

Sept- Dec 2008

*The  
Remnant's  
Walk*



**Lev 23:41** *And you shall keep a feast to Yahweh, seven days in a year, a never ending statute throughout your generations;*

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# Personal.....

Greetings and shalom in the wonderful names of Yahweh and Yahshua. As we enter another fall Holy Day harvest season, we once again reflect on the wonderful redemptive work that Yahweh is doing with mankind. Satan would have the world believe, through the false gospel of most churches, that Yahweh started a work with the nation of Israel, but due to Israel's repeated sin, that He has cast Israel away and is now working with the Church and the gentiles. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The reason that most don't understand Yahweh's plan of salvation through the nation of Israel and the covenant promises made to Abraham is because they have forsaken Yahweh's Holy days, and replaced them with the pagan rites of Christmas and Easter. The Holy Days are a clock in the sky, so that all year long, every year, a true believer is reminded of Yahweh's redemptive work of Yahshua, His Messiah, through the nation of Israel.

First we have the Passover, which represents the shed blood of Yahshua for the forgiveness of our sins and actually entering covenant relationship with Yahweh through Yahshua. This is the first act of the redemptive work of Yahweh, because without Passover there is no other Holy Day; meaning; if we do not have our sins forgiven, we will die, there will be nothing more for us than death.

Besides the 7 day festival of Unleavened Bread where we take the leaven from our homes as representation of the sin in our lives. And just as we find the ever so small bits of leaven behind the couches and in the back of the freezer, we need to look into the inner researches of our heart to truly find the leaven that has not been removed. Remember, we must first partake of the Passover and have Yahshua enter us through His Holy Spirit, to be able to accomplish this feat.

Then, we have the festival of Firstfruits on the morning after the weekly Sabbath, during the days of unleavened bread. This festival pictures Yahshua's resurrection, and is the very first day of the 50 day count to Pentecost or Shavuot, but remember, without this important day that represents Yahshua as the resurrection to life, there is no count for any of us.

Then comes Shavuot or Pentecost (count 50), which is 50 days after the feast of Firstfruits. This day pictures the receiving of the Holy Spirit. Jewish tradition states that the Torah was given by Yahweh to Moses on this day, and we also know that the Holy Spirit was poured out in Acts the second chapter on this day. But again, without Yahshua's Passover sacrifice, there would be no Shavuot.

Now we come to the fall Harvest time and the later rain of the biggest harvest to Yahweh. It is most interesting that in most areas of the world, the biggest harvest come in the spring to summer time, as where in Israel, it is in the fall, after the *Tekufah* or turning of the year at the autumn equinox.

Next, we have the feast of Trumpets. This feast pictures the very return of the Messiah of Israel to the Mount of Olives where He ascended to Heaven from (Acts 1:9-12). After this feast we have the Day of Atonement or *at-one-ment*, when all of Yahweh's chosen will shed our worldly fleshly bodies and put on a glorified spirit body, and truly think and be as our Father in Heaven does. This day is a fast day in the flesh, but will be a feast day in the Kingdom and pictures the wedding supper of Yahshua and His bride.

Then we have the 7 day feast of Sukkot where we dwell in humble temporary dwellings for 7 days so that we can learn to number our days on this earth, and that our life is merely a breath of time to our Creator. Although we are commanded to stay in modest simple living quarters for this feast, we are also commanded to eat good food, and drink a little wine if we desire to, and to enjoy the company of our family and brethren. It is to show us how simple life should be and what our true values should look like.

In ancient days this was the most important feast of the year because as I mentioned, the fall harvest was the time that people gathered their food for the better part of the year. They would take in the harvest in September through November and would dry the foods and jar them, and preserve much of it to use throughout the year.

How good the harvest was depended on the amount of rain and good weather that Yahweh alone could provide throughout the year, and His blessing on this depended on the obedience of Israel to His Torah.

If there was little rain and hardly a harvest, it would not be much of a celebration for Sukkot for those 7 days, but if Israel was obedient to Yahweh's Torah and He blessed them with an abundant harvest, then they would come up to Jerusalem and feast with their family, and even kill animals for eating meat, and truly have an enjoyable feast, as it was meant to be, in Jerusalem, before Yahweh their Elohim.

The day after the 7<sup>th</sup> day of Sukkot , or the eighth day is a separate feast and is called the last great day, which pictures Yahweh's great white Throne judgment where every human who was ever born will have to give account for his deeds while he was on earth, and either be rewarded with eternal life, or go to the Lake of Fire.

These feasts are filled with joy and celebration for they complete the yearly cycle and show Yahweh's full plan of salvation to mankind through the Messiah of Israel, to the nation of Israel. If Israel would have remembered to keep these feasts while they were in their captivity, then each and every year, all year long, they would have remembered the redemptive work that Yahweh was still doing with them and would not have lost their identity.

But in these end times, Yahweh is redeeming His servant Jacob, and calling back the Sons of Israel from all corners of the earth, as he promised he would.

Eze 36:22 *Therefore, say to the house of Israel, So says the Adonia, Yahweh: I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but only for My holy name which you profaned among the nations, there where you went.*

Eze 36:24 *For I will take you from the nations and gather you out of all the lands and bring you into your land.*

Eze 36:25 *Then I will sprinkle clean waters on you, and you shall be clean. I will cleanse you from all your defilement and from all your idols.*

Eze 36:26 *And I will also give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit within you. And I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give to you a heart of flesh.*

Eze 36:27 *And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you shall keep My judgments and do them.*

Eze 36:28 *And you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers. And you shall be a people to Me, and I will be Elohim to you.*

The nation of Judah has already been put back on their homeland in Israel, and very shortly Yahweh will also start to gather the tribes of Joseph back to His promised land. It will not be an easy journey for the nation of Israel, as it took a Holocaust of 6 million of our brother Judah to accomplish the feat of his return.

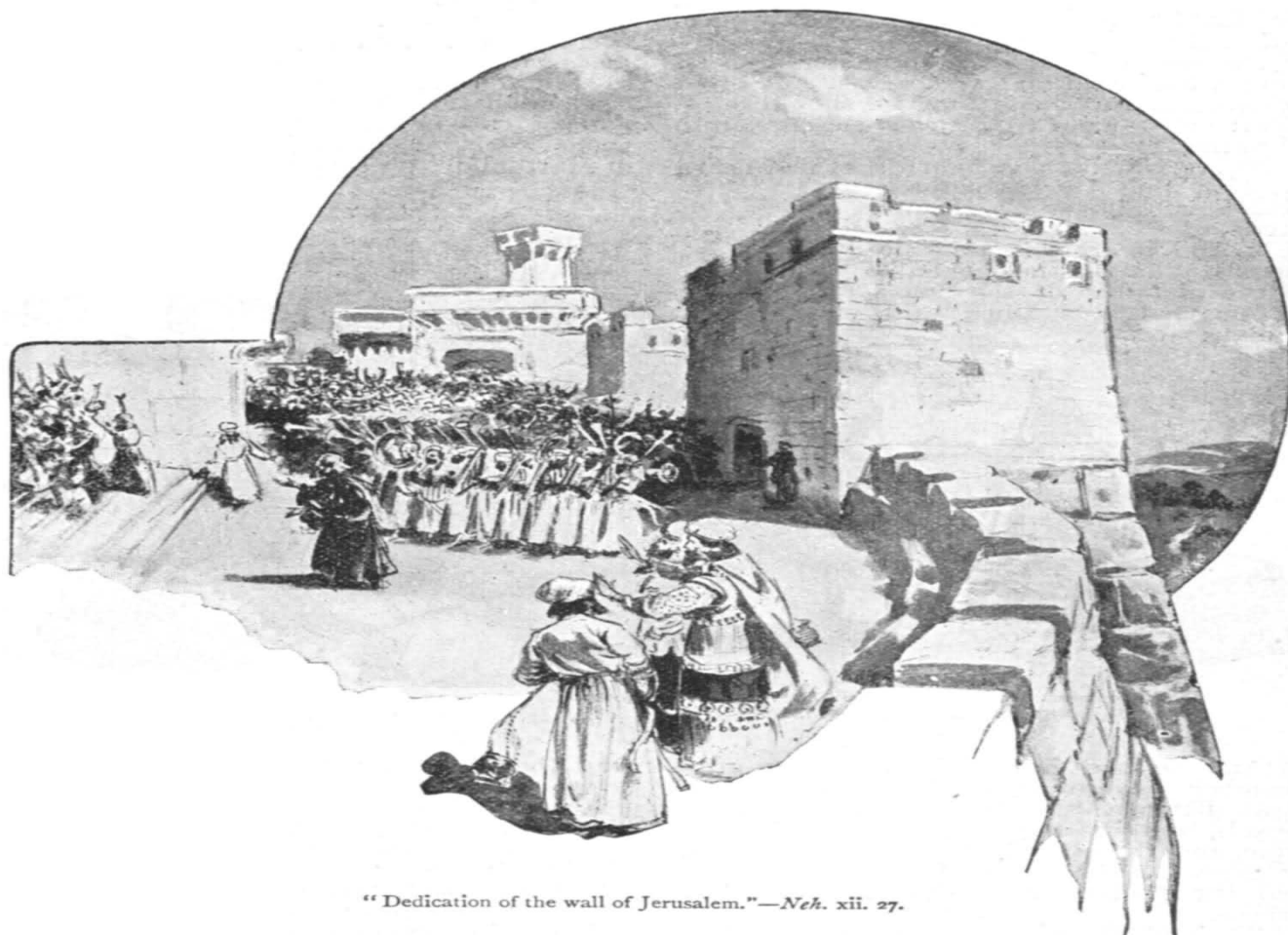
These Holy days help us in our Diaspora to have hope for the future, and to look forward to the day when we will be back in Israel our homeland. It states in Lev 23:3 that we are to have a Holy convocation on these days. In Hebrew that word literally means a “rehearsal”. Yes, Yahweh has laid out His wonderful plan of salvation to us through these holy Days and we are to rehearse them all year long, each and every year; and if we do this properly, we will never forget the covenant promise of living with Yahweh and Yahshua, in the very land of Israel, in His Kingdom forever.

