



July- Dec 2025
The
Remnant's
Walk



**Separate the wheat
from the chaff**

Mat 3:12 whose fan is in His hand, and He will cleanse His threshing-floor and will gather His wheat into the storehouse. But He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

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

We encourage all those who consider themselves to be true believers to ask: "Which congregation do I belong to? The true faith our Savior Yahshua the Messiah set down in the year 30 CE, or the false doctrine, drenched in paganism and sun worship, as set down by Constantine in 325 CE?" The two are vastly different and we cannot serve two masters (*Matthew 6:24*).

One was a Hebrew Congregation with a Hebrew Savior that was completely Torah observant. The other was and still is a counterfeit, lawless church, sealed by the decrees of Constantine and implemented for the sole purpose of deceiving and enslaving mankind (*Revelation 12:9*). The articles contained in this publication are motivated by the Word of Truth, the Holy Scriptures, inspired by our Almighty Father Yahweh and Yahshua Messiah, His Son. Words made manifest through the power of the Holy Spirit (*2 Timothy 3:15-17*).

Some articles are reprint articles from the old Good News magazine and will say reprint. May you be blessed and grow in truth and Spirit in His wonderful name. Shalom...

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Personal

by Don Esposito

Greetings Brethren,

And shalom in the wonderful names of Yahweh and Yahshua.

We are living in one of the most amazing times in the history of mankind. On one hand the Bible says that this is the worst time the world will ever see and will have much sorrow and death.

Mat 24:21 For there will be great suffering, such as has not happened from the beginning of the world until now, no, nor ever will be.

Mat 24:22 And except those days were shortened, not any flesh would live. But on account of the chosen, those days will be shortened.

And yet to Yahweh's elect He promises the downpouring of His Spirit and an end-time work of revival that few have ever seen in the history of mankind.

Act 2:17 "And it shall be in the last days, YAHWEH says, I will pour from My Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy; and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;

Act 2:18 And also I will pour out My Spirit on My servants and hand maids in those days, and they shall prophesy.

Dan 11:32 And he will defile by flatteries those who do evil against the covenant. ***But the people who know their Elohim will be strong and will work.***

Not only has there never been a time in the history of mankind where things are so bad with so many suffering, but there has never been a time like this where so many have lost all hope and so many young people are depressed and even committing suicide.

And yet Yahweh has poured out His spirit of grace on His end-time, elect remnant and has empowered them for their jobs as His ambassadors in this end-time, restoration ministry.

2 Co 5:20 Then on behalf of Messiah, **we are ambassadors**, as Elohim is exhorting through us, we beseech on behalf of Messiah, be reconciled to YAHWEH.

What a great blessing to be called by Yahweh during this time of restoration. Yahweh has already started separating the wheat from the chaff to those who are neglecting their ministry and calling, and we want to make sure we are the ones who are overcoming and enduring until the end.

B'Shem Yahshua,

Elder Don

Separating the Wheat from the Tares

by Don Esposito



In Scripture, Yahweh uses the growing cycle to compare His true spiritual harvest from this world. This actually is a pattern of Yahweh since the Garden of Eden.

Gen 2:8 And YAHWEH Elohim planted a garden in Eden to the east; and He put the man whom He had formed there.

Gen 2:9 And out of the ground YAHWEH Elohim made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food. The Tree of Life was also in the middle of the garden, also the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Gen 2:15 And YAHWEH Elohim took the man and put him into the Garden of Eden, to work it and to keep it.

Now I am not doubting there was a real garden in Eden. However, if you look at the importance of creation and all of creation put simply into one chapter of the Bible, having every word having extreme significance, it is hard for me to imagine that the main point of creation in Genesis chapter one was for Adam to know how to grow some really good tomatoes.

No, when we find out Yahweh's pattern that does not change, we see that Yahweh is using the garden analogy to show His creation of human beings that their main purpose in life will be to bear fruit for His Kingdom, or in other words that the New Testament will make clear to bring more sons to salvation.

Mark 4 demonstrates this in the Parable of the Sower and the Seed. In the full plan of salvation Yahweh first has to clear the field and plow the ground to make it ready. Then, next, is the planting stage where the seeds go into the ground for producing fruit.

Then, you have water and fertilize the ground for it to start to produce greenery, then a small piece of grain in the ear, and then it matures to fruition with the latter rain, and is ready for harvest. When it is harvested, then the farmer must separate the wheat (grain) from the chaff (empty shell).

Mar 4:2 And He taught them many things in parables, and said to them in His teaching:

Mar 4:3 Listen! Behold, the Sower went out to sow.

Mar 4:4 And as he sowed, it happened that one indeed fell by the side of the road; and the birds of the heaven came and devoured it.

Mar 4:5 And another fell on the stony place where it did not have much earth. And it sprang up at once, due to not having deepness of earth.

Mar 4:6 And *the* sun rising, it was scorched. And through not having root, it was dried out.

Mar 4:7 And another fell into the thornbushes, and the thornbushes grew up and choked it; and it did not yield fruit.

Mar 4:8 And another fell into the good ground, and yielded fruit, going up and increasing; and one bore thirty, and one sixty, and one a hundredfold.

Mar 4:9 And He said to them, The *one* having ears to hear, let him hear.

The Purpose of the Parable

Mar 4:10 And when He was alone, those around Him, with the Twelve, asked Him as to the parable.

Mar 4:11 And He said to them, To you *it* has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of YAHWEH. But to these, those outside, all things are being *given* in parables,

Mar 4:12 that seeing they may see and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand, lest they should be converted, and the sins be forgiven to them.

Mar 4:13 And He said to them, Do you not know this parable? And how will you know all parables?

Mar 4:14 The Sower sows the Word.

Mar 4:15 And these are those by the wayside where the Word is sown. And when they hear, Satan comes at once and takes away the Word having been sown in their hearts.

Mar 4:16 And likewise, these are the ones having been sown on the rocky places, who, when they hear the Word, *they* immediately receive it with joy,

Mar 4:17 And they have no roots in themselves, rather are of a short time and when affliction happens, or persecutions because of the word, they are quickly offended.

Mar 4:18 And those which were sown into a thorny place are they who hear the word,

Mar 4:19 And the cares of the world and the deception of riches and the rest of the other lusts enter in and choke the word, and it becomes without fruit.

Mar 4:20 And these are those being sown on the good ground, who hear and welcome the Word and bring forth fruit, one thirty, and one sixty, and one a hundredfold.

So, we see the seed is the Word of Yahweh, and Yahshua explains where one plants this seed or word in the world will depend on how much fruit it will bear, or how many people will come to faith. So, just like in the book of Genesis we see that it is not tomatoes or grain that are being harvested, but people.

We are now in the time of sifting as Yahweh has already started separating the wheat from the chaff.

Let's take a look at Mathew 13 and see what Yahweh says about the very time we are living in.

Mat 13:10 And coming near, the disciples said to Him, Why do You speak to them in parables?

Mat 13:11 And answering, He said to them, Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of Heaven, but it has not been given to those.

Mat 13:12 For whoever has, to him will be given, and he will have overabundance. But whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.

Mat 13:13 Because of this, I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

Mat 13:14 And the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled on them, which says, "In hearing you will hear and in no way understand, and seeing you will see yet in no way perceive.

Mat 13:15 For hardened is the heart of this people, and with their ears they were hard of hearing, and their eyes are blinded that they should not see with their eyes and hear with their ears and should understand in their heart and return and I heal them.

Mat 13:16 But your eyes are blessed because they see; and your ears because they hear.

Mat 13:17 For truly I tell you that many prophets and righteous ones desired to see what you see and did not see, and to hear what you hear and did not hear.

First of all, when we see the above scripture, we should understand why most people, even many so-called Bible believers, do not understand the most basic truths of Scripture or end-time prophecy, because they have hardened their hearts to the Word of Yahweh and true change in their lives.

Mat 13:24 He put before them another parable, saying The kingdom of Heaven is compared to a man sowing good seed in his fields.

Mat 13:25 But while the men were sleeping, an enemy came and sowed tares in the midst of the wheat, and went away.

Mat 13:26 And when the blade sprouted and produced fruit, then the tare also appeared.

Mat 13:27 And coming near, the slaves of the house Master said to him, Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Then from where does it have the tares?

Mat 13:28 And he said to them, A man, an enemy did this. And the slaves said to him, do you desire, then, that going out we should gather them?

Mat 13:29 But he said, No, lest gathering the tares you should uproot the wheat with them.

Mat 13:30 Allow both to grow together until the harvest. And in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, First gather the tares, and bind them into bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my granary.

And what is the explanation of this most important parable?

Mat 13:36 Then sending away the crowds, Yahshua came into the house. And His disciples came to Him saying, Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field.

Mat 13:37 And answering, He said to them, The One sowing the good seed is the Son of Man.

Mat 13:38 And the field is the world; and the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; but the tares are the sons of the evil one.

Mat 13:39 And the enemy who sowed them is the Devil, and the harvest is the end of the age, and the cherubs are the reapers.

Mat 13:40 Then as the tares are gathered and are consumed in the fire, so it will be in the completion of this age.

Mat 13:41 The Son of Man will send forth His cherubs, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who practice lawlessness.

Mat 13:42 And they will throw them into the furnace of fire; there will be weeping and gnashing of the teeth.

Mat 13:43 Then the righteous will shine out like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. The one having ears to hear, let him hear.

This is a very frightening parable as it is literally saying that Satan the Devil has planted tares (false believers) among the true wheat (true believers) of Yahshua.

All of Yahshua's true remnant has at times seen people among us who were selfish, self-centered, and had very little fruits of the Spirit or real change in their lives. However, we did not want to be judgmental, so we simply tried to believe that these people were trying but would just take longer to have real change in their lives.

