

OCT- DEC 2013

*The
Remnants
Walk*



Joh 14:17 the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see Him nor know Him. But you know Him, for He dwells with you and shall be in you

Congregation of YHWH, Jerusalem,
Po Box 832, Carteret NJ 07008

www.coyhwh.com or
www.congregationofyhwhjerusalem.com

Personal.....

Greetings Brethren,

And Shalom in the wonderful names of Yahweh and Yahshua, the name above all names.

Do you realize the great and wonderful gift that Yahweh has given you by revealing His precious truth to you through His Ruach H' Chodesh (Holy Spirit)? Do you realize the great love that Yahweh had for all mankind to send His only Son (Yahshua) down to this earth and pay the death penalty for our violations of His Torah?

Sometimes this subject can be staggering in scope, but where our position will be for eternity depends on how much we grasp those questions above now, right now, today.

Yahweh, our Heavenly Father is not calling everyone in the world right now. As a matter of fact since the act of treason of Adam in the Garden of Eden most of mankind has been cut off from our Heavenly Father and His Holy Spirit and has chosen the way of Adam in rebellion and self-will, instead of surrender to Yahweh and outward love for our Creator and His creation.

Yahshua stated in the book of John:

Joh 6:44 No one is able to come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him, and I will raise him up in the last day.

In order for someone to be raised in the resurrection at Yahshua's return he must have the Holy Spirit dwelling in him/her.

Rom 8:9 But you are not in flesh, but in Spirit, **since the Spirit of YAHWEH dwells in you.** But if anyone has not the Spirit of Messiah, this one does not belong to Him.

Rom 8:10 But if Messiah is in you, the body indeed is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of the One having raised Yahshua from the dead dwells in you, the One having raised the Messiah from the dead **will also make your mortal bodies live through the indwelling of His Spirit in you.**

So the bible is extremely clear that it is the Holy Spirit dwelling in a person that makes him/her a child of Yahweh and a firstfruit who will be resurrected when Yahshua returns. And the bible also clearly tells us how to receive that Holy Spirit to dwell in us.

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?

Act 2:38 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.**

Act 2:39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all those afar off, as many as the Master our Elohim shall call.

Act 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the good news, the things concerning the kingdom of YAHWEH, and in the name of Yahshua Messiah, they were baptized, both men and women.

Act 8:13 And Simon himself also believed, and being baptized was continuing steadfastly with Philip. And seeing miracles and mighty works happening, he was amazed.

Act 8:14 And the apostles in Jerusalem hearing that Samaria had received the Word of YAHWEH, they sent Simon Peter and John to them,

Act 8:15 who going down prayed concerning them so that they may receive the Holy Spirit.

Act 8:16 For it was not upon any one of them yet, but they were only being baptized in the name of the Master Yahshua.

Act 8:17 Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Act 8:18 But when Simon Magus saw that the Holy Spirit is given through the laying on of the hands of the apostles, he offered them money,

Act 8:19 saying, Give to me also this authority that to whomever I may lay on the hands he may receive the Holy Spirit.

Act 8:20 But Peter said to him, May your silver be with you into destruction, because you thought to obtain the gift of YAHWEH through money.

It is extremely clear from scripture that repentance from sin, and being baptized and having hands laid on you by a qualified ordained elder of Yahweh is how you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and become a first fruit of His.

So 99% of the world and the world's religion have not repented or have not been baptized by an elder of Yahweh and have not received His Holy Spirit within them. The bible states "*many are called but few are chosen*". Yes, there are many millions who may have had the Holy Spirit open their minds to a part of Yahweh's truth, but because they refused to fully surrender to Yahweh and His set apart spirit they never received the Holy Spirit to live within them and they never became a literal child of Yahweh.

But to those of us who have made this commitment and have the Holy Spirit living within us, we have a greater responsibility to fully surrender to Yahweh daily and bear fruit for His soon coming kingdom. Mathew 25 states that the Kingdom of Yahweh is like a king who went on a long journey and gave talents to His slaves.

The King in this parable is Yahshua and the talents are the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given to each of His called out children (1 Cor 12). Then, in the parable when the king returned He wanted to see how much fruit each servant produced by the gifts (talents) given to them. The more one produced the greater position they received in the Kingdom, but to the servant who produced no fruit what he had been given (the Holy Spirit) was taken away from him and he was thrown into the Lake of Fire.

To the rest of the world who do not have the spirit of Yahweh dwelling in them, Yahweh will judge at the Great White Throne Judgment after Yahshua's 1,000 year millennial reign (Rev 20:11-15). But to those who have received Yahweh's Holy Spirit now, we have a great commission to produce fruit from that spirit living in us, or we risk maybe even losing out on being in the Kingdom ourselves.

Luk 12:42 And the Master said, Who then is the faithful and wise steward whom the Master will set over His house servants, to give the portion of food in season?

Luk 12:43 Blessed is that slave when His Master comes and will find him so doing.

Luk 12:44 Truly I say to you, He will set him over all His possessions.

Luk 12:45 But if that slave should say in his heart, My Master delays to come, and should begin to beat the men servants and the female servants, and to eat and to drink and be drunk,

Luk 12:46 **the Master of that slave will come in the day in which he does not expect, and in an hour which he does not know. And He will divide him and will put his portion with the unfaithful.**

Luk 12:47 But that slave knowing the will of His Master, and not preparing, nor doing according to His will, will be beaten with many stripes.

Luk 12:48 But he who does not know and does the thing that is worthy of stripes will be beaten with fewer stripes. **For anyone who is given much to him, much is required from him. And to he whom they have committed much to him, much more they will require by his hand.**

So back to the original question: Do you realize the great and wonderful gift that Yahweh has given you by revealing His precious truth to you through His Ruach H' Chodesh (Holy Spirit)? Do you realize the great love that Yahweh had for all mankind to send His only Son (Yahshua) down to this earth and pay the death penalty for our violations of His Torah?

May we never take for granted this wonderful calling and honor given to us by Yahweh through the shed blood of His Son and may we bear ample fruit for His Kingdom and be faithful at His return.

B'Shem, Yahshua,

Don

Are YOU willing to CHANGE?



Reprint

Your very LIFE the next few years depends upon your willingness to CHANGE! Your ETERNITY depends on what you do with revealed TRUTH. Read this article – HEED this article!

MILLIONS have read booklets and articles showing the real truth about the very existence of their divine Heavenly Father, the CREATOR, who gives them every breath, and have seen the utter ludicrousness of the evolutionary fantasy. And many, many government leaders, educators, lawyers, judges, corporation executives and leading entertainment figures are numbered among those who have heard, who have read, and who have wondered.

Already, the millions LISTEN, and they READ, and they TALK.

Each year, they are joined by yet additional MILLIONS of human beings, *around the whole broad earth*, being affected by this Work!

Yes, they LISTEN, and they READ, and they TALK – but what will they DO? What will YOU do?

Yahweh says: “And they come to you as people come, and they sit before you as My people. And they hear your words, *but they do NOT do them*. For they produce much love with their mouth, but their heart goes after their unjust gain. And,

behold, you are to them as a singer of love songs with a beautiful voice, and playing well on an instrument. *For they hear your words*, but they are not doing them. So when it comes (behold, it is coming!), THEN *they will know that a prophet has been in their midst*” (Ezek. 33:31-33).

What is it going to take to make you, personally, KNOW that a PROPHET of Almighty Yahweh is *speaking to you*?

What is it going to take to make *you* HEED and ACT on the knowledge you are receiving? How much will our prophesied national PUNISHMENT have to affect YOU, *personally*, before you are willing to CHANGE your ways and OBEY Yahweh?

For that is the “key,” you know, *your willingness to CHANGE*.

Most thinking people are convicted by what they hear over the Congregation of Yahweh Jerusalem website and Elder Don’s messages and read in the pages of The Remnant’s Walk – they know it is RIGHT. But they *resist* and *resent* having to CHANGE their human way of life!

Yet, in *this* age above all others, your willingness to CHANGE and *accept* and *obey* the TRUTH Yahweh is revealing through His servants in these

end times is the key to your very survival – *now and forever!* Before much longer you will be able to see that this is not just a sentimental idea – it is a FACT!

Your ATTITUDE – The Key to Survival

Down through the ages, every true servant of Yahweh has preached a message of CHANGE. This is simply because the people of the world have *always* tended to go the way of human nature – the way of *vanity, selfishness, lust, hate and war.*

Almost as if with one voice, those faithful men of Yahweh have *cried out* about the national crimes and sins of their peoples – NOT ONLY in “righteous indignation” or “wrath,” but out of DEEP, PERSONAL CONCERN! Ezekiel cried, “Why WILL YOU DIE, O house of Israel?” (Ezek. 18:31) and Jeremiah lamented, “For He does not afflict from His heart, nor does He grieve the sons of man” (Lamentations 3:33).

Great PATRIOTS all, they *saw*, with keen insight, the sickening excesses and sins of their people. They *saw*, through Yahweh’s special revelation, the prophesied PUNISHMENTS those people were quite literally *bringing on themselves.* And they URGED their people, whom they *loved*, and wanted with all their hearts to SERVE, to REPENT of their sins – to CHANGE!

They answered the continual cry of people with myriad sins and problems – people who said, “He’s only badmouthing the nation, and he never offers *solutions!*” They DID offer solutions! Vast, far-reaching SOLUTIONS to world problems, and to the problems of individuals, by giving Yahweh’s own ANSWER to those problems!

The *answer* is to REPENT – to be willing to CHANGE. For to repent not only means to be sorry – *it means to be so sorry you are willing to QUIT* doing that which is wrong and to TURN AROUND and go the other way! True repentance involves REAL HUMILITY and REAL CHANGE.

Preparing for Messiah’s first coming, John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea saying, “REPENT! For the kingdom of Heaven has drawn near” (Matt. 3:1-2).

Soon after, Yahshua began His own ministry preaching the good news of the coming GOVERNMENT or rule of Yahweh. He proclaimed: “The time is complete and the *Kingdom of YAHWEH* has arrived. Repent and believe in the good news” (Mark 1:14-15).

Again and again, Yahshua warned the people that the ONLY way they could be saved was to REPENT of the *ways, the habits and customs* of the people around them and begin OBEYING Yahweh. He warned: “No, I say to you, But *if you do not* REPENT, *you will all likewise be destroyed*” (Luke 13:3, 5).

