

WWW.RESTORATIONTIMES.ORG

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2016

# RESTORATION TIMES



## *Halloween*

How the Church Adopted Paganism

# RESTORATION TIMES

VOL. 6 | No. 6 | November-December 2016

7



12



## A R T I C L E S

15



16

### 3 | Halloween's Horrific History

by Randy Folliard

### 7 | Does Yahweh Have an English Name?

by Alan Mansager

### 12 | Debunking the Rapture Teaching

by Randy Folliard

### 15 | Christmyths

by Alan Mansager

### 16 | Neglected Truths in the Sabbaticals and Jubilees

by the late Donald R. Mansager

### 19 | YRM Blitzes Internet, Digitals, and Apps

### 20 | Answers to Your Questions

### 23 | Letters

Restoration Times expounds the close ties between the Old and New Testaments. We teach the continuity and harmony that extend from Yahweh's actions anciently down through His present activity in Yahshua the Messiah. This was also the conviction of the early New Testament Assembly.

This publication is sent free of charge, made possible through the tithes and offerings of those who desire to see the truth of Scripture restored in our day.

© 2016 Yahweh's Restoration Ministry



**Yahweh's Restoration Ministry**

PO Box 463  
Holts Summit, MO 65043

Telephone: **573-896-1000**

Office hours M-F 8am-4pm  
[www.yrm.org](http://www.yrm.org)  
[info@yrm.org](mailto:info@yrm.org)



**COVER:** Gargoyle on the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, France



# HALLOWEEN'S HORRIFIC HISTORY

by Randy Folliard

One of the most popular holidays today occurs in the fall and goes by the name “Halloween.” While many view it as nothing more than an evening of fun with lots of candy for the children, the reality is that this day comes with lots of pagan baggage, and Yahweh’s warning.

Among secular holidays, Halloween is perhaps the most vile and wicked. It is a revival of ancient Celtic beliefs of the dead returning to earth. It is about indulging in ancient heathen rites and rituals of those who have no regard for Yahweh. And it is soundly condemned in His Word.

## **Pagan Rituals of Halloween**

The history of this day may shock you. Along with superstitions of ghosts and spirits, its roots even included human sacrifice. According to history.com (History Channel) this day arose “...from the ancient Celtic holiday of Samhain [pronounced sah-ween], modern Halloween has become less about literal ghosts and ghouls and more about costumes and candy. The Celts used the day to mark the end of the harvest

season and the beginning of winter, and also believed that this transition between the seasons was a bridge to the world of the dead. Over the millennia the holiday transitioned from a somber pagan ritual to a day of merriment, costumes, parades and sweet treats for children and adults.”

According to history.com, the Celts believed that on this evening the boundary between the living and dead was dissolved or at its thinnest. They were concerned that the spirits of the deceased would cause harm to them or their belongings, including crops.

They responded by imitating the deceased, disguising themselves in costumes. By this they believed they would not fall prey to these evil spirits. It’s clear that even though we no longer call this day Samhain, its pagan practices are still very much alive and well today in Halloween.

## **Samhain and Church History**

As the Roman Catholic Church adopted Christmas from Saturnalia, they did the same with Samhain. A 2013 article entitled, *The History of All Hallows’ Eve*, from BU

Today, a publication of Boston University, confirms this historical fact:

“When Christianity came to Britain—just like what happened when Christianity came to other cultures—they figured the best way to convert people was to incorporate their practices instead of banning them. It just so happened that November 1 was the Christian Feast of All Saints and the next day is All Souls’ Day. October 31 became the Eve of All Saints, or All Hallows’ Eve. So the modern practice of Halloween incorporates Christianity and pagan rituals.”

Instead of taking a biblical approach and banning this day, the Roman Church adopted and repackaged it to resemble something more sacred. However, this was nothing but a façade. Instead of a day dedicated to ghosts and goblins, it was now “re-baptized” and dedicated to the martyrs of the church, which commenced with All Hallows’ Eve, eventually becoming Hallowe’en.

This process is called syncretism, which the *Merriam-Webster* dictionary defines as “the combination of different forms of

belief or practice.” Much of the beliefs and theology of the Church is based on this concept, including most of the Church’s holy days, i.e., Christmas, Easter, Lent.

Matter of fact, Easter ushers back to the Old Testament. It was then called Aestarte for the Queen of Heaven. The tribe of Judah was condemned by Jeremiah for the worship of this deity, Jeremiah 44:17-30. It’s amazing, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

What’s sad is that we continue to see this same type of compromise in the church today. Instead of standing on the truth, increasingly more ministries are watering down the Word to grow attendance. If ministers were more concerned about truth and less about numbers we would see a great revival in this nation.

### Stay Clear of Heathenism

So what does Yahweh say about adopting pagan practices? Let’s just say that His policy is different from what we see in the church. One of the best examples is in Jeremiah 10:2. “Thus saith Yahweh, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.”

What do you suppose Jeremiah means when he says, “Learn not the way of the heathen”? How does the Bible define a heathen? This word is from the Hebrew *gowy* and refers to a foreign nation, specifically an unbelieving nation. Based on this, would it be proper for us to exchange Yahweh’s worship for the worship of another nation? The obvious answer is no!

This one warning in Jeremiah should be enough to remove all worship that deviates from the Bible. What’s sad is that much of today’s worship is based more on tradition than on the Bible. No different from when Israel adopted the pagan beliefs of their neighbors, nominal worship has done the same, including with Halloween.

Even though many see this day as nothing more than a time of fun, especially for the children, this popular view doesn’t change its past. We either do it Yahweh’s way or do nothing at all. The fact is, when we deviate from His Word, we will not be blessed.

Jeremiah wasn’t the only one to raise this red flag. We also find a warning in Leviticus 20:23: “And ye shall not walk in the manners of the nation, which I cast out before you: for they committed all these



# Weird Rites of a Strange

**Jack-o’-lantern** –The jack-o’-lantern has become a prominent representation of Halloween. Families often come together to choose their pumpkins and prepare them for the final look. Yet few know about the Irish folklore behind the carved pumpkin.

The legend speaks of a stingy man named Jack who tricked the devil not once, but twice, in order to prevent the devil from taking his soul. After Jack’s death, heaven refused him and hell couldn’t take him because of an agreement. The devil sent Jack on his way back to where he came from with only an ever-burning ember from the flames of hell to light his way.

Needing something in which to carry the hot coal, Jack made a lantern from a hollowed-out turnip. Rather than a turnip, Irish immigrants thought that pumpkins would make much better candle holders to carry on their tradition. ([halloween.com/all-about-halloween/category/halloween-symbols](http://halloween.com/all-about-halloween/category/halloween-symbols))

**Trick or Treating** – The American Halloween tradition of trick-or-treating probably dates back to the early All Souls’ Day parades in England. During the festivities poor citizens would beg for food and families would give them pastries called “soul cakes” in return for their promise to pray for the family’s dead relatives.

The distribution of soul cakes was encouraged by the church as a way to replace the ancient practice of leaving food and wine for roaming spirits. The practice, which was referred to as “going a-souling” was eventually taken up by children who would visit the houses in their neighborhood and be given ale, food, and money.

([history.com/topics/halloween/history-of-halloween](http://history.com/topics/halloween/history-of-halloween))

**Witches** – These familiar Halloween symbols pop up everywhere for the season,

things, and therefore I abhorred them.”

As we saw in Jeremiah and here, we’re not to follow in the “manners” of the nations. This word comes from the Hebrew *chuqqah*. The **Brown Driver and Briggs Hebrew Lexicon** defines it as “a statute, an ordinance, a limit, an enactment, or something prescribed.” In the current context, this word refers to any pagan belief outside of the Bible.

Notice here what Yahweh says at the very end. He states emphatically that He “abhors” these practices. In the Hebrew this word means to “be grieved or to loathe.” As believers the last thing we should ever desire to do is something our Heavenly Father abhors. This is why it’s important that we avoid these pagan days of worship,

especially one dealing in demonic activity.

Yahweh provides another warning in the 12th chapter of Deuteronomy, “Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their mighty ones, saying, How did these nations serve their mighty ones? even so will I do likewise. Thou shalt not do so unto Yahweh thy Elohim: for every abomination to Yahweh, which he hateth, have they done unto their mighty ones; for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their mighty ones,” verses 30-31.

It’s amazing how believers can ignore such warnings and follow beliefs that clearly go against our Father’s Word. While many may not know the truth, there are many who

# Celebration

from decorations to greeting cards to Halloween costume parties – and for good reason. Witches have been around for eons and were often thought to have mystical powers partly because of their connection to Satan and the spirit world.

Their most notorious gatherings were thought to happen during the two major season changes on April 30 and October 31. Samhain, the mother of Halloween, is one of the most important dates in the Pagan and Wiccan calendar: the Feast of the Dead and beginning of winter. ([halloween.com/all-about-halloween/category/halloween-symbols](http://halloween.com/all-about-halloween/category/halloween-symbols))

**Bats** – While actually not vicious, evil or terrifying, bats have become a familiar symbol of Halloween. Much of the blame for this rests with vampire bats, who suck blood, but just enough for their survival without usually killing its host. Bats have also been linked to witches, either flying about from their caves while witches perform their ritualistic ceremonies, or for actually becoming part of a witch's brew.

([halloween.com/all-about-halloween/category/halloween-symbols](http://halloween.com/all-about-halloween/category/halloween-symbols))

**Celts and Death** – Halloween costumes have been used since the first Samhain, the Celtic new year and feast of the dead, though the original disguises were animal skins. Samhain traditionally involved rituals of divination, as the “veil” between the human world and the otherworld became thin at this time. Communication, therefore, was thought to become possible between the living and the dead. People may also have believed that they would be privy to supernatural aid or otherworldly knowledge at this time.

([halloween.com/all-about-halloween/category/halloween-symbols](http://halloween.com/all-about-halloween/category/halloween-symbols))

do and choose to ignore it. If we desire to please the One we worship, we must then worship Him as He commands.

Yahweh says here that we're not to learn the ways of the nations. He goes on to say that these heathen practices are an abomination to Him. The word “abomination” is used for the absolute worst! Speaking of abominations, this passage describes the practice of Molech. Worshipers of this idol would kill their child and then place the body in the arms of this image where the corpses would then slide into a sacrificial fire.

We find something similar to this through the pagan roots of Halloween. Just like the worshipers of Molech, the ancient Druids also engaged in human sacrifice

through bonfires.

We find this appalling admission in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*: “The Druids offered human sacrifices for those who were gravely sick or in danger of death in battle. Huge wickerwork images were filled with living men and then burned; although the Druids preferred to sacrifice criminals, they would choose innocent victims if necessary” (<http://www.britannica.com/topic/Druid>).

Again, no different from worshipers of Molech, we find that Halloween too is rooted in human sacrifice. The only difference is that the Druids would actually burn their victims alive. What a barbaric form of worship! Knowing this, how is it possible to justify the keeping of Halloween?

Sure, we can say that we no longer

sacrifice and that this day is now one of fun for the kids, but again, this does not change the past and the fact that Yahweh abhors this type of practice.

As believers we're faced with a choice: Are we going to follow our Heavenly Father or the false traditions of this world? This is the essence of what it is to be a believer. How far are we willing to go to please the One we worship? Are we willing to meet Him only halfway or will we follow Him all the way without compromise? Those who go only halfway will not receive His blessings.

