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# RESTORATION TIMES



Pentecost  
A Harvest Before the Harvest

# RESTORATION TIMES

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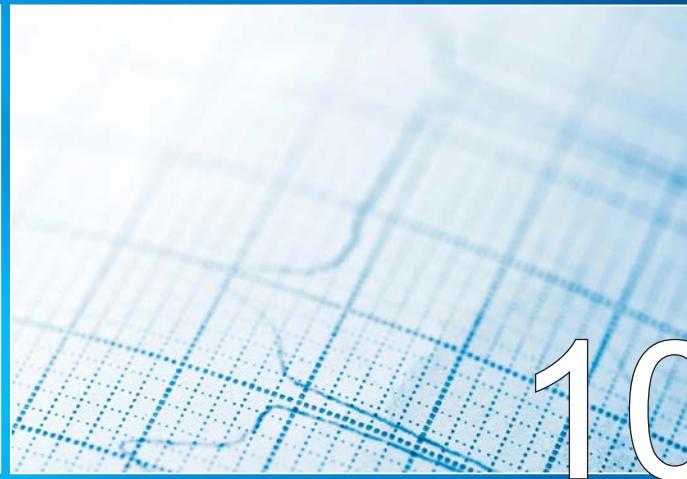


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Restoration Times expounds the close ties between the Old and New Testaments. We teach the continuity and harmony that extend from Yahweh's actions anciently down through His present activity in Yahshua the Messiah. This was also the conviction of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

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### COVER:

Multiple combines harvesting a field. Pentecost is the early harvest, typifying the early first-fruit harvest before the general harvest in the fall.

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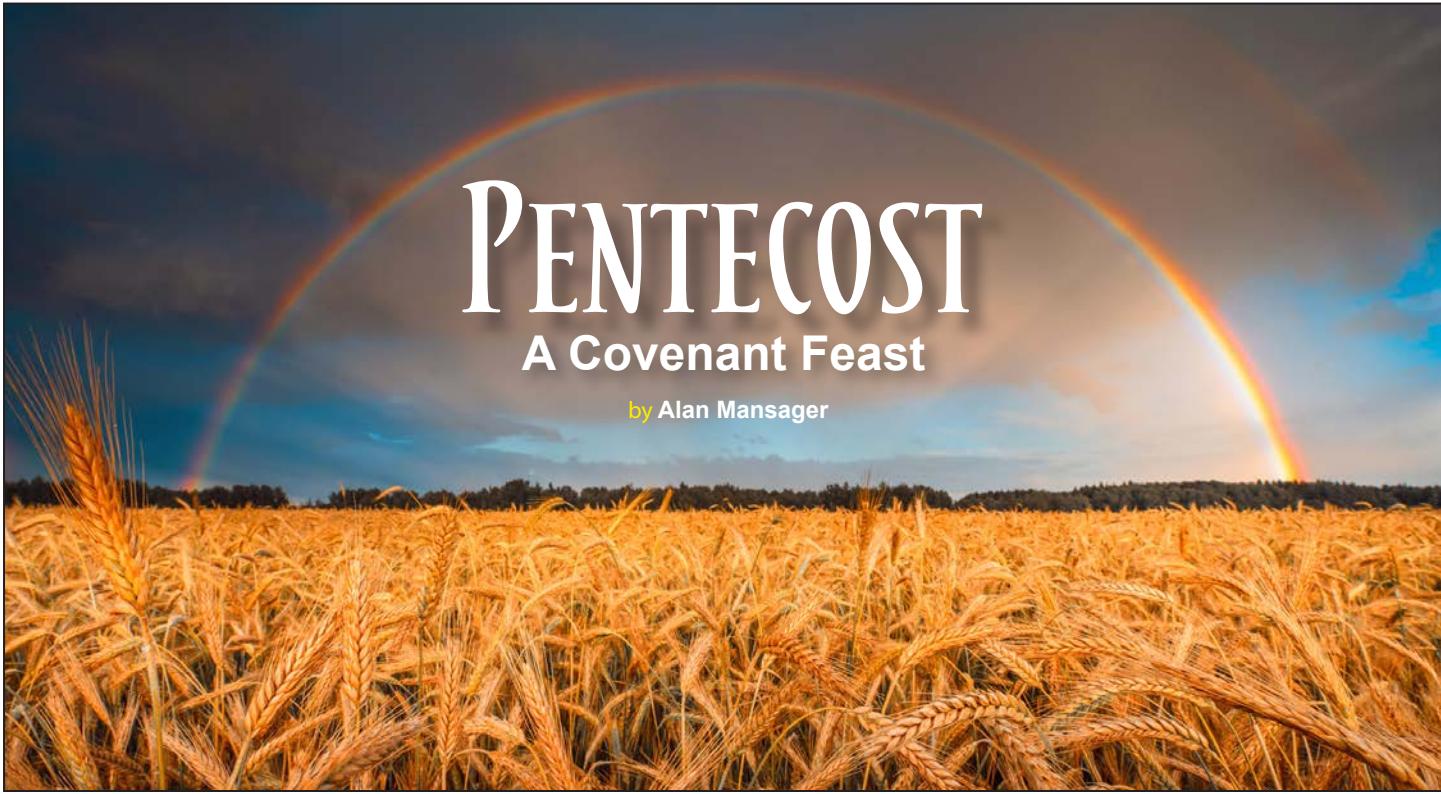
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# PENTECOST

## A Covenant Feast

by Alan Mansager

The disciples were unsure of Yahshua's words and what portent they had for them at the time. He told them before He was taken and impaled that He would pray to the Father who would send them "another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever," John 14:16.

Comforter is the Greek *parakletos*, and means "one who goes alongside to help." Yahshua's promise was that once He left the Holy Spirit would be made available to those who had a willing heart.

The Holy Spirit was then sent to earth at the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost. The Messiah said the Holy Spirit would abide with us forever. In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit did not stay permanently when it came to individuals. Even King David was concerned about it when he prayed in Psalm 51:11, "Take not Your Holy Spirit from me."

Whether this special power of Yahweh is called the Holy Spirit or Spirit of Yahweh, it is an active force that is shared by the Father and the Son. It is not a person. That the Holy Spirit is part of a trinity stems from polytheism.

An Old Testament example of the

endowing of Holy Spirit power is seen in the life of Samson. In Judges 14:6 Samson tore a young lion with his bare hands as the Spirit of Yahweh came upon Him.

Superhuman strength was Samson's when the Holy Spirit came upon him in the slaying of 30 men of Ashkelon, Judges 14:19. Again in Judges 15:14 he was able to burst new cords binding his arms as if they were burnt flax, and he slew a thousand men with the jawbone of an ass. After each occasion the Spirit was taken away as soon as the task was accomplished.

### A Command to Observe Pentecost

More than a time when the Holy Spirit was given, Pentecost was one of the seven observances that Yahweh commanded His people to keep annually.

Following Passover are the first and last days of Unleavened Bread, which commemorate a time when the children of Israel left Egypt. The Feast of Weeks follows, when Israel gathered at the foot of Mount Sinai to receive the covenant from Yahweh. They were then given the Ten Commandments, as well as other spiritual laws, to keep as a part of the covenant with Yahweh.

The four remaining Feasts come in the seventh month. Biblical feast days are a type of the spiritual trek we all make as we give up the things of the world to follow the way laid down for us in Scripture. We accept the shed blood of the Lamb, Yahshua, as we keep the Passover.

Then we take all doctrine (leaven) and examine it to make certain it is in accord with the Bible. We examine both ourselves and our beliefs and eliminate all false doctrine. We become "unleavened" and are given the Holy Spirit when we yield completely to Yahshua's leading and obey Him.

When we receive the Holy Spirit we are strengthened in overcoming and following in the footsteps of Yahshua. Our minds and hearts focus on Him as we look for His coming. He returns with a shout, the voice of the archangel, and the trumpet blast. The Day of Trumpets reminds us of our spiritual goal, and is the beginning of the seventh month. Three more holy days follow.

The Day of Atonement is known in Hebrew as "Yom Kippur," the day of covering, and points to the marriage supper of the lamb, Luke 14:16-24. The Feast of Tabernacles foreshadows the

Kingdom on earth.