We didn't want to judge them as we did not want to be judged ourselves (Math 7:1-2). And in the Word of Yahweh, we just read that the Scripture said let them grow together until harvest, lest you might rip up a wheat with a tare.

This is meaning that if we started to remove these brethren who did not follow judicial order and had very little change in their lives and very little if any fruit for the Kingdom, there would have been collateral damage and other true brethren might have been offended and divisions could have occurred, which could have caused some true believers to leave and fall away.

But now in the end of days as Yahweh has been pouring out His Ruach in this second Shavuot season of prophecy, we are seeing Yahweh's Spirit coming to fruition in the body of Messiah, and we are seeing the emptiness of the tares that has had no empowering of the Ruach and no substantial change in their lives.

When the wheat and the tare starts out both are young and green, and it is very hard to tell the difference between them. However, as the wheat matures it becomes full with the liquid of the grain and then the liquid hardens into an actual kernel, just as the new believer grows and matures and his faith and understanding become weightier or shall we say wheatier, and they are more firm and not easily moved.

Then, the full grain of wheat will bow over like a true believer bowing in reference to Yahweh from the weight of the kernel in the stalk, but the tare from lack of weight or substance will stand straight up like a prideful person who is unwilling to change.

We are in the beginning of the process of Yahweh starting to separate the wheat from the chaff, and as Yahweh pours more of His Spirit out onto His end-time remnant Congregation and they are bearing more fruit and doing more good deeds, the tares are starting to stand out like a sore thumb as they have no plan of action and they are not bearing any fruit for the Kingdom.

We truly are in that great valley of decision, but that time is passing quickly. Winter is over, harvest time is coming now, and there is very little time left to change from a tare into a true, believing, wheat believer.

Do you understand where we are now in prophecy? Do you truly see all the miracles and signs that Yahweh has been giving for more than 10 years now to show us undoubtedly that we are in the end of the last days?

Are you bearing fruit for the Kingdom?

Are you a wheat or a tare? The proof is being manifested by Yahweh as you read this.

WHY THE SABBATH

REPRINT



What was the first feast kept by mankind? Immediately you might think of the first Passover celebrated by the Israelites at the time of the Exodus (Exodus 12:1-4).

But we need to go back in time even farther. Just a few hours after their creation, Adam and Eve observed this very first feast: The Sabbath! Read about it in Genesis 2:1-3: “Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day Yahweh ended His work which He had done. Then Yahweh blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He had rested from all His work which Yahweh had created and made.”

Why did Yahweh command people to keep the Sabbath (Leviticus 23:2-3)?

The Bible indicates that the Sabbath is an identifying sign (Exodus 31:13). But how does it identify? Who is identified? Why the need for anyone to be identified? Almost everyone has heard about the Sabbath. Many opinions exist about the validity of observing it on the seventh day, Saturday. Only a very few know why Yahweh gave us this day. You can be among that enlightened minority who understand the transcendent purpose of Yahweh’s Sabbath.

What Does Rest Mean?

On the seventh day of creation week, Yahweh instituted the Sabbath. “**He rested**,” we are told In Genesis 2:1-3. The Hebrew word translated, “rested” is Shabbat. Keep this in mind.

Did Yahweh rest because He was tired?

Isaiah 40:28 says that “Yahweh neither faints or is weary.” So, Yahweh didn’t rest because He was tired. This word must have another meaning.

In Isaiah 14:4, we find *Shabbat* again, this time translated as “ceased.” Now look at Exodus 31:17, where *Shabbat* also appears. The King James translation rendered it “He rested,” while the Amplified Version says, “He ceased.”

No, Yahweh didn’t rest because of tiredness. He ceased from the work of physical creation. He finished restructuring the earth and forming new life on it. He terminated the physical creation.

But does this mean Yahweh did nothing on the seventh day? Quite the contrary!

Refreshed on the Sabbath

Notice the end of Exodus 31:17: “On the Seventh day He rested and was refreshed.” This Hebrew word for “refreshed” is *naphash*. It is found only three times in the Old Testament. The other references are in II Samuel 16:14, where King David was refreshed and in Exodus 32:12, where Yahweh advised that the Israelites’ employees were to be “refreshed” on the sabbath.

Solomon Mandelkern’s Hebrew-Latin concordance gives two meanings for the word *naphash*. The first refers to respiration (as in artificial respiration) or to breathing. The second meaning is to recreate.

Yahweh established the Sabbath for: 1) ceasing from physical works and 2) accentuating spiritual recreation. In other words, Saturday is a “spiritual breather”. It is the day of divine rejuvenation and refreshment. We are to cease our mundane activities and spiritually recreate our minds in the image of Yahweh. This day refreshes us from the previous six days of the week and prepares us to face the six days ahead.

On the original Sabbath, Yahweh taught Adam and Eve how to live, how to develop holy, righteous character. He prepared them for the challenges of the upcoming week.

But when confronted with those challenges, Adam and Eve failed! We must know why.

Signs of Spiritual Creation

Yahweh ordered His people to keep the Sabbath forever as a sign that He is the creator of all things (Exodus 31:17, 20:11).

But remember the Sabbath is also a feast (Leviticus 23:2-3). Colossians 2:16-17 says the “Sabbaths...are a shadow of things to come.” In other words, they foreshadow events of the future. Hence the Sabbath is not only a sign of *past* creation, but also of *future* creation.

What is this future creation? It is no less than the creation of spirit beings with Yahweh’s own righteous character. How is our Creator bringing this about? Partly through the fourth Commandment, which tells us to cease from our worldly

works, and during the Sabbath, to create, in their stead, divine character. To become the first fruits of His creatures—Yahweh’s spiritual creation—we must cease from all filthiness and be recreated in conformity to Yahweh’s Word (Jac. 1:18).

In the all-important Sabbath covenant in Exodus 31, Yahweh clearly reinforced the point of spiritual creation in verse 13: “It [the Sabbath] is a sign...that I am Elohim who sanctifies you.”

Sanctify means to set aside for a special purpose. Even more specifically, Ephesians 5:26-27 speaks of sanctification in like with cleansing by the Word of Yahweh so that you have neither spot nor wrinkle in your character.

The Sabbath is further evidence that Yahweh is cleansing us of our worldly ways and creating His perfect character in us.

For the true believer, the Sabbath overflows with important spiritual works that help us develop divine character and to draw closer to Yahweh: extra prayer, Bible study and meditation, attending services (Hebrews 10:25), being fed by Yahweh’s ministry and fellowshiping with those of like mind.

When Yahweh thundered the Ten Commandments from Mt. Sinai, He revealed the Sabbath as a reminder that He brought Israel out of Egypt (Deuteronomy 5:15). Egypt is a type of sin (Revelation 11:8). For spiritual Israelites today, the seventh day focuses our attention on working actively in the spiritual realm of coming out of sin and

being filled more fully with Yahweh’s righteous character.

This day reminds us that we are to come out of this world (Revelation 18:4) – to separate ourselves from that which is unclean spiritually and prepare to join the family of Yahweh (II Corinthians 6:17-18).

Is the Sabbath Still in Force?

Saturday is sometimes called the “Jewish Sabbath.” But is it only the Jews who are to create divine character? Of course not. All humans fall short of the glory of Yahweh (Romans 3:23), hence all need the Sabbath. That’s why Messiah said the Sabbath was made for man (Mark 2:27).

We all need the Sabbath to grow spiritually. Even Messiah grew and learned and was made more perfect by obedience to the laws of Yahweh (Hebrews 5:8-9). Yes, the Sabbath is for all people everywhere at all times.

Some insist that Yahweh’s commandments, and particularly the Sabbath, were “nailed to the tree” at the time of the crucifixion. But just the opposite is true. Messiah’s death and resurrection were the starting point, leading to many more than ever being called to spiritual understanding and conversion (Acts 2:37-39).

After the resurrection, Yahshua said He’d always be with His followers—those who are observing and teaching Yahweh’s commandments and growing toward spiritual perfection (Mathew 28:19). Elsewhere Yahshua revealed: “Do not think that I came to destroy the law or the prophets. I did not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till

heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the Torah until all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven” (Mathew 5:17-19). The fact is, the Sabbath is *more* binding since Yahshua died than in the old Testament times.

Let’s understand. When the Holy Spirit was given on Pentecost, Yahweh established His Congregation. Since that time, He has given His called-out people the opportunity to embark on His spiritual creation process that leads to eternal life. This is the full meaning of keeping the seventh day holy.

According to the Sabbath covenant in Old Testament times, a person who willingly defiled this holy day could be put to death (Exodus 31:14). Sound cruel and harsh?

Yahweh is giving us an important warning that’s why the events of the Old Testament were recorded (Romans 15:4)! Individuals who consciously and ultimately reject Yahweh’s plan of salvation—those who will not cease from the ways of the world and who will not develop righteous character—are warned by Yahweh.

They leave Yahweh no choice but to put them in the second death in the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:14-15).

Yahweh gave His commandments to be kept. There are immense blessings if you keep them. But a frightful fate awaits you

if you don’t. Yahweh’s way is to be taken seriously.

A Sabbath Psalm

“Song for the Sabbath day” is the heading for Psalm 92. You can now begin to grasp the relevance of this extraordinary Sabbat-day message.

“Oh Elohim, how great are your works” (verse 5). These are not only the physical works of the six days of creation, but the works of the spiritual creation summed up in the Sabbath command. This Psalm reveals what the ultimate outcome of human life will be.

The wicked, having willfully rejected Yahweh’s way of life, will be destroyed forever (verse 7). This is the fulfillment of Exodus 31:14—the second death.

The righteous—those who have ceased from worldly ways and who have created within them Yahweh’s own divine character—shall flourish and be planted in the house of Yahweh (Psalm 92:12-13).

