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# RESTORATION TIMES



*When you pass  
through the waters,  
I will be with you*

# RESTORATION TIMES

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

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

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Isaiah 43:2 reassures His people that He will never leave them even during the hardest of times.

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# From Passover to Pentecost

## A JOURNEY OF REDEMPTION

by Randy Foliard

With Passover having passed and Pentecost only a few weeks away, I thought it would be timely to address the prophetic nature of these Feast days. Not only are these times set aside for worship and fellowship, but they're also prophetic and point to something greater.

Each of these days foretells a specific and pivotal, prophetic event in Yahweh's plan of salvation for mankind. But in their own way, they also point to redemption.

With Passover we have the redemption of our sins through the death of Yahshua the Messiah. In the case of Unleavened Bread, we have the redemption of Yahshua from the grave and hope for the resurrection. And with Pentecost we have the redemption or calling out of Yahweh's people through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

It's remarkable how many ministers in nominal worship are now seeing value in these days. While they may not understand when or how to observe them, they recognize that there is something special about them.

Those who ignore these days are missing many deeper truths. When we follow Yahweh's commandments, we are not only obeying Him, but also learning valuable lessons and receiving greater insights.

### Why Many Will Miss Out

Knowing this, why do so many choose to ignore these days? There are two main reasons. First, they misunderstand the Apostle Paul.

It's true that some of Paul's writings are confusing. Even Peter in his second epistle said that Paul was hard to understand and that some twist his writings to their destruction.

Another reason for this avoidance is tradition. For 2,000 years, the church has taught that the Messiah did away with the commandments. Tradition is a very powerful thing, which none of us are immune to. However, it's important to realize that not all traditions are bad. In fact, many traditions give meaning and purpose to life.

As believers we should always avoid traditions that are rooted in paganism and that contradict the Bible, including major observances like Easter

and Christmas.

In Colossians 2:16 we find Paul speaking about the prophetic nature of Yahweh's appointed times. "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Messiah."

Paul refers to these days as foreshadowing what's to come. This is another way of saying that these days are prophetic. Not only are they times of worship and fellowship, but they also reveal Yahweh's plan of salvation for mankind.

It's sad that so many people miss this significance from having been blinded by so many years of unquestioned tradition. It's time to wake up and realize the importance of these days.

### Redemption of the Firstborn

Let's begin with one of the most important biblical observances—Passover. Leviticus 23:5 tells us, "In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is Yahweh's passover."

The word "even" in this verse

comes from the Hebrew *ereb* and means dusk or sundown. As we know from Scripture, the biblical day begins and ends at sunset. This is why we observe the Sabbath from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset.

We find here that Passover begins on the 14th day of the first month at evening or sunset. Also, the name of the first month is Abib and means “young ears of grain,” referring to barley.

We know that on Passover night the death angel went through the land of Egypt, killing the firstborn of those who had not applied the blood to their doorposts. Even in the Old Testament we find that redemption was through blood.

We can see why Passover was so important in the Old Testament because without it the Israelites would have remained in bondage and slavery.

But what about in the New Testament? In 1Corinthians 5:7 the Apostle Paul sheds light on the meaning of Passover. “Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Messiah our passover is sacrificed for us.”

From this verse we see how Yahshua the Messiah fulfilled Passover—He represents the Old Testament Passover lamb. In John 1:29 John the Baptist said, “Behold the Lamb of Yahweh, which takes away the sin of the world.”

Yahshua’s coming was to shed His blood for the sins of mankind and to set an example that we might live by. Only through Yahshua the Messiah, our Savior, do we find forgiveness and a complete washing away of sin. His sacrifice reconciles us to Yahweh, our Father in heaven.

### Redemption from Sin’s Slavery

The next observance is equally important, the Feast of Unleavened Bread. In Leviticus 23:6-8 we read, “And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto Yahweh: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread. In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye

shall do no servile work therein. But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.”

From this passage we learn that this is a seven-day Feast that follows Passover; the first and seventh days are holy convocations. The phrase “holy convocation” comes from the Hebrew *qodesh miqra* and refers to a sacred or set-apart gathering.

From Numbers 33:3 we discover that Israel went into the wilderness on the first day of this Feast. “And they [the Israelites] departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day

Another reason we’re to go without leavening is what it symbolizes or represents. While not always the case, leavening can and often does represent sin. In the New Testament it stands for malice, false beliefs, corruption, and wickedness. Understand that when Israel left Egypt, they were leaving the sin or leavening of Egypt behind.

This Feast also has a connection to agriculture. It was during this Feast when Israel offered the Omer offering, the firstfruits of the barley harvest. We read about this in Leviticus 23:10-11. “Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and



of the first month; on the morrow after the passover the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians.”

While they won their freedom on Passover night, they physically left on the first day of Unleavened Bread.

We’re also commanded to abstain from leavening during this time. The Israelites had left Egypt in haste and were unable to leaven their dough; for that reason, we too are to remove leavening from our homes.

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shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.”

As seen here, Israel was commanded to bring the firstfruits of the barley harvest and offer it to Yahweh. It’s important to realize that before Israel could harvest the barley, they had to first offer this wave sheaf.

This is why starting the month of Abib on the right month is so important.

If you begin the month too early,

you will have no Abib barley for the wave sheaf; but if you begin it too late, you compromise the barley harvest. Barley is susceptible to the environment once it reaches maturity.

The wavesheaf is also important from a prophetic standpoint. Paul in 1Corinthians 15:20-22 explains how the wave sheaf is connected to the Messiah. “But now is Messiah risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Messiah shall all be made alive.”

The Messiah is the firstfruits of those to be resurrected. He was the first of mankind to be resurrected to eternal life. Through His resurrection the Messiah fulfilled the firstfruits or the Omer offering, supplying a connection here between Himself and the Old Testament wavesheaf.

Paul also tells us in verse 22, “For in Adam all die, even so in Messiah shall all be made alive.” Only through Yahshua the Messiah do we find everlasting life; those in Messiah will be resurrected at his Coming. This is a reference to Yahshua’s Second Coming and the first resurrection of the saints. This is also when He will set up the Kingdom here on earth. All of this is foreshadowed by the firstfruits or the wave sheaf, which was offered during this Feast.

### **Redemption Through the Spirit**

The last Feast in our journey is the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost, also known as Shavuot. Leviticus 23:15-16, 21 provides this instruction: “And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete: Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto Yahweh...And ye shall proclaim on the selfsame day, that it may be an

holy convocation unto you: ye shall do no servile work therein: it shall be a statute for ever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.”

As seen here, to determine the date for this Feast, Israel was to count seven complete Sabbaths of weeks. This count began when the wavesheaf was offered, which occurred on the morrow after the Sabbath—Sunday—during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This is where the Jews derive the name *Shavuot*, which in Hebrew means, “weeks.”

We also see that this day is a holy convocation. As stated, this comes from the Hebrew *qodesh miqra*, a sacred or set-apart gathering.

As with Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks is also connected to agriculture and occurs during the wheat harvest.

The Israelites had prepared two leavened loaves that they waved before Yahweh. “Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the firstfruits unto Yahweh” Leviticus 23:17.