Since the coming of the Holy Spirit at the Feast of Weeks, we are given a much clearer picture of the plan of redemption. We can see the spiritual application of the physical examples in the history of Israel.

While the Messiah was with the disciples, He was able to guide and encourage them. He provided the wisdom and redemption they required, 1Corinthians 1:30.

Knowing that He would be leaving this world, Yahshua told His disciples as they walked to the garden the night He was betrayed that the Father would send the Holy Spirit to earth. As long as the Messiah was here, the Spirit was with the disciples through Him.

### Holy Spirit Continues Messiah's Work

Following Yahshua's ascension to the heavens the Spirit was sent upon the disciples. The Messiah had promised that the Spirit would be "in" His followers and not just "with" them. Today the Holy Spirit is given to Yahweh's people upon baptism, Acts 5:32, 2:38.

The disciples were assembled with the Messiah after His resurrection and were told that they should not depart from Jerusalem until they were given the promise of the Father, of which Yahshua had previously told them, Luke 24:49. John had baptized with water, He said, but the disciples were to be immersed with the Holy Spirit, Acts 1:5-6.

Even though the Messiah had been rejected by the people, the disciples asked about restoring the Kingdom again to Israel, Acts 1:6. Not directly answering the question, Yahshua's answer indicated the reason for the pouring out of the Spirit: to enable the disciples to go into all the world and proclaim the Good News of the coming Kingdom, 1:8.

The disciples obediently awaited the day of Pentecost as Yahshua had instructed them to do. As they were gathered, the spectacular coming of Yahweh's Spirit from the heavens took place, Acts 2:1-4.

Tongues like fire appeared on all the disciples. Being filled with the Holy Spirit they spoke with other tongues. As news of the event spread abroad, a crowd of people gathered to witness the phenomenon. There were 16 nations represented. The

crowd was dumbfounded when everyone heard them speak in their own language.

From antiquity, the day of Pentecost or Feast of Weeks has commemorated the giving of the law at Sinai. Now the Holy Spirit was given to enable the people to keep that law. The Holy Spirit made possible the New Covenant. No longer were Yahweh's laws to be met purely in the physical realm.

### Obedience Out of Desire

Now the spiritual intent would be emphasized. The purpose behind the laws would become clear and a correct attitude would be given, enabling Yahweh's people to keep His way of life from the heart. Obedience to Yahweh would be from within, by an inner compulsion to practice Yahweh's way of life.

**All of the holy day laws  
were part of the original  
covenant. The New  
Covenant is the placing  
of these laws of Yahweh  
into the minds and  
hearts of  
His people.**

The summation of the Old Covenant is found in Exodus 20:1-17, where the children of Israel saw lightning and smoke from the mountain. They heard thunderings and a trumpet blast. They were so fearful when the law was given that they backed away in fright, asking Moses to be their intermediary, verses 18-20. Yahweh then had Moses come to the mount where he was given the rest of the covenant to convey to the children of Israel.

The remainder of the covenant made with Israel continues through chapter 23. Moses came down and related the covenant, Exodus 24:3-8. The people

agreed to the terms of the covenant in verse 3 and again in verse 7, adding the phrase "and be obedient." The ratifying of the covenant took place the first day of the week—Pentecost.

### Pentecost Always on Sunday

Pentecost or the annual Feast of Firstfruits comes on a Sunday. The count toward Pentecost is from the "morrow after the Sabbath" which falls within the days of Unleavened Bread. We know this count is from the day after the weekly Saturday Sabbath (Sunday) because the Hebrew word for "Sabbath" is *Shabbath* (**Strong's Concordance** No. 7676 "intensive from No. 7673; intermission, i.e. {spec. THE Sabbath})."

Thus, it is clear that our count begins with the first day of the week, and we are to count until we reach 49 days, which is a Sabbath "when the week is out." The next day is Sunday, the proper day for Pentecost.

Pentecost must be counted every year because Passover and Unleavened Bread can fall on any day of the week. The Feast of Weeks is counted "from the morrow after the Sabbath [Sunday], seven weeks shall be complete, unto the morrow after the seventh Sabbath," Leviticus 23:15-16. This would again fall on a Sunday.

The Jews do not keep Passover at the correct time nor do they observe the Feast of Weeks on the correct day, having missed the significance these particular times commemorate. Neither do they get the blessings of these days. All of the holy day laws were part of the original covenant. The New Covenant is the placing of these laws of Yahweh into the minds and hearts of His people, Hebrews 8:8-12. Only the sacrificial system pertaining to temple worship has been done away for now.

The spiritual still stands, and the sending of the Holy Spirit to this earth now makes it possible for Yahweh's people to be partakers of the New Covenant. It was made possible at Pentecost—when Yahshua's promise to send the Holy Spirit was fulfilled.





*Let's Talk About*

# ‘Speaking in Tongues’

*The glossalalist focuses on only one of the Holy Spirit’s nine gifts, and then misfires on even that one.*

**T**he ability to speak in tongues is seen as a kind of spiritual litmus test. If you can do it you show that you have the Holy Spirit.

This belief says the endowment and work of the Holy Spirit is not enough. Drawing a believer to the Truth, leading him to repentance and baptism, and then indwelling a new, changed heart is insufficient.

Instead, the new “convert” for the rest of his days must continually prove that the Holy Spirit is in him by babbling incoherently at gatherings of his fellows. That is the core of what the modern tongues movement expresses.

## Real Languages

From the Acts 2 account and from Paul’s teaching, 1Corinthians 14 shows what really happened at Pentecost and why what was spoken through dynamic, Holy Spirit power was not gibberish but real languages.

“And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?” Acts 2:7-8.

By this miraculous manifestation Yahweh demonstrated that this Holy Spirit power was now available to Gentile converts as well. The reason for

the gift of languages was to give “a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not,” 1Corinthians 14:22.

The modern tongues movement has developed an elitist doctrine that implies that those who can “speak in tongues” are on a higher spiritual level than those who are baptized into the Name of the Savior Yahshua.

Implicit in this attitude is that repentance and baptism for the remission of sins into a new covenant and life has nothing to do with the Spirit. It implies that the Holy Spirit received by the laying on of hands at baptism is incomplete. An additional post-conversion baptism of the Holy Spirit is necessary, a notion the Scriptures nowhere suggest or support.

## Variety of Works of the Spirit

Let’s look at some other ways in which today’s tongues message contradicts the Scriptures.

The Book of Acts gives no grounds for maintaining that the initial sign of a person’s receiving the Holy Spirit was through an ability to speak unintelligible sounds. In fact, the Holy Spirit works in a number of different ways.

What we find is that the gift of prophesying (teaching) far outweighs speaking in languages, as do the Spirit’s other gifts, 1Corinthians 12:28-31. Here Paul tells us that not everyone

has the same gift or gifts. There are many gifts, distributed individually to whomever Yahweh desires. Today’s tongues message emphasizes only one, yet there are seven listed, with tongues being last—meaning the least.

When the multitude heard Peter’s message in Acts 2 and asked what they needed to do for salvation, Peter responded, “Repent and be baptized in the Name of Yahshua for the remission of sins and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit,” verse 38. So they did, all 3,000 of them, and verse 41 says they were added to the Body. No need for tongues speaking to get the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Paul wrote in 1Corinthians 12:13, “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body...and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

The most visible characteristic of the tongues movement is the way certain points are overemphasized to the virtual exclusion of others. Promoters use such terms as baptism of the Spirit, Full Gospel, latter rain, and second blessing. The terminology itself suggests that the movement is more interested in the extraordinary experience than in an unshakable foundation of truth based in solid, biblical teaching.

(Please turn to p. 16)



# Fruits of the Spirit – **PEACE**

by Randy Foliard

In our Fruits of the Spirit series we continue with our focus on the third characteristic: Peace. But let's first review the entire list in Galatians 5:22-23. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

This is one of the most important passages in all of Scripture. In Matthew 23 Yahshua spoke about the weightier matters, certainly a correlation to the Fruits of the Spirit. In Matthew 5 Yahshua told the crowd that the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees had to be exceeded in order to be found worthy of Yahweh's Kingdom. We must learn to apply and live by the characteristics that we find in the above passage, including the one we're going to review now, and that is peace.

