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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.

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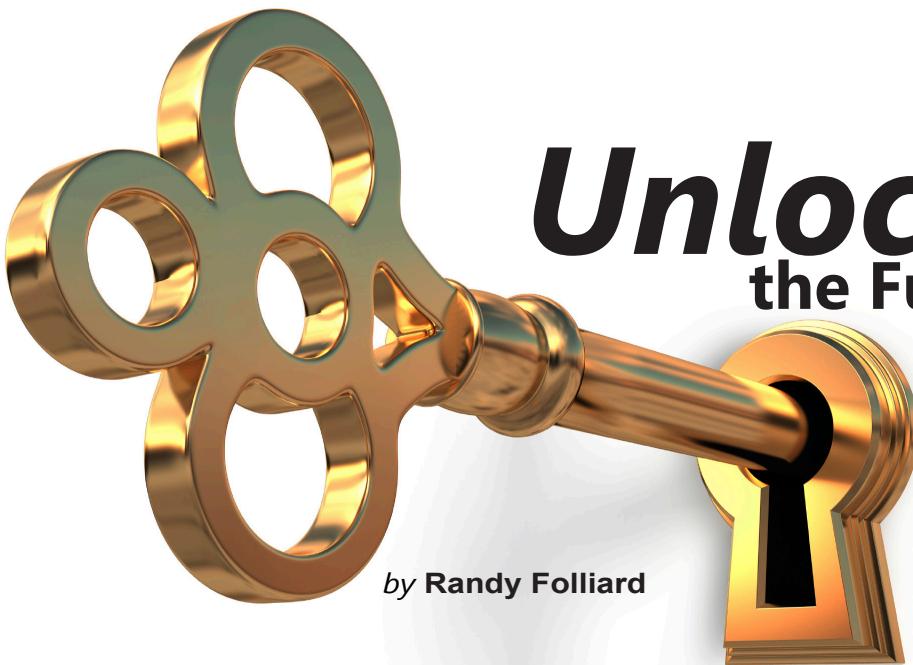
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Unlocking the Future in Passover and Unleavened Bread

by Randy Foliard

If you could know what is coming in the days and years just ahead, wouldn't you be very interested? The Scriptures show that future events are revealed in proper worship, especially in the days Yahweh commanded for His people.

The Apostle Paul in the second chapter of Colossians explains the prophetic significance of our Father's days of worship. "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Messiah," vv. 16-17.

Along with some of the other Old Testament commandments, Paul is referring here to Yahweh's days of worship, His Sabbath and Feasts. Now before exploring the prophetic meaning, we will first dispel a common misconception about this passage.

Many interpret Paul as saying that we are no longer obligated to observe these days. In other words, we're not to be judged on our freedom from these old and archaic obligations.

Is this the message Paul is conveying to the people at Colossae? The answer is no. What he is saying is that we must not allow those outside the body of Messiah, the assembly, to judge us on the worship of our Father in heaven. In verse 17 the word "is" was added by the translators; take it out and the meaning is clear. Those qualified to judge Feast keeping are those

in the body who are honoring these days. Only they are well-versed in why, how, and when to celebrate them.

In verse 17 Paul also says that these days are a shadow of things to come. He recognizes the prophetic nature of our Father's *moedim*, His annual appointments. Understand that the Feasts given in the Old Testament were more than simply times of worship. Each of these days prophetically foreshadows a special event in our Father's plan of salvation for mankind.

'But That's Old Testament!'

One of the most common misconceptions about the Feasts is that they belong just to the Jews and those people of the Old Testament. They are inconsequential to those in the New Testament.

In Leviticus 23 we find a summary of these Feasts. In verse 2 Yahweh begins by explaining to whom these days belong. He declares, "Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of Yahweh, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts."

Does Yahweh tell us that these days belong only to the Jews and are irrelevant to those in the Messiah? No! He says that these are "MY feasts." Our Heavenly Father clearly says that these holy convocations belong not to man, but to Him. For believers this is an important point.

You see, if we ignore these days we're not ignoring what belongs to mankind, but

something very special belonging to our Creator. In essence, when we ignore these days we tell Yahweh that His worship is of little or no value. So the belief that these times belong only to those in the Old Testament could not be further from the truth.

Passover's Release from Sin

Let's now consider the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread to better understand their relevance to us and Yahweh's prophetic plan of salvation.

Even though the Passover is technically not a Feast (Hebrew *chag*), it is nonetheless one of the most sacred times in Yahweh's worship. We find a description of this time in Leviticus 23:5: "In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is Yahweh's Passover."

The Passover is to be observed on the 14th day of the first biblical month at sunset. The word "even" is the Hebrew *ereb* and means "dusk" or "sundown." In Exodus 12:6, the word "even" is from the Hebrew *ben ha arbayim*.

As noted in the *Restoration Study Bible*, "The timing of the word 'evening' has been a matter of debate for millennia. It is derived from the Hebrew phrase *ben ha arbayim*, which literally means, 'between the two evenings.' While rabbinical Judaism and Pharisaic and Talmudic tradition define *ben ha arbayim* as 'between noon and sunset,' it became a period of time that

expanded over the centuries.

"The Sadducees...and the Samaritans define this phrase as between sunset and complete darkness. See Numbers 9:3-5, 11 and Leviticus 23:5. Based on scriptural evidence and modern scholarship, the latter interpretation is favored.

"According to *The Interpreter's Bible*, the latter definition is the older of the two views: 'The usage of the time referring to that after sunset and before darkness is the older practice'" (p. 919).

The name of this first month is Abib. This is more a description than a name. Strong's defines this word as "...from an unused root (meaning to be tender); green, i.e. a young ear of grain; hence, the name of the month Abib or Nisan." The *Brown, Driver, Briggs Hebrew Lexicon* calls it a "month of ear-forming, of greening of crop, of growing green Abib, the month of the Exodus and the Passover (March or April)." As established above, the first month is dependent upon the maturing of the Abib grain. Exodus 9:31 establishes that the grain used is barley.

It was on Passover night that the death angel went through the land of Egypt and killed the firstborn in those homes that had not applied the blood to their door frames. Even in the Old Testament it was through blood that redemption was found. Now this also marked the night to be much observed, as it was on this night that Israel won their freedom from slavery.

Fulfillment in Yahshua's Death

In 1Corinthians 5:7 the Apostle Paul sheds light on the prophetic meaning of the Passover. He says, "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Messiah our passover is sacrificed for us."

Paul focuses here on the Passover and the role that the Messiah had in its fulfillment. Through His death He became the Passover sacrifice. "Fulfill" does not mean "obliterate."

As confirmed by the prophets, the Feasts are an everlasting command that will be observed in the coming Kingdom, e.g. Isaiah 66:23; Ezekiel 44-46; Zechariah 14:16-19.

According to John the Baptist in the New Testament, Yahshua represents the Passover lamb as found in the Old Testament. John 1:29 reads, "Behold the Lamb of Yahweh, which taketh away the

sin of the world."

The main purpose for Yahshua's coming to this earth was to shed His blood for the sins of mankind. He also came to set an example to follow in our lives. If not for His sacrifice we would all still be condemned in our sins.

Only through our Savior do we find forgiveness and a complete washing away of our sins. Without His act of reconciliation we would be alienated from our Heavenly Father. Paul confirms in Romans that only through our Savior's death are we reestablished with Yahweh.

Yahshua will make the reconciliation permanent at His coming, when He will gather His faithful from this earth to serve in His Father's kingdom. "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," Matthew 24:31. Paul adds, "and so shall we ever be with the Master," 1Thessalonians 4:17.

Leavening and Worldly Corruption

The next annual appointment is equally important and that is the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the first of the three annual pilgrimage Feasts. We find the command for this holy convocation in Leviticus 23:6-8:

"And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto Yahweh: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread. In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein."

The Feast of Unleavened Bread immediately follows the Passover. The Jews eventually combined these observances, yet the Bible teaches that they are separate observances. As the *Encyclopaedia Judaica* states, "The feast of Passover consists of two parts: the Passover ceremony, and the feast of Unleavened Bread. Originally, both parts existed separately; but at the beginning of the [Babylonian] exile they were combined" (vol. 13, p. 169).

Another important fact about the Feast of Unleavened Bread is its duration. Scripture tells us that it is seven days long with the first and seventh days being called "holy convocations." The word "holy" comes from the Hebrew *qodesh* and refers

to something sacred. The word convocation derives from the Hebrew *mikra* and literally means something that is called out, as in a public meeting. Therefore, the phrase "holy convocation" refers to a sacred calling out or a sacred meeting.

The command that makes this Feast different from all others is that Yahweh commands that we abstain from leavening or yeast for all seven days. What's the issue with leavening? you might be wondering.

First, the Israelites left Egypt in haste and were unable to leaven their dough. This Feast commemorates their exodus from the corruption of Egypt while they ate unleavened bread.

Second, leavening symbolizes sin or what leads to sin through wickedness, malice, false beliefs, and corrupt politics. As Israel left the land of Goshen they were not only leaving physical leavening but also spiritual leavening, which was the corruption of Egypt.

Salvation Plan Pictured in the Feast

Also significant is that this Feast has a strong connection to agriculture. It was during this time that Israel offered the wave sheaf or firstfruits of the barley harvest to Yahweh.

From the New Testament we know that the wave sheaf has prophetic meaning. In 1Corinthians 15:20-22 Paul explains what this time prophetically represents. "But now is Messiah risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Messiah shall all be made alive."

Here we learn that the Messiah represents the first fruits of those who would be resurrected. As the wave sheaf during the Feast of Unleavened Bread was the first of the grain offerings, Yahshua was the first fruits of those who would rise from the grave.

As we delve into the Feasts we see an amazing harmony between the Old and New testaments. The same principles we find in the Old are alive and well in the New. Contrary to popular belief, it was never the Messiah's intent to begin a new faith. Even Paul said of himself in Acts 24:14 that he "believed all things written in the law and in the prophets."

Paul said in 1Corinthians 15:22, "For in Adam all die, even so in Messiah shall

all be made alive."