They shall be transformed into spirit beings and enter Yahweh’s temple, His family at Messiah’s second coming! “They shall bear fruit in old age” (verse 14). They will live eternally, producing and radiating in the fruits of the Holy Spirit, the traits of the holy righteous character. The Sabbath commandment demonstrates you can become a perfect, divine being!

That is why you must “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy” (Exodus 20:8).

THE FAITH ONCE AND FOR ALL DELIVERED

The New Testament book of Judah is a short but vivid account of what was happening in the first century Congregation of Yahweh. But it also contains a timely and powerful message for today's disciple!

Reprint by Robert E. Gentet

I Feel COMPELLED to make my letter to you an earnest appeal to put up a real fight for the faith which has been once and for all committed to those who belong to Yahshua (Judah 3). Many scholars believe that Judah's words were written relatively late in the first century A.D. Perhaps all of the original apostles except John were now dead. Judah's first intent was to write a letter about the common salvation given to disciples, but a newly developing situation had forced him to change his plans.

Judah had become aware of the great need to earnestly appeal to disciples to contend or fight for the faith which had been delivered to them. Apostasy was fast setting in, men were turning to error and leading away disciples after themselves. The Congregation was being divided.

What Is the Faith?

Let's note carefully the meaningful words Judah used. He was urging them to defend the original faith they had been given. Many of these people had been converted by the preaching of Yahshua's apostles. Some may have even heard Yahshua Himself. They got the truth first-hand—directly from the apostles who had obtained it from Yahshua who had faithfully delivered it from Yahweh the Father. There was no question about what the faith was. It had been faithfully given to them!

This faith, meaning in this sense the body of beliefs and practices handed down by the apostles, forms the essence of the meaning of Yahweh's Congregation. Together with the prophets, the apostolic teachings form the foundation of Yahweh's house—Yahshua Messiah being the chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:20). Any superstructure not built upon this foundation is false; it will not stand (1 Cor. 3:10-15).

So, then, the faith which must be earnestly held on to and defended is that original set of beliefs handed down by Yahshua's apostles. Paul's writings are full of warnings of false teachers who sought to mislead the people of Yahweh.

Paul was often amazed at how easy it was for the false teachers to deceive the ones he had nourished in the faith. He told the Galatians that he marveled at how soon they were removed from Yahshua's gospel and had accepted another (Gal. 1:6). The New Testament Congregation was constantly being harassed by false brethren who sought to mislead Yahweh's people.

So, we see that in just a few years the New Testament Congregation was facing great internal problems. It is no wonder that by the time Judah wrote his epistle, perhaps in the 70's or 80's, he had to urgently remind them to stand up for the truth which they had received from the apostles.

The Apostles' Teachings

But one may ask: What about us today? How can we know the truth? This world is filled with various religions, and even Christianity is divided and subdivided many times over. Upon what can we base our faith today?.

The answer is given by Paul who told his fellow minister Timothy: "All Scripture is written by inspiration of the Holy Spirit and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16).

To get back to the faith, to know and come to understand that faith, one must study the writings of the apostles and the prophets. It is the purpose of Scripture to give us insight into that original set of beliefs. Yahweh has not left us without a witness today.

If Judah were alive today, he would say the same thing to us as he did to those first-century disciples. Stick with the teachings of Scripture. Don't follow contrary ideas; don't follow falsehood (1 Cor. 3:21).

The scriptural principle is to prove all things and hold on to only that which is good (1 Thess. 5:21). It is in this vein that Judah urged: "...building yourselves up by your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of Elohim" (Judah 20). We have a personal responsibility to attend to our own salvation (see also Phil. 2:12). So then, my beloved, even as you always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much rather in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling.

Principles of Error

While Judah's writings do not give a listing of the specific false doctrines he was combating, he does give us many categories and analogies which fit such false teachers. By wisely studying the rest of the Bible, we can understand the context of Judah's statements.

Judah likens these unfaithful men to:

- 1) the unbelieving Israelites who were destroyed in the wilderness,
- 2) the evil angels who rebelled against Yahweh, and
- 3) the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah which perished because of their sexual sins (verses 5-7).

Then in verse 8 he says: "Likewise, also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, and despise authority, and speak evil of glories." Here Judah appears to reverse the order of verses 5-7. They "defile the flesh" like the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah. They despise government like the angels who rebelled against Yahweh. And they "speak evil of dignities" like those Israelites in the wilderness who continually rebelled against Moses.

So here we have three main characteristics of those who were trying to introduce error into the Congregation.

One: sexual sins. But as Yahweh views them, they are analogous to wrong relationships between His people and the world. Jacob wrote: "Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that the friendship of the world is enmity with Elohim? Whoever, then, purposes to be a friend of the world is an enemy to Elohim" (Jacob 4:4). And is it not significant that the false Christianity of this world has political intercourse with the nations of the earth?

Two: despising government. The evil angels were the first to attempt to usurp Yahweh's authority. Just as Satan tried to influence Eve to listen to him rather than Yahweh, so these false teachers tried to replace the authority of Yahweh. Judah had earlier plainly said that they "denying the only Sovereign Elohim, and our Master Yahshua Messiah" (Judah 4, last part). They set themselves up as authorities in place of Yahweh and the teachings of Yahshua.

Three: they speak evil of dignities. The wanderings of the Israelites in the wilderness are a chronicle of rebellion against Moses. In like manner, these false teachers set themselves up against the Moses of the New Testament: Yahshua Messiah. Moses himself foresaw the coming of the great Prophet of the New Testament who would be like himself (Deut. 18:15). And Peter, on the day of Pentecost, verified that Yahshua is that Moses (Acts 3:20-23).

These false teachers sought to take the place of the Rock (Yahshua—1 Corinthians 10:1-12; Deuteronomy 32). It is now Yahshua who is leading His Spirit-begotten people into the Promised Land (His Kingdom), and He is capable of doing this without fail: “Now to Him being able to keep you without stumbling, and to set you before His glory without blemish, with unspeakable joy; to the only wise Elohim, our Savior, through Yahshua Messiah our Master, be glory and majesty and might and authority, even now and forever. Amen” (Judah 24-25).

Three Examples of Error

Jude also uses three vivid examples from the Old Testament to clarify what type of individuals were worming their way into the Congregation. “Woe to them, because they went the way of Cain, and gave themselves up to the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the speaking against of Korah” (v. 11).

First: Cain. Cain is notorious for the slaying of his brother. In like manner, such false teachers are haters of the brethren and, as such, are murderers in the sight of Yahweh. The Apostle John, who lived to see the apostasy at the end of the first century, also vividly described these false teachers when he said: “Little children, let no one lead you astray...Because this is the message which you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, not as Cain who was of the evil one, and killed his brother. And for what did he kill him? Because his works were evil, but those of his brother were righteous. We know that we have passed from death to life because we love the brethren. The one not loving his brother remains in death. Everyone hating his brother is a murderer, and you know that every murderer does not have everlasting life abiding in him” (1 John 3:7, 11-12, 14-15).

By their false doctrine these false teachers were dividing the Congregation. And the true disciples were put out by the visible disciples and the visible congregation persecuted Yahweh’s people. Already in the days of the Apostle John, at the end of the first century, an apparent elder by the name of Diotrephes cast out of the Congregation any of his people who would have fellowship with the disciples of John (3 John 9-10). This trend continued and eventually many were following the errorists (2 Pet. 2:1-2).

Second: Balaam. The King of Moab hired the prophet Balaam to pronounce a curse upon the Israelites (Num. 22-24). Balaam lusted after the great wealth that the king wanted to give him if he would but curse Israel. Although Yahweh used him to utter inspired prophecy, Balaam led the Israelites into sexual sin and was later killed (Numbers 31:8, 16). In like manner, these false men of the New Testament were after the money of the disciples for their own gain. Peter said they, like Balaam, “loved the wages of unrighteousness” (2 Pet. 2:15). Yahweh’s true ministers serve because they love the people.

Three: Korah. Korah was jealous of Moses and sought to usurp his leadership (Num. 16). In the same way, these false ministers sought to usurp the leadership of the New Testament Moses: Yahshua Messiah. The Scriptures continually point out how Yahshua—and not any man—is the head of His Congregation. We read that “and ‘He put all things under His feet’ and gave Him to be Head over all things to the Congregation, which is His body: the fullness of the One filling all things and everything” (Eph. 1:22-23).

And later Paul also says: “so that we may no longer be children, being blown and carried about by every wind of false doctrine of men, who through their craftiness are very skillful in deceiving the people but speaking the truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, the Messiah, it is through Him that the whole body is closely framed together and united at all joints, according to the gift that is imparted by measure to each member, for the guidance and control of the body; in order to complete the edifying of the body in love” (Eph. 4:14-16).

How great a contrast to these false teachings which would enslave men to men! Like Korah of old, these men set themselves up as equals of the New Testament Moses—Yahshua Messiah. But this Moses Himself prophesied of them: “Many will say to Me in that day, Master, Master, did we not

prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name do many works of power? And then I will declare to them, from everlasting, I never knew you; 'depart from Me, those working lawlessness'" (Matt. 7:22-23). The 1900 years since the writing of Judah has seen the apostasy grow and overwhelm the world. Many of the original teachings of Yahshua and the apostles have been forgotten in a parade of man-originated customs and doctrines.

Now is the time to return to the faith which was truly once and for all delivered by Yahshua and the apostles. And the only true remedy is a sincere and willing heart coupled with a diligent searching of the Scriptures to see whether these things be so.

In the final book of the Bible, Yahshua is pictured as standing in the midst of the seven candlesticks (Rev. 1:13). So, we would be sure to understand, Yahshua interprets the meaning of the candlesticks for us in verse 20. They represent the seven congregations of Revelation 2 and 3.

