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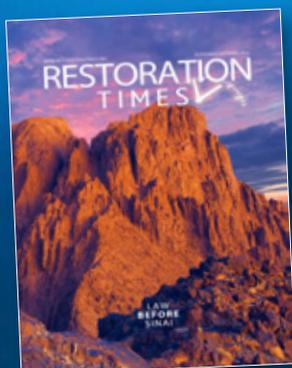
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Restoration Times expounds the close ties between the Old and New Testaments. We teach the continuity and harmony that extend from Yahweh's actions anciently down through His present activity in Yahshua the Messiah. This was also the conviction of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

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Mountaintop  
symbolizing Mount  
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# ‘I Must by All Means Keep This Feast’

by Alan Mansager

– Apostle Paul  
Acts 18:21



*Virtually everyone around the world will one day be packing suitcases and preparing to observe the annual Feasts of the Bible. This command, which was central to the covenant with Israel and also to the new covenant, is binding on all believers today.*

**R**efreshing autumn breezes bring cool, crisp days and the invigorating promise of another memorable Feast of Tabernacles.

Millions of families from around the world are packing belongings for an eight-day stay in the Golden City where Yahshua the Messiah now reigns.

Huge crowds are coursing along roadways, singing songs of praise while anticipating the coming days of joy! The atmosphere is much like euphoric Israel leaving Egypt to keep the Feast to Yahweh (Ex. 5:1).

The old days, with their obedient Feastgoers numbering only in the thousands, were nothing like this. Who keeping the Feasts back in 2022 could have comprehended this worldwide phenomenon? Virtually everyone across the planet is traveling to keep the Feasts at the same time!

## A World in Compliance

The year is Millennium 0001, the first year of the new Kingdom come to earth. In this seventh month people

from around the world are fulfilling what the prophets of old foretold.

The scene is the same everywhere – one dwelling after another is abandoned for eight days. Miraculously for the travelers, the usual problems and hindrances disappear as soon as they crop up. Unseen guides help them along to the Great City to worship the King, Yahweh of Hosts. These righteous rulers and aides are True Worshipers who were obedient to Yahweh in the days before Yahshua returned, and were taken up in the first resurrection when Yahshua came to earth.

Finally, after centuries of ignorance, stubborn resistance, worn-out excuses, foot-dragging, and indecision, obedient people everywhere are traveling to the place where Yahweh commands all to attend the great Feast of Tabernacles, Zechariah 14:16-19.

At long last, an entire world is blessed of Yahweh for complete submission to His laws and commands. After millennia of human suffering and misery, universal joy and peace reign under the righteous law of the Creator

of the universe.

If you think this is just a fantasy from the fertile imagination of some movie script writer, think again. What you have just read is as real as tomorrow – and nearly as close.

This is the Millennial Kingdom of Yahweh come to earth. Thousands of years of human misrule are over. Finally, the earth is being cleansed of the rebellion and sin that began in the Garden of Eden and continued through 6,000 years of misery and pain.

## Enforced Utopia Coming

No longer will human governments be allowed to fail to bring peace. Man will have no more opportunity to ruin his life, the lives of others, and the world around him through defiance of His Creator and His Scriptures. Yahweh has at last taken full control, and everyone WILL obey Him!

Now in the thousand-year reign, those resurrected will assist Yahshua the Messiah in governing the nations of the earth. They teach the laws and statutes of Yahweh, just as they themselves

learned to keep them back in 2022.

This was foretold and promised by the Savior Yahshua in Revelation 2:26-27: “And he that overcomes, and keeps 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.”

### **Feast Prophecies Fulfilled**

This scene from the seventh month in Yahweh’s Millennial Kingdom is the dramatic fulfillment of Zechariah’s prophecy. Biblical laws, including the Feasts, will be enforced everywhere by the greatest Power in the universe –Yahweh Himself. Read what the prophet Zechariah foretold:

“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” (Zech. 14:16).

The prophet Isaiah makes it clear that immediately after the return of Yahshua, once He subdues the earth and establishes His Kingdom, that people will start keeping the Feasts at His Holy Mountain known as Jerusalem. Notice, it is right after Yahshua subdues mankind by the blade of His righteous sword:

“For by fire and by his sword will Yahweh plead with all flesh: and the slain of Yahweh shall be many,” Isaiah 66:16. Further down in the passage we read, “For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory” (v. 18).

And where will they go? We continue:

“And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto Yahweh out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says Yahweh, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of Yahweh” (v. 20).

“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, says Yahweh. And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh” (Isa. 66:23-24).

### **Gainsayers in Future Shock**

All the scoffers, including those who today strenuously resist the keeping of those “Jewish” Feasts, are going to be thunderstruck—and humbled—to find THEMSELVES preparing to go to Jerusalem to keep the Feasts in the Kingdom of Almighty Yahweh.

They will humbly admit that Yahweh’s people were right when they kept His appointed days back in 2022. Many will be ashamed of themselves for once ridiculing the ways of Yahweh. Many more will wish they had taken the teaching of the Feasts seriously in 2022, back when keeping the Feasts and other laws was a free choice that relatively few took to heart. Had they done so they would not be missing out on many blessings.

The prophet had warned, “Then shall you remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations” (Ezek. 36:31).

And what about those who stubbornly refuse to obey in this Millennial rule of Yahshua? The prophet Zechariah says: “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” (Zech. 14:17). Plague! One will either keep the Feasts of Leviticus 23 or will suffer the vengeance of Yahweh. Those who stubbornly resist will also feel the sting of the rod of iron administered by those who rule with Yahshua, as we have seen.

In keeping the Feasts, which revolve

around the harvest seasons, one rejoices in the abundance of Yahweh’s blessings. Anyone refusing to do so in the Millennial reign will suffer just the opposite—starvation resulting from drought.

The complete planet will be in harmony with Yahweh once more. All of nature will return to its Edenic harmony and beauty, and all humanity will submit to their Creator, which hasn’t been seen since Adam and Eve before their rebellion. It will be His way or no way. No excuses. No questioning. No compromising. No promises of “some other time” or “maybe next year.”

Yahweh will accept nothing short of complete obedience from everyone. One will either submit or suffer the wrath of the all-powerful Mighty One of the universe!

What would you do in that day? Resist...or humbly comply?

The important question is, what are you doing NOW, knowing that Yahweh’s Feasts will soon be required of EVERYONE around the world and He demands that we keep them? Do you want to be in that Kingdom reign, or suffer from no rain as you are forced to learn Yahweh’s ways at that time?

### **‘But I’m Not Jewish’**

Those who misconstrue the Bible’s clear command to keep the seven annual Feast days, as well as the weekly Sabbath, counter Yahweh’s mandate with the rationale, “I’m not a Jew. Those observances are for Jews.”