Only through Yahshua the Messiah do we find everlasting life, which He will grant at His Second Coming to all those immersed into His Name. Understand that this promise had been foreshadowed by the wave sheaf that was offered during

the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

The New Testament is clear that the Messiah and His apostles observed these days. As we've also seen, these observances will be kept in the coming Kingdom.

These times foretell Yahweh's plan

of salvation for mankind. They reveal truth found nowhere else. Therefore, not only do we break our Father's commandments when we ignore these days, but we disregard vital truth pertaining to Yahweh's plan of salvation for His chosen. 

Hijacking the Holy Days

Man's holidays replaced scriptural observances early on.



Why does it seem foreign to most churchgoers to keep the holy days of the Scriptures? For the early followers of Yahshua the Messiah, doing so was the only thing to do. But in just a few hundred years everything changed in one of the most dramatic transformations in history. New Testament Sabbath worship was switched to the first day of the week, while pagan-centric observances replaced the annual holy days and festivals of the Bible.

The early converts to the New Testament religion were Jews. Only later did Peter and the Apostle Paul take the Truth to the Gentiles, Acts 2, 9:15.

"Initially, the faith in the Messiah was a completely Jewish faith. All the believers were Jewish: even the writers of the New Testament were Jewish: the Apostle Paul [Heb. Sha'ul] himself being a Jewish rabbi. Both the New Testament and history record that these Messianic Jews continued to be Jews, remaining highly loyal to their land, people, and [G-d]-given laws," *Faith and Doctrines of the Early Church*, p. 35.

In time, Gentile converts became the majority and they began to influence the new faith.

"Eventually a strong 'de-Judaizing' process set in which would not only strip the faith of its Jewish roots, but would also lead the majority into an apostate form of Christianity. Until this 'de-Judaizing' process set in, both the Hebrew and Gentile Christians had observed the Sabbath, and had observed the time of the Passover in memory of the [L-rd's] suffering and sacrifice. It was at this time, Passover, that the early Christians had observed the L-rd's Supper," *ibid.*, p. 36.

In an effort to distance themselves from the Jews and to gain new converts from paganism, later converts found more affinity in observing a different "Passover" known as Easter. Easter, a Babylonian fertility rite named after the pagan deity Astarte, is just one example of the baggage brought in by converts from paganism. Another is Sunday, the venerable day of sun worship.

Aided by Roman Bishops Sixtus

(116-125 CE) and Victor (189-199), as well as Emperor Constantine, replacement observances like Sunday worship and Easter became firmly rooted and continue to overshadow the true biblical days of worship even today.

The Apostle Paul foretold that this apostasy would happen, Acts 20:29-30. "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."

One needs only to look up today's pseudo-religious holidays like Easter and Christmas in most any encyclopedia to be appalled at their origins and history.

Almighty Yahweh calls the seven annual observances found in Exodus 12 and Leviticus 23 "My Feasts." He says they are a "statute forever throughout your generations, in all your dwellings," Leviticus 23:14.

Who is man to change Yahweh's specifically commanded times and laws? (Dan. 7:25)



Our New Testament's HEBREW ROOTS

by Randy Folliard

As Patrick sat in the pew listening to his minister quote Old Testament passages in the New Testament, he began to wonder why so many ignore the Old Testament Scriptures. He thought, if my Savior and His apostles followed the Old Testament writings, should we not today? After the service, he approached his minister and asked, "Why don't we use the Old Testament more often?" The minister replied with a look of concern, "We are now under a new dispensation. The Old Testament was given to the Jews and the New Testament to the church."

Even though this account is fictional, there are many people like Patrick with this same question. Why is it that so many today

view the Old Testament and the Hebraic faith as obsolete? Why does churchianity accept the authority of the New Testament, but dismiss the Old?

Scholarly Confessions

We will explore this question and explain why the church deviated from its Hebraic roots. We will also reveal why the promise in the New Testament is Hebraic and not Grecian, as so many teach today. We'll see evidence from the Bible that the Messiah and His apostles, including Paul, held the Old Testament as authoritative and were law observant. Buckle up and brace yourself for a spiritual journey that will unravel years of man-made tradition!

Ironically, one of the easiest methods of confirming churchianity's connection to the Old Testament and to its Hebraic faith is through Christian scholarship. Even though many ministers will often gloss over the origins of the church, many scholars and historians will freely acknowledge its connection to the Old Testament.

Author Paul D. Wegner in his book, *The Journey from Text to Translation*, states: "The word old when it refers to the Old Testament, is not derogatory, nor does it mean the Old Testament is obsolete. Jesus [Yahshua] himself said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them'...Initially early

Christians and Jews both worshipped in synagogues (Acts 3:1; 4:1; 5:42; 6:9-10; 13:14-15, 42; 14:1; 17:1-2), using the same books of scripture, namely, the Old Testament" (p. 32).

What a revealing admission! The "Old" Testament is not to be viewed as obsolete. In support of this, Wegner refers to Matthew 5:17, where the Messiah Yahshua says that He came not to destroy but to fulfill the law.

The word "fulfill" is from the Greek *pleroo*. **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance** defines this word as "to make replete, i.e. (literally) to cram (a net), level up (a hollow), or (figuratively) to furnish (or imbue, diffuse, influence), satisfy, execute (an office), finish (a period or task), verify (or coincide with a prediction)."

Thayer's Greek Lexicon also provides this definition, "...used to fulfil, that is, to cause G-d's [Yahweh's] will (as made known in the law) to be obeyed as it should be, and G-d's [Yahweh's] promises (given through the prophets) to receive fulfilment."

As seen here, Yahshua came not to destroy the law, but to fulfill, i.e., to obey and follow it. To live up to all of its expectations. An example of this is found in Matthew 3:14-15: "But John forbade him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Yahshua answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him."

Here the word "fulfill" is the Greek *pleroo* and in this instance refers to Yahshua's obedience to the act of baptism. This, along with many other passages, confirms that the Messiah's intent was never to make the law obsolete. He came to set the ultimate example as an obedient Son to His Father and a Savior to mankind.

This reference goes on to say that both the Jews and early New Testament believers worshiped in the synagogues together using the same book, i.e., the Old Testament. The concept that the Old Testament is no longer valid is simply not true. Not only is it valid, but it was the very foundational teaching of our Savior and His apostles. Therefore, those who would say that the Old Testament is dead and gone are rejecting a significant part of Yahshua's ministry.

It is to this point that authors Alan Johnson and Robert Webber state, "In

Jesus' [Yahshua's] attitude toward the Old Testament one can glean a considerable range of information on his understanding of the nature and authority of the Bible.

He either quotes or alludes to the Old Testament more than 150 times in the Synoptic Gospels alone. He thus exhibits a deep respect for the Bible.... Using the threefold division of the Old Testament familiar to his audience he sweepingly affirmed that the whole Old Testament had a bearing on his mission. Nothing was excluded," **What Christians Believe – A Biblical and Historical Summary**, pp. 23-24.

This reference underscores a very important fact. Yahshua viewed the Old Testament as authoritative and part of the inspired Word. As it says here and as we'll see later, Yahshua used the Old Testament writings to confirm His position and purpose. Such evidence cannot be understated. As these authors succinctly put it, "Nothing was excluded!"

If churches today understood this crucial fact, many of today's erroneous beliefs would not exist. If today's ministers truly understood the faith of their Savior, they would recognize the significance of the Old Testament and teach it to their congregations.

Author Earle E. Cairns corroborates this conclusion in his book, **Christianity Through the Centuries**: "Christianity may have developed in the political milieu of Rome and may have had to face the

New Testament will reveal Christs' and the apostles' deep indebtedness to the Old Testament and their reverence for it as the Word of [Yahweh] to man.... The books of the Old Testament and the books of the New Testament, given under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, were to be the living literature of the Church," Cairns, pp. 44-46.

The statement that Christianity is most closely tied to Judaism cannot be emphasized enough. As this author states, "Judaism may be thought of as the stalk on which the rose of Christianity was to bloom." Without Judaism or the Old Testament there would be no New Testament. In this way the Old Testament made the New Testament possible.

To state that we are now living under a dispensation of the New Testament only, and free from that archaic Old Testament, could not be further from the truth. Churchianity's roots are deeply grounded in the faith given to Abraham. Those who ignore this fact ignore the origins of their faith.

The Messiah's Hebraic Roots

The Messiah in the New Testament showed His deep loyalty to the Old Testament. In Luke 24:44 Yahshua used the Old Testament to substantiate His position as the Son of Yahweh and the Messiah. "And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses,

"If today's ministers truly understood the faith of their Savior, they would recognize the significance of the Old Testament and teach it to their congregations."

intellectual environment created by the Greek mind, but its relationship to Judaism was much more intimate. Judaism may be thought of as the stalk on which the rose of Christianity was to bloom...

"Judaism provided the heredity of Christianity and, for a time, even gave the infant religion shelter.... The Jewish people still further prepared the way for the coming of Christianity by providing the infant Church with a sacred book, the Old Testament. Even a casual study of the

and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me."

This passage was written after Yahshua's death and resurrection. Yahshua tells the apostles that all things had to be fulfilled according to the law of Moses, the prophets, and the Psalms. These are the three divisions of the Old Testament mentioned earlier by authors Alan Johnson and Robert Webber.

From Genesis through Malachi we find passages referring to the Messiah.

His death and atonement for the sins of mankind was prophesied long before the New Testament. For example, Isaiah prophesied the following in the fifty-third chapter of his prophecy, "...he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities."

It's important to realize that neither Yahshua nor the early assembly confirmed the Messiah through the New Testament; they did so through the Old. The New Testament wasn't canonized until the 4th century. While many assemblies shared the New Testament letters, the Old Testament remained the focal point for many years in the early assembly. This reliance on the Old Testament shows a strong connection between Yahshua, the apostles, and the Hebraic faith.

Was Paul Antinomian?

Paul, too, shared this same conviction. In Acts 24:14 he says, "But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the Elohim of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets."