It is to these seven congregations that the message of Revelation is addressed. In the time of the Apostle John, these seven congregations existed in the Roman province of Asia (now Asia Minor in western Turkey). And to these congregations—and to future disciples—Yahshua addressed some dire warnings.

Taken as literally applying to the seven extant congregations at the time of John, we can only draw the conclusion that many were already showing growing signs of corruption and apostasy. But taken in the future sense, it bears a warning to disciples today to be alert and hear what Yahshua inspired John to write to the seven congregations.

And in this connection, note *the manner* in which Yahshua appeared in the midst of the seven candlesticks: "And the hairs of His head were white as white wool, as snow, and His eyes as a flame of fire; and His feet like burnished brass having been fired in a furnace; and His voice as a sound of many waters; and having in His right hand seven stars; and a sharp, two-edged sword proceeding out of His mouth, and His face shining as the sun in all its power" (Rev 1:14-16).

It is an Elohim of power and might who stands in the midst of His congregations. Risen from the dead, alive forever more, Ruler of the kings of the earth, from whose mouth issues a sharp two-edged sword! Such a graphic description of Yahshua was surely meant to inspire faith in His leadership, and by implication is a warning against those who would follow false doctrine and apostasy.

But in spite of problems, we need not fail if we will but put our trust and hope in our Leader, the Moses of our exodus out of sin and into the Kingdom of Yahweh: Yahshua Messiah. And "Moses as a servant was faithful in all his house,' for a testimony of the things having been spoken; but Messiah as Son over His own house, whose house we are, if truly we hold fast the boldness and rejoicing of the hope firm to the end..."

"Beware, therefore, my brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart which does not believe, and you will be cutoff from the living Elohim. But search your hearts each day, until the day which is called 'the day,' that not anyone of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin..."

"Therefore, let us strive to enter into that rest, that not anyone fall in the same example of disobedience. For the Word of Yahweh is living, and powerfully working, and sharper than every two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of both soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow and bones, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight; but all things are naked and laid open to His eyes, with whom we are to answer" (Heb. 3:5-6, 12-13; 4:11-13).

It is this two-edged sword of His written Word which is still with us today, ready to weed out error in doctrine and to reset our direction. It is the only means whereby we can know, and be sure that we know, the faith which was once and for all delivered to Yahweh's people.

Shavuot

A CELEBRATION OF GROWTH!

The Third of Elohim's seven annual festivals points to our unique chance to be in the coming early harvest of humans in Yahweh's Family.



by George M. Kackos

What a beautiful sight! A golden field of wheat, swaying in the gentle breeze of a sunny, summer day. Like a magnificent carpet, it stretched across the landscape, captivating my attention.

Later a huge combine rumbled through it, reaping a bounteous harvest.

The sight of that field of wheat was a reminder that the midwestern states and provinces are the breadbasket of the United States and Canada.

It was also a reminder of a harvest festival that Elohim commands true disciples to observe.

The Feast of Harvest

When Yahweh called Israel out of Egypt, He gave the people seven festivals to observe in the Promised Land so they would come to know and fear Him. Among those festivals was the Feast of Harvest or Weeks (Exodus 23:16, Deuteronomy 16:9-10, 16). In the New Testament, this one-day Festival is called Shavuot and in the Greek, *Pentecost*, meaning "fiftieth."

Grain was planted in the fall, then harvested in the spring, beginning with the wave sheaf offering during the Days of Unleavened Bread. Fifty days later they celebrated the Feast of Harvest, as we read in Leviticus 23:9-16, 21.

Everyone would gather at the Tabernacle for sacrifices. Two loaves of bread were waved before YAHWEH; these loaves were called *first fruits* because of their symbolic link to another harvest festival, the Feast of Ingathering or Tabernacles, held in the fall (Exodus 23:16, Leviticus 23:34).

Meaning for Us

For Israel, the Feast of Harvest, or what we now commonly call Shavuot, was very important. Without a good harvest the nation could face food shortages, whereas an abundant harvest

meant sufficient bread. Since Yahweh controlled their agricultural blessings, this Feast revealed Yahweh's blessings or curses upon them. It showed whether they were living in obedience to the covenant they had made with Yahweh.

For us as disciples, the Festival of Shavuot takes on far greater meaning than agricultural blessings. It points to our ultimate purpose in life—to our potential to be born into Yahweh's Kingdom! It reveals to us what we must do to be harvested as members of Yahweh's Family.

How do we know? What proof shows that this millennia-old harvest festival points to our future destiny? Let's notice Yahshua's Parable of the Tares. Here Yahshua draws an analogy between harvesting and our entrance into Yahweh's Kingdom:

"He put before them another parable, saying The Kingdom of Heaven is compared to a man sowing good seed in his fields. But while the men were sleeping, an enemy came and sowed tares in the midst of the wheat, and went away. And when the blade sprouted and produced fruit, then the tare also appeared. And coming near, the slaves of the house Master said to him, Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Then from where does it have the tares?

And he said to them, A man, an enemy did this. And the slaves said to him, do you desire, then, that going out we should gather them?

But he said, No, lest gathering the tares you should uproot the wheat with them.

Allow both to grow together until the harvest. And in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, First gather the tares, and bind them into bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my granary" (Matthew 13:24-30).

In the Parable of the Sower, Yahshua compares Yahweh's Kingdom to planting and harvesting (verses 1-23).

And Matthew 9:37-38 says: "Then He said to His disciples, The harvest truly is great, but the workers few. Pray then that The Master of the harvest may send out workers into His harvest."

Yahshua's symbolism in these passages is clear: He is talking about the "harvest" of humans into the Family of Yahweh!

That spiritual harvest begins with the first resurrection, at Yahshua's Second coming.

Now understand the spiritual significance of Shavuot. Let's see what this Feast, which Yahweh gave to reveal part of His overall master plan, pictures for us.

As we've seen, the wave sheaf offering began the late spring/early summer harvest leading to Shavuot. But exactly how does the Feast of Shavuot relate to Yahweh's plan of salvation?

Spiritual Symbolism

The wave sheaf offering in the Old Testament is connected with Yahshua's resurrection in the New Testament (compare Leviticus 23:10-11 with Matthew 28:1-6). It symbolized Yahshua's acceptance in heaven by Yahweh the Father after being raised from the dead (John 20:16-17).

Yahshua's resurrection makes possible the harvesting, or resurrecting, of humans into Yahweh's Kingdom at Yahshua's Second Coming!

As Romans 5:9-10 tells us: "Much more then, being justified now by His blood, we shall be delivered from wrath through Him.

For if while being enemies we were reconciled to Elohim through the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."

What about the two loaves of leavened bread that were offered on Shavuot? What do they represent?

Leaven is a type of sin. Sinners whose transgressions against Yahweh's law are covered by Yahshua's blood (Hebrews 9:12,15) will be harvested into Yahweh's Kingdom. This "corruptible" putting on "incorruption" is described in 1 Corinthians 15:50-53.

The two loaves represent those people brought to salvation from both the Old and New Testament periods.

As Jacob 1:18 says, “It is He who begot us from His own will, by the Word of truth, that we should be *the first-fruits* of His creatures.” But what is needed for us to become first fruits? What does it take to enter Yahweh’s Kingdom?

What is Needed?

Grain requires four major ingredients to grow to maturity and produce a crop—seeds, soil, sunlight and water. By analogy, we also require four major ingredients to enter Yahweh’s Kingdom. Let’s consider each one:

- *Yahweh’s calling.* No grain can develop unless seeds are planted. The same is true for us spiritually. Unless Yahweh calls us—plants the seeds of truth in our minds—we can’t understand Yahweh’s truth and begin to grow toward changing our sinful human nature. We must ultimately develop Yahweh’s own holy, righteous character.

Yahshua made it clear: “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” (John 6:44).

Right here is the point that most congregations today totally miss!

Yahweh’s calling in this age is limited to a comparative few who must grow in the adverse conditions of this world. The vast majority are deceived by Satan (Revelation 12:9). They are not being called now!

Yahweh has not yet begun to try to save most of the world.

Most of the world does not keep Shavuot. Therefore, they miss this central point in Yahweh’s plan of salvation!

Shavuot, or the Feast of First fruits, occurred at the time of the smaller harvest in Israel, in late spring/early summer. The much larger, later harvest, in the fall, is pictured by Yahweh’s seventh annual festival, the Feast of Ingathering.

- *Yahweh’s Law.* For seeds to grow to maturity, they must be planted in soil. For a disciple that soil is an *obedient mind* that obeys Yahweh’s law. Yahshua stated, “And He said to him, Why do you call Me good? No one is good except One, YAHWEH! But if you desire to enter into life, keep the commandments” (Matthew 19:17).

“The one saying, ‘I have known Him,’ and not keeping His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in that one,” reveals 1 John 2:4.

Like a seed that sprouts apart from life-giving soil, humans who live in disobedience to Yahweh’s laws will never reach spiritual maturity.

- *Yahshua Messiah.* Without light, the grain cannot grow. The same is true for us. Without the true light, Yahshua Messiah, we are lost in darkness and live in deception and sin: “Then Yahshua again spoke to them, saying, I am the Light of the world. The one following Me will in no way walk in the darkness but will have the light of life” (John 8:12).

Through Yahshua we have access to Yahweh the Father, the right way of life and forgiveness of our sins. Without these elements, we cannot grow to spiritual maturity.

- *The Holy Spirit.* Grain needs water. It is a matter of life and death. For disciples, living water—YAHWEH’s Holy Spirit—(John 7:37-39) is also a life-and-death matter. Romans 8:6 says, “To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.” The Holy Spirit gives us the power to obey Yahweh’s law, and it is the power by which Yahweh will place us in His immortal, spirit-composed Family (verses 4, 11).