Many speculate as to what these loaves symbolized. For me, I believe they may represent what this day prophetically foreshadows from both the Old and New Testament.

From the Old Testament this day foreshadows the giving of the Law, according to rabbinic belief. Also Exodus 19:1 shows that Israel was at Mount Sinai during the third month, the month of Pentecost.

In Acts 2:1-4, we find the prophetic fulfillment for this day in the New Testament. “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and

began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

Notice that the Apostles were observing the day of Pentecost in the New Testament. Why do you suppose they were still observing this day even after the Messiah’s death? After all, don’t we see evidence that these Feasts are no longer necessary in the New Testament?

Actually, these days that Yahweh commanded in the Old Testament are as relevant now as they were then.

On this day of Pentecost, Yahweh poured out His Holy Spirit, His *Ruach Qodesh*, upon those gathered and they were given the gift of tongues. This word “tongues” comes from the Greek *glossa* and means, “a known language.” Understand that this word does not refer to what is often seen in the charismatic movement, but to an actual spoken language.

So, we see that Yahweh poured out His Holy Spirit during the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost. This is what this day prophetically foreshows and represents.


### **Observances of Hope**

Contrary to popular belief, these days are not dead and gone. They were observed by both the Messiah and the apostles, including Paul. As we’ve also seen here they provide prophetic insight into Yahweh’s plan of salvation for mankind.

With Passover we find redemption through our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah. Outside of Him there is no redemption; only through His shed blood do we find atonement from our sins.

Through the Feast of Unleavened Bread we find Yahshua fulfilling the wave sheaf by way of His own resurrection, when He was redeemed from the grave.

And through the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost we find the gathering or redemption of Yahweh’s people with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

These are major, monumental events that happened on Feasts. 

# BILLIONS ARE DECEIVED ABOUT SALVATION

by Alan Mansager

**A**lmighty Yahweh has incredible plans for those who worship Him. Incredible things are in store for those who do. For them, this life is only the beginning.

Yahweh so loved His human creation that He placed them in a paradise called Eden to live there potentially forever. But the first man and woman were not satisfied with their Edenic bliss. They wanted the very knowledge and power Yahweh had. They sinned and lost.

Yahweh placed man on this planet to have dominion over the physical earth and this is where He intended man to stay.

The desire for what is unquestionably off limits did not stop with our original parents. Falsehoods about an eternal, heavenly reward immediately following death have been deceiving millions for millennia.

## The Heavens Declare

Yahweh gave us enough understanding to reveal much of His marvelous plan. Even outer space silently witnesses to His incredible design and plan for this universe.

Sophisticated telescopes are now showing astronomers that virtually every star we see at night has its own planetary system. Moreover, at least

one in six stars in our Milky Way hosts a planet the size of ours, meaning that there are at least 17 billion Earth-size worlds just in our galaxy alone.

The big question is, why were these planets put there? Luke 1:33 says there will be no end to Yahweh's Kingdom. He creates nothing in vain.

Yahweh disclosed the heart and soul of His intent with a covenant promise to Abraham that included not only blessings for him and his family back then, but also much greater promises in a life to come (Heb. 11:10).

But it would not have happened without Abraham's total commitment to His Father. Salvation was also pledged to various patriarchs and others based on THEIR faithfulness as well, just as we find the same terms of obedience in the New Testament.

Why were the promises made to Abraham and the faithful today? What did he do to be granted the very blueprint of salvation? The answer is in Genesis 26:4-5, where Yahweh pledged:

“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.”

Obedience is necessary for everlasting rewards and Abraham was clearly obedient to Yahweh's commands. His offspring would even give the world Yahshua the Messiah through the womb of Miriam.

The Apostle Paul speaks of the promise of salvation in Galatians 3:16 and 29: “Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Messiah. And if you be Messiah's, then are you Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

The believer does not yet have his reward guaranteed for following Yahweh. He or she is but an heir to a promise of everlasting life. As Yahshua explained in Matthew 24:13: “But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.” Salvation is not bestowed until after judgment and after each person is found worthy, gathered by the trumpet call of Yahshua.

A fascinating fact of the Scriptures is that what is found in the Old Testament inevitably returns in a similar manifestation in the New Testament. Solomon attested to this fact: “The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no

new thing under the sun,” Ecclesiastes 1:9. In chapter 3 verse 15 he says, “That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and Elohim requires that which is past.”

### **Most Are Clueless**

Most of humanity has no concept of what awaits those who faithfully serve Yahweh in this life. The masses instead have comic notions of going to heaven at death. Automatically rising angel-like from their bodies, fluttering around heaven on a set of wings, lounging on clouds, strumming harps and singing hymns. Forever!

A query search of the Web, asked, What will the saints be doing in paradise? The response was a lot of web site commentary on the pristine nature, beauty, and ecstasy of heaven, but offered no real answers.

Few ministers can say exactly what the Bible teaches THAT the redeemed will be doing for eternity. The answer is clearly given in the Word, and yet many notions of a heavenly reward persist. Think about it. If going to everlasting bliss is automatic and the only passport needed is death, then prerequisites like obedience and living in righteousness and overcoming sin can all be ignored. And that’s what is taught, saying salvation is just faith and grace. Nothing in their false teachings prepares them for rulership. Nothing about being rewarded according to how our lives are lived.

Verses like 2Peter 1:10-11 are totally ignored: “Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Master and Saviour Yahshua Messiah.”

Going directly to heaven at death eliminates Revelation 2:23, where Yahweh says, “I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your

works. Throw out vv. 26-27 as well: “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.”

Paul divulges that a mind-boggling promise awaits those who prove worthy in this life, a destiny so wonderful that the natural mind cannot fathom it.

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which Elohim hath prepared for them that love him. But Elohim hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of Elohim,” 1Corinthians 2:9-10.

To grasp what Yahweh has planned for the believer who’s proved worthy of salvation, we go back to Abraham to look again at what Yahweh first promised the patriarch and his offspring. Genesis 12:7 says, “And Yahweh appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land.”

In Romans 4:13 we learn that Abraham, and his offspring were promised the entire earth as theirs. Specifically it says he is “heir of the world through righteousness of faith.”

Abraham was pledged all the countries of the earth in Genesis 26. The promise to Abraham and his heirs of earthly territory points to the promise of a future earthly inheritance for the redeemed as well. Yahshua the Messiah also provided a clear and plain statement about what happens after death. He said in His Beatitudes, “Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth,” Matthew 5:5.

Yahshua gave a parable about talents in Luke 19, in which those who increased their talents were given cities to rule over. This story directly relates to the commensurate rewards of rulership the obedient will be given at

the return of Yahshua.

The meek have not yet inherited anything, and therefore He was speaking about a future time, a life after this one, when the earth will be inherited by the saints.

### **Heaven Is Off Limits**

Satan has coveted the heavenly realm ever since his power grab failed and he was thrown back to earth. Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14:12 tell us that he originally was put in charge of the earth, but that didn’t satisfy him. He wanted to be like Yahweh Himself. He wanted his own throne in heaven.