First, realize that the Feast days were given to Moses on Mount Sinai to pass on to Israel (see the Book of Leviticus, along with the last verse, which reveals that Moses was given all the law, not just the Ten Commandments). Israel was composed of 12 tribes, only one of which was Judah, known as the Jews. The 11 other tribes were not Jews, but Hebrews who were collectively known as Israel.

All 12 tribes stood at the base of Mt. Sinai. Yahweh’s laws, therefore, were given to more than the Jews. They applied to the ENTIRE nation called Israel.

Scripture makes it clear that we are to become SPIRITUAL Israelites. That means we do what Israel did and live by the same laws Israel did. Paul wrote, “Who are Israelites; to whom pertains the ADOPTION, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of Yahweh, and the promises” (Rom. 9:4).

Why? Because the original covenant was made with Israel. Most fail to understand that Yahweh is still working with and through Israel. The covenant promises were not made for anyone else but Israel. Others have a part in the promises only by special adoption.

Yahshua’s disciples clearly understood this fact. Just before His ascension they approached Him and asked, “Master, will you at this time restore again the Kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6)

They did not comprehend His timetable, but they did understand that He was working with those known as Israel. Others who want a part in the salvation promise must become spiritual Israelites (Rom. 9 and 11) and abide by the same covenant agreement Israel made with Yahweh. That agreement

included obedience to all of Yahweh’s laws given at Sinai, including the Ten Commandments and Feast days.

Yahshua never changed that fact when He came to earth. He simply opened the way for those outside of Israel to come into the promise by taking hold of the same covenant. Now it’s a RENEWED covenant commonly known as the “New Testament.”

### **His Feasts, Not Ours to Choose**

Another reason that the argument, “They’re Jewish Feasts” falls flat is found in many passages, including Leviticus 23:2:

“Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of Yahweh, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.” This verse in the law tells us exactly whose Feasts they really are: the Feasts of Almighty Yahweh!

Prior to listing each of the seven annual Appointments, Yahweh provides this important introduction, “These are the feasts of Yahweh, even holy convocations, which you shall proclaim in their seasons” (Lev. 23:4). Again, we see that they are

“Yahweh’s” Feasts.

If these Feasts are just for Jews to keep, then in the Millennial Kingdom only Jews would be required to observe them. But we have seen that the WHOLE WORLD will be keeping them at their appointed times. Those who rebel at that time will suffer for their obstinacy, as we have also seen.

After Moses finished cataloging the Feasts in Leviticus 23, we find this: “And Moses declared unto the children of Israel the feasts of Yahweh” (v. 44). Notice that Moses spoke to all of Israel, not just to the Jews, and he declared to them the “Feasts of Yahweh,” not the “Feasts of the Jews.”

Only later in the New Testament did they begin to be referred to as feasts of the Jews because the Jews were the one Israelite tribe still keeping them. The rest of the Israelites were negligent, being scattered throughout other nations, as we find in James 1:1; 1Peter 1:1, and John 7:35.

To keep the Feasts or not to keep them. That is the choice set before each of us now. Today it’s our call. In tomorrow’s Kingdom it will forever be Yahweh’s.

## *What the Autumn Feasts Teach Us*

The word Feast in Hebrew is *moed*, meaning an appointed time or season. We’ll concentrate on the last three of the annually appointed Feasts because they make up the remaining Feasts of the seventh scriptural month.

### **Feast of Trumpets**

The Feast of Trumpets, which comes first in the seventh month, is the only Feast that begins on a new moon. The Jews refer to it as *Rosh Hashana*, meaning first of the year. Actually, it marks their civil new year but not the new year of Scripture, which comes in the springtime (month of Abib, Ex. 12:2).

Another term they use for Trumpets

is *Yom ha-Din*, meaning the Day of Judgment. This is more fitting, as it signifies what this day denotes.

The Feast of Trumpets is described as a special time of remembrance, a memorial:

“Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall you have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation” (Lev. 23:24).

Prophecy tells us that Yahshua the Messiah will return “at the last trump,” 1Corinthians 15:52. The trumpet will sound and the dead will rise first, 1Thessalonians 4:16. This Feast, which was celebrated by the blowing of

trumpets, links beautifully with the return of Yahshua. His potential arrival on the Feast of Trumpets harmonizes with the design of this important day.

Ten days later is the Day of Atonement, or *Yom Kippur* (day of covering) in Hebrew. The days coming between Trumpets and Atonement are a solemn time of self-examination when Yahweh’s people reflect on their past, personal mistakes and the hurt they may have inflicted on others.

Asking beforehand for Yahweh’s forgiveness – resolving to make amends for their backsliding and to improve their behavior—His people are now ready for the Day of Atonement.

This “day of covering” finds

significance in the lid placed over the ark in the Tabernacle. The Hebrew is *Yom Kippur*, which is from the same root as the Hebrew word that gives us “mercy seat.”

Placed in the ark were the Ten Commandments, Aaron’s rod, and a gold pot that had contained manna. The lid or propitiatory “cover” on the ark is called the mercy seat or *kapporeth* in Hebrew. Yahweh dwelled there. Just as blood was sprinkled on the mercy seat (Lev. 16:14), Yahshua’s blood will cover the sin we commit against His laws — if we confess and repent.

Paul wrote of Yahshua, “Whom Yahweh has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of Elohim” (Rom. 3:25).

The mercy seat was of pure gold, not overlaid, because the work of propitiation (reconciliation) for our sins is done by Yahshua. It is pure and not mixed with human effort.

On the Day of Atonement Yahweh’s people fast for 24 hours, from sunset to sunset. During this time they worship together and study His Word. Yahweh’s instructions for this unique day are found in Leviticus 23:27:

“Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh” (Lev. 23:27).

“Afflict your souls” means to humble ourselves through fasting (see Ps. 35:13; Ezra 8:21). We neither eat nor drink during this time (see Ex. 34:28; Esther 4:16; Acts 9:9).

On this tenth day of the seventh month we become reconciled to Yahweh. When we fast we draw close to Him and He turns His ear to us and purifies us from all our errors. Our High Priest Yahshua makes the atonement for us through His shed blood:

“And this shall be a statute for ever unto you: that in the seventh month, on

the tenth day of the month, you shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger that sojourns among you: For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before Yahweh” (Lev. 16:29-30).

His redemption is available, but we must first come to Him on His terms. We must be willing to humble ourselves through the fast.

So in the prophetic sequence, the trumpet sounds and Yahshua appears (Feast of Trumpets). We are changed from bodies corrupted by sin to new spirit beings through the work of Yahshua (Day of Atonement). The next prophetic phase is to enter the Millennial Kingdom, which is foreshadowed by the Feast of Tabernacles.

#### **Feast of Tabernacles, Earthly Kingdom**

Through a variety of means, one can show that our Savior was born in the fall of the year, with evidence pointing to the Feast of Tabernacles. What this means prophetically is that the King came to earth to teach of His future government to be established on earth.

That teaching is fulfilled by the Feast of Tabernacles observance — the symbolic Kingdom on earth.