B'Shem Yahshua,

*Don*

# Where Has Yahweh Put His Name!

By Don Esposito



“Dedication of the wall of Jerusalem.”—*Neh.* xii. 27.

How exciting it is in the year 2008 to be blessed by Yahweh to be allowed to participate in and to celebrate His feast of Sukkot. So many in Satan’s society, year after year, celebrate the empty pagan festivals of Christmas, and Easter, and Halloween, and how blessed are we that we have been rescued from the worthless ways of our pagan pasts and have the opportunity to celebrate these days in spirit and truth?

Let’s remember what the feast of Sukkot is all about. The Holy days are a clock in the sky that all year long reveal the plan of salvation through the redemptive work of Yahweh by the shed blood of His Son

Yahshua for the forgiveness of our sins and to pay the penalty for those sins.

The Holy days are for the nation of Israel, whom Yahweh choose.

***Amo 3:1 Hear this Word that Yahweh has spoken against you, sons of Israel, against all the family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying:***

***Amo 3:2 You only have I known of all the families of the earth***

Also, the Holy Days were never meant to be observed outside the land of Israel, and

without the harvest fruits of Israel, it is actually impossible to keep them correctly.

Lev 23:10 *Speak to the sons of Israel, and you shall say to them, When you come in to the land which I am giving to you, and have reaped its harvest, and have brought in the sheaf, or the beginning of your harvest, to the priest,*

Lev 23:11 *then he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh for your acceptance; on the morrow after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.*

When Yahweh brought the nation of Israel to the promised land of Israel, He entered into covenant relationship with them. The blessings of the harvest fruits of the land were a major part of this covenant agreement. If Israel as a nation obeyed the Torah throughout the year, then Yahweh would bless their harvest crops and the Israelites would come up to appear before Yahweh in Jerusalem with all their crops and animals and they would rejoice with their families and receive the blessing of Yahweh from Jerusalem, the only place on earth that Yahweh put His name, and the only place in scripture that Israel was commanded to come up to and appear before Yahweh in the 3 Holy Day Seasons.

Deu 16:16 *Three times in a year shall all your males appear before Yahweh your Elohim in the place which He shall choose (Jerusalem): 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,*

Deu 16:17 *but each with his gift of his hand, according to the blessing of Yahweh your Elohim, which He has given you.*

1Ki 14:21b *And he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which Yahweh chose out of all the tribes of Israel, to put His name there.*

Deu 14:22 *Tithing, you shall tithe all the increase of your seed that the field yields year by year.*

Deu 14:23 *And you shall eat before Yahweh your Elohim in the place which He shall choose (Jerusalem) to cause His name to dwell there, the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstlings of your herd and of your flock; that you may learn to fear Yahweh your Elohim all your days.*

Deu 14:24 *And if the way is too long for you, so that you cannot carry it, because the place is too far from you which Yahweh your Elohim shall choose to set His name there, when Yahweh your Elohim shall bless you;*

Deu 14:25 *Then you shall give it for silver, and bind up the silver in your hand. And you shall go to the place which Yahweh your Elohim shall choose (Jerusalem).*

Deu 14:26 *And you shall pay the silver for whatever your soul desires, for oxen, or for sheep, or for wine, or for fermented drink, or for whatever your soul desires. And you shall eat there before Yahweh your Elohim, and you shall rejoice, you and your household.*

Notice, first in Deuteronomy, that the person is first of all being faithful to tithe all his increase to Yahweh. Then because of his faithfulness in tithing he is allowed to use a tenth of his tithe, for the feast to come and appear before Yahweh in Jerusalem (*the only place in scripture where Yahweh dwells*) and receive his blessing from Yahweh, for his faithfulness throughout the year.

Also notice in verse 24-25, that coming to Jerusalem was not only a good idea but it was a command, and if any male did not have the money to come, then he was to sell his possessions for money and then come up to Jerusalem and appear before Yahweh at the feast time.

When the Torah was given there was never even a hint of ever keeping the pilgrim feasts anywhere but in Jerusalem, the only place in scripture that it says where Yahweh dwells.

It was and still is a curse of our fore-fathers disobedience and our current Diaspora that we cannot appear before Yahweh in Jerusalem at feast time. Again, you must get this point very clear in your mind, it is *not a commandment* in Diaspora to come up to Jerusalem at feast time, it is a *curse* that we are living in Diaspora and cannot come up to Jerusalem.

In our Diaspora, not only did we lose our very identity as Israelites and literal descendents of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, but since we lived among the gentiles and actually lost our identity and became gentiles, we have also lost our connection to the physical land of Israel and all the covenant promises that go along with the land covenant. For Israel, being in covenant relationship, *meant being in the land*, it is that

simple; you simply cannot divide the people, the land, or the covenant.

***Jer 11:1 The Word that came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, saying,***

***Jer 11:2 Hear the Words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah, and to those living in Jerusalem,***

***Jer 11:3 and say to them, So says Yahweh, the Elohim of Israel, Cursed is the man who does not obey the Words of this covenant,***

***Jer 11:4 which I commanded your fathers in the day I brought them out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey My voice and do them according to all that I command you, so that you shall be My people, and I will be your Elohim;***

***Jer 11:5 in order to establish the oath which I swore to your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day. Then I answered and said, Amen, O Yahweh.***

***Jer 11:6 And Yahweh said to me, Declare all these Words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, Hear the Words of this covenant and do them.***

There was never a fore-thought to Israel that being kicked out of the promised land of Israel would be a good thing and would not matter much, but in our Diaspora in these end times, many sons of Israel have fully lost their connection to our Homeland and they love the captivity more than the reward of the beautiful land of Israel, a land flowing with milk and honey.



Many believers in these end times have come out of some pagan rituals, such as Sunday worship or Christmas keeping, but in their gentile pagan roots of their family's country in Diaspora, they have not truly grasped the covenant promises of the land covenant.

Many leaders do understand that many believers physical roots are not through the pagan countries of America, or Europe, or Asia, or any country other than the land of Israel; but somehow in their ignorance, they display false replacement theology that America, or some other nation, or place, is the "*New Israel*". They somehow think that all the covenant scriptures that are in the bible to *the physical Israelites, in the physical land of Israel*, now are somehow replaced by the land of America or some other land.

It is true that many Americans are Israelites by genealogy, and are living in Diaspora in the land of America, which is end time Babylon in scripture, but by no means does that make the physical land of America, the new Israel. When Israel was taken captive by Babylon in the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C., the ancient land of Babylon suddenly did not become the new Israel, simply because Israelites were now captive there. Neither is the USA, the new Israel, simply because Israelites are living in it in their Diaspora.

The land covenant was based on obedience to Yahweh's Torah, and Israel cut covenant with Yahweh to be obedient to that Torah. America neither cut covenant with Yahweh to obey His Torah, nor did they as a nation ever have all the laws of the Torah, as the laws of the land.

One main reason Israel was kicked out of the Promised Land by Yahweh was because they did not keep the land Sabbaths and the weekly Sabbath sanctified. America never

had a Sabbath law in their books and as a nation never even remotely kept the Sabbath laws or land rests, they also never sanctified the name of Yahweh to the nation of America, as well as never having most of the 613 laws of Torah on their legal books, although some of their laws are based on the Torah.

America is not the new Israel, this is just another symptom that Ephraim has been in captivity too long. The Israelites who are captive in America/Babylon have loved their captivity more than the reward of the Promised Land.