“So that the righteous demand of the Torah might be fulfilled in us, those not walking according to flesh, but according to Spirit” (Romans 8:4).

“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” (Romans 8:11).

But first we must receive Yahweh's Spirit. This requires real repentance and true baptism. People in religious circles talk a lot about these important steps in conversion, but millions are still deceived. You needn't be.

On Pentecost, in the New Testament, YAHWEH gave the Holy Spirit to His true Congregation. We must receive that spirit to become members of Yahshua's spiritual Body. Without it, we cannot be true disciples: "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" (Romans 8:9).

Once harvested, what does the future hold for us? What purpose will we serve in Yahweh's Family? Will we simply serve ourselves?

The Purpose of First Fruits

Consider the analogy of grain. Is it harvested for its own benefit? No! It serves a far greater purpose—providing vital sustenance for the human family.

The same is true for us as first fruits. We are destined to serve the human family as kings and priests in Yahweh's Family (Revelation 5:10).

We provide others with the sustenance of Yahweh's Word and way during the Millennium—the first thousand years of Yahweh's Kingdom on earth. This will lead to their spiritual maturity and entrance into Yahweh's Kingdom.

We celebrate this time in advance by keeping the Feast of Ingathering or Tabernacles (Exodus 23:16, Leviticus 23:34). Through this fall, harvest Festival, we picture the first fruits of Yahweh's Kingdom helping produce an abundant harvest among humans.

Next comes the Great White Throne Judgment period, when those who were not called during the 6,000 years of man's life on earth apart from Yahweh are resurrected to physical life.

"And they lived and reigned with Messiah a thousand years. This is the first resurrection..."

"And I saw a Great White Throne, and the One sitting on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled; and a place was not found for them. And I saw the dead, the small and the great, standing before YAHWEH. And books were opened. And another Book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged out of the things written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead in it. And death and the grave gave up the dead in them. And they were each judged according to their works.

"And death and the grave were thrown into the Lake of Fire. This is the second death. And if anyone was not found having been written in the Book of Life, he was thrown into the Lake of Fire" (Revelation 20:5, 11-15).

The day after the Feast of Ingathering, or the "eighth day," celebrates this time (Leviticus 23:39). In the New Testament Congregation, it came to be called the Last Great Day (John 7:37).

Appreciate Your Calling

Just as I enjoyed viewing that beautiful field of golden wheat, Yahweh enjoys viewing us—His special, begotten first fruits. He enjoys seeing us mature toward the harvest, proclaiming His way of life to the world.

1 Peter 2:9 tell us: "But you are an elect race, a royal priesthood; a holy people, and a people for possession; that you should proclaim the praises of him who called you out of darkness to His precious light."

This is why we must deeply appreciate our calling. We must take it seriously. We must diligently commit ourselves to the difficult task of obeying Yahweh and overcoming ourselves, the world and Satan.

We must eagerly look forward to that day when the Master of the harvest returns to gather the fruits of His labors by resurrecting His faithful people into membership in Yahweh's Family!

Why You Need the 'Other Helper'

*We ought to appreciate much more this
great gift from Yahweh!*

by Clayton D. Steep

What if Yahshua were still on earth today as He was nearly 2,000 years ago?

What if you lived near Him, saw Him frequently, had personal contact with Him? Wouldn't your life as a disciple seem a lot easier?

Have a tough decision to make? Next time you see Yahshua you could ask His counsel. Down cast? Just being with Yahshua would inspire you. Sick? Yahshua could speak the word and you would be well. Puzzled about some verse in the Scriptures? Yahshua could explain it. Have some other problem? Yahshua would be right there.

All this from a Savior you could see and touch, as well as hear and talk to.

Yes, some may wish it were that way now.

But it is not. Instead, Yahshua has left the earth. "I leave the world and go to the Father," He announced at the close of His ministry as a human (John 16:28). "But now I am going to Him who sent Me. And not one of you asks Me, where are You going?" He declared (verse 5).

He is gone. We now worship and serve YAHWEH who is not visible to us.

When we finish praying to Him, there is silence. We may have to wait for an answer to our prayers—perhaps even wait for a long time. We may be tempted to doubt whether our prayers have been heard, whether Yahweh cares, whether He still intervenes today, whether this, whether that.

All this tests our faith in a way it could not be tested if Yahshua were bodily here among us. All this is for a purpose.

This first chapter of Acts describes how Yahshua ascended up into heaven, leaving His disciples—His Congregation—behind. He had told them, "I go to My Father and you see Me no more" (verse 10).

Too bad for us? To the contrary! We are better off. Yahshua Himself said so!

Read it in verse 7. Yahshua told His disciples, "And He said to them, it is not yours to know times or seasons which the Father placed in His own authority."

Our advantage? What did He mean by that? How could it be to our advantage that He left? Read on: "For if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send it to you."

What is this "Helper" and why is it to our advantage that Yahshua went away to send it to us?

What the Other Helper Is

When He was here on earth, Yahshua was a limitless source of strength, inspiration, and instruction to those who were with Him daily. He was a true Helper to them in every sense of the word.

Be He dwelt with them only a short while, after which He declared, “Indeed, I tell you truly, the one believing into Me, the works which I do, that one shall do also, and greater than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And I will petition the Father, and He will give you another one which will end the curse, that He may remain with you forever” (John 14:12, 16).

This other helper, which remains forever with converted disciples, is the Holy Spirit—the “Spirit of truth” (verse 17). It is the means by which Yahweh is able to be in one place and exercise His power, influence and omniscience anywhere else, no matter what the distance from Him.

Before Yahshua left, He told His disciples “Not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father” (Acts 1:4). That was another reference to the Holy Spirit, which Yahshua would go to heaven to receive from the Father so He could send it to His disciples.

The momentous occasion when the Holy Spirit was sent was the day of Pentecost in A.D. 30. For the first time, the Holy Spirit was made available to more than a few individuals.

Accompanied by miraculous signs, its arrival inaugurated the New Testament Congregation age (Acts 2). Peter explained to the assembled crowd witnessing this marvel that Yahshua, “Then being exalted to the right of YAHWEH, and receiving the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, He poured out this which you now see and hear” (verse 33).

How Yahweh Can Be with Us Now

Yahshua did not desert His followers. He didn’t forsake them. Not at all. He told them, “I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20).

“I will not leave you orphans; I am coming to you.” “Yet a little while and the world no longer sees Me, but you see Me. Because I live, you also shall live” (John 14:18-19).

Further, Yahshua stated that if a person truly loves and obeys Him, “He that has My commandments and keeps them, it is that one who loves Me; and the one that loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I shall love him and will reveal Myself to him” (verse 21), and both Yahshua and the Father “Yahshua answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word, and My Father shall love him. And We will come to him and will make a dwelling place with him” (verse 23).

How are we to understand this? Didn’t Yahshua say in this same discourse that He was leaving and that His disciples would see Him no longer (John 16:10)?

Yahshua explained in John 14:25-26: “I have spoken these things to you, abiding with you; But the Redeemer, the Holy Spirit, whom my Father will send in My name will teach you everything. And it will remind you of everything that I said to you.”

That is the answer! It is through the Holy Spirit—the other helper—that Yahweh is now with us. We see Him not with our physical eyesight, but with the eye of faith.

The Apostle Paul referred to this truth when he wrote that being “absent from our Master;” as we now are, “we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:6-7).

But we have to build that faith. We have to seek Yahweh daily. We have to study His Word. We have to spend sufficient time in prayer. We must resist Satan, defeat doubt, overcome ourselves and the world, keep our minds centered on Yahweh. The discipleship life is a struggle, especially in today’s world. We need all the help we can get!

A Different Mind

We have all been ruled by our natural minds. The human mind, which the Bible sometimes refers to as the “heart” is subject to selfish desires and passions.

It is in these minds of ours that we make decisions and determine courses of action. Our physical bodies just act or react accordingly. Yahweh is not interested in eternally saving our mortal bodies. Salvation centers around the mind, the human spirit. Once that is in order, Yahweh can supply an immortal, spirit-composed body in a resurrection.

The capacity of the human mind to make decisions and judgments is called free moral agency. It is a Yahweh-given ability that every person has. The crucial question is, though, by which guidelines or standards do we make our decisions? On what do we base them? Feelings? Prejudices? Lusts? Peer pressure? Or, on the other hand, Yahweh's laws?

This is why you need the Holy Spirit. Your natural mind must give way to a spiritual mind. You must be "transformed [converted—how?] by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2).

"For to be carnally minded [which we all have been] is death, but to be spiritually minded [which we must become] is life and peace" (Romans 8:6).

At the beginning of our conversion, Yahweh begets our minds with His holy spirit, and we begin to grow into a new creation.

A converted person actually has two minds: the natural, fleshly mind and the spiritual mind. These two are in constant conflict with each other (Galatians 5:17). We are supposed to be subduing, stamping out, putting to death the carnal mind (Colossians 3:5, Galatians 5:24) and letting the spiritual mind flourish, increase and grow.

"For think this within you, which mind was also in Messiah Yahshua," Paul urged (Philippians 2:5).

We can't accomplish this on our own. We need the "constant supply of the Spirit of Yahshua Messiah" (Philippians 1:9). This is the helper He promised, through which He lives in us (1 John 3:24).

Yahshua in Us

As one person here on earth, Yahshua could directly influence only those immediately around Him. And even those, His disciples, with whom He had continual contact for 3 ½ years were, at the end of those years, still unconverted.

