:11-14). As a result of this converted Gentiles are beginning to discover the true Hebrew roots of the Christian faith and their dispensational teachings are nothing more than inherited lies.

The dispensational error is that before the cross was the age of Law, and then after the cross came the age of grace. They point to **John 1:17** which says: “the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” (KJV). However, the word “but” does not belong in the text. It was added by the translators. Before this John had mentioned Yeshua is the very Word of God (the living-Torah) that became flesh and dwelt

The very first letter in the Torah is *Bet* (ב) from *Beresheet* (Beginning/Genesis). The very last letter in the Torah is a *Lamed* (ל) from the word *Israel* in the book of *Devarim* (Deuteronomy). If you put these two letters together we have the Hebrew word *lev* (לב) which means, “heart”; showing us that the Torah is the Father’s very own heart of eternal righteousness (love/selflessness). Likewise, the very last letter in all of Scripture is *Nun* (ן) from the word *Amen* in the book of *Revelation*. Putting the first letter of the Torah (ב) and last letter together in all of Scripture (ן) we have the Hebrew word **בן** which means, “Son”; thus teaching that all of Scripture (from Gen. to Rev.) reveals the plan of salvation that, through the indwelling Spirit of the Son, we will receive the very heart of the Father inscribed with His Torah (character)!

among us saying He was “full of grace and truth” (Vss. 1,14). The meaning is, the Law (Torah) was given to Moses as an act of grace and Jesus (Yeshua) takes hold of that grace and becomes an even greater gift of grace and truth. The Psalmist wrote, “Your [God’s] righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your Torah [Law] is the truth” (Ps. 119:142). When Moses was communing with God he asked Him to reveal His glory. God responded by saying, “... *Yehovah, Yehovah God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in [full of] goodness and truth*” (Ex. 34:5-6). God’s glory is His selfless character (His everlasting righteousness) of grace and truth, transcribed in the Torah [Law] given to Moses and fully displayed in the life of Yeshua (Jesus).

Yeshua (Jesus) is the Father’s greatest gift of grace and truth. In Messiah

*“mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other”* (Ps. 85:10). The Father “gave” us the Son to choose life or death. In the murder of Yeshua God exposed man’s satanic desire to want God dead and out of the way (Zech. 12:10). The bloody lamb in the hands of Adam after he had sinned in Eden was not meant to appease an angry God, for nothing we do can atone for our sin. As the bloody lamb lay lifeless before Adam and Eve God was saying to us all, “Look what you have done to My Son!” In the death of this lamb, Adam, in his anguish, saw down through the ages to Yeshua, who was *“brought as a lamb to the slaughter”* (Is. 53:7) because *“He was despised and rejected of men”* (Vs. 3). Yeshua is *“the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world”* (Is. 63:9; Jn. 1:29; Rev. 13:8). And yet, in His death, Yeshua *“exposed the powers of evil, triumphing over them in the cross”* (Col. 2:15; Heb. 2:14) and vindicated His Father’s love as He cried, *“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do!”* (Lk. 23:34). *“Let God be true, but every man a liar”* (Rom. 3:4).

***The sacrificial system of lambs and goats etc. was never meant to appease an angry God who kills people for breaking His Commands, but to expose our own fallen murderous character!***

Before Yehovah’s people entered into the promised land they sent out spies (one from each of the twelve tribes) to scout out the land. Only two people ~ Caleb and Joshua ~ said they could, by the power (grace) of God, overtake the giants who were in the land (Num. 13 & 14). The giants are a symbol of sin and the promised land a symbol of the final end-time dwelling place of sinlessness (true rest).

It is of no coincidence that Caleb was of the tribe of Judah (Num. 13:6) and Joshua was of the tribe of Ephraim (1 Chron. 7:20-27). They are a symbol of the final restoration of Judah (who see the Torah without Yeshua) and Ephraim (who see Yeshua without the Torah). It will be the final sealing of *“the Commands [Torah] of God, and the faith of Yeshua”* in the hearts and minds of God’s people! (Deut. 6:4-8; Prov. 7:1-3; Is. 8:16; 2 Cor. 1:21-22; Eph. 1:13-14; Rev. 7:1-3; 14:1-12).

## The Last Message of Mercy

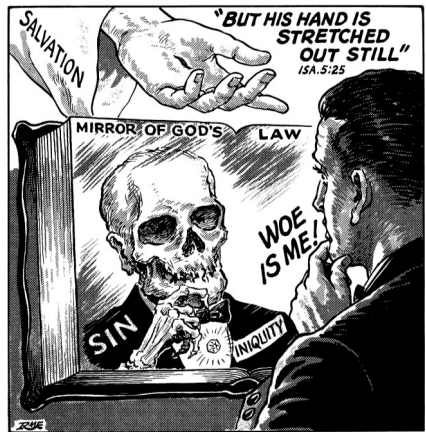
*“If anyone is a hearer of the Word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror, for he looks at himself, and goes away, and immediately forgets what he was like. But he that looks into the perfect Law [Torah] of freedom, and continues in it, not becoming a hearer that forgets, but a doer of work, this one shall be blessed in his doing of the [Law] Torah.” ~ James 1:23-25.*

Here James (whose real name is Jacob) compares the Law (Torah) to a mirror. He says the one who hears the Word and is not a doer (does not submit to what he hears, i.e. a sinner) the Law will reflect his own “natural face” (carnal expressions) back to him. This person will be looking at the

Law through their own preconceived ideas about who God is. They will then project their own thoughts on who God is onto God. Naturally then, in man's view, the Law, as a mirror, will reflect back that same warped image of God back to them.

For example: If you have a warped view of God as being a blood-thirsty tyrant who zaps people every time they misbehave, then that's what's reflected back every time you read about God getting "angry" and commanding the people to slaughter

men, women and children. As we have noted earlier, man's view of the slaughtering of animals at the temple is seen as an act of worship in order to appease an angry God. This is man looking at the Law (Torah) through his natural face (carnal expressions). This is mere paganism. The Law (which reveals God's character) will then reflect back our carnal face in order to have us see how sinful sin really is in order for us to seek the "goal of the Law" which is Christ (Messiah) for forgiveness and reconciliation (Rom. 4:10). Paul speaks of this in Romans chapter 7:5-13:



"For when we were in the flesh, **the passions of sins, through the Torah, were working in our members to bear fruit to death.** But now we have been released from the [condemnation of the] Torah, having died to what we were held by [sin], so that we should serve in newness of Spirit and not in oldness of letter. What, then, shall we say? **Is the Torah sin? Let it not be!** However, **I did not know sin except through the Torah.** For also the covetousness I knew not if the Torah had not said, 'You shall not covet.' But **sin, having taken the occasion through the Command, did work in me all sorts of covetousness. For apart from Torah sin is dead.** And I was alive apart from the Torah once, but **when the Command came, the sin revived, and I died.** And the Command which was to result in life, this I found to result in death. For **sin, having taken the occasion through the Command, deceived me,** and through it killed me. So that the Torah truly is holy, and the Command holy, and righteous, and good. Therefore, has that which is good [the Torah itself] become death to me? Let it not be! **But the sin, that sin might be manifest, was working death in me through what is good [the Torah], so that sin through the Command might become exceedingly great [exposed]."**

God's Torah is "holy, righteous, and good" because it is a reflection of His own character. And when that character says, "You shall not covet", God has just exposed sin (brought it to light). Paul says, now that sin has been exposed by the Torah, it (sin) took advantage of this opportunity to work in man all sorts of covetousness. Paul may have been drawing this from what he read in Psalm 94:20 which says, "Shall the seat of wickedness have fellowship with you, **which frames mischief by a law?**"

Those of you with children should know how this works. As soon as you say, “Whatever you do, don’t open that door”, the next thing you know curiosity has gotten the best of them and they are opening the door, and then you say, “I shouldn’t have said anything.” Of course with God we’re dealing with life and death matters and He must expose sin by the Law in order for us to see the true nature of sin and His true character of love and forgiveness which Satan has lied about.