The annual Feasts are keyed to harvest seasons. The Feast of Unleavened Bread brings the wave-sheaf as the “first of the firstfruits” of the barley harvest (signifying Yahshua). This is followed by Pentecost or Feast of Firstfruits, which commemorates the firstfruits of the wheat harvest portraying His Elect.

Distinguished from these two is the final Feast, Tabernacles, which is called the Feast of Ingathering. It signifies the general “gathering in” of the harvest of souls who will listen to and obey Yahweh during the Millennium. Those who never had an opportunity to learn the truth will ultimately be given that chance during the White Throne Judgment. Notice Yahweh’s instructions to Israel, which sum up

what we have discovered, beginning with the Feast of Unleavened Bread: “You shall keep the feast of unleavened bread: you shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it you came out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty: And the feast of harvest [Pentecost], the firstfruits of your labours, which you have sown in the field: and the feast



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them now, will be  
in that preferred  
first resurrection to  
rulership.**

of ingathering [Tabernacles], which is in the end of the year, when you have gathered in your labors out of the field” (Ex. 23:15-16).

Is it any wonder that the Feasts, particularly Tabernacles, will still be kept in the Millennium? Because Tabernacles is a vision of the general harvest, and because others will be given an opportunity in the Millennium to learn the truth so they, too, will be part of the great harvest of souls, and because “laboring” to reach and teach people continues through the Millennium, then Tabernacles, depicting a final harvesting

of souls, fits in perfectly with this 1,000-year reign.

Significantly, the Feast of Tabernacles with the Last Great Day, completes the Feast days marked with the same practice that characterized the first Feast. As Israel lived in *succoth* or booths — temporary dwellings as they left Egypt — we live in temporary dwellings at Tabernacles to show the momentary nature of the present world. Both the Feast of Unleavened Bread and Feast of Tabernacles are seven-day observances beginning and ending with a high day Sabbath.

Israel's exodus during the Feast of Unleavened Bread meant a temporary home in the wilderness. We practice the same at Tabernacles, and will again witness this annual, future exodus in the coming Millennium as people worldwide leave their homes for a brief stay at the Great City of Jerusalem during the Feast of Tabernacles.

The parallels go even deeper. In both Unleavened Bread and Tabernacles the obedient find redemption through worshiping Yahweh and by obeying the King, Yahshua the Messiah. Unleavened Bread is the beginning of the journey out of sin, portrayed by Egypt, while Tabernacles symbolizes our ultimate destination: the Millennial Kingdom.

Today is "law school" for the future judges of the Kingdom, who will see Deuteronomic law administered in the Millennium as well as in the final White Throne Judgment.

### **Last Great Day**

Imagine a celebration in advance of a time when everyone will have their chance to become a citizen in the Kingdom of heaven. Where could one find a more joyful event to honor?

Many are already observing such a day. It comes at the end of the biblical calendar, and is known as the Last Great Day. It immediately follows the Feast of Tabernacles in the scriptural seventh month (autumn).

Man's holidays all commemorate

past events. But Yahweh's appointed days (Heb. *moedim*) not only have historic focus, but also foreshadow the future salvation of the people of Yahweh. No empty, nominal celebration can even begin to compare with the significance of Yahweh's days.

### **Return to the Country**

To understand the Last Great Day is to understand Bible prophecy. All of Yahweh's Feasts have a prophetic basis. That is one important characteristic that sets them far apart from the days the world observes. Man tries to give his own significance to the days he celebrates, while the Creator Yahweh Himself gives meaning to the appointed times He gives to His people.

The Feast of Tabernacles is a joyous, seven-day observance that pictures the millennial reign of Yahshua, who will govern with His saints on the earth (Rev. 5:10). Notice:

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Yahshua, and for the word of Yahweh, and which had not worshiped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Messiah a thousand years" (Rev. 20:4).

The earth will return to an agrarian economy in a rural setting as people are scattered and cities are left desolate by the judgment of Yahshua, the returning King. The prophet speaks of this:

"Behold, Yahweh makes the earth empty, and makes it waste, and turns it upside down, and scatters abroad the inhabitants thereof" (Isa. 24:1).

The cities and their dwellings will be uninhabitable: "The city of confusion is broken down: every house is shut up, that no man may come in" (Isa. 24:10).

As Israel left the cities of Egypt, so will those remaining on earth in the Millennium leave the cities to dwell

in the countryside, just as Yahweh's faithful do at the Feast of Tabernacles. In fact, during the Millennium He says He will cause the people to dwell in tabernacles (*ohalim*, tents) "as in the days of the solemn feast," Hosea 12:9. In the Millennium they will come up to Jerusalem to learn Yahweh's laws and way of true happiness.

"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. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of Yahweh of hosts hath spoken it." (Micah 4:1-4).

At last the world will learn the ways of peace and security. The rat-race of today's culture will be replaced by the serenity that comes with a return to the land as it was in Eden. Yahweh's laws will be enforced worldwide, and wars will end.

### **After the Millennium, What Then?**

But what happens when this thousand-year reign of Yahshua and His saints is completed? To understand, we must go to the final Feast, the Last Great Day.

In John 7:37-38, after observing the Feast of Tabernacles, Yahshua made this statement on the Last Great Day: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, as the scripture has said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

This conclusive Last Great Day pictures the final judgment of man on earth, the Great White Throne judgment. It is the final opportunity for those who lived in ignorance of Yahweh's Name, Sabbaths, Feasts, and laws during the preceding 6,000 years to accept the ways of Yahweh before He completely cleanses and renews this earth and establishes His throne at New Jerusalem.

Having missed the first resurrection, the rest of the dead will come alive again for the Great White Throne judgment. If they are found guilty of unrepented sin and of having rejected the truth of their Savior, they will be destroyed in the lake of fire. If they never knew the truth, this is school time.

The prophet Isaiah tells us that those in the Millennium will be allowed a 100-year lifespan to learn of Yahweh and the laws He expects all to follow: "There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that has not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed" (Isa. 65:20).

Conceivably, the same opportunity will be given to those in the second resurrection under the White Throne Judgment. We note in Revelation 20:13 that those in the second resurrection are judged "by their works." They must be given time to prove themselves.

Hundreds of millions will be resurrected to learn Yahweh's truth for the first time. True understanding was purposely withheld from them in this life (Matt. 13:11). Only a select few "firstfruits" have been allowed to understand Yahweh's plan of salvation, and, if they accept Yahweh's covenant terms and follow them now, will be in that preferred first resurrection to rulership.

Daniel explains more about this Great White Throne Judgment: "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the

hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened" (Dan. 7:9-10).

These "books" are mentioned in Revelation 20:12 as well, also speaking of this White Throne Judgment:

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before Elohim; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

These previously unsaved people who had never been given the opportunity to learn the true Good News and to keep the renewed Covenant originally made with Israel, will now have their chance. They will be taught and judged by Yahshua, helped by the saints who came up in the first resurrection.