As the New Testament Congregation began, the inspired Peter set forth the WAY to salvation: “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” (Acts 2:38). And again: “REPENT *ye* therefore, and *be* CONVERTED, so that your sins may be blotted out when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of Yahweh” (Acts 3:19).

The very word “convert” is a chemical term meaning to CHANGE.

To be spiritually *converted*, a person must be genuinely, *actively* SORRY and REPENTANT for his past disobedience to the true Elohim, and then he must CHANGE his *way of life, his habits and customs* and *actions* to conform to Yahweh’s will.

Haven’t you noticed that the articles in The Remnant’s Walk are constantly showing you habits, customs and beliefs of *this world* which are CONTRARY to the commands of Yahweh? What about the DAYS you should keep holy? What about the REWARD – the true GOAL – of the believer? What about the constant exhortations to *surrender your will* to OBEY the Commandments of Yahweh – ALL TEN of them? What about the

instructions on how to actually LIVE by EVERY word of Yahweh?

Are you really DOING something about this precious knowledge Yahweh is giving you?

Too “Weak” to CHANGE?

Following is a letter – typical of many – from a man who KNOWS he should change. Notice: “I greatly appreciate the literature you have sent me for the past two years. I have learned a lot of things and perhaps I have come close to giving my whole self to Yahweh. It’s too bad that I fell short. Since I am going to Oklahoma State University this fall, I think that your material that you have been sending me would go to waste. I can plainly see that the materialistic pull and social influence – especially my roommates’ – would cause me to put it aside. As you may probably see, I am not too worried about Yahweh’s wrath. I put the matter aside and think, ‘Yahweh will pull me through sooner or later.’

“At least I know where to run when the times get bad. That is almost like getting something for nothing, isn’t it? I have no excuse. I have seen the truth and ignored it. At least you won’t find me in a campus demonstration. I’m not disenchanted and looking for an answer to man’s ills. I have found the answer through your Work. I’m not confused, I’m just sinful. It’s a pity that your literature had to be wasted. I am a typical human.” M. S., Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Do you too resist having to CHANGE? Does it seem *too difficult* to you to CHANGE from *your* way of life to Yahweh’s way of life?

You need to realize that this is a WRONG part of human nature which in itself *needs to be repented* of! Yahweh, says, “The heart is DECEITFUL *above all things*, and it is INCURABLE; who can know it?” (Jer. 17:9.)

Yahweh is here describing the kind of human nature He gave YOU!

You DON’T LIKE to change! You DON’T LIKE to have to admit that *your religion* or *your ways* may have been wrong.

Notice this striking description of the human mind in Professor James Harvey Robinson’s enlightening and popular book, *The Mind in the Making*: “We are incredibly heedless in the formation of our beliefs, but find ourselves with an illicit passion for them when anyone proposes to rob us of their companionship. It is obviously not the ideas that threaten themselves that are dear to us, but our self-esteem which is threatened... The little word “my” is the most important one in human affairs, and properly to reckon with it is the beginning of wisdom. It has the same force whether it is my dinner, my dog, my house, or my faith, my country and my Elohim. We not only resent the imputation that our watch is wrong, or our car shabby, but that our conception of the canals of Mars, or the pronunciation of ‘Epictetus,’ or the medicinal value of salicine, or the date of Sargon I, are subject to revision... We like to continue to believe what we have been accustomed to accept as true, and the resentment aroused when doubt is cast upon any of our assumptions leads us to seek every manner of excuse for clinging to it. The result is that most of our so-called reasoning consists in finding arguments for going on believing as we already do.”

Isn’t that a classic illustration of the human mind – YOUR MIND?

Now notice what Yahweh says about the natural, fleshly mind of man: “Because the *mind* of the flesh is ENMITY towards YAHWEH; for it is NOT *subject to the Torah* of YAHWEH, *for it is not possible to be so*” (Rom. 8:7). And in the previous verse, Yahweh says, that “To be carnally minded is DEATH.”

So the Bible shows that the very KEY to your survival is your willingness to REPENT of your *own ways* and CHANGE your own ideas, customs and beliefs so that they REALLY correspond with

Yahweh's ways and teaching as revealed in your Bible.

Yahweh's Truth Brings RESPONSIBILITY

Yahweh has shown *millions* of you that this is His Work. Over the World TOMORROW broadcast and in the pages of TOMORROW'S WORLD, you are constantly challenged in plain, clear terms to OBEY the Ten Commandments LITERALLY as Yahweh intended, to keep His days holy, to come out of PAGAN religious observance, customs and traditions. But most of you just sit back and listen and say: "Well, I agree, but I don't see that there is anything I need to do about it."

But Yahweh says: "For not the *hearers* of the Torah are righteous with YAHWEH, but the *DOERS of the Torah shall be justified*" (Rom. 2:13). Again, Yahweh says: "Therefore, to anyone KNOWING to do good, and not doing it, it is sin to him" (Jac. 4:17).

In the main, you regular readers of The Remnant's Walk really KNOW what you should be doing. You *know* that you should begin ACTING on the knowledge you have been learning through Yahweh's Work. You *know* that even more precious knowledge of Yahweh's TRUTH is available by studying the free booklets we offer on many subjects. You KNOW where the truth is available. You KNOW that there is no one else on earth today who is really making the Bible PLAIN – and the big *major* events in world happenings PLAIN and CLEAR in their *definite, prophetic significance!*

Will You ACT While There Is Time?

How are you going to feel when things you've been reading about suddenly come to fruition in front of your very eyes? When you see the chaos we have described in America all around you, and perhaps hear rumors that Russia and Iran may be preparing to attack us with hydrogen bombs and rockets?

How are you going to feel when you have KNOWN about these things all the time – have KNOWN that you ought to begin to *obey Yahweh* and ACT on this knowledge He was revealing to you – but have just sluggishly or stubbornly refused to CHANGE your ways and come under His protection in time?

Are you going to react like the fellow who wrote us this letter? "*I'm not a believer. It takes a man to be one of them. I don't pray, I never prayed in my life. I had a chance to join a church but the way they put it across didn't seem right to me. I had a good chance to go the way of evolution but it didn't seem right. When the truth did come along I wasn't so dumb that I didn't recognize it. I help support this Work financially because I believe in it 100%. But, please don't think that I pray. I can't humble myself enough.*" G. S., Federal Dam, Minn.

Shocking?

Yes. At least it *should* be if you can comprehend the stakes involved.

The Elohim of your Bible states, "But I will look toward this one, to the humbled one, and to the contrite of spirit, even TREMBLING at My Word" (Is. 66:2).

You should surely know by now that we are not playing sentimental little games with you. We challenge you to PROVE what we say in about doctrine from the word of Yahweh. For what we teach *can* and DOES stand PROVED.

But simply *knowing* these things will do you or your loved ones *no good whatsoever*. For you must ACT on the Truth. You must LIVE by Yahweh's laws. You must CHANGE your approach and your very *way of life* to conform to the example and teachings of the *true* Yahshua of your Bible.

For the sake of *life* and *eternity*, you must exercise the courage and determination to make this CHANGE

By Their Fruits You Shall Know Them

By Selmer L. Hegvold (**Reprint article**)



*What are the characteristics of a person following the example set by Yahshua Messiah?
How can you know you are a real believer?*

A look of dismay swept over the waitresses' faces as the family with several children entered the busy restaurant and waited to be seated. Families with children always created problems for them. One of the young women rolled her eyes heavenward, shrugged her shoulders, took out her order pad and escorted the group to the largest table. It was obvious she expected the worst: squabbling, noise, crying and food and silverware scattered on the floor around the table.

But the waitress was amazed. The family was courteous, quiet, orderly and patient – all of them. The children looked respectfully to their parents and politely let their choices from the menu be known. Neatness and smiles prevailed all around

the table as the meal progressed. The impressed restaurant personnel complimented the couple and their children as they paid the cashier, and warmly invited them to return soon.

That family let their light shine brightly, honoring the Elohim they serve.

Some time ago as my wife and I walked down the street in an unfamiliar area of the city, we saw, walking ahead of us through a crowd of shoppers, two strangers. Later, as we checked out, we saw this same man and woman in an adjoining aisle paying for their purchases. We overheard some of their conversation and became convinced that they were believers. We began a friendly conversation with them and

discovered that we were right. The four of us were delighted over that brief contact.

What is it about Yahweh's people that lets others know we are servants of the living El?

Conversion in action

Conversion is more than acceptance of what you have heard, seen or come to believe intellectually. As a person truly convicted, called of Yahweh and repentant, you realize there is much you must *do*.

Yahshua said: "No one is able to come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him, and I will raise him up in the last day. For it is written in the prophets that all of them will be taught of Elohim. Everyone who hears therefore and learns from the Father comes to me" (John 6:44-45).

The proof that you belong to Yahweh becomes visible through service to others. You have a growing sense of satisfaction in service that requires sacrifice of your strength and personal time. The greater reward by far will be yours at the resurrection and return of Yahshua Messiah.

Yahshua showed how to identify truly converted people, "Then surely from their fruits you shall know them" (Matt. 7:20). Let's hope your fruit is all good. Let's hope yours is a brilliant light shining out in a darkened world.

At Holy Day gatherings, at Feast sites, at services with Yahweh's people in other towns away from your home, you discover an aura of brotherhood, a reassuring warmth of friendship.

Years ago, prospective members requesting a ministerial visit were oftentimes called upon unannounced because few gave telephone numbers. When the minister and his wife were met at the door and introduced themselves, they found they had been already recognized. What is it that identifies Yahweh's people to others immediately, without a word being spoken?

Clerks and receptionists quickly recognize people of Yahweh's congregation when they come into offices and shopping centers in Pasadena. Yahweh's people are known by their courtesy, patience, attractive appearance and conversational pleasantries. Others "just know who you are" before you open your mouth. They appreciate what they see and hear. They commend you to others. They wish the whole world could be like you. Why do believers shine this way to others?

Evaluate yourself

Because you are spiritually begotten, you will have the mind of the living Messiah motivating you through, Yahweh's Holy Spirit. You will have the in-depth spiritual discernment required to understand the things Yahweh is revealing to His Congregation.

Are sermons and Bible studies a wealth of spiritual nourishment to you? Do you absorb the messages hungrily and constantly desire more? Do repeated or lengthy sermons become an extra treat to you? Does time in the congregation pass too quickly?