## Peace and the Beatitudes

From *Strong's Concordance* we learn that "peace" in Hebrew (No. 7965) is *shalom* and means, "safe, i.e.

(figuratively) well, happy, friendly; also (abstractly) welfare, i.e. health, prosperity, peace." In Greek, it is *eirene* (No. 1515) and is defined as "(to join); peace (literally or figuratively); by implication, prosperity."

*Thayer's Greek Lexicon* describes "peace" as:

- A state of national tranquility, exemption from the rage and havoc of war.
- Peace between individuals, that is, harmony, concord.
- Security, safety, prosperity, felicity, (because peace and harmony make and keep things safe and prosperous).
- Used of the Messiah's peace, the way that leads to peace (salvation).
- The tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through [Messiah], and so fearing nothing from [Elohim] and content with its earthly lot.

Having peace between men and the peace we find through Messiah will be our points of focus. We'll begin with the words of our Savior in Matthew 5:1-9,

"And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see Elohim. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of Elohim."

## Blessed Are the Beatitudes

Known as the beatitudes, this passage represents those attitudes or characteristics that we should have as Believers. In reviewing these attributes, let's ask ourselves, does my life exemplify these characteristics?

A great example of humility is found in the example of Moses. We know that

he was not chosen because he was a strong or charismatic leader, but because he was humble. In fact, the Bible says that he was meeker than any other man.

As we see in Scripture, humility is one of the most important attributes we can have, for without humility, Yahweh can't work with us. A person with pride is like a hard clump of clay – you can't form or mold it – it has no use. But a humble person is soft and malleable, a spirit Yahweh can mold and work with. The end result of such humility is the promise that the meek shall inherit the earth; they will be found worthy of eternal salvation within our Father's Kingdom.

"...Hunger and thirst after righteousness..." Yahshua seems to be referring to those who have a desire or zeal to live according to Yahweh's Word. Many people have this sense of eagerness and desire to do what is right, and in reference to the Kingdom, they shall be filled.

"...Blessed are the merciful (or compassionate)..." As believers we can either be judgmental or merciful, but we can't be both. Those who show kindness or sympathy will be blessed and they will receive mercy. This reminds me of what Yahshua said about forgiveness, that if we don't forgive others, our Heavenly Father will not forgive us. So we see that forgiveness and mercy are reciprocal.

"Blessed are the pure in heart..." **Barnes' Notes** describes this as, "...whose minds, motives, and principles are pure; who seek not only to have the external actions correct, but who desire to be holy in heart, and who are so." In short, being pure in heart means that we do what is right, not because we must, but because it's an inward desire. Those who are pure in heart, then, shall see Elohim, a promise pointed to the resurrection and eternal life.

Finally, "Blessed are the peacemakers." This is a person who desires to see harmony and unity within the body of Messiah, one who looks for the positive and not the negative, a person who doesn't hold grudges, but who forgives. This person uses love and

diplomacy, not aggression or strife, who goes out of their way to bring shalom to those in the assembly.

Those who pursue peace shall be called children or sons of Elohim, referring to the promise of the resurrection and eternal life and the adoption into Yahweh's family. Based upon this promise, how important is it that we strive to be a peacemaker? It depends on how much we desire to be a son or daughter of Elohim. As I see it, it's something we must do to be found worthy of Yahweh's Kingdom.

In fact, this is the message we find in Hebrews 12:14. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see Yahweh." We're told here to live righteously and pursue peace with everyone. The word "peace" is from the Greek *eirene* and means to have harmony or concord with others.

"Holiness" in Greek is *hagiasmos*, and according to Strong's means, "purification, i.e. (the state) of purity." According to Yahweh's Word, a person remains pure by obeying the commandments and living a life that is worthy of His calling. It is important that we follow peace with all men and live a life of holiness because Yahweh says that without these things, no man will see Him. Based on this, it's important that we strive to be peaceable and live a life of righteousness.

Let us consider some of the previous examples of peace: a person who desires to see harmony and unity within the body of Messiah; looks for the positive, not the negative; doesn't hold grudges, but who forgives; uses love and diplomacy, not aggression or strife; goes out of their way to bring shalom to those in the assembly.

These are the attributes that come to my mind when thinking about a person of peace. For a moment, think about these characteristics and ask yourself, how do I measure up? If you find that you fall short in one or more of these characteristics, don't be too concerned.... yet.

The fact is, having this form of peace is not easy to achieve. However, we should be continually and relentlessly

striving to change and better ourselves. When it comes to the elect, Yahweh is looking for the cream of the crop and for that reason mediocrity will not do. Being average in the eyes of our Heavenly Father will not be enough. Yahshua talked quite a bit about the inward man, because He realized that without this change, we would not be found worthy of Yahweh's promise.

## Avoiding Retribution

Another passage that speaks about peace is 1Peter 3:9-11. "Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are there unto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it."

Peter begins the passage by saying that we should not render evil for evil. What he's speaking about here is revenge. As disciples of Yahshua the Messiah, we should never be vengeful or bitter, but we should show forgiveness and compassion.

Think about how great it would be if we were living all nine fruits. Consider the love, unity, and peace of mind that we would have within all our relationships. Realize that these fruits are NOT a trivial thing; they are an essential part of what it means to be a believer in the Messiah.

If keeping the Sabbath and other commandments were enough, the scribes and Pharisees would've been found worthy, but they fell miserably short. The only way to succeed and become better disciples of the One we worship is by changing who we are on the inside, by adopting the fruits of the Spirit.

Peter closes verse 11 by saying that we should seek peace and ensue it. "Ensue" is Old English and means to pursue. So, as believers, we're to actively and relentlessly pursue peace, i.e., shalom, within the body of Messiah.

Paul, in Romans 12:17-20, provides a similar message: "Recompense to no

man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith Yahweh. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head." Peter had begun his instruction with, "Not rendering evil for evil."

Similarly, Paul begins his by saying that we should not recompense evil for evil. Again, this refers to revenge or trying to get even with someone who's done us wrong.

As learned from both Peter and Paul, revenge or retribution is not something we should pursue or even allow within our hearts. Paul states that we should live peaceably with all men, not seeking revenge or retaliation but showing forgiveness and compassion. However, living peaceably does not mean that we need or should have a relationship with them. When it comes to those living in sin without remorse, we should avoid them, unless they desire to repent.

According to Paul, revenge belongs to Yahweh. Our Father through His Son Yahshua will judge mankind, and those who lived a life of sin will answer for their transgressions. Revelation 20:12 states that Yahshua will judge mankind based on each person's works.

Paul ends verse 20 by admonishing us to do good to our enemy, giving him food and drink if he asks of it. By doing this, coals of fire will be heaped on his head. In regards to this phrase, there's some debate as to what Paul meant.

According to the *Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary*, "The sense of this clause is much disputed. In Jerome's time, and by the Greek interpreters, it was generally understood in the unfavourable sense of aggravating our enemy's guilt. ...modern interpreters... take the expression in the good sense, in which now it is almost universally quoted – namely, that by returning good for our enemy's evil we may expect at length to subdue and overpower

him-as burning coals consume all that is inflammable – into shame and repentance."

A similar explanation from Barnes' Notes explains, "Coals of fire are doubtless emblematical of 'pain.' But the idea here is not that in so doing we shall call down divine vengeance on the man; but the apostle is speaking of the natural effect or result of showing him kindness. Burning coals heaped on a man's head would be expressive of intense agony. So the apostle says that the 'effect' of doing good to an enemy would be to produce pain. But the pain will result from shame, remorse of conscience, a conviction of the evil of his conduct, and an apprehension of divine displeasure that may lead to repentance. To do this, is not only perfectly right, but it is desirable. If a man can be brought to reflection and true repentance, it should be done. In regard to this passage we may remark, That the way to promote 'peace' is to do good even to enemies."

It appears Paul was not using this phrase in a vengeful way. By heaping coals on the heads of our enemies, we show forgiveness and compassion and are motivating them to self-reflect and repent. Part of the way we do this is by showing peace, even to our enemies.

### Passing All Understanding

In Philippians 4:6-7, Paul speaks about a peace that passes all understanding. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto Elohim. And the peace of Yahweh, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Messiah Yahshua."