Paul is here describing the two sides of the same mirror—newness of Spirit and oldness of letter. In order to “serve in newness of Spirit” the Torah must be written, not on paper or stone, but in our hearts. This is why he says, “*Messiah in you [is] the hope of glory*” (Col. 1:27). If Messiah was indeed in us we would look at the Law (Torah) through the eyes (in the Spirit of) Yeshua (Jesus) and give glory to the Father instead of profaning Him! Why? Because Yeshua said, “*He that has seen Me, has seen the Father ... The words that I speak unto you I speak not from Myself: but the Father that dwells in Me, He is doing the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me*” (Jn. 14:9-10).

When we look at the Torah through Yeshua’s eyes we see that the slaughtering of animals does not point to the Father’s character as being an angry God that must be appeased, but a loving Father who is exposing (reflecting) onto us our true sinful character (natural face) in order to draw us to Yeshua for forgiveness and restoration. We are to see sin as it is. Not only does the slaughtering of animals reveal that our sin has killed countless innocent animals, but, as we have seen, this was to make us see the murder of the Son of God upon the cross, and Yeshua said, “*And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, shall draw all men unto Myself*” (Jn. 12:32).

If we look at the Torah (Law) through the eyes of our “natural face” we will see a God’s tyrannical anger against those who misbehave by the command to stone them all to death. Again, this is all to reflect our own sinful (satanic) vengeful character that we have projected onto God. We should be grieved by these things we read in the Torah. However, when we look at these things through the eyes of Yeshua we see a loving and forgiving Father who says, “*He who is without sin cast the first stone.*” And when our true sinful character is exposed we will hear the Father’s voice saying, “*Neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more*” (Jn. 8:7-11); for it was the Father speaking through Yeshua (see, Deut. 17:5-7).

“Now if **the ministry of death, which was engraved in letters on stone**, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at the face of Moses because of its fleeting glory, will not **the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious**? For if the ministry of condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry of righteousness! Indeed, what was once glorious has no glory now in comparison to the glory that surpasses it. For if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which endures! Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. We are not like Moses, who would put a veil

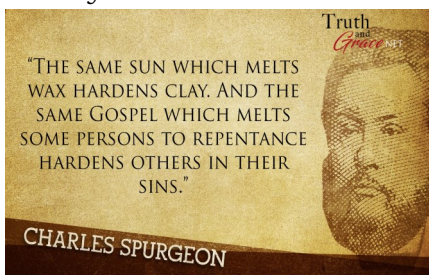


over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at the end of what was fading away. But their minds were closed. **For to this day the same veil remains at the reading of the old covenant. It has not been lifted, because only in Messiah can it be removed.** And even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. **But whenever anyone turns to Yehovah, the veil is taken away.** Now Yehovah is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of Yehovah is, there is freedom. **And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the glory [true character] of Yehovah, are being transformed into His image from glory [our own sinfulness] to glory [His sinless character],** which comes from Yehovah, who is the Spirit.” ~ 2 Corinthians 3:7-18.

Yeshua prayed to the Father saying, *“I have glorified You on earth”* (Jn. 17:4). Yeshua displayed the Father’s true character. When did Yeshua ever kill anyone? When did He stone an offender? Never. Why? Yeshua (Jesus) said that Satan *“has nothing in Me”* (Jn. 14:30). Satan had no foothold in our Messiah! God is not a destroyer. Stoning was an Egyptian practice of forcing submission onto the people on pain of death (Ex. 8:26) which the Israelites desired to adopt (Ex.17:4) so God gave them of their own desires—their own justice system (Num. 14:26-29; Matt. 7:1-2; Lk. 19:21-22; Jas. 2:13). God, through Messiah, however, would show that true submission is motivated by love for who God is and not from fear of punishment or for a selfish reward.

As mentioned earlier, God gave them over to their own desires when He sent the quail. God had also given them an earthly king because they wanted to be like all the other nations (Deut. 17:14-15; 1 Sam. 8:4-9). In Exodus 9:12 we read, *“And Yehovah hardened the heart of Pharaoh”*, but in verse 34 it says Pharaoh *“sinned yet more and hardened his heart.”* Well, who was it that hardened the heart of Pharaoh? God or Pharaoh himself? It all depends on how you look at it. I believe Charles Spurgeon says it the best: **“The same sun which melts wax hardens clay. And the same Gospel which melts some persons to repentance hardens others in their sins.”**

Now, is it the sun doing this or is it the ingredients in the wax and clay reacting to the sun? The heart of Pharaoh was hardened by the way it reacted to God (Prov. 29:27). Our hearts and minds will react accordingly depending on our view of our heavenly Father as well. Are you looking at the Torah (Law) with a veil or through the eyes of Yeshua (Jesus) within you? God’s protective power was tossed aside when the men of Bethshemesh *“looked into the Ark [of the Covenant] of Yehovah”* and they all died (1 Sam. 6:19). Why? Because the Law (the 10 Commandments) was in the Ark and in order to look inside they had to remove, what God called, “the Mercy Seat” cover from on top of the Ark (Ex. 25:17-22).





<sup>1</sup> John 2:2 tells us that Yeshua is “*the propitiation of our [the believer’s] sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world [those resisting].*” The Greek word for “propitiation” means “Mercy Seat.” Yeshua (Jesus) is our Mercy Seat. This is why the people died who looked at the Law without the Mercy Seat covering (Yeshua—the love of God)! Without looking at the Torah (Law) through the eyes of Yeshua (Jesus) we will presume that all hurricanes, tsunamis, death, etc. are “acts of God” when they are not:

“And He [God] said [to Elijah], ‘Go forth, and stand upon the mount before Yehovah.’ And, behold, Yehovah passed by, and a great and strong wind ripped the mountains, and the rocks broke in pieces before Yehovah; **but Yehovah was not in the wind:** and after the wind an earthquake; **but Yehovah was not in the earthquake:** And after the earthquake a fire; **but Yehovah was not in the fire:** and after the fire **a still small voice.**” ~ 1 Kings 19:11-12.

***Be clear-minded and alert. Your opponent, the devil, is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour” (1 Pet. 5:8)***

“The owner’s servants came and asked him, ‘Master, you sowed good seed in your field, didn’t you? Then where did these weeds come from?’ He told them, ‘**An enemy did this!**’ The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them out?’ He said, ‘No! **If you pull out the weeds, you might pull out the wheat with them. Let both grow together [mature; be fully revealed] until the harvest,** and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, ‘Gather the weeds first and tie them in bundles for burning, but bring the wheat into my barn.’” ~ Matthew 13:27-30.