Having been defeated in his evil aspirations, he then tempted our original parents by inciting in them the same covetous desire that he has.

Ever since then man has been reaching for heaven and believing Satan’s lie that heaven will be his automatic inheritance after this life. Yahweh never intended heaven to be our reward. He never promised heaven. No reference about our going to heaven is found in the Scriptures.

Yahshua the Messiah said in John 3:13 that no man has ascended to heaven. Not Abraham, not Noah, not David. Hebrews 11:39 tells us that none of the patriarchs has yet realized the salvation promise: “And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise.” Yahshua added that He would be glorified, return to heaven, and “whither [or where] I go, ye cannot come” in John 13:33.

### **Rewards Put on Reserve**

Some may be asking, then why in Matthew 5:12 does Yahshua say, “Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven.”? And why was the Apostle Peter inspired to write that Yahweh the Father has given the believer “an inheritance incorruptible, and undefined, and that fadeth not away, **reserved** in heaven for you,” 1Peter 1:4?

Look closely. The reward of the believer is RESERVED in heaven. That is where it is kept at this time. The saved will not go there to get it, however. Yahshua said in Revelation 22:12: “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is WITH me, to give every man according as his work shall be.”

When the Savior returns to earth from heaven He will bring the rewards for the faithfully obedient with Him from heaven to this earth. If many have already gone to heaven, as says the popular doctrine, isn't the Messiah a bit confused?

He spoke of mansions in John 14:2: “In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.” “Mansions” is translated from the Greek root *meno* and means, “to stay in a given place, state, relation or expectancy.” More than just an abiding place, it can mean an office or position one is in. Question: How do you get a mansion in a house, let alone MANY mansions?

Notice first, He had to prepare a place for the righteous. If the righteous go to heaven at death, souls of righteous people who had died in the past millennia would already be there. It would be far too late to prepare something for them if they were already there for the past thousands of years.

### **The Dead Are Still Dead**

In fact, Scripture clearly says that the righteous dead are in their graves awaiting the call at the resurrection. In fact, ALL people who have died are still asleep in death, John 11:11-14; Acts 7:60; 1Corinthians 15:6, 18; 2Peter 3:4.

Also, He said that at His second coming He would return to gather His people to Himself, which, again, would make no sense at all if they were already in heaven. Read John 14:3: “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you

unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

### **So Where Will Yahshua Be?**

The question is, if He gathers His saints to be with Him forever, where will HE be? His Olivet prophecy says that on the day of His return to earth, His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives.

Why wouldn't He be back in heaven? Because He will not be going back there. He is going to set up His rule right here on earth, and that is where His resurrected people will also be. Isaiah said in chapter 2:3, “...for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem. ...And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people.”

Simply put, Earth is the reward of the chosen. The prophet Daniel wrote, “And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.” (Dan. 7:27).

Note that this kingdom, which will be given to the saints, will be “UNDER” the whole heaven, not “IN” heaven. Neither did Yahshua say the faithful will inherit their reward in heaven. Rather, the reward – meaning offices of priestly authority in the Kingdom – is being temporarily reserved in heaven now because that is where Yahshua the coming King is. But it won't stay there. Our Savior will bring this reward of official office with Him to earth when He gives His saints rulership over the earth.

### **Earthly Thrones**

The faithful believer, as a priestly king, will rule under Yahshua the Messiah in His Kingdom on earth. Revelation 3:21 has this promise to those who prove worthy now: “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.”

Yahshua right now is by His

Father Yahweh's throne in heaven. The proven and chosen believer will be with Yahshua's throne here on earth. Revelation 5:10 adds, “And hast made us unto our Elohim kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”

As spirit beings, the faithful followers of Yahweh today will one day guide those living on earth at the time of the Millennium into the same righteous life that Yahshua taught while He walked this earth 2,000 years ago. This will take place during a thousand-year Kingdom rulership here on earth with His headquarters at Jerusalem.

Revelation 2:26-27 gives us more detail, “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.”

Yahshua Himself promised in Matthew 19:28: “And Yahshua said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

The resurrected saints are not going to be in heaven, but right here on earth, judging, teaching, and guiding mortal human beings.

The prophet Isaiah even gives us some revealing insight into how the faithful follower of Yahweh today will carry out his or her teaching of the uninformed in that earthly reign. The ignorant and rebellious alike will have no choice but to learn Yahweh's precepts in the way of truth:


“And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left,” Isaiah 30:21. Being spirit essence at that time, today's saints will be able to teach with perfect knowledge, having been given understanding by



Yahweh's Holy Spirit.

The activity of training and teaching in the millennial Kingdom will be for a specific and glorious purpose: to prepare

this earth for the time when Yahweh the Father Himself will come down to establish His own throne in a New Jerusalem. This is detailed in Revelation chapters 21-

22. The Father will set up His throne on earth after the Millennium. But it cannot happen immediately. The earth itself must be prepared for Him. 

## MAN'S WARS AND YAHWEH'S WRATH



**T**he earth will be a mess before Yahshua returns. After all the wars, plagues, earthquakes, general destruction and sin, the planet will need to be cleaned up and revitalized. It will be a thousand-year process of renewal and re-education to get this world back to its Edenic state of paradise.

### **Tribulation Like Never Before**

The time immediately ahead of us will be a culmination of tribulation such as this world has never seen or ever will see again. Prophecies in Isaiah 6, Amos 5, and Ezekiel 5 indicate that only 10 percent of the world's population will survive the coming catastrophes from man's wars and Yahweh's wrath.

In His Olivet prophecy of Matthew 24, Yahshua said that nation would rise against nation, meaning ethnic conflicts will abound. Kingdom will fight kingdom, as in the conflicts of the Mideast the past 75 years. But the coming wars will be mammoth and far more devastating and will make the world wars of the last century look like little league.

Nations of the world will ultimately march on Jerusalem, the future capital of the world. Just before they can destroy this favored of all cities, Yahshua will return with thousands of angels and obliterate their armies.

### **Yahweh's People Protected**

The question asked by many is: where is the way of escape, and how can we find it? Scripture says some will give

up their lives as a witness to the true Mighty One of the universe. Others who are seeking to serve Him in Truth will find refuge when Yahweh takes them out into the wilderness for protection. He describes it as taking on wings of a great eagle. In Luke 21:36 Yahshua said to pray always that you may be accounted worthy to escape the coming tribulation.

Revelation 12:14 tells us, "And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent."

This woman represents a group of people. Here, it means the body of Messiah, the true people of Yahweh. We confirm it in verse 17, describing this woman as those "which keep the commandments of Yahweh, and have the testimony of Yahshua Messiah."

Contrary to popular dogma, the faithful are defined as those who adhere to the law and who also accept the ministry of Yahshua the Messiah. His law and His teachings are mutually inclusive. In fact, our Savior taught His Father's law as the conduct and code of ethics that He and His Father have always lived by themselves, John 12:49-50.

These true worshipers will be protected on earth for three-and-a-half years. We know this is not a rapture in heaven because they will be the target of a failed attempt by Satan to drown

them in a flood. But Yahweh protects them and opens the earth to swallow the flood water, Revelation 12:15-16. Our only hope when this earth reels from tribulation never seen before or will see again, will be in our Savior.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the believers in Philippi, "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling," Philippians 2:12.