Some, also in their ignorance, think that they have the authority to place Yahweh's name, where ever they are having their feast site in their captivity. There was a flyer a short time ago saying *come to the feast of Sukkot where Yahweh has placed His name, Colorado Springs*. I would have to ask for scripture and verse, and sorry to say, you will not find it.

I have read many leaders falsely attack any believer who is not keeping their calendar for the Holy Days, and yet *the place* of an appointment is just as important as *the time* of an appointment. And I have yet to see one Sabbath keeping leader either mention the importance of the land covenant, or the keeping of the feast days in Jerusalem, according to scripture.

In our Diaspora, we have lost the connection to the wonderful land covenant promises that Yahweh speaks about in scripture.

***Amo 9:14 And I will bring back the captivity of My people Israel. And they shall build the waste cities, and live in them. And they shall***



*plant vineyards, and drink the wine of them. They shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.*

*Amo 9:15 And I will plant them on their land, and they shall never again be pulled up out of their land which I have given to them, says Yahweh your Elohim.*

*Jer 33:23 And the Word of Yahweh was to Jeremiah, saying,*

*Jer 33:24 Have you not observed what these people have spoken, saying, The two families that Yahweh has chosen, He has also rejected them? And they despise My people, no more to be a nation before them.*

*Jer 33:25 So says Yahweh, If My covenant is not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of the heavens and earth,*

*Jer 33:26 then I also will reject the seed of Jacob, and My servant David, not to take of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will bring back their captivity and have pity on them.*

We are living in one of the most exciting times in the history of mankind. We are living in the times where these scriptures have already started to be fulfilled and will continue to be fulfilled in the coming days ahead.

We have already seen our brother Judah come back home to our homeland after 2,520 years of captivity, and Yahweh willing, if we are alive to witness it, we will see Ephraim and the Northern tribes of Israel also be planted back on their land to live with Yahshua, Messiah during the 1,000 year millennium.

It has been well over 2700 years since Ephraim and the Northern tribes have been blessed to keep the feast days in Jerusalem and appear before Yahweh, the King of the Universe at feast time.

But as prophecy stated that it would happen once again, Yahweh has opened a door to Israelites in Diaspora to appear before Him at feast time.

*Eze 36:37 So says the Adonia Yahweh: Yet for this I will be sought by the house of Israel, to work for them. I will increase them with men like a flock.*

*Eze 36:38 Like a holy flock, like the flock of Jerusalem in her appointed feasts, so the wasted cities shall be filled with flocks of men. And they shall know that I am Yahweh.*

Yahweh has opened a door for the Northern tribes of Israel to again appear before Him in Jerusalem at feast time, to receive their blessing for turning back to the Torah, and appearing before Him, as He stated in scripture.

This started with just a handful of believers and has turned into a wonderful celebration now with between 100 and 200 believers appearing before Yahweh to praise His name and the name of Yahshua in the city of the Great King (Math 5:35). How do we not know that Yahweh only allowed such modern technology as airplanes, to simply give Ephraim a chance to see his promised homeland from his captivity, to give him hope for the troublesome end times ahead?

Jerusalem is Yahweh's headquarters, and the place where the original Apostles ruled the early congregation from.

***Mic 4:1 But it shall be in the end of the days, the mountain of the house of Yahweh shall be established on the top of the mountains; and it shall be lifted up from the hills; and peoples shall flow on it.***

***Mic 4:2 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 from His ways, and we will walk in His paths. For the Law shall go forth out of Zion, and the Word of Yahweh from Jerusalem.***

Yahweh in this end time is restoring all things, and part of that restoration is His sovereignty over Israel and in particular, Jerusalem. I believe when someone would only want to go to Jerusalem at feast time because it is an actual commandment, then He is missing the point of the blessing; in our Diaspora it is not a commandment that we must go to Jerusalem at feast time, as it is actually, as previously mentioned, a curse of Diaspora not to be able to appear before Yahweh, but it is an honor to represent Yahweh at feast time in His Holy City.

Let me also state that although Yahweh's intent was for Israel to keep the feast days in the Holy Land, that in our Diaspora, if we can't attend in Jerusalem, than we should keep the feast wherever we are.

Some have tried to say that Yahweh is everywhere and use the scripture where 2 or 3 gather there I am also. Yes, it is true that Yahweh is everywhere, as he is omnipresent, but when you gather in your captivity in Babylon and pray to Yahweh, *He comes to where you dwell*, as where, when you appear before Him in Jerusalem, *you come to where*

*He dwells*. And believe me; it is very different, as when Moses appeared before Yahweh in His presence at the burning bush.

As parents we visit our children and grandchildren and it is always a blessing to see family, but isn't it a special blessing when your children come to see you. As the expression goes, you can pray to Yahweh anywhere in the world, but in Jerusalem it is a local call.

Others have tried to use the following scripture in John, to say that we no longer need to appear before Yahweh in Jerusalem for the Holy days.

***Joh 4:20 Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you say that in Jerusalem is the place where it is necessary to worship.***

***Joh 4:21 Yahshua said to her, Woman, believe Me that an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem.***

***Joh 4:22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is of the Jews.***

***Joh 4:23 But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. For the Father also seeks such, the ones worshiping Him.***

The first thing to look here is that the subject of whether to come to Jerusalem for the pilgrim feast is not even in question, but rather the point of needing a temple and a sacrificial system in order to worship Elohim. The Jews said you must do your sacrifice of your animal in Jerusalem and the Samaritans said to sacrifice your animal in Mount Gerazim. Yahshua was saying that no longer would you need to seek Elohim

through the sacrificing of animals, in a sanctuary, which was only a shadow, but now the truth or reality was in Him, and true worship through His sacrifice and Holiness.

It has nothing to do with coming or not coming to Jerusalem for the Holy Days, as in John 5:1 right after this it states;

**Joh 5:1** *After these things, there was a feast of the Jews, and Yahshua went up to Jerusalem.*

So would Yahshua tell this woman it is no longer necessary to appear before Yahweh in Jerusalem and then in the verse next verses go to Jerusalem to appear before Yahweh?

Also, some have misquoted the Apostle Paul also that he stated it was no longer important to come to Jerusalem for the Holy days, but again if we use scripture as our guide, look at what Paul states;

**Act 18:20** *And they asking him to remain over a longer time with them, he did not agree,*

**Act 18:21** *but took leave of them, saying, I must by all means keep the coming feast at Jerusalem.*

Some have used replacement theology to say that Jerusalem is now representative of the church or heaven, but look at what scripture states about Jerusalem even in the end time.

**Zec 12:6b** *And Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her place, in Jerusalem.*

Look also where Yahweh will be dwelling in the end time;

**Joe 2:32** *For it shall be, all who shall call on the name of Yahweh shall be saved. For salvation shall be in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, as Yahweh has said, and among the survivors whom Yahweh shall call.*

**Joe 3:14** *Multitudes, multitudes in valley of decision! For the day of Yahweh is near in the valley of decision.*

**Joe 3:15** *The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall gather in their light.*

**Joe 3:16** *And Yahweh roars from Zion, and He gives His voice from Jerusalem. And the heavens and the earth quake. But Yahweh is a refuge for His people and a fortress to the sons of Israel.*

**Joe 3:17** *And you shall know that I am Yahweh your Elohim dwelling in Zion, My holy mountain. And Jerusalem shall be a holy thing, and aliens shall no more pass through her.*

**Joe 3:21** *And I will cleanse their blood which I did not cleanse. And Yahweh is dwelling in Zion.*

Clearly in the end time, Jerusalem is back in her place, after over 2500 years of captivity, and Judah is a nation once again, even more exciting is that Yahweh is still dwelling in Jerusalem and Mount Zion in these end times, The original City of David, and as we read in Ezekiel 36:37-38, so is Ephraim and the Northern tribes of Israel also blessed to be able to again appear before Yahweh and represent Him in the City of the Great King, in Jerusalem.

**Psa 122:1** *I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of Yahweh.*

**Psa 122:2** *Our feet shall stand within your gates, O Jerusalem.*

**Psa 122:3** *Jerusalem is built like a city that is joined to itself, together.*

*Psa 122:4 There the tribes go up, the tribes of Yahweh; to the testimony of Israel; to give thanks to the name of Yahweh.*

To the ones that have been chosen to be with us in Jerusalem this year as Yahweh's representatives at His headquarters, praise Him for this great blessing that you will be blessed with. But to our brothers and sisters in Diaspora that have not been blessed to be with us in Jerusalem this year, I ask you to read Psalm 137 and meditate on it, and pray for next year in Jerusalem.