***“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says Yehovah, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. And you shall call upon Me, and go, and pray unto Me, and I will hearken unto you. And you shall seek Me, and find Me, when you shall search for Me with all your heart” (Jer. 29:11-13).***

Before His death upon the cross Yeshua cried out, “*My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?*” (Matt. 27:46). Here Yeshua is drawing our attention to Psalm 22 which says, “*My God, my God, why have You forsaken me, And are far from my help at the words of my cry? O my God, I call by day, but You do not answer; And at night, and there is no rest for me.*” Why is Yeshua praying such words? Because “*He [the Father] has made Him [Yeshua/Jesus] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him*” (2 Cor. 5:21). Because Yeshua took upon Himself our sin He cried out to God from the perspective of a sinner. He could not see His Father’s face. Because of the sin He bore, the Father removed His presence, which is the definition of His wrath (Jer. 33:5), permitting the enemy to kill. But Yeshua’s unflinching faith in His Father was victorious being “*obedient unto death, even the death of a cross*” (Phil. 2:8).

“Then Moses said, ‘Please show me Your glory.’ And Yehovah replied, ‘I will cause all My goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim My name—Yehovah—before you. I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.’ And He added, **‘You cannot see My face, for no one can see Me and live.’** Yehovah continued, ‘There is a place near Me where you are to stand upon a rock, and when My glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. Then I will take My hand away, and **you will see My back; but My face must not be seen.**’

~ Exodus 33:18-23.



Scripture says, *“Our God is a consuming fire”* to sin wherever present (Deut. 4:24; Heb. 12:29). Sin cannot exist in the presence of God. This is why Moses had to stand in the cleft of the rock so he would not be consumed. All, whose life is hidden in Messiah, who is the Rock (1 Cor. 10:4; Col. 3:3), will not be consumed in the presence of God. However, when Yeshua returns *“that Wickedness [shall be] be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the Spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan ... because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion [remove His protective presence], that they should believe a lie: Then all who have not believed the truth, but find pleasure in unrighteousness, will be self-condemned”* (2 Thess. 2:8-12; Jn. 3:16-21).

This is why there is an apparent delay in His coming; for He *“is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance”* (2 Pet. 3:9). We must have Yeshua’s indwelling fire-proof character of righteousness (His very presence, His Holy Spirit) in us, in order to dwell forever in the *“consuming fire”* and in the *“everlasting flames”* without being consumed! (Is. 33:14-15). It’s all who cling to ungodliness and unrighteousness, *“who change the truth of God into a lie”* who will *“consume away”* and *“be ashes under the souls of your feet”* (Ps. 37:20; Mal. 4:1-3; Rom. 1:18-32). There is not, nor will there be, people screaming in hellfire enduring endless torture. Like Sodom and Gomorrah, which suffered *“eternal fire”*, they will *“consume”* into *“ashes”* (2 Pet. 2:6; Jude 7). Our Father is not a torturing executioner!

Most people confuse the words *“will”* and *“must.”* When God told Adam and Eve not to eat of the forbidden fruit He said, *“you will surely die”* (Gen. 2:17). Notice He did not say *“you must surely die.”* Do you see the difference? *“You will surely die”* reveals, in their act of going contrary to the voice of God, they will unplug themselves from the very source of all life and *“will”* die. It’s as natural as knowing that when you cut yourself you are going to bleed.

However, “You *must* surely die” would reveal that God would kill them if they did not submit to His voice. It would also reveal that man has life in and of himself apart from God. This is the very lie Satan had told Eve when he said, “*You will not surely die*” (Gen. 3:4). From this lie stems the erroneous doctrine that mankind has a naturally immortal soul that floats away at death and will either live forever in Paradise or live forever screaming in agony in never ending torments of hell. (Ps. 146:4; Ez. 18:4).

And this is just what they began to believe. Scripture says, when they heard the Word of God walking in the Garden, “*they hid themselves from the presence of Yehovah*” (Gen. 3:8). Why did they hide? Adam explained, “*I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid*” (Vs. 10). They had come to believe Satan’s lie concerning the character of God that He is not a forgiving Father, but a violent angry “god” who loses His temper whenever disobeyed. They had projected onto God a character that is foreign to His nature, thus they transgressed the Law (Torah) of God, which is a transcript of His character of love and forgiveness.

The seed of sin (selfishness) was planted so far in their hearts that, when questioned by God as to why they would do such a thing, Adam replied, “*The woman whom YOU gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat*” (Gen. 3:12). Adam put the blame onto God! Eve replied, “*The serpent deceived me, and I did eat*” (Vs. 13). She was not only putting the blame onto the serpent, but onto God who created the serpent!



The end of sin and sinners is not the result of an angry God’s temper and wrath in that He would transgress His own character and kill, but is the natural result of their own choice to remain unplugged from the only source of Life, “*Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of Yehovah; they did not want My advice, and they rejected all My correction. They will eat the fruit of their own way, and they will be filled with their own devices.*” (Prov. 1:29-31).

The Satanic influence of atheism loves to point out apparent discrepancies within Scripture saying, “Your God you serve is a genocidal tyrant in the Old Testament, but masquerades as a God of love in the New Testament.” To these, God says:

“How dare you recite My statutes or speak about My covenant with your lips! You hate instruction and toss My words behind you. When you see a thief, you befriend him, and you keep company with adulterers. You give your mouth free

reign for evil, and your tongue devises deceit. You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother's son. These things you did, and **I kept silent, because you assumed that I was like you.** But now I am going to rebuke you, and I will set forth My case before your very own eyes.” ~ Psalm 50:16-21.

God set forth His case before our eyes in the person of Yeshua Messiah (Jesus Christ). One day “a Canaanite woman from that region came to Him [Yeshua], crying out, ‘Master, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is miserably possessed by a demon.’ But **Yeshua kept silent. So His disciples came and urged Him, ‘Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us’**” (Matt. 15:22-23). The disciples, assuming Yeshua was like them, projected onto Him their own prejudice. Yeshua, in order to expose their selfishness, said to the woman, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel” (Vs. 24). Just imagine the minds of the disciples saying, “That’s right Yeshua, You tell her!” The woman, kneeling before Him, begged, “Master, help me!” (Vs. 25). Yeshua says, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs” (Vs. 26). Now the selfish hearts of the disciples are puffing up with pride! The woman replies, “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table” (Vs. 27). The disciples eagerly wait for Yeshua’s final words to this gentile dog as He says, “*Oh woman, your faith is great! Let it be done for you as you desire. And her daughter was healed from that very hour*” (Vs. 28). Yes, the Father was in Yeshua, rebuking the evil heart that “assumes” He is like fallen sinful man! This precious Gentile woman was indeed one of the lost sheep of the house of Israel! (This is also the meaning of the parable of the Rich Man [prejudice Jews] and Lazarus [begging Gentiles], Lk. 16:19-31).