The coming trials will demand faith as never before, and a determination to stay true to the end despite what happens. The fact that believers will NOT escape all of this through a rapture has not only been proven already in the passages we have given, but the notion of a rapture also flies in the face of the Bible's ongoing message of perseverance and faith. You don't need either if you are swept away to heaven. Isaiah 61:4 provides some specific information about activities during the coming thousand-year reign of Yahshua on earth with His saints.

"And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations." Then in verses 5 and 6 He addresses the saints:

"And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers. But ye shall be named the

*(please turn to p. 17)*

# TRAVERSING A CONTINENTAL DIVIDE

by Alan Mansager



**H**ave you ever heard of Islamo-Buddism? How about Judeo-Hinduism? Neither have I. These religions are totally foreign to one another. But we have all heard the hyphenated term Judeo-Christian.

In fact, our Western world is often described as “Judeo-Christian.” This mind-opening term shows Judaism and Christianity joined at the hip. What is it that fuses these two religious movements and how does that affect New Testament worship?

The answer is an epiphany that if taken seriously would fundamentally change worship in the West. Instead we see a great divide.

## A Tale of Two Ministries

We begin with a pastoral worship scene: It’s the seventh day of the week. A simply dressed and unassuming individual stands at the seashore, speaking and gesturing to a growing group of curious gatherers. A gust of wind brings essences of fish and seaweed.

Waves splash rhythmically as the impromptu teacher, now just offshore

in a weathered fishing boat, offers a parable about a sower scattering seed over a field of rocks, weeds, and fertile ground. His message is clear and simple as He warns against wicked and adulterous generations and more.

Quoting liberally from the Old Testament Scriptures and their prophecies, He explains that He has come not to bring peace to this world but to separate those who seek the light of truth from those who choose darkness.

His listeners are struck by His riveting style and persuasiveness, unlike the stale banality of their typical teachers. Some are moved to repent of their waywardness. Others are offended by His discourse. Sensing their hostility, He breaks away, only to be tracked by those eager to learn more.

The scene now shifts to a modern worship setting. It’s morning the first day of the week. A rather stoic cleric wearing a long, white robe with chevrons on its sleeves and sporting a large medallion necklace, enters an ornate sanctuary and climbs

ceremoniously to the top of an oak podium carved with fish symbols and crosses. Behind him on a golden altar a tier of candles burns brightly. A red-robed choir awaits their cue to begin a melodious chorus to the rich sounds of J.S. Bach from a large pipe organ.

Then, in a stained-glass voice, the cleric talks of being one in the family of humanity and the need to accept the great diversity of religious beliefs in the interest of love, unity, and climate change.

His 20-minute message closes with a single “Pauline” verse. The preacher issues a farewell benediction to his patronizing flock, many trying with short, quick steps to conceal their fast break for the door to spend the rest of the day out dining, pursuing entertainment, or mowing the lawn, satisfied that their spiritual obligations were met for another week.

## Primed for Error

These two modes of worship are clearly out of sync. The first is spontaneous and alive, relevant and life-changing. The other is routine, plastic, sleep-inducing,

and—most of all—filled with centuries of fossilized fallacies and overplayed platitudes.

Could they be transported back 2,000 years to stand on the seashore and hear the Savior Yahshua teach, most churchgoers today would be too uncomfortable to linger long. It just wouldn't seem like church, so how could what He was saying pass for truth?

Our culture is so locked into hardened tradition that any practice or teaching different from what many have grown up with is rejected out of hand.

- No matter that it fits beautifully the whole of Scripture.
- Despite that it is the same message their Savior and apostles taught.

Centuries-old legacies handed down through the mainstream have put today's worshiper in a spiritual straitjacket. For fear of what they might discover, most are unwilling to open their Bibles and demand proof for what they are being told.

It takes a special individual to break free of tired tradition. He or she must be a bold, independent thinker, the very kind Yahweh calls. Most are afraid to investigate further, have no interest in, or just don't want to bother with, anything unfamiliar. They are happy with the comfort they find in the superficial, and are afraid to look below the surface for fear of what they may see and what that discovery may require.

It is the uncommon person who has the inquiring mind to “prove all things; hold fast that which is good.” Such were the Bereans, who were called noble for checking the Scriptures for themselves every day (1Thes. 5:21, Acts 17:11).

If you are unafraid to crack open the Word you will soon discover the huge chasm between what centuries of custom teach and what Scriptures really say. The contrast is incredible, even mind-blowing, leaving you asking, why didn't I ever see this before?

When truth seekers' eyes are finally opened, they are amazed. Suddenly the Bible harmonizes! Now Scripture starts to make sense. Inconsistencies evaporate in the pure light of provable truth.

### Facing False 'Facts'

Let's take a step back and see how tradition has twisted and covered up the truth, and how historical ignorance has created an alternative belief system that has dominated the world for 2,000 years.

Have you ever stopped to wonder what the hyphenated term Judeo-Christian means? Ever thought that these religious systems would trace to a single belief that would split 1,700 years ago into two disparate movements?

We as spiritual bloodhounds can still track the trail.

Evidence of a fracturing is everywhere. It may begin as simple as that the Savior was an Israelite. Or that the Roman church's first alleged leader

was not a Christian. Their assumed “first pope,” the Apostle Simon Peter, was a Hebrew! His name was Shimown Cephas (Kay-fas). Shimown or Shema is Hebrew for “hear” and Cephas is Aramaic for “stone.”

Shimown Kay-fas in the Greek translation is Simon Peter. The pulse changes when you go to Greek. But that doesn't change the true root of truth.

Many see the stamp of the Israelites' religious practices all over denominationalism, but they gloss over them anyway. If taken seriously these influences would change their worship.

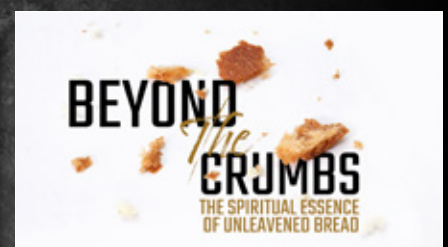
A book came out a several years ago called *Shocked by the Bible* which pointed out truths hidden in plain sight that churches never talk about, as it would blow their cover if they acknowledged them.

The book hit many of the same eye-opening truths we have been hammering for 50 years.

We suspect such writers are just doing a fast “catchup” by learning from, and making a profit from, Sacred Name teachings that have been out there for decades.

Few stop to think that the Messiah Yahshua based His teachings on the Old Testament, which was the ONLY Scriptures in existence in His day. When He said, “It is written,” what was He quoting? It wasn't Peter or Paul. He was teaching the same Old Testament truth those apostles would.

How many churchgoers stop to



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think that virtually all of the disciples were Hebrews and then realize the profound impact that simple fact had on the pure New Testament faith?

It's a well-guarded and DISregarded secret that the world's largest religion started out on Hebraic roots. The entire early church was made up of Jews. A simple look at tons of evidence will reorient the Christian's focus.

