

Remnants Walk

The one claiming to rest in Him, ought to walk, himself, even as He walked. 1 John 2:6

The one who has an ear, hear what the Spirit says to the Congregations



The one overcoming...

... is a Worldwide Ministry aimed at restoring the Faith once delivered by Yahshua of Nazareth to the Congregations at its inception close to 2,000 years ago. This restoration needs to take place in order to reach those with ears to hear and eyes to see the truth from the lies, and so the good news of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations. *(Matthew 24:14)*

We encourage all those who consider themselves to be true believers to ask: “which congregation do I belong to? The true faith our Savior Yahshua the Messiah set down in the year 30 CE, or the false doctrine, drenched in paganism and sun worship, as set up by Constantine in the year 325 CE?” The two are vastly different and we cannot serve two masters. *(Matthew 6:24)* One, a Hebrew Congregation with a Hebrew Savior that was completely Torah observant. The other was and still is a counterfeit, lawless church, sealed by the decrees of Constantine and implemented for the sole purpose of deceiving and enslaving mankind. *(Revelation 12:9)*

The articles contained in this publication are motivated by the Word of Truth, the Holy Scriptures, inspired by our Almighty Father Yahweh and Yahshua Messiah, His Son. Words made manifest through the power of the Holy Spirit. *(2 Timothy 3:15-17)*

May this free gift bring you closer to our Father Yahweh through His son, our savior and soon returning king, Yahshua the Messiah. In His wonderful name. Shalom...



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Personal

by Don Esposito

Greetings Brethren,

And Shalom in the wonderful names of Yahweh and Yahshua; the name above all names. As I write this personal in the summer of 2017 I just can't stop thinking how blessed we are as firstfruit children of Yahweh.

The world is spiraling out of order into utter chaos, yet Yahweh has opened up our minds to His very truth that has freed us from the captivity that Satan's society has entrapped the entire world with. As war, and famine and immorality are accelerating at an alarming rate, we as the children of Yahweh have a peace of mind that surpasses all understanding. How blessed we are for Yahweh's mercy in our lives and how blessed we are for His opening up our minds through His Holy Spirit that actually can acquire the very mind of Yahshua Messiah.

And yet we are also living in the real-time events of the book of Revelation. Just think about that for a moment. For almost 1,900 years the book of Revelation was a metaphorical book explaining end time events for a future generation in the best language possible for a 1st century apostle who did not recognize many of the scenes that he was witnessing when he was writing it. And now as worldly knowledge as well as spiritual knowledge has increased in this last generation we can actually understand many of the events in the book of Revelation as we see them unfold before our very eyes.

However, my purpose in this personal is not to go into the seals, or trumpets, or bowls of Revelation; we will leave that for another day. My purpose today is to share an important message from Yahshua Himself to the 7 congregations of Revelation. The message to the 7 congregations of Revelation is both historical and end time as I line out in detail in my book called "*The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail Against Her.*" You can write us for a gift copy of the book to see the full historical trail of Yahshua's Congregation for the last almost 2,000 years.

But today, I only want to focus on the end time messages that are in chapter 2 and 3 where Yahshua gives both a warning to the end time believers, and also a boast of encouragement for us to make it through the end time.

So, I will focus on the most important message to each congregation in these end times. As I mentioned that these seven letters are both historical and end time in nature, but also for the end time, as any believer today could benefit or be displaying actions that warrant our heeding of Yahshua's words to any one of those 7 congregations. So, let's take a look at the directive of each Congregational portrayal.

Ephesus

Rev 2:4 Nevertheless, I have something against you, because you left your first love.

Rev 2:5 Then, remember from where you have fallen, and repent, and do the first works. And if not, I am coming to you quickly, and will remove your menorah from its place, unless you repent.

The main focus of correction to the congregation in Ephesus is that they have lost their first love. They found out about the truth and were zealous and excited about Yahweh's end time restoration work from Israel and joined in that work. However, the cares of the world and other things have taken away this person's first love.

Can this be you? Do you still get excited at every update on Yahweh's worldwide work of redeeming the Sons of Israel back to Him? Especially now as so many doors are being open in the last few years all over the globe. Do you look at every Sabbath and Holy Day with anticipation like when you first believed or do you count down the clock for the Sabbath and Holy Days to end? Do you long to come to Israel, and Jerusalem, the very place that Yahweh dwells or is that just not an exciting thought any more?

Have you lost your first love? If so, you need to repent and come out from the world and get back on track before it is too late or you risk missing out on Yahshua's return and to serve in the Kingdom of Yahweh! Whatever you focus on becomes most real to you, and if you lost your first love, then the cares of the world have simply overwhelmed you, and you need to get back your proper focus.

Smyrna

Rev 2:9 *I know your works, and the affliction, and the poverty; but you are rich. And I know the evil speaking of those saying themselves to be Jews, and they are not, but are of the synagogue of Satan.*

Rev 2:10 *Do not at all fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw you into prison, so that you may be tried; and you will have affliction ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.*

Smyrna is the persecuted congregation. They are the ones giving their life for Yahshua and not loving their life, even unto death. There were more than 1 million believers in Iraq about 4 years ago before ISIS came in. And now there are less than 30,000. Many were killed and martyred, even children who were told to deny Yahshua or die and they said, "They would NEVER deny Yahshua who died for their sins." This congregation will intensify as we continue to the setting up of the beast power.

Pergamos

Rev 2:14 *But I have a few things against you, that you have there those holding the teachings of Balaam, who taught Balak to throw a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat idol sacrifices, and to commit fornication.*

These are those who have found out about the truth, but they are still compromising with false religion. They still celebrate Christmas and Easter with their families and some are still even going to Sunday churches, even though they know it is pagan and unacceptable to Yahweh, as Yahweh is Spirit and those coming to Him must worship only in Spirit and truth. Yahweh is very clear, you cannot partake of the table of Yahweh and the table of demons, and what these pagan churches worship is demonic (1 Cor 10:20-22).

Thyatira

Rev 2:20 *But I have a few things against you, that you allow the woman Jezebel to teach, she saying herself to be a prophetess, and to cause My servants to go astray, and to commit fornication, and to eat idol sacrifices.*

Rev 2:21 *And I gave time to her that she might repent of her fornication. And she did not repent.*

Yahweh is very clear about judicial order in Scripture and that women are not to take the role of a teacher in the congregation or the position of an elder, which is only for men.

1Ti 2:11 *Let a woman learn in silence, in all subjection.*

1Ti 2:12 *And I do not allow a woman to debate publicly nor to usurp the authority of a man, but to be in silence.*

And yet when this instruction is so clear from Scripture there are still rebellious women out there who are usurping their role and are outside of Yahweh's judicial order. Some claim to be prophetesses and pastors and yet many are divorced and have forsaken their own family and children to play church and take on a role that Yahweh never has given them. There is still time to repent, but the time is running out.

Sardis

Rev 3:1B *I know your works, that you have the name that you live, and are dead.*

Rev 3:2 *Be watching, and establish the things which remain, which are about to die. For I have not found your works being fulfilled before YAHWEH.*

Rev 3:3 *Then, remember how you received and heard, and keep, and repent. If, then, you do not watch, I will come upon you like a thief and you will not at all know what hour I come upon you.*

This is written to a spiritually dead believer. One who at one time had the truth and was following that truth, but for pride and whatever reason has left the body of Messiah and is on their own, and this is Yahshua's last call to repentance to encourage them to get back on the road of truth, in which they were first called. There will be no lone wolves in the Kingdom of Yahweh but only His judicial order and leadership.

Philadelphia

Rev 3:7 *And to the messenger of the congregation in Philadelphia, write: These things says the Holy One, the True One, "The One having the key of David, the One opening, and no one shuts; and shuts, and no one opens:" (Isa. 22:22)*

Rev 3:8 *I know your works. Behold, I have given a door being opened before you, and no one is able to shut it, for you have a little strength and have kept My Word, and have not denied My name.*

This is the only message from the 7 Spiritual end time conditions where there is only encouragement. It is a message to those who have surrendered their lives to Yahweh and His Spirit, and are following His judicial order and are bearing fruit and their whole life is only centered around the Kingdom of Yahweh.

To these people He is giving encouragement that they know the open door given is not coincidence but is the very prophecy of Yahweh being fulfilled, and that due to their faithful actions and fruit that they will be protected in the terrible time of trouble that is just ahead of us.

Laodicea

Rev 3:15 *I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I would that you were cold, or hot.*

Rev 3:16 *So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I am about to vomit you out of My mouth.*

Rev 3:17 *Because you say, I am rich, and I am made rich, and I have need of nothing, and do not know that you are miserable and a wanderer and poor and blind and naked.*

We are in the Laodicean era, and this is unfortunately the position that many are in today. Lackluster, no zeal, and somehow thinking that all blessings in life are only mammon related. Due to their Babylonian thinking they simply can't see their wretched condition and Yahshua pleads with them that during the coming tribulation days that they will repent and finally seek Him alone for their salvation.

These messages coming directly from Yahshua are to the end time congregation, and at least one of these messages are for you, as we are now living in this very time and the messages laid out to the 7 congregations could never be more pertinent and timely as they are today. May Yahweh give each of us eyes to see and ears to hear and to be able to recognize the lessons that He has sent us through the Apostle John almost 1900 years ago, and may each of us repent where need be and move on to the completion of our faith and the great calling of our Master and Savior Yahshua Messiah.

B'Shem Yahshua,

Elder Don

Have You Learned to Number your days?

So teach us
to number
our days,
that
we
may
apply
our hearts
unto wisdom.
Psalm 90:12
Reprint article

A snowball in the sun. A shooting star. A firecracker that expands itself in a momentary flourish of noisy brightness and then fizzles out. Such are comparisons some have drawn to describe the briefness of this earthly life. Though those analogies did not come from the Bible, they are nevertheless graphic ways to express the inescapable truth that our mortal lives are temporary. The Bible does, however, contain many descriptive terms of its own to say the same thing.

Our days are “swifter than a weaver’s shuttle” (Job 7:6). “swifter than a runner...they pass by like swift ships, like an eagle swooping on its prey (Job 9:25-26). We are like “a breath THAT PASSES AWAY” (Ps 78:39), a fading flower, a fleeing shadow (Job 14:2). Yes, our lifeline is but a short pilgrimage (1 Chr 29:15). Then, we become like “water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again” (2 Sam 14:14). The scriptures contain these and many other such comparisons because Elohim does not want us to forget the fact that we are mortal. Once each year Elohim commands His people to observe for seven days the Feast of Tabernacles (Lev 23:33-36) – otherwise known as the feast of temporary dwellings – for the very purpose of portraying that this life is temporary.

This short pilgrimage

If there is one thought people just naturally do not want to entertain, it is that they are physical, flesh and blood beings, who grow older each day. Each day is one day less they have on earth. Most people carry on as though there is no limit to the amount of time they have, as though the “*day of reckoning*” will never come.