The Psalmist wrote: “*Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Your Torah [Law]*” (Ps. 119:18). Here’s a wondrous thing from God’s character: “*I [God] kill, and I make alive ...*” (Deut. 32:39). How is that wondrous? Because He’s talking about killing our old sinful nature (ego) and making us alive in His Spirit! “*Moreover the Law entered [the heart and mind], that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Yeshua Messiah our Lord*” (Rom. 5:20-21; see also, 1 Cor. 15:31; Gal. 2:20).

Most people fail to understand the Torah because they see it as a list of strict do’s and don’ts imposed on us, and when we disobey, God gets angry and desires to wipe us off the face of the earth. But the Torah was never meant to produce a checklist behavior. Every single instruction

found in “the Torah and the Prophets” is to be motivated by love towards God and love towards your fellow neighbor. It’s not a love that you muster up within yourself, but a love that is only found in the Father which is brought into the innermost soul-temple by faith through the indwelling Presence (Spirit) of



Is this how you see God?

Yeshua (Jesus). It’s not a blood sacrifice, appeasing the wrath of an angry God, that causes the atonement between God and man, but it’s seeing the demonstration of the love of God who “*did not retaliate when He was insulted and did not threaten when He suffered*” (1 Pet. 2:23); who died “*while we were yet sinners*” (Rom. 5:8) and “*while we were enemies with Him*” (Rom. 5:10). George Fjfield wrote:

“God does not need to be reconciled to man, for, like the mother’s love, His love ever follows us, even when we are in the downward way, seeking to bring us back to Him. But man needs to be reconciled to God. In some way there must be an atonement made. Not that God’s wrath must be satisfied, so that He will look with favor upon offending man, but that God’s love must be so manifest, in spite of the existing of suffering and sin, that men will turn their hearts toward Him, as the flower toward the sun ... The word ‘atonement’ means at-one-ment. Sin had brought misery, and misery had brought a misunderstanding of God’s character. Thus men had come to hate God instead of loving Him; and hating Him, the one Father, men also hated man, their brother. Thus, instead of the one family and the one Father, men were separated from God and from each other, and held apart by hatred and selfishness. There must be an atonement ... The atonement is not to appease God’s wrath so that man dare come to Him but it is to reveal His love so that they will come to Him.” (*God Is Love*, pp. 46,48).

Don’t look at the Torah as imposed “rules.” Look at it as divine protective promises from the indwelling Spirit (selfless-presence) of the



Greek/Roman concept of a god

Torah-Giver. God said, “*Now therefore, if you will obey My voice indeed, and treasure My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure unto Me above all people: for all the earth is Mine*” (Ex. 19:5). The word “obey” here is the Hebrew word *shema* which means to “listen.” Instead of seeing God as an angry dictator, and reading His words with the presumed tone of a Greek god, listen to that “*still small voice*” coming from all the thunder and lightning, the earthquakes and smoke, and sounding of trumpets upon the Mount (Ex. 19:16-19; see also, Jn. 12:28-29).

As God begins to speak from on top of the Mount, He says, “I am Yehovah your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery” (Ex. 20:2). What He has to say next is all based upon that proclamation. He has delivered by His own power. What follows next is the Ten Commandments (Vss. 3-17). If you *shema* (listen/believe) by accepting His grace, not getting in His way to do it yourself (Ex. 19:8; Jn. 6:28-29), but solely trust in His power of deliverance, by permitting Him to come into your heart, living His life, His righteousness, His selflessness in and through you (which is the only life that is everlasting), then He PROMISES that You will not have any other gods besides Him; You will not make a graven image and bow down to it; You will not profane His name; You will remember to guard and treasure the 7th-day Sabbath by entering into His rest; You will honor your mother and father; You will not kill; You will not commit adultery; You will not steal; You will not bear false witness; and You will not covet.

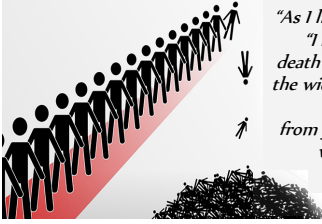
These are all *promises* from a loving Father! Yeshua said, ***If you love Me, you will keep My Commands***” (Jn. 14:15). Again, don’t read this as an imposed command, but as a promise. He is not saying, “If you love Me, YOU MUST keep My Commands”, He says, “you will” because it is only achieved by the overflowing Presence of the Holy (selfless) Spirit (Life, Attitude) of the Father living within us through the Son (Rom. 8:3-10).

And yes! They are *His* Commands. Yeshua (Jesus) is repeating what He said when He (as the Word of God) spoke and wrote these Commands from the Mount: “... for I Yehovah your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My Commands” (Ex. 20:5-6).



He is “jealous”—He does not want you to get into the wrong hands, but desires you to remain in Him and have life everlasting. He “visits the iniquity of the fathers”—He allows man to reap what they sow by giving to man according to their own justice system (Job. 4:8; Prov. 8:35-36; 22:8; Gal. 6:7-8). God’s wrath is poured out by the act of Him removing His protective Presence (Jer. 16:4-5; 33:5) and permitting the evil destroying angels to do their destructive work (Ps. 78:49; Rev. 7:1-3).

And this will grieve Him. When man chooses to love death more than life it pierces our heavenly Father’s heart. He has said, “For whoever finds Me finds life, and shall obtain favor [protection] from Yehovah. But he that sins against Me wrongs his own soul: **all they that hate Me love death**” (Prov. 35:36). God’s “anger” is not like our fallen sinful anger. The



"As I live", says Yehovah God, "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: return, return from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?" - Ezekiel 33:11

Hebrew word for God's anger is *aph* which is the same root word for His longsuffering (*anaph*) character toward sinful man. It means an intense heavy breathing (grief) through the nostrils.

This is what God feels when He is desperately hanging onto you as you are hanging off the cliff of death, but you break His fingers to let you go!

Yeshua (Jesus) said the very last days will be like as it was in the days of Noah just before the Flood (Lk. 17:26). In Genesis chapter 6 we read, *"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually ... The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth"* (Vss. 5,11-12). Notice that, because of the corruption of man, the earth itself is also corrupt and full of violence (Is. 24:5). Sin has effected all man, beast, air, and land.

The earth itself being corrupt and full of violence is the cause of the violent Flood that came. There is no violence in our heavenly Father. In referring to the Messiah Yeshua (Jesus), Isaiah 53:9 says, *"He had done no violence."* Remember, this is the character of the Father being displayed through the Son! Verses 4 and 5 say, *"Surely He [Yeshua] has borne our grief, and carried our sorrows: yet we regarded Him as being stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But instead He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities."* The Father did NOT kill (smite) His Son as a child sacrifice. He died because of OUR sins! God offered Him up and said, "Choose." And we chose to kill Him!

The same thing goes for the Flood. We regard the people as all being stricken and smitten of God, but instead it was the violent earth taking vengeance upon the violent inhabitants. *"And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity upon it [He removes His loving protection], and the land itself vomits out her inhabitants. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations ... So that the land does not vomit you out also, when you defile it, as it vomited out the nations that were before you"* (Lev. 18:25-28).