The fact that Christianity sprang from Old Testament Israelite worship is an epiphany for most churchgoers, who have been told that the Old Testament is passe' with little to do with their faith. It's like saying colonial America had no connection to the British.

If you start with the realization that the New Testament is a Hebraic collection of books written by Hebrews to Israelites or those who will become Israelite, you are well on the road to eye-opening Truth and understanding.

### Ours Is a Covenant Faith

Before anything else you must get the fundamentals right. Knowing the historical roots of the faith puts you on the right track. Churchianity has its roots in the Roman church. However, we base our beliefs on the Old and New covenants of Yahweh.

Another eye-opener is that early New Testament believers had no formal name for themselves. They were never known as a church, but believers, the

called-out ones, or people of the way. Believers were first called Christians by pagans at Antioch, a heathen Greek city in Turkey, Acts 11:26. That was at least 10 years AFTER Yahshua was gone from the earth.

Yahshua and His followers never called themselves "Christians" when they walked the land of Judea. Nor did He ever tell His disciples that when He was gone, they were to call themselves Christians in honor of Himself.

In actuality the term is off-base. The name "Christian" is from the Greek *chrio* meaning anointed, cognate to the Hebrew word Messiah. It is an appellative, not a proper name, according to *Thayer's Greek Lexicon*. The name should be at least Hebrew-based, like "Messiah-ian," as we note in the *Restoration Study Bible*. In Scripture they were often designated as people of The Way.

Churchianity's Old Testament connections cry out from every corner of today's popular worship and teaching. This elephant in the room is conveniently suppressed, however, as the church sought separation from its Israelite beginnings early on.

The Roman church wanted its own faith, its own doctrines, its own observances that were compatible with the pagan world they were trying to convert. It absorbed the religions around it. Besides, there was antisemitism and

other biases against the Old Testament.

But a nagging problem remained: church fixtures could not be dislodged from their origins. The imprints were everywhere.

### Old Testament Links

Having original Israelite foundations explains why churches have "altars," as did ancient Israel. It is the reason today's church service continues to take up "offerings," just as Israel brought their sacrificial offerings before Yahweh at the Temple.

Because it grew out of Judaism, churchianity still gives lip service to keeping one day of the week "holy," as Judah and Israel did the true Sabbath.

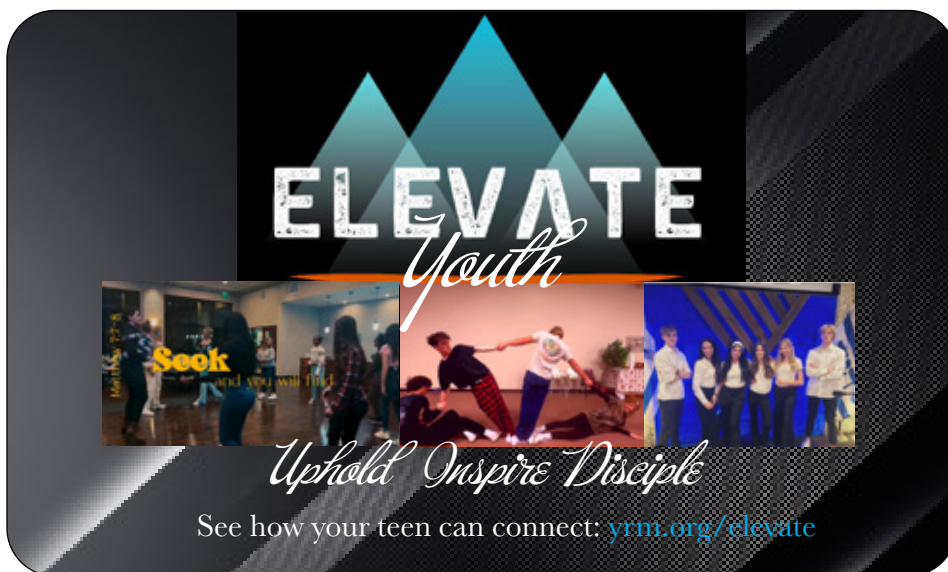
In reflection of its origins, the Communion service replicates the Old Testament's annual Passover, with its later symbols of the body and blood. Easter is a clear corruption of the Passover (see Acts 12:4, where "Easter" in the KJV is a mistranslation of the Greek *Pascha* or Passover and the only place Easter is found).

Today's churches even acknowledge Pentecost, one of the seven Old Testament Feasts. (Question: why do they ignore the six other Feasts?)

Most churches have "sanctuaries," or holy places. Biblically, a church is not a building but a congregation, an assembly of worshipers. How can churchgoers speak of their building as "the church" and then say, "The church teaches..."? (Oh, if these walls could talk...")

Others, like the Roman church, see the church building itself as essentially holy. This is perhaps a throwback to the Jerusalem temple and the Holy of Holies where Yahweh dwelled in the Tabernacle of Israel and where no one dared enter but the high priest on the Day of Atonement. (There's another neglected Feast day!)

Singing hymns in today's church is directly tied to the Old Testament Psalms, which the priests set to music, as well as the songs Israel sang when



they came out of Egypt.

Terms like “elder,” “teacher,” “pastor,” “prophet,” and “shepherd” were first used in Old Testament worship. Many other terms used in the modern worship service have been hijacked from the Old Testament like “amen,” “halleluyah,” “Messiah,” “pulpit,” “sanctuary.” Sanctuary appears 133 times in the Old Testament, and four times in the New Testament Book of Hebrews, no less.

### Rejecting the Roots of Truth

Regardless of these and many more connections in practice and doctrine, to advocate seriously investigating the Old Testament as the foundation of biblical truth would get one quickly ushered out the door of most “New Testament only” places of worship today.

Through centuries of conditioning, the average Bible believer today has been led to the erroneous notion that the Old Testament, its system of worship, its laws, and its people are superfluous; that the 39 books that come first in the Bible have nothing to do with modern worship. Few ministers will even teach the Old Testament today. In fact, they are the very foundation of the New Testament and its worship.

Churchianity has been indoctrinating for centuries the idea that anything occurring before the Book of Matthew has no place in today’s worship.

It’s the same conditioning that would make many churchgoers uncomfortable worshipping at a seashore rather than in padded pews, drenched in stained-glass light amid crosses, wax candles and other icons—none of which existed during Yahshua’s ministry.

Never mind that the New Testament Apostles and the Savior Himself quoted from, referred to, and based their teachings on the Old Testament Scriptures. They had no other.

In Deuteronomy 4:2 and Revelation 22:18-19 is the command at both ends of the Bible not to add to or take

away from Scripture. Violating this one command led to all the fabricated teachings and worship that has been ongoing for 2,000 years and led to so much false worship. Man cannot make his own worship and be of Yahweh.

- It is why the Old Testament has been virtually abandoned and shredded of its commanded worship that Yahweh gave Israel.

- It is why the church has abandoned Bible truth in deference to man-made teachings.

- It is why 21 church councils were called to establish doctrine that was already established in the Scriptures. All they had to do was accept and observe what they read there.