*Psa 137:1 There by the rivers of Babylon we sat down; also we wept when we remembered Zion.*

*Psa 137:2 We hung our lyres on the willows in its midst.*

*Psa 137:3 For there our captors asked us the words of a song; yea, our plunderers asked joy, saying, Sing to us a song of Zion.*

*Psa 137:4 How shall we sing the song of Yahweh on a foreign soil?*

*Psa 137:5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget;*

*Psa 137:6 let my tongue cleave to my palate, if I do not remember you, if I do not bring up Jerusalem above the head of my joy.*

As we are coming out of the worthless pagan ways of our past and as we are anxiously waiting for Yahshua's return to earth and the manifestation of the Children of Yahweh, let us never forget the great and precious promises that we have of returning to the land of our fore-fathers and living in the promised land of Israel. Let us look

forward to the day when all the earth will appear before Yahshua in Jerusalem at feast time. If we don't rehearse, how will we be there?

*Zec 14:16 And it shall be, everyone who is left from all the nations which came up against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, Yahweh of Hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.*

*Zec 14:17 And it shall be, whoever will not go up from the families of the earth to Jerusalem to worship the King, Yahweh of Hosts, there shall even be no rain on them.*

*Zec 14:18 And if the family of Egypt does not go up, nor come in, then the rain shall not be on them, but the plague with which Yahweh shall strike the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.*

It was never Yahweh's intention that His covenant people, the Sons of Israel, would have to be expelled from the covenant land of Israel. The end time believers are the very beginning of the restoration of all things and what a blessing it is to be able to be part of the restoring of Yahweh's feast to the covenant land of Israel and Jerusalem. Oh how we look forward to each feast we are blessed to keep there and one day soon, if we are alive and are blessed to be there, then we will see the very feet of Yahshua stand on the Mount of Olives and celebrate that first Sukkot with Him in His Kingdom.

Please download our free CD sermon called "The City of the Great King" and "Next Year in Jerusalem" on our website at [www.coyhwh.com](http://www.coyhwh.com).

# The Marriage Covenant & The Keeping of Vows

By Don Esposito



2Timothy 3:3 tells us that in the end time people will be without natural affection, and also trucebreakers. There is no greater example of this than in the marriage covenant. In 1901 the divorce rate was between 1 and 2 percent, and now it has skyrocketed to almost 60%, and would be much higher except that many people today do not even actually wed anymore but only cohabitate together against scripture.

Vows mean nothing to most people, as even the simplest commitment to help a brother move or baby-sit for a believing couple, or even to make a commitment to give to Yahweh, is usually altered or changed or even just simply ignored with an excuse being made for not keeping the commitment.

Vows and keeping our word are most important to Yahweh, and He expects His covenant people to also keep the vows that they make, especially when they do so in His Holy Name. Covenant vows are most serious, and a covenant is the most important agreement that two or more parties can make and is most sacred and binding on the parties involved.

Israel was a nation that did not keep their covenant vows to Yahweh, to obey His commandments, and were spewed out of the land of Israel for their disobedience; but Yahweh never forgot His covenant promises that He made to Abraham and for that reason almost 2700 years later, Israel is still being worked with by Almighty Yahweh.

***Mal 3:6 For I, Yahweh, change not. Because of this, you sons of Jacob are not destroyed.***

Many Sabbath keepers have used this scripture over the years to show that Yahweh does not change and therefore Saturday and not Sunday is still the Sabbath day, and this is true, but many also forget the rest of the scripture, that this is *the reason that the Sons of Israel are not consumed.*

Yahweh had every right in the world to destroy Israel and work with an obedient nation, and the fact is that He did not, because He made a covenant vow to Abraham, and He does not change; He will keep His vow, regardless of another's action.

Hebrews 6:18 tells us that it is impossible for Yahweh to lie and Isaiah 55:10-11 states;

***Isa 55:10*** *For as the rain and the snow comes down from the heavens and do not return there, except it waters the earth and make it bring forth and bud, and give seed to the sower and bread to the eater,*

***Isa 55:11*** *so shall My Word be, which goes out of My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in what I sent it to do!*

This is why we can count on 100% of every word of scripture to be true, because Yahweh can not lie and if His word said it, than it can not change and faith is simply "believing in every word out of the mouth of Yahweh".

When we come to the topic of divorce and re-marriage, instead of trying to twist and turn the word of Yahweh as so many do, so that they can continue the practice of divorce, which Yahweh hates (Mal 2:16), we simply need to look at the original principle and intent, which Yahweh set out at creation, and since He does not change, then we will know the mind and intent of our Heavenly Father on this subject. Let's look at The Book of Mark and see the principle that Yahweh set out for a man and a women at creation.

***Mar 10:2*** *And coming near, the Pharisees asked Him if it is lawful for a man to put away a wife, testing Him.*

***Mar 10:3*** *But answering, He said to them, What did Moses command you?*

***Mar 10:4*** *And they said, Moses allowed "to write a bill of divorce, and to put away."*

***Mar 10:5*** *And answering, Yahshua said to them, With respect to your hardheartedness he wrote this command to you.*

***Mar 10:6*** *But from the beginning of creation "Elohim made them male and female."*

***Mar 10:7*** *"Because of this, a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife,*

***Mar 10:8*** *and the two shall be one flesh;" so that they no longer are two, but one flesh.*

***Mar 10:9*** *Therefore, what Yahweh yoked together, let not man put apart.*

***Mar 10:10*** *And again, in the house His disciples asked Him about the same.*

***Mar 10:11*** *And He said to them, Whoever may divorce his wife and marries another commits adultery against her.*

***Mar 10:12*** *And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.*

Clearly, we see from this scripture that when asked about the marriage covenant, Yahshua went back to Genesis 2 and the creation of man and woman to show the principle that was laid out in the Garden of Eden; ***One man/ One woman, till death do us part.***

What many in this immoral end time forget is that in the world, two people make a civil union and vow to one another, but when a believer is in marriage covenant relationship with another believer, than it is before Yahweh, the Creator of the universe, and they understand the sanctity that is set for the marriage covenant and they are held to a higher standard.

Wicked, mankind is not ruling society by the laws or intent of the Almighty Creator, Yahweh, and that is why even today, they will marry two men or two women with each other and call this legal. This is against the clear word of scripture, and is not recognized by Yahweh, who does not change.

But once you have been immersed into the family of Yahweh and have cut covenant with Him, and understand that the marriage covenant is so sacred because it is preparation to, and represents our marriage to Yahshua, as the true bridegroom, then Yahweh does hold us accountable to the covenant promises that we made at our marriage covenant ceremony.

Do you also realize as a covenant baptized believer, that when you enter the marriage covenant that it is not only between the two spouses, but you are also making this covenant or contract before The Almighty, Creator of the universe?

It is a three way contract between the husband, the wife, and Yahweh, and clearly scripture tells us that a miracle happens at this ceremony and after the vows are taken in this covenant ceremony that Yahweh miraculously makes the two, one entity now. They are no longer two but one. This is a great mystery revealing that when Yahshua will return at the wedding super that His bride will be joined to Him, and they will be united forever. It is the word and will of Yahweh.

This is what Yahshua meant when He said *and the two will become one*, quoting from Genesis the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter. And then he said *“what Yahweh has joined together let no man put apart.”* It is very simple, as we already mentioned, once Yahweh sanctifies the marriage, when they make the marriage covenant agreement and he miraculously makes the two one, by the sealing of His word, Yahweh can not change; it is that simply they are one and no court or judge in the world has the authority to separate a union that Yahweh’s word has joined together.

So many times one spouse wants to blame the other spouse for the breaking of the marriage vow, and then uses this as an opportunity to incorrectly assume that they can divorce and re-marry. But as we have seen, your marriage vow is before Yahweh and not man, and no matter what your partner does within this marriage covenant agreement, that does not take away from your responsibility to stay faithful to the covenant vow that you made before Yahweh. Remember, we are all unfaithful to our covenant vow that we made with Yahweh at our baptism, but Yahweh does not say, *“You sinned and broke my covenant, I will get rid of you and make covenant with another”*, no, even when we are unfaithful, He continues to be faithful, because when we become one with Him (John 17) He can not deny Himself.



**2Ti 2:13 if we are unfaithful, that One remains faithful; He is not able to deny Himself.**

If your covenant spouse has been unfaithful to the covenant vow that was made before Yahweh with you on your wedding day, then they will have to give account before Yahweh on judgment day (1 Cor6:9-10), but that does not take away from your responsibility to continue to show Yahweh that you will be faithful to the vow you made before Him, until death do you part.

So many only want to accuse their covenant partner, and in many cases there are valid accusations, but how many want to look back on the agreement that they made on their wedding day, when they entered marriage covenant relationship and the vow that they made before Yahweh.