Do you search for correction and receive it thankfully? Do you never apply corrective sermons to your neighbors, but always to yourself? Do you realize how far from the perfection of Messiah you really are, and are you moved spiritually by sermons and Bible studies?

How eager are you to associate with your brethren? Do you linger as long as possible after services to meet and fellowship with them? The Congregation grows through hospitality exercised by its members. How hospitable are you – to the point of extravagance, encouraging and welcoming visits by brethren and the ministry.

The "book of your heart" should always be open to the needs of others, both in the Congregation and in the community. Really! You have nothing to hide and everything to share. Always be aware of and thankful for Yahweh's blessings poured

out on you and your family. Step out and correct yourself if you are weak in any of these areas. Ask Yahweh to correct you – in His mercy.

Retain an awareness of Yahweh's loving care for you, and your trust in Him will glow in your personality.

Fighting this world's god

Of course, there is another consideration you must face when you bear good fruit in this world. Years ago, one of Yahweh's ministers was called upon to answer a visit request in an institution for the mentally handicapped. As the attendants led him down the corridor and through a recreation room, he was abruptly interrupted by one of the patients. To the amazement of the minister, the patient began shouting repeatedly that he was a servant of the most high E!

As the attendants hurried the minister into safer corridors, they asked him if he knew the patient. The answer was an emphatic "No!" Though the others did not realize it, the minister knew the man was under the control of a demon that knew him, identified him for what he was and intended harassment.

Not everyone is pleased with and supportive of those who radiate the attributes of Yahshua Messiah. Some hate what we so obviously stand for and refuse to accept or praise our best efforts to please Yahweh.

When you on occasion enter a place of worship of a different faith, do you feel uncomfortable? Each of the other churches in this world seems to have its own motivating spirit that makes the church distinct. And there is a clash between different spiritual characteristics. The Holy Spirit of Yahweh cannot abide any other spiritual influence than that of Yahweh. Unusual tensions exist in individual ecclesiastical groups whenever the Holy Spirit makes itself felt in their presence through you.

When people from other faiths visit the Congregations of Yahweh's activities or services, we find that they are impressed, but uneasy.

Satan is the god of this world. All its systems and religions are contrary to the way Yahweh's Holy Spirit works in you. Others can see the Spirit's good fruits in you. They hate the purpose and plan of Yahweh, and so they hate you! They can neither see nor understand what you do.

"If the world hates you, know that it has hated Me before you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. But because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you" (John 15:18-19).

Yahweh said that there would be many afflictions for the righteous along the way, and that only through much tribulation will we finally be with Him.

Peter was inspired to write, "Therefore, brothers, rather be diligent to make your calling and election sure; for doing these things, you will not ever fall" (2 Pet. 1:10). Read the preceding verses also, where Peter explains "these things."

If you find yourself tempted to criticize the Congregation's leadership, take immediate corrective steps through more study, fasting and prayer. Yahweh is fully capable of managing His Congregation and His servants.

Your light must shine to all the world. How brilliantly is it shining?

Turn your life around

If you radiate the fruits of Yahweh's Holy Spirit to others around you in your daily activities, well and good. You are on the right track. But suppose you find yourself far off base. What then?

Realize that it is never too late in life, nor have you strayed too far afield. Yahweh is interested in what you do with your life now. "But one thing I

do, forgetting the things behind, and stretching forward to those things before, I press toward the goal to receive the prize of victory of the highest calling of Elohim in Messiah Yahshua” (Phi. 3:13-14). Yahweh is not interested in what happened yesterday. He is interested in what you do today and tomorrow.

Are you constantly beset by the troubles in your life? Are you fearful, afraid of the unknown and the unexpected? IF you take extreme precautions for your safety, examine your spiritual life. Prayer, Bible study, fasting and meditation have probably become sporadic or nonexistent. Through concerted, energetic effort now they can be reactivated to turn your life around.

David was well aware of his own weaknesses and how alarmingly Yahweh acted in his life to stir him to action. “Before I was afflicted I went astray; but now I have kept Your Word...It is good for me that I was afflicted, to learn Your Statutes” (Ps. 119:67, 71). And again, “Great peace is to those who love Your Torah, and there is no stumbling block to them” (Ps. 119:165).

David’s light did not always shine out to others commendably. He had to take hold on his life and turn his heart completely around. Neither did the apostle Paul shed a very glorious light before his calling. For the next 20-odd years of his active ministry he struggled with his faults and weaknesses.

Both of these servants of Yahweh overcame and will sit with Messiah on His throne when He returns. They warned of the many pitfalls you and I would have to avoid today. “Many are the evils of the righteous, but YAHWEH delivers him out of them all” (Ps. 34:19). The apostle Paul instructed his disciples in the same vein, “After they had strengthened the souls of the disciples and had beseeched from them to remain in the faith, and had said to them that, It is right by much tribulation to enter into the Kingdom of Elohim” (Acts 14:22).

David’s cry to Yahweh must have echoed in the heaven of Yahweh’s throne: “Create in me a clean heart, O Elohim; and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me out from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation (Y’shua*)” (Ps. 51:10-12). David became the servant Yahweh called a man after His own heart.

Plunge into giving

Keep current with all the news about the Work. Prove to Yahweh you are a faithful laborer performing His great commission. Become involved. If all you can do is smile and always be cheerful – nothing more – remember that it exemplifies the joy of Yahweh’s message for mankind.

Volunteer to handle the unsavory jobs nobody likes to do. Put your hand more firmly to the plow. Be always willing to do more than you’re asked to do, remembering, “Likewise even you, when you have done all the things that are commanded, you say that we are idle servants because we have done only what we ought to do” (Luke 17:10).

It will amaze you how rewarding and satisfying your life will become as you plunge selflessly into the giving way of life within Yahweh’s Congregation. It’s the get way most of us live that saps us of the light that should shine. We only select as our true friends people who have learned to give of themselves. Are you one of them?

You’ve been given the greatest calling ever offered in the history of the world. Make certain you have enough oil for your lamp, lest the light flicker, fade and die out. It takes effort, dedication, prayer and study, but the rewards for all who put their shoulder to the task are just around the corner.

Should Converted Women wear Make-Up!

(REPRINT ARTICLE)



Actually, Yahweh's Word *does* reveal *directly* and specifically whether this alteration of the appearance of the face through make-up is sin!

HOW is it possible that painting the lips, cheeks, or eyes could be either forbidden or approved by YAHWEH'S TORAH? It's time we realize that the Spiritual Law covers *every act* of right or wrong.

Yahweh's Torah is a great inexorable overall Law of SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES! It is not merely ten literal and specific commands. It must be obeyed according to all the scope of its SPIRIT, as well as its literal letter.

The Principles of the Law

All the spiritual Law may be summed up in one word – LOVE. Love is a spiritual principle. As the *principle* of the Torah is applied, it enlarges

into the *two* great laws – LOVE toward *Yahweh* and LOVE toward human *neighbor*.

A Surprise Scripture

In the 2nd chapter Yahweh's Word to us through Isaiah speaks to The House of Jacob – our people – are replenished from the east – pagan beliefs and customs. One of these, we shall see later, is facial make-up! (verse 6). Our land also is full of silver and gold, neither is there any end of our treasures (v.7). Yes, we are the wealthiest nation that ever existed. *This was NOT true of ancient Israel.*

But our land is also full of IDOLS – worshipping the things our own hands have manufactured and made! (Verse 8). It is the *very present*, when the DAY OF YAHWEH is near (verse 12). Yahweh is soon going to abolish our idols, our pride and vanity, our sins (verses 17-18).

It continues into chapter 3.

Children will begin to boss parents and rule over them (verse 4). That is happening right now! Children are their oppressors, and WOMEN “wear the pants” (verse 12). They cause us to SIN, and lead as in WRONG PATHS.

Now verse 16: “And YAHWEH says, Because the daughters of Zion are proud, and walk with stretched out necks and wanton eyes...So YAHWEH will make the crown of the daughter of Zion scabby...” and dire punishment for SIN follow.

Now what are “*wanton eyes*?” As this is translated into the English language you don't catch the real meaning inspired by Yahweh into the original Hebrew words at all!

Actually, when the meaning of the inspired *Hebrew* is examined, there is no one word in the English language to convey the intended meaning. And rather than use a whole sentence or two to express the inspired meaning, the translators have chosen this one word “wanton”.

The English word they did use, “wanton,” is defined by Webster as *unchaste, lewd, licentious, immoral*, etc. This expresses the spirit and character back of the act described, but not the method by which such lewdness and licentiousness is manifested. It seems to be about as near as the translators could get in rendering the Hebrew.

But let's understand the full and complete meaning of the Hebrew word. One thing the

Commentaries do give us accurately is the technical meaning of Hebrew and Greek words.

Clarke Makes It Clear

First, notice the rendering of the Adam Clarke Commentary.

“Verse 16. *And wanton eyes* – ‘And falsely setting off their eyes *with paint*.’ Hebrew, *falsifying* their eyes”.

Ah, NOW we begin to see the real intended inspired meaning!

REMEMBER – the custom of using PAINT to color and to change the looks of the face, to make it appear “prettier,” originated in harlotry, as I will prove later. It was always used to seduce and lure men into LUST. In Bible times women painted their eyes, primarily – at least the emphasis was then on the eyes, though they also used some paint, frequently, on the cheeks and the lips. Some 40 years ago the emphasis was on the cheeks, though some painted the eyes and the lips to a lesser degree. Today the emphasis is on the lips, though to some extent women still paint, in lesser degree, the cheeks, and many the eyes.

The principle – the purpose – is the same, whether the painting emphasis is on the eyes, the cheeks, or the lips. WHAT it is, is just the same. WHERE it is placed may vary, with varying fads of the times. But it is all the same thing, so far as the principle of SIN is concerned.

Clarke further explains that this Hebrew word is closely associated with the noun “*sikra*” which the rabbis used for “*stibium*, the mineral which was commonly used in coloring the eyes... the Chaldee paraphrase explains it: *stibio linitis oculis*, ‘with eyes dressed with *stibium*’. This fashion seems to have prevailed very generally among the Eastern people in ancient times; and they retain the very same to this day.”

Actually, we saw a great deal of this on our recent visit to the Middle East.