Whether we realize it or not, Yahweh requires complete devotion to Him and part of that includes making sure that our worship is pure.

## Paul's Problem with Paganism

Ironically we find this same type of worship in the fourth chapter of Galatians, “Howbeit then, when ye knew not Yahweh, ye did service unto them which by nature are no mighty ones. But now, after that ye have known Elohim, or rather are known of Elohim, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain,” verses 8-11.

What is Paul referring to when he says, “...you observe days, and months, and times, and years”? Most theologians will say it means Jewish days of worship. The problem with that is that it doesn't fit the context or the historical setting. Verse 8 clearly confirms that prior to the Galatians' coming to the truth they worshiped false gods. To be precise, Paul says here, “...which by nature are no mighty ones.”

Obviously, this is not about Old Testament days of worship. If so then Paul is denouncing Yahweh of the Old Testament as a false elohim or mighty one. Instead he's referring to the false religion of the Galatians.

The explanation in the Restoration Study Bible reads, “Galatia: this name comes from the people who lived there, formerly Gauls who migrated from northwest Europe. The people who made up the various tribes were called Galli by the Romans and Galatai or Keltoi by the Greeks, terms meaning, ‘barbarian.’” It is from the Greek *Keltoi* that Celt is derived.

The *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* says under Origin of the

Name 'Galatia,': "The name was introduced into Asia after 278-277 B.C., when a large body of migrating Gauls (*Galatai* in Greek) crossed over from Europe at the invitation of Nikomedes, king of Bithynia... The Galatai soon adopted the country religion, alongside of their own; the latter they retained at least as late as the 2nd century after 'Messiah,' but it was politically important for them to maintain and exercise the powers of the old priesthood.

"The Gauls, who came from France and Belgium, were of the Celtic religion. Their high priests were the Druids. These were Babylonian pagans in every sense, who contributed heavily to the modern holiday of Christmas with its fertility rites and tree worship, as well as Halloween and

## This passage condemns sorcery, demonic activity, eating blood, divination, observing times and magic, familiar spirits or ghosts, and wizards. We see all of these and much more glorified in Halloween.

other heathen observances that are so much a part of modern culture."

Based on this reference, Paul is likely referring to the pagan worship of the ancient Celts. No wonder he said "I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain." These people were returning to their old pagan worship. What's amazing is that nothing has really changed; it is no different from today's acceptance of Halloween. As believers we're to avoid false worship, not embrace it.

In 1 Corinthians 10:20 Paul says unequivocally that we must show a difference. He writes, "But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to Elohim: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils."

### Choose Wisely

This is a simple concept, and as disciples of the Messiah we cannot worship devils and Yahweh at the same time. We must choose which one we will worship. The sad reality is most believers today try to justify doing both. For example, they know days like Halloween and Christmas evolved from pagan worship, but the argument is, it's no longer pagan. In other words, they are

church holidays sanctified as holy.

Is it really possible to sanctify or cleanse such a day? The answer is no! Whether people realize it or not, so much of what is taught today in the church was adopted long ago from paganism. And at the top of the abominable heap is Halloween. Not only was this day adopted from paganism, but it also has strong roots in sorcery, something that Yahweh strongly condemns.

He states in Leviticus 19, "Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times... Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am Yahweh your Elohim," verses 26, 31.

This passage condemns sorcery, demonic activity, eating blood, divination, observing times or magic, familiar spirits or ghosts, and wizards. We see all of these and much more glorified in Halloween. Today's customs are more gruesome than ever before with blood being the main focal point.

It's amazing that what Yahweh commands us NOT to do, we do! And what He says to do, we don't do.

The same warning is also found in Deuteronomy 18:9-14:

"When thou art come into the land which Yahweh thy Elohim giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto Yahweh: and because of these abominations Yahweh thy Elohim doth drive them out from before thee. Thou shalt be perfect with Yahweh thy Elohim. For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto

diviners: but as for thee, Yahweh thy Elohim hath not suffered thee so to do."

Parents know how frustrating it is to tell their children multiple times not to do something, only to see them do it anyway. How many times does our Heavenly Father say within His Word not to follow the ways of the nations and not to pursue witchcraft, divination, and paganism?

We find such warnings from Genesis to Revelation and yet most believers simply ignore them. Following Yahweh according to His Word is what separates the wheat from the tares. If we desire to be wheat, then we must fully commit to Him. As we see here, we must be "perfect" with Yahweh our Elohim. This word comes from the Hebrew *tamiym* and means to be "without blemish, complete, without spot, undefiled, upright, and moral."

Our Heavenly Father is right now calling out a select few who will serve as priests in the millennial Kingdom. If we're going to be found worthy, then we must forsake pagan beliefs and follow Him completely, as echoed in Revelation 18:4. It reads, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

Yahweh commands His people to flee the sin of this world. This includes removing all the tradition that has plagued the church for the last 2,000 years. It includes both Christian tradition and Jewish tradition. Whether it's the Jewish Talmud or decrees from Church counsels, if it deviates from the Bible then we reject it.

The believer seeks to please the One he worships so that he doesn't share in the plagues of this world. Our Heavenly Father is calling out a few good believers who will serve as priests in His coming Kingdom.

Nothing in this life comes even close to the blessings that we will receive if found worthy of His calling.

As we find in Deuteronomy 28, Yahweh has set before us life and death, blessings and curses. Life is about choice. Are we going to follow our Creator or allow something or someone to impede that?

The most important decision for us is making sure that our life and worship are right with Yahweh. Nothing in this life matters more than honoring Yahweh with our lives and worship. ✓



# Does Yahweh Have an English Name?

by Alan Mansager

“I speak English, not Hebrew” is a popular dodge for avoiding the sacred Name Yahweh. To be consistent, then, those who argue this way must believe that the “names” they call Him – “God” and “Lord” – are English. Does Yahweh have an English “name”? Are these common titles even names?

Most faiths and religions have particular characteristics that identify them – certain traits that come to mind when you hear of them and the name of the one they worship.

For instance, when you hear the word Hindu you probably think of a shirtless man in shorts, sitting cross-legged, hands on his knees, palms up, reciting a mantra or quietly meditating on the mighty ones of his trinity: Brahma, Vishnu, and Siva. These deities with their specific names represent a well-defined way of worship for the Hindu.

Similarly, when you hear the word Islam you think of ornate mosques with turban-headed men bowing with foreheads to the ground in prayer toward Mecca, the holy city of Islam. You think of the Muslims venerating Allah, and Mohammed as his prophet. Allah, they believe, demands specific worship. When you hear “Allah,” a prescribed belief and way of life come to mind.

These religions have a worship that is consistent with the names of their deities and worshiping in any other name or way is not worshiping Brahma or Allah.

## Creator With No Identity?

Enter Christianity. What comes to mind with the term Roman Catholicism? The pope is central, claiming his position in a

long line of successors of the first pope, who Catholicism believes was the Apostle Peter.

The pope and his Catholics worship a mighty one in a generic category called G-d. They believe He requires a certain kind of worship as well. A veneration that includes a Sunday sabbath, deification of Mary and saints, the Mass, sacraments, worldly holidays, and church-generated days.

An offshoot of Catholicism is Protestantism, a word that comes from one who protests certain practices of the Catholic Church. Protestants worship the same nameless mighty one using the same title “G-d” as Catholics. Protestants, however, believe that this same nameless mighty one expects a different kind of worship and so their beliefs and practices differ in certain ways.

## Discover YOUR Father

Unlike the other major religions whose well-defined worship is indelibly tied to the specific name of the one they worship, the name (title) by which the Christian mighty one is identified is the same across the entire Christian spectrum despite a plethora of different beliefs and practices.

Few give this contradiction any thought. Not only have they given up His Name for a title, but they also identify and reverence Him through a plethora of contradicting doctrines in a wide variety of dissimilar forms of worship. No wonder they prefer to keep Him nameless and generic!

In light of these facts, is the sacred Name important? Does Yahweh need a name for proper worship, as do the deities of all other religions?

Some believe that He knows who you mean no matter what you call Him. But they have not considered what He Himself says about His Name in Isaiah 42:8 and many other passages. “I am Yahweh: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.” Refusing to call on His revealed, personal name demonstrates dishonor and disrespect for the One they worship, if not plain defiance.

How many Bible believers would fall on their knees in times of desperation and call out to Baal? Or Vishnu? Or Molech? Or Allah?

Clearly, names matter. Names exclusively identify the one worshiped.

## Intimacy of Names

Once we know His revealed, personal Name, how can we expect Him to answer to those of pagan worship? More importantly, how close is He to believers who refuse His personal, saving Name and decide that an alias is better—a title lost in a sea of conflicting doctrines and beliefs?

Is a generic term good enough for the true Mighty One when that same term is used by pagans for their heathen deities?

Paul wrote, “As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other Elohim but one. For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) But to us there is but one Elohim, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Master Yahshua the Messiah by whom are all things, and we by him” (1Cor. 8:4-6).

We in our Western civilization have lost the significance of names. For us, Johnny is as good as Tommy. But even then we may be influenced to choose a name for our children shared by someone we respect. In that case the name is connected to a particular person – maybe a father, grandfather or uncle – whose persona and attributes come to mind when we hear his name spoken or referred to.

Especially is this true in Scripture. In fact, names have much greater significance than mere labels when it comes to the Bible. And especially is this true with the One we worship as the Creator and sustainer of this universe.

Philippians 2:9 says His Name Yahweh is above EVERY name. It makes all the difference what name we use in calling on and worshipping our Heavenly Father.

As with the first examples here, His Name reveals His individuality, which extends into His commanded worship. Try getting that from a generic title! Only He is the one true Mighty One called Yahweh.

You don't mind when a stranger calls you "friend," or "sir," or "ma'am." In fact, you expect a stranger to use such generic terms. But once you are formally introduced and you share your name, you feel offended if he or she continues to call you sir or ma'am. In doing so your acquaintance is rejecting the closeness that using your personal name engenders, and in the process snubbing you as well.

Yahweh feels offended in the same way if once we know His Name we insist on calling Him by the titles of generic deities. His Name is a mark of identity, His bond with us. How can some claim a "personal" relationship when they tack on Him the same label others use for idols?

In making a covenant with Israel, one of the FIRST actions Yahweh did was to introduce them to His personal Name. That was fundamental. He wanted and expected the intimacy that using His personal Name would bring.

### Unity Through Names

When Yahweh introduced himself to Moses He said, "I am Yahweh, that is my Name," He didn't say, "That's one of my names" or "You can just call me Lord." He said "Yahweh" was His Name. Period. He has no other Name, as we read in Psalm 83:18, "...Whose Name alone is Yahweh..."

In the Bible when a person shared his

## Hebrew: Mother of All Languages

The argument for an English version of the name of the Heavenly Father falls flat in light of the simple fact that names don't change from language to language without creating an entirely different name.

"Yahweh" cannot be made "English" because there is no English equivalent. The rug is yanked out from under the "English" argument as well because of the strong evidence that English, as well as every other tongue, springs from one source language—Hebrew.

A recent discipline called Edenics makes the case that modern English is a derivative of biblical Hebrew. The proponents of this teaching say that all human languages are outgrowths of Hebrew. They cite thousands of examples supporting the claim.