During the Flood God had "visited the iniquity" upon the corrupt earth. He had said, *"My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years"* (Gen. 6:3). Through Noah, God's Holy Spirit pleaded for 120 years for the people to repent and get on the ark. Peter says Yeshua (Jesus) suffered the cross-like death during the days of Noah as the people rejected the promptings of His loving and forgiving Spirit (1 Pet. 3:18-20). All but eight



people chose death and the waters of the earth vomited them out. Remember, God is not the one in these “natural disasters” (1 Kgs. 19:11-12), He is represented by the ark, not the flooding waters. He is forgiveness and deliverance, not condemnation and destruction; and when mankind takes their stand in firm rejection, by pushing away His protective grace, He does not interfere with our free choice and grievously gives to man what He has chosen.

Many in this world feel hopeless. They will say, “I have committed too many sins to be forgiven.” Again, this is projecting onto God a character that is foreign to Him. This statement exposes fallen mankind’s way of forgiveness. We are the ones who most-often say to others, “I cannot, nor will I not, forgive that!” Yes, the sin against you by another may be horrific, but a non-forgiving character is the way of the devil, *“the accuser of the brethren”* (Rev. 12:9-10). When you say you can’t be forgiven due to too many sins, you are saying God is not willing to forgive.

However, God is *“good, and ready to forgive; and overflowing in mercy unto all them that call upon [Him]”* (Ps. 86:5). Take careful note that He is “ready to forgive.” This means His forgiveness is already there waiting for you to simply claim it! He has already forgiven you. Otherwise Yeshua (Jesus) would not have come and died until mankind begged for His mercy and forgiveness. However, His forgiveness is like unclaimed property. All you have to do is acknowledge your sin and confess it. Hand it over to Him and He will apply His forgiveness that He’s eagerly been desiring to give to you and, in His strength, *“Go and sin no more.”*

When God’s character is inscribed in our hearts and minds, His forgiveness will overflow out to others who hate and harm us. We will love our neighbor God’s way. Most people accept and desire a “God” who kills and destroys because they need an excuse to refuse to love their enemies. Yeshua, the express image of the Father, said: *“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven”* (Matt. 5:44-45<sup>a</sup>).

We will be children of our Father in heaven because He loves His enemies and does good (lovingly serves) them. *“He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous”* (Vs. 45). The entire world, both saint and sinner, eats their daily bread by

virtue of God’s grace through Yeshua Messiah! God is so good that He will give to His enemies just what they ask — Even if it is eternal death!



This was a lesson the disciples had to learn. When Yeshua entered the village of the Samaritans on His way to Jerusalem, the Samaritans rejected anything to do with Yeshua. As a result of this James (Jacob) and John spoke up and said, *“Do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elijah did?”* (Lk. 9:54). They are referring to the incident recorded in 1 Kings 18 when, after fire comes down from heaven, Elijah slew all the prophets of Baal with the sword; and 2 Kings chapters 1 and 2 when Elijah calls down fire from heaven to consume his enemies. But notice Yeshua’s reaction to His disciples’



question, *“But He turned, and rebuked them, and said, ‘You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man [the Messiah] has not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.’ And they went to another village”* (Vs. 55). Why does it seem it was okay for Elijah to do this, but not the disciples?

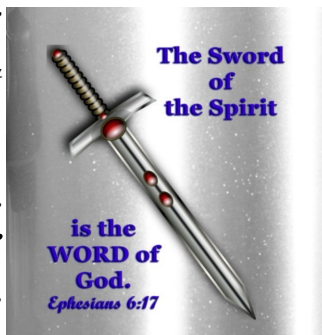
Or is the rebuke from Yeshua to His disciples revealing their misunderstanding of the old story of Elijah? Could it be that Elijah, whom James (Jacob) says, *“was a man subject to like passions as we are”* (Jas. 5:17), was displaying the wrong spirit against his enemies as well? After all, Elijah did feel the guilt of using the sword (1 Kgs. 19:4).

When Abraham was told of the destruction that was to come upon Sodom and Gomorrah by the three heavenly messengers, he interceded and asked for mercy (Gen. 18:22-33). When God told Moses He was going to consume the people, Moses also interceded and asked for mercy (Ex. 32:10-11). When God made it known to Elijah what was to come upon the prophets of Baal did Elijah intercede on behalf of his enemies and ask for mercy? No. In all these cases God’s intention was to bring out their inner feelings towards these men. He was exposing them to see if they were indeed in the Kingdom of God or not. If they were in His Kingdom they would intercede on behalf of their enemies. If they were outside of His Kingdom they would care less.

“Elijah was instructed to slay the prophets of Baal because this was the ministration of death and a fulfillment of the Old Covenant process. Elijah was not instructed to slay the prophets of Baal with the sword but God wrought through these actions to punish Israel as well as to confront him with his own deeper feelings that were not in harmony with the law of God. Secondly there is no command in the Torah to use the sword to execute justice on the guilty. The sentence of death for those worshipping a false god was to be stoned to death [Deut. 13:6-10]. What Elijah did was contrary to the Torah in regard to how to deal with idolatry. What Elijah appealed to was tradition, the tradition of Israel to use the sword. In the woman caught in adultery we see how the Lawgiver intended this sentence of death to be applied. It was to give mercy to the repentant. **The Old Covenant sentence punished the sin of the prophets of Baal**

with the sin of Israel's use of the sword and at the same time brought Elijah to realize his own deeper feelings. How else do we explain the sudden fear of Elijah in the face of Jezebel? This failure on his part reveals that Satan had been allowed access to him in some way. How else is it possible to reconcile Elijah's use of the sword with the words of Jesus? Matt 26:52: *"Then said Jesus unto him [Peter], Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword."* The character of Jesus reveals that He would not use the physical sword and when Peter used it, He healed the man who was struck and rebuked Peter [Vs. 53; see also, Rev. 13:10]. The place Jesus wanted Peter to put the sword was out of his hand. He wanted Peter to be like Himself who never used a physical sword at any time." (Adrian Ebens, *The Ministration of Death*).

In Luke 22:38 we read, *"And they [the disciples] said, 'Master, behold, here are two swords.' And He [Yeshua] said unto them, 'It is enough.'" Many believe Yeshua is saying, "That's all we need", But He is actually saying, "That's enough of that kind of talk!" In God's Kingdom "though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For **the weapons of our warfare are not carnal** [fleshly, of this world], but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds:) Casting down arguments, and every presumption set up against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of the Messiah" (2 Cor. 10:3-5; see also, Zech. 4:6).*



When the Torah (Law; character of the Father) is inscribed in our minds by the Spirit of Yeshua, God will be *"bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of the Messiah."* Paul wrote, *"the natural man does not receive the things [truths] of the Spirit of God; for they [the things/truths of God] are foolishness unto him; and neither can he know [experience] them, because they are spiritually discerned ... but we have the mind of Messiah"* (1 Cor. 2:14,16).