Why? He was in their midst. True. But He was not *in them!* And that makes all the difference. For you to receive salvation, Yahshua must be formed in you (Galatians 4:19). "Yahshua in you [is] the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27).

The Holy Spirit is not separate from Yahweh. It is part of Yahweh (2 Corinthians 3:17). That is how Yahshua, while still in heaven, "absent" from us, can come and dwell in humans anywhere on earth, through the Holy Spirit, changing them, converting them. If you have the Holy Spirit, Yahweh is working in you.

Paul wrote to the Ephesians that Yahweh wanted them "by His power to become mighty in the inward man through His Spirit, that through faith Messiah may dwell in your hearts, having been rooted and founded in love...that you may be filled to all the fullness of Elohim" (Ephesians 3:16-19).

To be filled with all the fullness of Yahweh should be the goal of every believer. It doesn't happen all at once. It is a process. We should be striving to reach "the measure of the stature of the fullness of Yahshua" (Ephesians 4:13).

Those who are yielding to Yahshua Messiah, letting Him direct their decision-making processes, allowing His mind to replace their own natural mind, "we shall all be transformed into the same likeness, from one glory to another, just as the Spirit comes from YAHWEH" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

By the end of this physical life, Yahshua's character will be formed in them so that in the resurrection they can be given a spiritual body and become members of the Yahweh Family (1 John 3:2).

Taking on the Divine Nature

The "works of the flesh," listed in Galatians 5:19-21, make up the carnal mind that all humans have to one degree or another. No part of that mind will carry over into eternity. Only that in us that reflects the fruit of the Spirit (verses 22-23) is going to live forever.

It behooves us, therefore, to become as filled with the fruit of the Spirit as we possibly can during this brief existence.

We need to put forth more effort to be "partakers of the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4). Consider the characteristics of the divine nature mentioned in verses 5-7: "faith, virtue, and with virtue knowledge, and with the knowledge self-control, and with the self-control patience, and with the patience holiness, and with the holiness brotherly kindness, and with brotherly kindness, love." To what degree are these characteristics in you?

Seek them. Strive for them. Study and pray to attain them. Let Yahshua Messiah, through the other helper, come and live in you, filling you with these eternal, Yahweh-like traits.

"For these things being in you, and abounding, they will make you never to be useless or unfruitful in the full knowledge of our Master Yahshua Messiah." You will, instead, be prepared to receive immortality!

For the one in whom these things are not present is blind, being shortsighted...Therefore, brothers, rather be diligent to make your calling and election sure... for so will be richly furnished to you the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Master and Savior, Yahshua Messiah" (verses 8-11).

The Precious Gift

The Holy Spirit is not just a sentiment or a vague spiritual analogy. It is a literal, all-powerful force—a part of Yahweh. Consider just some of the advantages that are ours through this precious gift Yahshua sends us from the Father:

The Holy Spirit begets us, making us Yahweh's children (Romans 8:15). It gives us access to the Father (Ephesians 2:18). It increases the effectiveness of our prayers (Romans 8:26, Ephesians 6:18).

It gives us wisdom, knowledge and understanding (Ephesians 1:17, Isaiah 11:2). It imparts to us power, love and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7). It helps us obey Yahweh's laws (Ezekiel 36:27). It fills us with the fruit of righteousness (Galatians 5:22-23).

When we are going through our heaviest trials, we can know that Yahweh is right there by our side. Through the Holy Spirit, Yahweh is "a very present help in trouble" (Psalms 46:1).

Yes, it is true that we do not now see and hear Yahshua with our physical senses. We do not have Him dwelling bodily with us. We are now absent from Him. We in this congregational age have a unique opportunity to build faith. People in the world tomorrow, after Yahshua has returned, will not have this same chance.

When it gets right down to it, whether or not we now have direct physical access to Yahshua is not what matters. What is important is that His Spirit is living within us!

Be thankful for your calling in Yahshua, and for the other helper, given to you as a guarantee that you can make it into Yahweh's Kingdom (verse 4-5).

Strengthen Your Defenses



Whatever your weakness is, that is where Satan will attack you. Do you know how to resist?

by John Siston

Could you, do it? Imagine yourself as the leader of an army. Your mission is a most difficult one: You are to capture the capital city of the greatest nation on earth!

You face imposing obstacles. The city is surrounded by a wall 300 feet high and 80 feet thick. Inside the main wall is a second wall surrounded by a deep moat. The walls even extend 30 feet underground. Two hundred fifty guard towers line the circumference of the main wall. Enough food is stored inside to withstand a siege of many years.

It seems impenetrable.

Could such a fortress be captured? History shows us the answer. The city is Babylon. The leader given the job of conquering it, Cyrus the Great.

Babylon's Fatal Weakness

Herodotus tells us the Euphrates River flowed through the city. Metal gates stood right in the river. These gates, combined with the swift current of the river, made access impossible.

But Cyrus ingeniously overcame this barrier. He diverted the flow of the river so that it was low enough for men to walk in. His Persian troops were then able to breach the unsecured gates, take the Babylonians by surprise and capture the city.

Cyrus found the city's weakness.

Locating weaknesses is a common tactic in military strategy. Once found, these weaknesses are exploited to vanquish the enemy.

No one knows how to use this principle better than Satan the Devil. The Bible even describes Satan as the one who "weakened the nations" (Isaiah 14:12). He has used weakness in subtle and devious ways to destroy people throughout history.

Overcome by Weakness

Because he gave in to sexual temptation (Genesis 49:3-4), Jacob's firstborn son, Reuben, was disqualified from receiving the birthright promises. The desire for multiple liaisons with different women was the downfall of mighty Samson and wise King Solomon (Judges 14:1-3, 17-18, 16:1, 4, 6, 18-21, 1 Kings 11:1-4).

Korah's desire for power cost him his own life and the lives of many of Israel's leaders (Numbers 16:1-3, 32), while Saul lost his kingship over Israel because of his fear and lack of faith in Yahweh (1 Samuel 15:24-26).

In the New Testament Congregation, Ananias and Sapphira's greed and desire to be looked up to by their fellow congregation members were the death of them (Acts 5:1-10). Diotrefes' desire for preeminence caused havoc in the Congregation near the end of the first century (3 John 9-10).

In short, yielding to weakness causes misery and unhappiness. The eventual penalty of succumbing to weakness is the loss of blessings, the loss of character and, most serious of all, the loss of contact with Yahweh.

Unfortunately, the members of Yahweh's Congregation are still not exempt from weaknesses 19 centuries later.

Yahweh's people have been called from many walks of life and from all kinds of situations. They bring with them weaknesses they have acquired in their former lifestyles. It is these very weaknesses that Satan continually uses in his attempt to destroy.

Paul identifies some prominent weaknesses that have ensnared mankind:

"Now the works of the flesh are clearly revealed, which are: adultery, impurity, uncleanness, lustfulness, idolatry, witchcraft, enmity, fighting, jealousies, anger, rivalries, stubbornness, divisions, heresies, envying, murders, drunkenness, reveling, and things like these; of which I tell you beforehand" (Galatians 5:19-21).

Quite an array of pitfalls that Satan uses to waylay mankind!

What about you? What is the big weakness that Satan could use to drive you from Yahweh? Sex? Alcohol? A loose tongue? Vanity? Selfishness? Your temper? Bitterness? Fear? Persecution? Whatever it is, you must identify it.

Herodotus mentions that if at any time the people of Babylon had noticed the water level receding in the river and discovered what Cyrus was trying to do, they could have taken measures to prevent their city from being captured.

We, too must identify our crucial weaknesses. Once we do, these weaknesses must be overcome and eliminated. Paul goes on to tell us why: "As I also said before, that the ones practicing such things will not inherit the kingdom of Elohim" (Verse 21).

In Matthew 5:29-30, Yahshua Messiah reveals how we are to home in on our specific problems:

"But if your right eye offends you, take it out and throw it from you, for it is profitable to you that one of your members should perish and all your body not be thrown into Hell. And if your right hand causes you to offend, cut it off and throw it from you, for it is profitable to you that one of your members should perish and all your body not be thrown into Hell."

Yahshua is not telling us to physically maim ourselves. But He is telling us to actively and vigorously eliminate any problem or weakness that can cause us to lose out on eternal life.

And Yahshua understands that the expelling of some deeply rooted flaw or weakness from our character could be just as traumatic for us as the loss of an eye or hand would be!

It will take a fair amount of effort, work and pain. It may involve changing physical and mental habits. And it most certainly will include strong resolves and help from Yahweh.

But whatever it takes, you must do it. Your spiritual salvation is at stake!

You Will Be Tested

The examples above illustrate another important point. If you are weak in a certain area, the time will most certainly come when you *will* be tested in that area. Yahweh must know how well you have strengthened yourself against attacks from Satan, the world or your own human nature.

"The work of each will be revealed; for the Day will make it known, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire will prove the work of each, what sort it is," says 1 Corinthians 3:13.

We cannot deceive ourselves into thinking we can put off tackling our weak spots. Otherwise, our enemy the devil will gain a foothold and destroy us (1 Peter 5:8). He is constantly looking for weak members he may devour.

How Yahshua Resisted

Even Yahshua Messiah "was in all points tempted as we are" (Hebrews 4:15). There were times when Satan viciously attacked Yahshua. Satan knew the best time and the best way to do it. Yet Yahshua remained "without sin."

Satan attacked Yahshua, especially, at Yahshua's crucifixion. Another time was at the beginning of His ministry, right after Yahshua had fasted for 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness. Satan was most insidious in this offensive. He repeatedly assaulted potential weak spots in Yahshua.

First, Satan tried to provoke Yahshua by appealing to the sin of vanity. Notice his inciting language: "If You are the Son of Elohim..." (Matthew 4:3,6).