From the “Critical and Experimental Commentary”: “16. and wanton eyes – Hebrew (*mesha-ququeroth*, from *shaquar*, to deceive.) ‘deceiving with their eyes.’... *Lowth*, after the Chaldaic, ‘falsely setting off the eyes with paint.’ Women’s eyelids in the East are often colored with *stibium*, or powder of lead.”

These critical explanations make it plain that painting the face has, since ancient days, been intended to *falsify* the appearance of the face – to

deceive! Women today may not like to admit it, but there can be no purpose in applying lipstick or any kind of paint *except* to *change* the appearance of the face – and that very act means to FALSIFY the face – to DECEIVE those who see them as to what their real appearance actually is! The very USE of lipstick or make-up, even though a woman denies the motive in her heart, is to *change* the facial appearance – and this, in turn, is to *falsify*, and to *deceive* – which is not righteous or holy, but sinful.

And so there, properly translated, is a PLAIN SCRIPTURE showing that the act of painting the face, (whether eyes, cheeks, or lips) is falsifying, intended to DECEIVE, an expression of VANITY which is the very basis of all sin.

This, and the Scriptures that shall immediately follow, show that this almost universal custom, stimulated and kept alive in the interest of multi-million dollar profits by the big cosmetic manufacturers, is condemned by Yahweh Almighty as being a SIN!

HOW, and WHY it is a sin – HOW it violates the SPIRIT OF THE LAW – will be explained later in this article.

Where Make-Up Originated

Do you know where the use of make-up originated?

Actually the first “painted huzzy” was Semiramis, the original mother of harlots, human author and founder of the world’s religions and of abominations of the world.

Nationally, it came out of ancient Egypt. Nearly everything evil and sinful came out of Egypt. Egypt is used as the very TYPE of sin in the Scriptures.

When we were in Egypt this past spring we saw many of the statues and idols of ancient Egypt. Two things were most prominent in the statues of their ancient queens and goddesses: the painting on their faces, which changed their natural appearance, and the thin-veiled gowns which exposed nudity underneath. They had changed themselves from a modest and virtuous appearance into one of sensuality.

Changing facial appearance by painting the face originated in harlotry. It was used originally *only* as a device of harlots to attract men in a manner designed to break the 7th Commandment.

It's modern, popular and almost universal use today originated with the harlots of Paris. From there it travelled to the old red-light districts of San Francisco, Denver, New Orleans, Chicago, New York and other American cities. Then it was used by the street-walker prostitutes to attract and seduce men.

The Encyclopedia Britannica says: "It is quite probable that cosmetics had their origin in the East, but it is necessary to turn to Egypt for the earliest records of these substances and their application."

According to the Britannica, the practice of facial subterfuge and deception by painting and make-up reached its zenith in the time of Cleopatra. The Britannica also states that the early inhabitants of Britain imported toilet articles *from the East*. In the passages from Isaiah cited above, chapter 2 and verse 6 says Yahweh is forsaking and punishing the House of Jacob "because they are filled from the East!" Yes, that's where they got the make-up idea and materials!

Paint on the face in America was first used by the Indians, as "WARPAINT." We regarded it as a heathen, savage custom! Yet our women have taken up the custom, copying from the harlots of Paris. The practice certainly did not originate from YAHWEH, but from harlotry and heathenism. In 1770 the State of Pennsylvania passed a law that a marriage could be nullified if the wife had, in courtship, deceived and misled her prospective husband by having changed her appearance with make-up!

It Is BIG Business

The cosmetic industry has become one of America's greatest industries. By the post-war year of 1919 it had risen to a volume of 82 million dollars. By 1925 it had mounted to \$147,000,000. But by 1955, the cosmetic industry spent in advertising to tempt the women into buying cosmetics ONE MILLION *more* dollars than their entire sales volume had been in 1925. Not including soap, but just face-*changing* cosmetics, the industry spent for advertising \$148,675,000! And according to the March 28 *New York Times*, American women in 1955 spent, to *change* the appearance of their faces (including perfumes), \$1,192,200,000!! That's one BILLION, one hundred ninety-two MILLION, two hundred

thousand dollars! Today the number is in the trillions of dollars each year.

Do we realize that as many people and tiny children are starving to death each year, trillions of dollars are being spent by women to simply try to make their appearance look deceiving? And for what vanity! How sad!

Perhaps most women do not realize, or won't admit, the extent of their VANITY in wanting to make themselves prettier than they really are, *but the cosmetic manufacturers and their shrewd advertising men know!* The average American business cannot profitably spend more than ½ of 1% up to a maximum of 4% of sales volume in advertising. But apparently the cosmetic industry, due to female vanity, is able to spend 12 ½ %, and make it pay! When male GREED cashes in on female VANITY, the result is fabulous profits for shrewd commercial interests!

Bible Examples

Yahweh gives examples in the Bible of women who were righteous, meek, humble and obedient, and He also gives examples of women who were prostitutes – who were seductive and satanic influences on others.

And LISTEN!

In every single case where painting the face is mentioned in your Bible, YAHWEH LABELS THE WOMAN A WHORE! Is that shocking? Yes, but TRUE! Painting the face is never once mentioned in connection with a virtuous woman! HOW does Yahweh label YOU? Every woman should ask herself that question.

Perhaps I have *seen* the oldest historic record of putting make-up on the face, on our recent visit to ancient Egypt! Yahweh uses Egypt as a TYPE of sin, especially in the lesson of Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. Most of the pagan and sinful practices that befoul our western civilization today came out of Egypt.

In Egypt we saw many statues and paintings of ancient Egyptian women, and of their goddesses. Always their faces were painted.

But perhaps the oldest *written* records are found in the Bible.

First is the case of the Gentile daughter of a Sidonian King, Jezebel. King Ahab of Israel married her. Yahweh condemned this evil woman to a horrible death because of her great WHOREDOMS. Jezebel applied the "art" of

make-up to her face to make herself *sexually attractive* in order to deceive and seduce men. Yahweh uses this vile woman as a type of the great *false church* (Rev. 2:20), who also is labeled in your Bible as a whore! Just as this original Jezebel painted her face to seduce men, so does this great collective woman deck herself out seductively, and attempt to *change her appearance* from her actual EVIL look, by deceiving the whole world into believing that she “looks” virtuous and pure and holy.

But notice the high-points of the story as it is in the Bible.

“And it happened as if it were a light thing, that he walked in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took a wife, Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, the king of the Sidonians, and went and served Baal, and bowed himself to it.” (1 Kings 16:29-31).

Later, Jehoram, son of Ahab and Jezebel, was reigning as king of Israel. With the king of Judah he went out against Jehu, whom Yahweh had appointed to succeed Jehoram as king.

“And it happened, when Jehoram saw Jehu, he said, is it peace, Jehu? And he said, What peace, so long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her sorceries are so many? (2 Kings 9:22).

As Jehoram turned to flee, Jehu slew him.

Is It a “Light Thing?”

“And Jehu came to Jezreel. And Jezebel had heard, and had painted her eyes and adorned her head, and looked down through the window.” (2 Kings 9:30). She was now making a desperate effort to seduce Jehu, lest he kill her. She resorted to all her wiles of harlotry, and lewdness.

WHY do women who profess to be GOOD women resort to this same trick of deception to attract men today? WHY have modern women, *as if it were a light thing to walk in the sins of Jezebel*, made this an almost universal custom today? Will YAHWEH'S women, “the LIGHT of the world,” - the only light remaining in this evil world – yield themselves “to be LIKE worldly women around them?”

From the very first historic records, *painting the face* has been an *integral part* of HARLOTRY, used to attract and seduce men! It was always part of the *equipment* of a harlot. That is a simple statement of FACT. It cannot be denied. The harlots of Paris use it. The whores of the old

United States “red light” districts all used it. The street-walking prostitutes all used it *before* the professing “decent” women copied after these daughters of Jezebel.

Some women may say that “we don't use it for seductive purposes or as a device of harlotry today!” Of course not! But, in like manner I've heard preachers try to justify the pagan practices of observing Christmas by arguing, “But we don't use it for the purpose *they* did – for worshipping Baal. We have adopted their *custom* for the purpose of worshipping MESSIAH.”

But Yahweh says: “And that you not inquire after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their Elohim? And I shall do so, even I. You shall not do so to YAHWEH your Elohim; for everything hateful to YAHWEH, which he detests, they have done to their gods...All the things that I command you, take heed to do them and you shall not add to it, nor take away from it.” (Deut. 12:30-32).

YAHWEH COMMANDS US NOT TO FOLLOW THESE ABOMINABLE PRACTICES AND CUSTOMS USED IN PAGAN IDOLATRY AND HARLOTRY! Facial make-up is one of them! A woman may think she looks nice *in the sight of the world* with make-up. But how does she look in *Yahweh's sight*?

Abomination in Yahweh's Sight

It's true, we have been born in such a world, and grown up taking such things for granted as much as we take any article of normal clothing for granted, accepting it as a normal custom with never so much as a *thought* that there could be anything sinful about it.

. We simply have to come to the knowledge that “there is a way that seems RIGHT to a man, but the end of it is the ways of DEATH.”

In the same manner, it may be difficult, at first, for many of you women in Yahweh's true Congregation to realize that make-up on the face is actually one of those things that is AN ABOMINATION in the sight of Yahweh – that its use is a SIN – a violation of YAHWEH'S TORAH, as I shall presently show! It may be difficult for one who has always taken these worldly customs for granted to realize that a woman who “looks NICE” to the world actually looks like a painted prostitute *in the sight of YAHWEH!*

Israel's Harlotry

As the harlot Jezebel was a type of the great MOTHER of harlots and ABOMINATIONS of the earth, so both Israel and Judah, the CONGREGATION of the Old Testament, played the whore, and symbolically "*painted their faces.*"

Listen to THE WORD OF YAHWEH!

"This word from the Eternal came to me:" – quoting from Ezekiel 23, Mofatt translation." "Son of man, there were two women... when they were young, they played the harlot in Egypt, where men pressed their breasts and handled their virgin nipples. Their names were Ohola, the elder, and Oholibah, the younger. They became my wives and bore sons and daughters (as for their names, Ohola is Samaria, Oholibah Jerusalem).

" "But Ohola played the harlot, though she was my wife...and befouled herself with the idols of every man on whom she doted; she never ceased her harlotry since in Egypt men lay with her as a girl and handled her virgin nipples and had intercourse with her freely. So I handed her over to her lovers, to the Assyrians... They exposed her nakedness... and they slew her with the sword; so punishment was inflicted on her, till she became a WARNING TO WOMEN.