***Job 1:12,16 shows Satan causing fire to consume Job's sheep and servants, but it is presumed to be "the fire of God."***  
***(Compare also, 2 Sam. 24:1 with 1 Chron. 21:1)***

In 1 Kings 3:16-28 we read about two harlot women who came to King Solomon both claiming parental rights over an infant son. It was Solomon's duty to find out which woman was telling the truth so he commanded the child to be cut in half with a sword saying, *"Divide the living child in two and give half to the one and half to the other."* In response to this command the rightful mother spoke up and pleaded, *"Oh no, your majesty, give her the living child. Please do not kill him!"* But the other woman said, *"Cut him in half! That way he'll belong to neither one of us."* In other words, "If I can't have him neither can she!" At this time

## 4 Questions on Hellfire & the Character of God

### 1. "Doesn't the Bible Say That the Wicked Will Burn 'Forever and Ever'?"

*"... And he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone before the holy angels and before the Lamb. The smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever..." - Revelation 14:10-11. (see also, Rev. 20:10)*

Through misconceptual and twisted teachings, this verse, and others like it, has caused many to believe that, those who have rejected salvation, and are cast into a "lake of fire", will never die and that their punishment will be endless-life in endless-torture. What we must consider here is the fact that sometimes the word forever in Scripture means "until the end of the age." Did you know that the word "forever" is used 56 times in the Old Testament in connection with things that have already ended?

In Psalms 48:15 the *King James Version* says, *"For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death."* Here, the phrase, "for ever and ever" means "unto death." The Hebrew word for "forever" here is *olam* which, when referring to mankind, means to remain for as long as we live. In referring to God it means He remains for as long as He lives which is for eternity (1 Tim. 1:17).

The book of Exodus reveals, if a servant chose to serve his master rather than be set free, he was to serve his master "forever": *"... His master is to pierce his ear through with an awl, and he will serve him forever [olam]"* (Ex. 21:6). Obviously the servant could not serve his master for an endless amount of time. He could only serve him as long as he lives and yet the Scriptures declare he shall serve him "forever." The book of 1 Samuel 1:22 reveals that Hanna brought her son Samuel to Yehovah's temple where he was to remain "forever." Here the word "forever" is accompanied by the word *ad* (*ad olam*). The word *ad* puts a condition on the word "forever." Samuel wasn't to remain in the temple for eternity (as long as God lives), but instead for *"as long as he [Samuel] lives he is dedicated to Yehovah"* (Vs. 28).

Jonah used the expression "forever" (*olam*) to describe his experience in the belly of the whale (see, Jonah 2:1-6). In this instance Jonah was not in the belly of the whale until he died, but was only in the belly for "three days and three nights" (Vs. 17) or, until the work of Yehovah renewing his mind was complete. Thus we see, by comparing Scripture with Scripture, that Scripture explains itself: The truth is, those who reject their salvation will burn forever, but this means until they die and not some endless amount of time. The Scriptures repeatedly reveal that the wicked, will be "no more" (Prov. 10:25; Ps. 37:10). They will "perish" and "vanish" or, as the *King James Version* puts it, "consume away" (Ps. 37:20). They will be "cut off" and "destroyed" (Ps. 37:28,34,38). They will be turned to "ashes" (Mal. 4:1,3). Someone may ask, "But the Bible says those who accept Jesus will live forever with God. Does that mean we will live until we die as well?" Yes! However, we have the promise that we will never die (see, Jn. 11:26; 1 Cor. 15:51-55) because we will be in union with the Eternal One; for "He alone has endless life!" (1 Tim. 6:16). So, to those who are in (at-one-with) the only Life-Giver, "forever" means, "immortality" which no one receives until the second coming of Yeshua/Jesus (1 Cor. 15:51-55).

### 2. "Doesn't the Bible Use the Expression 'Eternal Fire' to Describe Hellfire?"

Scripture uses the expression "eternal fire" only once and this instance refers to something that has already burned to ashes! This verse is found in Jude 7 where it says:

*"... Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them—having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after a different sort of flesh [homosexuality/beastiality]—are displayed as an example, suffering the punishment of eternal fire."*

It certainly says the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were set aflame by "eternal fire." However, are these two cities still burning today? No. Jude also says that the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah was "displayed as an example." What example is he speaking of? 2 Peter 2:6 answers this:

*"He devastated the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, reducing them to ashes—making them an example of what is going to happen to those who live wickedly [those who are self-pleasing/self-loving/reject the love of God]."*

Peter states that these two cities were reduced "to ashes" and this was to be an example of the destruction of the wicked. So, we must conclude that the same "eternal fire" will destroy Satan and his followers and burn (reduce) them to ashes! Mal. 4:3 states, *"You will trample on the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet..."* You see, it's the destruction that is eternal. Yeshua taught that only those who "believe" will receive "eternal life" and not "perish" as the unbelievers (Jn. 3:16). Paul says the wicked will receive eternal death (Rom. 6:23) and brings this truth out when he wrote:

*"... in flaming fire, He will command judgment on those who do not know God and reject the Good News [gospel] of our Master Yeshua [that God is love]. They will pay the price of eternal ruin, away from the presence of Yehovah and the glory [loving character] of His power [protective grace]." 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9.*

The example of the wicked being burned (reduced) "into ashes" goes for Satan as well. Yehovah told Satan *"I bring forth a fire from the midst of you, it will devour you, and I will bring you to ASHES upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee"* (Ez. 28:18; see also, Rev. 14:9-10). Please keep in mind

that God is not setting Satan and the wicked on fire! It says here the fire will come “from the midst” of them. Why is this? Because God is a “*consuming fire*” (Deut. 4:24; Heb. 12:29). But remember, John says “*God is love*” (1 Jn. 4:8). It’s God’s love that is a consuming fire (Deut. 33:2-3)! Paul wrote: “*For we are to God the sweet aroma of Messiah among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one [rejecter of God’s love], we are an odor of death and demise; to the other [receiver of God’s love], a fragrance that brings life*” (2 Cor. 2:15-16). It all depends on how you treat God’s love. If you receive it, it becomes life unto you (Is. 33:14-15), but if you reject God’s love, your own guilt and stubbornness will burn within you unto death (Lk. 20:18-19; Rom. 1:27). “*For they [the wicked, not God] have made ready their heart [self-centered affections] like an oven, while they lie in wait: their baker sleeps all the night; in the morning it [their heart] burns as a flaming fire*” (Hos. 7:6). By continuous rejection of God’s selfless love, the heart will remain a self-centered/self-pleasing heart that is like dry straw easily kindled. “*You conceive chaff; you will give birth to stubble. Your spirit [breath/life] is a fire that will consume you. Then people will be burned as lime, like thorns cut down, burned in the fire ...*” (Is. 33:11-12).

### 3. “Doesn’t the Bible Describe the Lake of Fire as Being a Fire that ‘Shall Not Be Quenched?’”

“*And if your hand [selfish work] offend you, cut it off: it is better for you to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that shall not be quenched: Where their worm dies not, and the fire is not quenched*” (Mark 9:43-44).

The Greek word here is *ἄσβετος* (*asbestos*) which simply means “unquenchable.” The word *quench* means “to extinguish” or “put out.” No one will be able to put the fire out. Let’s look at a couple of examples which prove this point. Jeremiah prophesied that Jerusalem would be destroyed by fire that would not be quenched: “*But if you do not listen to Me to keep the Sabbath Day holy, by not bearing a burden or entering through the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath Day, then I will set its gates on fire, and it will consume the citadels of Jerusalem, and not be quenched.*” (Jer. 17:27).