Even though many of his Jewish kinsmen accused Paul of belonging to a heresy or cult, we see that he fully acknowledged the faith of his forefathers. He said that he believed all things written in the Old Testament, which was known as the law and prophets.

Some things never change. As people misunderstood Paul during his day, we find the same today. So many in the modern church have the impression that Paul began a new faith based on Greek ideas. The reality, though, is very different.

Paul was not an advocate of a new religion; instead he relied on the faith he was taught from a child. He embraced his Hebraic roots, including the law and the prophets. It's amazing that so many view this man as antinomian or against the law, even though he confirms many times that he did not oppose the Old Testament faith, (see Rom. 3:31; 7:12; 13:8-10; and 1Cor. 7:19).

If this one core truth about Paul were

understood, we would see a very different message coming from today's pulpits. Instead of trying to divorce themselves from the Old Testament, churches would embrace it!

In the third chapter of Philippians, Paul provides a short autobiography. Within it we find his love and devotion to the Hebrew roots of his faith. It reads, "Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; Concerning zeal, persecuting the assembly; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Messiah,"

agriculture, and other real-life issues.

Paul goes on to state that he was from Benjamin, one of the twelve tribes of Israel. He was not a Greek! He says also that he was a "Hebrew of the Hebrews." When the Bible repeats a phrase it's done for emphasis. Paul is conveying here his profound connection to his Hebraic faith.

He continues by affirming his deep faith in the law by verifying his Pharisaic upbringing and desire to live a righteous life. Not all Pharisees were bad. In the third chapter we find a Pharisee named Nicodemus who was a disciple of Yahshua (John 3:1; 19:39).

It's important to understand Paul's



vv. 5-7.

Circumcision on the eighth day was an Old Testament statute. As a side note, medical science has shown that vitamin K, which coagulates the blood, is produced during the first few days of life and is sufficient in the body by the eighth day. If the Old Testament were not divinely inspired, how is it possible that a bunch of nomads understood this when modern medical science has only recently learned the facts? This, along with many other proofs like it, further reveals the inspiration of the Old Testament. The commandments that our Heavenly Father gave in the Old Testament have a purpose. They provide key solutions to economics, health, poverty,

upbringing. In Acts 22:3 Paul says that he was brought up at the feet of Gamaliel. As we note in the Restoration Study Bible, Gamaliel was "the grandson of Hillel, a Pharisee and renowned doctor of the law." It was this famous man who taught Paul the importance of the law. Considering Paul's statement here and his education, does this sound like a man who was against the Old Testament commandments or the faith of his forefathers? Clearly not.

Benefits of Being a Jew

One of the greatest books in the New Testament when discussing the Hebraic roots of the early assembly is Romans. Paul begins the third chapter by asking a

question that many believers would never consider today. He asks, “What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of Elohim,” verses 1-2.

What was Paul’s response to this question? He explains that they were given the oracles of Yahweh. The word “oracles” comes from the Greek *logion* and means, “an utterance of Yahweh.” This refers to the commandments that our Heavenly Father gave in the Old Testament.

The Bible confirms that the Jews received a benefit from the fact that they were given the Torah or commandments. Let’s think about this for just a moment. If the law was no longer necessary in the New Testament, why is Paul even mentioning these commandments in the book of Romans? If the law was no longer obligatory, to press any weight on them would be fruitless. Obviously, he understood that the commandments were still relevant in the New. For this reason he points out here the benefit of being a Jew.

The Messiah in John 4:22 also confirms there’s a special connection with the Jewish faith. He says there, “Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.”

Before explaining what Yahshua says here, let’s first consider what led up to this statement. Yahshua came to Sychar, a city in the land of Samaria. While there, he met a Samaritan woman near a well. This woman explained to Yahshua that while the Jews worshiped in Jerusalem that her people worshiped in this mountain. The mountain she was referring to was Mount Gerizim, near this Samaritan city.

Yahshua replied by confirming that there was coming a day when believers would not exclusively worship in Mount Gerizim or in Jerusalem, but would worship Yahweh in spirit and truth. Matter of fact, he prophesied that this saying would be fulfilled in that day. This statement by Yahshua is prophetic. It foreshadows a time when believers would worship Yahweh throughout the world, as we see today.

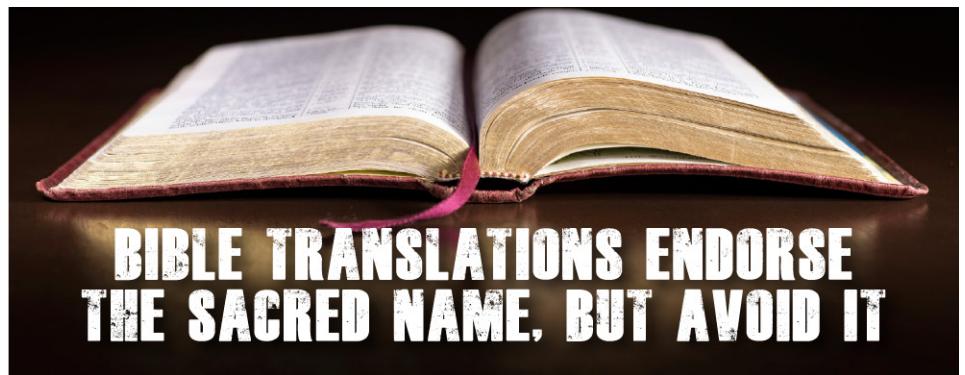
What did Yahshua mean when he said, “...salvation is of the Jews?” There are different interpretations to what Yahshua meant by this phrase. Often Scripture provides more than one meaning. This passage likely offers a dual message. Through His statement, Yahshua confirmed

the authority and benefit of the Old Testament and His own position as the Savior of mankind. Both of these truths are central to the faith of the New Testament!

As is true with the Apostle Paul, it was

never Yahshua’s intent to begin a new faith from what we find in the Old Testament. He came to strengthen what we find in the Old.

In His Sermon on the Mount He said



“In regard to the divine name YHWH, commonly referred to as the Tetragrammaton, the translators adopted the device used in most English versions of rendering that name as “LORD” in capital letters...”

New International Version

“This personal proper name, written with the consonants YHWH, was considered too sacred to be uttered; so the vowels for the words ‘my Lord’ or ‘God’ were added to the consonants YHWH, and the reader was warned by these vowels that he must substitute other consonants.” **New English Bible**

“While it is almost if not quite certain that the Name was originally pronounced ‘Yahweh,’ this pronunciation was not indicated when the Masoretes added vowel signs to the consonantal Hebrew text.” **Revised Standard Version**

“Erroneously written and pronounced Jehovah, which is merely a combination of the sacred Tetragrammaton and the vowel in the Hebrew word for Lord, substituted by the Jews for YHWH, because they shrank from pronouncing The Name. To give the name YHWH the vowels of the word for Lord (Heb. Adonai) and pronounce it Jehovah, is about as hybrid a combination as it would be to spell the name Germany with the vowels in the name Portugal -viz. Gormuna.” **Emphasized Bible**

“Following an ancient tradition begun by the first translation of the Hebrew Scriptures into Greek (the Septuagint) and followed by the vast majority of English translations, the distinctive Hebrew name for God (usually transliterated Jehovah or Yahweh) is in this translation represented by “Lord.” When Adonai, normally translated “Lord,” is followed by Yahweh, the combination is rendered by the phrase “Sovereign Lord.” **Good News Translation**

“The World English Bible main edition translates God’s Proper Name in the Old Testament as ‘Yahweh.’ The Messianic Edition and the British Edition of the World English Bible translates the same name as ‘LORD’ (all capital letters), or when used with ‘Lord’ (mixed case, translated from ‘Adonai’,) GOD. There are solid translational arguments for both traditions.” **World English Bible**

“There is yet another name which is particularly assigned to God as His special or proper name, that is, the four letters YHWH (Exodus 3:14 and Isaiah 42:8). This name has not been pronounced by the Jews because of reverence for the great sacredness of the divine name. Therefore, it has been consistently translated LORD. The only exception to this translation of YHWH is when it occurs in immediate proximity to the word Lord, that is, Adonai. In that case it is regularly translated GOD in order to avoid confusion. It is known that for many years YHWH has been transliterated as Yahweh, however no complete certainty attaches to this pronunciation.” **New American Standard Bible**

that to even look and lust after a woman was the same as committing adultery in your heart. So by this example, and many more like it, Yahshua embraced His Hebraic roots, as should we. As believers it's important we understand that when we deviate from the promise that Yahweh gave to the Israelites of Old we also deviate from the faith of our Savior and the apostles.

Circumcision and the Law

Let's now turn our attention to what Paul says in Romans 2:25. It reads, "For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision. Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision? And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law? For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the

the Great Tribulation], which keep the commandments of Yahweh, and have the testimony of Yahshua Messiah." Revelation 14:12 makes a similar statement, "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of Yahweh, and the faith of Yahshua."

Why is it important that we as believers today understand what Paul was conveying some 2000 years ago? He shows that the promise remained Hebraic in the New Testament. For example, He could have used the word "church" in lieu of "Jew," but again he wanted to show that the promise is still grounded in the Hebraic covenant given to Abraham.

Heirs of Abraham

We find a similar affirmation in Galatians 3:27. Paul says there, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Messiah have put on Messiah. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Messiah

families of the earth would be blessed. He is also the father of the Hebraic nation and promise.

This tie to Abraham in the New Testament shows unequivocally a connection to the Hebraic roots of the Old Testament. By this reference, Paul shows the continuity between the Old and New. The belief that the Old Testament was only for Israel and the New Testament only for the "church" could not be further from the truth. As we've seen from the Bible, the Messiah and the apostles viewed the Old Testament as inspired and authoritative.

Israelites Defined

Paul in Romans 9:4 describes an Israelite from the New Testament. It reads, "Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of Elohim, and the promises."

Paul lists six attributes, all defining an Israelite:

First, he says that they received the adoption. The word "adoption" derives from the Greek *huiothesia* and refers to sonship. In Exodus 4:22, Israel is called Yahweh's Son and firstborn.