Paul provides clues in this passage on how to achieve this special peace. First, we should be careful for nothing. The NIV renders this, "Do not be anxious about anything."

How often do we allow life to cause us worry, stress, or even fear? I'm sure there have been times in your life (I know there have been times in mine) when we've allowed worry or fear to take away our peace.

Our second clue is everything should

be done by prayer and supplication. Sometimes the greatest peace of mind is gained by prayer and having faith in our Father in heaven.

This is how I believe we achieve this peace that passes all understanding. While this sounds easy enough, believe me, there's nothing simple about it. For many of us, it's hard not to allow life to cause us worry or fear and to always go to Yahweh in prayer. But if we desire this level of peace, we must strive to follow this pattern.

### Habit 1 – Contentment

Let's now look at three habits we can institute to achieve more peace within our lives, the first one being contentment. An example of this in Philippians 4:11-13. "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Messiah which strengtheneth me."

Paul was content no matter what situation he was in. He was satisfied whether he had plenty or whether he was without. The secret to Paul's contentment was that he could do all things through Messiah that strengthened him.

Strength in the Messiah is found in many ways. We find this fortitude by remembering that He died for us and atoned for our sins, by realizing that through Him we have the promise of eternal life in Yahweh's Kingdom, and by remembering that He suffered in all points as we do. By doing so, Yahshua left us an example to follow. In short, that strength is realized by remembering that this life is vain and fleeting and that through Him we have a better promise awaiting.

But what about us? Are we content with the life we have, or do we find ourselves stressing about our issues or wanting things we don't have? Do we allow the trivial concerns of this life to take away our peace? If we do, we'll never find that peace or shalom

that passes all understanding. As did Paul, so we must also learn to be content in whatever situation in which we find ourselves. Just as joy is a sense of happiness not based on circumstance or condition, so the same can be said about peace.

### Habit 2 – Faith in Yahweh

The second habit to instill in achieving peace is having trust or faith in Yahweh. Proverbs 3:5 provides this example: “Trust in Yahweh with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

Two important lessons are given here. The first one is trusting, or having faith, in Yahweh. We might believe that we have strong faith in the One we worship, but, do we? When life becomes hard or when faced with serious problems, do we find ourselves trusting in Yahweh or do we find ourselves stressing about the issues?

If we really have faith in Yahweh, situations like these should not diminish our peace. Faith is one of those things that, just like achieving peace, sounds effortless enough, but if we’re honest, faith is not always easy. The fact is, if we have the faith that Yahshua had, very little in life would bother us or remove our peace.

Not leaning on our own understanding is the second instruction that Proverbs 3 provides. This means not putting more emphasis on our own abilities than what we attribute to Yahweh. I’ll admit it, I’m guilty of doing this. When some sort of problem or issue arises, I immediately begin looking for a solution. But the best answer is the one we find in prayer while having faith in Yahweh that He will provide. So, as we see here, one way of achieving peace is having faith in Yahweh and not always jumping to our own solutions.

### Habit 3 – Casting Cares on Him

The last habit to engrain to achieve peace is casting our cares upon Yahweh. In 1Peter 5:6-7, we read, “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of Elohim, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”

Peter begins by saying that we should humble ourselves. “Humble” in Greek is *tapeinoo*, and according to the *Thayer’s Greek Lexicon*, means to lower or depress. Also provided are the following definitions: 1) to bring down one’s pride; 2) to have a modest opinion of oneself; 3) to behave in an unassuming manner; and, 4) devoid of

all haughtiness.

I’ve said many times, pride has no place in the life of a believer. As Peter states, we’re to be humbled, i.e., to bring down our pride and to have a modest opinion of ourselves. Only when we do this, can we be exalted by Yahweh.

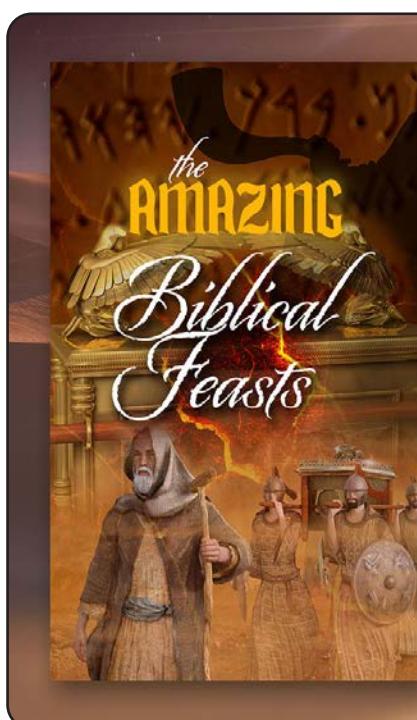
Peter closes by saying that we should cast our cares upon the mighty hand of Elohim. This goes back to having faith in Yahweh and not leaning upon our own understanding. Instead of holding onto the complications and stressors of life, we need to turn our troubles over to Yahweh.

Maybe we’re suffering or someone we know is anguishing from some sort of sickness or disease. We need to have faith in Yahweh and be at peace with whatever happens. Even if the sickness leads to death, we need to be okay with that, because we know that we have something much better waiting for us in the next life.

Maybe we lost our job and our financial future is uncertain. Obviously, we want to do everything we can to find work and to provide for ourselves and our families. But in these moments, we need to also remember that Yahweh can and will provide for us. And knowing this, we need to give our concern over to Him. Sometimes the best way of doing this is by visualization: picture yourself placing all your problems into a box and then giving that box over to Yahweh.

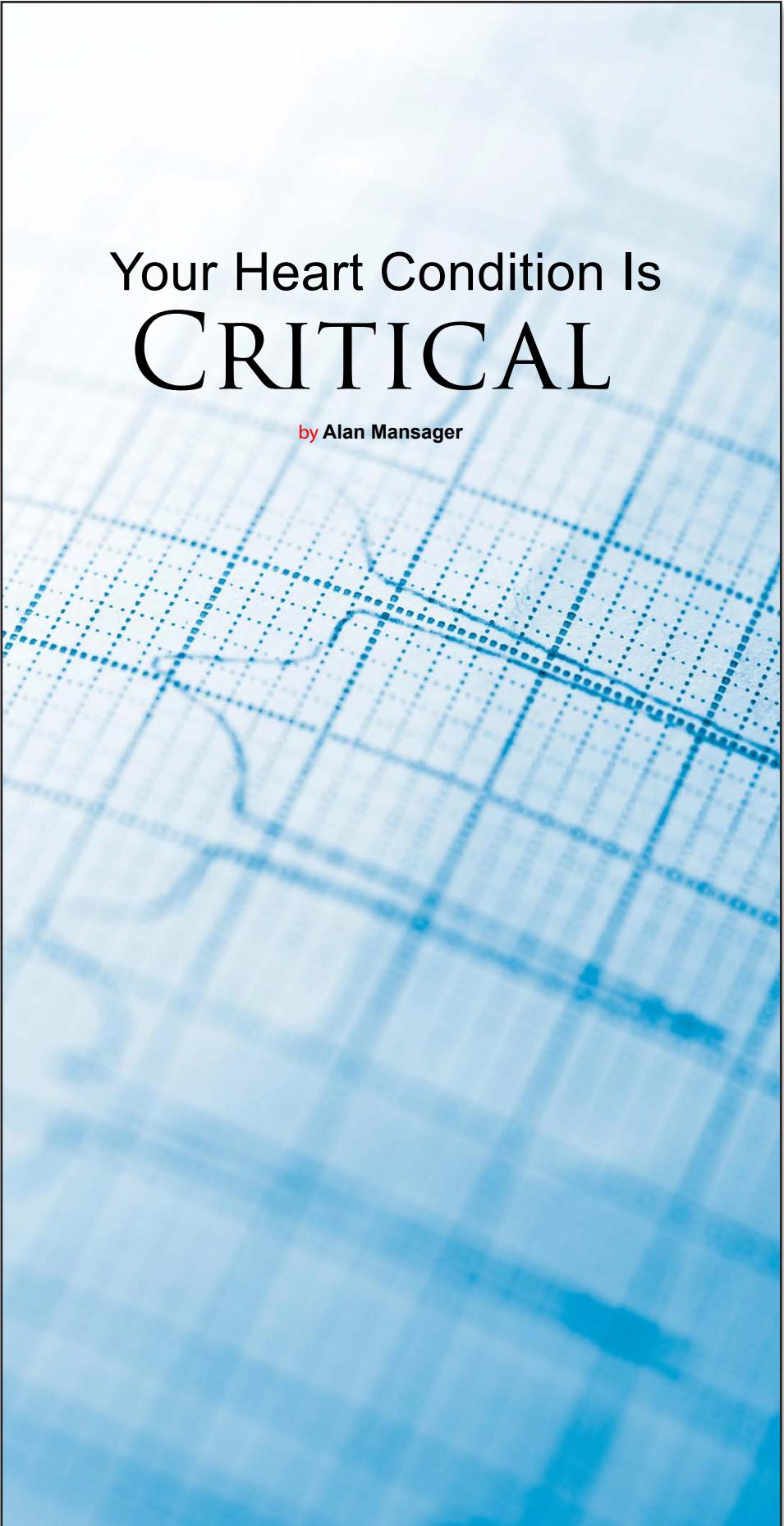
In whatever way we accomplish it, it’s important that we give our stress, our anxiety, and our worry over to Yahweh and have faith that He can and will provide. And in those situations where He doesn’t provide in the manner we would like, we must have faith that inevitably everything will all work out. When we do this, we can achieve great peace through our Father in heaven.