" "Her sister Oholibah saw this, but she went further in depravity, in her lust and harlotry... I saw that she was befouling herself... but she carried her harlotry further; she saw men pictured upon walls, figures of Chaldeans drawn in vermilion... and when she saw them she doted upon them ...

... And this is how they behaved within my temple; they actually sent for men who came from abroad, sent messengers to them! *And for them you bathed yourself, you PAINTED YOUR EYES, you put on your ornaments, you sat on a handsome divan, with a table spread in front of it ... and sounds of revelry arose!*" (Ezek. 23).

NOTICE THAT! Here Yahweh pictures Israel and Judah as harlot women. They have sent for men. In order to seduce these men, and lead them into adultery, they PAINTED THEIR FACES! This has always been the main equipment of harlots! It is the very instrument of harlotry. Yahweh CONDEMNS the ACT as SIN – and shows plainly that this paint was applied FOR THE PURPOSE of seduction.

Now complete this blistering message from Yahweh to modern women today!

" "This therefore is Yahweh ETERNAL's sentence: Bring a host of folk against them, and hand them over to be maltreated and robbed! Let them be stoned and put to the sword ... that all women may TAKE WARNING and avoid YOUR sensual ways ... and so learn that I am Yahweh the ETERNAL!"

How about it? Do you want to argue that Yahweh doesn't mean YOU – or that this does NOT apply to using make-up today? YOUR body is Yahweh's temple today, and if you defile it, Yahweh says He will destroy YOU!

IN EVERY CASE where make-up is mentioned in the Bible, *Yahweh labels the woman who uses it a WHORE!*

Always, its use is an attempt *to change the appearance of the face!* It is an attempt to make the face *appear* to be (a DECEPTION!) more beautiful than it is. Always in one way or another it is VANITY! Today it is also an instinctive human-nature pull to conform to the ways of this world – perhaps without realizing that this is in direct disobedience of Yahweh's command: "And *be not conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, in order to prove by you what is the good and pleasing and perfect will of YAHWEH*" (Rom. 12:2).

Whoring Judah

In the 4th Chapter of Jeremiah, Yahweh reveals the destruction to be poured out on Judah, as a result of her whoredoms. Yahweh cries out to these unfaithful Jews: "O Jerusalem, cleanse your heart from evil so that you may be saved ... For My people are foolish. They do not know Me. They are stupid children, and they have no understanding. They are wise to do evil, but they do not know to do good. For so YAHWEH has said, The whole land shall be a desolation ... And you, O desolate one, what will you do? Though you clothe yourself with crimson, though you adorn yourself with ornaments of gold, *though YOU MAKE LARGE YOUR EYES WITH PAINT, you beautify yourself in vain. Lovers despise you; they will seek your life*" (Jer. 4:14, 22, 27, 30).

Here adulteress Judah is pictured as The Eternal's wife. Painting her face to seduce lovers into adultery.

And WHAT WAS THE ADULTERY OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH?

Why, precisely the very thing that causes women to use lip-stick and other make-up today! *They wanted to be like the other nations around them!* Yahweh said to Israel: “When ... you shall say, ‘Let me set a king over me *like all the nations around me...*’” (Deut. 17:14).

Again, “When you come to the land which YAHWEH your Elohim is giving to you, you shall not learn to do according to the HATEFUL ACTS of those nations ... For all doing these things are AN ABOMINATION (Deut. 18:9, 12).

WHY Women Wear It

If other nations around them had not practiced these abominations, the Israelites would never have wanted to do them.

LIKEWISE, if the women of the world around you had never worn lipstick or make-up, *not a single woman in the Congregation would ever have wanted to wear it!*

THINK THAT OVER! No person can dispute that!

IF the women of the world never wore it – IF they frowned on it and considered it bad taste, NO WOMAN IN OR OUT OF THE CONGREGATION WOULD WEAR IT!

It is put on the face for one or both of two general reasons: 1) to be *like the world* around you – to BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD, in direct DISOBEDIENCE of Yahweh’s command; or else 2) “to look nice,” as women express it, which means, simply, to CHANGE the appearance so as to make the face prettier than it naturally is – WHICH IS VANITY! Either is a violation of Yahweh’s Law, and A SIN! Actually, the only reason a woman wishes to conform to the world is VANITY – *fearing* what the world will think, more than fearing Yahweh CARING more for the world and what it thinks than for Yahweh and what looks right IN HIS SIGHT!

A woman may try to REASON and ARGUE around it, but every woman knows in her heart this is THE TRUTH!

Back, now to Isaiah 3.

“Don’t Feel Dressed Without It”

“As for My people,” says Yahweh, “children are their oppressors, and *women rule over him*. Oh My people, those leading you cause you to go

astray, and they swallow the way of our paths” (Verse 12). Women, in other words, “wear the pants.” Women have become haughty, full of VANITY, trying to put themselves above men.

And how? “Because the daughters of Zion are proud, and walk with stretched out necks and *wanton eyes*, walking and mincing as they go, and make a tinkling with their feet” (Is. 3:12, 16).

The Adam Clarke Commentary says, further, on this verse: “Her eye-lashes, which are long, and, according to the custom of the East, dressed with stibium (as we often read in the Holy Scriptures of the Hebrew women of old, Jer. 4:30, Ezek. 23:40) ... ‘But none of these ladies’, says Dr. Shaw, Travels, p. 294, ‘take themselves to be completely dressed, till they have tinged their hair and edges of their eyelids with alkahol, the powder of ore ...’ Ezekiel chap. 23:40, uses the same word in the form of a verb, *cachalt eynayik*, ‘thou dist dress thine eyes with alkahol’; which the Septuagint render ‘thou didst dress thine eyes with stibium’; ... compare II Kings 9:30; Jer. 4:30.”

“Thus Saith Yahweh”

And so critical examination of the original languages shows that ALL these Biblical passages, referring to Jezebel; to whoring Israel and Judah as Aholah and Aholibah; and to Judah, refer to the same identical PAINTING OF THE FACE that is *definitely, specifically, literally, condemned* as a SIN in Isaiah 3:16-17. Thus, when these scriptures are considered together, we have FOUR *scriptures definitely and positively condemning make-up on the face!*

This is plain “THUS SAITH YAHWEH!”

And did you notice that these pagan women of the East, condemned by Yahweh, do not feel completely dressed without their make-up on? *How many of our own modern women have said the same thing?* It’s high time for Yahweh’s women to REPENT, and with Yahweh’s help wean themselves from that kind of heathen feeling!

Virtuous Women

But if Yahweh’s Word labels these painted women of the world as ABOMINATIONS and WHORES, it also gives us descriptions of righteous, humble, and virtuous women.

Yahweh’s PRINCIPLE is that *real beauty* comes from WITHIN! Remember, Yahweh LOOKS ON

THE HEART! Paint on the face will NEVER recommend you to Yahweh!

LISTEN! “Likewise, wives, be submissive to your own husbands ... And adorn not yourselves with the *external* ornaments of curls of the hair, or the wearing of golden trinkets, or of costly garments. But the HIDDEN MAN (person) *of the heart*, in the incorruptible adornment of the meek and quiet spirit, which is of great value *before Elohim*. For so once indeed the holy women who were hoping on Elohim adorned themselves, submitting themselves to their own husbands” (1 Peter 3:1, 3-5).

Ask yourself: Do you want to “look nice” *in the sight of Yahweh*, or *in the sight of the world* – WHICH?

Never Paint Over the Jewel

Now this scripture in 1 Peter 3 is expressing a PRINCIPLE, rather than specific details.

The principle is that the REAL BEAUTY is IN THE HEART, and *shines out from the INSIDE!* If that is there – if the woman is meek, modest, humble, then to be dressed becomingly, and even with proper and modest decoration when the occasion warrants it, may be right and proper in Yahweh’s sight. This merely puts a becoming and modest outward and pleasing setting around the REAL JEWEL, which is a humble spirit and contrite heart and virtuous character.

But if it is done to *show off* the person in a spirit of vanity, then the motive of the heart is evil, and the very same outward decoration, which might be approved when worn from chaste and righteous intentions, is put to a Sinful use.

Modern Slang Shows WHY

On the other hand, applying paint to the face *changes and falsifies the appearance*, DECEIVES those who see it, and is ALWAYS *pictured in connection with HARLOTRY in the Bible!*

Today women in public places are heard excusing themselves thus: “I think I’ll go into the powder room and improve on Mother Nature.” “Mother Nature,” of course, in reality is Yahweh!

Or, a common expression among girls today: “Let’s fix our faces!” Or, “Wait till I put on my face, and I’ll be right there!” Yes, they KNOW it means putting on a FALSE face! Sometimes women use the expression “*repair my face.*”

These slang expressions in common use show where their minds are – and what is the intent of the heart!

The very words “make-up” mean “not my real face, but my MADE-UP face.” To MAKE is to re-CREATE. Yahweh says: “Rather, O man, who are you to question against Elohim? Shall the thing formed say to the One forming it, Why did You make me like this?” (Rom. 9:20). Yet that is what women are replying AGAINST YAHWEH when they *change* and *falsify* their faces!

Do you know the definition of the word “cosmetics?” It is from the Greek word “*kosmos*,” which is the Greek word representing THIS WORLD and its ways, which Yahweh condemns!

Painting the face is condemned in the Bible. It is used ONLY in VANITY or desire to be like, the world, or to conform to the world, or to look “prettier” to the world.

NOWHERE did Yahweh tell men or women to cover up, or put paint on, their *faces* – but He does tell us to put clothes on our *bodies!* Proper and modest ornamentation on the *clothing* that covers the body is approved in many scriptures, and can be done with humility of heart and purity of mind. This applies alike to men’s neckties and women’s scarves, handkerchiefs, or ornamental decorations on dresses.

YAHWEH’S PRINCIPLE is that we must not put trust in outward appearance, as opposed to meekness of a subdued mind that is subject to Yahweh *in everything!*

The SPIRIT of the Law

What is the SPIRIT of the Law? What is the SPIRIT of Yahweh? It is, first of all, LOVE! Love is the fulfilling of the law. All the law is fulfilled by one word – LOVE!

Love is selflessness. Love is giving, and sharing. Love is toward Yahweh and neighbor - AWAY from self. That is its underlying principle of RIGHTEOUSNESS.