There is a common belief called Replacement Theology that states that the church has now replaced Israel. As we see here, Israel received the adoption or sonship. Nowhere in the New Testament is this promise nullified. Instead of replacing Israel, as we'll see from the eleventh chapter of Romans, believers in the Messiah are grafted into this same Hebraic promise.

Second, they received the glory, which is from the Greek *doxa*. Here, it probably refers to Yahweh's worship. As we saw from the first few scholarly references, New Testament worship was originally based on the Old Testament.

Third, they received the covenants. Most assume that the Bible mentions only two covenants, i.e., the Old and New. In actuality, there are many covenants revealed in the Bible. For example, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David all received a covenant. Even though these covenants contained different assurances, each shared one tie in common, i.e., they were all based on a Hebraic promise.

Fourth, the Israelites were given the law or commandments. This is an important attribute. Contrary to popular belief, the Messiah and the apostles, including Paul,

"When we remove Israel and the promise that Yahweh gave in the Old Testament, we miss the foundation of what our Savior taught and believed."

flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of Elohim."

Paul is making a distinction between Jews by birth and Jews by faith. When he speaks about the circumcision, he's referring to natural Jews or native-born Israelites. Conversely, when he speaks about the uncircumcision, he's referring to non-Jews or gentiles.

Notice that he says when the uncircumcision obey the commandments that their uncircumcision is now circumcision and that they are now inward Jews. What's the difference between an outward versus an inward Jew? An outward Jew is a native-born Israelite. Contrariwise, an inward Jew is a believer, whether a natural Jew or gentile, who accepts both the commandments and the faith of Yahshua the Messiah.

This is also confirmed in two key passages in Revelation. Revelation 12:17 states, "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed [believers in

Yahshua. And if ye be Messiah's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Paul begins here by talking about baptism. He confirms that those immersed into Yahshua's Name put on Messiah. In the sixth chapter of Romans, he explains that baptism represents a death of our old man and the birth of a new creature. We also find there that those who die to Messiah will also share in the likeness of His resurrection. So the lesson is this, to become part of Messiah, we must die to Him through baptism.

Paul also confirms that there's no discrimination within the body of Messiah. As he says, there's neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free, or male nor female within the body, i.e., the New Testament assembly. He asserts that neither race nor gender matters when it comes to salvation.

This final point by Paul is crucial. He states that those baptized into the Messiah's Name are also heirs of Abraham. For those who may not know, Abraham was the first patriarch in the Old Testament. It was through him that Scripture says all the

obeyed the commandments. For example, Paul in Romans 7:12 said that the law was holy, just, and good. This notion of the commandments no longer being applicable in the New Testament could not further from the truth.

Fifth, the Israelites were given the service of Elohim. This refers to the ministration or method of worship, including the rights and ordinances in the Old Testament.

The last attribute we find is the promises. This refers to Yahweh's assurances and blessings. If these items were no longer relevant in the New Testament then Paul would have never mentioned them here.

The Key of Continuity

The apostles understood that the same Hebraic faith in the Old was still alive and well in the New Testament. Paul continues in verse 6 by showing a distinction between Israelites: He states, "Not as though the word of Elohim hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel."

This statement by Paul might seem confusing. However, his point is quite simple. He's stating that not all native-born Israelites are true Israelites. As Revelation 12:17 and 14:12 verify, a believer is one who keeps the commandments of Yahweh and holds to the faith of Yahshua the Messiah. If we neglect either one of these, we disqualify ourselves as a believer, whether we are a natural-born Israelite or a gentile grafted in.

This is one of the most important concepts we find in the Bible. When we remove Israel and the promise that Yahweh gave in the Old Testament, we miss the foundation of what our Savior taught and believed. Again, Paul is connecting New Testament faith back to Israel and also confirming a difference between an Israelite by birth and an Israelite by promise.

Parable of the Olive Tree

The eleventh chapter of Romans holds the key in rightly understanding this Hebraic promise, especially as it pertains to how gentile believers are grafted into the promise. Starting with verse 13 Paul states,

"For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: If by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them. For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving

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

Paul begins by confirming that he was an apostle to the gentiles. Now even with this role, he still had concern for his own flesh. It was his hope that some of his fellow Israelite brethren would come to know and accept Yahshua as the one true Messiah.

Scripture also shows that because Israel forsook Yahweh, the door of salvation was opened to the gentiles. We find this same message in Yahshua's parable of the wedding feast. Because His first guests, representing Israel, refused to come, symbolizing their rejection of Yahshua, the king sent his servants into the highways to find those who would come, symbolizing those outside of Israel.

Because of Israel's rejection of Yahshua the Messiah, Yahweh is now actively calling gentile believers. This is not to say that gentiles could not be called or grafted in before this; the differences before and after Yahshua's death was magnitude and method. In the Old Testament, Yahweh's covenant was given specifically to Israel as a nation.

While people of other nations could become part of this promise by joining the Israelite nation, the truth was not evangelized to other nations, as we see today.

To convey how this grafting in occurs, Paul uses an olive tree. He states that the root and branches are holy. The root symbolizes the Hebraic promise in the Old Testament and the branches represent natural Israel.

He also mentions wild olive branches. These symbolize the gentile believers who are grafted into the Hebraic promise. Understanding the imagery, Paul confirms the following points:

- The root of the New Testament is

grounded in the Old Testament.

- Not all Israel was cast aside; some of the natural branches remain.
- The wild olive branches are supported by the same Hebraic promise given to Israel in the Old Testament.
- As the wild olive branches were grafted in, they can also be grafted out. The same also holds true for those natural branches that were removed.

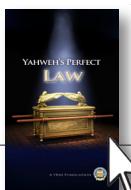
Understanding that the promise in the New Testament is rooted in the same Hebraic faith given to Abraham and the Israelites of the Old Testament is pivotal. When we ignore this fact, we lose perspective of who our Savior was and what He taught. Many people have the notion that the Messiah ushered in a completely new religion based on faith and grace alone with no resemblance to the Hebraic covenant given to the patriarchs of old.

As we've seen from both scholarship and the Bible, this simply is not the case. As Malachi 3:6 states, Yahweh doesn't change. The same Heavenly Father we find in the Old is the same One in the New. He will also be the same in the coming Kingdom, when His Son will reign over this earth.

At this time, Scripture declares that worship, including the commandments, will go out from Jerusalem. Micah in the fourth chapter of his prophecy states, "But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of Yahweh shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, and to the house of the Elohim of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem," verses 1-2.

In the Kingdom, Yahweh's commandments will go out from the epicenter of Yahweh's Kingdom, Jerusalem, and all nations will be required to obey. From other prophetic passages, the Bible verifies that the seventh-day Sabbath, Feasts, and other laws will be enforced, including by the plague of drought, Isaiah 66:23; Ezekiel 45:46; Zechariah 14:16-19.

As the saying goes, the more things change, the more they stay the same. This applies to the Hebraic roots of the true New Testament faith. A Hebraic continuity can be found from Old to New and from the New reaching all the way into the future Kingdom in the coming Millennium.. 



Request our booklet **Yahweh's Perfect Law** for an in-depth look at biblical law in both the Old and New testaments. To read, visit yrm.org/literature.htm
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The Significant 7

by Alan Mansager

Science is discovering that resting one day out of seven is key to physical and mental rejuvenation, good health, and productivity. A cyclical rhythm of sevens is embedded in physical creation, clearly linking Yahweh as the Creator through the significance He places on the sequence of sevens.

Science is learning that living cells operate by a rhythmic clock. This regularity keeps the cell synchronized with other cells, just as it was designed at creation. Scientists in this discipline called chronobiology say seven is the major rhythm in human biology. Many plants, insects, and animals also have biological cycles based on seven.

We humans have at the cellular level internal seven-day clocks regulating and orchestrating our biotic activities like metabolism, maintenance, growth, and reproduction. These sevens, or "septans" lie deep in our neural, metabolic, and hormonal systems.

A seven-day factor is also at work in our immune systems. Polio, small pox and tetanus each begin to show symptoms after seven days. Chickenpox symptoms typically appear 14 days after exposure to the virus, the same with mumps. Ebola has a three-week, 21-day incubation time. All of these immune-defense clocks are built on a time element of seven.

And there's more. The defense response to malaria infection and pneumonia peaks at seven days. In organ transplants like kidneys there is a span of about seven days when the body's immune system may reject the new kidney. It takes seven days for a newborn to fully develop the blood clotting mechanism, and that's why biblical circumcision is practiced on the eighth day (Philippians 3:5).

The sequence of seven is imbedded in the very building blocks of life. Almighty Yahweh wound up the clock of creation and by the time He rested on the seventh day He had left His divine imprint, including the Sabbath, on living systems everywhere.

It's powerful proof of an intelligent Creator.

From the seven days of creation in Genesis to the seven seals of Revelation, the number seven also permeates Scripture.

The Apostle Paul's observation in Romans 1:20 of the miracle of creation is confirmed. For those who deny a Creator, all they need to do is look at the complex design of creation itself.

Paul writes, "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood

by the things that are made, even his eternal power and majesty; so that they are without excuse." King David wrote, "Only the fool says in his heart, 'There is no Elohim'" (Psalm 14:1).

Seventh Day Reigns Supreme

The number seven is, hands down, the most significant number in the Bible. The seventh day is the grand finale of the creation week. Seven is at the center of the weekly Sabbath and annual Feasts. These observances will be celebrated in the coming Kingdom.

But that isn't all. There are Sabbath years called Sabbatical years in the Scripture, and they are key to knowing when the Messiah Yahshua will return in the not-too-distant future.

Yahshua said in Mark 2:27 that the Sabbath was made FOR man. Does that mean we can ignore it or change it? If I say, here, this gift is for you, do I expect you to throw it in the trash?

The Sabbath commandment is the only one of the Ten that says to "remember." It's a throwback to creation week and the special status Yahweh

endowed the seventh day with from the beginning of creation.

Beyond telling us that Sabbath rest is an obligation, the Greek indicates that it is also something imprinted in our being. In the next verse, 28, we read, "Therefore the Son of man is Master also of the Sabbath." John 1:3 says all things were made by Him. He was the active agent that created the universe.