Prominent in this teaching is Isaac E. Mozeson, who details the evidence in his book, *The Word*. He says, "I began from the Biblical given that Hebrew is the Mother tongue (Gen, 11). It seems to me that I have begun to prove that 'all the earth was of one speech, with a unified vocabulary.' ...Hebrew vocabulary has as much affinity with English as it has with Arabic. More English words can be clearly linked to Biblical Hebrew than to Latin, Greek or French."

This author also observes, "The curriculum of Harvard was full of Hebrew, and an early graduate thesis at Harvard concerned Hebrew as the Mother tongue. Noah Webster's etymologies were full of English words traced to 'Shemitic' sources." Some of America's early founders even floated the idea of making Hebrew America's official language.

Some examples he gives of the similarities between English and Hebrew words are: Eye, *Ayin*; Twin, *Towem*; Tour, *Toor*; Fruit, *Feyrot*; Evil, *Avel*; Cry, *Kria*; Lick, *Likek*; Piece, *Pasis*; Scale, *Shakel*; Earth, *Aretz*; Wine, *Yayin*; and Direction, *Derech*. Mozeson notes, "While it's easy to assume the Hebrew words I just mentioned were inspired by modern English, they're not. All these Hebrew words are found in the Bible, which means they are over 2,500 years old—far older than English."

The discipline of Edenics has been covered up and even attacked by most of academia in order to conceal Jewish roots or Hebraic influence on the language. But the early Webster's dictionary included numerous Hebrew roots for English words. Most of these were later expunged in efforts to modernize the lexicon.

Because all humanity comes from the same people, it is perfectly logical to assume we shared a common language too, Mozeson noted.

name with another it signified the joining of the two in unity. When Yahweh gave His Name to Israel He was joined to them – it was a marriage – the closest union two can enjoy.

Is it just coincidence that a wife takes on a husband's surname in marriage? Is it not because they now are joined in union with one purpose and goal, and committed to a single cause in a family headed by the husband?

Acts 15:14 tells us Yahweh takes out from the gentiles a special people "for His Name." He is making a family under His

Name: "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Master Yahshua the Messiah, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named," Ephesians 3:14-15.

### Esteemed by Name

Biblically, the person and his name are inseparable. The word "name" in Hebrew is *shem*. *Shem* means a mark or a memorial – distinguishing a person's individuality and persona. A name in Scripture encompasses one's honor (or dishonor), authority, and character. The name defined the person in

all meaningful aspects.

The Name Yahweh has great importance because of what it signifies. Intrinsic to Yahweh's Name is the very verb of existence. In Exodus 3:14 He tells Moses: "I am that I am," or "*haYah asher haYah*" in the Hebrew. It means I am existence personified. I cause everything to come into being. His Name Yahweh describes Him, defines Him, and expresses His attributes.

When Yahweh appeared to Moses, the first thing He did was to identify Himself by His personal Name. He didn't ask Moses what Moses preferred to call Him. Nor did He say, "You can call me Yahweh, it's one of my Names." He said explicitly, "I am Yahweh THAT is My Name."

Nowhere in Scripture was anyone given the right to decide how they wanted to address the Creator, nor did anyone dare call Yahweh whatever they chose.

We read in *The New Bible Dictionary*, "To give a name is the prerogative of a superior, as when Adam exercised his dominion over the animals by giving them their names (Gen, 2:18), or when the victorious pharaoh renamed the conquered Judean king (2Kings 23:34). Likewise [in Scripture] the parent names the child" p. 862.

Also we find in *Eerdman's Bible Dictionary*, "To bestow a name is an act of authority, denoting possession, responsibility, and protection for some person or object (2Sam 12:28; Ps. 49:11; Isa. 4:1). The making of creation is thus an exercise of dominion, part of the 'image of G-d'" (Gen, 2:19-20; cf. 1:28).

By maintaining that we will call Yahweh whatever pleases us, we usurp His authority and reveal an untrusting, disobedient spirit.

Joel 2:32 prophesies that the day will come when whoever shall call on His Name will be delivered. That meaning is also intrinsic in the definition of His Name: "I am" or "I will be." "Yahweh" includes the connotation, "I will be there (for you)," especially when you need deliverance.

His Name is also a family Name. His people, His very Chosen, are called by His Name: "O Yahweh, hear; O Yahweh, forgive; O Yahweh, hearken and do; defer not, for your own sake, O my Elohim: for your city and your people are called by your name" (Dan. 9:19).

His people take on this wonderful Name because they are in covenant union with Him—obeying Him and pleasing Him in all that they do. Astoundingly, His Name in its Tetragrammaton form YHWH is found no fewer than 6,823 times in Hebrew source manuscripts of the Bible. It simply cannot be ignored.

### Are All Names English?

A common argument is, "I don't call on Him by His Hebrew Name because I speak English." If you ever said "halleluyah," "Sabbath," "amen," "Armageddon," "Isaiah," "Jeremiah," "Sarah," and "Satan," then you spoke Hebrew. Many more of these biblical words and names are virtually unchanged from the Hebrew even in the New Testament.

Does a person change his name when traveling to foreign lands that speak a different language? Or is his name the same everywhere he goes? Does he get a new passport with the name translated into the new language at each port of entry? Or is John Doe called "John Doe" everywhere he goes?

What is the English equivalent of Benjamin Netanyahu? It's Benjamin Netanyahu; there is no equivalent in English. What is the English form of Vladimir Putin? It's Vladimir Putin, of course.

If the argument is, I speak English therefore I use English names for the one I worship, then what is the English form for the patriarch Abraham? What about Daniel, also a Hebrew name? What is its English equivalent? How about Sarah and Martha? These are all Hebrew names that remain unchanged and untranslated in the English or any language because names aren't translated. Why should Yahweh's Name be the only name that is changed?

A favorite word of praise is Halleluyah. One hears it in worship all the time. It's one of the most ancient words of exultation in existence. And it is pure Hebrew. "Hallel" means "praise" in Hebrew, and "Yah" is the first part of the sacred Name Yahweh. Therefore halleluYah means "Praise Yah"! The most popular word of praise has our Heavenly Father's very Name embedded in it—"Hallelu-Yah."

We see this word commonly in the form hallelujah, but its "y" sound confirms its proper rendering. Scripture records many well-known names that contain the

name of the Heavenly Father. Sometimes translators used the improper letter "j" rather than the "y."

"Elijah" was not pronounced that way in the Scriptures. It was "Eliyah," a Hebrew name that means, "my El is Yah." Isaiah (YeshaYah) is a Hebrew name that means "salvation of Yah." Jeremiah (YirmeYah), "whom Yah raises up," and Zephaniah (ZephanYah) "hidden of Yah." Many individuals were named with the family name "Yah," showing the close bond they had with Him, including the mother of Moses, Yahchebed ("Yahweh gloried").

### Inconsistencies Abound

If one sticks to the position that because we speak English we should not use Hebrew forms, then we should not use the aforementioned Hebrew words and names, either. It would not be right to apply that argument just to Yahweh's Name and not to all the other Hebrew names and words in the Bible like Messiah, a Hebrew word.

What about cities like Jerusalem, Nazareth, Bethlehem, and the names of many other towns, rivers, seas, deserts, and mountains? These would all need to be changed to English to be consistent with those who contend for the exclusive use of English.

The problem is, there are no equivalent English versions for these Hebrew names! Let's pursue this argument further.

### 'Dear (Nameless) President'

What is the English name for Yahweh? Is it G-d, with a capital G?

First, we note that "god" is not a name but a classification. It is merely a title. Paul said there are gods many and lords many.

There are many presidents in our country—presidents of corporations, colleges, board presidents, bank presidents, etc., but there is only one president of General Motors, only one president of Harvard, only one president of Chase—and each has a specific, identifiable name he calls his own. If I address a letter to "Dear President," it can apply to any president of any entity. Only when I include the name with that title do I reveal the person I am addressing.

If I pray to the "god" of this world, Paul in 2Corinthians 4:4 says that I am praying to Satan because Satan is called the "god of this world," as are thousands of other god deities man has worshipped



throughout history. Even then those deities had names attached to the title.

Is “G-d” the English form of the Name “Yahweh”? Does He expect His people to change His Name to some other according to the language they happen to speak? And is that even possible?

The *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED) says “god” comes through the Dutch, stemming from the Old High German, “gott.” It derives from the Gothic *guth*, going back to the Teutonic *gudo*, which stems from two Aryan roots—one meaning to invoke, the other to pour in the sense of a molten image (*Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 11th Ed.).

Can we say that G-d is an English word? Far from it! Its common English usage belies its ancient foreign origins. Relatively few of the words we use in English are in fact pure English. The word “English” itself isn’t even English. It is related to “England,” which derives from “Englaland,” land of the Angles. The Angles were Germans from the lowlands of Germany who settled in eastern England in the 5th century. “English” is from *Englisc*, meaning of the Angles—Germans! (see “English,” *OED*)

### Our Impure ‘English’ Language

English is a melting pot language that borrows extensively from many languages. The statement, I don’t use Yahweh’s Name because I speak English, not Hebrew, ignores the historical facts.

Let’s dissect the statement, “I speak English, not Hebrew.” Discovering the origin of each of the words in that simple sentence is eye-opening.

- **I** = the letter I is the ninth letter of the alphabet, coming through the Latin from the Greek and ultimately from the Semitic or Hebrew *yod*—the first letter in Yahweh’s Name.
- **speak** = from the German *sprechen*.
- **English** = a proper noun from the German.
- **not** = Old English *nought*, cognate to Old Saxon and French.
- **Hebrew** = from the Hebrew *eber*, one who “crosses over.”

In the statement, “I speak English, not Hebrew,” only one of those words is English, and it’s Old English at that.

English is not by any stretch a pure language. Much of it is from the Romance

languages, and vast numbers of its words derive from Greek and Latin (and ultimately Hebrew. See accompanying article p. 8).

The vast majority of the words we use in English derive from other languages.

The point is that language has little to do with the Name of the Mighty One of the Scriptures. He was Yahweh before He put man on earth. Before there were all these languages from Babel, He was Yahweh.

“Yahweh” is existence personified. Psalm 135:13 says, “Thy Name endures forever, your memorial throughout all generations.” His Name is His memorial that endures for all time.

### First Commandment Is Central

The Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:2 begin, “I am Yahweh your Elohim which brought you out of the Land of Egypt. You shall have no other mighty ones before me.”

As we witness the general decay of Bible-professing religion and the perversion of what is right and moral on this planet, we can go back to the very first of the Ten Commandments and clearly see why Yahweh put this commandment first and foremost.

If man would have kept this one commandment he would have kept all the rest. All false worship can ultimately be traced to a violation of this first of all commandments. Every sin we commit results from failing to put Yahweh and His will, manifested by His laws, first. Before He says anything, Yahweh establishes that HE is Yahweh our Mighty One and as our Creator we must conform to everything He tells us.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 bears out this important truth: “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear Yahweh and keep His commandments, for this is the whole [duty] of man.”

We continue in Exodus 20:4: “You shall not make unto you any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.”

Heathens didn’t worship a stone image as a stone, but as a representation of some deity. He says don’t make these things because they will remind you of some other deity, and I am the only one you are to worship. Moving on, verse 6 tells us to keep the commandments if we love Him and He in turn will show mercy to us.

Now notice verse 7: “Thou shalt not

take the name of Yahweh your Elohim in vain.” What does it mean to take His Name in vain? Curse out loud when you smash your thumb with a hammer? Not in the Hebrew.