On the other hand, there are some who have contemplated the subject at least enough that they spend enormous amounts of time and money in a desperate effort to preserve and prolong this life through rejuvenation treatments, fad diets, super-vitamin concoctions, super herbs and the like. But, alas, at best such measures only postpone, without avoiding, the inevitable.

Yahweh, our Creator, the One who lives forever, who alone has eternal life to give, wants us to think about this subject often. Even every day. Why? So that we never forget how much we depend upon Him.

The more independent and self-reliant a person is, the greater his talents, the better his health and living standard, the less likely he is to be concerned about his relationship with Elohim. When things are going right, human nature feels who needs Elohim?

David recognized this truth. As a warrior, he had vanquished many foes, including the giant Goliath. He had plenty of reason to feel physically self-confident. This was no doubt why he asked Elohim to help him realize how mortal he was.

“O Yahweh, make me know my end, and what is the measure of my days,” David prayed, “That I may know how frail I am” (Ps 39:4).

Frail? David? Yes, in reality. As we all are. “Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths” – a handbreadth is no longer than several inches, the distance from one edge of your hand to the other – “even my life is as nothing before You;” certainly, every man at his best state - when he is feeling the most fit, when he is intellectually at his highest point, when he has talents, looks, fame, fortune, influence, personality, power, everything going for him - “is a vapor” (verse 5).

You have only to lift the lid from a pot of boiling water to see how long vapor lasts. A cloud of steam billows up in feverish motion. You see it. You smell it. And suddenly, it’s gone. Just like this very short human pilgrimage that each of us take! “For what is your life? For it is a vapor, which appears for a little while, and then it disappears” (Ja 4:14).

What should we be doing?

There is no more appropriate time to consider this subject than during the Feast of Tabernacles – the Feast of Temporary Dwellings – when we actually portray the temporary nature of physical life. During the days of the Feast our pattern of life is temporarily different from what it is the rest of the year. It is an impermanent change because we are showing that this life is transitory.

If we are to live again after this life, we must receive eternal life as a special gift from Elohim. Today, few people realize this. They believe we are already immortal, having immortal souls. But that is not the case at all.

In the Millennium, however, everybody worldwide will understand that they are mortal – temporary – and that we need Elohim’s gift. That is one of the truths we signify by observing the Feast of ‘Temporary Dwellings’. What is this life all about? We know for sure it has a beginning and an end. We are on a pilgrimage between the two points. Just as we put those fresh, juicy fruits of figs, dates, and pomegranates in our Sukkah when we build it, only to see it withering away in 8 short days. Our life passes quickly and our strength passes, just like the green palm tree leaves that we cover the Sukkah with that are already turning yellow and aged in just a short 8 days.

And do we even ask the question each Sukkot of “What are we doing this for?” “What is supposed to happen during this pilgrimage?” “What should we be doing – what should we be accomplishing with the preciously brief space of time allotted to us each and every year that passes?”

Notice the answer as Elohim had it preserved in His Bible for all ages to see. Why have the churches of the world mostly ignored it? “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter,” Solomon recorded, *“Fear The Elohim and keep His commandments; for this is the whole duty to every man” (Ecc 12:13).*

You would do well to read that again. Since this mortal life quickly slips away, the wise – yes, the sensible, logical – way to use our time is to prepare for the next life, to get into the right relationship with Elohim, so He sees fit to give us eternal life.

How logical. And yet how many people hold this as their major goal in life? Let us get the perspective! We know we are not justified or saved by our works. But we definitely are going to be rewarded in the next life according to our works in this life. Of that the Bible leaves no doubt (Mt 16:27, Rev 14:13).

What kind of reward?

Now, in your mind’s eye, picture yourself at the moment when the rewards are being distributed. When the hours spent in praying for others, fulfilling Yahshua’s commission of bringing salvation to others, doing good deeds, and bearing fruit for Yahweh’s Kingdom make a very real difference.

As you stand there before the Messiah, you receive whatever reward you have qualified for. Imagine, if you can, your feelings at this point. Will you think about at that time that your reward could have been greater – maybe a lot greater? For what that you now devote so much of your time, effort, money and resources might you at that moment feel like kicking yourself and regretting? What is it that captures so much of your attention now that will then seem so pitifully unimportant?

There will be no reward for hours passed watching television while Yah's Word sits unopened on the desk. No rewards for material pursuits and projects - even proper and right ones! ...that crowd untouched of spiritual growth. No reward for neglect of opportunities to help others. No reward for doing Yah's work with a slack hand.

And possibly, even, no reward at all, as sobering as that particular thought is!

Not that our driving motivation ought to be to get as large a reward as possible for ourselves. Rather, the greater the reward we receive, the greater the opportunity to serve and contribute to the increase of Yah's great government. Yahweh invested a lot in each and every one of us and each of us should want to qualify for a position to serve to the best of our ability in the maximum capacity, according to the Spiritual gifts given to us.

True wisdom

The prayer of Moses in Psalm 90, is especially fitting for consideration at this season, since it begins at the 4th section of Psalms, which has to do with the Millennium, and therefore by extension, The Feast of Tabernacles. Moses opens this Psalm by lauding the timelessness of the Eternal---He who is Yah, from everlasting to everlasting (verses 1-2). By contrast, he then directs attention to the brief morality of sinful natural man--- man lacking the right relationship with Elohim (verses 3-9).

“The days of our lives”, verse 10 continues “are seventy years [in general]; and if any by reason of strength live eighty years, yet their boast (what we have to show for them) is only labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.” Again, we see that apart from Elohim and doing His will, human life, no matter how long it lasts, is only a fleeting phenomenon. A flash in the pan. It's here and it's gone. And there is nothing to show for it. Unless...

Unless a person is wise enough, to realize the importance of each day and unless he uses the time he is allowed to perfect his relationship with the Eternal Elohim and bear fruit for His soon coming Kingdom.

In the latter part of Psalm 90, Moses describes some of the blessings of life once we establish a growing contact with Elohim. It is filled with rejoicing and gladness(verse 14). (What a great way to commence the Millennium – and the Feast!) What is more, the work of one's hands – all that is worthwhile that one labors at, builds and accomplishes in life – has meaning to it. Death will not void it or render it futile if it is bearing fruit for Yahweh's Kingdom, then it is established forever as everything is being recorded in heaven including our reward (verse 17).

But what is essential to make the difference? Moses tells in verse 12 – it is awareness of our present condition of mortality, our temporary estate: “So teach us [this is something we must learn, it doesn't come naturally] to number our days,” Moses prayed to Elohim, “so that we may bring a heart of wisdom.”

That's it! In order to be wise, we must learn to number our days, to frequently take stock of where we are in life.

Have we been sidetracked, or are we going in the right direction? Are we bogged down or are we making good speed? Are all the activities we are engaged in really worthwhile in the perspective of eternity? Are there ways to simplify how we live so we can avoid being slowed down and overwhelmed by a multitude of time consuming diversions, endless social media, and needless complications that yield nothing of lasting value? Are we exchanging the cares of life for our eternal reward?

Yes, we do need to work, care for family, clean the house, etc., but have these mundane daily cares of life been exchanged for service to the work of Yahweh? As there is only one path that will bring an eternal inheritance.

Are we as pilgrims headed, unencumbered, traveling light, by the shortest, most direct route possible, to the land promised to us? We know how long we have already traveled on this pilgrimage. But we don't know for sure how long we still have to go. We don't know whether we'll get to the 70's or 80's year plateau Moses referred to. There are no guarantees in life, and every day we wake up, could be our last. Every day around 153,000 people die, and most have no idea that day would be their last day alive on this planet. All the more reason to get the maximum use out of today! Seek Elohim's Kingdom and His righteousness today, as Yahshua taught, as tomorrow may be too late.

Mat 6:33 *But seek first the kingdom of YAHWEH and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Mat 6:34 *Then do not be anxious for tomorrow. For the morrow will be anxious of itself. Sufficient to each day is its own trouble.*

Set the right priority

Each of our life spans can be compared to an hourglass. Not an ordinary one that allows you to see the sand in the top as well as the bottom half. The top half in this hourglass is cloudy. You can't see the inside. In the bottom half, you can see the sand that has already gone through. And, if you look closely, you can see the trickle of sand flowing through the narrow middle part. But you don't know whether there remains in the top half a lot of sand, or whether, before your very eyes, are falling the last precious grains.

Just to impress the lesson, find a quiet place where you can spend one or two undisturbed minutes. Take with you a clock that makes an audible tick-tock. In the silence that is broken only by the seconds ticking away, think. That is my life I'm listening to, my opportunity to get into harmony with Yahweh's will, to qualify for the Kingdom, to determine what I will do for all eternity. For many reading this, "Behold, now is the acceptable time! Behold, now is the day of salvation!" (2 Cor 6:2). "Because the time has come that judgment must begin with the house of Yahweh" (1 Pe 4:17).

If you are an average person and you were informed that you could receive an unlimited amount of money – billions of dollars – the exact amount depending on how well you learned, let us say, Spanish in two months' time, you would embark on the most intense crash learning program of your life.

You would study from early morning to late evening. You would listen to tapes of the spoken language, even while taking care of daily, mundane duties; you would carry with you notes on cards to review during your free moments. Your goal would constantly be on your mind. Worthless Internet surfing and social media would hold little interest. No other activities would be allowed to intervene. For the duration of your allotted time you would eat, sleep and breathe Spanish! And all for mammon!

Isn't learning about Elohim of far greater importance? Should we not give it greater effort? Of course, we should! Make every effort to drink in now of Elohim's Word and His Spirit- they are free, unlimited - and become one of those who seek them out "a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14). That is wisdom.

If we are wise, if we number our days properly, we don't have to worry about the shortness of this life. We don't have to be anxious that our physical dwellings are temporary, that they become older and more decrepit with each passing day. Yahshua our Savior gave up His very life and paid the penalty of our sins so that we can live for Him, and our life now belongs to Him. Yahweh is our permanent dwelling (Ps 90:1). He is our safe, unshakable habitation (Ps 91).

We have this assurance. For this, let us rejoice at the Feast of Tabernacles. That's why we stay in temporary dwellings this is what Sukkot is all about. Think about it and maybe even read this article in your Sukkah this year while celebrating the feast. ■

The Name above every name!



After I did the translation of the Hebraic Roots Bible, I realized that in many instances, the translator can choose from a number of words and phrases that may all fit the translation in many given circumstances. Also, in certain languages, such as Hebrew, there are a myriad of meanings that may be implied in a word but not in the actual definition, which also makes it harder to translate, and more important for proper study notes for the translation.

by Don Esposito

The second thing to remember, and this is what I believe may be somewhat of a stumbling block in the Sacred Name Movement, is that the movement is basing much of their premise primarily on the English transliteration of Hebrews names, in which English was only a language from about the 1600's, instead of Hebrew and Aramaic, in which the Bible was written.