Consider this: maybe He not just created the Sabbath by resting on it, but in the process of creation He also embedded the seven day rhythmic cycle of rest into our DNA and behavior. That gives new meaning to His being the master of the Sabbath, while fashioning the Sabbath literally for mankind.

Psychological studies have shown that we humans don't function well without a day of rest every week. Without it we are more prone to error, suffer more stress and irritability, we don't rest as well, and live shorter lives.

We read in Genesis 2:3 of that first Sabbath rest: "And Elohim blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which Elohim created and made." Clearly the Sabbath is more significant than just a day to stop working. The seventh day is firmly infused into creation itself.

Even Land Must Rest

The spiritual benefits of the Sabbath are even more profound. The Sabbath was given to keep us spiritually synchronized with our Maker and His design. He blessed it, and that blessing is passed on to us when we keep it by ceasing from work as He did.

Our understanding of the importance of the number seven really opens up when we trace some of its uses through the Bible.

We learn early on that the rhythm of seven is a pattern not just for the weekly cycle but also for annual obligations.

Most people are familiar with the term Sabbatical, a time when professors take a leave of absence traditionally every seven years to do research or travel. This concept of taking time off for rest comes right out of the Scriptures. There we find Yahweh's command for a Sabbatical

year, when planting and tilling the fields is to stop, thereby giving the soil a rest every seven years.

This land rest rejuvenates the soil and gives nutrients. Exodus 23:10-11 commands: "And six years thou shalt sow thy land, and shalt gather in the fruits thereof: But the seventh year thou shalt let it rest and lie still; that the poor of thy people may eat: and what they leave the beasts of the field shall eat. In like manner thou shalt deal with thy vineyard, and with thy oliveyard."

If today's agriculture followed the Bible's Sabbatical year land rest, the soil would be much healthier and the use of chemical fertilizers could be reduced or eliminated. Notice that the Sabbatical year is also a system of welfare, where the poor could go out to the fields at harvest time and gather whatever the spontaneous crops had produced. What was left over the wild animals could eat.

Financial Relief

There is another important component of the Sabbatical: financial relief; every seventh year debts were canceled. Any loan was prorated for the time remaining of the seven years.

Deuteronomy 15:1-2 says, "At the

"We learn early on that the rhythm of seven is a pattern not just for the weekly cycle but also for annual obligations."

end of every seven years thou shalt make a release. And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbour shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called Yahweh's release."

Borrowers would not be burdened by heavy debt from a lifetime of financial strain at high interest fees. Throwbacks to the Sabbatical still exist today in the world of finance, where banks hold certain records accessible for seven years while certain financial instruments have a seven-year depreciation clause. Copyrights are good for the life of the holder plus 70 years.

A person is considered an adult with adult privileges at 21 years of age (3 x 7 years).

Anciently, Hebrew slaves were to be freed on the seventh year, Deuteronomy 15:12 tells us.

Jubilant Seven Sevens

It goes even deeper. Every 50 years, after seven Sabbaticals of 49 years, is another great Sabbath year command known as the year of Jubilee. Look up the word jubilee and Webster's will tell you it's a special anniversary of an event, especially one celebrating 25 or 50 years.

Have you ever felt "jubilant"? Maybe you attended a diamond jubilee celebration. These terms are based on the biblical Jubilee. There's even an apocryphal Book of Jubilees.

You find many Jubilees observed around the world at any given moment. And the concept comes right out of the Bible.

In the Scriptures the word "jubilee" is derived from the Hebrew *teruah*, which means "a sound of joy or alarm." It was the ram's horn or shofar trumpet that announced the beginning of the Jubilee year.

Leviticus 25:9 says: "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."

The biblical Jubilee comes after seven cycles of seven, and was a time when the land was to go back to its original owner. This ensured that the tribes of Israel did not lose their promised inheritance.

The law of the Sabbatical and Jubilee years is one of the more intriguing subjects in Scripture.

Important events of history and prophecy are tied up in these specially sanctified times.

Feasts Rest on Sevens

Yahweh's days are universally overlooked, in the same way the first day of the biblical month is ignored today, even when the thin new moon crescent appears visibly in the sky and shouts to all the earth, "This is the first day of the month."

This natural phenomenon goes right over most heads today because the moon has been factored out of our Gregorian solar calendar.

Much more significance remains with the number seven. We find throughout the year seven sacred observances that Yahweh commanded His people to celebrate as part of His covenant with us.

These Feasts or holy days are the only annual observances given in the Scriptures. Holiday is a contraction of the words "holy day." Each is tied firmly to the number seven either in when they occur or in their length of observance. The Feast of Unleavened Bread in the spring and the Feast of Tabernacles in the fall are each seven-day observances.

"The trumpet call of the Jubilee directly parallels the trumpet that will announce the return of the Messiah Yahshua to this earth, which prophecy and Yahshua Himself indicated will occur on either a Sabbatical or a Jubilee year."

Four of these observances are in the seventh biblical month. They are: the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day.

Prophetic Keys in Feasts

If you want to understand the prophetic plan for this earth and the return of the Savior, important keys to both are the Feast days. Each reveals facets of the Messiah's coming and the setting up of His kingdom on earth in the future Messianic age. Each gives insight into what's ahead for this world.

They are the only holidays sanctioned in the Bible. They were all observed by Israel in the Old Testament, kept by the Savior and His apostles in the New Testament, were taught by the apostles, and will be enforced in the coming Kingdom.

As critical to Yahweh's Truth as these

days are, the vast majority of Bible believers are ignorant of them, just as 2Peter 3 describes most people in a different context.

Along with the seventh day of the week, these seven annual observances have been neglected or mostly ignored through the centuries by the vast majority of Bible believers and self-confessed followers of Scripture.

In every key aspect of our existence we see a prominent rhythm of sevens. We see it in Yahweh's physical creation, in His command to pause and worship, in His salvation plan, in the prophetic timetable – sevens are everywhere.

Unlike our months and years, our seven-day week has no astronomical basis; you can't look to the sky or out into space and determine the starting and ending of a week. There is no planet, star, sun or moon that sets the weekly Sabbath. The Sabbath is based totally on what Yahweh put into effect at creation when He rested on the seventh day. It was Yahweh alone who gave each week a starting point and an ending point.

The week is divine.

Like the institution of marriage and family, Yahweh Himself established the Sabbath in Eden. That is why He is called the master of the Sabbath.

Sabbath Untweakable

Even the calendar on your wall continues this biblical institution of ending the week on the Sabbath. Our week that begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday is the same consecutive order of days in effect for thousands of years. The Sabbaths that Abraham, Moses, and King David observed are in the very same weekly sequence that still operates today.

None of the days of the week have gotten out of the weekly order.

Some have argued that the Sabbath sequence was altered in the switcheroo from the Julian to today's Gregorian calendar,

named after Pope Gregory XIII. The problem was that by 1752 the Julian calendar, named for Julius Caesar, had drifted out of sync with the seasons as it moved slower than today's calendar.

To catch the calendar back up with astronomical reality, 11 days (dates) were dropped in the new Gregorian calendar, creating an irregular month. But even with the loss of dates, the Sabbath cycle didn't change.

The seven-day week has been in force worldwide from creation, although some cultures have tried to alter it., France and Russia being two of them. Both of their secular attempts to change the week failed.

Deuteronomy 5:15 in the restatement of the 4th commandment, gives some additional insights into the larger concept of "Sabbath."

"And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore Yahweh thy Elohim commanded thee to keep the sabbath day."

Why does He bring the issue of slavery in conjunction with the Sabbath? Because on specific Sabbath years slaves or bond servants were set free. That is, on the Sabbatical every seventh year, and on the Jubilee, which falls every 50th year. The Jubilee is also a Sabbath year. On this 50th year Sabbath, slaves were given their freedom.

Israel was taken into captivity for 70 years for not keeping the land Sabbath. The lesson is that not keeping the Sabbath, either weekly or annually, leads to slavery in various ways. By not keeping the weekly Sabbath, slavery to the world and all its pressures and enticements is fortified.

Yahweh did two key actions with the Sabbath at creation: "He blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it," Genesis 2:3. In doing these He established its significance throughout the rest of Scripture and history. He sanctified it or set it apart as completely given over to Him. This is the essence of the Fourth Commandment, which mandates the complete cessation of all mundane work and the total devotion to Yahweh Himself.

Now, the trumpet call of the Jubilee directly parallels the trumpet that will announce the return of the Messiah Yahshua to this earth, which prophecy and Yahshua Himself indicated will occur on either a Sabbatical or a Jubilee year. Being on the

Jubilee could explain why Yahweh let Israel lose track of the Jubilee so that no one would determine the time of the Savior's return.

In Luke 4:18 we read that on a weekly Sabbath in Nazareth, Yahshua went into the synagogue and read from Isaiah 61:1-2:

"The spirit of Yahweh is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the glad tidings to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of Yahweh."

"Preach" here means to proclaim after the manner of a herald, always with the suggestion of formality, gravity and authority. It is more than just talking; more than just teaching. The terminology fits perfectly the significance of the trumpet sound proclaiming the Jubilee at Atonement.

In quoting Isaiah 61, Yahshua stopped in the middle of verse 2, which demonstrates that as the fulfillment of this prophecy that He was now calling people out of the world to become His followers. The end of the verse refers to the Day of Judgment, which at that time obviously was far into the future.

Here we can see how Yahshua rightly divided the word. The "acceptable year" refers to the beginning of the Jubilee year as the welcome year. Another translation refers to it as Yahweh's amnesty year.

Note what the *Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary* says, "Acceptable year – an allusion to the Jubilee year (Lev.

25:10), a year of universal release for person and property."

Wesley's Notes adds, "The acceptable year – plainly alluding to the year of Jubilee, when all, both debtors and servants, were set free."

Yahshua came to preach the Good News to the meek and humble, those whose hearts were soft and teachable. To give them the truth to set them free.