But by what standard will their "works" be judged? It won't be by pleasant feelings, by nice thoughts they had, or by an occasional kind deed. Both Daniel and Revelation say they will be judged out of what is written in the "books." One of the books is identified as the Book of Life. The rest can be nothing other than the books of the Bible — and the books of the law therein ("books" is *biblos* in Greek, from which we get the word Bible, Strong's No. 976).

This is the same standard of judgment by which Israel of old was judged. Notice that they are judged "according to their works" in conjunction with the standard of the law found in Yahweh's Word: "For the word of Elohim is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of

the heart" (Heb. 4:12).

### Saints Are Judged Even Now

The criteria are the same today. "That you might walk worthy of Yahweh unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of Yahweh" (Col. 1:10). Also, "For not the hearers of the law are just before Elohim, but the doers of the law shall be justified" (Rom. 2:13).

John wrote, "Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you have heard from the beginning" (1John 2:7).

The law of Scripture, especially the Book of Deuteronomy, was the constitution of the ancient Israelites. Notice: "And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of every seven years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the feast of tabernacles, When all Israel is come to appear before Yahweh your Elohim in the place which he shall choose, you shall read this law before all Israel in their hearing" (Deut. 31:10-11).

The year of release and the Feast of Tabernacles picture the Kingdom coming to earth. All the earth will comply with Yahweh's laws — or else! "And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shines in his strength" (Rev. 1:16).

"And many people shall go and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of Elohim of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem" (Isa. 2:3).

His laws will be the constitution in the coming Kingdom. How fantastic to know that we can learn about His laws and obey them right now, for salvation's sake. 

# People of the COVENANT

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# The Law Before Sinai

by Randy Folliard

Many have the notion that the Law was not known until Sinai. However, what if there were examples of the Law being found before Moses received the Torah on Mount Sinai? In this article we review several eye-opening occurrences showing not only that the law was known but also observed prior to Moses.

## Seventh-day Sabbath

Let's begin with the Sabbath. Many believe this command was first given to Moses on Mount Sinai, but as we see in Scripture, it was established long before Moses.

The earliest evidence for the Sabbath goes all the way back to creation in Genesis 2. "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day Elohim ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 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" (Gen. 2:1-3).

Yahweh, our Father in heaven, created the heavens and earth in six days and then rested on the seventh, blessing and sanctifying this day. The word "blessed" here comes from the Hebrew *barak* and means to "kneel or bless." "Sanctified" comes from the Hebrew *kaw-dash*, meaning, "to be set apart or consecrated."

We find that our Father in heaven blessed and set apart or consecrated the seventh day as a day of rest. Today we call this day the Sabbath, coming from a primitive root meaning "to cease from labor or exertion."

It's important to realize that Yahweh established the seventh day as a day of rest more than 2,000 years before Moses. According to biblical chronology, from Genesis 1 to the time of Moses was around 2,400 years. Contrary to popular belief, many of Yahweh's laws were known before Sinai, some by more than 2,000 years. This shows that many of Yahweh's commandments were established from the beginning and were given not only to the Israelites, but to all of mankind.

Isaiah 66:23 says that all flesh in

the Kingdom will worship Yahweh from one Sabbath to another. This will happen when our Savior returns to establish His Father's Kingdom here on earth. In the case of the Sabbath, that edict was established at the beginning of creation, given to Moses and Israelites, kept by the Messiah and the apostles in the New Testament, and will be kept by all of mankind in the coming Kingdom.

Another instance of the Sabbath before Sinai is found in Exodus 16:25-30. "And Moses said, Eat that today; for today is a sabbath unto Yahweh: today ye shall not find it in the field. Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none. And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none. And Yahweh said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws? See, for that Yahweh hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.

So the people rested on the seventh day.”

Where in Exodus do we find Moses receiving the commandments from Sinai? We find it in Exodus 20, occurring after the time of this passage. This is important because it shows the Sabbath was known prior to Sinai. But if the Law were known before Sinai, what would be the purpose of Moses receiving it at that time?

First, after 400 years of slavery, Israel had probably forgotten many of the commandments.

Second, this was a way to write down or codify the law, making it more transmissible for the future.

But again, in the case of the Sabbath, we find ample evidence showing this day was known more than 2,000 years before Moses.

**Law of the Passover**

In Exodus 12:11-12, we find another command that was known prior to Sinai. “And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is Yahweh’s passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the mighty one’s of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am Yahweh.”

Here is the first description of Yahweh’s Passover. Keep in mind that the Law was given to Moses in Exodus 20. This shows that the Passover was known before the commandments were given at Sinai.

Recall that in the Old Testament the Passover entailed the passing over of the death angel and the release of Israel from slavery. In the New Testament this day remembers the death of Yahshua the Messiah, our Savior, and the remission of sins through His blood. The Passover is one of the most solemn days in Yahweh’s calendar and it was

known before Sinai.

It’s important for believers to understand that the laws of our Father in heaven were known long before they were codified at Sinai and not just given to Moses and the Israelites.

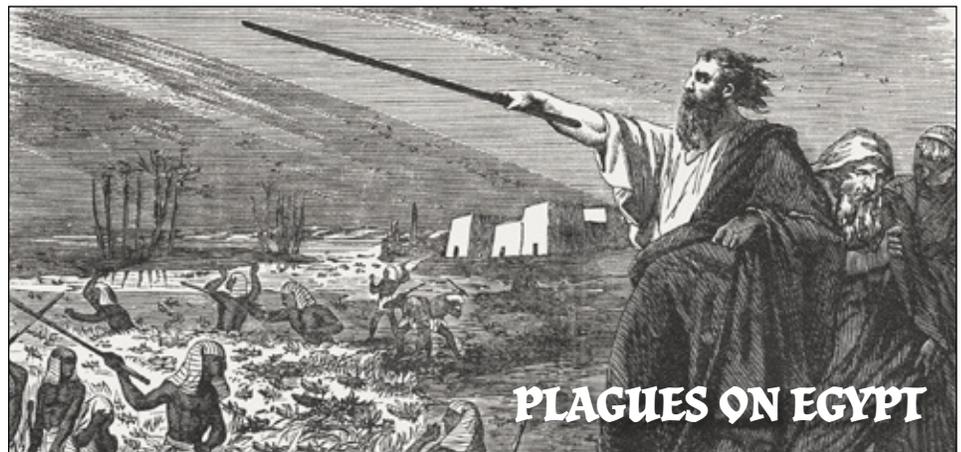
Before moving on, we read that Yahweh would execute judgment against all the mighty ones of Egypt. This was done through the ten plagues of Egypt; each of the plagues was an attack on a different Egyptian mighty one. Below is a chart showing the connection between the plagues

and how they correspond to various Egyptian deities.