### Foundation Abandoned

If they had just stuck with the Scriptures, anchored in the first covenant in the Old Testament and not relied on church councils for their beliefs, today’s worshipers would be properly aligned with the teachings of Yahshua.

Without a foundation established on adherence to and teaching of Yahweh’s law embodied in the Ten Commandments, the modern church has so diluted biblical standards that it is powerless to confront today’s lawless, sin-filled world.

The religious establishment has effectively tied its own hands and is guilty of malpractice. For the church to condemn society’s murders, stealing, lying, adultery, and other rampant sins is hypocritical if the church itself teaches that biblical laws against such, like the Ten Commandments, are no longer in force.

Instead of seeing a harmony in the covenants, the Old is seen as a book of wrath, while the New is a book of grace; the Old is a book of Law, the New a “Gospel” of peace and love.

What the True Worshiper must ask himself, however, is what are the attitudes of Yahshua and the others in the New Testament toward the Old Testament? This is the only proper way

to understand the relationship correctly.

### Yahshua Taught Law

Yahshua upheld the Old Testament when He said in Matthew 5, “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil” (Matt. 5:17). The word fulfill (Greek *pleroo*) means to cause to abound, render perfect, to carry out His Father’s laws. He brought the statutes to their proper realization through Himself as the living model. He came to show how to become the complete and righteous individual.

We fulfill the law under the New Covenant in the same way. Paul tells us in Romans 8:4, “That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

Yahshua maintained that He did not come to destroy the Old Testament law, and then in the rest of Matthew chapter 5, He goes on to show how the Ten Commandments are to be observed in various applications and circumstances today!

Through His many teachings He revealed the hypocrisy of the Pharisees in their keeping the letter of the law while completely missing the point of proper obedience with love. Obviously people were thinking even back then that He came to abolish Old Testament law. He said don’t think that! If you do you miss the point of what I am saying. You are missing the heart and soul of my message.

The Bible does not support two systems of worship. There is only one truth: “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as you are called in one hope of your calling; One Master, one faith, one baptism,” Ephesians 4:4-5.

Both Judaism and Christianity have made themselves mutually exclusive, and because of that both suffer from fundamental faults. Both need to come together and fix the breach that comes with rejecting the Messiah on the one hand and rejecting Yahweh’s laws on the other. ✓

**Q** Please explain 1Corinthians 10:27. Does it say the dietary laws are no longer necessary?

**A** The passage reads, "If any of them that believe not bid you to a feast, and you be disposed to go; whatsoever is set before you, eat, asking no question for conscience sake."

This verse, among others, needs to be read in context for proper understanding. Going back to verses 18-19 we see that this is all about eating of sacrifices that have been offered on the altar to pagan deities. Just as Israel ate of the altar of sacrifices and became participants in the rite, so those who deliberately ate of what is offered in heathen rites also became part of pagan worship. We must not become participants in wrong worship by knowingly indulging in eating such foods as part of sacrificial rites.

Pagans sacrificed animals to their deities as did Israel. What was not eaten in their religious rites was sometimes sold at the market where it could be purchased and taken home to eat. This is what Paul is addressing in verse 27. If you are a guest at a home of an unbeliever, it is not necessary to inquire as to the source of the food. But if you are told that it was used in a pagan rite, verse 28, then don't eat it for the sake of your guest and his understanding.

Note verse 31: "Whether therefore you eat, or drink, or whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of Yahweh." If these passages are discussing eating food that Yahweh has declared unclean, then eating of the unclean food would not be for the glory of Yahweh who condemned such. Nowhere are we given permission to eat unclean food that is prohibited in the law of Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14.

**Q** I was told that Isaiah 1:13-14 eliminates the Sabbath, Feast days, gatherings for worship, and new moons. If so, what's left of worship?

**A** This passage is sometimes used in claiming that the Feasts, especially, are no longer necessary. Here is how it reads: "Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them."

If Isaiah is nullifying the Feasts and Sabbath, then he is violating Yahweh's very command to observe the Feasts and Sabbath as a statute "forever" (Lev. 23:14, 21, 31, 41). In addition, he would be contradicting what he himself wrote in the Book of Isaiah about the necessity of the new moons and Sabbath (Isa. 66:23, 56:4; 58:13), as well as Yahweh's ways and laws, which include His Feasts (Isa. 2:3).

For proper understanding we need to know the reason Isaiah wrote the passage. The context is found in verse 2 of the chapter. Judah was in rebellion against Yahweh. Isaiah calls them a sinful nation, evildoers that have corrupted the

way and forsaken Yahweh and gone backward, 1:4. Then in verse 10 he issues a scathing denunciation of Judah's rulers, comparing them to those of Sodom and Gomorrah. He invokes the law of Yahweh, as he does 12 times in the book. The law included the proper Sabbath and Feasts of Yahweh

So we see that Judah is apostatizing and in rebellion against the laws of Yahweh. They had debased themselves and polluted True Worship. Now in 1:13-14 Isaiah says that because their hearts aren't right and their sins have separated them from Yahweh, that even their worship is polluted. Notice in verse 14 he says "your" new moons and "your" appointed feasts My soul hates. Their worship was so perverted that these were not even Yahweh's Feasts they were keeping, but their own, in their own way. It was false worship and Yahweh says to repent of such sins, verse 16.



**Q** Why are the Feasts necessary today when the Bible shows they were kept at Jerusalem, along with animal sacrifices at the temple?

**A** This is an argument advanced frequently by those who reject the Feast days that Yahweh commands for His people to keep "forever," Leviticus 23:14, 21, 31, 41. Scripture never says the annual Feasts must be kept just at Jerusalem.

Not everyone who kept the Feasts in the Old Testament kept them at Jerusalem. Israel kept Passover and Unleavened Bread in Egypt (Ex. 12:11 and 9:26) and in the wilderness of Sinai after leaving Egypt, Numbers 9:5. They also kept these days on the plains of Jericho, Joshua 5:10.

In the New Testament Paul kept the Feasts as well, including the Days of Unleavened Bread at Philippi, Acts 20:6, and Pentecost at Ephesus, 1Corinthians 16:8. Yahshua told the woman of Samaria that the time is coming when neither in this mountain nor at Jerusalem would you worship Yahweh, John 4:21. Yahweh commanded us to keep His days "at the place where He shall choose," Deuteronomy 16:16.

That does not limit the location only to Jerusalem. If all are commanded to observe the Feasts and people around the world had to go only to Jerusalem, then Jerusalem should be able to accommodate 8 billion people. That is impossible and billions could not be obedient.

The weekly Sabbath is a special Feast day also, being included with the Feasts in Leviticus 23. Who would argue, then, that the weekly Sabbath must also be kept by all worshipers at Jerusalem? Further, if the Feasts cannot be kept without animal sacrifices, then neither can the weekly Sabbath, as sacrifices were also required on the seventh-day Sabbath, Numbers 28:9-10.

Today our sacrifices are spiritual, 1Peter 2:5, 9. We still sacrifice, but now it is through praise, the calves of our lips, Hosea 14:2.