My point is as follows: there has been discussions on whether the name of the Savior was originally Yeshua or Yahshua and the answer in reality is neither, since both are English transliterations, which try to give the original intent, but the original intent was not written in English, but Hebrew and Aramaic, which has no true vowels (there are letters such as the vav, and ayin that at times make vowel sounds) but Hebrew and Aramaic have only simple markings, which even came later as the original language did not even have markings for vowel points. As a matter of fact, even the original Torah given to Moses by Yahweh did not even have separation of words, but simply letters all uniformly set in rows.

So, in English some may put the name as Y'shua while others will use Y'hshua. The first being the shortened Aramaic and the second being the elongated Hebrew. Sometimes the Hebrew also has the letter vav after the 'Hey'. And even in English, the words 'hey' and 'hay' both have the same phonetic sound, as in the Hebrew vowel pointing of

the patach and Kametz, and even the Tzeirei is barely recognizable.

As a matter of fact, names in Biblical times were created much earlier than an alphabet, and the alphabet, which came later had to try to fit the phonetic sounding of the name, which was not always the case, and so names do not have to fit a particular grammatical rule.

Some have also mixed up the Jewish acronym "yeshu" which is used by Jews for our Savior's name and means may his blood be blotted out forever, to be the same name as the Aramaic, Yeshua. There has been ample evidence from archaeology showing that in the first century the Aramaic name Yeshua (which simply means salvation) was a common name of about one in four males.

To say the name Yeshua is a curse or some other nonsense, as I have heard from some circles, only shows ignorance. They do nothing to promote the true names of our Heavenly Father Yahweh or His set apart Son Yahshua.

What we also know is that the name Yahoshua or Yahshua are both the Hebrew form of the same name and both were used in the first century, with the 'o' being dropped much of the time during the Herodian period, and Yahshua being the more common form corresponding to the Aramaic Yeshua.

There is no reasoning to this linguistically, but a simple fact of the custom of the time just as my name could be Don or Donald depending on who is addressing me.

I admit that Yeshua was an Aramaic form of Yahshua, however I prefer to use Yahshua because it was prophesied that the Savior and Messenger of Yahweh would have the name of the Father Yah Yahweh in His name.

Exo 23:20 Behold, I am about to send a messenger before you, to guard you in the way, and to bring you to the place which I have prepared. **21** Be on guard before Him, and listen to His voice. Do not be rebellious against Him, for He will not forgive your transgressions; for **My name is in Him**.

Also, Yahshua came in His Father's name and Heb 1:4-5 clearly states that He, Yahshua had a more excellent name than the Cherubs because He was a Son and took on the family name of Yahweh, where the cherubs had the generic title of "El" in their name such as *GabriEL*, and *MichaEL*.

Heb 1:4 and He is altogether superior to the cherubs, **just as the name He has inherited is a more excellent name than theirs.** **5** For to which of the cherubs did He ever say, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You?" And again, "**I will be a Father to Him, and He shall be a Son to Me.**"

So, I believe from the Scriptures stated and many others that **Yahshua** better describes the Savior and Son of Yahweh from a linguistic standpoint, and who only had the proper set apart name for the authority to be Savior of Israel and the world.

Act 4:10 let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that in the name of Yahshua, Messiah, the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom YAHWEH raised from the dead, in this name this one stands before you whole. **11** This One is the Stone rejected by you the builders, the One who has come to be into the Head of the Corner; (Psa. 118:22) **12** **And there is salvation in no other man, for neither is there any other name under Heaven having been given among men by which we must be saved.**

The name *Yeshua* simply means salvation, the name *Yahshua* means Yahweh's salvation; the above scripture clearly states that the name of the Son would be a more excellent name than the cherubs, because it has the family name of Yah, compared to the cherubs having the generic title "El".

The following verses show the cherub Gabriel came to have Miriam name the very Son of Yahweh, not just any common name meaning salvation, but to name the child after Yahweh, the Father, to show whose salvation is being borne into the world.

Mat 1:20 And as he was thinking about these things, behold, a Cherub of YAHWEH was seen by him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mariam as your wife. For that in her is generated by the Holy Spirit. **21** **And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Yahshua, for He shall save His people from their sins.** **22** And all this happened so that might be fulfilled that which was spoken by YAHWEH through the prophet, saying, **23** "Behold! The virgin will conceive in her womb and will bear a son, and they will call His name **Emmanuel,**" which is interpreted, **our Elohim with us.** (Isa. 7:14) **24** And being aroused from sleep, Joseph did as the cherub of YAHWEH commanded him, and took his wife, **25** and did not know her until she bore her son, the Firstborn. **And he called His name Yahshua.**

Verse 23 states that this child would be 'Elohim with us', because He would be the Son of Yahweh and bear the very family name of the Father Yahweh in His name. That is why there can only be one name in which men are saved, as salvation is in Yahweh alone. **Isa 43:11** **I, I am YAHWEH; and there is no Savior without Me.**

Yahweh sent His only begotten Son Yahshua not to only bring salvation, but to specifically bring **YAHWEH'S SALVATION**, and that is why the Son had the name of the Father physically in His name and that is why He revealed Yahweh's family name to His disciples and instructed them to baptize new believers in this family name.

Joh 17:26 **And I made known Your name to them, and will make it known, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.**

Act 2:37 And hearing, they were touched in the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, Men, our brothers, What shall we do? **38** And Peter said to them, **Repent and be baptized, each of you in the name of Yahshua YAHWEH for the forgiveness of sins, that you may receive the gift of the Spirit of Holiness.**

Also, remember when we are going over this point that writing in Biblical times was very rare, so the name was mostly spoken, **NOT** written, and would have sounded almost exactly the same.

Also, when writing was becoming more common the Rabbis of the first century felt it improper to write the sacred name of Yahweh and started to change the vowel markings in names carrying the sacred name Yahweh to alter it to sound different.

This is where the erroneous and impossible name of Jehovah came about, but also where I believe the Savior's true name of Yahshua (Yahweh's Salvation) started to be written as simply Yeshua, without the name of Yahweh in the name of the Son as Scripture stated.

The COYJ spells our Savior's name in Hebrew Yod, hey, vav, shin, ayin, exactly how it is spelled in the book with the same name, the servant of Moses, Yahoshua the son of Nun. We are transliterating the vowel in English between the Yod and the Hey as the English 'Ah'.

In Hebrew, there are no true vowels but vowel markings. Some letters such as yod, or ayin, and even at times aleph, can take a vowel position but most times the word can be marked without even putting the letter in.

Speaking came about much before writing and far before an alphabet, which probably started with the 10 commandments at Sinai, so it is the phonetic speaking that people understood not the Modern Hebrew rules of grammar.

One cannot criticize a transliteration into another language as it is up for interpretation, and some languages do not even have some sounds in other languages, as how do you transliterate a chet sound from Hebrew when it doesn't exist in English. Also, some spellings vary such as Kumran and Qumran due to this point. And in English if someone used the word 'hey' or the word 'hay' would anyone really know the phonetic difference in sound?

The phonetic sounding of Yeshua and Yahshua can be very similar, however it is in the spelling of the name that the true intent of the importance of the name is rendered. This is why the COYJ uses the spelling **Yahshua**, because it shows the name of the Father, which He said would be in the name of the Son, but also that all other forms of the Hebrew and Aramaic root of this name being yod, shin, ayin represent our Savior, whether a verb, a noun, a personal name, a pronoun etc., all point to the redemptive work of Yahshua our Savior.

That is why the Hebrew Roots Bible is the only Bible we know of that shows the Savior in every one of these aspects in the Tanach, and that is the good news message, not the transliterating of the name in other languages as writing was not even common in biblical times.

The only difference with most sacred namers is that they correctly place a Kametz at the beginning of the name instead of a shva, as mentioned, the name of the father is 68 times mentioned as Yah, not Ye. The Rabbis have admitted their changing of the vowels of the sacred name to make sure the reader would not pronounce the name of Yahweh inadvertently when reading the Hebrew Tanach.

Ex 23:21 states the name of Yahweh's servant has the name of the Father (Yah) in His name. Also, the word Hallelu**YAH**, meaning praise Yah, clearly shows the Father's name begins with Yah not Yeh.

Exo 23:20 Behold, I am about to send a messenger before you, to guard you in the way, and to bring you to the place which I have prepared.

Exo 23:21 Be on guard before Him, and listen to His voice. Do not be rebellious against Him, for He will not forgive your transgressions; **for My name is in Him.**

Because of the great redemptive work that Yahshua did on behalf of His Father Yahweh, Yahweh has exulted His name to be above every name, and this is another reason why we use Yahshua, instead of the common Yeshua.

Php 2:5 For think this within you, which mind was also in Messiah Yahshua,

Php 2:6 who existed in the very form of Elohim, thought it not robbery to be the equal with Elohim,

Php 2:7 but emptied Himself, taking the image of a servant, having become in the image of the sons of men

Php 2:8 and being found in form like a man, **He humbled Himself, having become obedient until death, even the death of a torture stake.**

Php 2:9 For this reason also, **YAHWEH highly exalted Him and gave Him a name above every name,**

Php 2:10 that at the name of Yahshua "every knee should bow," of those in heaven, and those on earth, and those under the earth,

Php 2:11 and "every tongue should confess" that **Yahshua Messiah is YAHWEH, (the Son) to the glory of YAHWEH His Father.** 

James or Jacob in the Bible?

Giving Jacob his due by Mark Wilson - 27-04-2017

The problem of names surfaced at a recent Bible study at the St. Paul Union Church in Antalya, Turkey. Pastor Dennis Massaro was discussing the three men named “James” in the New Testament: Two were apostles, and the third was the leader of the Jerusalem church and author of the eponymous letter—the Book of James. Participants in the study came from a range of countries, including the Netherlands, Iran, Mexico, Moldova and Cameroon. When I asked what the name of these men was in their languages, they all said “Jacob.”

When I was teaching a course on the New Testament General Letters (Hebrews through Jude), I began by introducing the Book of Jacob, also known as the Book of James. Students were perplexed until they learned that Jacob is the proper translation of the Greek name *Iakōbos*. One student wrote later that knowing this “turned my understanding of the writing upside down.” Another observed that “with the name change, the loss of the Jewish lineage occurs.”

So how did the Jewish name Ya’akov become so Gentilized as James? Since the 13th century, the form of the Latin name *Iacomus* began its use in English. In the 14th century, John Wycliffe made the first Bible translation into English and translated *Iakobus* as James. (However, in both the Old and New Testaments he arbitrarily used the name Jacob for the patriarch). In all future English translations, the name stuck, especially after 1611, when King James I sponsored the translation then called the Authorized Version but since 1797 called the King James Bible.