For example, the 5th plague, which killed the cattle of Egypt, was likely an attack on the Egyptian deity Apis, which was depicted as a bull. This is probably where the Israelites got the idea of the golden calf they built at Sinai.

**Feast of Unleavened Bread**

Another time of worship mentioned is the Feast of Unleavened Bread in Exodus 12:15-16. “Seven days shall ye



SCRIPTURE	PLAGUE	AGAINST THE EGYPTIAN DEITY
Exodus 7:14-25	Nile River turns blood	Hapi, spirit of the Nile; Osiris, life blood of the Nile; Hatmenyt, female fish deity
Exodus 7:26-8:15	Frogs from the Nile	Heqet, frog-headed deity of fertility
Exodus 8:16-19	Dust becomes lice	Geb, earth/soil deity
Exodus 8:20-30	Swarms of insects	Khepri, scarab-headed creation deity
Exodus 9:1-7	Disease on livestock	Apis, bull deity; Hathor cow deity
Exodus 9:8-12	Boils	Isis, deity of life, healing and magic; Sekhmet, female deity of war/disease
Exodus 9:13-26	Hail	Nut, female sky deity
Exodus 10:1-20	Locusts	Seth, deity of storms/chaos
Exodus 10:21-29	Darkness	Ra, sun deity
Exodus 11:1-10	Death of firstborn	Pharaoh, considered the son of Ra

(see p. 116, Restoration Study Bible, 4th Edition)

eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel. And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done of you.”

As we know, the Passover is on the 14th day of Abib and the Feast of Unleavened Bread begins on the 15th of Abib. Also, this Feast is seven days long and forbids the eating of leavening. In Hebrew, “leavening” comes from two words, *seor* and *chamets*, one referring to the starter dough and the other referring to leavened bread or to a leavened food product.

Like the Passover this Feast was also decreed even before Moses received the commandments at Sinai. In fact, we find it first mentioned in Exodus 5:1, where Moses told Pharaoh to let his people go so they could keep a Feast in the wilderness. Again, the fact that we find evidence of this Feast prior to Moses’ receiving the law at Sinai verifies that commandments were in effect before that time.

### **Murderer Cain**

Another commandment that was known long before Moses is in Genesis 4:8-10. “And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. And Yahweh said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother’s keeper? And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother’s blood crieth unto me from the ground.”

Here we find the murder of Abel by his brother Cain. As we know from the story, Yahweh looked more favorably upon Abel’s offering, and because of this Cain became jealous of his brother. This jealousy eventually led to Cain

killing his brother.

This is important because it shows that the Sixth Commandment not to murder was understood even at this time. This occurred around 2,000 years before Moses, and even here we see that murder was understood as a sin. Cain knew what he did was wrong; this is why he tried to conceal the murder from Yahweh. But he was unable to hide his crime against his brother Abel.

Yahweh declared that Abel’s blood cried out from the ground. This notion of the blood crying out is a Hebraic metaphor; blood does not literally cry out, but was simply Yahweh’s way of saying that He knew what Cain had done.

Two lessons are worth noting here. First, nothing good comes from jealousy. James 3:14-16 says, “But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.” As believers, we should do our very best not to allow strife or jealousy within our hearts. Those who do so risk being found unworthy of Yahweh’s Kingdom.

And second, we see that it is impossible to deceive our Father in heaven. We might be able to deceive our family or friends, but we will never deceive the One we worship. He knows every action we make and every word we speak. In Galatians 6:7-8 Paul says: “Be not deceived; Elohim is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”

A command specifically against murder is also found in Genesis 9:5-6. “And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man’s brother will I require the life of man. Whoso

sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of Elohim made he man.”

We find here a law against murder, 2,000 years before Moses. This shows beyond a shadow of doubt that Yahweh’s commandments were NOT first given at Sinai, but were known long before that. Again, the difference we find before and after Sinai is the codification of the Torah or law. Before Sinai, Yahweh’s laws were either given directly from Yahweh or passed down orally. It’s also worth mentioning that Adam and Eve may have received this knowledge through the tree of good and evil. Whatever the case, the Law or Torah was known long before Sinai, but was not codified or written down for Moses to impart to the people.

This is the only difference between what we find here and what we see in Exodus 20. But in both cases, Yahweh condemns those to death who would commit murder. Some believe the death penalty is incompatible with Scripture; this account shows otherwise. Remember, Malachi 3:6 says that Yahweh does not change and neither does His Word.

Notice why Yahweh is opposed to murder: “...for in the image of Elohim made he man.” This makes man special and connected with His Creator and for this reason, murder is not only an attack on the person, but also on Yahweh, in whose image we are made.

### **Prohibiting Consuming Blood**

In Genesis 9:4 we find another command in effect before Sinai. “But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.” Here we see an important truth: the life of an animal is found in its blood. The same is obviously true for human beings.

As we know from medical science, blood provides many critical life functions. These include:

- transporting oxygen and nutrients throughout the body;
- protecting against disease; and
- removing carbon dioxide and other

waste from metabolism.

This is why Yahweh says that life is in the blood. For those who question the existence of Yahweh, how is it possible that people 2,000 years ago understood the importance of blood? This, along with so many other facts, proves the existence of a Creator and the inspiration of the Bible.

The *Benson Commentary* provides two reasons for this command: “The principal meaning...of the passage, is to prohibit the eating of blood in any way, the eating of which seems to have been forbidden especially for two reasons: 1st, To be a token to mankind in all ages, that they would have had no right to take the life of any animal for food, if [Elohim] had not given them that right, and who, therefore, to remind them of it, and impress it on their minds in all generations, denied them the use of blood, and required it to be spilled upon the ground: 2nd: In honour of the blood of atonement, Leviticus 17:11-12. The life of the sacrifice was accepted for the life of the sinner, and blood made atonement for the soul, and therefore must not be looked upon as a common thing, but must be poured out before [Yahweh], 2 Samuel 23:16. And it ought to be observed, that this prohibition of eating blood, given to Noah and all his posterity, and repeated to the Israelites, in a most solemn manner, under the Mosaic dispensation, has never been revoked, but, on the contrary, has been confirmed under the New Testament, Acts 15; and thereby made of perpetual obligation.”

The second reason given is the most important, as blood was used for the atonement of sin. For this reason Yahweh commands that we refrain from eating blood. Not only do we find this prohibition repeated in the law given at Sinai, but also in the New Testament in Acts 15:20. This was in reference to those things the gentiles were immediately to abstain from when coming into the truth. Now for them, consuming blood was likely connected

to pagan worship.

But again, the point here is that this law was known prior to Sinai. Not only do we see this law given to Moses, but also in the New Testament.

### **Clean and Unclean Animals**

Let's transition to another command we find before Sinai and that is the law of clean and unclean animals. “And Yahweh said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation. Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female” (Gen. 7:1-2).