When I perform a wedding ceremony, I say to the couple, that I am witnessing today before Yahweh, the covenant agreement that the bride, the bridegroom and Yahweh are making. Then I say as most wedding ceremonies do, to each partner to publicly affirm and vow before Yahweh, that they will honor, love, cherish, and respect their covenant partner in sickness and in health, in good times and in bad, **TILL DEATH DO YOU PART.**

This is the vow that both marriage partners make before Yahweh, and it is even said in most worldly churches, and this vow that is made by both marriage partners is binding in the eyes of Yahweh, **TILL DEATH DO THEM PART.**

**Rom 7:1 Or are you ignorant, brothers, (for I speak to those knowing Law), that the Law Masters it over the man for as long a time as he lives?**

**Rom 7:2 For the married woman was bound by The Torah to the living husband; but if the husband dies, she is set free from the Law of the husband.**

**Rom 7:3 So then, if the husband is living, she will be called an adulteress if she becomes another man's. But if the husband dies, she is free from the Law, so as for her not to be an adulteress by becoming another man's.**

**1Co 7:39 A wife is bound by law for as long a time as her husband lives; but if her husband sleeps, she is free to be married to whomever she desires, only in *the* Master**

I have heard many excuses as to why brethren feel that they have the right to divorce their covenant spouse and marry another person while the covenant spouse that *Yahweh made them one with*, is still alive, but I have never heard anyone at their marriage covenant ceremony ever vow and say that they will honor and respect and love and cherish their covenant spouse until their covenant partner *commits adultery, or burns the spaghetti or for any other reason.*

No, in each marriage covenant ceremony, **both partners take a vow before Yahweh, TILL DEATH DO US PART.**

We live in a world where lying and not keeping our word is a way of life, that we just don't realize how serious it is to make a vow before Yahweh and not fulfill it. Let's look at some examples from scripture to truly magnify how important it is to keep our word before Yahweh.

**Deu 23:21** *When you shall vow a vow to Yahweh your Elohim, you shall not delay to perform it; for Yahweh your Elohim will certainly require it of you, and it shall be sin to you.*

**Deu 23:22** *But if you shall forebear to vow, it shall be no sin to you.*

**Deu 23:23** *That which has gone out of your lips, you shall keep, and shall do it. According as you have vowed as a freewill offering to Yahweh your Elohim, do even that which you have spoken with your mouth.*

**Num 30:1** *And Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes of the sons of Israel, saying, This is the thing which Yahweh has commanded:*

**Num 30:2** *When a man vows a vow to Yahweh, or has sworn an oath to bind his soul with a bond, he shall not break his word; he shall do all that has gone out of his mouth.*

How important are vows made before Yahweh? This scripture states that when we make a vow to Yahweh, to perform it quickly, as even if our heart would be right to perform what we said, what if we were to die before we could perform it, then we would be accountable, as the word clearly says that we are to perform every word that comes out of our mouth. Joshua the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter is another good example showing the importance of keeping a vow that is made before Yahweh, even when the other party was unfaithful on their side.

**Jos 9:3** And the *ones* living in Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai.

**Jos 9:4** And they acted slyly, and they went and acted like envoys, and took old sacks for their asses, and old wineskins, even torn and bound up;

**Jos 9:5** and old and patched sandals on their feet; and old garments on them. And all their provision of bread was dry; it was crumbs.

**Jos 9:6** And they went to Joshua, to the camp at Gilgal. And *they* said to him and to the men of Israel, We have come from a distant land. **And now cut a covenant with us.**

**Jos 9:7** And the men of Israel said to the Hivites, Perhaps you are living in our midst, and how shall we cut a covenant with you?

**Jos 9:8** And they said to Joshua, We *are* your servants. And Joshua said to them, Who *are* you? And from where do you come?

**Jos 9:9** And they said to him, Your servants have come from a very distant land, because of the name of Yahweh your Elohim, for we have heard of His fame, and all that He has done in Egypt.

**Jos 9:13** And these are the wineskins which we filled new; and, behold, they have torn. And these garments of ours, and our sandals, have become old because of the exceeding greatness of the way.

**Jos 9:14** And the men took of their provision, **and did not ask at the mouth of Yahweh.**

**Jos 9:15 And Joshua made peace with them, and cut a covenant with them, to keep them alive. And the leaders of the congregation swore to them.**

**Jos 9:16** And at the end of three days after they had cut a covenant with them. And it happened that they heard that they *were* their neighbors, and they were living in their midst.

**Jos 9:18 And the sons of Israel did not strike them, for the leaders of the congregation swore to them by Yahweh the Elohim of Israel.** And all the congregation murmured against the leaders.

**Jos 9:19** And all the leaders said to all the congregation, **We have sworn to them by Yahweh the Elohim of Israel; and now we cannot touch them.**

**Jos 9:20 We shall do this to them, and shall keep them alive, and wrath shall not be on us because of the oath which we have sworn to them.**

Here we see, where the Gibeonites even lied to, and tricked the Israelites into making a covenant with them, and because covenants are so sacred, and that when a covenant is made and the parties vow before Yahweh, that even if one partner in the covenant agreement was unfaithful that the other party who also vowed before Yahweh must keep his word and be faithful to the vow made to his covenant partner before Yahweh.

Also, a most important point that is often overlooked is verse 14, which says "*they did not ask at the mouth of Yahweh.*" Marriage is the most important decision one will make in his/her life next to the covenant relationship and baptism with Yahweh. The intending couple must ask Yahweh and seek Him when selecting a mate. Yahweh does not make mistakes and if couples sought out their mate from Yahweh, divorce would not even be an issue, but if we wrongly chose a mate out of our own mistake, then Yahweh expects us to keep our covenant vow till death do us part.

Let's look at one more New Testament example about how important vows are that are made before Yahweh.

**Act 5:1** But a certain man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a property,

**Act 5:2 and kept back from the price, his wife also aware of *it*,** and bringing a certain part, *he* put *it* at the feet of the apostles.

**Act 5:3** But Peter said, Ananias, why did Satan fill your heart *for* you to lie to the Holy Spirit and to secretly keep back from the price of the land?

**Act 5:4 Remaining, did it not remain yours? And being sold, was it *not* in your authority? Why *is it* that this action was put into your heart? You did not lie to men, but to Yahweh!**

**Act 5:5** And hearing these words, Ananias fell down *and* died. And great fear came on all those hearing these things.

Ananias, was not required, according to Torah, to give the full price of this land to the Apostles for the work of Yahweh, but once he publicly vowed to do so (verse 5:4), he was bound to keep the oath that he made with his wife to give the full price of the land sold. And it is most interesting that Peter said *he did not lie to man but to Yahweh!*

Can you start to understand the seriousness of vows that are made before Yahweh, and how we must perform those vows or suffer the consequences of our actions? Can you also see why Yahweh is so angry at the people who are destroying the marriage covenant against His clear word? When we make a covenant vow to a spouse before Yahweh and divorce them and marry another, we are not lying to our spouse but to Yahweh, who we made the vow before.

*Mal 2:14 Yet you say, On what cause? Because Yahweh has been witness between you, and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously; and she is your companion and your covenant wife.*

*Mal 2:15 And has He not made you one? Yet the vestige of the Spirit is in him. And what of the one? He was seeking a seed of Elohim. Then guard your spirit, and do not deal treacherously with the wife of your youth.*

*Mal 2:16 Yahweh, the Elohim of Israel, says, He hates divorce, and to cover with violence on his garment, says Yahweh of Hosts. Then guard your spirit and do not act treacherously.*

Clearly, we see from Malachi that in no uncertain terms Yahweh hates divorce and does not condone the putting away and divorcing of a spouse and marrying another spouse while the first one is still alive. His word clearly calls this adultery, in which no adulterer will inherit the Kingdom.

There is no escape clause as some had tried to portray. The only exception that is written in Matthew to the Jews, who considered engagement as sacred as marriage itself, was that if the betrothed spouse was unfaithful during the betrothal period, then the marriage agreement that was signed at the time of the engagement, could be broken (Math 5:32), but once the actual marriage ceremony takes place, and Yahweh miraculously makes the two one, then no man can put them apart. They have the free will to do any action they may want to, but they will have to give an account of that action on judgment day.

There are horrific sins that happen in a marriage at times, and that is why Yahweh does have a clause to separate from an abusive spouse, but no where does His word sanction to remarry another person while the first one is still living ( 1Cor 7:10-11).

I truly pray that all of Yahweh's covenant people can see the importance of keeping the vows that we make and especially the marriage covenant vows and promises. Before conversion many brethren made mistakes, and this article is not about that. It is about *after you become a covenant believer in the family of Yahweh*, that there is no divorce and re-marriage in the Congregation of YHWH, according to scripture. Yahweh considers divorce and re-marriage adultery, and no adulterer will be in Yahweh's Kingdom.