So, what is lost by using James instead of Jacob? First, it has created an awkwardness in academic writing. Scholars providing a transliteration of James indicate *Iakōbos*, which even lay readers know is not the same. Hershel Shanks has noted that the reason Israeli scholars failed to understand the significance of the eponymous ossuary is that they didn’t connect James with Ya’akov.¹

Second, James’ ancestral lineage is lost, as the student noted above. In Matthew’s genealogy, we learn that Joseph’s father was named Jacob (Matthew 1:16) and that his family tree included the patriarch Jacob (Matthew 1:2). James was thus named after his grandfather. As Ben Witherington writes, “It is clear that the family of ‘James’ was proud of its patriarchal heritage.”² So Jacob was the third Jacob in the family.

Third, James’ Jewish cultural background is minimized. Tal Ilan identifies Jacob as the 15th most popular name in Palestine in antiquity, with 18 known persons carrying it. Including both the Eastern and Western Diasporas, Jacob was the third most popular Jewish name, with 74 occurrences.

Fourth, the Jewish literary heritage is muddled. The Book of Jacob (i.e., the Book of James) is addressed to “the twelve tribes in the diaspora” (James 1:1) and full of references and allusions to the Torah and Wisdom Literature of the Jewish Bible (Christians’ Old Testament). Scholars consider James the most “Jewish” book in the New Testament. Its genre is considered to be a diaspora letter like Jeremiah 29:1–23 and the apocryphal works *The Epistle of Jeremiah*, 2 Maccabees 1:1–2:18, and 2 Apocalypse of Baruch 78–86.

For these reasons, changing English translations of James to Jacob makes a lot of sense. In my lifetime we have adapted to a number of name changes: Bombay to Mumbai, Peking to Beijing, Burma to Myanmar, and Rhodesia to Zimbabwe. These changes were soon incorporated by the media as well as in subsequent editions of geographical and historical books. Making such an onomastic adjustment need not be too difficult in religious circles, either.

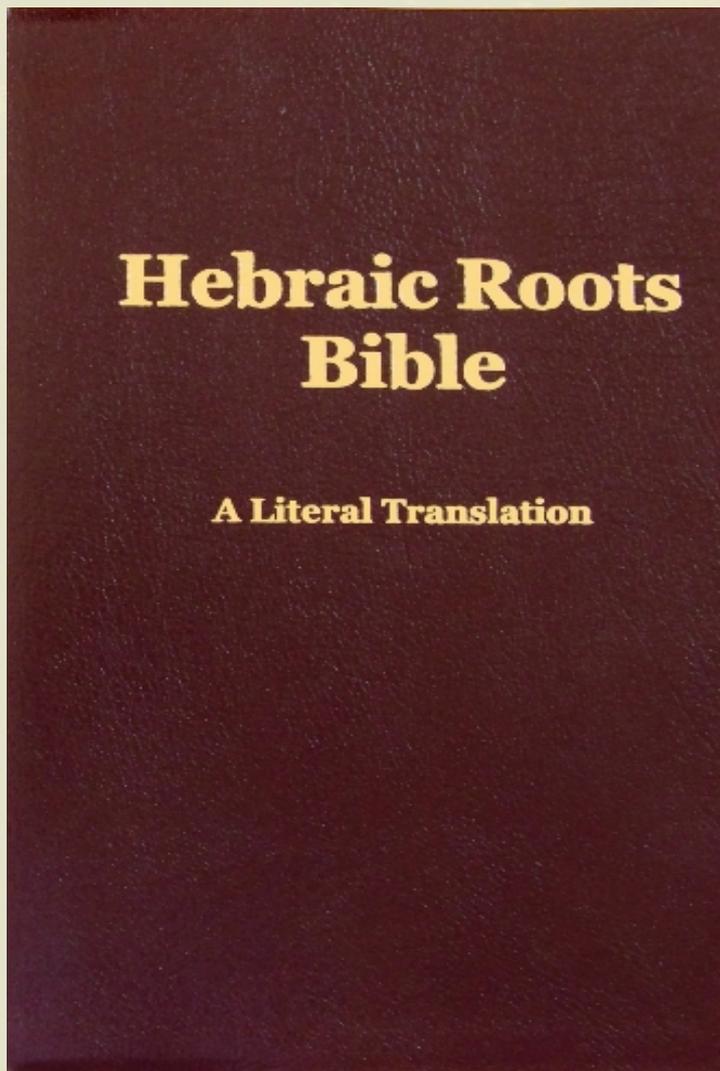
But can such a switch be made practically? Biblical scholars and publishers would need to agree that continued use of “James” is linguistically indefensible and culturally misleading. Most difficult to change would be Bible translations, which are very conservative. To start, a footnote could denote that James is really Jacob. And while we’re at it, let’s rehabilitate Jacob as the name of two of Yahshua’s disciples/apostles. These connections, now lost only for English readers, were caught by Greek-speaking audiences as well as modern readers of translations in most other languages. Let’s give Jacob his due.

Notes:

Hershel Shanks and Ben Witherington III, *The Brother of Jesus: The Dramatic Story & Meaning of the First Archaeological Link to Jesus & His Family* (New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 2003), p. 28.

Shanks and Witherington III, *Brother of Jesus*, p. 97.

Ṭal Ilan, *Lexicon of Jewish Names in Late Antiquity. Part IV: The Eastern Diaspora 330 BCE–650 CE* (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2011).



We finished printing the 3rd edition of the Hebraic Roots Study Bible last August.

The Bible is loaded with historical, archaeological and doctrinal notes to help the reader truly understand the Bible from a Hebraic perspective. It also has the sacred name of Yahweh and Yahshua restored and preserved. The New Testament is based on the original Aramaic Peshitta text, the very language that our Savior spoke. Please write us for your copy today.

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POP PRAISE?

CHRISTIAN ROCK?!

RELIGIOUS RAP!?!

The testimony of a former Satanist high priest, that the “rock beat gives ground”. “My background is not a good one, but I give thanks and praise to Elohim for saving me from it. I was a Satanist high priest for nine years.

Those in Yahweh’s Congregation have heard many times the blunt warning of Yahshua Messiah: *“Then be watchful at every time, begging that you be counted worthy to escape all these things, the things being about to happen, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:36).*

We have been told many times to watch world conditions, to understand and know the prophecies of Yahweh, so that we will know when the time comes for Elohim’s people to escape. We have also been taught many, many times in sermons, at Feasts, and in Congregation services that we are to pray consistently without intermission, not neglecting prayer for a single day so that we might be accounted worthy to escape. But some are neglecting their duty!

Amazing Prophecy for Today

The escape of Yahshua’s Congregation to safety is mentioned in Revelation 12. In this chapter is an amazing prophecy concerning the Congregation of Yahweh from ancient times until the return of Yahshua Messiah.

During our time Satan will be very angry with Yahweh’s people, since he knows that he has but a short time left to deceive the nations. He is going to increase the pressure against Yahweh’s people, and is going to do all he can to increase the persecution of deceived men against us! This persecution will become so severe that Yahweh will find it necessary to supernaturally protect His people, and help them escape to a place of safety, before the full force of tribulation and world trouble comes on the earth.

Notice the symbolism of this supernatural protection: *“And two wings of a great eagle were given to the woman, that she might fly into the wilderness, to her place, where she is nourished there for a time, and times, and half a time, away from the serpent’s face” (Rev.12:14).*

Not all of the Congregation will be accounted worthy to go to safety. Verse 17 of this same chapter shows that after those in Yahshua’s Congregation (who are doing their part in the Work of Yahweh) go to a place of safety there will be a “remnant” left.

They keep Yahweh’s Commandments and have the testimony of Yahshua Messiah, but are not accounted worthy to escape. This remnant will be subject to the full wrath of Satan the Devil. He makes war against them. Why?

This same remnant is implied in the prophecies of Revelation, chapter three. In the second and third chapters we have the various eras of Yahshua’s Congregation mentioned in detail. At the present time we are in the Laodicean era of Yahweh’s Congregation. One that is lukewarm and lacking zeal and one that compromises on the Word of Yahweh when it is not convenient to be obedient to it.

However, Yahweh warns the remnant in Revelation 2 and 3 to come out of the stagnant, spiritually defiled congregations and to become a Philadelphian believer in Spirit and truth, as this particular Congregation is promised that it will be kept from the hour of trial which is going to come upon all the world in order to try those dwelling on the earth (Rev 3:10).

But not all who are with us are spiritually of us—some are of the Laodicean spirit! The last Congregation, the Congregation of Laodicea, does not have this promise. They receive the fury of Satan. Very likely few of these people will survive the terrible times of trouble and torture that will follow.

We should all make our calling and election sure. We do not have time to wait for a year, five years or ten years to get ready to be “spiritual.”

I am writing in regard to Christian Music or what is called Power Tracts, Christian rock and roll, and contemporary Christian music, and their counterparts, rock and roll, heavy metal, black metal, country music and punk.

Some groups who play this kind of “Christian Music” say that they do so because it’s the only way they can reach the young people of today. They claim that we must look like the world and use the world’s music in order to reach the young people with the Word of Yahweh. “How long will believers allow themselves to be deceived and lied to by satan (the father of lies)?

The bible says we are to be in the world but not of it – not a part of it. It also says to be a friend with the world is to be an enemy of Elohim. As ambassadors for the Messiah, we should represent Him the best we can. Yahshua never changed His appearance, whether He talked with kings or the poor.

When I first became involved in the occult, music had a big influence on my life. It was not just the words but the music itself. Its effect on me spiritually was to bring me into another state of consciousness.

The beat and style of the music used in the occult rituals is the same that I now hear in Christian power tracts, Christian rock and roll, Christian rap, and in much of what is called Christian contemporary music today. People who were saved from the youth culture of today say, I cannot listen to this new Christian music because when I hear it, it takes me back to my past when I was lost, it brings all that back to me – lustful desires, love of money, sex, suicide and rebellion against authority.

Think of the struggle that these young believers have when they try to separate the things of the world from the things of Elohim. When they hear what is called Christian music that sounds just like the world, these vulnerable young believers become confused and the music becomes a stumbling block in their lives.

Normally a believer will take only what is good and leave the bad. The discernment does not always work with music, however, because if the music is bad and the words are good, many believers are not able to separate them and both are swallowed together.

In April 1990, a believer named Stephen Maphosah from Zimbabwe, Africa arrived for his first visit to the United States. He is a native missionary under the Awana Youth Mission Association. When he turned on a Christian radio station and listened to music, he was shocked.

Here is the report

I am very sensitive to the beat of music, because when I was a boy I played the drums in our village worship rituals. The beat that I played on the drum was to get the demon spirits into the people. When I became a believer, I rejected this kind of beat because I realized how damaging it was.

When I turned on a Christian radio station in the US, I was shocked. The same beat that I used to play, to call up the evil spirits is in the music I heard on the Christian station. Stephen, who was trained to use the beat for demonic worship, visited a Christian bookstore on June 25, 1999. He purchased samples of ten individual contemporary Christian musicians and groups that are among the most listened to by believers in the USA.