Many believe that Noah brought a pair of each kind of animal on the ark, but this is not entirely true. Noah was commanded to bring two of every unclean animal and seven of every clean animal. So, we see that long before Moses, Yahweh's instruction regarding the clean and unclean was already known.

What we find in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 was simply a codification of what was already known. Some might say that the clean and unclean was not a reference to animals for food but to the sacrificial system. Even if that were the case, we still see that the understanding of clean and unclean was already known. With proofs like these, how can anyone say that Yahweh's law was first given at Sinai?

There were probably commandments that were new or specific to the time of Moses, but many fundamental laws were already known and in force before then.

### **Tithing Commanded**

We've already seen pre-Sinai laws pertaining to the Sabbath, Passover, Unleavened Bread, murder, the eating of blood, and the command relating to clean and unclean animals. In Genesis 14:18-20, we find yet another command given before Sinai and that is tithing.

“And Melchizedek king of Salem

brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high El. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high El, possessor of heaven and earth: And blessed be the most high El, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.”

In this account Moses is returning from battle and he comes to Melchizedek, king of Salem. Beyond believing that this was a man or being similar to Yahshua the Messiah, I don't believe we can know who exactly Melchizedek was. According to Hebrews 7, he was “like unto to the Son of Elohim” or Yahshua the Messiah. *Thayer's Greek Lexicon* defines the word “like” as “to cause a model to pass off into an image or shape like it to express itself in it.” *Strong's* defines it as “to assimilate closely.”

We see that Abraham tithed to Melchizedek, king of Salem, a name meaning “peace,” and priest of the Most High. According to most scholars, Salem is another name for Jerusalem.

The word tithe is from the Hebrew *maaser* and refers to a tenth. It's the same word used in reference to the Levitical tithe. Many who oppose tithing might say this was only for the Levitical priesthood, but we find this command about 300 years before the Levites existed.

This solidifies the command of tithing. Again, the evidence clearly shows that it was found and practiced before Moses and the Levitical priesthood. Those who withhold the tithe or even part of it are guilty of robbing Yahweh.

Malachi 3:8-11 states, “Will a man rob Elohim? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse: for you have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring you all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith Yahweh of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you

out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith Yahweh of hosts.”

to Him. For many there is nothing harder than giving 10% of their income to Yahweh, including many well-intended Torah observant believers.

### Abraham's Example

If these illustrations are not enough,

know that the commandments were of divine origin and not the commandments of men.

The word “statutes” comes from the Hebrew *chuqqah* and refers to “an appointed, custom, manner, ordinance, site, statute.” The primitive root of this



Another case of tithing before Sinai is seen in Genesis 28:20-22. “And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If Elohim will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, So that I come again to my father’s house in peace; then shall Yahweh be my Elohim: And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be Elohim’s house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.”

Here is Jacob vowing to give Yahweh a tithe of all that he would receive. This was a turning point in Jacob’s life. In this same passage is the dream that Jacob had of angels ascending and descending from heaven. This dream lit a fire under Jacob and motivated him to fully commit his life to Almighty Yahweh. From this experience we see that tithing is not only a command holy to Yahweh, but is a sign of our commitment and devotion

in Genesis 26:4-5 we find a passage specifically saying that Abraham obeyed Yahweh’s commandments. “And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.”

Here is undeniable verification that the commandments were known and obeyed by Abraham long before Moses, a span of many generations.

Let’s take a few moments and delve into how the Hebrew defines three key words. The word “commandments” comes from the Hebrew *mitsvah* and according to **Strong’s** refers to “a command, whether human or divine.” We

word can also refer to an appointment of time. It is possible this word is describing days of worship that were known during the time of Abraham.

The word “laws” comes from the Hebrew *Torah*. Here we find verification that Abraham obeyed the Torah some 300 years before the law was given to Moses at Sinai. Can there be any doubt that Yahweh’s commandments were known before Sinai?

### Have No Other Mighty Ones

In our final case, in Genesis 35:1-4 we find that idolatry was known before Sinai. “And Elohim said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there: and make there an altar unto El, that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother. Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, Put away the strange mighty ones that are among you, and



be clean, and change your garments: And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto El, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went. And they gave unto Jacob all the strange mighty ones which were in their hand, and all their earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the oak which was by Shechem.”

Jacob is telling those of his household to put away their strange mighty ones. This is a reference to the false deities that some of the people were still holding on to.

Here is the most important commandment in Yahweh’s Word: the first of the Ten Commandments. Exodus 20:3 declares, “Thou shalt have no other mighty ones before me.”

Jacob removed and purged the false mighty ones in his household; he understood this decree, even though the Ten Commandments had not yet been written in stone. This shows, as with many commandments, that the First Commandment was known long before Sinai.

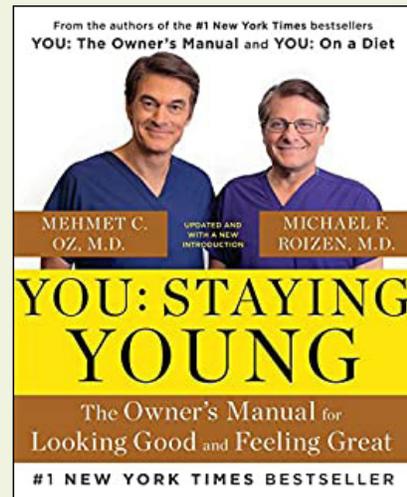
The belief that Yahweh’s laws were first given at Sinai is simply not true.

As we’ve seen from the Word, many of the commandments were known before Moses, and in some cases by more than 2,000 years.

This is important because it shows Yahweh’s commandments existed from the beginning. Also, that Yahweh was the author of these commands and not Moses, who was simply the conduit between Yahweh and Israel. Lastly, it proves that the commandments were not only for Israel, but for those before and after, including those in the Messiah.

Scripture shows Yahweh’s commandments in effect at creation, during the time of the Israelites, during the New Testament, and even in the coming Kingdom. They are just as relevant today as they were for the Israelites of Old. As believers in the Messiah let us honor the One we worship by obeying His eternal and ever-abiding commandments. 

## Interesting NEWS...



### You Breathe the Name Yahweh by Dr. Oz

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*From the book, You Staying Young - The Owner’s Manual for Extending Your Warranty, by Drs. Mehmet Oz and Michael Roizen, p. 132*

See our article: “Breathing the Name Yahweh”  
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## ELECTRIC LINES RELOCATION

YRM is growing and we have reached a point where future growth demands that we enlarge our facility. As those who come for weekly Sabbaths and Feasts know, we are experiencing a shrinking meeting hall.

To expand our worship area the first step is to relocate the buried electric lines that serve the building. The existing lines are encroaching on the road easement and they must be moved to make room for expansion and to meet building code. We wish we could skip this step, but it is necessary and we need your help.

The estimate from the Electric company to relocate the lines is \$15,000. We have raised \$7,704 to date, so just over half. We appreciate anything you can give toward this fund.

May Yahweh bless you richly!