Let us always strive to gain peace, and not the peace the world expresses, but the peace we find through our Father. The worry and stress that so many carry within can be diminished if we consider these simple truths and apply them to our lives. 



**“Biblical laws, including the Feasts, will be enforced everywhere by the greatest Power in the universe – Yahweh Himself.”**

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# Your Heart Condition Is CRITICAL

by Alan Mansager

“W

hat do you want on your Tombstone?” So went a commercial slogan advertising a brand of pizza.

The Scriptures tell us that we in essence write our own epitaphs every day. All that we do will have an impact on our eternal rewards.

“Works righteousness” is a derisive term used against those who obey the Word. Yet, that’s exactly what we must have: works of righteousness for everlasting rewards. It is not just our thoughts that we will answer for, but what we do is even more critical.

The reason is that our actions reveal the most about us. The Apostle wrote in 2Corinthians 5:10: “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Messiah; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he has done, whether it be good or bad.”

Ecclesiastes 12:14 reads, “For Elohim shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”

### Caution: Hazards Ahead

The world’s offenses are a hazard to our spiritual health. We need periodic evaluations and course corrections to make sure we are not pulled off target. This is what we get at the annual Feast days.

This narrow road of truth is narrow by nature. There are built-in challenges, even dangers.

Believers are USDA prime choice for attacks by the Evil One. All True Worshipers wear a bull’s-eye on their backs, just as Yahshua did. That’s the price we must pay for the rewards we seek, just as Yahshua said.

HaSatan doesn’t need to entice those ensnared by the world. He’s already got them. Yahweh is building a priesthood here and now, and the evil one fears the growing chorus from this opposition. He pulls out all the stops in an effort to discourage and defeat the believer.

And like Job, Yahweh allows some

testing to see if we have the right stuff and the heart to continue to the end once we find the Truth. High office in His coming Kingdom, such as what Yahweh has planned for His firstfruits faithful, doesn't come automatically or to just anyone. It involves choosing those with the highest level of spirituality, revealed in their actions not words. True worship is an effort, not a passive mental exercise.

Attending the Sabbath and Feasts is a key proof of one's dedication in serving Yahweh. It requires going and doing; leaving comforts of habit and home and stepping out to serve Yahweh and brethren.

We see a lot of selfless sacrificing in today's pandemic, as many step up to help others. We believers are also called to serve brethren and those who come to worship Yahweh at His Feasts. That is another important part of our devotion.

Yahshua said in Matthew 25:40, "And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' When we help and encourage the brethren, we are honoring Yahshua Himself. True worship is about striving to live the life of Yahshua. He's the gold standard by which everyone will be judged.

John wrote in Revelation 2:26: "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father."

### **Truth Takes Personal Sacrifice**

Keeping the Holy Days and Sabbath means overcoming our own inertia; our natural resistance to leaving our comfort zone; leaving the world's allure; and overcoming pushback from family, friends, jobs and schools.

Note what Isaiah 66:23 tells us about the coming Kingdom — "And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith Yahweh."

On every Sabbath and every new



## **The choices we make reflect our hearts. We can't fake it because our actions reveal who and what we are more than our words.**

moon and every Feast all will go to worship Almighty Yahweh in the coming Kingdom. Time to get into the routine now if we ever hope to be serving as priests.

The prophet Zechariah in 14:16-17 wrote, "And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, Yahweh of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, Yahweh of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain."

What should come through clearly when reading this is that Yahweh is dead serious. He will force the whole earth to keep His Feast, not just Jews. This mandate shows how uncompromising He is that all believers must honor His holy times today.

Today we have a choice. Not so when Yahshua returns. Obedience of everyone will be mandated then. Choice will be a thing of the past. You either comply or die.

There is no reward for doing something that you are forced to do. When you are forced you have no choice. Under duress there is no heart involvement or your own decision to make,

When we tell a son or daughter to do a chore and they do it, that's what we expect. But when they do it on their own without being told, that is what really pleases the parent as he sees the child

thinking maturely.

Today we have a choice and that is where the rewards are; the choices we make reflect our hearts. You can't fake it. What you do is what you are; it shows. The prophet in 1 Samuel 2:3 says He weighs our actions not our intentions. Not our words. Too often when all is said and done more is said than done.

### **Come Clean from the World**

Your epitaph is being written by what you do, which is a barometer of your level of spirituality. When your life's record is complete, the only thing that matters is who you are inside and how faithful you were in serving the One you worship.

Until the rewards are given out at Yahshua's coming, we must constantly scrape off the corruption of the world. We must remove the grime that so easily pollutes us.

Hebrews 12:1 reads, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily besets us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Again, run here is an action word signifying action, not pleasant thoughts.

Yahweh brings this into clear focus in 2 Peter 3:9-14: "Yahweh is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

"But the day of Yahweh will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and piety, Looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of Yahweh, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless."

The beauty of the Bible is that we can know the plan for this planet, we see what is coming. No need to fear the future. We operate from foreknowledge. It is our safety net. We are comforted by a faith that passes all understanding.

As the rocks flew at the first New Testament martyr, Stephen looked up to heaven in complete serenity, knowing fully that Yahweh was with him and he had nothing to fear in death.

When its our turn, all our earthly pursuits end. It is then that we realize what is important and what isn't. Yahweh is not impressed with purely human accomplishments. He has no use for trivial pursuits.

### **Focus On the Future World**

When the disciples were impressed with the huge stones of the Temple, Yahshua said it would all come tumbling down. Herod's magnificent building talents became an empire of dirt. They are still crumbling today.

Yahweh is working out a plan here and now that will continue through eternity. At the end of your allotted time, all that will matter to Him is the spiritual condition of your heart and what you did with the knowledge you had of Him. All

of our future destinies pivot on how we live now.

### **Yahweh Works with Us**

What do you want on your tombstone? For most, their tombstone will read something like: "Yahweh gave me life and I lived it to the fullest. I took the talents I was given and buried them deep—where I am right now, as a matter of fact. But I had a good time while it lasted."

The point is, it didn't last. What a waste of the priceless gift of life! We must live in this world, but our real focus should be on the next one, when this time is gone and we press on into the time of the Kingdom.

When He calls us, do we resist Him or willingly submit to the Ruler of all? When He commands us to obey completely do we sometimes make excuses, as did Moses, giving one justification after another for why he was incapable to lead Israel out of Egypt?

We see Moses arguing that he was an unknown, that he will be doubted, that he was not eloquent, Exodus 3.

Why didn't Yahweh just remove all his perceived obstacles? Deep-six Pharaoh and his army right away and make it easy on Israel?

Or why didn't He just knock Pharaoh to his knees and reduce him to an animal eating grass as He did Nebuchadnezzar,

and then Pharaoh would be thrilled to give the Israelites up without a fight!