He evaluated each tape on the basis of its beat. Some tapes contained the demonic beat that he was accustomed to in his ancestral worship of evil spirits. Other tapes contained a slower variation of the demonic beat. However, he classified all the tapes as “unacceptable and offensive to the believers of this country”.

In 1981, I was driving down a jungle road in the Ivory Coast with several African pastors in the car with me. I had recently received a couple of tapes from our denominational headquarters that were intended for our teenaged daughter. “These were recordings of various Christian rock artists”. In listening to the tapes, I was very disturbed in my own spirit that such material was being sent to our missionary kids.

But not trusting my own reaction alone and realizing that these pastors with whom I was traveling were very sensitive to the spirit world (both good and evil), I decided to play the tapes for them. The reaction I got was immediately and verbally violent!

One of the pastors asked me this question. Do you mean to tell us that this kind of music is played in your churches in America? I answered in the affirmative. His response was filled with disgust and anger as he replied with another question. What are you doing allowing your church people in America to call up the evil spirits with their music?

There is absolutely no way that believers, who love the rock beat can deny that they love the world. The rock beat not only originated with the ungodly elements of this world, but it expresses the evil intentions of the world’s system, which is opposed to Yahshua’s and His truth. This very phrase *rock n roll* describes a form of immorality.

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“Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him, because all that which is in the world: The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

Yahweh condemns any believer who loves the world.

Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that the friendship of the world is enmity with Elohim? Whoever, then, purposes to be a friend of the world is an enemy to Elohim? Jac 4:4

Believers are to be in the world but not of the world. We are not to be influenced by their evil ways; instead we are to be a light in their darkness.

In the early years of the Christian rock beat, the beat and the sound were justified on the basis that music is amoral. If such a conclusion is accepted, then music is not a matter of personal taste. Yet such false reasoning is in total opposition to the words of Scripture. Music is the product of words and actions, and nowhere in Scripture is there an amoral classification for words and actions.

“For we all must appear before the judgment seat of Messiah, so that each one may receive the things done through the body, according to what he did, whether good or bad.” 2 Cor 5:10.

All believers are commanded by Elohim to exercise their spiritual senses in order to discern between good and evil.

But strong meat is for those full grown, having exercised the faculties through habit, for discernment of both good and bad. Heb 5:14.

THE ROCK BEAT OPPOSES YAHWEH’S COMMAND NOT TO MIX LIGHT WITH DARKNESS.

Most of those who promote Christian rock music would agree that the rock music of the world is evil. However, they reason that they by putting Christian words to the same beat, the world’s music is somehow made right.

This human reasoning is directly opposed to the instruction of Scripture.

“...For what partnership does righteousness have with lawlessness? And what fellowship does light have with darkness? Or what part does a believer have with an unbeliever?” 2 Cor 6:14-15.

In the days of the prophet Haggai, the priest gave direct application in the matter of mixing biblical words with an ungodly beat.

“Behold, one bears holy flesh in the wing of his garment, and touches his wing to the bread, or boiled food, or wine, or oil, or any food, will it become holy? And the priests answered and said, No. If the unclean of body touches these, is it unclean? And the priests answered and said, It is unclean”. Haggai 2:12-13.

If a priest who had been cleansed would touch something unclean, he would not purify the unclean however the unclean thing he touches would make him unclean. Similarly, the thought of making unclean music acceptable by putting biblical words to it is in direct violation of the following command: ***“Because of this, “Come out from among them and be separated, says YAHWEH, and do not touch the unclean thing, and I will receive you”.*** 2 Cor 6:17.

The chief justification for combining the pure words of Scripture with the unclean music of the world is that this is the method by which we will reach non-believers. There are several fallacies to this reasoning. Yahweh ordained preaching, not music to reach the lost. There are two primary purposes for music in the life of a believer. The first is to praise and worship Yahweh. The second is to edify other believers. This is the clear teaching of Eph 5:19 ***“Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to YAHWEH.”***

When it comes to reaching the lost, Yahweh ordained preaching, rather than music, to accomplish this goal...***YAHWEH was pleased though, to save the ones believing through the simpleness of the good news.*** 1Cor 1:21. Based on these points the commands of Eph 5:6-11 are permanent.

“Let no one deceive you with empty words, for through these things the wrath of YAHWEH comes on the sons of disobedience. Then do not become partakers with them; for you then were darkness, but are now light in the Master; walk as children of light.

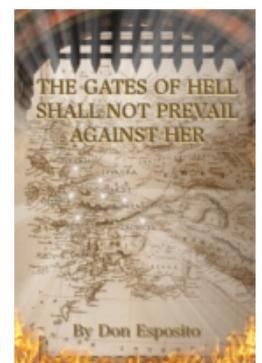
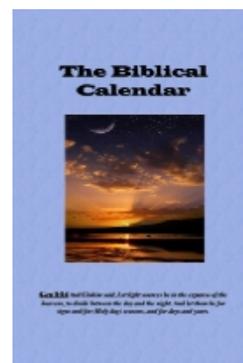
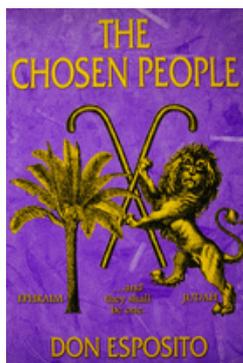
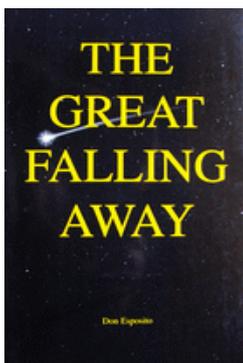
And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather condemn them...”

I HAVE LISTENED TO CONTEMPORARY BELIEVER MUSIC ALL MY LIFE. My parents listened to it even before I was born. When they began listening in the early 1970’s the beat was much softer than it is today. However, both secular and believer’s contemporary music styles have changed. The beat of the music has gotten much harder and faster. The changes were subtle, so only in retrospect can I see where that wrong music led me. My parents would never allow me to listen to secular rock music.

However I disobeyed them and listened to it when they weren’t around. This was partly because of peer pressure. It was also because I was used to the beat of the contemporary believer music. I felt that some of the believer music had a harder beat than some of the secular music, so there must not be anything wrong with the softer secular music. Listening to this music was feeding my growing rebellion toward my parents by putting wrong thoughts and attitudes in my mind.

In 1987 I stopped listening to secular music and focused totally on contemporary believer music. This did not correct my wrong attitudes because I was still being fed by the wrong music. Then my pride increased. I felt I was better than a lot of people because I didn’t listen to the world’s music.

On February 13, 1999, I gave all my music to Yahweh and burned all of my Christian rock tapes. The result is amazing! Yahweh has given me a new desire to know Him better. I have a peace in my life that I never even realized was missing. For years I had a stuttering problem that is now completely cleared up, and I have a new relationship with my parents that I have never had before. It was very important for me not just to get rid of the wrong music, but to replace it with right music. **REACHING TEENAGERS WITH CHRISTIAN ROCK MUSIC IS LIKE GIVING OUT LIQUOR WITH BIBLE VERSES ON THE BOTTLES.** 





The Mystery of The New Covenant

Some people in the past have cast aside their eternal life. They are headed straight toward the lake of fire! Read this article and avoid the frightening mistakes they have made.

Reprint Article from the Good-News Magazine

Most false pagan churches teach that the Old Covenant was made by a harsh, stern deity that created harsh laws to simply punish the people. Whereas they teach the New Covenant was established by a kind, loving Son of Elohim who came to abolish the harsh, cruel laws created by His Father.

Nothing could be any further from the truth. So, what is the purpose of the New Covenant and why was there even a need for the New Covenant to begin with?

I believe to answer this questions that first we need to even define what a covenant is, and then look at the first covenant (the word “*first*” better represents the meaning than “*old*”) and see what parameters contained within the agreement would constitute the making of another agreement.

The definition of a “*covenant*” is a sacred agreement, which is wholly binding on both parties in which each party, according to the agreement, has a particular task to perform. Once ratified, only death can break a biblical covenant. So, what were the parameters of the First covenant?

First of all, in any biblical covenant there are three things that never change:

The people being Israel

The promised or covenant land being the land of Israel

The Torah or law of Yahweh, which is part of His character and abides forever (Ps111:5-10)

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You can search the entire Bible, both Testaments and you will see that any biblical covenant always is with the physical nation of Israel and the Israelite people, and the land covenant promises are only to the physical land of Israel, and the Torah of Yahweh never changes.

Heb 8:6 But now, Yahshua the Messiah hath received a ministry which is greater than that: also by so much more, He is a Mediator of a better covenant, and so are the promises greater than the first covenant.

Heb 8:7 For if that first was faultless, there would have been no need for a second.

Heb 8:8 For finding fault with them, He said to them, "Behold, days are coming, says YAHWEH, and I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah;

Heb 8:9 not according to the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day of My taking hold of their hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I rejected them, says YAHWEH.

Heb 8:10 Because this is the covenant which I will covenant with the house of Israel after those days, says YAHWEH, I will give My Laws into their mind, and I will write them on their hearts, and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be My people."

Heb 8:11 And they shall no more teach each one their neighbor, and each one his brother, saying, Know YAHWEH; because all shall know Me, from the least of them to their great ones.

Heb 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and I will not at all remember their sins and their lawless deeds." (Jer. 31:31-34)

Heb 8:13 In the saying, New, He has made the first old. And the thing being made old and obsolete is near disappearing.

Clearly, we see from this verse in Hebrews the 8th chapter, which is taken from Jeremiah 31:31-34, that the people, the land and the Torah stay the same. However, it does also clearly state that Yahshua is the mediator of a different covenant than the first one made at Mount Sinai, and that due to some fault there had to be a New Covenant made. It also clearly states that this New Covenant would not be like the first covenant, but would be different in some way nullifying the weakness of the first covenant. What was this weakness? The answer lies in verse 8, "For finding fault with them" The weakness was not with the Torah (law) itself, but with the inability of the people to keep the Torah. Paul tells us in *Rom 7:12 So indeed the Torah is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good*

However, he also states:

Rom 7:14 For we know that the Torah is spiritual, but I am fleshly, having been sold under sin. Paul fully realized that although the Torah of Yahweh is perfect, converting the soul (Ps 19:7), that in the flesh with his human nature that he is an evil sinner sold under sin.

And this is the problem with the first covenant given at Mount Sinai. The Torah that Yahweh gave Moses was perfect, reflecting the very character and nature of Yahweh, but without the Holy Spirit to open the mind to fully understand the righteous intent of the Torah, evil wicked humans with their fleshly human nature would simply not be able to keep the righteous demand of the Torah and would have no desire to do so.

Gal 3:21 Then is the (Levitical) Law against the promises of YAHWEH? Elohim forbid! For if a law had been given which had been able to make alive, indeed righteousness would have been out of Law.

Gal 3:22 But the Scripture locked up all under sin, that the promise by faith of Yahshua Messiah might be given to the ones believing.