**Q** Regarding the final judgment, if the soul is not immortal then what exactly is the everlasting contempt that awaits the unsaved? What is the unfavorable condition? Does that signify burning and suffering for eternity?

**A** Contempt is *deraown* in the Hebrew and means an object of aversion: repulse, abhorring, contempt (**Strong's**); everlasting abhorrence (**BDB Gesenius**). It complements the preceding word shame in Daniel 12:2. It has nothing to do with eternal suffering in fire. It means that the record of the wicked will forever be despised because of their lawlessness and it will stand as a memorial to their evil. Some, the righteous dead, will be resurrected to everlasting life and the rest will rise to shame, not to endless agony in the flames of hellfire. After being judged they will then be sent to *Gehenna*, the ultimate place of total death where their lives cease and their consciousness ends forever. See "Hell" on p. 48 in the Topical Reference section of the **Restoration Study Bible**.

**Q** Ephraim and Manasseh are included with the 12 tribes of Israel. Doesn't that make 14 tribes?

**A** Jacob had 12 sons, which composed the original 12 tribes. "Original" is key here. In Genesis 48:22 Jacob granted a double portion of his inheritance to Joseph, while the 11 other sons received a single portion. This double honor came to Joseph because he preserved the family from death in time of famine and gave them refuge in the land of the Nile. Simeon and Levi were censured in Genesis 34:30 because of their combative behavior with little regard for the consequences, Genesis 49:5-7. Verse 7 says he will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel. While Simeon and Levi were suppressed, Joseph's sons Ephraim and Manasseh were adopted. Additionally, Levites as the priesthood received no tribal territory but they instead were distributed to designated cities and towns.

**Q** Why is there so much killing of people (and animals) in the Bible, even by Yahweh, contrary to the Sixth Commandment in Exodus 20:13.

**A** The word kill in the Sixth Commandment is *ratsach* and means "to dash in pieces, i.e. kill (a human being), especially to murder," **Strong's** Hebrew Dictionary in the **Restoration Study Bible**. The

**New American Standard Bible** plainly renders the Sixth Commandment, "You shall not murder." Violence and individual bloodshed with sinful intent are recorded in Scripture but never with approval. On the other hand, Yahweh had a specific reason for commanding Israel to wipe out entire communities like Jericho or people like the Amalekites. In each case these offenders had so degenerated into moral depravity that their continued existence would spread the cancer of sin to Yahweh's covenant people and ultimately destroy them. It is like the surgeon who removes the tumor to save the patient. When Israel was commanded by Yahweh to go to war, the soldiers' motives lacked the definition of murder and cannot be put into the same category.

**Q** The world is full of suffering and always has been. If Yahweh is on His throne why does He allow horrible things and heartache to happen to people?

**A** The simple answer is that sin drives this world and we see the consequences of it. Yahweh anticipates and in His own words answers this age-old question in Deuteronomy 31:17: "Then my anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that **they will say in that day, Are not these evils come upon us, because our Elohim is not among us?**" Yahweh allows man to make a mess of his life to show that carnal human beings don't know the way of happiness. Defying Yahweh produces its own rotten fruit. So what is the answer? He explains in Malachi 3:7: "Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith Yahweh of hosts." Yahweh planned to use Israel as a model nation to show the rest of the world the blessings and joy that come with keeping His covenant. But they as a nation rejected Him. Subsequently He is calling out individuals like you and me to have a part in the promises of Israel. With that we experience the peace and happiness that come with obedience to His commands as explained in Jeremiah 31.

**Q** Exodus 20:5 says that Yahweh punishes the children for the sins of their fathers. Deuteronomy 24:16 says children will not be put to death for the sins of their fathers. Please explain this contradiction.



## Cutting-edge topics **LIVE** every Sabbath!



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**A** There is no contradiction. If the children are innocent why would Yahweh punish them for sins their fathers committed? This would conflict with Deuteronomy 24:16 that says each is punished for his own sins. The key to Exodus 20:5 is in the words “them that hate me.” Both parent and child are unregenerate here. When children mimic their parents’ bad behavior, both deserve the consequences. In turn, such children then pass on their sinful behavior to their children and so on to the fourth generation in a vicious cycle. Yahweh doesn’t punish the innocent. Ezekiel 18:19-21 reads, “...doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father? When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, and hath kept all my statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live. The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.”

Yahweh will judge each of us according to our ways, v. 30. There is hope for children who are brought up poorly, just as when a bad king in Judah had a son who became a good king – the mold can be broken.

**Q** Why is the Holy Spirit referred as a “he”? I understand it’s not correct but don’t know how to explain it to other people.

**A** Yahweh is not a sexual being, and neither is His power, the Holy Spirit, which is the Hebrew *ruach* and the Greek *pneuma*. However, in their grammars, certain languages refer to things as either masculine, feminine or neuter. In German, for instance, fork is feminine, spoon is masculine and knife is neuter. It is the way their grammar works, but it doesn’t mean that these things have sexual attributes. The word “spirit” is mostly feminine in Hebrew (*ruach*), neuter in Greek (*pneuma*) and masculine in Latin (*spiritus*). These mean wind, breath.

Even in the same language a difference may arise depending on which word is chosen to describe the Holy Spirit. In Greek *pneuma* is grammatically neuter and therefore its associated pronoun is also grammatically neuter – “it” instead of “he.” However, when the Holy Spirit is referred a few times by the grammatically masculine word *parakletos*, “counselor,” its matching pronoun is also masculine as in John 16:7-8.

English translators with their trinitarian mindsets inappropriately translated the Holy Spirit as “he” in most cases. Yet, their support for the pronoun “he” comes from the word *parakletos*, a Greek word that occurs a mere five times in the New Testament. On the other hand, *pneuma*, which produces the neuter pronoun “it” for the Spirit, occurs 385 times in the New Testament.

Yahweh is neither male nor female, Numbers 23:19; Deuteronomy 4:15-16. That applies as well to His Spirit. The pronoun “he” used for the Holy Spirit is purely a grammatical distinction and does not imply an actual person. Not any more than the German for “spoon” – being masculine grammatically – implies a man.