Or why didn't He choose someone other than Moses who was influential and had a silver tongue and full of charisma? Because Yahweh likes to do the unexpected, the seemingly impossible.

Yahweh doesn't work the way we do. He makes us work with what we have and develop that into something great. As a muscle, working against a counterweight gets stronger, so He wants us to persevere in order to strengthen spiritually. As we overcome and prove faithful, He grants us more of His Spirit.

When it comes to His commands, and He tells us to keep His Word and take it to the world, the obstacles are still there to overcome.

Events in our world are rapidly bringing this age to a close. Yahweh is asking the modern Moses to take the truth to the masses before Yahshua returns, to gather those willing to the wedding supper of the Lamb. He said that the Word would go out to all the world and then the end would come.

### **Gird up Your Loins**

You and I have a job to do. We must work together. Are we ready to stand before kings? In chains, if need be? Do we have the strength and resolve for that?

Sometimes we have too much of a hesitating Moses in us. When He directs us to honor His Sabbath and Feasts, do we engage in excuses? Look for loopholes? Answer with alibis?

When we learn that we are to witness truth to the world, do we say we can't? We don't have the ability or the knowledge or the communication skills or the people skills or the Bible savvy? We are in training. We must strengthen those areas in which we fall short if we are to be useful to Yahweh.

Are we in close, prayerful communication with Yahweh? Every day? Do we let questionable activities get a pass because we enjoy them, or do we deal with them by the power of the Spirit?

## **What Happens After This Life?**

**T**wo possibilities exist in the second resurrection. We will either be raised to everlasting life or be condemned to everlasting contempt. Our fate will be determined by the lives we live now. Many view death as a permanent state, but death is only a temporary type of sleep as we lose awareness or consciousness in the grave. Discover what happens next!

[yrm.org/what-happens-after-this-life](http://yrm.org/what-happens-after-this-life)

We reveal our spiritual health in a number of ways. If we are not healthy in any area, now is the time to deal with it. A key indicator of your spiritual status is how you look at and use the blessings of life.

### Tithing Expresses the Heart

When He tells us to return a tenth of our increase to Him because it is His and not ours—what is our response? There is no act of worship that reveals the true heart better than to fulfill the command to tithe.

Each of us needs to ask ourselves: Does He really come first, or am I still number one in my life? I don't think any believer would rob a bank. But how many are robbing Yahweh? That's serious, because Malachi calls failure to give Yahweh His due is robbery. Ezekiel 18:10, 13 and 1Corinthians 6:10 list thievery among those sins that will shut one out of the Kingdom.

But thankfully Ezekiel 33:15 says the thief can be forgiven if he turns:

"If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die."

The great tragedy of our world is that the vast majority "spend" their lives like Jonah, running the opposite direction from what Yahweh has directed. Most live for the moment to please number one. The natural human desire for this world is insatiable.

The worldly rich only want more. Surveys have shown time and again that the poorest are the most generous. Those who have the least to give, proportionally give the most.

Yahshua even demonstrated that fact with the widow's mite. She gave when it hurt, out of her very bread money. That takes faith. She had no other desire but to serve Yahweh.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also,"

# DAVID

*A Man After Yahweh's Own Heart*

**S**hepherd, warrior, musician, prophet, empire builder, sinner, saint, failed father, ideal king! Who in the Bible but David appears in so many roles? His name occurs more than 1,000 times in the Old and New testaments, more than any other. He has a prominent place not only in the political and military history of Yahweh's people but also in their faith and even in their eternity.

But why is David called a man after Yahweh's heart? Paul speaks of Yahweh's feelings about David: "I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do" (Acts 13:22). There is the key as to why David was so close to Yahweh, despite his failings. He did whatever Yahweh asked of him with total faith and trust, never wavering. He poured out his heart to his Father in a candor seen nowhere else in Scripture. His faith pleased Yahweh. David also deeply loved and honored Yahweh's law and sincerely repented when he broke it, not blaming others.

This one-time shepherd boy who defeated a warrior giant with faith and a stone, will one day be prince under Yahshua the Messiah in His Kingdom, Ezekiel 34:24.



Matthew 6:19-21.

And here we are back again to the condition of the heart.

A key lesson we learn is about honing our relationship skills among brethren and truth seekers.

Paul wrote in 1Corinthians 13:1-8 and 13, "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not

envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always perseveres. Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away...And now these things remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

Begin a walk of obedience if you haven't already. Pray for guidance and strength of spirit to guide you each day as you turn your life over to the future Judge, Yahshua the Messiah.

## We answer your questions about the law, proper worship, sacrifices, the necessity of the Passover, the Sabbath, the Feasts — and more.

**Q** Do you promote animal sacrifices and circumcision of males as commanded by Yahweh? How do you pick and choose what Yahweh's Old Testament Law is for today, and what is not?

**A** There is no need to pick and choose. The Scriptures do that for us. They tell us that animal sacrifices are in abeyance, Hebrews 10:8-10, but not the concept of sacrifice, as Yahshua is our sacrifice for sin now, Hebrews 9:12. Physical circumcision is not mandated now, as Paul said in 1Corinthians 7:19 (upholding the law in the same breath): "Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh" is what matters.

Circumcision is primarily of the heart, just as in the Old Testament: "Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked," Deuteronomy 10:16. See also Jeremiah 4:4. Circumcising the heart is the goal, beginning with baptism, as we find in Colossians 2:11-13. "In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Messiah: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of Yahweh, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses." All you need to do is see what Yahshua (not the Greek "Jesus") commanded His followers and what He observed Himself. He is the gold standard and He is the coming world Judge. He kept the law, He kept the Feasts, He commanded both, and He will also do so in the Kingdom. He said He taught nothing of Himself but what the Father told Him "that I do." He did not have the authority to change what His Father commanded.

**Q** Doesn't Acts 21:25 tell us that we don't need to keep the law but only keep from doing a few acts the pagans were doing? Notice: "As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written and concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from things offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication."

**A** The words "that they observe no such thing, save only" were not in the Greek text but were added later. These were pagans who were told to stop their pagan rites if they wanted to become part of the faith (see note on Acts 15:20 in the *Restoration Study Bible*). There was no injunction to do only that and not concern themselves with the rest of the law.

In the previous verse and in verse 26 Paul demonstrated that he was not teaching lawlessness. He did as they suggested in order to prove just that: "Them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may shave their heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but that thou thyself also walk orderly, and keep the law."

The RSB note reads, "Sixty years after the resurrection of Yahshua, Jewish converts to the true faith are seen still observing the law. Paul is advised to participate in a Nazarite vow (see Num. 6) to prove to them that he is not advocating lawbreaking, as some were charging."

**Q** Doesn't Romans 14:6 say we have a choice about keeping the Sabbath? "He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto Yahweh; and he that regardeth not the day, to Yahweh he doth not regard it. He that eateth, eateth to Yahweh, for he giveth Elohim thanks; and he that eateth not, to Yahweh he eateth not, and giveth Elohim thanks."

**A** Romans 14 is not about worship or eating unclean meat. A note on verse 2 in the *Restoration Study Bible* reads, "Paul is not referring to worship, but to days of fasting and to vegetarianism. This is clear from verse 6: "He that eateth, eateth to Yahweh, for he giveth Elohim thanks; and he that eateth not, to Yahweh he eateth not, and giveth Elohim thanks." The practice of selecting days of fasting was common among the Jews. Some fasted Mondays and Thursdays, like the Pharisees (Luke 18:12). Paul says what's important is righteousness, peace, and joy and not to quibble about eating or not eating foods that are scripturally acceptable (v. 17).

**Q** I read in Galatians 4:10-11 that Paul is concerned that those he ministered to are keeping Old Testament observances. "Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain." Why do you?



**A** We need to back up to verse 8 for context: "Howbeit then, when you knew not Yahweh, you did service unto them which by nature are no mighty ones. But now, after that you have known Elohim, or rather are known of Elohim, how turn you again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto you desire again to be in bondage, you observe days and months and times and years."