What, then, is the underlying PRINCIPLE of SIN? It is the opposite of true love.

Sin is VANITY, first of all. The very root and core of human nature is VANITY! Vanity is SELF! Vanity expresses itself in many ways, and in different ways in different people.

Vanity expresses itself in lust, in greed, in resentment, hatred.

Yes, “ALL Is Vanity”

Vanity is a sort of unrealized, undefined craving for the ADORATION of other people – an adoration that belongs to YAHWEH. Vanity springs from an inherent feeling of *inferiority*, perhaps unrealized, and asserts itself in a natural effort to rise above that unpleasant inferior feeling by elevating the *self* above the others, or by at least desiring to be “well thought of” by others.

This instinctive reaching out for adoration violates the first commandment, by making the SELF another god *before* – that is, prior to – higher than – the true Elohim.

People do not, of course, stop to analyze this feeling and tendency in their natures. Yet VANITY is *in* our natures. VANITY is one of those things the believer must CRUSH – must keep SUBDUED. If any man or woman says, “I am not vain. I have no vanity,” that person just doesn’t know himself or the nature that was born in him.

It is VANITY that makes people want to BELONG – to be ACCEPTED by a clique, group, club. It is the basis of “party spirit,” and of competition. One of the fruits of the FLESH (violations of Yahweh’s Law), as translated by Moffatt, is *party spirit*. This is the ingredient in human nature – the SINFUL ingredient – that makes people want to *be like* the people of the world around them – to BE CONFORMED to this world.

Yahweh commands, “And be not *conformed* to this age, but be *transformed* by the renewing of your mind, in order to prove by you what is the good and pleasing and perfect will of YAHWEH” (Rom. 12:2).

VANITY in the male, if the man has ambition, expresses itself often in the desire to appear *important* to other men.

Vanity in women may express itself in many ways, but the most common is the *innate desire to be pretty*. One woman who probably would deny that her use of make-up is an expression of this very VANITY said that she would rather be pretty than to have “brains and intelligence.”

WHY Women Use Make-Up

Remember, a THING is not sin. Lipstick, of itself, is not sin. Money is not, of itself, evil – but the *love* of it (which is actually LUST) is a root of

all evil! The *use* of lip-stick in expressing vanity or conformity to the world IS SIN!

Most women, when asked WHY they use lip-stick, will of course not confess: “I use it as an expression of VANITY,” or “I use it to express an urge *to be like* the world.”

No, most women will say: “I wear it to look nice” – or “to avoid offense.” They SAY it in words that sound harmless. But YAHWEH KNOWS YOUR HEARTS better than you do – and HE knows that the heart of women, as well as men, is “DECEITFUL, above all things, and it is incurable.” And He asks: “Who can know it?” (Jer. 17:9). Yes, the inner intents of the heart often deceive its owner.

TO WHOM does this woman wish to “look nice?” – to Yahweh? No, for to Yahweh *she looks like a painted, artificial PROSTITUTE!*

TO WHOM do you wish to “look nice?”

But “to other people.”

Yes, but to *what* other people? To the people of Yahweh – the brethren of the Congregation? No, because they are obedient to Yahweh – they have stopped using it they have *the mind of Messiah* and see you as He does!

You see, when we pin it down, the woman who wears it “to look nice” is trying to look nice to the WORLD! She is trying to *conform to this world* – to be LIKE the world – against Yahweh’s word. (Ro12:2)

Women do NOT have to be like the world in ways that transgress the spirit of Yahweh’s Law! They do NOT have to wear lip-stick or other make-up, any more than men have to break the Sabbath!

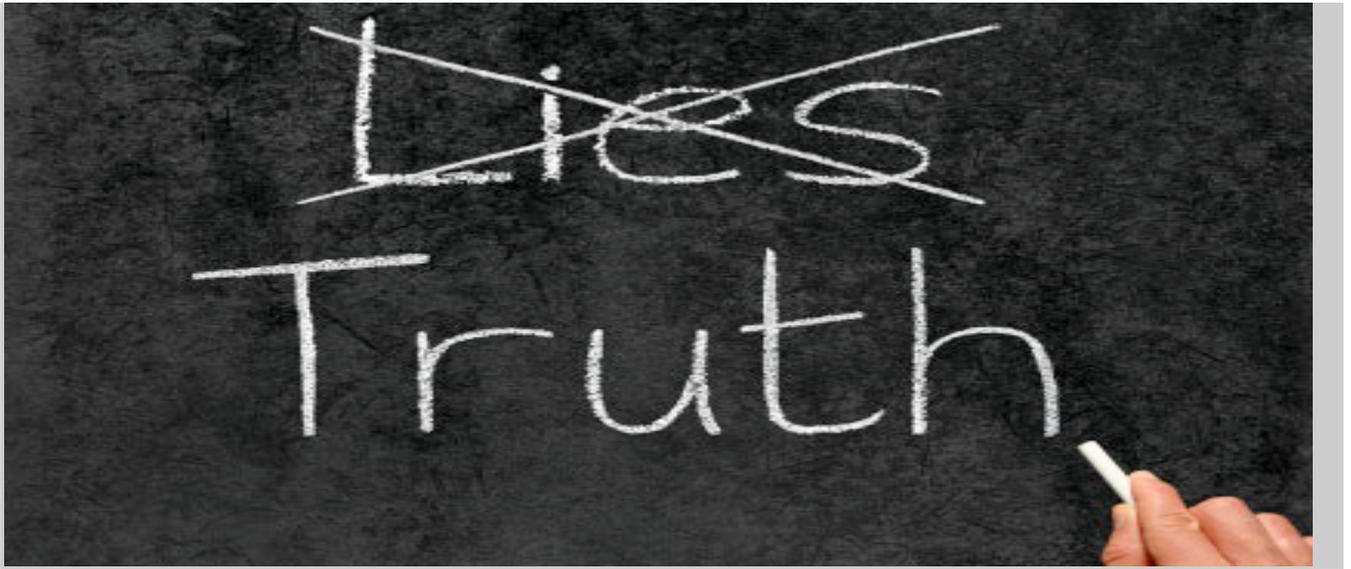
Worldliness is conforming to the world in ways that transgress the letter or the spirit of Yahweh’s Law. Wearing make-up is worldliness – and THE BIBLE brands worldliness as SIN!

Your Decision

Those yielded to Yahshua who paid such a PRICE for this very cleansing will need no more. Those not so yielded would not repent and let the precious blood of Messiah cleanse them, and their faces. Yahweh tells us WHAT is sin, and He tells us that this vain use of facial make-up *is* SIN!

But Yahweh leaves it to YOU to decide *whether* to obey! You are a free moral agent. That decision is now YOUR RESPONSIBILITY! What are *you* going to do with it?

To Tell the TRUTH...



Reprint

Do you always tell the truth? Should you? Here's how Yahweh's Ninth Commandment applies in your life today.

Could a lie, even a “small” lie, ever be necessary or even justifiable?

In this modern day of situation ethics, high-powered advertising hype, complicated interpersonal relationships and government cover-ups, a person might well be led to wonder!

Leading authorities condone, even encourage, at least “white lies” between husbands and wives, parents and children and other family members. Public officials hide wrongdoings in high places to “protect national security.”

Many of the fictional stories portrayed on television and in motion pictures are based on lies, all in the name of entertainment (much of it “comedy”) - and the more lies, the more interesting the plot, it seems.

Advertisers have gone so far in their outrageous, and often downright untruthful, claims about goods and services that no wise consumer implicitly trusts any advertisement nowadays.

Gone are the days when having “the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth” was considered ideal. But *is* it always best to tell the truth? Is there any time at all that a lie would be better? Is honesty not always the best policy?

Here's Yahweh's strong answer: “And to all liars, their part will be in the Lake burning with fire and brimstone, which is the second death” (Rev. 21:8)!

To the carnal mind, this kind of reasoning is illogical. But from that perfect spiritual viewpoint upon which He bases His whole way of life, Yahweh commands us, “You shall not testify a witness of falsehood against your neighbor” (Ex. 20:16).

The Ninth Commandment covers all aspects of lying – false accusations, pretensions, hypocrisy, half-truths, white lies, spreading rumors – even breaking promises. In fact, contrary to what some people think, there is no such thing as a white lie or a half-truth. A lie is a lie – and Yahweh hates it!

Half-truths

People often try to justify themselves by pretending that a half-truth is not a lie. They don't realize that having only half the truth is still a full sin. The patriarch Abraham paid the consequences of such an experience. When he and his beautiful wife Sarai came to Egypt, he was afraid that the Egyptians would kill him in order to take Sarai for themselves. Abraham told Sarai, "Please say that you are my sister, so that it may be well with me for your sake, and my soul shall live because of you" (Gen. 12:13).

Did Abraham lie? Yes. But wasn't Sarai his half-sister? Indeed she was – but she was also his wife. Abraham had not told the entire truth. "And YAHWEH touched Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife" (verse 17).

Do you sometimes utter half-truths, perhaps thinking that you are not breaking the Ninth Commandment? Most of us do, knowingly or unknowingly. It is not necessary to tell every detail of something you know – sometimes it's best just to say nothing – but what you say must be the truth – the plain truth!

Shaded truths

One of the most important things to remember when you converse is that people don't always hear what you want them to hear – not entirely. Your words don't mean to them what they mean to you. Their ears only grasp what their minds are ready and willing to accept.

And when they repeat what was said, they shade the truth in a manner that paints them in a good light, just as you do. You only hear what you want to hear, and you repeat things in such a way that you appear innocent of any wrongdoing. We all have this tendency.

For instance, have you ever honestly examined how you describe an accident in which you were involved? Whose fault does it turn out to be?

That "innocent" little remark you make, the innuendo you add to your description, the manner in which you describe how it all happened, make a big difference. By shading the truth, you are actually telling a lie.

Consider the way Eve answered Satan when Satan asked her what Yahweh had told her and Adam. Yahweh had commanded: "Eating you may eat of every tree in the garden; but of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil you may not eat, for in the day that you eat of it, surely you shall die" (Gen. 2:16-17).

Obviously, Eve was not pleased with Yahweh's order. She wanted to have the right to freely take whatever fruits were in the Garden. Consequently, when repeating Yahweh's order, she shaded it to her own advantage: She justified her own feelings, eager to find a way to show that Yahweh was selfish.