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# BIBLICAL HEBREW WORD LESSON

וַיְהִי

## Wayhi way-hiy

Composition: waw, pathach,  
yod, shewa, heh, hireq, yod

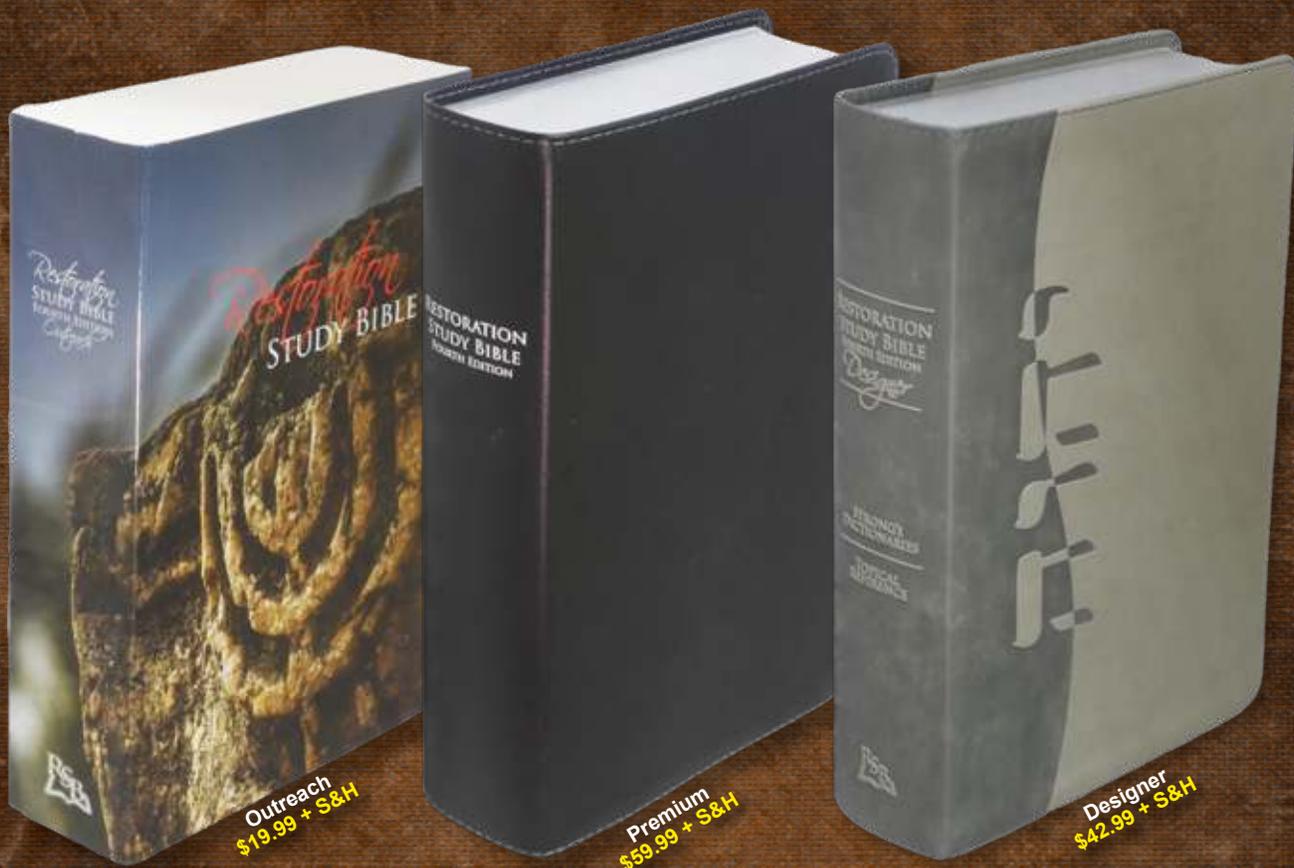
The Hebrew word phrase wayhi (H1961) is a Hebrew phrase meaning “and it was,” from the root hayah, which means “come to pass” or simply “be,” or “exist.” In Exodus 3:14 the root of I AM who I AM is also hayah.

“And Elohim said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.”  
**And it was so...**”

Genesis 1:9



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“You answered my question. I don’t think we should approach the book of Daniel with arrogance and pride. We need to humble ourselves in prayer and understand that if Daniel found it hard to understand the prophecy of the end times, how are we better than he? We are faced with many suppositions by many theologians who want us to believe that their interpretation is correct. We can see, however, Satan setting the stage for what will transpire. Who these 10 nations are is still in the future. Just my opinion.” – **RS**

*Yahshua didn’t intend for us to know all details in prophecy or He would have provided them. He gave us enough, however, to keep our noses in the Word and to watch as developments unfold. His purpose is for us to prepare ourselves spiritually for His coming when we see the events happening, and*

*therefore He said “watch.” – ED*

“I am a 23 year old man residing in NC. I’ve had a somewhat immoral past and was brought up in an unstable environment as a youth . I wandered through my teen years trying to keep up an image that would gain me ‘respect’ or admiration from my peers , and I soon learned this was not the righteous path I was meant to follow. I have been a believer my whole life, I just didn’t believe the traditional European version of the history. Like a beam of light in the darkness I stumbled upon YRM. I devoured information for months and thought I had made serious progress. As of now I believe I am backsliding. I have no motivation, I’m lacking in faith and haven’t the slightest idea of what my purpose in life is. Not to get into detail but I am slowly becoming the sole person my family depended on due to medical reasons. I believe this is having an impact upon my disposition. I am just asking for any advice the elders may have for a young man such as myself in this tumultuous time in my life. Shalom and may Yah always be with you.” – **TD**

*Your experience is not uncommon. It can be difficult to live righteously in a sin-filled world. Clearly Yahweh called you and you eagerly answered. He hasn’t given up on you by a long*

*shot. The Adversary works hardest on those closest to the Truth. He already has the rest but he wants the prize. Every believer can attest to challenges in their walk. Yahshua showed in His parable of the sower the seed metaphor that can land in weeds or on rocky soil. As it springs up it can get choked out or withered by heat and lack of deep roots. At such times you need to find the same zeal you had when you learned of the truth, which comes by prayer and fasting and getting into the Word.* – **ED**

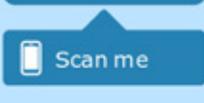
“I study the Bible daily and I am learning a lot here. What really attracted me here was the debate about the Sabbath and why Christian churches changed the day of worship which is very important to G-D and myself because I want to be obedient to G-D and His Word. I am always looking for places to study and that are faithful to the Word of G-D.” – **RF**

*As a student of Scripture with a desire for obedience, you will want to include obedience to the first three of the Ten Commandments, which guide us into worshiping correctly the True Father revealed in His one and only personal Name Yahweh. - ED*

**“Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.” Proverbs 16:24**

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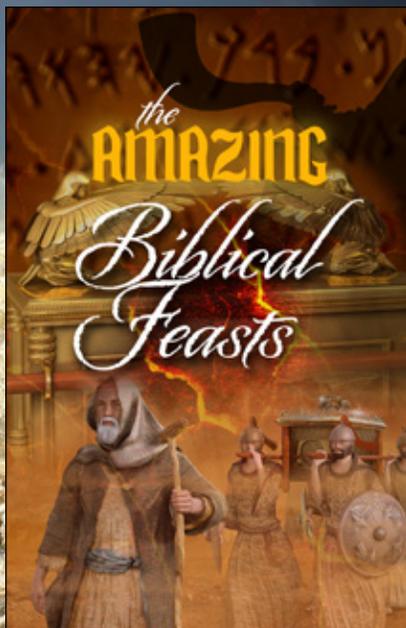
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