“Take” is the Hebrew *nasa*, meaning “to lift or bring to.” Vain comes from *shoaw*, “to rush over, bring to devastation, uselessness, waste”—basically it means to neglect.

When we replace His name with a title we are breaking the Third Commandment. “You shall not bring His Name to desolation or ignore it through neglect,” the commandment says.

When we use a common title in worship we are missing the most important aspect of who Yahweh is and what He stands for, what He is all about and what He can do for us. His Name describes all of that as well as the very essence of who He is—Yahweh: He is existence personified.

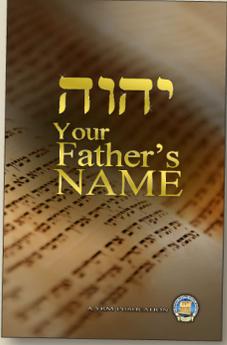
No title can signify all that He is. A title defeats the purpose of a name. It just sits there like a pasted-on label tied to no particular identity. “I am Yahweh, that is My Name, and My glory will I not give to another,” He thunders in Isaiah 42:8. He and His Name are inseparable.

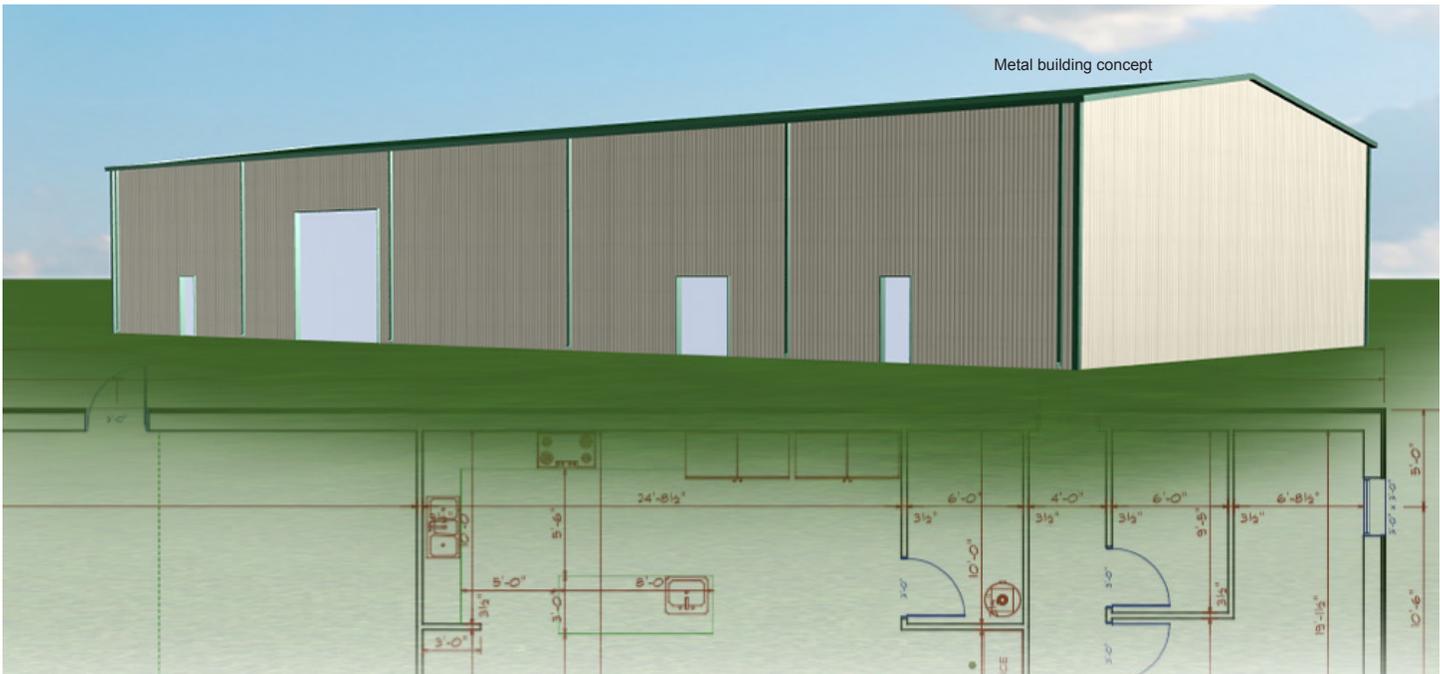
Our desire is that you will grasp the awesome significance of this truth and come to know your Creator through His personal, revealed Name Yahweh. Realize all that He can and will do for you if you will put Him first through your obedience and by your worship in honoring His wonderful, powerful, life-saving Name! ✓

**His  
HIDDEN NAME**

It’s the greatest cover-up in all of human history. Many have lived their entire lives never realizing that their Father in heaven has a personal Name that is a necessary part of proper worship.

It is time you understood the truth about the only Name that offers salvation. Request the free booklet, **Your Father’s Name**. You will be amazed by your discovery.





## Feast Grounds Development Fund — Can You Help?

We had a blessed Feast of Tabernacles with brethren from across the nation and around the world joining us. We rejoiced to witness 13 give their lives over to Yahweh through baptism. You can find a photo review of the Feast on our site at: [yrm.org/2016-fof-pictures/](http://yrm.org/2016-fof-pictures/)

Big changes are in the offing for our future Feasts. Because of differing doctrinal beliefs we have been denied further use of the Christian camp we have attended for the last two years for Tabernacles. We thought we had found the perfect camp but Yahweh seems to have other plans. After 18 years in the “wilderness,” keeping the Feast in nine different camps in the Midwest and investigating possible use of hundreds of other camps around the country, we have made the decision to observe next year’s Feast of Tabernacles at YRM’s facility in Holts Summit, Mo. Our recent expansion makes this somewhat feasible. It also alleviates constant searching for that nonexistent camp that fits all our needs and growth.

Even though we already have some of the necessary facilities in which to hold the Feast, we still lack enough basic lodging, extra RV/tent sites, and room for activities. After research we have concluded that a bare-bones metal structure is the most economical solution to meet most of our challenges. While we will likely be unable to fully develop the property by next Feast, we hope to have at least an enclosed metal building with concrete floors, additional RV sites and several more tent sites. We will be building this structure in our existing campground area near our front sign (the only flat land we have left on the YRM property). This expansion will also require an enlargement of our current septic drain field.

Shown above is a preliminary design of the desired 130’x60’x20’ building, which would be used for multiple purposes, including activities for the children and older youth, along with additional meeting and lodging space (28 rooms). We are already past full capacity in our meeting hall for Tabernacles. This building could serve as our future meeting room for Tabernacles with approx. 350 capacity for seating in the gym.

The Ministry has approved \$100,000 to begin the initial process, but this will not be enough to accomplish the goal. The concrete shell and floor will cost approximately \$150,000 with another \$150,000-\$175,000 estimated for the HVAC and to finish the project, including the communal bathroom and kitchen area. Depending on funding this will likely be a two- to three-year effort with two phases: one for the concrete slab and shell and a second for the rooms and communal bathroom and kitchen. To accommodate lodging needs for this upcoming year, many will need to tent along with staying in hotels and homes. We are asking for your help in making this much needed space available through your financial donations. Please consider supporting this critical endeavor as soon as possible.

Phase 1: Completion of main building slab and shell (current on hand: \$101,874 - still needed: \$48,126)

Phase 2: Install HVAC and complete basic rooms and communal bathrooms and kitchen (current on hand: \$0 - still needed: \$150,000-175,000. We are grateful for your help.

**Current status:** Everything has been going very smoothly. We have completed all layout plans. The building shell is currently being engineered and fabricated by Rhino Steel Buildings (who gave us a considerably lower price than their competitors). Ground work and utilities have been completed. Concrete and floor plumbing has been contracted and concrete work is scheduled to begin the end of October. The Erectors have been contracted for erection soon after concrete.



# Debunking the Rapture Teaching

by Randy Folliard

Tim LaHaye, author of the 16-book series *Left Behind*, is one of the most recognized Christian authors today, selling more than 63 million copies. This series focuses on the belief of the pre-millennial rapture and paints a story of believers snatched away in a secret rapture while the remainder of mankind suffers through the worst time this earth will ever experience.

Is this belief based on biblical fact or wild fiction?

We begin our journey by exploring the historical roots of this belief. According to most biblical scholars, it was John Nelson Darby, a 19th century theologian, who developed the concept of the rapture. It was then taken by C.I. Scofield and added to the *Scofield Reference Bible*, which was published in 1909. On a side note, this Bible also popularized the so-called gap theory of creation and the doctrine of dispensationalism.

## Shout of an Angel

As with any investigation, it's important that we understand the evidence used to support the belief. The go-to passage for those who advocate the rapture is 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17: "For the Master himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of Elohim: and the dead in Messiah shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Master in the air: and so

shall we ever be with the Master."

Those who believe in the rapture will make the case here that Paul is describing a secret coming in which the Messiah will snatch away the elect. For them the key phrase here is "caught up," which is from the Greek word *harpazo*, meaning, "to seize or to snatch away."

Does this phrase and Paul's statement prove that our Savior's return is in a secret rapture? The answer is no. First, note that *harpazo* simply implies that Yahshua the Messiah will raise the elect at His coming. There is nothing here indicating that they all go to heaven in safety. Also, from what Paul says, it should be very clear that Yahshua's coming is anything but a secret.

For instance, he says that Yahshua's coming will be announced by a shout from an archangel and the trumpet of Elohim. When Israel heard such a trumpet blast in the Book of Exodus they all shook with fear. Why would there be shouting and a blast of a trumpet if our Savior's coming is in secret?

Additionally, Yahshua will resurrect the dead first, followed by the living. If the rapture is to remove and protect the saints from the tribulation, why worry about safety for the dead? Solomon in Ecclesiastes 9:5 clearly said, "For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything." If the dead are oblivious to the coming tribulation, why resurrect them from the grave and bring them back to life?

If this passage isn't referring to a secret rapture, to what then is it referring? Paul

is describing here the Second Coming of Yahshua the Messiah and the resurrection of the saints. What's the difference between this and the rapture? Two words: time and destination.

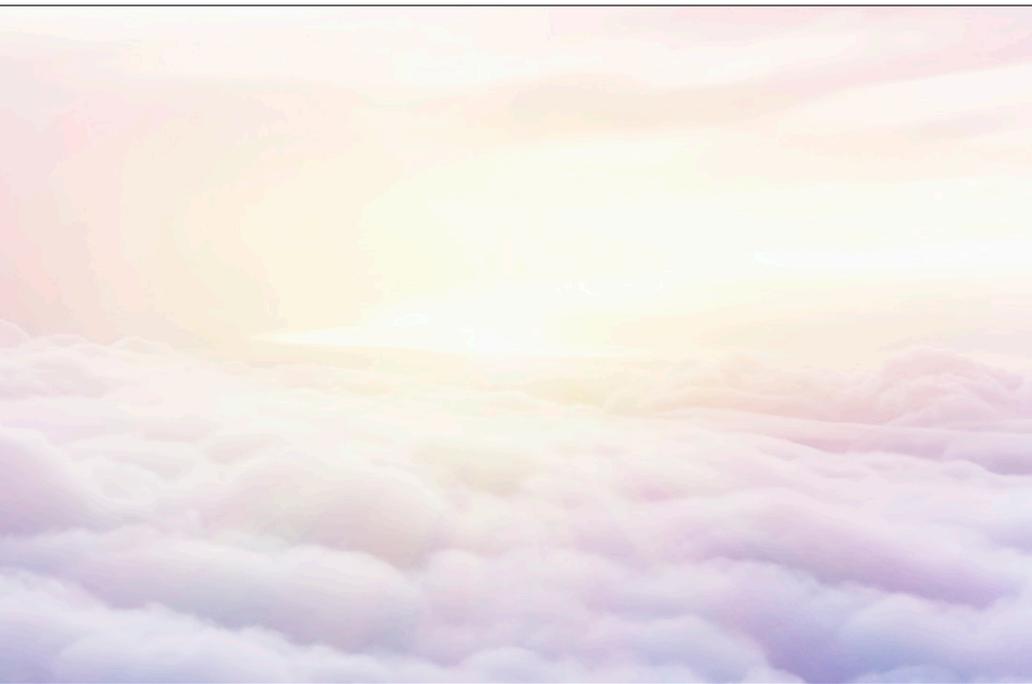
The rapture supposedly takes place before the tribulation, while the Bible asserts that Yahshua's coming will occur after the tribulation. "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory," Matthew 24:29-30.