The Jubilee is couched in the middle of a directive in Leviticus 25 to keep the Sabbatical year. The Jubilee is marked by:

- land rest
- land going back to the original owner
- Israelite slaves freed

In quoting Isaiah 61 Yahshua said, "This day is the Scripture fulfilled in your ears." It indicates that He was speaking on the Jubilee year and that He Himself would accomplish this. It hints that He began His ministry on the Jubilee.

Death Penalty Paid

The Jubilee is all about freedom. He frees us by releasing us from the death penalty if we repent and follow Him.

The universal mantra in religious venues everywhere is that obedience to the Word is unnecessary and even a bad thing. The reasoning is that if you try you are rejecting what your Savior did for you.

Yahshua offers for your sins, you have nothing to worry about. We are all sinful enough that we cannot achieve sinlessness on our own. We will always need Yahshua's blood to cover our disobedience. At the same time we are to strive to walk in Yahshua's footsteps of obedience.

John 12:49-50 in the NIV reads, "For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say."

Yahweh insisted on obedience to the law throughout the Old Testament, and Malachi 3:6 says He does not change. Yahshua simply took those commands and lived them as an example of righteousness for everyone to follow. He kept the Sabbath, Feasts, Ten Commandments, moral law – everything commanded by Yahweh His father.

He did it all for a reason, not just to prove that He could. He was without sin. Even the law of sacrifice He adhered to and ultimately satisfied with His own blood.

He led His life to show you and me that this is what His Father expects of us. He applied His Father's statutes in all aspects of life as He experienced them. That way we could use His example in your own lives and experiences.

If you buy into the notion that obedience is wrong, then you are not

following the law-keeping, law-loving example of your obedient Savior who has the power to grant your salvation.

Just as He was cut off (meaning died) in the middle of the week as He foretold, so Yahshua left unsaid the rest of Isaiah 61:2, which tells of the vengeance that would follow His return. Note the latter part of this verse:

"And the day of vengeance of our



But what did Yahshua tell the young man in Matthew 19:17? "If you will enter into life, keep the commandments." He said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments," John 14:15.

What did He mean by "His" commandments? Was He changing what His Father had already given?

If you are concerned that becoming obedient will take away the forgiveness

Elohim; to comfort all that mourn" (Isa. 61:1-2). He's not returning with smiles and hugs all around. He'll be swinging a sword against the unrighteous, Revelation 1:16.

A Key Lost and Found

There is no record that Israel or Judah faithfully kept all the Sabbaticals and Jubilees, and therefore we have little to go on in determining when they should be kept. Regardless, Yahweh knows our desire to do the best we can in obedience. These times will be enforced when His Kingdom comes to earth.

Daniel 9 begins with a reference to the 70 years of Judah's Babylonian captivity. The reason they were sentenced to a captivity of 70 years is that they had not kept 70 Sabbatical years and had to catch up (Lev. 26:34-35, 43; 2Chr. 36:21-23).

The chapter begins with a reference to the missed Sabbatical years in 70 Sabbatical cycles, and ends with a discussion of another 70 Sabbatical cycles.

The weekly Sabbath every seven days, the Sabbatical year every seven years, and Jubilees coming after every 7×7 years as well as the 1,000-year reign following 6,000 years of man are each a part of Yahweh's system.

Yahweh marks weeks, holy days, years, and millennia in bundles of sevens. The word 'week' in Hebrew is the same as the number 7, *shabua*. It literally means "sevened."

Shabua has a dual meaning as well, and also connotes oaths. Yahweh is telling us by this word with two meanings that a powerful relationship exists between the number seven, representing Sabbaths, and an oath.

Is it any wonder then that the Sabbath is a sign between Yahweh and His people? It is a sign of the oath or covenant.

We can go even further. You could say the Feast of Weeks or *Shabuot* is a feast of oaths. His law by most accounts was given on the Feast of Weeks as well as the Holy Spirit in the New Testament to enable obedience to that law. You become eligible for that spirit when you obey Him, Acts 5:32. With both His Spirit and His laws working in you, you become a part of a sacred oath or covenant as His people.

Sevens in the Feasts

The feasts of the Biblical calendar are also marked by seven days, which is the length of both the feast of unleavened (bread) and of the feast of tabernacles. Pentecost (seven times seven days plus one), or the feast of weeks, is celebrated seven weeks from unleavened bread.



The commands for these days are found in Exodus 12 and 23, and Leviticus 23.

With many important meanings and lessons, Yahweh's Sabbaths are also great equalizers. On the 7th day, for example, both the powerful and the weak become irrelevant, as even the ox is liberated and given the same day of rest.

To counter any greed, on the 7th year debts are forgiven. And to counter over-farming, the land rests on the 7th year. After 7×7 years all debts are forgiven and lands are then returned to the original owners. That insures that property rights remain in a family and the land specially given by Yahweh to the various tribes remained with them.

Today some Torah-observant Jews will lease their land to a gentile for the year, thinking they can skirt the Sabbatical Law. Biblical laws were not given to appease Yahweh but are for the benefit of the individual, family, and community (1John 5:3). We defeat their purpose when we evade them.

Yahweh's Laws for Our Good

Yahweh says don't eat fat. We now know that fat contributes to all kinds of health problems.

Yahweh says don't eat swine. Science has learned that the omnivorous pig is a natural-born incubator, allowing viruses to jump the species gap between beast and man.

The Bible has been proven invaluable by modern science when it says let the land rest and re-nourish for a year to rebuild the soil naturally. Many enlightened farmers today allow their fields to lie fallow for the same reason.

These are only a few ways that Yahweh's laws benefit us physically. But the spiritual benefits are far greater. Paul told Timothy, "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Messiah Yahshua," 2Timothy 3:15.

We can't take Yahweh's commands lightly, thinking they were made only for someone else, like the Jews. They apply to all ages and all people.

The magnificent number seven is a profound key to Yahweh's design in the universe and in His faith.

In Yahweh We Trust

by Joel Wirl

Troubles are all a part of life; it's something that no one can escape. If you are alive, then you have problems. So with that in mind, what can we do about it? Should problems just hit us as we passively take them or are there some action steps in dealing with these challenges?

To answer these questions let's look at an example from Yahshua in Mark 4:35-41. The passage reads, "And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish? And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, what manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

First consider where Yahshua and His disciples were. It reads that they passed over to the other side. The other side of what? We know that they were in a boat and their destination according to Mark 6:1 was the country of the Gadarenes, which is called Gadara. Therefore if you reference a map of the area, Yahshua and His disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee.

This is not surprising, since Yahshua used this sea many times during His ministry

to travel to the various cities in the area.

Continuing on in the passage, a great storm came upon these men so much so that the disciples thought they were going to sink. Most of the disciples of Yahshua were fishermen. Simon Peter, Andrew his brother, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother were all fishermen by trade.

Luke 8:22 says that Yahshua was in the boat with His disciples, so at least one of these men in the boat with Yahshua must have been a fisherman. Fishermen are used to dealing with the sea and the storms that come upon them, so this must have been a really huge storm for these men to panic under such conditions.

Fearing for their lives, they woke Yahshua from His sleep. Yahshua, waking ever so calmly, said, "Peace be still," and the storm ceased. He then responded to His disciples by saying, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"

Yahshua could not understand why they were so afraid. He was with them, so they ought to have had faith that everything was going to work out okay. He rebuked them for their lack of faith and trust in Him.

Personal Storm

The disciples in these verses faced a literal storm, a physical danger. Now we may not face an actual storm like these men, yet I would say that we are all going through some metaphorical storm right now, represented by a trial or trouble we are having to weather. Perhaps it's finances, relationships, health, job, or some other part of life troubling us.

Also, we all face the looming storm of evil that is attacking our freedoms and

morality in this country. We have our own problems that we face daily, and then we have to feel the crushing weight of things seemingly getting worse day by day with violence and wickedness increasing while morality is decreasing.

These are serious issues that should not be downplayed, yet focusing so much on these is not the solution. Stressing too much on the storms we face can lead to a lack of faith. It did for the disciples and it can for us, too. We are not exempt from falling into this pattern.

It all comes down to what we focus our energy and thoughts upon. If we can change our focus then we can stop worrying so much about what hits us in life and more about trusting in Yahweh.

Realize Who Is in Your Boat

What can we do to keep our trust in Yahweh? We can remember who is in our boat. The disciples were in the boat with Yahshua, the son of Yahweh, who was given authority from Yahweh Himself. With one word Yahshua could have called a host of angels to His and the others' aid. And even if one of these men had fallen out of the boat and drowned, Yahshua had the authority to bring him back from the dead.

Don't forget what Yahweh can do, and what Yahshua can do through Yahweh His Father. Because this same Yahshua who was in this first century boat is the same One who is with us through the good and bad in our lives. We don't need to go at our problems alone. We have a Heavenly Father and a Savior there for us. In Romans 8:35, 38-39, Paul spoke these words of the love of Yahweh

and Yahshua toward us.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Messiah? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword...for I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of Yahweh, which is in Messiah Yahshua our Master."

When going through troubles, focus on His power, His Word, and His promises. The promises He made to us are throughout the Bible:

- Psalm 50:15 reads, "And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."
- Psalm 34:7 says, "The angel of Yahweh emcampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."
- Psalm 103:17 tells us, "But the mercy of Yahweh is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children."

This is just scratching the surface of the promises He makes to us, which are true and

the fact that they saw the plagues in Egypt, the parting of the Red Sea, the manna falling from heaven, and many more miracles, they still lacked faith.

Hebrews 3:12, 16-19 speaks of unbelief: "Take heed brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living Elohim...for some, when they had heard did provoke, howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. But with whom was he grieved forty years? Was it not with them that had sinned whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not. So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief."

You see, it goes back to where our focus lies. The Israelites could not get past this and were always eager to complain about what they were going through. They could have looked to Yahweh for help, and for salvation, but instead were too caught up in their problems.

Now because you remember that Yahweh is with you and you believe that He can do all things, does this mean that you will not face any more troubles? Of course not. The Bible

to them who are the called according to his purpose."