The weakness of the Torah is actually not the Torah itself, which is perfect, but the inability in and of itself to change the heart. The Torah is a lamp to your feet (Ps 119:105) to guide and lead you to what is right and what is wrong. However, without the Ruach H Chodesh (Holy Spirit) to change your heart and human nature from the spirit of being fleshly and selfish to the Spirit of Yahweh, which is outgoing and loving, then the Torah is limited of its impact in one's life.

We see however in the New Covenant in Hebrews 8:10, that after receiving the Holy Spirit that Yahweh can actually then write His perfect Torah on our minds and in our hearts, and only then can we have true repentance and can He fully forgive our sins and have the blood of Yahshua pay the penalty of those sins according to the Torah.

There was another problem associated with the first covenant at Mount Sinai. According to Torah every sin not only needs to be forgiven, the penalty of that sin must be paid. If someone stole money from his neighbor, yes, the neighbor can forgive him, but the money must be restored plus 20% to have full restitution.

The current system in the world today of caging up humans behind bars as animals is not biblical. The biblical way is either restoration of the person through payment and rehabilitation or if the person was incorrigibly wicked, then he must be killed.

There were 4 sins according to the first covenant that could not be forgiven even on Yom Kippur, but only brought death, they are as follows:

- Murder
- Adultery
- Blasphemy
- Idolatry

If someone committed any one of these four sins, he was to die. The problem with this is that as Yahshua Messiah came to magnify the Torah Math 5:17 (not do away with it), he showed that sin starts in the mind and to meditate on these sins, in the eyes of Yahweh, is as though you had committed them.

Mat 5:21 *You have heard that it was said to the ancients "Do not commit murder!" And, whoever commits murder shall be condemned to the Judgment.*

Mat 5:22 *But I say to you that anyone who provokes to anger his brother without cause, is condemned to judgment and anyone who should say to his brother, I spit on you is condemned to the assembly, and anyone who should say, you are a coward, is condemned to the Gehenna of fire.*

Mat 5:27 *You have heard that it was said to the ancients "Do not commit adultery."*

Mat 5:28 *But I say to you, Everyone looking at a woman to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*

There was no provision in the first covenant to have these sins removed, only death; however, in the New Covenant, which we read above in Hebrews 8, we see that all sins, even the 4 heinous sins named above can be forgiven. Yahshua came to save sinners from all sin.

However, this was not an annulling of the penalty of those sins, or the Torah itself, but Yahshua actually had to die an atrocious death being hanged on a tree and beaten and scourged to pay the penalty of those sins and clearly warns that we are to keep the Torah after we enter the New Covenant to the best of our ability, and His death will make up where we fall short.

Luk 13:4 *Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell, and killed them, do you think that these were sinners beyond all men who lived in Jerusalem?*

Luk 13:5 *No, I say to you, but if you do not repent, you will all likewise be destroyed.*

Joh 8:11 *And she said, No one, Master. And Yahshua said to her, neither do I judge you. Go, and sin no more.*

1Jn 2:1 *My little children, I write these things to you so that you do not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Yahshua Messiah the righteous. :2 And He Himself is the propitiation relating to our sins, and not relating to ours only, but also relating to all the world.*

:3 *And by this we know that we have known Him, if we keep His commandments. :4 The one saying, I have known Him, and not keeping His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in that one. :5 But whoever keeps His Word, truly in this one the love of YAHWEH has been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him.*

1Jn 5:2 *By this we know that we love the children of YAHWEH: When we love YAHWEH and keep His commandments. :3 For this is the love of YAHWEH, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not a burden to us.*

Heb 10:26 *For if we are willfully sinning after receiving the full knowledge of the truth, there remains no more sacrifice concerning sins, :27 but he is ready for the fearful judgment and "zealous fire being about to consume the adversaries." (Isa. 26:11) :28 For if he, who transgressed the law of Moses, died without mercies, at the mouth of two or three witnesses; (Deut. 17:6) :29 how much worse punishment do you think will be thought worthy to receive, the one trampling the Son of YAHWEH, and having counted the blood of the covenant as common in which he was sanctified, and having insulted the Spirit of grace? :30 For we know Him who has said, "Vengeance belongs to Me; I will repay," says YAHWEH. And again, "YAHWEH will judge His people." (Deut. 32:35, 36) :31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living Elohim.*

Two differences from the first covenant to the New is the Priesthood and the agreement about sin. The New Covenant like the First one was a marriage agreement, this is a great mystery, Col 1; Eph 5:22-32. ■

Increase Your Faith!

We as Believers can lack strong, righteous faith because we question the why and how of what Elohim does.

Reprint Article from The Good News Magazine

Will there be any faith in this last generation before Yahshua returns? Yahshua Himself questioned whether there would be! Notice: “Nevertheless, “Yahshua asked, when the Son of man comes, will He find faith on the earth?” (Lk 18:8). What a sobering question! Yahweh clearly states that His people – the just – must live by faith (Ro 1:17), and that without faith it is impossible to please Him (Heb 11:6). But dynamic, living faith is a rare commodity in this world.

How, then, can one have faith?

The truth is that the kind of faith Elohim desires us to have cannot just be “worked up”: For by grace you are saved, through faith, and this is not of yourselves; it is the gift of Elohim” (Eph 2:8). Yahweh must give us the kind of faith that really works – the kind of faith required for salvation. And certainly, we must want to have this faith. Who wouldn’t want to have the faith required to receive Elohim’s wonderful blessings of protection, peace of mind or healing, for example?

Now, exactly how does Elohim give us this faith? Ro 10:17 tells us how we receive true, righteous, faith: *“Then faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the Word of YAHWEH.”*

How we receive faith

First, we must believe what Yahweh says – TO Trust Him! “For what does the Scripture say?” *“And Abraham believed YAHWEH, and it was counted to him for righteousness” (Ro 4:3)*. This is a major problem for all of us in this materialistic generation, so steeped in evolution. It can be extremely difficult to really believe Elohim.

All true believers have an earnest desire to live by faith, but there has been such an explosion of materialistic knowledge on every imaginable subject – medicine, psychology, sociology, biology, astronomy, history, geology, and even religion – that we can find ourselves spontaneously asking why and how to almost every statement or promise Yahweh makes in the Bible. And these are faith-killing questions.

Think about it. Why does Elohim let good people suffer and die, while evil people often live well and prosper? How could the earth, including Mt. Everest and the Grand Canyon, have been completely covered by water during the flood in the days of Noah, not even 5,000 years ago – where did all that water come from and where did it go? Where did a fish large enough to swallow Jonah come from, and how did Jonah breathe for three days and three nights while he was in the whale’s belly?

And so, the questions go. Should we just blindly accept and believe, then? Absolutely not! Faith cannot be expressed that way (Ja 2:20). Faith has to be demonstrated by action – faith must be active, dynamic, living. The key is the statement made in Ro 10:17. Faith can come only through the preaching of Yahshua. Faith is spiritual and has nothing to do with the physical or material.

Not our ways or reasons

Let’s examine some examples of the eroding effect that human reasoning can have on faith. Elohim knows that we at this time simply could not understand why some things are allowed to happen, so He doesn’t always tell us why. But we still must learn to believe and trust in Him. He also knows we could not understand how some things are accomplished by His Holy Spirit. Those are spiritual matters and we are yet physical.

So, wondering to excess about why Elohim allowed something or exactly how Elohim did something can cause us to lose faith.

John the Baptist's imprisonment and his reaction to it is a good example of having to trust and believe without understanding why. Even John the Baptist became confused and upset. His reactions during this severe trial, as they relate to the Messiah, are quite similar to attitudes and reactions of many of us undergoing trials today.

John knew who the Messiah was – John twice called Him “the Lamb of Elohim” (Jn 1:29, 36). Yet, while in prison, John sent two of his disciples to Yahshua with the question, “Are You the One coming, or should we expect another?” (Lk 7:19). John knew full well who the Messiah was, and that the Messiah had the power to free him from prison. Was John perhaps wondering why the Messiah had not done so?

Did you catch it? John's basic question – a faith killing question – may well have been why. The Messiah pointed out to John's disciples the works He had been doing – works of which He knew John was well aware. Then, He concluded with this statement to John's disciples: “And blessed is he who is not offended in Me” (verse 23).

Yahshua was telling John – and all of us – that Elohim's people may not always understand everything at a certain time, but that we shouldn't reject Elohim and the Messiah – we shouldn't lose faith – because of it. John not only remained in prison, but he was beheaded. Why did the Messiah allow John to die? He could have prevented it, but He did not. The answer is beyond human reasoning. We must also remember that Yahweh is omnipotent and eternal and at His very word the world was created out of NOTHING! Why would we think He owes us anything? He could simply order us to do certain things and leave it at that.

Yet He doesn't! He gives us His written Word with all His instructions, commandments, and also history for us to know His great and awesome plan for mankind, and for us to know exactly what is required of us for salvation, and also, He gives us a timeline of what He is doing and why. So why do humans believe they need to know more? And if Yahweh gave us more insight what would make us think that would be enough.

***Ecc 12:12** And more than these, my son, be warned: The making of many books has no end, and much study is the weariness of the flesh.*

Faith is simply trusting in Yahweh, the eternal Creator that He knows more than we do and that we trust in Him that He has given us all the knowledge that we need at any given moment. And He has also given us free will to make our own decisions. And there are things that I do not know. And I will exercise my free will by focusing on the wonderful things He has revealed to me that I do know through His Word, and not the things that I do not need to know.

Another problem that can undermine righteous faith is the suffering of trials. Take the example of Job. Job, like John, was sorely afflicted and tried, and he, too, wondered why. It was young Elihu who gave Job some answers. These answers are available to us today. The problem is, they aren't the answers many want.

Elihu told Job: “Beware! Do not turn to iniquity; for you have chosen this rather than affliction. Behold, El is exalted in His power. Who is a teacher like Him?” (Job 36:21-22) Indeed, who else but Elohim can teach through affliction? And sometimes the lessons are of necessity severe, even though humans seldom learn them.

Elohim uses all these methods as He works with humanity to bring us to His own state of perfection, to literal sonship in His family. Behold, Elohim works all these trials so that we “may be enlightened with the light of life” – eternal life.

Too often we lose sight of that awesome goal, but Elohim never does! Losing sight of the goal causes us to lose faith.

We live in an evil world.

Undergoing severe trials and losing sight of our goal can erode our faith. Remember, too, that we live in an evil world and often have to suffer with this world's society. Yahshua, speaking to Elohim the Father, said, “I do not pray that You should take them (Yahshua's followers) out of the world, but that you should keep them from the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one” (Jn 17:15). Ps 34:19 tells us, “*Many are the afflictions of the righteous.*”

So, when some tragedy strikes, don't blame Elohim. Many of our problems occur because we are living in a very evil society. It often seems that people, if they think of Elohim at all, blame Him for every calamity and tragedy of life. Seldom do they thank Him or praise Him for all the good things He does.