The rapture teaching says that those snatched away will be taken to heaven, while the Bible teaches that the resurrected saints will stay on earth. Revelation 5:10 specifically states that the saints will reign on earth as a kingdom of priests.

## 'One Shall Be Taken' – But Where?

Another popular passage is Yahshua's Olivet Prophecy in Matthew 24. "Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Master doth come," verses 40-42.

According to the rapture teaching and those who advocate a pre-millennial view,



those taken are those snatched away in a secret rapture.

In verse 36 we find a very different meaning. It reads, “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be,” verses 36-39.

Yahshua is comparing His own Second Coming to the flood of Noah. Just as the people then were eating, drinking, and doing everything but following Yahweh during the days of Noah, we find this same pattern right before Yahshua’s coming. The key here is that those taken were taken to their deaths by the flood waters. This is the same situation for those who will be taken at Yahshua’s coming.

When His disciples asked Yahshua in Luke 17 where the ones taken will go, He responded, “Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles [vultures, Job 39:27, 30; Rev. 19:17-18] be gathered together.”

The ones who are taken are killed, as is also borne out in Yahshua’s parable of the tares, representing the wicked who go first and are burned, while the wheat is gathered in the good harvest, Matthew 13:30, 38-43.

It’s amazing how much truth we can learn when we simply take what Scripture

says collectively and in context. What many believe is salvation through a rapture is just the opposite.

#### **A Command to Watch and Pray**

Another passage that’s often used to support the rapture is Mark 13:32-37. It reads, “But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.”

According to many who study the rapture, this passage offers absolute and undeniable proof that Yahshua is going to come before the tribulation to snatch away the elect. The only thing Yahshua says here is to watch and that He will come in a time not anticipated.

There’s nothing here that states that this will occur before the tribulation; to teach this fabrication is to force a square peg into a round hole.

The message here is that we are to be alert to Yahshua’s coming for the sake of our salvation. Referring back to what Yahshua said about the days of Noah, they were eating,

drinking, giving in marriage, and doing everything but following Almighty Yahweh. They were spiritually dead and oblivious to the pending flood and destruction that would soon follow.

If we’re not watching we’ll suffer the same fate. We must be aware of what’s happening in this world today. If not we, too, may be in danger of losing our salvation without even knowing it.

#### **Where Is Enoch?**

Many will point to Enoch in Hebrews 11 as proof for the rapture. Verse 5 says, “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found because Elohim had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony that he pleased Elohim.”

The word “translated” is the Greek *metatithemi* and means “to transfer, i.e. to transport” from one place to another. This is the same word used in Acts 7:16 where it says that after Jacob’s death he was “carried over into Sychem.” He wasn’t translated to heaven!

Hebrews 11:13 confirms that everyone mentioned here, including Enoch, died without being changed to spirit essence. We read, “These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”

The word “all” comes from the Greek *pos* and according to Strong’s refers to “all, any, every, or the whole.” This clearly includes Enoch. From these facts we learn that Enoch died without seeing the promise of Yahweh’s Kingdom. He still awaits the resurrection from death. It is so important that we read the entire passage in context.

#### **Who Are the Saints?**

Another passage often used to support the rapture is Jude 1:14. It says, “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, Yahweh cometh with ten thousands of his saints.”

Those who support the rapture will state that the word “saints” here refers to the elect or chosen of mankind, therefore confirming that Yahweh’s elect are raptured before the tribulation and will return with Yahshua at His Second Coming. Is this true? This word is from Greek *hagios*. Strong’s defines it as, “sacred.” The *Thayer’s Greek Lexicon* defines this word as, “a most holy thing.”

It is true that *hagios* is used in reference

to the chosen of mankind, but it's also used to describe the angels of heaven. Following are two examples where *hagios* refers to angels within the context of the Messiah's coming.

- Matthew 25:31, "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy (*hagios*) angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory."
- Mark 8:38, "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy (*hagios*) angels."

From these verses we find that *hagios* can also refer to the angels. Not coincidentally, Matthew 24 states that when Yahshua returns He will send His angels to gather the saints.

Yahshua prophesied, "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other," verses 29-31.

Yahshua is not returning with the elect of mankind, but with the angels of heaven. He will also send His angels to the four corners of this earth to gather the elect.

Besides context, here is another key to good Bible study.

Isaiah 28:10 says, "For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little." We must view Yahweh's Word holistically, meaning that we must consider all the evidence. In the instance of Jude 1:14, when we do this we see that the saints refer to the angels of heaven and not to the elect of Yahweh.

### Escaping Temptation

Another verse used in attempts to prove the rapture is Revelation 3:10: "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."

Proponents of the rapture will point to

the phrase, "I also will keep you from the hour of temptation," as proof for their belief. Yahweh will offer protection during the tribulation but not through a secret rapture. All that we find here is that those faithful to their Heavenly Father will find protection and safety during the tribulation.

The question is, where will they find this safety? As we saw in the Book of Isaiah, questions like this require that we consider the totality of evidence.

In Revelation 12:14-17 we see where the Bible promises protection. It says, "And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of Yahweh, and have the testimony of Yahshua Messiah."

There are several important things to note here. First, Yahweh says that the woman will be given two wings of an eagle that she might fly into the wilderness. The language is symbolic. The woman represents those believers who keep the commandments and have faith in Yahshua the Messiah. The "wings of an eagle" represent Yahweh's provision and protection.

This is also an example of the amazing continuity we find between the Old and New testaments. Exodus 19:4 describes Yahweh taking Israel into the wilderness with the phrase, "...and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself."

Just as Yahweh brought Israel into the wilderness through the wings of an eagle, He will do the same with the elect before the Great tribulation. Understand that the wilderness doesn't refer to heaven, but to a place of safety on earth.

We find that the elect will be taken into the wilderness for a time, times, and half of time. This symbolizes the three-and-a-half years of the Great Tribulation. During that time He also promises to nourish those in the wilderness. This word is from the Greek *trepho* and means to "feed or fatten." In Revelation 2:17 we find Yahshua referring

to "hidden manna."

Just as Israel was taken out into the wilderness and fed manna, our Father in heaven will do the same for those who keep the commandments and have their faith in Yahshua the Messiah during the Great Tribulation. So while the Bible does not support a rapture, Yahweh will offer protection for many of the elect right here on the earth.

### Tribulation Promised

Another fact the Bible brings out is that His called will suffer tribulation, the very concept that the rapture seems to deny. Yahshua in His Olivet Prophecy offers irrefutable evidence that many believers will suffer at this time. He says, "Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake," Matthew 24:9.

Keep in mind that this is a prophecy about the tribulation or the end of days. During this time His faithful will be hated by the world and many will be afflicted and killed for their faith. It's important we as believers realize that we'll suffer from trials and tribulation and that we must remain strong if we will overcome and be found worthy of Yahshua's coming.

### Rapture Gives Many False Hope

Time may be short—it's imperative we as believers understand that there's no easy way out; as many before us, we will suffer for the sake of our Father's Kingdom.

Let us not be deceived into believing the lie of the rapture doctrine. Not only is this belief absent from the Bible, but it provides many with a false hope of what is to come. As believers we are to prove all things and show wisdom and discretion in our walk. May we study to show ourselves approved and stand in faith, willing and able to overcome for the glory of our Father in heaven and Savior. 

## Lift Off or Let Down?

The word "rapture" is nowhere in the Bible, and neither is such a teaching. Write for the free booklet, ***Is There a Coming Rapture?*** Learn more about why this popular belief is bogus.

# CHRISTMYTHS

A fast look at today's super holiday



by Alan Mansager

It seems like a losing battle to some. The opponents of the secularization of the Savior's "birthday" plead each year to put Him back into Christmas. But the rest of the culture is perfectly happy ignoring them and focusing on all of the glitter and cheer that money can buy.

Society has a point. There is no authentic biblical side to this annual extravaganza. The reason for the season is that a secular culture chooses to revel in a holiday of its own making, without any scriptural foundation, precedent or sanction.

## Like Oil and Water

Christmas as we know it has for millennia been mired in a pagan/pseudo-biblical union that still scourges it today. Even the symbols are an odd mismatch: Santa and Savior; yule logs and manger; reindeer and camels; jingle bells and celestial star – and many more, tangled in a confusing mess of an awkward celebration.

A single observance has forced on the unthinking Bible believer spiritually toxic rituals of paganism born 2,000 years before the Savior's birth. It is up to us whether to indulge in the corrupt rites of ancient heathenism.

## Customs from the Mysteries

If you ever felt uneasy about this super celebration your instincts were right. Even the nominally religious must experience some angst sitting around twinkling trees and indulging in gross materialism, all in

the assumed honor of the Savior.

Nearly every Christmas custom is connected to some ritual practice that has little or nothing to do with the Bible or True Worship. Here are some of the most notable:

- The **Christmas tree** was key in the sun worship of northern Europeans and represented life in the dead of winter. These pagans saw their sun-god wane in power at the winter solstice and so they used evergreens to beckon the sun back. Evergreen boughs represented the green plants that would grow when the sun god was strong again. The mysterious Druids, the priests of the ancient Celts, decorated their temples with evergreen boughs as a symbol of everlasting life. The Vikings in Scandinavia thought that evergreens were the choice of the sun god, Balder. In many countries it was believed that evergreens would keep away witches, ghosts, evil spirits, and illness.

- **Giftgiving** was supposed to have been inaugurated by the wise men's gifts to the Messiah, but they didn't come to the manger and their gifts were not birthday presents. The Savior was a child living in a house when the wise men came (Matt. 2:11) and their gifts were offerings to a king, which Yahshua was prophesied to become. Mary and Joseph did not reciprocate with gifts of their own for the magi, the number of which is not given in Scripture. Gift exchanging was part of Saturn worship at the Roman's

annual bash of the Saturnalia.

- **Santa Claus** is a substitute Savior who judges naughtiness and niceness and rewards children if they are good. He is part of North Pole-dwelling wizards in Scandinavian and Russian tales with powers to cover the earth in a single night.

- **Mistletoe** is a Celtic survival that supposedly cured everything from epilepsy to infertility, the wax berries of this parasite were thought to be a sex stimulant.