Paul was addressing the Galatian assembly. Galatians 4:10 refers to Celtic days of worship they came out of, not biblical holy days. These were people who migrated from Gaul (old name for France) and had brought their heathen, Celtic worship with them. He was afraid they were going back ("turn you again") to their old ways of worship after all that he had invested in teaching them the Truth. The Truth involves giving up old heathen ways of worship. Why would he say he was concerned about their observing the Feasts if he himself was teaching and practicing these Bible-commanded days as days that belonged to Yahweh? (Lev. 23:2, 4, 5, 6)

Why would Paul call the holy days "weak and beggarly" if Yahshua and the disciples observed them and taught them in the New Covenant?

**Q** Why does John 19:14 say it was the preparation day for the Passover?

**A** Passover day itself is called the preparation day. John 19:14 says it was the preparation OF the Passover, not FOR the Passover. The *Revised Standard Version* says, "It was the day of preparation of the Passover." Being the preparation day, Passover was the time to prepare for the Feast of Unleavened Bread that follows – removing leaven from the home, etc. Yahshua was impaled on Passover day, in the afternoon. But He kept the Passover memorial the night before, which in Hebrew timekeeping started the Passover day.

The Jews originally kept the Passover and first day of Unleavened Bread as separate observances, which the Torah law required. The command clearly states that the Passover is the 14th and the Feast is the 15th (Lev. 23:5-6; Num. 28:16-1). Later the Jews combined them into one day, the 15th, but a vestige of the correct observance on the 14th still exists in the Seder, which is celebrated a day before.

Another confusing verse for many is John 18:28, where Yahshua is being tried by the high priest. It says the Jews would not go into the hall of judgment so as not to be defiled before they ate the Passover. But Yahshua had already eaten it the night before with His disciples, John 13:2, in obedience to the law. Even back then some Jews were keeping a 15th Passover.

**Q** Some groups teach that no one has seen the Father or heard His voice. However, on the mount of transfiguration Peter, James, and John were present. The father said, "This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased."

**A** The five passages where we find those words attribute "a voice from heaven" or "a voice out of the cloud" for the phrase. It doesn't say "Yahweh's voice" was heard. It must have been an angel speaking for Yahweh, just as Yahshua, as the Debar, is His spokesman now. It could not have been the Father that was heard because the Scripture says no one has heard His voice, John 5:37.

**Q** I don't need to keep the Feasts here and now because the Feasts can only be kept at Jerusalem. Correct?

**A** Jerusalem is not the exclusive site for feast-keeping. Israel kept the Passover in Goshen and Feast of Unleavened Bread in the wilderness. When Israel "came into the land" they were commanded to keep the Feasts there in Canaan. Jerusalem didn't exist then, but the Feasts were commanded regardless. At least on one missionary journey Paul kept the feasts in Macedonia, a thousand miles from Jerusalem.

Yahweh never says when you are scattered in captivity you can dispense with my Feasts and Sabbath. Israel was to continue Feast observance wherever they were. When the Jerusalem temple was destroyed, along with Jerusalem itself, the Jews stopped sacrificing animals but they did not stop Feast-keeping. Sacrifices and Feast-keeping don't rise and fall together. Sacrifices were a part of the Feasts, not vice-versa, and Yahshua became the sacrifice. John 4:21 says, "Yahshua saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father... But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth."

**Q** Should I worship with a group that has a moral or spiritual problem among its members that violates Yahweh's standards?

**A** If the group is allowing unrighteous behavior to continue without dealing with the issue immediately, then fellowship there must be ended. There comes a point where allowing unrighteous behavior will not only encourage the perpetrator in his or her sin, but will also dilute or destroy what the Body of Messiah should be teaching.

Paul deals with a case of immorality in the assembly in 1Corinthians 5 by telling the congregation to remove the individual with the hope he will repent. The Body of Messiah is a family. As with any family standards of behavior are to be followed. The assembly has rules called Yahweh's laws that must be obeyed. When a member deviates he must be corrected or the sin will spread. Paul compares it to the process of leavening that spreads throughout the whole. The world is losing the sense of right and wrong. The assembly must be a standard for righteousness and not assent to sin.

(continued from p. 5)

If the experience is what counts, we find no evidence that Paul's companions were converted by the fantastic experience they shared with Paul on the Damascus road. They exhibited no sign of any change, not even while they stood terrified and speechless over the flash of light that knocked Paul down and that booming, heavenly voice—following which Paul was blinded and converted.

John tells us in 16:13-14 that the work of the Holy Spirit is to teach about and to glorify Yahshua, not simply to put on a show among believers. The modern tongues phenomenon wrongly magnifies the Holy Spirit over the Heavenly Father and His Son.

### Cacophonous Confusion

Confusion of voices, rhythmic swaying, hands in the air, some frozen in blank stares—these are characteristic whenever glossalalists or tongue speakers gather.

The similarities to spiritist meetings is clear, where adherents gather to pool their energies, and trances render the victims mentally helpless and open to any influence.

"The glossalalist does indeed behave differently from ordinary language speakers... We may now suggest that glossalalia be defined as an event of vocalization while the speaker is in a state of disassociation termed trance," *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*.

We are warned in 1Peter 5:8 to be sober and vigilant because Satan the

### Say What? Tongue Facts

- The Acts 2 Pentecost account of speaking in tongues involved 15 nationalities, who all heard and understood in their own language the teachings about Yahweh.
- Spiritual gifts are for the edification of the Body of Messiah, not for the individual.
- Tongues are for a sign to the unbeliever, not for those who already believe.
- In a review of 9 gifts of the Spirit, listed last are tongues and their interpretation (1Cor. 12).
- Romans 8:26: "...the spirit itself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."
- 1Corinthians 13:8: tongues shall cease.

devil walks about, seeking whom he may devour. We must never "let our minds go" as we focus on one word or phrase. This is a prime technique of the spiritists, and the method by which the mind is opened to the influence of the Adversary.

Yahweh is not the author of confusion (1Cor. 14:33), evident in tongues gatherings. A person who causes confusion destroys fellowship, and many groups have broken up over the tongues issue.

The nature of the Holy Spirit is to build up, to edify, to guide into truth, and to strengthen spirituality. It never instigates chaos or disorder—collectively or individually. That is the mark of the Adversary.

Here is how the Scripture says we

can prove that the Holy Spirit is at work:

"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues," 1Corinthians 12:7-10.

After studying thousands of samples of glossalalia, one linguistic expert concluded that "speaking in tongues" reflects no known or understood language. "Glossalalia is indeed like language in some ways, but this is only because the speaker wants it to be like language. A human being simply cannot avoid being influenced by the patterns of language once he has acquired its use."

Glossalalia is fundamentally not language, according to William Samarin, professor of anthropology and linguistics, University of Toronto. Significant is Samarin's observation that a person's own linguistic background will influence the sounds he utters while speaking the "language of the Holy Spirit."

### Desire the Best Gifts

The influence of the Pentecostals and others is so embedded and one-sided that when most people hear of spiritual gifts, they immediately think of tongues.

Paul explains in 1Corinthians 12



### LIVE Worship

We've been doing some things different lately... we've moved some worship outdoors! At times it's windy, sunny, and unpredictable but that's what makes outdoor worship so great! Watch live every Sabbath on [yrm.org/live](http://yrm.org/live), YRM Mobile, YouTube, Roku, or Facebook. If you have missed our services then get caught up at: [yrm.org/live-archives](http://yrm.org/live-archives)

Live Stream starts 1:20pm Central, Saturdays

that each person in the Body of Messiah has a gift, and not all gifts are the same. He admonishes to seek the “best” gifts.

Each gift is to build the Body of Messiah, and not to glorify the individual. The Body is enhanced and grown spiritually through both the teaching of Yahweh’s wonderful plan of salvation and obedience to His way of life.

The assembly must be unified in understanding and in following the precepts of the Word.