**Q** Why in His model prayer did Yahshua ask Yahweh not to lead us into temptation?

**A** The question is, would Almighty Yahweh deliberately lead people to sin? This is another example of how the New Testament reflects its true, Hebraic roots. Matthew 6:13, which is where this verse is found (the other is Luke 11:4), is a Hebrew idiomatic expression not exactly clear when brought through the Greek. The verb expresses not the action but the permission to do something. In other words, the verse is Yahshua's request that Yahweh allow us not to be led to be tempted.

The same idea is in Jeremiah 4:10, where the phrase, "You have greatly deceived this people" is an idiom meaning that Yahweh would allow the people to be deceived. Similarly, Yahweh did not harden Pharaoh's heart in Exodus 4:21, but through the Hebrew idiom we see that He allowed Pharaoh's heart to be hardened.

Elsewhere we learn that Yahweh does not tempt people to sin. James tells us, "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of Elohim: for Elohim cannot be tempted with evil, neither does He tempt any man. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed" (1:13-14).

Our own hearts cause us to follow or deny the truth. Our own hearts lead us to sin because of what resides within us spiritually. This is what Yahweh tried repeatedly to impress upon ancient Israel as well as on us: "O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear Me, and keep all My commandments always..." Deuteronomy 5:29.

**Q** How could Elisha kill children for their mockery in 2Kings 2:23-24?

**A** Note that the prophet cursed them, but it was Yahweh who unleashed the bears on them. This is where the RSB shines with its Strong's Hebrew and Greek dictionaries. "Little" is Hebrew No. 6996 and could mean anything from little in quantity, little in size or few in number. "Children" is 5288 and can mean a boy, lad, servant or young man.

Here's the interesting part. It says the bears "tare the 42 children." It doesn't necessarily say the youths were killed. Tare is No. 1234 and has the meaning of rend, make a breach, divide. It could just mean the bears sent them packing in different directions. Whether they lived or died, it was all of Yahweh and we dare not question His actions.

Be careful about reading different translations without looking up the Hebrew and Greek behind the text, as translators will often copy from one another.

**Q** Are there any activities permitted on the Sabbath, particularly those related to medical emergencies? Could you also clarify what kind of "good" we can do on the Sabbath?

**A** Doing good on the Sabbath would mean helping others in unusual circumstances. That shouldn't include routine

work, but pulling an ox out of the ditch would be doing good because you are saving life in an emergency. Helping your neighbor build a fence or buying groceries for someone who can't get out, both of which can be done at other times, would not comply with the command of not buying, selling or work on the Sabbath.

**Q** Are those who have been baptized in the common names and titles and not in the sacred Name still be in their sins?

**A** Many may have repented of the works of the flesh but are still ignorant of the only Name that offers salvation. A key to repentance is to seek truth and then walk in all the light we are given, 1John 1:7.

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

Notice how Aquila and Priscilla furthered his understanding: "And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of Yahweh more perfectly" (Acts 18:26). The passage indicates that their instruction included the necessity to be immersed into Yahshua's Name.

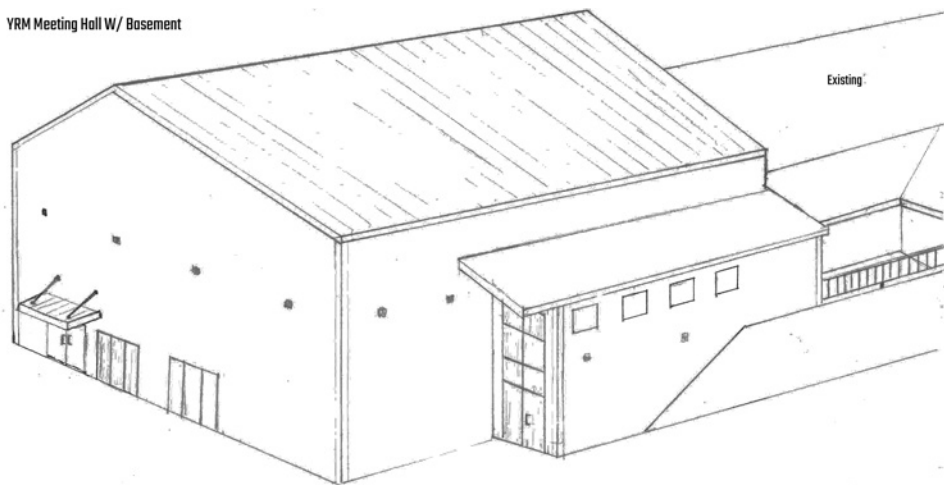
Then in the next chapter, 19, Paul encounters more disciples who had not heard of baptism into Yahshua's Name, which is baptism unto salvation as well as repentance. Here is the account:

"He said unto them, have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? And they said unto him, we have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Spirit. And he said unto them. Unto what then were you baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Messiah Yahshua. When they heard this, they were baptized in the Name of the Master Yahshua." No questioning, hesitation or arguing.

When we repent and are baptized into the salvation that comes only in Yahshua's Name, we are endowed with Yahweh's Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands of the ministry and then we begin to grow spiritually with the gift(s) given. The common titles or names do not provide salvation. Acts 4:12 says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

"Yahshua" means "Yahweh is salvation." Only in the specific Name Yahshua do we find salvation.

Speaking of the need for immersion into His Name, the Savior Himself said, "...for thus it becomes us to fulfill all righteousness." If our Savior and soon-coming King was immersed, we must follow His example and do the same.



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(continued from p. 9)

priests of Yahweh: men shall call you the Ministers of our Elohim: you shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall you boast yourselves.”

The prophet Micah in 4:4 continues this prophecy: “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. For all people will walk everyone in the name of his Elohim, and we will walk in the name of Yahweh our Elohim for ever and ever.”

No more will man suffer from evil and harm and destruction on this earth because of sin. Isaiah 11:9 tells us, “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: [mountain means government in Scripture] for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Yahweh, as the waters cover the sea.”

But before that happens, there will be some extreme times this earth will go through because of man’s rebellion. There will be a final rebellion of the planet that Yahshua will put down.