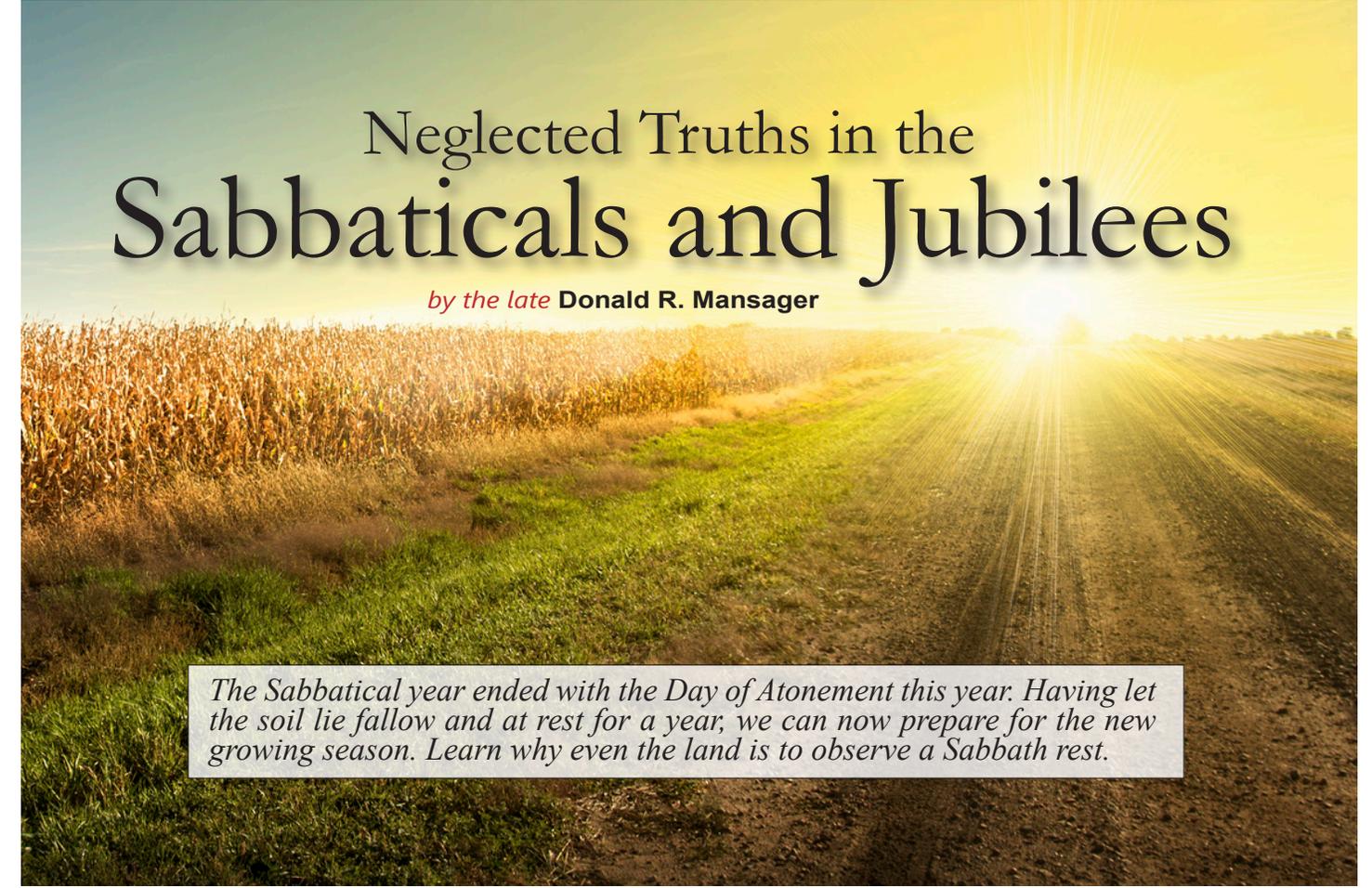
- **Holly's** green leaves and red berries were respected in medieval times as protection against witchcraft and the evil eye, and were a good-luck charm for men.

- **Wreaths** with their round shape symbolized the returning sun at the winter solstice; made of laurel, they depict the sun's returning victory over darkness and death.

- **Christmas candles** trace to the burning yule log and the reincarnation of the Babylonian deity Nimrod.

- **Ham** is eaten because the Babylonian Tammuz (Adonis) was thought to have been killed by a boar. In his memory, pagan Romans sacrificed and ate swine at the Saturnalia.

- **Christmas cookies** trace to the cakes that were made to the Queen of Heaven or Semiramis (Jer. 44:19). They were made round to symbolize the sun for the Saturnalia and Brumalia (pre-Christmas) observances. ✓



# Neglected Truths in the Sabbaticals and Jubilees

by the late Donald R. Mansager

*The Sabbatical year ended with the Day of Atonement this year. Having let the soil lie fallow and at rest for a year, we can now prepare for the new growing season. Learn why even the land is to observe a Sabbath rest.*

Most people who observe the Bible's Sabbaths are aware that Yahweh gave His Sabbath observances as a special sign to His people. However, His Sabbaths include more than the seventh day we know as Saturday. Annual Sabbaths and extra-annual Sabbaths also highlight the biblical calendar and are very important to the Heavenly Father.

The Hebrew primitive root for Sabbath means "cessation" or rest (*shabath*, **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance** No. 7673). Yahweh's Sabbaths are a periodic rest, which allows us to draw closer to Him, Ezekiel 20:12.

## Sabbaths Are the Sign

Revelation 7:1-3 shows that we are given His Name (at baptism), which is the seal, Revelation 14:1 (margin). Observing His Sabbaths is the sign, shared with other observers who are sealed in His sacred Name Yahweh by the Holy Spirit.

Each weekly Sabbath reminds us that Yahweh set aside the seventh day that we might recall His great creative power as well as the redemption we have through His Son

Yahshua. Fifty-two times a year we take a day out from our weekly activities to join the Body of Messiah to revive and strengthen our faith. It is also when we grow the most spiritually as we commune with Yahweh.

Not only is the seventh day of the week holy and special to our Heavenly Father, but He also gives seven annual Sabbaths to worship Him. All of the annual Sabbaths are based on the agricultural harvests in Israel.

Passover and the days of Unleavened Bread are held at the beginning of the barley harvest. Pentecost (*Shavuoth*) was the wheat harvest, followed by the four annual high Sabbaths in the fall, ending with the last great day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

## Of Sevens and Fifties

The Sabbaticals are the most neglected of all of Yahweh's special times, even by those who call themselves Sabbath-keepers.

Yahweh decreed that when Israel entered the Promised Land that every seventh year was to be a Sabbatical year. They were to sow and plant six years, but the seventh year was a sacred year.

On the seventh year all debts are forgiven and the land is to have a complete rest. No plowing or planting is to be carried on during this time. The land is to lie fallow.

Following seven Sabbatical years (49 years), the fiftieth year is a Jubilee. At that time slaves are set free and the land reverts to the original owner and again is given a rest.

The day of Atonement, which comes in the seventh biblical month, marks the beginning of the Sabbatical cycle: "Then shall you cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the Day of Atonement shall you make the trumpet sound throughout all your land" (Lev. 25:9).

The Sabbatical year comes in the fall when the harvest of grain, oil, and grapes is about completed, and lasts until the next day of Atonement a year later.

## Sabbaticals and the Covenant

The importance of the Sabbatical years is recorded for us in a skeleton summary of the covenant Yahweh offered Israel, to which the people gladly agreed. Notice how

Yahweh lays out His plan for His people, starting first with the land Sabbath:

“And six years you shall sow your land, and shall gather in the fruits thereof. But the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie still; that the poor of your people may eat: and what they leave the beasts of the field shall eat. In like manner you shall deal with your vineyard, and with your oliveyard. Six days you shall do your work, and on the seventh day you shall rest: that your ox and your ass may rest, and the son of your handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed. And in all [things] that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other deities, neither let it be heard out of your mouth” (Ex. 23:10-13).

Note that the land Sabbath is given precedence over the weekly Sabbath! Certainly if the weekly Sabbath is imperative (and it is), the Sabbatical year is extremely consequential and requires special attention.

Not only are the important Sabbaths mentioned here (and by implication the annual Sabbaths as well), but Yahweh also warns His people not even to mention the names of pagan deities.

#### **Judgment for Disobedience**

A prime reason Israel was taken into exile was because they neglected to observe the land Sabbath. They were taken to Babylon where they were servants “to fulfil the word of Yahweh by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years” (2Chron. 36:21).

The prophets (including Jeremiah and Isaiah) have much to say concerning the exile of Israel and Judah because of their disobedience to Yahweh’s Word. Daniel and Ezekiel were both captives whose accounts were written in Babylon. It is significant, therefore, that neither Daniel nor Ezekiel contain Yahweh’s Name, their names ending in the generic “El.”

In contrast, Yahweh’s Name is found in IsaYAH and JeremYAH, who wrote their manuscripts in the land of Israel.

Yahweh sent His people into exile for 70 years because they had not kept the Sabbatical for 490 years. Malachi 3:6 says, “I am Yahweh; I change not.” Does this have any importance for us today?

The United States is over 200 years old, and we have never as a nation kept the Sabbatical years. Will we face captivity

much as did Israel? How many today allow their farms to lie idle every seventh year?

Henry Ford, experimenting with soybeans as a plastic for his automobiles, found that having the land lie dormant every seven years rejuvenated the soil and made it healthy. If kept today we could eliminate many pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers used in modern, high tech farming.

Most farmers today would have a difficult time convincing banks and mortgage lenders to allow them to keep a Sabbatical year and not grow any crops that year. Our secular society is not geared to allow the land to rest. Instead, farmers must push production to the limits to satisfy creditors.

Yahshua quoted Isaiah 61:1-2, which is considered by Bible scholars as a reference to the Sabbatical-Jubilee cycle: “The Spirit of Yahweh Elohim is upon Me; because Yahweh has anointed Me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of Yahweh, and the day of vengeance of our Elohim; to comfort all that mourn” (Isa.61:1-2).

This account is quoted by Yahshua in Luke 4:18-19 and is considered by Bible scholars as announcing the beginning of

facing martyrdom.

#### **Establishing the Date Historically**

Yahshua likely began His ministry at the beginning of the Sabbatical-Jubilee cycle, which Bible scholars believe was 27-28 CE. The years 69-70 CE., when the Temple’s destruction occurred, was also during the Sabbatical cycle.

Atonement typically falls in September, which means the interim consists of three months of the first secular year and nine months of the second secular year ending on the next Atonement. Thus, in Yahshua’s ministry the first year was the last three months of 27 CE. and the first nine months in 28 CE.

Once we know a Sabbatical year we can determine future or previous Sabbatical years by adding or subtracting seven or multiples thereof. Interestingly, using our secular calendar, the latter year of a Sabbatical cycle containing the nine months is evenly divisible by seven. Dividing the year 28 by seven yields 4. Dividing 70 by seven yields 10.

We understand that the next Sabbatical is 2022-2023, and runs from Atonement to Atonement.

#### **What Grows Naturally**

During the Sabbatical (and Jubilee) year

**We have no control over production and distribution of goods. We cannot direct the lives of workers who manufacture products on the Sabbath. It would be impossible to ensure that all the merchandise we buy regularly was not made on the Sabbath.**

His ministry in the year 27 CE. Take special note that He failed to complete the second verse! He omitted “the day of vengeance of our Elohim; to comfort all that mourn.”