Eve told the serpent, "Of the fruit of the trees of the garden, We may eat, but of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, Elohim has said, You shall not eat of it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die." (Gen. 3:2-3).

Check your Bible! Is that really what Yahweh told Adam? Read it for yourself. Did Yahweh forbid them to even *touch* the fruit? Did He say "lest you die" or "You shall surely die"?

People's eagerness to defend themselves, to show the harshness of an order or an apparent injustice done to them, is what makes them shade the truth. And this happens more often than you might think.

A shaded truth is sometimes as far away from the truth as a blatant lie. The truth can be shaded by omission, addition or alteration, all of which deform the facts and change the truth into a lie. And remember, Yahweh hates lies!

Tale bearing

Do you repeat whatever you hear, whether good or bad, true or false? Yahweh said: "You shall not steal nor lie, nor deceive a man to another.... You shall not go as a slanderer among your people; you shall not stand up against the blood of your neighbor" (Lev. 19:11, 16).

When you spread rumors or act as a talebearer, you are breaking the Ninth Commandment. You cannot, as Yahweh commands, love your neighbor when you speak evil of him or make people turn against him. A

true believer is a peacemaker, not a warmonger. Messiah warned, “It is impossible that the offenses should not come, but woe to him by whose hand they come!” (Luke 17:1).

A true believer speaks evil of no one. He does not judge or repeat things that can hurt his neighbor. Rumors, you surely know, spread rapidly. That is because Satan is eager to stir people up and cause strife. It is actually Satan who is the “accuser of our brethren” (Rev. 12:10).

Notice this description of the kind of person Yahweh would want in His tabernacle or Kingdom: He who walks uprightly and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart. He does not backbite with his tongue, nor does evil to his friend, nor lifts up a reproach against His neighbor” (Ps. 15:1-3).

Do not break Yahweh's Ninth Commandment by being a talebearer. Yahweh hates lips that spread rumors.

Bearing false witness

When you are called upon to be a witness, you are shouldering a most important responsibility. By your own words, an innocent party may be condemned, or a criminal may go free.

Are you a true witness or a false witness? Do you report facts accurately, or do you distort them and take sides? A true believer is not a respecter of persons. However, the tendency is to twist a story, especially if one's own interest is involved.

Yahweh says, “A false witness shall not be blameless; yea, a breather of lies shall not escape” (Prov. 19:5).

None of those who persecuted Messiah could find anything wrong with Him. Nevertheless, they constantly accused Him of wrongdoing. They criticized His words and actions. They even bribed people to utter lies about Him, in order to condemn Him. And their ugly conspiracy did not even end at His death – they employed false witnesses to lie about the miracle of Messiah's resurrection, too (Matt. 27:62-66, 28:1-15).

Ask Yahweh daily to help you tell the truth no matter what the price or the circumstances. If you are given the task of being a witness, always tell the truth, even if it hurts you or works out to your detriment. Be a true disciple, a faithful witness – seek to please Yahweh, not men!

Hypocrisy

Hypocrisy is another facet of lying – of breaking the Ninth Commandment. A hypocrite says one thing and does another.

For example, the scribes and Pharisees of Yahshua's day considered themselves to be righteous and holy, but the truth was that their righteousness was in appearance only. They cleansed “the outside of the cup and of the dish, but within they are full of extortion and iniquity” (Matt. 23:25).

That's why Messiah said: “Then all things, whatever he (Moses) tells you to keep, keep and do. But do not do according to their (Scribes & Pharisees) works, for they talk, and do not do” (verse 3).

Another example of hypocrisy is that of Ananias and Sapphira. They pretended to share share their goods with Yahweh's people, but their apparent generosity was merely a public show. After selling their land for a given price, they pretended to lay the total purchase price at the apostles' feet, but they actually kept back a portion of it for themselves. The result? They paid with their lives for their lie (Acts 5:1-10)!

Hypocrites pretend to be something they aren't, or to do something they don't.

Abhor lying

Lies, hypocrisies and false pretensions have no place in the mind or actions of a true disciple. Do they in yours? And what about the promises you make? Do you keep them? Do you perhaps think that breaking a promise is not a sin? Believe it or not, it does violate the Ninth Commandment!

David said, “I hate and despise lying; but I love Your Torah” (Ps. 119:163). What a beautiful statement – what a beautiful attitude! It is no wonder that David was a man after Yahweh's own heart.

Do you want to be a disciple after Yahweh's own heart? If so, hate and abhor lying, and love Yahweh's commandments – including the Ninth!

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

Q) Is it wrong to have multiple wives?

A) The marriage covenant was laid out in Genesis the second chapter and clearly shows the intent of the marriage covenant from the beginning was one man and one woman and not multiple partners.

Gen 2:23 *And the man said, This now at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh; For this shall be called Woman, because out of man this has been taken.*

Gen 2:24 *Therefore, a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife and they shall become one (echad, unified) flesh.*

Yahshua confirmed this fact in the New Testament:

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)*

Mat 14:1 *At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the fame of Yahshua.*

Mat 14:2 *And he said to his servants, This is John the Baptist. He has risen from the dead, and because of this, powerful works are working in him.*

Mat 14:3 *For seizing John, Herod bound him and put him into prison, because of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip.*

Mat 14:4 *For John said to him, It is not lawful that she be a wife for you.*

Clearly, the marriage covenant was not a manmade institution that was made up during human civilizations, but is rather a divine institution that goes back to the very Garden of Eden. We also see that the outline for the marriage covenant given from Genesis the second chapter is that marriage was meant to be **monogamous, heterosexual, and a complete union by the man and his wife**. When asked about the validity of the marriage covenant, it is important to note that Yahshua, as His authority, clearly, reverts back to the beginning of the institution of the marriage covenant in Genesis chapter 2. There is no way to misinterpret Yahweh's original intent for the marriage covenant in that it was between one man and one woman until one of the covenant partners would die.

Also, it should be recognized that at creation and the beginning of the marriage covenant, there is no church or status of "before" or "after" any conversion process. The clear mandate for all humans is one man and one woman until one partner dies. The marriage covenant goes back to the creation account in Genesis before there was ever a believer or non believer, and clearly is a standard that Yahweh holds all people accountable to. To prove this point, in the above scripture from Mathew 14, John the Baptist tells Herod that it is not lawful for him to marry his brother's wife. The Jewish historian, Josephus, who is a contemporary of Herod, tells us that Herodias was already divorced from Herod's brother, Philip, and yet John clearly states that she was still his wife. This clearly shows that John did not believe in the doctrine of divorce and remarriage. Also, as stated previously, almost all marriages performed today are still performed in a religious setting and vows exchanged in front of witnesses, and although the custom of the ceremonies may vary some, the intent of making a lifelong covenant commitment to each other in the presence of witnesses has stood the same since the Garden of Eden due to the serious nature of the covenant of marriage from creation.

Yahweh also warned the Kings of Israel not to have more than one covenant wife.

Deu 17:17 *And he shall not multiply wives to himself, and his heart shall not turn aside. And he shall not greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.*

In the first covenant it was not revealed that the intent of the marriage covenant was of Yahshua and His bride. And although men were allowed multiple wives in the first covenant a woman was never allowed to have multiple covenant husbands.

Since the mystery of the marriage covenant is now revealed with Yahshua and His congregation (Eph 5:30-32) there is no reason any covenant believer with the Holy Spirit would ever want to have more than one living spouse as collectively the believers are called the bride of Messiah, but we have one spouse (bridegroom) Yahshua. For any covenant believer as part of the bride of Messiah to have multiple spouses is clearly adultery, in which, no adulterer will inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh (1 Cor 6:9-10).

Another important aspect to note within the covenant relationship is that to have true love, peace and harmony, there must be judicial order in the marriage relationship and the man is given headship over the wife (Gen 3:16). For more information please see Lesson 18 of the correspondence course online.

Q) :In 1 Chronicles 27:32 in common with the Septuagint you translate to English Jonathon David's Uncle.. Since Jonathon was not the uncle of David, Jonathon being not Saul's brother but Saul's son why translate the verse as uncle?

A) The interlinear clearly translate this word as uncle. This is not the same Jonathon that was Saul's son as David was not king when Saul and Jonathon were alive but this was another Jonathon, the uncle of David.

Q): Is 9:6 interlinear has it as Father of this Future child is called. Can Yahshua be ecad as one and the same omnipresent as Yah in Heaven and earth at the same time omniscient as Yahweh Yahshua Messiah?

A) In the Hebrew it is implied that Yahshua is the originator of eternal life, that is why it states He "fathered" it. It is not saying that He is the Father in heaven, which would contradict many other scriptures clearly showing that He is the Son of Yahweh the Father, but not the Father Himself.

Q): What about the life of Yahshua not mentioned in the Bible from His age of 12 years to starting preaching the Gospel .

A) The bible does not mention about Yahshua's childhood except for the fact about when he was 12 going to Jerusalem with His parents for the feast as was their custom. It does say He grew up in Nazareth, so we know He did not travel outside of Israel. Some urban legends try to claim He went to Europe, but there is no foundation of truth in these stories.

Q):Why did John The Baptist wear unclean camel skins? I thought we are not to touch anything unclean. This question has been bugging me. Is it a mistranslation?

A) No, this is not a mistranslation in both Greek and Aramaic it clearly states that John's clothing was made out of camel hair. What one must remember is a camel does chew the cud but does not have a cloven hoof, so it is not a clean animal to eat, but it does not mean that the animal is bad or does not have a special purpose with Elohim.

Camels are pivotal to many biblical stories including Abraham sending his servant Eleazar to find a wife for Isaac by the woman who not only will give the servant water but will also water his camels (Gen 24). So there is no restriction of using a camel's hair for making clothes.

Lev 11:4 Only, you may not eat these, of those bringing up the cud, and of those dividing the hoof: the camel, though it brings up the cud, yet it does not divide the hoof; it is unclean to you; **Lev 11:8** You shall not eat of their flesh, and you shall not touch their dead body; they are unclean to you.

The restriction of not touching a dead carcass of an animal does not violate John having clothes from the camel's hair, as the animal would not have to be killed to use the hair for clothing as camels are seared such as sheep are also.

WHY WAS DAVID A MAN AFTER YAHWEH'S OWN HEART?

(REPRINT)



What special attributes did David develop that gained him such high favor with Yahweh?