In the Congregation of Yahweh, Jerusalem, we believe that Yahweh is working to restore all things, and one on them is the marriage covenant and the importance of vows. Where we see in other congregations the divorce rate is as high or higher than the world, in the Congregation of

YHWH, Jerusalem, our divorce rate is 0%, and we have eradicated something that Yahweh hates. Most of all our children, who will be the first generation to enter Yahweh's Kingdom have the example of the sanctity of the marriage covenant, and will enter the Kingdom with the intent of Yahweh that He created at The Garden of Eden; *one man/one woman, till death do us part.*

Very soon Yahshua our bridegroom will return to earth and all true faithful covenant believers will attend the marriage ceremony of Yahshua and the bridegroom. If we are honest, none of us have been fully faithful to the covenant that we made with Him, and yet he has continued to be faithful to us. Praise Yahweh that he does not change and that he continues to be faithful even when we aren't.

*Please read our articles on this subject called " Did Yahshua divorce Israel" and" Divorce and Re-marriage" in the paper section on our website [www.coyhwh.com](http://www.coyhwh.com), and also the CD called the Marriage covenant in the audio section.*

# If Only They Could Speak



My name is Moriyah Esposito and since I am speaking a different language then almost all of you (baby language), my Mommy had decided to write down my testimony. Mommy does not know all that had happened to me before my arrival but as many facts as she has, she will share with you. She said she is grateful that she does not know everything and is praying for me so that YAHWEH will give me a new memory with blessed thoughts which are fun to remember.

It all started a long time ago in June 07 when a stranger picked me up from the hospital where I was just born little moments ago and brought me into an orphanage far away.

From being used to the warm tummy and familiar sounds, I was now put alone in a crib with a bottle, prepped up on a pillow which was feeding me, nobody was holding me much. I was 6 pounds small and terrible alone.

Only a couple of days went by when I had visitors who took me into a hotel with them, it was my new Daddy and Mommy!

My caretaker told Daddy that I would not eat more then a small can of formula while staying with them. Well, I proved them all wrong and made Daddy go out for seconds of everything, formula and water. They said I sure have a big appetite but thought I needed it because I was truly a tiny one. They kept the "babbas" (bottles) coming all day and night and they held me in their arm while feeding me, this was so much fun, I was getting used to that.

Then the day came when Daddy and Mommy left me behind. I cried, and I cried.....!

I was again hungry and all alone in my crib, my bottom had been so wet but sometimes someone still changed me, I guess when I screamed too much. This was my only chance to receive snuggles, as they had to pick me up then.

When I turned three months old, my Daddy and Mommy walked up to my crib again, I was so excited, I smiled and giggled, I remembered them from the time when I was a real tiny one. We had some fun time in the hotel, and again I proved to them that I was (am) a good eater. The orphanage did not give me much, so I "hamstered" up when I could. By this time Abba knew already to get me extra food, I did not cry with them as they seemed to always know what was needed, food, bottom change, snuggling. They just knew it all! The orphanage had told them that I cried a whole lot.

I even got to sleep with my parents in the same bed and was all nice and toasty. I woke Mommy up a lot as I loved to sleep with my face right in hers and my feet I put on her too, oh did I sleep good.....

One morning Daddy and Mommy had water come out of their eyes, again they left me behind, now I was screaming even more and as I was already three months old, I was more hungry all day too while I was just laying alone in my crib again. I don't understand why Daddy and Mommy always left me, they said they love me but they still left me behind, I heard some words that I do not understand – *“for unfinished legal something”*.

Three month went by and there Daddy and Mommy visited me again at the orphanage, I was all excited seeing

them but was in pain as nobody told them that since over a month ago, from all the screaming I did, I had a hernia, golf ball size big. They didn't like that I was so skinny either but hoped to take care of this soon by them selves, I was looking forward to that but little did we all know that it would take much longer then expected.

Daddy and Mommy made sure that my pain stopped. They decided they would not leave me in the hospital after the operation as it was not safe for me. The nurse did not take out the air from the syringe, neither from the intravenous that was stuck inside of me..... It also took them about one hour after the operation to give me pain medicine. I screamed for three hours almost nonstop. They only gave it to me because I screamed so much and not even Mommy's arms could comfort me because of my pain. Mommy told the nurse *“something”* and this is when Mommy had decided not to leave me there. She said that she will take care of me. After Daddy & Mommy had prayed, the doctor gave us the ok to take me to the hotel, this was truly a miracle as this was not done so after an operation with full anesthesia.

In the hotel Daddy tried to get my mind off and made me laugh so much, hard to believe that I was just operated on, Daddy and Mommy said this must be a miracle. Little did I know this was our last night together for a quiet a while.

A few moons later, when I was ten months old now and the Guatemalan government had **finally** released my files, I saw my parents again, finally they came to pick me up to take me out of there. At this time now I was too weak to do anything my body was now only skin and bones. Mommy said that probably I would have not been alive if it would have taken two more months to pick me up. I only had one and a half teeth, and from 6 – 10 month old I had lost 3 pounds. My eyes were not clear and Mommy was worried I had lost some sight. My diaper rash was so bad that it took a long time to get beyond the worst. I also had a bad ear infection and food allergies as well, next to.....

I did not allow Daddy and Mommy to feed me now for the first week, each time they brought my *“babba”* near me I grabbed it out of their hands and held it so tight that nobody could ever take it out of my mouth, I even used my finger to get the last drop out of the top and licked it off, I was so hungry. After about a week of getting plenty of food I started to let them feed me and it actually was fun being held and cuddled while eating. I even offered some of my bottle to Mommy and Daddy; I believe this is where I started to enjoy food.

At this time I had realized that Daddy and Mommy stayed longer with me, it was now many



moons later and they still haven't left me, as they had left me behind the other times before. I am already a big girl now and so I only eat one "babba" in the night, the other times when I scream I make sure that Abba and Mommy are still there. During the day I refused to sleep, Mommy had said that I needed to lie down as my eyes had been more shut than open but I was fighting it with all my might just to make sure they will not leave me again.

About a month after having been in the US, I started to look a little more solid, Mommy calls me her little butterball, sounds yummeehh, butter..... I had reached 19 pounds in the shortest time and have gotten enough food and vitamins that my hair started to grow. I have two teeth now and Mommy thinks I should have more but says that I don't have them yet because of my malnutrition from the orphanage. My eyes see everything, I need to see it all, as everything is new and I have to "go" after it, in the orphanage I only laid around, now I have to explore it all, I still wonder why Daddy and Mommy are so busy following me.....!!!!

About a month after leaving the orphanage I started to eat more solid food, it is so much fun that I always have to throw my arms and feet in the air, I get to eat all of YAHWEH's food and I am just so exited about it, sometimes I even get cross eyed when looking at my yum yums, I just love it all. If a crumb drops from the spoon I don't even let them feed me the next spoon, until I find that crumb first, and stick it into my mouth.

I am now a big thirteen months old already, and as Daddy and Mommy call me, a true miracle. Mommy said that I once looked like a poor forgotten child from the Holocaust which YAHWEH had rescued. Now nobody knows anymore about it and YAHWEH transformed me into a healthy, happy baby. Daddy and Mommy say that I am appreciating and loving the food so much because when I was a tinier one, I had almost none.

They tell me that some other children in America don't eat all their food, and some even play with it and throw it on the floor, but I love every mouthful, because I remember when my tummy used to be hungry most of the time.

Daddy says when I am a little older, the first thing he wants to do is when he teaches me to pray, is to pray for the little ones in poor countries that were like me and have no food. I really like that because I wouldn't want any baby to go hungry as I did, and have no one to care for them.

Please remember to pray for all my little bebe friends in Guatemala who were not as blessed as I was to have a Daddy and Mommy who were blessed by YAHWEH to take me home. Most of them are still in the orphanages and are not getting food, love and care each day, like I am.

*Since April adoptions in Guatemala have been extremely difficult with very few released, most orphanages like ours had been shut down from the government and we need to fervently pray for the well being for His children, as their situation is extremely desperate. Theses little ones are in so much danger, please do not forget about them.*

*Our deepest gratitude to all of you, who prayed for Moriyah, it is indeed amazing to see personally the answer of our all prayers and for Don & I to be the chosen parents of YAHWEH'S mighty handiwork, our daughter. There is no greater gift to receive then the gift of life, spiritually and physically. PRAISE YAHWEH! Ma Esposito!*

## (Reprint) Spiritual Heroin



There is a drug worse than Heroin – a drug which is more addictive and harder to withdraw from, once you are “hooked.” It has caused a number to MISS OUT on salvation! Read what you can do to avoid getting hooked.

The typical heroin addict becomes a human derelict. He lives from “fix” to “fix”. His whole life becomes totally preoccupied with Heroin. He rapidly finds he is an abject slave to the drug. It becomes his Elohim.

Worthwhile character traits gradually disappear. In time, boils and abscess start to break out on the skin. Imaginary fears blight the mind; sometimes insanity occurs, or death from an overdose!

Once a person becomes addicted to Heroin, there is very little chance that he will ever permanently escape.