By this time Yahshua must have been ravenous. Yahshua could have allowed Himself to lash back at Satan and show him that He certainly *was* the Son of Elohim who had all power. But if

He had, He would have sinned by obeying Satan. Yahshua did not succumb to this ploy but referred to Scripture to deflect Satan's line of reasoning (verse 4).

Satan's second attack was even more subtle and devious. Yahshua had refuted the previous temptation by proclaiming His trust in Yahweh the Father. Now the Devil used this very premise as the basis for his next onslaught.

Satan dared Yahshua, "If You are the Son of Elohim [*if* you really do trust Yahweh], throw Yourself down [off a precipice of the Temple]," because Scripture said Yahweh would protect Him (verses 5-6).

As subtle as this deception was, Yahshua, with Yahweh the Father's help, was able to see through it. Satan twisted a passage of Scripture (Psalm 91:11) to try to seduce Yahshua. But Yahshua realized the proper context of the verse. He made it clear to Satan that no one, even the Son of Yahweh, can force Elohim to protect him if he purposely places himself in jeopardy (Matthew 4:7).

Finally, Satan offered to give Yahshua all the kingdoms of the world if Yahshua would worship him (verses 8-9). Think of how powerful a temptation this really was. Yahshua was seemingly being given the option to bypass His human suffering and crucifixion. Not only that, He was being offered the chance to rule the world 2,000 years earlier than Yahweh the Father had ordained.

Think of what this meant to Yahshua. Two thousand years of pain, agony and evil could be prevented from ever occurring on earth—the Kingdom of Yahweh could be set up two millennia sooner! What an attractive enticement for Yahshua Messiah. But Yahshua was not fooled. His spiritual defenses were strong enough to withstand this brutal bombardment from Satan. He banished Satan from His presence (verses 10-11).

Yahshua was not defeated when His time came to be tested. On the contrary, He was made stronger by the experience (Hebrews 5:8-9). He qualified to replace Satan as the ruler of this world.

Satan knows exactly where to attack us. But with Yahweh's help, we can fend those attacks off and strengthen our weak spots. Yahshua Messiah and other heroes of faith attest to this fact.

You can overcome your weaknesses, with the help of Yahweh. Write for a free copy of our article "How to Be an Overcomer."

Remember this: Yahweh allows Satan's attacks on a disciple's defenses for a good reason. He is training His people to be like Him and eventually rule with Him. He cannot allow a crucial weakness to remain in a person's character. The holy character Yahweh wants will be without weaknesses of any kind.

So, the spiritual fortresses that Yahweh eventually will create (that's us!) will never be able to be overthrown. We will be composed of perfect spiritual character that will last for all eternity!

Ask the Amish is a section in the Remnant's Walk with reprint articles and letters from the Amish community from a publication called "*Family Life*," which started back in 1967. Some original authors are listed in the publication, some are not. If there is an author listed, they would be listed at the end of the article with an original publishing date. Some Amish choose not to put their names on articles they write.



Baptism

Is it Merely Joining the Church?

Why would anyone want to join the church without being truly converted? [I would hear various comments.] "My friends are joining the church, so I want to also."

"I'm grown up, and my parents and relatives keep bothering me until I do. Then when I have joined the church, the pressure will be off, and I can do more as I please. "My parents want me to be baptized, so that if anything happens to me, I can go to heaven. I don't want to go to hell, so I better join the church, and then everybody will feel better."

When I was taking instructions for baptism, there were several in my group who were not permitted to date until they were baptized. On the evening of the day of their baptism, all of them dated. How sad that they should cast a dark shadow of suspicion upon their motives for being baptized.

Applicants for baptism have been seen coming for instruction dressed in immodest clothes and wearing unbecoming hairdos. Yet they claimed they were saying no to the world.

When such things are seen, is it not a sign that the Christian *faith* has degraded into a Christian *culture*? Anyone who is truly begotten of the Holy Spirit will live for Messiah, but those who are merely living in a Christian *culture* are living for themselves.

When we are baptized we should have the desire to be in fellowship with others of Yahweh's children. We are members of Messiah's body, the church. Joining the church is a consequence, not a cause. It should be the result of a change of heart, instead of being considered the changes itself.

(David E. Miller, 10-68)

Wrong on the Inside

As a young father, it doesn't seem long ago that I was in the preparation class myself. I must say that I didn't attain much of the new life, until after baptism, but it wasn't the minister's fault. How could they know, when everything seemed in order on the outside, that something was wrong on the inside? But what puzzles me is, if the candidates can't even come up to what the rules require on the outside, what hope can we have that things are right on the inside?

In our community, there is a theory that we don't want to be too harsh with our young folks, or we'll chase them out into the world. A lot of our young boys are permitted to have their cars at home because their parents say that it is a better environment for the boys than it would be if they would be to live in the town. But light and darkness will not mix. I have seen where the parents were partaking of the darkness more than the boy was being enlightened. Then, when the time for baptism comes around, we comfort ourselves with what a big change they have made. Yet they may still be far from what the Scriptures require.

What is the result of baptizing members who have the wrong motives in seeking church membership? Too often there are members who are inside the fence, but wish they were on the outside. Is there any wonder we hear of married men smoking, drinking, and playing cards in their homes or at the factory. (Ind.)

Faith, Works, and the Anabaptists

The Anabaptists were strict on the conduct question. Unless applicants showed evidence in daily life of being born again, they simply were not baptized or accepted as members. A tree is known by its fruits. Christianity is a practical thing.

Because the Anabaptists were practical, they soon had a reputation as "good" people. Even their enemies, who persecuted them, admitted that their conduct of life was more holy than for any other group. The Anabaptists became so well known for their good works that anyone who rebuked sin or

left off-sinning was at once suspected of being one. In the same way, people were sometimes cleared of Anabaptist charges by their bad behavior. (“Fireside Chats” J. Stoll, 2-70)

Foot Washing: Our Dusty Feet

The practice of foot washing, as Yahshua commanded in John 13, is one of the Bible’s most neglected and forgotten doctrines. If so many churches don’t practice it, why do we? This is much more than just an outdated practice carried over from Bible times. The doctrine carries a deep important spiritual meaning for the Christian Church throughout all the ages and in every culture. Its spiritual meaning is two-fold:

1. The practice of [paired and reciprocal] foot washing among the entire brotherhood, dramatically underlies Yahshua’s revolutionary concept of humility. He chose the most extreme example of servitude. He, their Master, stooped to wash the dusty, sweaty, smelly feet of common fishermen and tax collectors! No king before ever had such an idea of how great a ruler should reign over his subjects by serving them! Our world today, as greedy, haughty, and self-serving as ever, still needs that truth demonstrated.
2. The second spiritual lesson taught by foot washing is that we still do get dusty feet. We may not always get them physically dusty, but it was the spiritual dust Yahshua was most concerned about anyhow. Yahshua spoke of two washings, that of the feet being one, and of the hands and head and the rest of the body being the other. There is the washing that occurs when we are first converted [a full cleansing]. The second washing, that of the feet, signifies removal of the dust we pick up from our daily walk of life. Our weak flesh, our dusty feet, need daily washing. We cannot expect to walk through this world and not get some of it on our feet.

To stoop at communion service and wash the physical feet of my brother [or sister with sister] is not nearly as hard as the spiritual washing it symbolizes. When I see my brother [or sister] in an error, it is my duty to go to him and with love and goodwill and above all humility tell him about it and admonish him. Ah, that is the true foot washing.

Our attitude toward our brother [or sister] must be that of a servant, feeling ourselves of less importance than the one whose feet we wash, the one whose error we help to overcome. There is no room for the holier-than-thou feeling here. Washing is gentle, washing is cleansing. Some of us when we see a brother in error, forget to wash, but go for the cleanup job with a wire brush. There are certainly plenty of dusty feet, but the servants willing to stoop and wash them are hard to find. (“Views and Values,” E. Stoll, 6-79)

‘YAHWEH, WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?’



by Graemme J. Marshall

**Are you impatient about something?
Do you feel like taking matters into your own hands? Here
is how to know Yahweh’s will.**

Dozens of pairs of eyes peered through the dusty gloom at the rear of the cavern. Like wide-eyed owls they anxiously watched the cave entrance, where only minutes before a breathless sentry had rushed in to announce that hostile troops were nearby.

David, a hunted man along with his followers, was confident that they were all hidden from danger. Then they heard the sound of voices, hoofbeats and tramping feet. Soldiers came into view, passing by the mouth of the cave. Alarmed, the hiding fugitives saw the troop column come to a halt—right outside the entrance.

They would be trapped if they were discovered! What if cave bats were disturbed and flew out in alarm? What if a rock were dislodged and the sound echoed outside?

Then they saw the robed figure of King Saul silhouetted against the entrance as he walked into the cave, feeling his way through the gloom. Laying aside his garments, he attended to toilet.

With bated breath and pounding hearts, the hiding men were frozen—afraid that even the slightest sound, a sneeze, cough or hiccup, would become a cavernous echo and expose them (1 Samuel 24:1-3).

As David watched King Saul, his mind may well have flashed back over the years this king had troubled him. His thoughts might have gone back to boyhood days when he tended his father's sheep.

An Example of Patience

It began like any ordinary day. By the time the sun rose over the hills of Moab, David was on his way to lead a flock of sheep to pastures laden with dew. As the day wore on, he took time out to play his harp.

Suddenly, a servant burst upon the peaceful, pastoral scene with the news that the prophet Samuel had arrived at Bethlehem, and that Samuel had refused to eat the hastily prepared banquet until the shepherd boy also joined the guests.

Never before had David been sent for like this! Till then he had been just the "lad who kept the sheep." What a pleasure to think that the great prophet Samuel wouldn't eat until David also sat down.