Reasoning humanly, those who write insurance policies often refer to natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and tornadoes as “acts of Elohim.” Such is humanity’s view of Elohim. But this is how we should think of our Creator: *“Do not go astray, my beloved brothers, every act of good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Heavenly lights, with whom there is no change or shifting shadow.”* (Ja 1:16-17).

Faith is often undermined by our wondering. Why, Elohim, did You allow this to happen to me? John the Baptist probably went to his execution wondering why. But John must have heeded Yahshua’s instructions not to be offended (Lk 7:23), because Yahshua said of him, *“Among those born of a woman, no prophet is greater than John the Baptist (verse 28).*

Faith does not depend on knowing

Yahshua was saddened when He heard of John’s execution, and wanted to go off by Himself, but a multitude followed Him out into the desert. Yahshua there displayed Elohim’s power by turning five loaves of bread and two fish into enough food for 5,000 men plus women and children. After everyone was fed, 12 baskets of crumbs were collected (Mt 14:13–21). Yahshua’s disciples were certainly impressed with Yahshua’s miracle working power, but they too, had even more to learn regarding real faith.

Consider a major pitfall in exercising faith is demanding to know how faith works. Faith is spiritual, but the results of faith in our lives are often quite physical and material. For example, the miracle of healing (Ja 5:13-15), the preservation of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego in the fiery furnace (Dan 3) and the feeding of the 5,000 are physical consequences of faith. But how such miracles are accomplished is spiritual and inexplicable in physical terms.

How Elohim accomplishes His purposes becomes so important to some people that, when they find out they can’t understand they simply stop believing. Their faith is not based on the immortal power of Yahweh to accomplish His word, but it is only based on their own ability to understand it. Since people think they have found out how life and the physical world evolved, they no longer have to deal with the question of Elohim and their responsibility to Him.

Conditioning your faith on knowing how Elohim’s purposes are accomplished can destroy your faith. This was a major lesson Yahshua’s apostles learned when Peter found himself in a situation where the *‘how’ of a great miracle so plagued him and his physical senses that his faith vanished.*

Peters walks on water

Remember the incident of Peter walking on water? It is recorded in Mt 14:22-31. *“And immediately Yahshua made His disciples get into a boat and to go before Him to the other side until He should dismiss the crowds”* (verse 22). This was just after the miracle of feeding the multitude, and it was still early in the evening (verse 23).

A storm came up and so tossed the boat about that the apostles made little headway (verse 24). Notice that, as fierce as the storm was, the disciples gave no indication of panic as long as they were in the relative security of the boat. When they had spent most of the night fighting the seas, Yahshua appeared to them in the fourth watch (verse 25).

Naturally they were troubled at the sight of Yahshua walking on the water – that is, until Yahshua talked to them. ” But immediately Yahshua spoke to them, saying, Be comforted! I AM! Do not fear” (verse 27). The apostles were frightened at the unnatural sight of Yahshua actually walking on the surface of the water. That was contrary to any experience any of them had had. However, when Yahshua spoke to them they were reassured and comforted. Why?

The unnatural situation of Yahshua walking on water was still there before their eyes. But they were given a physical assurance that did fit with their past experience ----- the familiar voice of Yahshua. Although they could not understand how He managed to walk on the water, they were comforted by His familiar voice.

Peter was so confident that he believed that he could walk on the water, too, if Yahshua would bid him to do so “and answering Him, Peter said, Master, if it is You, command me to come to You on the waters (verse 28). Peter knew that the feat was possible, only if Yahshua the Messiah commanded him to do so. That is an important point in growing in faith *“And this is the confidence we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him (1John 5:14-15).*

Peter asked if it were Messiah's will, and on that assurance, he had the confidence to step up out onto the water. *"And He said, Come! And going down from the boat, Peter walked on the waters to go to Yahshua"* (Mt 14:29).

Peter actually walked on the water! But now something totally foreign to any experience Peter had ever had happened, and Peter's faith departed. What was it? *"But seeing the wind strong, he was afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, Master, save me!"* (verse 30).

Had Peter not been aware of the wind before?

He certainly had! He and the other apostles had spent the whole night being tossed about the waves, but they had been in the relative security of the boat. So, what had happened that terrified Peter so much? It was really more a matter of what didn't happen than what did.

Peter was totally unprepared for how he was held up by faith. Where was the faith that was supposed to react on Peter's body to give him the reassuring sensation of physical support? On the soles of his feet, where he felt support when he walked on solid surfaces? It wasn't there – no feeling of support under his arms, as one would feel support if held up by a harness? No. Was there a feeling of support through his hair, as if he were being held up by the hair? No. Peter could nowhere feel the sensation of physical support. Faith was supporting him. Faith is spiritual – feeling is physical.

Peter's mind, from long experience in the physical environment, knew of no reason why he could be there on the surface of the water. Peter was unprepared for how faith would hold him up on the water. He reacted to his physical senses - and began to sink.

The lesson? One has to grow in and exercise faith. So many times people will initially have the faith to do something, but when that faith is rewarded they falter only because they are not mentally used to the result that the faith has caused. They are so conditioned to not experiencing faith, that when they do exhibit faith, and get the results of that faith, they sabotage those results to bring them back into their physical comfort zone of what they are normally used to seeing as the results in their life without faith.

So, we need to condition ourselves to the results of exhibiting faith, and that only comes from using our faith over and over again.

Peter's faith in the person of the Messiah was still firm, though, "And immediately Yahshua stretched out His hand and caught him, "Oh you of little-faith, why did you doubt Me?" (verse 31). In the firm grip of Yahshua's hand Peter made it back into the boat.

There was simply no way that Yahshua could have explained to Peter, in terms that Peter could have understood, how faith would support him. Peter just had to experience it and grow in faith by allowing it in his life over and over again.

You too, must grow in faith

You, too, can have faith! You must have faith, for without faith you cannot please Yahweh. You can't qualify for Elohim's kingdom without faith. So, like John the Baptist and Peter, you have to learn to believe Elohim – and without question – through the dynamic faith Elohim will give you as a true believer.

To develop this faith in Elohim, you must know Elohim, and you can know Elohim through Bible study and prayer. And because you express this faith, Elohim promises to prosper you, heal you, protect you and, yes, even try you at times, for your own good to expand and make your faith grow.

When you are sure you have done your part, and you know from Yahweh's Word what Elohim's will is, "do not turn to iniquity" (Job 36:21) because Elohim does not answer in the way you expect. Trust Him! Believe Him! Continue doing your part patiently and never lose faith. Simply make it a part of your internal belief system that you trust that anything that happens in your life is ultimately allowed by Yahweh for your good, even if you don't understand why at the time. You just have to trust that Yahweh knows better, even if He hasn't shown you yet why.

After all, Elohim reminds us: *"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says YAHWEH. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts"* (Is 55:8-9). ■

THE ELTCT VIP CLUB

The club my parents instituted in our family of 10 that accomplished its purpose.

“Come on kids! Put your shoes on and get in the car. We’re going to Common Street “Oh, nooooooooooooo”. My father’s announcement was met by groans from us children.

“Common Street” referred to the latest apartment he had bought and was now renovating. I knew it was useless now to fake sudden illness. When the car pulled up, we emitted more moans and groans from the back seat. The sight of a huge pile of shingles that had been ripped from the roof was disheartening. I remember thinking, why doesn’t he tear it down and start over.

“Be careful of nails and make sure you keep your shoes on,” Mom would warn as the car doors slowly opened and my siblings and I reluctantly got out.

“I think I’ve got a rock in my shoe” someone would mumble. “Mom! I’ve got to go to the bathroom first” another would whine. Then the inevitable “I’m thirsty”.

“All right kids, I know it looks like a lot but if we all join in and work together it will be done in no time.”

Teamwork is my father’s motto. Dad is a businessman, an industrious one at that. Although I did not appreciate it then, I am so grateful that he and my mother forced us gently to work hard and work together.

Starting early

One of my parents’ teaching methods that I appreciated most was the club they began when we were still very young. It was called The ELTCT club (which stood for “Earn and Learn today for college tomorrow”) was a way of getting us together to talk about school, vacation plans and goals we had as a family.

It was also about the ideas my father had for a possible family business in which we all could play a part. He stressed good work habits and doing the best job possible.

My father would conduct the meetings in a business-like way, and there would be an air of importance when he would call the meeting to order. He would call upon my oldest brother, Mike, who was 14 years old, to read the minutes from the last meeting.

Next the oldest daughter Jeanne 12, would report how much money we had in the family fund. At each meeting, we paid her our ten cent dues, which she recorded in a small black notebook that we called our “shares”.

Soon after these meetings were initiated, my parents bought a piece of property that included eight log cabins, which we rented throughout the summer months.

My father and brothers cleared some land and the following year we built a campground. After each one of us had finished our chores around the house, we would then help my parents with the campground.

My first job was one I shared with my sister Diane. At 6 and 7 years old, we were responsible to clean the campground "facilities." Most likely, a facility was the first big word I learned. "Come on, Diane, it's time to go clean the facilities." Really, all that meant was that we had to clean the bathrooms.

Today I marvel at the patience my mother exercised while teaching four young daughters how to change sheets, neatly make beds and clean bathrooms.

The most exciting club meeting we had was the one held at the end of the summer. Each child would bring the sheets of paper on which had been recorded the number of hours we had worked around the campground. After adding up our hours we would multiply them by our wage for that summer.

My sister would then dutifully record the figures in the "share book". To us it was like having hundreds of dollars in a bank account.

When we went shopping to buy new clothes and supplies for school we were excited to spend our hard-earned money. Of course, our mother always guided us in making decisions.

Once we got home we added up the store receipts and found how much we spent. The next step was to list "school supplies" in the share book and subtract it from our balance.

Not only did this teach us the value of money but we learned how to manage our own finances. ey but we learned how to manage our own finances.

Learning for life

Working hard and doing our best were just a few of the principles that my parents taught us as children. Following instructions, distinguishing between needs and wants and money management are all positive qualities they formed within us by taking the time to work with us from the time we were young.

I admire and appreciate the example my parents set for us, and hope to imitate it with my own family in the future.

I reflect back now, and it seems like so long ago when we used to sit around the table and talk about our goals. Today, when faced with a major project, I hear my father's words. "Just jump right in and begin. It will be finished in no time!"

Editor's Note:

This testimony was written by a young lady in the Church of God over 28 years ago. She most likely today has grandchildren that she is teaching these same principles. How fast life and time go by.

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And this good news of the Kingdom shall be published in all the earth for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.



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Answers to your Questions

Q) Should a woman pierce her ears?

The piercing of the ear was a sign of slavery and Scripture forbids flesh cutting and tattooing.

Exo 21:5 And if the slave truly says, I love my master, my wife and my children; I do not desire to go out free,

Exo 21:6 his master shall bring him to Elohim, and one shall bring him to the door, or to the doorpost; and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl, and he shall serve him forever.