The Heroin addict literally goes through a “hell on earth” to free himself from the clutches of this drug.

The experience of “withdrawal” is excruciating torment, a nerve-shattering ordeal. Severe shooting pains constrict the abdomen, knotting it up like a sheet of corrugated tin. Explosive waves of contraction rake the stomach walls. Addicts experience violent vomiting, often stained with blood.

You start to scream. The nightmares, all kinds of horrors, you are always thinking

that there are monkeys jumping up and down your back. You turn around and see there is nobody there, and find yourself screaming and find yourself on the floor many times from rolling off the bed, and ready to cut your throat with a razorblade.”

Yet after enduring this sheer torture, about 95% of addicts turn right back to heroin when the chance presents itself. Some addicts have gone through addiction and withdrawal as many as fifty times! That’s just how tenacious the grip of heroin is!

However, as bad as heroin addiction is, there is a spiritual narcotic which can begin to dominate your life even more than heroin addiction.

Brethren, there is a spiritual addiction which also enslaves, captivates and leads to total character degeneration.

The spiritual addicts love for YAHWEH vanishes. His love for YAHWEH’s people turns inside out, his love for YAHWEH’s law metamorphoses into hate and hostility!

He becomes one of the “walking dead”, spiritually.

The recovery rate of those who become enslaved by “spiritual heroin” is likewise virtually zero. Once hooked, a person’s chances are slim indeed! What is this spiritual narcotic – this mind twisting spiritual drug? How do people become addicted to it? How can you avoid it?

Heroin comes from the opium poppy. The poppy is refined into pure heroin, usually smuggled from one country into another, and finally reaches the heroin addicts

through “pushers”. Spiritual heroin also has its source of supply, and its legion of pushers.

Satan is the source and grower of this spiritual poison. He is also the one who “refines” it, boils it down into potent doses, and then injects it into your mind. He doesn’t take a hypodermic needle to inject it into a vein – he puts it right where it will do the most damage – into your mind.

Satan is also a master pusher. His tactics are subtle – seductive – ever so sly. If you allow him to begin to inject just a little spiritual heroin into your system, at first it will seem to give you a sense of pleasure – a thrill- but soon you will be hooked, if you continue receiving the doses. Your system will demand more and more. You will crave it, even when there is no more “pleasure” or “thrill” involved.

And once you are hooked, your chances of escape are almost nil. Seeds of suspicion and doubt will sprout and bear fruit. Discontent, envy, or jealousy will rake your mind. Your mind will become warped and twisted. But just what is this sinister drug? It is a “*root of bitterness.*”

### **A Grimm Warning**

The apostle Paul was inspired to write “*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see YAHWEH*”: *Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of YAHWEH; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled*” (Heb 12: 14-15).

The original Greek word here translated “*bitterness*” is *pikria* and means “*acridity, especially poison*”. It has to do with sharpness, pungency, acidity. It might be compared to the taste of a bitter lemon or to harsh, acidic, astringent flavor.

The apostle Peter said of Simon Magus, the arch-apostate and deceiver of this age, “*For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity*” Acts 8: 23). That man as far as history relates, never repented.

Despite this admonition straight from YAHWEH’s apostle, he apparently remained in as state of bitterness toward the truth. He perverted the true gospel of YAHSHUA and led many people into deception!

Paul knew the danger of bitterness. He instructed the Ephesians, “*And grieve not the Holy Spirit of YAHWEH, whereby you are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as YAHWEH for YAHSHUA’s sake hath forgiven you*” (Eph 4: 30-32).

Bitterness is contrary to the fruits of YAHWEH’s Holy Spirit. It is a fruit of the carnal mind – and of satan the devil.

He is, without a doubt, the bitterest being in existence today – bitter against YAHWEH and all He stands for. Notice the admonition in James” “*Who is wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him show out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descended not from above, but is earthly, sensual, and devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work*” James 3: 13-16).

Satan is the author of bitterness. He was the first to become embittered against the way of YAHWEH – the first to become dissatisfied and to allow a “*root of bitterness*” to spring up in his mind.

When any man becomes bitter, he is allowing the worst “*pusher*’ of all time –

satan the devil – to peddle his wares to him. He is going the way of the devil.

He may think he has every excuse, every reason to become angry, resentful, bitter – but he is allowing himself to be deceived in his thinking, warped in his reasoning and filled with addictive poison.

How does someone become addicted to bitterness?

Essentially the same way hundreds of thousands in the US and millions around the world have become addicted to heroin.

Evidence shows that the vast majority of heroin addicts actually began using other drugs – weaker drugs, such as marijuana or LSD. One drug led to another – not necessarily a scientific cause and effect relationship, but an atmosphere of social rebellion and wrong associations certainly encouraged it.

The Los Angeles Police Department investigated youths who had been arrested in for illegal possession of relatively mild marijuana. Within five years, 26 % had been rearrested for possession or use of heroin!

A woman who was a heroin addict for 25 long, miserable years firmly said: “I don’t think marijuana leads to heroin or cocaine, I know it. I know a thousand junkies, and they all started with pot, like me.”

So it is also with spiritual heroin – bitterness.

Generally, a person starts out with harboring just a little resentment in his heart – not full-fledged bitterness. He allows a little jealousy, a little envy, a little spirit of dissatisfaction to dwell in his mind.

It is comparable to a weaker drug, such as marijuana. He allows this weaker “spiritual drug” to sway his mind, he muses, and

contemplates on negative thoughts continually. Gradually his mind becomes filled with such thoughts. Each thought “fix” leads up to becoming a little more resentful, more unhappy, more hostile and bitter.

Finally he becomes hooked on the hard stuff – the heroin of acute bitterness! As a man thinks, so he is.

But why do some people allow even the first thoughts of resentment and envy to lodge in their minds? Why do some brethren allow such negative poison to ever enter their minds in the first place?

The answer is simple: they don’t really discern the outright deadliness of it – the full danger!

Just a little complaining seems innocent enough.

Just a little grouching or grumbling about something, whether it is the weather, the job, the boss, the house, the yard, the car, the wife or husband, the children or any number of factors, “won’t hurt” – so people reason.

“Everybody does it! It doesn’t seem to hurt them any. So it won’t hurt me either!”

It’s not true, of course. But it provides a convenient excuse. So some start complaining and grumbling about YAHWEH’s body, or His work, or the way things are done.

The spirit of complaining rubs off on them from the world and from their worldly associations. Everybody else seems to do it, so they carelessly follow suit.

But brethren, such thinking is absolutely wrong – fallacious – erroneous. It overlooks the sinister DANGER that a little complaining, or a little bitterness, can become HABIT – ADDICTIVE! After a person

becomes accustomed to it, he finds he doesn't want to live without it. It becomes a "crutch" – and before the poor hapless soul realizes it, he is hooked.

Oh, at first there may be a temporary satisfaction one seems to achieve from it. At first there may be a perverse type of euphoric "pleasure" associated with griping and complaining, just as there is a sensation derived from being "spaced out" on drugs.

But in the long run, this "pleasure" turns into horror – a nightmarish world of spiritual suffering and death! One day, the hooked person – whether on heroin or bitterness – finds his whole life is "drug oriented" and his whole future is ruined!

What about you? Have you been injected with spiritual heroin? Is this spiritual "monkey" about to jump on your back? Have you already allowed a degree of bitterness, resentment or jealousy to enter your mind? Have you begun, ever so slyly, to find fault with YAHWEH, His work, or your position?

If you know in your heart that you've sinned in this area, then take heed – repent now before it is too late. Banish all such thoughts from your mind now, before you become irrevocably hooked. Get on your knees and implore YAHWEH's forgiveness before it is too late.

Beware, also if you feel smug secure, and think "it could never happen to me." Remember the words of the apostle Paul: "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor 10: 12).). Do as the apostle Paul commands: Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith, prove your own selves. Know ye not

your own selves. How that YAHSHUA is in you, except ye be reprobates?" (2 Cor 13: 5). You are in charge of your own mind. Don't allow satan to inoculate your mind with spiritual heroin. Paul said many had been defiled with this spiritual drug in his day (Heb 12: 15).

They had allowed rebellion to enter their lives. They had gotten into a wrong frame of mind – a wrong attitude. Soon they became completely ensnared in the tentacles of bitterness' and were garroted spiritually.

How can you avoid this terrible fate? What can you do to conquer every insidious root of bitterness? If you have tended to associate with people who are "users" of the drug of bitterness, who complain about circumstances, situations, people, places, authority or any number of things, then remove yourself from such influences!

Remember another warning the apostle Paul wrote: "*Be not deceived: evil communications (or associations) corrupt good habits*" (1Cor 15: 33).

Don't maintain close fellowship with people who are bitter. Don't assume that you are strong enough to withstand their evil influence, and maybe you can help them to change and overcome their weaknesses. You will be like the people your with, and you are dealing with spirits here, and if you stay around bitter people you will become bitter.