We must believe this to be true, that Yahweh works out the bad things for good to those that love Him. It doesn't say that it will be easy, or that difficulties are fun, but everything will work out in some way whether it is in this life or in the life to come. But for this to happen we must love Yahweh, we must trust in Yahweh, and we must believe in Him fully with all our heart, soul, and mind.

Yahweh can do all things. He has allowed trials to come into your life, and He can make them go away. No matter what happens, we need to keep our faith in Him.

In the book, *The Hiding Place*, author Corrie ten Boom speaks about her imprisonment in Nazi concentration camps as she helped save many Jews from imprisonment and death. While she was in the camp, she and her sister, Besie, got moved to another building that was infested with fleas.

Corrie was frustrated with the situation, but her sister kept reminding her of the passage in 1 Thessalonians 5:16 about rejoicing in everything. Corrie, though, could not find any way to be thankful for the fleas.

While in this new building Corrie and Besie started to speak about the Good News from the Bibles they had hidden from the guards, reaching many of the women and giving them hope. Typically the guards would not stand for such activity, especially one that was religious, yet these guards did not bother their meetings. They continued on, yet still wondered why they were given this strange treatment.

As time passed, Besie got sick and had to be moved to the camp hospital. Corrie, wanting to visit her sister, sneaked through the camp and into the hospital. Besie was overjoyed to see Corrie and had even more exciting news of her own. Besie had found out why the guards left them alone and gave them the freedom they had in that building. It was because of the fleas. The guards didn't want to get the fleas on themselves and so they stayed away.

If that's not a story of good coming from a terrible situation then what is?

Let's use these lessons to guide our thoughts and actions and to keep our focus off of everything that is going wrong and to think on Him who can make things right.

Don't ignore problems, just take action according to your belief and faith in Yahweh rather than reacting with fear and frustration. 

"Yahweh can do all things. He has allowed these trials to come into your life, and He can make them go away. No matter what happens, we need to keep our faith in Him."

sure. It can bring great comfort in knowing that Yahweh is there for all of us.

Trust and Believe

Looking back at the scene of Yahshua and His disciples in the boat, the second thing the disciples needed was trust and belief in Yahshua. If they would have looked at Him, seen Him for who He was, and then believed, they would not have panicked.

Thinking about the promises of Yahweh and what He can do are amazing, yet it is incomplete by itself. It must be combined with belief and trust that He can do these things and that He truly is the most powerful being in the universe.

Without this faith, this belief in Yahweh, it is impossible to please Yahweh, according to Hebrews 11:6. If we want to please Him, we must believe.

The Israelites coming out from Egypt were constantly plagued by unbelief. Despite

says that in the coming tribulation many saints will be killed for their convictions.

Life is filled with unfairness. It seems that those who do wrong get away with what they've done, while those who try to do what is right are continually beset with challenges. If you look at it just from where we are now and the perspective of this time, then yes, things can be drummed up as being quite bad at times.

Keep hope and keep your trust in Yahweh because though life may be challenging, Yahweh will set all things right in the Kingdom. If you keep your mind on the eternal, the life where things will last, then it is easier to handle the problems in this life.

Yahweh's Work for Good

No matter what happens or has happened to you, Yahweh does this for a reason. Romans 8:28 reads, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love Elohim,

In Search of the Scriptural Easter

by Alan Mansager



With the Christmas extravaganza now a distant memory, churches are busily gearing up for their next observance—the celebration of the Savior's resurrection.

As with Christmas, Easter is another major celebration that features an odd blend of biblical, mythical, and irreligious themes: chalices, crosses, and colored eggs; bonnets, bunnies, and Bibles; hymns and hams; sun worship and Son worship.

The uninformed may think it peculiar that Yahweh would require His people today to eat unleavened bread for a week following the Passover. Yet they find nothing weird about observing the Savior's resurrection by searching church lawns and forests for painted and candied eggs... supposedly laid by RABBITS!

Mythology and tradition aside for a moment, let's do our own search—for the scriptural Easter, if there be one.

One Verse in One Version

A peculiar fact jumps out immediately. In a careful examination of the Bible we discover the word Easter in only ONE verse and in just ONE translation: Acts 12:4 in the *King James Version*. It reads, "...intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people." Other versions translate Acts 12:4 using the correct term Passover, including: *The New King James Bible; New American Standard Bible; New International Version; Revised Standard Version, and New English Bible.*

Amazing, isn't it? Easter is the

second biggest religious celebration of the Bible-professing world. Yet, its only scriptural support is one word mistranslated one time in one version.

Apostles Never Indulged in Easter

You don't have to hunt deeply to learn that no one in the Scriptures ever observed Easter. No Apostle colored eggs and hid them for children to find. Rather, even in the New Testament the Apostolic Assembly continued with the biblical Holy Days commanded in Exodus 12 and Leviticus 23. Our Savior died at Passover as the ultimate Passover sacrifice, Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 5:7.

Even secular sources know the truth. The Eleventh Edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* affirms, "There is no indication of the observances of the Easter festival in the New Testament or in the writings of the apostolic Fathers... The first Christians continued to observe the Jewish festivals, though in a new spirit, as commemorations of events which those festivals had foreshadowed" ("Easter," vol. 8. p. 828).

Yahweh's Feast days were the only yearly observances that the early New Testament Assembly observed.

Writing in *Bible Review*, Delbert L. Achuff, Jr., a retired Episcopal minister, wondered what would happen if Yahshua were to return to earth to worship today. "He would probably be amazed at what the worshipers accredited to Him. The accretions from having passed through several cultures would puzzle this peasant Jew who said He came 'to fulfil the Law, not to destroy it'

(Matt. 5:17).

"St. Paul too is understood in a whole new light when seen as a Jew who is a member of the new sect, defending his new understandings of Torah and relationship with [Yahweh]. Later he calls it the New Covenant, but the word (*b'rith* in the Hebrew) is meaningless if one does not know the Old Covenant."

Resurrection Never Celebrated

Clerics cite Acts 2 as the start of the New Testament Assembly. But they neglect the reason that the Apostles and disciples were gathered that day. It was in observance of the command in Leviticus 23 to keep the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)—one of the seven annual holy days!

Nowhere do we find a biblical injunction to observe the Savior's resurrection as a special holiday. The command was and always will be to keep the memorial of His death at Passover. Besides, He had already risen before the Sabbath ended on Saturday.

Yahweh will one day teach mankind that He is the only true Mighty One. They will learn—through plague, if necessary—that pagan abominations like Ishtar (Easter) will not be tolerated. And man will one day discover what True Worship is all about and what blessings can be his if he will only be obedient not to the world—but to the Word.

To learn more about the origins of Easter, go to: yrm.org/celebrating_easter.htm. You can also request the booklet, *Easter, the Fertility of It All* from the address at the back of this issue.



Request our booklet **Easter the Fertility of It All** for an in-depth look at this holiday with roots in paganism.
To read, visit yrm.org/literature.htm To request, see back cover for details

Answers in Scripture



Q

I believe Jesus' real name is Yahshua. But why do people receive help and blessings when they use the name Jesus, even me?

A

In calling people to His Truth, Yahweh has to start at a person's point of understanding. Imagine you were unaware of the sacred Name and all you knew was "Jesus." If none of your prayers that were offered sincerely but in ignorance were answered, you likely would give up on whatever faith you may have had in the Word. Yahshua said in Matthew 7:9: "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone?"

John 9:31 says Yahweh does not hear sinners. Obviously He makes exceptions for those turning to Him and seeking His will or He would not have answered prayers from anyone. Do we need to be perfect in understanding and sinless in life before He will hear us? Of course not. But once we understand the Truth we must walk in all the light we are given.

As for John 9:31, this was said in the context of a plea to Yahweh, not a vow. See the parallel passages of 1John 3:22 and Psalm 34:15-17. The unpardonable sin is a total rejection of Yahweh, which is blasphemy of the Holy Spirit, Mark 3:29. Matthew 12:31.

By His patient grace Yahweh allows us space to grow in understanding as we progress in the Truth. He says He winks at our ignorance (Acts 17:30), but once we know and understand, then He expects compliance to His will.

King David told his son Solomon in 1Chronicles 28:9, "And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the Elohim of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for Yahweh searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever."

We can attest that we have had far greater answers to prayer asked in the Name Yahshua than in prayers made before we knew the Name. The litmus test of truth is not in answered prayer anyway, but in Scripture itself. Even in His own prayer Yahshua prayed, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth," John 17:17.

Q

I have been told that the Jewish Star of David has origins in paganism. Is that true?

A

According to the Restoration Study Bible note on Acts 7:43, some have said that the six-pointed star of David is rooted in the ancient idol Remphan, the Egyptian and Greek equivalent of the heathen star god Chiun (See also Amos 5:26 in reference to Saturn worship, which was in vogue in the days of the prophet, *ISBE*). Some sources say that this star, which is composed of two triangles inserted into each other, symbolizes

Q

I understand that my baptism is not valid, being it was not done into Yahshua's Name. Is my marriage valid, being my wedding vows were not done in the sacred Name?

A

If only wedding vows from believers are acceptable and binding in Yahweh's eyes, then 99.99% of everyone married today and in past ages

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are not actually married but living in sin. Yet, the Bible says nothing about marriage being valid only with believers. Paul talks of unbelieving “husbands” and “wives” in 1Corinthians 7:12-14.

In Matthew 19:9 Yahshua said that whosoever shall put away his wife commits adultery. He didn’t differentiate the believer from the unbeliever. When the Scriptures talk about a pagan king’s mate, or the mate of any other unbeliever, they refer to her as his wife, not his illicit partner or something similar (Esther 6:13, Luke 3:19, etc.).

When the Pharisees asked Yahshua in Matthew 19 about a man’s divorcing his wife, they didn’t specify whether that man was a believer, and neither did Yahshua’s response. Nor did He dismiss the question with something like, “Well, you Pharisees aren’t baptized believers so my teaching on marriage does not apply to you or those like you.”

Ecclesiastes 5:4 says that when you make a vow, defer not to pay it. It doesn’t differentiate who is making the vow in order for it to be binding in Yahweh’s eyes. Taken to the next level, if all of Yahweh’s laws and precepts apply only to baptized believers, then the rest of the world is free to break them with impunity, including the Ten Commandments, and not be judged.