Lev 19:28 And you shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead; and you shall not put on yourself any etched tattoo writing or marking; I am YAHWEH.

Q) Is a civil marriage in Law offices considered covenant? If this marriage fails can one remarry in church to someone else?

A) In the Garden of Eden there was no civil marriage, or church marriage, just marriage, and Yahshua our Savior clearly said that from creation marriage between one man and one woman till death; that they must stay together was for all human beings.

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 YAHWEH made them male and female. (Gen. 1:27)

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. (Gen. 2:24)

Mar 10:9 Therefore, what YAHWEH has yoked together, man cannot put apart.

The marriage covenant has been the staple of society since the Garden of Eden and when 2 people take their vows of marriage in front of witnesses they are bound to each other until death do them part.

Q) If Christmas is a pagan holiday should we still celebrate it? And~if we don't celebrate it, then when should we celebrate the birth of Yahshua?

Christmas is not the birth of Yahshua, but comes from an evil pagan holiday called Saturnalia with all types of debauchery. In all the Bible there are many births such as the 12 tribes of Israel, Isaac, Samuel, John the Baptist and Yahshua Himself and yet there is not one incidence where the date is given as birthdays were never celebrated in ancient times.

There is never a command to celebrate Yahshua's birth but we are commanded to celebrate His death at Passover each year.

Ecc 7:1 A good name is better than good oil; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

1 Co 11:24 and giving thanks, He broke and said, take, eat, this is My body which is broken on behalf of you, this do in remembrance of Me.

Q) Is it appropriate to say amen after prayers?

The Hebrew word Amen means "so be it" and actually comes from the Hebrew root word for the word for faith. It is listed many times in the Bible and is appropriate to use after prayers.

Q) Hi, most wines are produced by using yeast in the fermentation process, so how can wine be suitable for the Passover service? Because bread and the fruit of the vine represents the body and the blood of the Messiah Yahshua, the bread is clearly defined as unleavened. So can the fruit of the vine be leavened? Could you please explain more about this, thanks.

The Hebrew word for leaven "chametz" refers to grains not liquids.

Also, if you look below at the process of how wine is made you will see that the yeast in wine actually dissipates in the fermenting process. So wine would be permissible for Passover and was used by Jews for thousands of years, including when Yahshua Messiah walked the earth.

"Upon the introduction of active yeasts to the grape must, phosphates are attached to the sugar and the six-carbon sugar molecules begin to be split into three-carbon pieces and go through a series of rearrangement reactions. During this process, the carboxylic carbon atom is released in the form of carbon dioxide with the remaining components becoming acetaldehyde. The absence of oxygen in this anaerobic process allows the acetaldehyde to be eventually converted, by reduction, to ethanol. During the conversion of acetaldehyde, a small amount is converted, by oxidation, to acetic acid which, in excess, can contribute to the wine fault known as volatile acidity (vinegar taint). After the yeast has exhausted its life cycle, they fall to the bottom of the fermentation tank as sediment known as lees.[9] Yeast ceases its activity whenever all of the sugar in must has been converted into other chemicals or whenever the alcohol content has reached 15% alcohol per unit volume; a concentration strong enough to halt the enzymatic activity of almost all strains of yeast".

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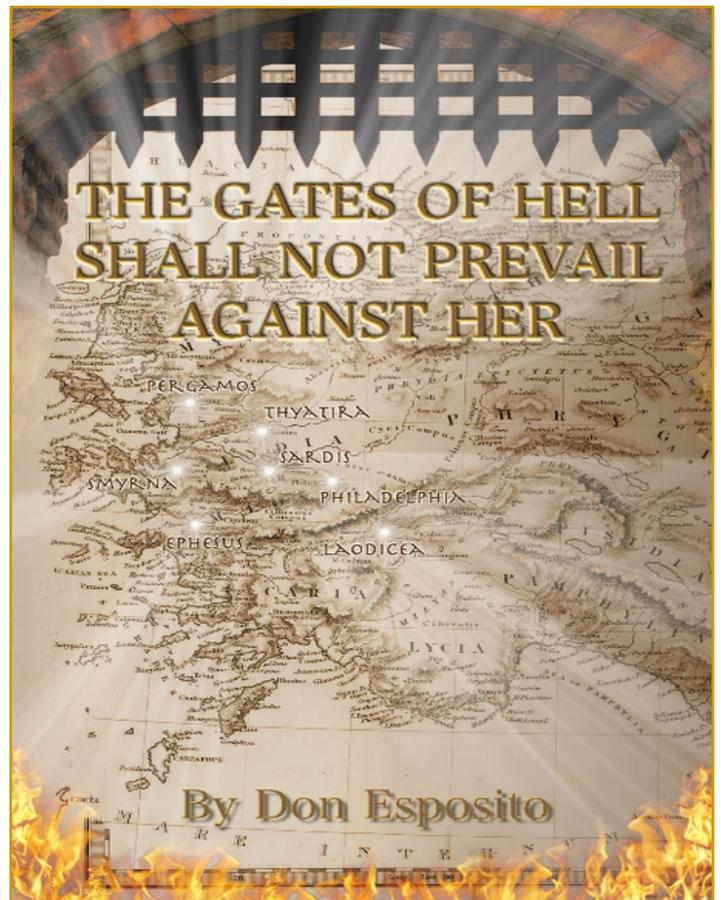
Click on the book or visit our website at

www.coYHWH.com

and go to the books section, where you will find this faith inspiring book "*The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail Against Her*" by Elder Don Esposito.

Therein you will learn more about the Early Congregation which Yahshua our Messiah established.

You will also learn what they believed, how they lived and how they endured harsh and merciless persecution for their faith in the Messiah of Israel, but more importantly, how they overcame by the blood of the Lamb.



Letters From Our Readers..

Shalom and Praise YAHWEH,

Happy Feast of Unleavened Bread! This is Brother... We met in the meeting and was baptized at Congregation of Yahweh. I Was also with singing instruments.

Since that day YAHWEH has helped me and I have met about 7 people I've shared the faith with them including my family. They were happy to receive the Hebraic roots Bible and other books. And they were joyful and look forward to meeting with you in June and desires to visit Israel in October during the Feast of Tabernacles/Sucloth together with other brethren.

We appreciate the work done in the congregation of Yahweh and it will reach to many people quickly. When I first heard you preach I was floored! I never heard any man preach the truth so bold and courageous. And I knew that this was Yahweh working through you.

We continue in spreading the word of YAHWEH house to house trusting YAH to bring more harvest. The singing team of four people you saw are continuing well.

Brother Don, we appreciate your anointed preaching that has helped many to know the truth. We were encouraged by your sacrifice financially that enables us to reach to many and support the congregation. You became a good example in giving.

Thank you,

From Africa

Shalom Senior Elder Don

I am happy since we were with you in Nakuru and Kericho actually I have learnt a lot from you, Actually I did not know that I will get a privilege like this one. Thank Yahweh for you that you saw it better to stand with people to preach the true gospel. I realized many mistakes I do when I teach brethren through you I have known the true gospel through your teachings when we were in Nakuru and Kericho in fact I was blessed my prayer is to Yahweh to continue giving you wisdom and protect you as you are serving people of Yahweh. Now I am happy because I have known on how to teach on how to reach our people with the truth by teaching them bit by bit for reforms.

As Yahweh's prophets speak to people what is before them without any alterations so shall we (who have known the truth) to those around and with us.

Thanks, Yours faithfully

From Kenya

Dear Friends,

I would love to write you the long story of who we are, but I am pressed for time!! It will come soon! Found your bible in a used bookstore and WOW! It's about time! (Not fussing at you! But the fact that the "translations" have all had such issues with what the truth really is, well...I am fussing at that!!) Our small organization and school has dreamed and prayed about such a Bible as yours for years. We were not sure how we would go about doing it! Now we don't have to – you already did it! THANKS!!

On to business!! We are a small un-denominational ministry and bible school. We have a small graduation coming up and want to give your Bibles to our students before they leave. You will be hearing from us in the future!!

May our Father bless you all for your furtherance of His kingdom!

From Texas, USA

I am thankful to YHWH Senior Elder Don for what He has done, for you and to you. The kind of service you are doing all over the world cannot be possible if it were not by the strength and power from YHWH. Praise and honor be unto YAH.

For that case Elder, we are praying that may Elohim's will prevail. Remember us too in your prayers that we may do YHWH's will faithfully and sincerely. Your tour that you have just posted too is really amazing. Be blessed Elder DON, Am also longing for the Feast in Jerusalem YAH willing.

Receive greetings from my family and pass them to your family too.

*HALLELUYAH,
From Kentucky*

Dear COYJ,

I want to thank you for the Hebraic Roots Bible, all I can say is WOW! I have been a believer and studier of the word for 35 years and have NEVER seen a Bible like this before. Truly it is a blessing for Yahshua's Holy Flock in these last days. I wonder if people really know what they have with this Bible as so many worldwide have no Bible at all.

*Blessings,
ID*

Blessings to you Elder Don,

And thank you for all your hard work for the Filipino brethren. About the Qibbutz development, we are already here since Pesakh. 8 families with the strength of 24 persons including 7 little ones are already here in the Qibbutz. Since we use the storage house as our temporary Kneset, all of us are still living in tents since Pesakh. If the funds will be available, we will build our huts quickly so we can secure the people especially those families that have little ones.

We are now clearing the place and start planting within the Qibbutz area and then later to the farmable areas adjacent to it. I also request the Qibbutz Protocol so all of us can sign it and those who are coming this year can also sign it. I believe all of those who come with me are 100% within the Judicial Order, and everyone truly wants to be echad and united.

Please include us also in your prayers. We are new in this place and all we do is depend on Yahweh's protective stretch forth hands to take care of us here in COYJ Qibbutz, Lonoy, Sapián, Capiz, Islanad of Panay. Yahweh bless you mightily.

Shalom, Elder Orland

Hello COYJ,

I just wanted to thank you once again for helping me to gain access to the HR bible. I received it just short of 2 weeks ago but have not been able to access any email until now. I apologize for not thanking you sooner as it's been on my heart since the moment it arrived! I don't get excited very often believe me but that was a special moment. Anyway, my new bible has fast become very precious to me as I share the word with my children and I thank you so very much for going out of your way to help!

If there's ever anything I can do to help or serve, please don't hesitate to email.

*May Yahweh bless you and keep you
From Australia*

Shalom Our senior Elder, hopefully you are fine in Israel.

Thanks verymuch for your recent visit to us in Kenya. Never have we had such a leader that loves us and cares for us as you do. Before leaders only forgot who, we were, but you not only visit us but care for us as a father to his children. We will be forever grateful.

*Yahweh bless you.
From Kenya.*



Artwork by Pat Marvenko Smith ©1982, 1992
www.revelationillustrated.com

The mystery of the seven stars which you saw on My right, and the seven golden menorahs: the seven stars are the messengers of the seven congregations, and the seven menorahs you saw are the seven congregations. Revelation 1:20

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