Almost certainly they will begin to tear down your attitude, you will become weak and sickly, spiritually, and before you know it you may become "Hooked".

Most drug addicts would freely state that they began using drugs because of associating with others who used them. And many people who are bitter got that way by identical route! The apostle Paul said: "*Know*

*ye not that a little leaven, (sin) leavens the whole lump? (1Cor 5: 6-7).*

Solomon warns in the book of Proverbs: “He that walks with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed” (Pr 13: 20).

Remember, Adam and Eve “associated with,” and listened to satan. They allowed the serpent to beguile them, partook of the forbidden fruit, and thereby sinned against YAHWEH. Their “association” with the serpent led to disastrous results, including banishment from Eden and access to the tree of life. Don’t take foolish chances, brethren. Don’t be like a small child playing with matches, unaware of the Holocaust that could censure.

You should also consider another necessary operation toward the solution of this problem. When drugs were pouring across the Mexican American border a few years ago, the US launched a massive campaign to stem the tide. Custom officials searched every vehicle that crossed the border to stop the smuggling. You can do the same thing – launch your own personal “Operation Intercept”. Catch those resentful bitter, envious thoughts at the border of your mind –

#### **DON'T EVEN LET THEM ENTER!**

The apostle Peter tells us: “*Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walking about, seeking whom he may devour Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world*” (1Peter 5: 8-9).

The apostle Paul carries that instruction a step further: “*Finally, my brethren, be strong in YAHWEH, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of YAHWEH, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the*

*devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places*” (Eph 6: 10 – 12.)

We have weapons with which we can fight this spiritual heroin addiction. We have spiritual armor. Notice verse 14 – 18: We must put on truth, righteousness, obeying YAHWEH’s commands, peace faith, the knowledge of salvation, YAHWEH’s Spirit, His word and faithful prayer!

Do you daily pray to YAHWEH, seeking spiritual contact with Him? Do you study the bible so you can be strengthened spiritually?

Or have you “let up” in bible study and prayer? Have you begun to neglect these powerful spiritual helps?

Bible study and prayer build faith. And with the shield of faith you can quench all the fiery darts of the wicked (Eph 6: 16). Including those darts dipped in the poison of bitterness. You must make the effort to guard the doors of your mind.

YAHWEH holds you responsible for the abundance of your hearts thoughts. But if you allow resentful, jealous, bitter, envious, hostile thoughts to take root in your mind, you are standing on the brink of spiritual destruction. Spiritual heroin addiction must be overcome – before it gets a fatal grip on its victim. None need ever become fatally addicted!

#### **Develop A Positive Attitude**

The best way to overcome any spiritual weakness, whether griping, complaining or a generally negative attitude is to aggressively replace it with a positive, thankful, appreciative, happy attitude of mind!

The way to overcome bitterness or any of its attendant's species of sin is to replace them with the positive fruits of YAHWEH's Holy Spirit. Develop a positive, happy, radiant, thankful attitude... Count all your blessings – which if you really stop to consider them, are innumerable.

*'Finally brethren whatsoever things are true , whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think of these things.'*(Phil 4: 8).

*"..Casting down all imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge*

*of YAHWEH and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of YAHSHUA."* (2 Cor 10: 3-5).

Examine your life. Have you been as happy, cheerful, radiant, and content as you should be? Or have you allowed a measure of resentment, a bit of envy or an ounce of carnal comparison to twist and pervert your thinking? Have you been expressing the fruits of YAHWEH's Holy Spirit – love – joy – peace – in the way you lead your life?

If you think you are an exception – that you can toy with wrong attitudes, or play around with spiritual heroin – complaining, griping, grumbling if you think you can get away with it, then you are kidding yourself.



## \*\*\*In The News\*\*\*

FROM JEROME CORSI'S RED ALERT

### 1930s bank runs are back

As many as 150 U.S. financial institutions could fail in next year

Posted: July 20, 2008 , © 2008 WorldNetDaily

Fears of U.S. bank failures reached a fever pitch not witnessed since 1930 last week, [according to a report in Jerome Corsi's Red Alert.](#)

Concerns intensified with the Federal Reserve and Treasury combining to bail out Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae with abundant loans and an offer to [buy stock.](#)

Next came the federal takeover of IndyMac, following Sen. Chuck Schumer's, D-N.Y., ill-advised public release of his June 26 letter to the Office of Thrift Supervision and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation expressing concern over the bank's solvency.

The bailout of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae will not be complete until Congress approves. Many analysts question whether the bailout is a good idea. What is certain is that more bank failures are likely in the coming months, as the crisis resulting from the bursting of the [mortgage](#) bubble works its way through billions of dollars in near worthless or deeply depreciated collateralized mortgage securities held by U.S. financial institutions in their asset portfolios. <http://www.worldnetdaily.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=70120>



Bank run in the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" (1946)

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### Senior Israeli official: If nuclear talks fail, Bush will order Iran attack between November and January

DEBKAFile Special Report

July 20, 2008,



This assessment was reported by Israeli national radio Saturday overnight quoting a high-placed "security-political" official.

The source predicted that President George W. Bush would order Iran attacked between the November 4 presidential election and his exit from the White House in January. The quote was aired shortly after the six-power talks with Iran in Geneva – with US official participation for the first time – failed, and just before Israel chief of staff Lt. Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi set out for Washington. He is to spend a week there as guest of Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

<http://www.debka.com/headline.php?hid=5447>

# Help Us To Serve You Better !

It is now three years since we have started the Remnant's Walk, and we believe that this is a great magazine to help the serious believer in his walk as an overcomer. In an effort to serve you better can you please take a moment and answer the following questioner and mail it in to our NJ address, we thank you for your input.

**1) How important are the articles in the Remnant's Walk to your spiritual life?**

A) Very important B) Somewhat important C) Not very important

**2) Each month when I receive the Remnant's Walk I**

A) Read most articles B) read some articles C) don't read it much at all

**3) I would like to see more of the following articles in the Remnant's walk**

A) Spiritual development B) Prophecy C) World News D) Doctrinal issues  
E) History articles from Ancient Israel and also the early Congregation  
F) Articles on Israel

**4) I would like to see the Remnant's Walk :**

A) come out monthly B) Come out bi-monthly C) Stay the way it is

Suggestions to make The Remnant's Walk a more efficient magazine;

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*Please send to Congregation of Yahweh Po Box 832 Carteret NJ 07008*

## Shavuot 09- WELCOME HOME EPHRAIM !

The nation of Israel went into Diaspora almost 2,730 years ago due to their disobedience to Yahweh's Torah, but it was prophesied that when their captivity was over that Yahweh would gather them from all the nations and bring them back to their own land.

***Amo 9:14** And I will bring back the captivity of My people Israel. And they shall build the waste cities, and live in them. And they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine of them. They shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.*

***Amo 9:15** And I will plant them on their land, and they shall never again be pulled up out of their land which I have given to them, says Yahweh your Elohim.*

We are living in these exciting days. In conjunction with the ending of Israel's captivity and the preparation for their homecoming, we are sponsoring a gigantic Homecoming celebration **this next Shavuot 09**.

We will have an official welcome from a government official who will speak to the pilgrims and welcome them. We will also have a march of all the returning pilgrims in the very first land that the 12 tribes originally entered, in the Golan Heights region. We plan on having banners from all 12 tribes to participate in this march for a united Israel.

On your arrival we will spend the first 2 days in the dessert area, and reflect as a people, what brought on our captivity. Then we will arrive in Jerusalem for Shabbat and Shavuot celebration, and then continue our pilgrimage through the Holy Land back up north, to the very land of the Northern tribes.

You will get to see the Negev and the Dead Sea, and most important Beer Sheva, where our father Abraham started the very covenant of Israel with Yahweh. You will also get to see Caesarea, Mount Carmel, where Elijah fought the priests of Baal, the Golan Heights, as well as Tel Dan, the most northern and most beautiful land of our forefathers. Tel Dan is actually a nature reserve and the very head of the Jordan River, as well as Nazareth and also go to biblical theme villages and learn how daily life was for our ancestors.

We are trying to get brethren to come from the four corners of the earth to this one time, historical, special event. Due to the drop of the dollar and the rise in gas prices, tourist prices have doubled and even tripled in Israel over the last year or so, but we have been blessed by Yahweh to secure a special price for the whole 10 day celebration from May 26<sup>th</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup>, for **only \$2,399 dollars INCLUDING AIRFARE**. But this price is only secured to the pilgrims who sign up and send in their **deposits by December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008**. We can only secure this price until then; after that the price will go **up to \$2899**. So get you application in today and come with us and experience what Yahweh is doing in Israel in these end times.

Get full information and applications at [www.coYHWH.com](http://www.coYHWH.com).