“I found David, the son of Jesse, to be a man according to My own heart, who will do all My will” (Acts 13:22).

So said Yahweh of King David of ancient Israel!
What a positive evaluation!

Of all the people who have lived, Yahweh has given David a special place in His heart. We know from Scripture that King David, when resurrected, will rule over all Israel in the Kingdom of Yahweh (Jer. 30:9, Ezek. 37:24).

Have you stopped to consider why Yahweh felt this way about him? As one of Yahweh's people today, being judged now for your response to Yahweh (1 Pet. 4:17), how do you measure up to David's example? Would Yahweh be able to say that you are a man or woman after His own heart?

The biblical books of 1 and 2 Samuel cover David's life history. Saul had preceded David as king, and utterly failed by disobeying Yahweh (1 Sam. 13:13-14). Yahweh decided to replace Saul with someone else as king, and Yahweh used a

different method of selecting the next king than humans would have used. Yahweh looks on the inside, at the inner motives of the heart, at a person's attitude (1 Sam. 16:7).

He wanted Saul's replacement to measure up to high standards in inner character.

Here are several specific areas of David's character that made him especially pleasing to Yahweh- that made him a man after Yahweh's own heart.

Active faith

Even though he was but a young man when initially anointed to be king, David had already exhibited tremendous strength, wisdom and talent. He was known as a shrewd fighter. He was physically fit and poised, and an accomplished musician (1 Sam. 16:18). Soon afterward, David showed one key reason for his success in Yahweh's eyes: active, living faith.

Perhaps no Bible story is more popular than the example of David and Goliath. Here was the teenaged David – perhaps short, a lightweight,

young – who decided to go against the champion of the enemy army – a man-crushing warrior who stood more than 9 feet tall and whose armor alone weighed nearly 200 pounds!

Goliath had taunted the Israelites for some time, challenging them to provide an opponent for him. All Israel's warriors refused. But not David! David walked by faith, not sight, and he knew Yahweh could use him to defeat this enemy of His chosen people (1 Sam. 17:26, 36-37).

Without a trace of fear, and with no armor or battle garb, David stepped forward with his slingshot and – whap! - down crashed the mass of muscle, bone and armor who dared to defy the Eternal!

David was close to Yahweh. He listened to Yahweh and believed that nothing could stand against the power of Elohim. He had complete faith to overcome any seemingly insurmountable obstacle.

But it wasn't faith without effort. David was prepared. He didn't neglect the physical part he could do. He had become strong and able by protecting his father's sheep from wild animals, and he was an expert marksman after years of practice.

Still, David maintained regular contact with Yahweh and rightly gave Yahweh full credit for the victory. We today should have this same attribute of character. If we believe Yahweh, diligently study His Word, remain in prayerful contact with Him and follow as Yahweh leads through His Congregation, we can have the same kind of faith David exhibited.

Another major aspect of David's character was that he was sincerely and consistently humble. This trait was especially apparent in David's relationship with Saul.

Righteous Humility

After his incredible defeat of Goliath and the resulting adulation of all Israel, David became a member of Saul's royal court. Still, he considered himself totally unworthy to marry the king's daughter (1 Sam. 18:18, 23-24). He knew Yahweh had blessed him and he felt undeserving.

Later, after Saul had become “an enemy to David continually” because of jealousy (verse 29), David still esteemed himself as nothing more than a dead dog or a flea (1 Sam. 24:14). He honestly felt that he was too insignificant to threaten Saul's position.

Eventually, when David did become king, Yahweh made far-reaching promises to him, including the establishment of a perpetual throne, which Saul failed to qualify for. Yet David continued to reflect righteous humility: “Who am I, O Adonai YAHWEH, and what is my house, that you have brought me here?” (2 Sam. 7:18).

David felt he was not important; to him, only Yahweh's plan and purpose mattered. He served Yahweh in humility, with the mind of Messiah, with the attitude described in Philippians 2:3: “Doing nothing according to strife or self-glory, but in humility, let each regard his neighbor as better than himself.” Do you have this kind of humility?

Loyalty to Yahweh's government

David displayed another quality that anyone being trained for rulership must possess: He had complete loyalty and respect for Yahweh's government, and for the human instruments Yahweh places in the offices of that government.

Yahweh had begun to work through King Saul as His ruler over the people. Saul, caught up in a rebellious attitude, began to reject Yahweh's directions.

Immediately after anointing future King David, Yahweh sent a spirit of adversity to trouble Saul, but left Saul in office as king (1 Sam. 16:13-14). Demon-influenced Saul, crazed with envy, tried to kill David at every opportunity. Even though David served him totally and refused to fight back, Saul persisted.

David had a deep, abiding respect for whomever Yahweh had established over him, even if that person in authority were a murderous maniac. Striving only to keep his life, David never talked against Saul or failed to acknowledge Saul's authority as Yahweh's anointed.

Once, having given in to temptation to move against the king, David “cut off the tassel of

Saul's robe" (1 Sam. 24:4-5), an act that would have shamed the ruler. David felt guilty, and repented bitterly (verse 6).

All this, while Saul was on a mission to murder David!



On another occasion, David rejected an easy opportunity to take Saul's life, knowing that to do so would make him guilty of rebellion against Yahweh (1 Sam. 26:9, 11). David understood the lesson Saul missed: "For rebellion (bitterness) is as the sin of divination (sorcery); and stubbornness is both iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the Word of YAHWEH, so He has rejected you from being king" (1 Sam. 15:23).

Yahweh allowed this test to continue for David for many years after he was anointed to replace Saul. David could have rebelled and tried to take over, but he didn't. He didn't resist, and always honored Yahweh's chosen servant.

How would you have reacted if you had been in David's shoes? Would you have passed his test? How do you react today to Yahweh's chosen leaders, ministers and servants? Are you willing to be ruled now, so you can be trained to rule in Yahweh's Kingdom (Heb. 13:7, 17)?

Serene patience

Another facet of David's character, which developed along with loyalty, was patience.

David had to wait years after his anointing before he became king! And the waiting wasn't easy.

He had countless physical and spiritual trials. Only after much strife did Yahweh give him the kingdom of Israel. In waiting on Yahweh, David endured in spite of circumstances. He left his life and future in Yahweh's hands and had the patience necessary to develop righteous character. Paul explains this attitude as it applies in the lives of true disciples: "And not only so, but we glory also in afflictions, knowing that affliction works out patience, and patience works out proven character; and proven character, hope." (Rom. 5:3-4).

Faith and patience are often mentioned together in the Bible. You cannot have patience without faith. Faith is belief in Yahweh backed up with active obedience (Jac. 2:18). Patience is the serene attitude that allows you to wait on Yahweh in adverse circumstances. Patience is developed through trials like those David experienced: "Knowing that the proving of your faith works patience" (Jac. 1:3).

David knew that Yahweh would fulfill His plan for him if he patiently endured (Heb. 10:36).

How about you? Are you patiently enduring? Do you have the calm resolve that results from leaving your life in Yahweh's hands?

Zeal

Another major area of David's character involved his whole approach to Yahweh's way. He didn't do anything halfway. David always exhibited an unfeigned, wholehearted, enthusiastic devotion to Yahweh. When David served, he served all the way, in whatever was needed. He was a continual inspiration to others.

After retrieving the Ark of the Covenant from enemy armies, King David was more excited than anyone else. He dropped any courtly reserve and danced for joy in the streets of Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6:14).

Everyone knew David's enthusiasm about serving Yahweh, and it affected the whole nation. David gave himself completely to the way of Yahweh. He didn't hold back. What about us today? Yahweh tells us to develop this same kind

of wholeheartedness through drawing near to Him and exhorting one another (Heb. 10:22-24, 38).

Do you have an enthusiasm for Yahweh's Work today, a zeal that is contagious? We must not draw back or allow others to hold us back. We must give Yahweh our total involvement, as David did. Yahweh was pleased with him. How about you?

Wisdom

Not to be overlooked, another vital aspect of David's life was the wisdom he developed. From his youth, David behaved "wisely in all his ways" (1 Sam. 18:14).

David's son Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, learned about wisdom from his father, and Solomon was the source of most of the instruction now incorporated into the book of Proverbs (Prov. 4:3-5).

Wisdom, the proper application of the spirit of Yahweh's Torah in every area of life, began for David with a deep reverence for Yahweh. He feared Yahweh and set his heart and attitude to obey Him.

What about you? Do you lack spiritual wisdom? Yahweh tells us to ask, in total faith, for wisdom, and He will give it in abundance (Jac. 1:5).

Real repentance

The last spiritual characteristic David had is the most important. Without it, he would not have continued as a man after Yahweh's own heart. David practiced real repentance.

David was not perfect. Like all of us, he occasionally stumbled. But when he saw his mistakes, he always admitted he was wrong and sought Yahweh with all his heart, to go the right way.

After his adultery with Bathsheba and murder of her husband Uriah, for example, David totally repented before Yahweh. He knew he had not just committed sin. He, as a person, was wrong through and through. He repented not only of what he did, but of what he was.

In private before Yahweh, David cried out and asked that Yahweh would forgive him and restore His Spirit: "*Behold, you desire truth in the inward parts; and in the hidden parts You teach me wisdom. Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow....Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O Elohim; and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me out from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit*" (Ps. 51:6-7, 9-12).

Notice David's intent and motive. He wanted with all his heart to continue to be used by Yahweh, to be on the right track spiritually (verses 13-15).

David knew Yahweh had to clean him up in order to use him. David's motive was to give. He wanted with all his heart to help others know and obey Yahweh.

"For you do not desire sacrifice, or I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of Elohim are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O Elohim, You will not despise" (verses 16-17). David was completely broken in this attitude of deep repentance. His self was shattered. And he knew that Yahweh required this contrition for his own good.

Yahweh, who looks on the heart, forgave and forgot David's sins (2 Sam. 12:13). He only remembers the character David developed. That is why He describes David as a man after His own heart. If David had not admitted his sins and changed, Yahweh could not have said that about him.

The analysis of David in Acts 13:22, quoted at the beginning of this article, was recorded long after David died. Through faith, humility, loyalty to Yahweh's government, patience, zeal, wisdom and real repentance, David overcame his human nature, developed righteous character and qualified for a high position in Yahweh's coming Kingdom. He was a man after Yahweh's own heart.

What will Yahweh say about you?