First of all notice that this unquenchable fire “*will consume the citadels of Jerusalem.*” In fact, because of this fire, Jerusalem was left “desolate”, but only for 70 years (2 Chron. 36:19-21). Jerusalem was burned with unquenchable fire, but Jerusalem is not burning today! The fire is referred to as being that which cannot be quenched because no one was able to put the fire out. But it did burn out on its own. The fire did not burn out until it had completed its job of making Jerusalem desolate. When we read what Isaiah has to say about the lake of fire the whole picture becomes crystal clear: “*Behold, they will be as stubble. Fire will consume them. They cannot deliver themselves from the power of the flame! It is not a coal for warming by or a fire to sit before!*” (Is. 47:14; see also, Is. 9:18-19).

Many assume that the “worm” Yeshua speaks of is referring to a person’s soul that will not ever die in hellfire. However, Yeshua clearly says that the sinful soul will be destroyed in hell, not live for an endless amount of time: “*... fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell!*” (Matt. 10:28; KJV). The lost soul will be destroyed! Yehovah has tearfully warned, “*... Behold, the soul who sins is the one who will die*” (Ez. 18:4) — not live for an endless amount of time in pain and agony! The truth is, Yeshua is referring to a literal worm or maggot that feeds off dead bodies. Isaiah says: “*Your [Satan’s] arrogance has been brought down to the grave ... the maggot is spread under you, and worms cover you*” (Is. 14:11; see also, Is. 51:8).

### 4. “Doesn’t the Bible Say that the Wicked Receive ‘Everlasting Punishment?’”

The verse says, “*These shall go off into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into everlasting life*” (Matt. 25:46). What is the “punishment” for the wicked? “*sin’s payment is DEATH*” (Rom. 6:23). God does not pay (punish) them with death. They serve a life of sin, so SIN pays them their wages with death and this death will be “everlasting.” They will never come back to life because they have chosen to be unplugged from God—the ONLY source of life! The Greek word for “punishment” here is *κόλασις* (*kolasis*) which carries the meaning of “deprivation.” They will be deprived of life! They will “go off into everlasting deprivation of life!” This is why they never receive true “rest” (Rev. 14:11) because they have rejected the presence of God (Ex. 33:14; Matt. 11:28-29).

Take a close look at what Yeshua says; while the wicked will go into “*everlasting punishment [deprivation of life]*”, the righteous will go into “*everlasting life.*” Only those who are in Messiah receive everlasting or, never-ending life! When we teach that the wicked will burn for an endless amount of time we are teaching that they have eternal life. It will be a painful eternal life, but that’s what we would be teaching. But no! Only those who are in Messiah Yeshua receive “*everlasting life*” because He IS “*the Life*” (Jn. 14:6) and the only life that’s everlasting is the life of righteousness (Deut. 30:15-20). John says, “*He that has the Son [Yeshua/Jesus] has the Life; and he that does not have the Son of God does not have the Life*” (1 Jn. 5:12). Those who do not have Yeshua will receive death — an eternal (endless) death! Remember, instead of Paul using the phrase “*everlasting punishment,*” he uses “*eternal ruin*” or, “*everlasting destruction*” in 2 Thess. 1:9. It’s the destruction (death) that’s eternal!

Solomon made his final decision saying, *“Give the living child to the first woman. Do not kill him. She is his mother.”*

Obviously Solomon had no intentions of killing the child in the first place. His intentions were to simply draw out the true characters of the women. The birth mother’s unconditional love for her child



was exposed when she would permit the other woman to keep him as long as he was alive and well. And notice one important thing here —the woman who spoke up *against* the command was in the right and the woman who spoke in favor of the command was in the wrong! Yes, in his God-given wisdom, Solomon used the law (his command) as a mirror.

In Revelation chapter 13 we read about that ten-horned beast that we’ve learned so much about. We have found that this beast is non-other than the Roman papacy. Again we see the persecuting power of this religious/political system in that *“it was given unto him to make war with the saints and overcome them”* (Vs. 7). We see its workings all throughout the Dark Ages until 1798 A.D. when *“He that leads into captivity shall go into captivity, and he that kills with **the sword** must be killed with **the sword**”* (Vs. 10). Yes, it was by misusing “the sword” (God’s Word) that they were able to deceive and destroy. Yeshua (Jesus) foretold, *“The time is coming when whoever kills you will think he’s serving God”* (Jn. 16:2).

Near the time of this “deadly wound” we read about *“another beast [kingdom] coming up from the earth”* who would *“practice all the power of the first beast [Papal Rome] before him, and causes the earth, and all who dwell on it, to worship the first beast whose deadly wound was healed”* (Rev. 13:11-12). This kingdom would accomplish this goal by *“doing great miracles and wonders so that he makes **fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men**”* (Vs. 13).

Do you not see what’s happening here? We have two religious/political systems (consisting of both Protestants and Catholics) working together in the last days to deceive the world. They will point directly to the Word of God and spread their fanciful dogma. Many will see great signs and miracles and be persuaded that this must be the work of the Holy Spirit.



They will preach grace and liberty for all by spreading a false sense of peace and claiming a revival and restoration. They will point to the natural disasters of the world in order to bring about a false repentance to God by a New World Order. Laws will be made to bring the people into subjection to a false hope.

“It [the second beast/kingdom] deceives those living on the earth with the signs that it is allowed to do on behalf of the first beast, telling them to make an image to the beast who was wounded by a sword and yet lived. It was allowed to impart life to the image of the first beast so that the image of the beast could speak [legislate] and order the execution of those who would not worship the image of the beast. It forces all people—small and great, rich and poor, free and slaves to be marked in their right hands or in their foreheads, so that no one may buy or sell unless he has the mark, or beast’s name [character], or the number of its name.” ~ Revelation 13:15-17.

This warning is again repeated in Revelation 14 by three angels which represent the final call, the last message of mercy, to a dying world:

“And I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel [that God is love] to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, ‘Fear God, and give glory to Him [allow Him to display His character through you]; for the hour of His judgment is come [What will be your verdict? Rev. 4:11; Rev. 15:3; Ps. 51:2-4]: and **worship [serve/support] Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.**’

And there followed another angel, saying, ‘**Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine [false doctrines] of the wrath of her fornication [her causing intercourse between truth and man-made dogma].**’

And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, ‘**If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine [consuming truth] of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone [their own guilt; Hos. 7:6; Is. 33:11-12] in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascends up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, [they will be eternally separated from God] who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that **keep the Commandments of God, and the faith of Yeshua.**”**

~ Revelation 14:6-12.

Did you notice that worshipping the One who created the heavens and the earth by keeping the Commandments of God and the faith of Yeshua (Jesus) is the opposite of worshipping the beast and receiving his mark? Take a look at where the mark of the beast is placed—in the forehead or in the hand. Did you know this is where God wants to seal His Torah (His character)?