Many Bible scholars consider “proclaiming the acceptable year” to be Yahshua’s reference to the Sabbatical-Jubilee year. His acceptance by Israel was not yet made manifest, which explains why He omitted “the day of vengeance” and “comfort all that mourn.”

The “day of vengeance” likely refers to the coming worldwide tribulation yet ahead of us, and the comforting of His people

we do not plant a garden nor till the soil, but allow the earth to rest. We should keep our yards trimmed and neat, but are not to harvest anything growing in our fields. One can eat whatever grows of itself, but are not to preserve or store it.

Neither are we concerned with what the world does, as the natural, carnal, unconverted man has no understanding or concept of the Sabbatical-Jubilee cycle.

If fleshly man plants and harvests during the Sabbatical year, we look at his efforts as that which is produced by nature. He is only doing that which comes natural to him. And

food that grows naturally we can eat, but not preserve or store it.

We are responsible only for what is under our control – our family, our land, and our gardens. If gasoline is delivered to the service station on the Sabbath, we are not concerned about whether we should buy it on Sunday. But we must not buy it on the Sabbath and directly cause others to work on that day, Nehemiah 10:31; 13:19-21.

We have no control over production and distribution of goods. We cannot direct the lives of workers who manufacture products on the Sabbath. It would be impossible to ensure that all the merchandise we buy regularly was not made on the Sabbath.

So it is with food grown in the Sabbatical years. Entering Canaan, Israel ate of the old grain grown by the Canaanites in the Sabbatical year, Joshua 5:11-12.

As Yahweh's people, we monitor our own activities as we strive to observe the Sabbaths to the best of our abilities.

### Israel Cursed for Non-observance

The world in general pays little attention to the weekly Sabbath, and has even less regard for the annual Sabbaths. Fewer still pay any attention to the Sabbatical-Jubilee cycles,

“Moreover all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of Yahweh which He had hallowed in Jerusalem. And Yahweh Elohim of their fathers sent to them by His messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because He had compassion on His people, and on his dwellingplace: But they mocked the messengers of Elohim, and despised His words, and misused His prophets, until the wrath of Yahweh arose against His people, till there was no remedy” (2Chron.36:14-16).

Stiff-necked Judah refused to obey Yahweh. The final straw came when they agreed to proclaim liberty to the Hebrew menservants and maidservants under king Zedekiah, Jeremiah 34:8-10. But Zedekiah and his princes broke the covenant and brought the servants again into bondage:

“But afterward they turned, and caused the servants and the handmaids, whom they had let go free, to return, and brought them into subjection for servants and for handmaids” (Jer. 34:11).

In dishonoring the Sabbatical year by going back and renegeing on their obligation to free the Hebrew slaves, Yahweh was

will make you to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth “ (Jer.34:17).

The liberty Yahweh proclaimed was actually a curse upon Judah, for they were taken captive to Babylon for 70 years. The 70 years represents the total Sabbatical years which they had not observed every seven years for 490 years!

“And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia: To fulfil the word of Yahweh by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: [for] as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years” (2Chron.36:20-21).

The reason for the captivity was Judah's disobedience to the Covenant. Their canceling the release of the slaves after having agreed to do so was the final straw. Yahweh allowed them to be taken captive and be exiled to Babylon for not keeping the Sabbatical year!

Has Yahweh changed His mind and now allows us to break His statutes? All sincere Bible believers know that He changes not; He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, Malachi 3:6.

### Time of the Savior's Return

As our interest in the return of the Messiah intensifies, we should be ever more concerned about a closer walk with Him as we look for His appearing.

The analogy of the Sabbatical-Jubilee cycle is more than coincidental. A trumpet announces the event, slaves are freed from bondage, the land goes back to the rightful owners, all debts are canceled, and families are reunited.

Atonement is known in Hebrew as “Yom Kippur,” the Day of Covering, and we seek a “robe of righteousness” so that we can stand before the Righteous Judge on that day. Sincere believers should continue seeking to do all Yahweh's will and observe all His Sabbaths, for they are more than just a sign to us.

Many are the indications that Yahshua will return on a Feast day and even in a Sabbatical or Jubilee year. By keeping His Sabbaths we will know that it is Yahweh who sanctifies us, Ezekiel 20:12. Meanwhile, we take the gift of knowledge that we are given and follow Yahshua's words: “And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come” (Luke 19:13). 



just as Israel neglected them.

Israel disobeyed Yahweh by not keeping the covenant which Yahweh had made with their ancestors. But it was more than neglect. It was an outright flouting of His laws, mocking His prophets; a rejection of Yahweh Himself. This disobedience sent them into captivity.

angered to the point of cursing Judah, saying:

“Therefore thus says Yahweh; You have not hearkened unto me, in proclaiming liberty, every one to his brother, and every man to his neighbour: behold, I proclaim a liberty for you, says Yahweh, to the sword, to the pestilence, and to the famine; and I

# DIGITAL EVANGEL

## Working hard to spread the message!

In the last several months YRM has taken extraordinary efforts to leverage the Internet and other digital options in the desire to fulfill the Great Commission. Below are a few of the recent accomplishments:

### Website Overhaul

As many already know, we have been developing a new website for yrm.org. We have converted all our booklets and online articles from pages to posts. Unlike pages, which are static, posts are dynamic and allow for greater user engagement by allowing comments. We have also optimized many of the posts, helping their ranking on Google and other search engines. In addition, we have reintroduced a new mobile site for the Restoration Study Bible, which is available on yrm.org and on our YRM mobile app for both Apple and Android (search: “Yahweh’s Restoration Ministry”).

### YRM Mobile App

YRM has a new free mobile app available for both Android and iTunes for Apple. Search for “Yahweh’s Restoration Ministry.” The mobile app provides information about YRM and links to our new website, live worship, social media (Facebook, Twitter, and Google Plus), Sabbath archive, *Shattering Traditions* programs, e-store, and news. There is also

a donate feature allowing donations via your phone or other mobile devices. We pray that this will be a blessing for many!

### Shattering Traditions’ Mobile App

Shattering Traditions is now available on Android and Apple devices (search for *Shattering Traditions*). The apps are free of charge and available to all who seek to understand Yahweh’s Word. These new apps contain videos of our new program and our Sabbath worship. We pray that these apps along with the new platforms on Apple TV, Android TV, and Amazon Fire will be a blessing for many. Also, don’t forget about our *Yahweh’s Restoration Ministry* Roku channel.

### YRM YouTube Channel

In the last edition of the RT, we reported that we were moving to a new YouTube page, based on our new program, Shattering Traditions. After reconsidering, we plan to maintain and promote our existing “Yahweh’s Restoration Ministry” YouTube channel. There you will find our Sabbath worship services, Discover the Truth

and Shattering Tradition programs, music videos, footage from the holy land, and various other videos. If you have not done so, please subscribe to our channel by visiting [youtube.com/c/yahwehsrestorationministry](http://youtube.com/c/yahwehsrestorationministry).

### New Digital Media Platforms

YRM is now on Amazon Fire, Apple TV, and Android TV. Our channel name is *Yahweh’s Restoration Ministry*. It will contain videos from our new *Shattering Traditions* programs and also Sabbath worship. As we are in the process of producing this new program, you can watch episodes of our Discover the Truth programs on those channels. Along with Apple and Android TV, we also expanded our Roku channel to include the new *Shattering Traditions* program and Sabbath worship videos.

### Come to the Garden

Our *Come to the Garden* webpage, written for women by women, is now available online at [yrm.org/come-to-the-garden](http://yrm.org/come-to-the-garden). We have been adding many inspiring and informative articles on various topics including “Walking With Strength,” “Cows and Compassion (Should we eat meat?),” “Frugal Times,” “Why We Choose to Homeschool,” “Mommy’s Little Girl,” and many more articles to help and encourage. 

**The Restoration  
Study Bible now for  
mobile devices!**

[m.restorationstudybible.com](http://m.restorationstudybible.com)





**Q** Are you part of Herbert Armstrong's old church? You seem to teach many of the same truths of Scripture.

**A** No, but our origins are parallel. Clarence O. Dodd is considered by many as the founder of today's Sacred Name movement.

According to historian Richard Nickels, "Both Armstrong and Dodd were ministers of the Church of God, Seventh Day (Salem, W. Va.) group, one of the factions of the Church of God, Seventh Day. They began their respective movements at about the same time (1934-1937).

"At the outset both Armstrong and Dodd became independent mainly over the issue of the Feast Days of Leviticus 23. They both believed these days should be kept today, while the majority of Church of God, Seventh Day disagreed. Dodd later came to believe in the 'Sacred Name' doctrine, which means a belief in the exclusive use of the Hebrew names for the Supreme Being (Yahwen and Yahshua the Messiah).

"Dodd did not originate the Sacred Name doctrine. Its exact origin appears to be long before his time. However, Dodd crystalized the movement, making it a major force among Sabbath (Saturday) keeping organizations. His Faith magazine began in 1937, and continues to use the name Assembly of Yahweh..."

In 1968 Dodd and A.N. Dugger wrote the book, *A History of The True Religion*. They recount that a meeting to reorganize the Church of God, Seventh Day, was set for November 4, 1933, and some ten thousand were invited to Salem, W. Virginia. Names

were drawn by lot for the Twelve, and then for drawing of the Seventy. Included among the Seventy were Dodd and Herbert W. Armstrong.

The Faith magazine began as an organ to promote the keeping of the Feast Days, but when learning the truth of the Sacred Name, Elder Dodd immediately restored the names Yahweh and Yahshua to all writings in his magazine.

An October 1939 issue included a report of the Feast of Tabernacles in Eugene, Oregon, held by "Elder H.W. Armstrong, a pioneer in this great truth." Elder Angelo B. Traina restored the Sacred Names Yahweh and Yahshua to the King James Bible in 1963. Both Elders Dodd and Traina are remembered for their efforts in restoring the correct Names and teaching Bible truth.

Herbert Armstrong and his Worldwide Church of God chose to keep the generic titles for Yahweh's Name as well as the erroneous Latinized-Greek form for the Savior's true Hebrew Name Yahshua.

**Q** It was mentioned in Acts 4:12 that Yahweh is the only name for salvation, but I read the only name is Yahshua. Can this be explained?

**A** Acts 4:12 in essence can refer to either Father or Son as they share the same family name. The Name is the link here. Scripture calls Yahweh Savior as well, as He is the One who ultimately saves us, and Yahshua who shares His name is defined as "Yahweh's Salvation." So when you invoke Yahshua you are also invoking Yahweh the

Father and His salvation through Yahshua.

Here is a sampling of the 64 verses that tell us that Yahweh the Father saves:

- Isaiah 43:11: "I, even I, am Yahweh, And there is no savior besides Me."
- Isaiah 45: 22: "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am El, and there is none else."
- Isaiah 63:7-8: "I will mention the lovingkindnesses of Yahweh... For he said, Surely they are my people, children that will not lie: so he was their Saviour."
- Hosea 13:4: "Yet I am Yahweh your Elohim from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no Elohim but me: for there is no saviour beside me."

**Q** Are those who have been baptized in the common names and titles still in their sins?

**A** It is conceivable that some have repented of the works of the flesh. Yet they still may be ignorant of the only Name that offers salvation. Scripture says we must seek truth and then walk in all the light we are given, 1John 1:7.