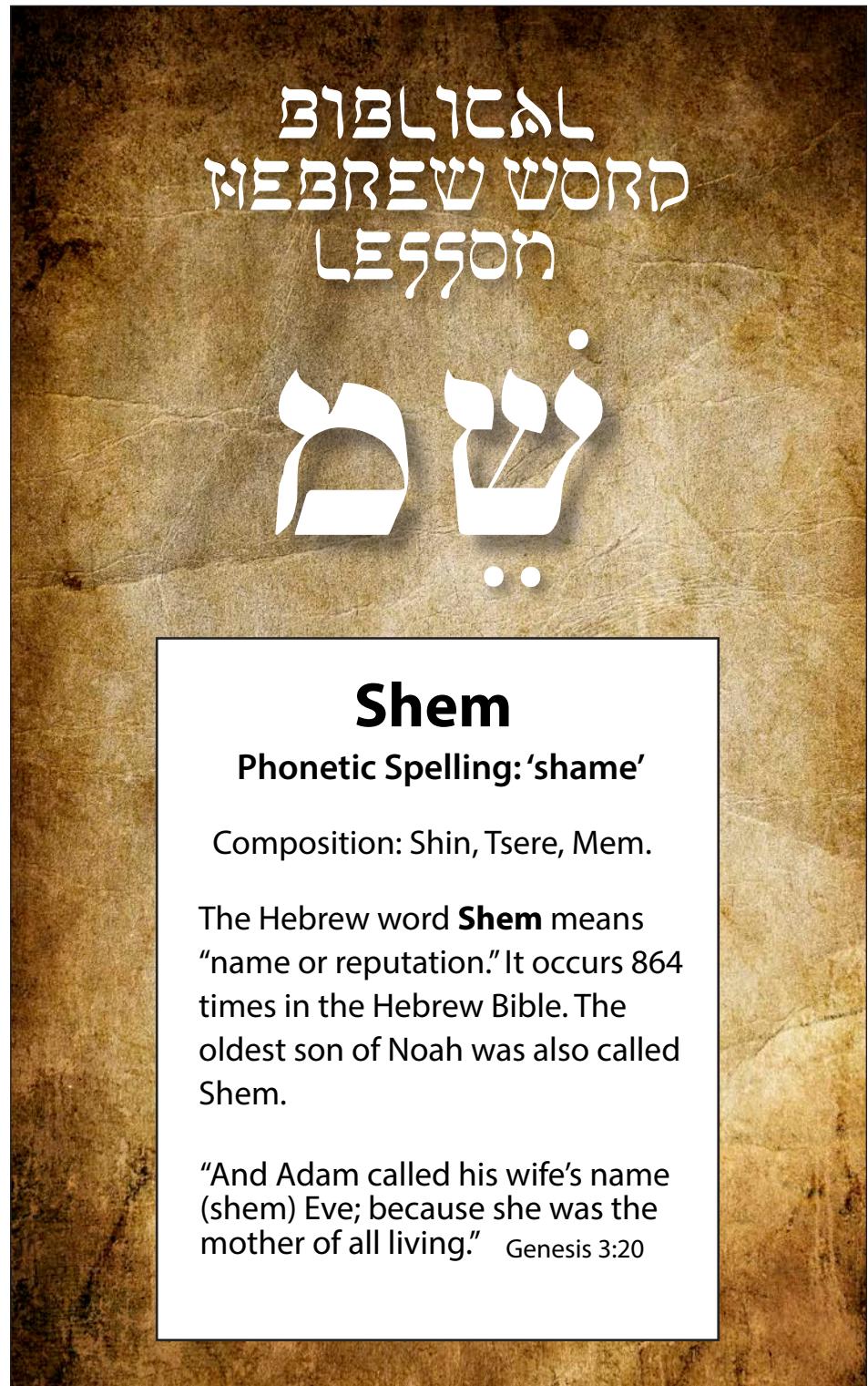
“That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another,” verse 25.

That also is the true work of the Holy Spirit. 

## TRUE TONGUES

In 1Corinthians 12:8-10 Paul lists 9 gifts of the spirit. The gift of tongues (foreign language-speaking) is only one of them and is listed last.

- 1Corinthians 14:4: “He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifies himself; but he that prophesies edifies the assembly.”
- 1Corinthians 14:9: “So likewise you, except you utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for you shall speak into the air.”
- 1Corinthians 14:22: “Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serves not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.”
- 1Corinthians 12:30-31: “Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet show I unto you a more excellent way.”



# BIBLICAL HEBREW WORD LESSON

שֵׁם

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## Shem

**Phonetic Spelling:** ‘shame’

**Composition:** Shin, Tsere, Mem.

The Hebrew word **Shem** means “name or reputation.” It occurs 864 times in the Hebrew Bible. The oldest son of Noah was also called Shem.

“And Adam called his wife’s name (shem) Eve; because she was the mother of all living.” Genesis 3:20

## Outreach Program’s Current Partners

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

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YRM's donated 1993 John Deere backhoe has given its all for the last 15 years and has proven reliable. But it is now in need of major repairs. This indispensable machine has been heavily used: in the construction of the entire Holts Summit facility; in the upkeep of our roads and parking lot in summer and winter; in moving pallets of Bibles when delivered to the offices; in handling tons of trash; in clearing trees on the property, and in countless other ways. The 4th edition Bibles will be here soon and we depend on this backhoe to unload them, not to mention the many spring projects that are on hold until this machine is fixed. Your help with repair costs would be a blessing!

**Total repair estimate: \$15,000**

To donate through Paypal see our backhoe fund link here: [yrm.org/donate/](http://yrm.org/donate/)

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# Feedback

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"I like your pamphlets. They make me do a lot of soul searching and thinking. I am a Sabbath keeper through Church of God 7th Day. Yet we have no Sabbath-keeping churches where we live except 7th Day Adventist, which I do not believe in. So your pamphlets and such mean a lot to me and my family." – RA

"Thank you for your teachings. I have been going back and forth whether or not it's necessary to keep Sabbath, and celebrate Easter and Christmas. All which I know are pagan, but man-made traditions and the guilt trip that's given left me confused. I celebrated Passover 2020 for the first time and that's when I made a decision to serve and worship Yahweh according to what He says, not what man says. I know I'm in for a bumpy ride, but with Yah all things are possible." – TB

"Every Sabbath day I enjoy watching Yahweh's Restoration Ministry. Not just for myself to learn but for my kids as well. I believe it's been a month since I started watching Yahweh's Restoration Ministry. Ever since then I've been learning the truth every Sabbath. First I

was lost in the Catholic religion but now I'm found, not just for myself but my kids as well. I feel like not just me but my kids are the Sabbath family. I can't wait for the next Sabbath to learn something new." – C.S.B.

"Have been blessed to stumble across this site whilst searching to find a live Shabbat worship, I have also shared

some links with my cousin, who now is learning and Shabbat keeping. Shabbat Shalom and greetings from Alotau, Papua New Guinea." – Vai

(We are always encouraged by the communications we receive regularly. Drop us a note and tell us about how Yahweh is working in your life. – ED)

## "I Didn't Know That"

### – Popular Terms and Teachings That Are Missing in the Word –

- The term "Christian(s)" is found only three times in the Bible and was not used by the New Testament believers to identify themselves. It was originally a term given by Gentiles at Antioch.
- The word Easter is not legitimately found in Scripture. It was a mistranslation of the Hebrew Pascha or Passover and is found once in the **King James Bible** in Acts 12:4. Other versions render it Passover in that verse.
- Ask the person who is counting on going to heaven, where in the Bible does he or she get that idea. They may not know that heaven is never promised to the saved, but the earth only is the reward of the righteous, Rev. 5:10. Yahshua said no one has gone to heaven. This universal misunderstanding is partly the result of confusing the kingdom from heaven with the kingdom in heaven.
- Nowhere in the Word is infant or child baptism condoned or practiced. Peter in Acts 2 defines how baptism is to be carried out, with repentance as a prerequisite. Following that, the Holy Spirit is given to those who obey Yahweh, Acts 5:32. An infant or child falls short of understanding what repentance and obedience mean and does not have the maturity of heart and mind to commit to the True Walk for the rest of life.
- Baptism into a trinity was never carried out in Scripture. Every instance of immersion in the New Testament was done into the singular Name of Yahshua. Neither is baptism ever done by sprinkling or pouring. It is always by immersion, depicting putting to death the old nature and rising in a new life.

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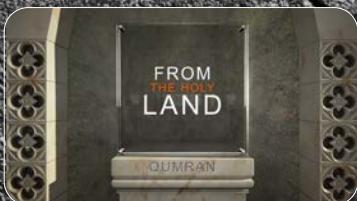
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