In 1Corinthians 7:15, “bondage” is the Greek *douloo* and refers to conjugal duties under marriage, not to the laws and restrictions governing the institution of marriage itself.

Q On one of your programs you mentioned that at the second resurrection some will get a second chance to make a choice. This is a very new teaching and I would like to check it out with some Bible verses.

A There are two resurrections. The first is mentioned in 1Thessalonians 4:16 and is a resurrection to spirit life. It precedes the Millennial reign of Yahshua and occurs when He returns to earth. Paul calls it the resurrection of the just, Acts 24:15. Those in this resurrection will be given a position in the Kingdom to reign in the Millennium.

The second resurrection follows the Millennium and is a resurrection to

physical life, ultimately followed by the Great White Throne Judgment. This second resurrection is found in Revelation 20:5-6. It is not a second chance, but a first chance, when those who were not in the first resurrection because they were not called or were in ignorance can come to know and understand the truth, follow it, and then be judged favorably or unfavorably when their lives are over. Paul calls it the resurrection of the unjust (Acts 24:15) because they were not found worthy for the first resurrection, either because of ignorance or rejection of the Truth. This is explained in our online study, *The Two Resurrections* (http://yrm.org/two_resurrections.htm)



If the confirmation of the new moon of Abib is a day later this year, the Passover will change to a Sabbath. Will that also change the count to Pentecost this year?



The count to the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost will remain unchanged. The key to the count is the wavesheaf of firstfruits offered on the day following the weekly Sabbath, which would be the Sunday that falls within the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Many confuse the start of the count, thinking that the weekly Sabbath must fall within the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The weekly Sabbath only defines the day on which to start the count, meaning the Sunday that falls within the Feast of Unleavened Bread.



I was listening to this guy mentioning that the Name YAHWEH was not in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Of course I was curious so I looked myself and found Yahweh’s Name there, and was relieved. But I couldn’t find Yahshua’s name there. How come?



Did you look up “Jesus Christ”? The 1974 edition of the *Britannica* says that his Hebrew name is Yesu. The *Britannica* Eleventh edition says, “An educated Greek...would have known that ‘Jesus’ was the Greek form of Joshua.” The *Encyclopedia Americana* does a little better job. Under “Jesus Christ,” it reads that Matthew 1:21 “interprets the

name (originally Joshua, that is Yahweh is salvation).” Realizing that His name is the same as the Old Testament Joshua, with the “J” corrected to the “Y” because there was no J in the Hebrew, we can begin to see His true Name come through.

As the *Americana* points out, it is connected to Yahweh. Being that His Name means “Yahweh is salvation,” He would at least have Yah in His Name. Because the Greek lacks the “sh” form, it uses “s” instead.

It takes a bit of sleuthing to ferret out the historical truth of the Name because of 2,000 years of erroneous church tradition, subterfuge, and the popularity of error. Add to that a blind fear of profaning the holiest Name in the universe and we are left with a Latinized-Greek replacement.



In Acts 5:3 Peter accuses Ananias of lying to the Holy Spirit. Isn’t this proof that the Holy Spirit is a person?



The Holy Spirit and Yahweh are at times used interchangeably in the Scriptures through a literary device called personification. Such is the case here. The next verse, 4, reads, “...why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto Elohim.” Peter clarifies by saying that Ananias has lied to Yahweh. Ananias’ fleshly desire took control of his heart, which should have remained under the influence of Yahweh through His Holy Spirit. A lie to the Spirit is the same as a lie to Yahweh.

If the Holy Spirit is a person, then why do we find:

- the Holy Spirit unnamed in Scripture
- no one praying to the Holy Spirit
- no word “Trinity” in Scripture
- the Spirit permeating everything
- the Spirit flowing like water
- the Spirit descending like a dove
- the Spirit being poured out
- part of the Spirit given at baptism
- the Spirit given in measure
- the Spirit hovering in Genesis 1
- the Spirit imparted by Yahshua’s breath

(For more information see our booklet, *Identifying Father, Son, and Holy Spirit* (<http://yrm.org/trinity-fact-fiction.htm>)



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"The RSB opened my eyes to truths that were never taught. I am blessed by the RSB but it also has taught me how much of a sinner I am. So many years of bad teachings of the Word of Yahweh have left me feeling that I will have no part in the First Resurrection, nor will I pass the Second Resurrection. I have been too long a sinner to have much hope but I am trying. I wish this flesh was not so abundant in weakness. I could never be worthy of everlasting life even though I am trying to change a life of poor teachings. I need a true Baptism and I know that it has to be done by your assembly. You all are the only ones that prove what you say. I have NEVER had teachers like all of you. I pray that Yahweh brings abundant blessings to you all." - BB

When we are immersed into Yahshua's Name all our past sins are washed away and we are a new creature in Messiah. Do not worry about your past sins or ignorance. Continue on course and Yahweh will bless you. Yahweh loves His covenant people and is more than willing to forgive if we repent. You are clearly repentant of your past. That, along with baptism, is sufficient. Now live for Him.- ED

Lessons Coming Through on DTT

Just wanted to say again to YRM what a great job you do on Discover the Truth series. I receive it on a Angel One via satellite television. I enjoy it, and always feel I have received a great lesson from Yahweh through you. I pray for your assembly, and that you may continue blessing us followers through your DTT program. — RM and AJ

Impressed with the Messages

"I just listened to your DVDs I got today. One was defending the faith, the other was on tithing. I was really impressed with both of them. I have never heard the sacred Names of the Father and His Son until a couple of years ago. I have known about the man-made holidays for many years and I stopped observing them. Enclosed is a donation. I hope it will help." — PP, NY

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.

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Restoration Study Bible Comments

· "As a Study Bible this one is TOP NOTCH! Love the study helps located in convenient places throughout the text. Very clean text, and is set up nice." - Anonymous

· "This (RSB) Bible is free of any man-made doctrines. It is based on the KJV with the Sacred Names finally restored, and includes invaluable and authoritative study helps such as Strong's Concordance. I am just beginning my study of the RSB now as I write this, but if I could only have one Bible then this would be it. It sheds light on my own faith and I believe great things are going to come out of it. The seller (YRM) is extremely courteous and I strongly recommend these Scriptures if you are in search for that right Bible." - MI

· "Adore this book! It makes scripture come alive and I love the fact I can look in the back to see what a word means in the text it was written." - EA

· "I learned more from just reading the footnotes in the RSB than I did in 25 years attending a Sabbath-keeping group!" - RM

· "My boyfriend gave me this Bible as a gift and it is wonderful. There are charts to explain certain things, and in the beginning of the Bible it explains the many ways that Yahweh's name is written in." - Anonymous

—
"I was raised Catholic. I never knew the name Yahweh and didn't understand many things found in the Bible. My friend took me to her non-denominational church, and I never turned back. I love the features of saying "Yahweh and Elohim" instead of the lies I've been shown growing up." - JO

"I have been watching Discover the Truth for several months. I gain several new insights every week that I can apply to my life. More people should tune in to hear the truth of the Bible. The Bible I am currently using consists of the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs. I am saving my money to

buy a good study Bible. Could you please recommend a good study Bible? Should I invest in a concordance, dictionary, and atlas?" - RC

You really need an upgrade. We recommend the Restoration Study Bible.

"I am so glad I found this ministry! Just by searching "bible truths that have been changed" in Google I found your articles and information I found agreeable. It's been so discouraging believing in God and wanting to connect and understand this existence but all the churches out there preach mostly lies. Thankfully I have found that there are still those who hold on to truth. I'll be looking through your videos on Youtube and tuning in on Saturday! Thanks for being genuine!"

- SS

Notice to Students of Yahweh's Word:

If you liked the second edition of the Restoration Study Bible you will be greatly blessed by the third. The third edition of the of the new RSB is several Bibles in one.

We are offering three attractive cover choices along with the option of imprinting your name on the cover for personalization and identification.

We don't anticipate another version for some time to come, so if you want a self-contained study Bible that restores the Sacred Name and offers in-depth, scholarly notes that also go into the Hebrew and Greek behind the text, as well as Strong's dictionaries, this Bible fills the need. - ED

Looking for Local Worship?

Our latest initiative for outlying Sabbath worship is in the Los Angeles area. We are holding weekly services each Saturday at 1:30 pm at the Follow Your Heart Center, 21835 Sherman Way, Canoga Park, California.

Our other outreach meeting initiatives are in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and Tottenham in south central Ontario, Canada.

Please call YRM beforehand for more details on each of these meeting cities. Tele. 573-896-1000



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Watch the Discover the Truth Television program nationwide every week as Hosts Alan Mansager and Randy Folliard bring back historic biblical truths that have been lost or ignored since the 1st century CE. The truths are rooted in the Old Testament and continue today through the New Testament revelation brought by the Messiah Yahshua.

Visit DiscovertheTruth.tv to watch all the latest programs.

Church Channel "Nationwide" (DirecTV channel 371, Dish Network channel 258, various Cable outlets) Saturdays 6:30 pm CT (7:30pm ET, and 4:30 pm PT)

Angel One Channel "Nationwide" (Dish Network channel 262) Sundays 11:00 am CT (12:00 pm ET, and 9:00 am PT).

CW-Plus "Nationwide" (on various channels, see channel guide for your area) Sundays 6:00 am CT, MT and 7:00 am ET, PT

Mid-Missouri CW (Digital 8.3) Sundays 9:00 am CT

Mid-Missouri KOMU, NBC (Digital 8.1) Sundays 5:30 am CT

Mid-Missouri KRCG, CBS (Digital 13.1) Sundays 6:30 am CT

Roku - "Worldwide" Roku boxes are available at most major retailers, including Walmart, Target, Best Buy, Sam's, and online merchants like Amazon. Our Discover the Truth channel on Roku is free.

Youtube Channel- "Worldwide" Watch all our latest programs from your computer or smart phone: youtube.com/yrmsstaff Subscribe and get all the latest updates!