Your question touches on a type of John's baptism, the baptism unto simple repentance. In Acts 18 is a man named Apollos, an eloquent man "mighty in the Scriptures." Yet he had still more to learn. Verse 25 says, "This man was instructed in the way of Yahweh; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of Yahweh, knowing only the baptism of John."

Notice how Aquila and Priscilla furthered his education: "And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of Yahweh more perfectly." (Acts 18:26)

The passage indicates that their instruction included the necessity now to be immersed into Yahshua's Name.

Then in the next chapter, 19, Paul encounters more disciples who had not heard of baptism into Yahshua's Name, which is baptism for salvation as well as repentance. "He said unto them, have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? And they said unto him, we have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Spirit. And he said unto them, Unto what then were you baptized? And they said, Unto

John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Messiah Yahshua. When they heard this, they were baptized in the Name of the Master Yahshua." No questioning, no arguing, just compliance.

When we repent and are baptized into the salvation that comes only in Yahshua's Name, we are endowed with Yahweh's Holy Spirit and begin to grow spiritually.

The common titles or names do not provide His salvation. Acts 4:12 says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." "Yahshua" means "Yahweh is salvation." Only in the specific Name Yahshua do we find everlasting life.

Speaking of the need for proper immersion, the Savior Himself said, "...for thus it becomes us to fulfill all righteousness."

If a sincere believer and follower of Truth becomes aware of the true Names that he has been ignorant of, then he must accept, not reject, this truth. Nominal worship long ago effectively cut ties with Israel and the promises Yahweh gave exclusively to those who are grafted into the Israelite promise.

**Q** You speak a lot about the Millennial Kingdom and what takes place there, but what happens after the Millennium?

**A** In the Book of Revelation Yahweh details events coming after the Millennium. The White Throne judgment will immediately follow the Millennium. Satan, will have been destroyed in the lake of fire, Revelation 20:7-15. Then Yahweh will come to earth in the New Jerusalem, and

characteristics of that glorious time will be:

- no more sorrow (21:4).
- all things made new (21:5).
- overcomers will inherit all things (21:7).
- the wicked will have been destroyed in the lake of fire (21:8).
- death will cease to exist (20:14).

The 21st chapter should begin in verse 9, with the forementioned verses a continuation of chapter 20. The Greek text did not have chapter divisions, which were developed by Stephen Langton, an Archbishop of Canterbury around C.E. 1227. The *Wycliffe English Bible* of 1382 was the first Bible to use this chapter pattern.

Revelation 21:9-22:7 describes the New Jerusalem, with Yahweh dwelling on earth. The Tree of Life shown in Genesis reappears at that time, bearing fruit each month and producing leaves that will heal (22:2). We find it significant that a majority of pharmaceuticals today are plant-based.

Yahweh's Name will be in the foreheads of the people (22:4), just as it was on the miter of the high priest, Exodus 28:36-38. Only those who keep Yahweh's laws will have right to the Tree of Life and can enter the holy city (22:14).

The latter parts of Ezekiel chapters 37 and 48 also discuss post-Millennial Jerusalem.

**Q** I have never quite felt right about going out to eat on the Sabbath with my church friends. Does the Bible allow doing such business on the Sabbath day?

**A** When the nation of Judah returned to True Worship of Yahweh under Nehemiah they vowed, "...And if the people of the land bring ware or victuals [food] on the Sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy it

of them on the Sabbath, or on the holy day..." Nehemiah says in 10:29-31.

Later Nehemiah had to deal with some backsliders in Judah who broke Yahweh's laws by conducting such business on the Sabbath:

"In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day: and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals...Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, What evil thing is this that you do, and profane the Sabbath day?" (13:17).

Yahshua had to contend as well with the merchants who were buying and selling in the Temple (Mark 11:15-16). Although this was probably not on the Sabbath, the desecration of what was considered a sanctified place is a direct parallel to defiling through worldly business the Sabbath day that is also sanctified.

When we do business on Yahweh's holy Sabbath we also rob this worship day of its sanctity and violate the Fourth Commandment that sets this day apart from a normal day of work and worldly endeavors. We can dine out on any other day.

We are also prohibited from doing our own pleasure on the Sabbath, which going to restaurants would violate as well, forcing our culinary "servants" to work for us on Yahweh's rest day. The Fourth Commandment specifically says that our servants are not to work on the Sabbath. Causing restaurant workers to serve us on the Sabbath clearly violates this command.

Some have argued that the staff of the restaurant would be there working regardless of whether we are there. Would Yahweh want us to contribute to the law-breaking of others when we are commanded not to do so? 

## OUTREACH PROGRAM'S CURRENT PARTNERS

**We recognize our outreach partners** for their outstanding dedication to the Truth in their effort to fulfill the Great Commission. If you are interested in becoming an outreach partner to help us spread the Truth, visit <http://www.yrm.org/outreach> or call us at (573) 896-1000 during normal office hours (M-F, 8:00 am- 4:00 pm.) We will explain how you can be an outreach partner and join this group committed to spreading the Good News!

Ricardo Angolano  
Cheryl Ciesa  
Ngaih Cing  
Diane Crocker  
David Nesta  
Linda Cox  
Max Ervin  
Larry Godejohn

John Illgen  
Robert W. Kountz  
Linda Lowe  
Zipporah Mwangi  
Wayne Pitchford  
Russ Thain  
Diana Wilson

REVEALING THE HEBRAIC ROOTS OF CHRISTIANITY

# RESTORATION STUDY BIBLE



Designer **\$35.99**

Outreach **\$18.99**

Premium **\$44.99**

Classic **\$27.99**

Four cover choices

Prices do not reflect shipping

**A**re you looking for an affordable Bible with multiple resources all in one volume that answers the hard questions? Then the Restoration Study Bible is for you. This attractive resource offers insight and clarity found nowhere else. It is the result of 150 years of in-depth study spanning three generations. The Restoration Study Bible examines the source languages behind the English text to reveal original meanings.

- More than 7,500 commentaries, definitions, factoids, and thousands of cross references
- Strong's numbering in the running text with Hebrew and Greek dictionaries included
- Introductions for all 66 books of the Bible
- Various charts, including archeological charts from the Holy Land
- Topical dictionary
- Restores the original names of the Father and Son

To order your own Restoration Study Bible contact Yahweh's Restoration Ministry  
Call toll free at **(844) 899-6438** or visit **store.yrm.org**  
See our website **www.yrm.org**

**AN AMAZING VALUE!**



# Feedback

From Mail | Emails | Social Media



Send us your comments  
Visit: [yrm.org/feedback](http://yrm.org/feedback)

"I am really glad that I spent the Feast with YRM in Missouri. The people were very loving, sincere and friendly. Of course, no two people were the same. It was a great Feast. It was great that you honored Elder Bob Wirl for his many years of dedicated service to the work. I found ... your families all to be so humble, loving and dedicated to the work. The services, including the praise services were great. I am always happy to hear you admit that YRM does not claim to have all knowledge and is not the only group doing Yahweh's work. That is great. To me this shows that you are very open to being led by Yahweh's Spirit. Obviously, you are striving for truth and trying to act in accordance with truth as you understand it as much as possible. I think it is very good that YRM participates in the Unity Conferences. To me that shows your willingness to work with others and the fact that you understand that it is not about you but about Yahweh and His plans for mankind. I am really glad I came to the Feast. I had a very great experience. I am glad I met many loving brethren." – BR

"I thank the YRM staff for an exciting Feast of Tabernacles; it was very pleasant. The baptisms (13) were exciting to watch. I hit a fork in the road coming to the feast this year. My job only gave me part of the time off for the feast. I called and explained the situation to them and I have plenty of leave on the books. The answer was still no because they have a job to do manning ships and I need to understand that. So they need me back. So we hung up and I thought to myself, I have a job to do, too. So I hopped back on the phone and resigned. After 18 years

of federal service I walked away from it all. A good paying job and a retirement in two years. After all I learned from YRM and reading the Bible it says to put our faith and trust in Yahweh then all things will be given to you. So I have another job already, it's only a fraction of the pay and not federal but that's okay; it feels good to put Yahweh first and let him make my decisions. I'll try and do my part and follow him." – MH

"Thank you so much for your ministry's teaching the truth, especially on marriage. I can no longer get your program on Dish and I miss it so very much, but please remember me in your prayers and I really look forward to each **Restoration Times**. I am 86 years old and love the Word and our Yahweh and Yahshua and learning more about our Jewish roots. Just wish we had an Assembly here" – VH.

*You can still see Discover the Truth episodes on: our website, on YouTube, ROKU, mobile apps, Apple TV, Android TV, and Amazon Fire.* – ED

"I have learned Yahweh's Name and for years had been calling Him by the generic titles. I've been also blessed to worship Him on the Sabbath. My relationship with Him has increased. Thank you for all you do." – MW

"I was on your Facebook page and saw that you interpret the Third Commandment to mean that we should not substitute the name Yahweh for anything, not even the term "God." But I don't think that is actually what that command is talking about. I think taking His name in vain means to profess that you know [G-d] but day to day, you do not live according to His word, or His

commands, thus profaning the Name of [G-d] by claiming we know [G-d], but give Him a bad reputation by not following Him the way He desires, and therefore, we end up living for ourselves, rather than for Him." - email

*You must look deeper. The Hebrew word translated "vain" is shaww and means to bring to desolation (Vine's). You bring it to desolation by abandoning it for a substitute. How do you know Him if you don't know His Name? The first thing you do when you meet someone is to ask for his or her name. The term god can refer to any deity, even the evil one. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 8:5, "For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many 'gods' and many 'lords').*

*We live in a culture that doesn't value the meanings of names. Parents typically choose a name for their child because they like the sound or the name is in vogue. In ancient Israel names had meaning and described the individual. Jacob's name was changed to Israel when he wrestled with and overcame the angel of Yahweh. Yahweh's name has the root meaning of existence — "haYa," which means "to be." The definition of the term "lord" is someone ranked below a king, a diminutive term, and the term "god" is any deity in history, literally meaning "pour a molten image" (see **Encyclopaedia Britannica** or an unabridged dictionary). "HalleluYah" means Praise Yah, Isaiah means Yah is salvation, Yahshua means "Yah Saves" (the Messiah quite literally "came in his Father's name"). So we ask, if you know His true Name why would you not use it as He commands? Labels like "god" and "lord" are insufficient, inappropriate, and unauthorized.* – ED

## Simplify Your Hectic Life

You can now conveniently donate to Yahweh's Restoration Ministry by automatic withdrawal from your bank account. Save time and effort. Go online and print and complete the Pre-Authorized Debit Authorization form and mail it to the address below. If you do not have Internet access, you can receive the form by calling (573) 896-1000. (US accounts only)

**YRM | POB 463 | Holts Summit, MO 65043**



**YAHWEH'S  
RESTORATION**  
*Ministry*

PO Box 463  
Holts Summit, MO 65043  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Holts Summit, MO  
Permit No. 463



# Get Our New Mobile App!

In a click or two you can watch our LIVE service (or archived services, TV programs and teachings). Read or request our Restoration Study Bible, booklets, and teaching tools. A useful tool for every serious Bible student!



Search: *Yahweh's Restoration Ministry*

Here's how to request the free literature offered in this magazine:

Online: [www.yrm.org](http://www.yrm.org)  
E-mail: [request@yrm.org](mailto:request@yrm.org)  
Phone: 1-573-896-1000

Mail: Yahweh's Restoration Ministry  
PO Box 463  
Holts Summit, MO 65043