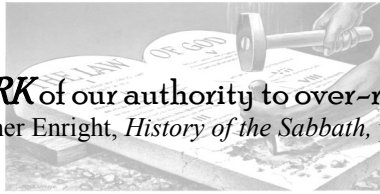
“Hear, O Israel ... you will love Yehovah your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in your heart: And you will teach them diligently unto your children, and will talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. **And you will bind them for a sign upon your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes [forehead].**” ~ Deuteronomy 6:4-8.

**“Bind up the testimony, seal the Torah [My character] among My disciples” (Is. 8:16)**

The mark of the beast is against the Creator who “made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.” Interesting that this is a quote straight from the 4th Commandment which speaks of our Creator:

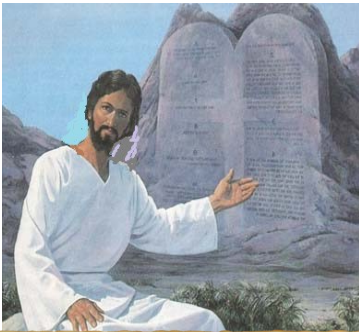
“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you will labor, and do all your work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of Yehovah your God: in it you will not do any work ... For in six days **Yehovah made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them**, and rested the seventh day: because of this Yehovah blessed the Sabbath day, and made it holy [set it apart].” ~ Exodus 20:8-11.

And what does the Beast power say about this?



**“It’s the MARK of our authority to over-rule God’s law.”**  
 (Father Enright, *History of the Sabbath*, p. 802).

“Of course the Catholic church claims that the change [from Saturday to Sunday] was her act. And the act is the **MARK** of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters.” - (C.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, *Faith of Our Fathers*, p, 14).



**“The Church is above the Bible;** and this transference of Sabbath observance from Saturday to Sunday is proof positive of that fact.” (*The Catholic Record*, Sept. 1, 1923).

Won’t you stand firm on the Rock (Yeshua/salvation) by permitting Him (the Living-Torah) to be written in your heart; for all other ground is sinking sand! (Matt. 7:15-27).

**“If you love Me,  
 you will keep My Commands.”**  
 ~ John 14:15 ~

*“I have longed for Your **salvation** [Yeshua],  
 O Yehovah; and Your **Torah** [character]  
 is my delight.” ~ Psalm 119:174*



Be sure to read the companion booklet  
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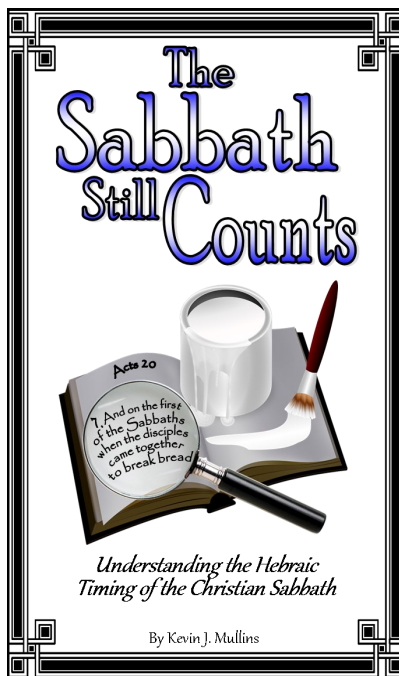
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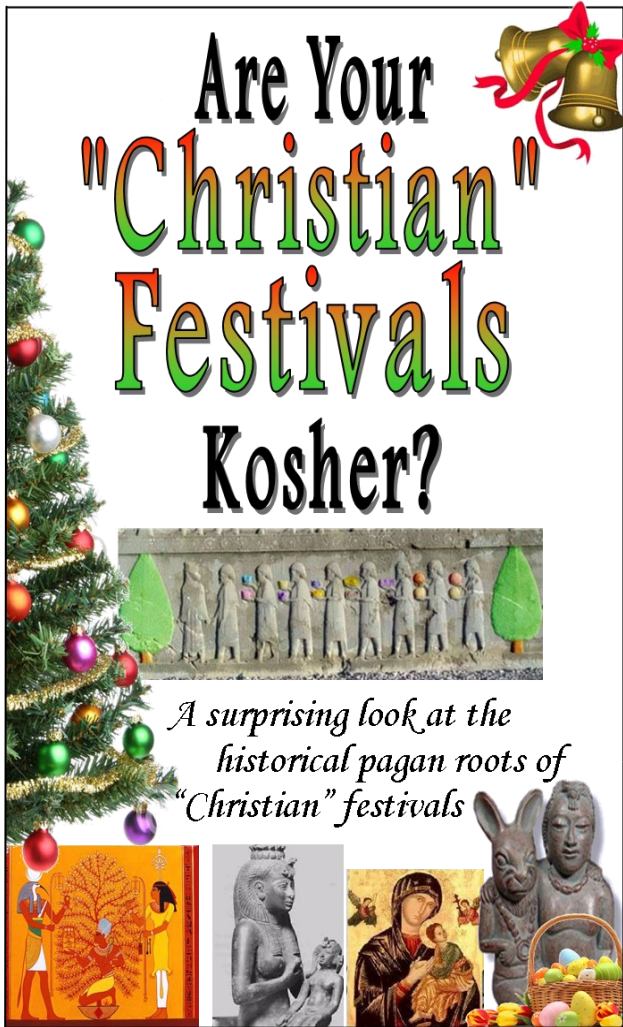
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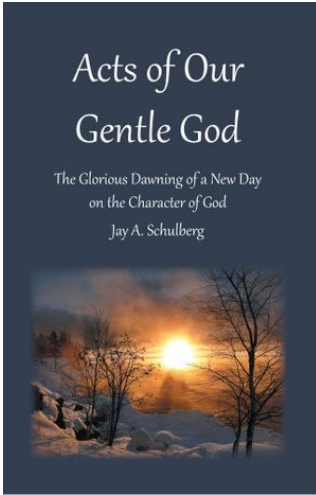
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This booklet uncovers the pagan roots of three "Christian" festivals: Christmas, Easter and Sunday observance. It also introduces the reader to God's "Appointed Times" and their meaning for today!

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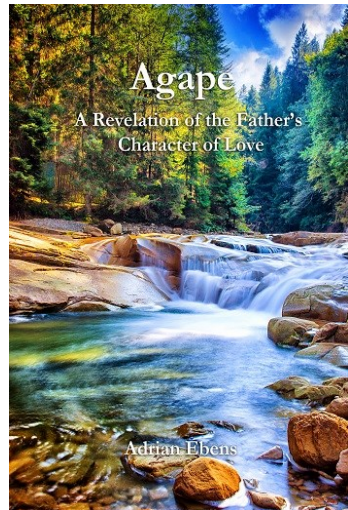
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Do you know what these lies are? If not, be ready to be shaken. Everything you think you know concerning the gospel of Jesus will be tested. Your understanding of various Bible passages will be turned upside down (or, better yet, right-side up). In the end, it is our prayer that you will pass this booklet on to a friend to read, and if they ask “why?”, you will humbly, but confidently proclaim ...

~ *“We have inherited lies!”*

*“Her priests have violated My Torah [Law] and profaned My sacred things. They didn't differentiate between what's sacred and what's common. They didn't instruct others to discern clean from unclean things. They refused to keep My Sabbaths. I'm constantly being profaned among them.”*

~ Ezekiel 22:26 ~

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