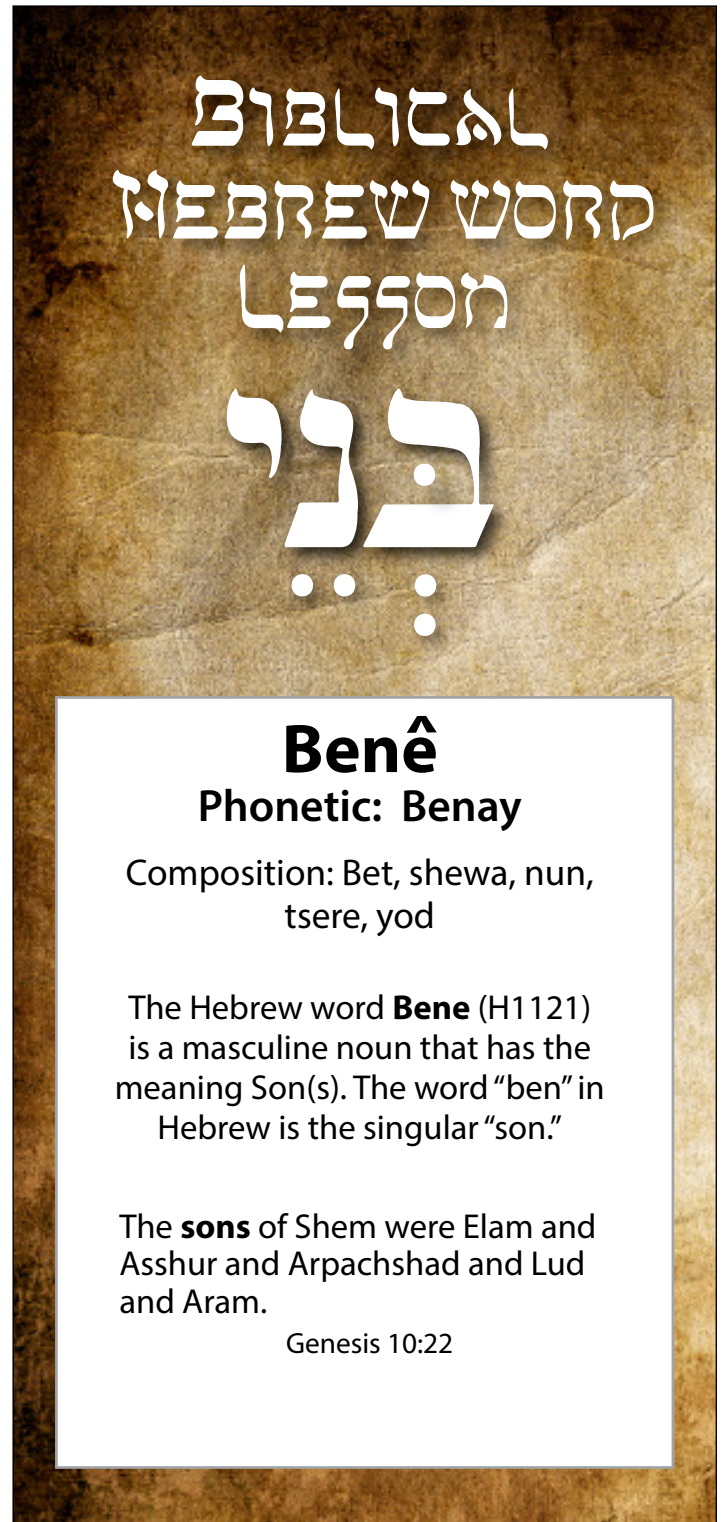
### Salvation Begins Now

Salvation is not a passive act. It involves the total mind and heart. Yahweh wants only the completely sincere and thoroughly tested person to rule with His Son in His Kingdom. All must be tried, proved, and found worthy.

He wants the “cream of the crop” for His Kingdom. He wants those who take salvation seriously—those who desire from their deepest being to humbly serve Him in His rule of this earth, and who prove it by their sincerity in obeying Him now. Hebrews 5:9 tells us that Yahshua became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him.

Consider this: if the role of the faithful will be to rule in the Kingdom by administering Yahweh’s will, does it make any sense that He would select those who have no desire to obey Him now? If the chosen are defined by obedience to His laws, why would He choose those who have no use for obeying Him now?

This world is a training ground for a future kingdom that will never end. May He find us worthy of an incredible future in His Kingdom government made up of those who want it enough to be obedient to its statutes and commands, no matter what happens on this earth. 🙏



**Benê**  
Phonetic: Benay

Composition: Bet, shewa, nun, tsere, yod

The Hebrew word **Bene** (H1121) is a masculine noun that has the meaning Son(s). The word “ben” in Hebrew is the singular “son.”

The **sons** of Shem were Elam and Asshur and Arpachshad and Lud and Aram.

Genesis 10:22

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4th Edition



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## Eldertorial

### Financing the Feasts

#### *You Can't Afford NOT to Attend the Feasts*

The seven annual Feast days are not optional for the people of Yahweh. They are times we are commanded to gather. They are a part of that sign showing that we are truly His people when we keep His commanded days. His Feast days also set us apart, sanctifying us as they did Israel.

In His command Yahweh was very complete, making provisions for the financing of our trips to His gatherings without having them become a great burden. After all, His Feasts are to be a delight, the highlights of the year.

Just as we are expected to tithe to Yahweh so that His plan of salvation can be proclaimed around the world (Matt. 23:23), He also shows us that we are to set aside funds to keep the Feasts. Notice:

"Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year. And thou shalt eat before Yahweh thy Elohim, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear Yahweh thy Elohim always. And if the way be too long for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it; or if the place be too far from thee, which Yahweh thy Elohim shall choose to set his name there, when Yahweh thy Elohim hath blessed thee: Then shalt thou turn it into money, and bind up the money in thine hand, and shalt go unto the place which Yahweh thy Elohim shall choose: And thou

shalt bestow that money for whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul desireth: and thou shalt eat there before Yahweh thy Elohim, and thou shalt rejoice, thou, and thine household, And the Levite that is within thy gates; thou shalt not forsake him; for he hath no part nor inheritance with thee," Deuteronomy 14:22-27.

#### **Call It a 'Feast 401k'**

Notice, this is a special tithe to use for the Feasts. It is to be kept and managed by the individual to assure that one has funds to attend the Feasts. It is separate from the tithe to proclaim the evangel to the world, which is holy unto Yahweh and to be used for that purpose.

Instead of setting aside cash as the world does in a "vacation fund" or some "Xmas savings plan," Yahweh long ago gave us this guide as assurance that we could always attend His Festivals.

Savings accounts and payroll savings plans are actually patterned after Yahweh's plan of assuring that His people can attend His Feasts.

The majority of Yahweh's people plan their vacations and time off work in accordance with the Feast days. What better way to spend a vacation than to gather with others of like faith and clearly identify with the "sign" Yahweh gives us that we might learn of Him by keeping His Sabbaths. Spiritual enrichment for the entire family is a part of His plan that we get to know and share our joy and experiences with the future kings and priests of His coming Kingdom.

Making Feast attendance a part of

our lives is a maturing experience as we discipline ourselves to obey our Father and gather where He has placed His Name.

#### **See YOU Soon**

Yahweh's Restoration Ministry holds all the Feasts on our grounds so that attendees can stay in tents, RV's, or in one of the rooms of the recreation center if they desire.

The three "Pilgrim Feasts" when we travel to worship are: the seven days of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, and the eight days of Tabernacles. Preparations such as plane reservations, transportation, accommodations, and auto repairs should be taken care of early.

Israel was commanded to eat of the tithe of their produce at the Feast. For those traveling a distance, Yahweh says, "... bind up the money in your hand, and go unto the place which Yahweh your Elohim shall choose," which He does through His ministers (Deut. 14:25).

Consider the words of Moses to Israel just before they were to cross over into the Promised Land – just as we hope some day to come into the Kingdom:

"Three times in a year shall all your males appear before Yahweh your Elohim in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before Yahweh empty" (Deut. 16:16).

Yahweh promises to bless those who obey Him. Don't you want to be blessed? Isn't it time to come out of the world of sin in these last days and prepare for your eternal life in Yahweh? We look forward to seeing YOU with us at the next Feasts!

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