Excited, David left his sheep to run full-speed home, anxious to see up close this holy man of Yahweh. David was shocked when the prophet took a vial of oil, poured it over his head and said Yahweh had directed him to anoint David the next king of Israel.

To be king! Strange, because the next day he went back to shepherding, and stayed there until King Saul requested, he come to the royal court as a musician. David thought this must be Yahweh's way of training him—introducing him to the ways of the royal court.

And when Saul promoted him to commander of the army, he was sure Samuel's prophetic anointing was being revealed.

What success he enjoyed—too much! He became compared in glory with the king. Things went badly after that. One day he was demoted to captain—without explanation. Even so, he still tried hard to be a good servant.

Then Saul offered David his daughter, Merab, in marriage. Now he was sure this was how Yahweh was working out his ascension to the throne. He would be son-in-law to the king! But at the final moment before the marriage, Saul switched brides! He gave David his other daughter, Michal. At least Michal, loved him. They married, but, again, things went awry. Michal warned him of assassination plans and he barely escaped one night by her lowering him from an upper window.

For years David's life amounted to being chased from one stronghold to another, betrayed by informers, sought by bounty hunters. Then, just today, David's scouts alerted him of Saul's bodyguard marching nearby. He decided to hide in the cavern and carefully covered all telltale footprints. He thought Saul would surely pass on by.

But would you believe it? Here was the king now in the cave! When would Yahweh work out His promise? Did Yahweh intend David to take over by force?

Yahweh Tests David

David's reminiscing was interrupted by a nudge in his side and voices whispering: "Now is your chance—kill him! Yahweh has delivered him to you.

With his mind dwelling on the hurts this king had done to him, David instinctively clasped his dagger, crawled toward Saul's laid-aside clothes and sliced off a piece of the royal robe (1 Samuel 24:4).

Just then the king stood up, retrieved his garments and walked out of the cave. David's troops sighed with relief but also expressed frustration: "You had him. Yahweh delivered him to you and you let him go."

Was this an Elohim-like test to see whether David would take things into his own hands? Even though his counselors urged him to strike, David had reservations. It didn't seem right that the man Yahweh had chosen as king could be removed by any means other than Yahweh's doing.

David even repented of disrespectfully damaging the king's garment (verse 5). But he was frustrated from trying to convince Saul that he meant him no harm. Saul frequently behaved in a demented way now, and the king could not seem to understand that David was not a competitor for the throne.

It seemed to David that there was a time for courage—and a time to flee. With King Saul against him, he sought refuge in the wilderness (1 Samuel 25:1).

The Test Continues

Saul's army was encamped near David's new hiding place, a mountain retreat. High on a ridge, David watched Saul's men make camp, the king's royal tent protectively placed in the middle of his troops (1 Samuel 26:1-5).

David announced to his men: "I'm going down there. Who will come with me?" Abishai volunteered. Together they crept down to Saul's camp late that night (verses 6-7).

Unbeknownst to them, Yahweh had prepared another test for David. He had caused a deep sleep to come upon the entire camp (verse 12). On finding the sleeping Saul, David was faced with the choice whether to solve his problems his human way, or to wait on Yahweh.

Again, David felt a nudge in his side and heard a voice: "Let me kill him. Yahweh has delivered him into your hand."

It must have seemed natural and lawful to Abishai that David should take the life of the man so infatuated with David's destruction. And if David was squeamish about it, why object to Abishai doing it? Abishai was not personally concerned with their feud, and surely Yahweh's will was being revealed (verse 8).

But Yahweh was testing David to see whether he'd usurp Elohim-like authority. Yahweh had placed Saul in a vulnerable position. He had decreed David to be Saul's successor. But when? And how?

David passed the test. He refused to stoop to assassination. He refused the opportunity to pull the rug out from under his boss's feet. He refused the argument that rebellion in Yahweh's name is justified (verse 9).

David summarized his thoughts this way: "And David said, As YAHWEH lives, except YAHWEH strike him, or his day shall come and he dies, or he goes down and is devoured in battle, far be it from me, by YAHWEH, from putting forth my hand against the anointed of YAHWEH. And now, please take the spear at his head-place, and the jar of water, and we will go" (verses 10-11).

Here the future king of Israel proved to Yahweh that he would not usurp Elohim-like authority—no matter how seemingly unjust was the exercise of that authority over him. He would not retaliate or avenge his wrong. He refused to accept the tempting argument that opportunity meant permission. He quieted his frustrations and elected to wait on the slow unfolding of divine purpose.

David had come to see that he could not secure the kingdom by his own hand. Yahweh had promised and Yahweh had to perform. Whenever the moment came for him to sit on the throne, it would be from a divine act.

We can learn much from David's patient waiting on Yahweh. In our modern age of military coups and overthrows, disciples must avoid taking part in any acts of rebellion or conspiracy. If getting your way results in a battlefield of slain, wounded or hurt people, then you cannot biblically claim to be fulfilling Yahweh's will.

David's Suffering

David didn't always wait on Yahweh. A dark side to David's life emerges in 2 Samuel 11. Verse 1 says it was "at the time when the kings go out to battle." But David hadn't gone! He was back in Jerusalem with idle time on his hands, eyeing another man's wife. He was allowing an evil thought to enter his mind—adultery.

What was Yahweh's will for David at this stage of his life? Certainly not the breaking of Yahweh's law. But David did break it. Bathsheba's pregnancy forced him to either seek Yahweh's will and solution or take matters into his own hands. He opted to work matters out himself. He tried to cover up his sin, failed and then resorted to murder.

What could David have done? He could have explored his lawful options. He was king. If his current six wives weren't enough, he had the power as king to have more. But taking another man's wife was sin.

He could have disclosed the problem to Uriah who, as an honorable, loyal man, might well have sought to protect the king's reputation.

Or, best of all, he could have repented and trusted Yahweh to preserve him as king. But he didn't. Caught up in adultery, he resorted to another sin—murder.

Oh, yes, it solved the problem and made marriage to Bathsheba possible. But adultery and murder are not Yahweh's ways. And though David got what he wanted, he also got more than he bargained for—a stiff penalty that would impact his family forever: "And now the sword shall not turn aside from your house continually" (verse 10).

You can gain physical rewards in this by unlawful means. But it is the reward of righteousness that will endure eternally. How, then does a person come to know Yahweh's will?

Yahweh's Will Is Revealed

You are not left to grope in the dark. Yahweh wants you to know His will (Romans 12:2). You need to ask Yahweh to reveal His will, and then in faith wait for Him to show you through these ways:

- *Through Scripture, discover your lawful options.* The Bible is a Yahweh-inspired handbook by which you can establish your life (2 Timothy 3:16). A study of Yahweh's Word will show you Yahweh's mind and teaching.

You might want to use a concordance or topical Bible to easily study all the scriptures on a particular topic.

Put all the relevant scriptures together for a balanced, Elohim-like view.

But even after studying you may still feel “unskilled” in the use of the Scriptures (Hebrews 5:13), and will want to take advantage of this next way to know Yahweh’s will.

- *Through an ordained minister of Yahweh, seek Elohim-like, lawful advice.* A true ministry has been established by Yahshua Messiah to help perfect and guide true believers (Ephesians 4:11-12).

For personal advice and needs, it is helpful to counsel with a man of Yahweh.

Be sure that any person teaching you from the Word of Yahweh does so faithfully and not deceitfully (2 Corinthians 4:1-2). Scripture warns of some who minister for physical rewards, or for power over the flock (Ezekiel 34:2-4).

True servants of Yahweh do not promote their own opinions, prejudices, philosophies or solutions; rather Yahweh’s ministers seek the Father’s will—as did Yahshua.

- *Through prayer, seek Yahweh’s direct answer.* Yahweh’s will in your life in personal matters may be revealed through answers to your prayers. He can convict your mind, open or close doors and work out circumstances.

Be careful, though. Some people make decisions based on what they erroneously believe are signs from Yahweh. Before buying a car or home, or changing a job, some request a sign—like the sun shining through on a rainy day, an unexpected smile on a grouchy face or any number of other physical coincidences.

These signs can be misleading, even irrelevant to Yahweh’s purpose for you. On the other hand, they may turn out to be the confirmation you wanted.

How do you discern the difference? Heed scriptural warnings of evil forces with the power to perform signs and miracles (Matthew 24:24). You would not want to be misled. Be sure that your decisions are based on the provable Word of Yahweh and sound wise counsel.

Then What?

Once you have discerned Yahweh’s will, *act* on it. Do not let fear or indecision hold you back. If you have studied Yahweh’s Word and found that what you want is within His law, if you have counseled with Yahweh’s ministry, if you have prayed for Yahweh’s direction and inspiration, you can have confidence that Yahweh will back you.

Learning Yahweh’s will requires submission to His laws and to His government. Often it requires the sacrifice of some desires, and lots of patience. David learned to depend upon Yahweh as His deliverer. He knew Yahweh’s will can only be accomplished His way and by His timetable.

In Psalms 27:14, David gave this positive encouragement: “Hope in YAHWEH; be strong and He will make strong your heart; yea, hope in YAHWEH!”



Answers to

Your Questions

Q) Please explain Ps 138:2? What does it mean for Yahweh to magnify His Word above His name?

Psa 138:2 I will worship toward Your holy sanctuary, and give thanks to Your name for Your mercy and for Your truth; for **You have magnified Your Word above all Your name.**

A) In this Psalm it is prophecy that the Word of Yahweh who became Yahshua would be magnified above His name by coming to the earth in the family name of Yahweh being ***Yah-Shua*** or Yahweh's salvation.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim.

Joh 1:2 He was in the beginning with Elohim.

Joh 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us. And we beheld His glory, glory as of an only begotten one from the Father, full of grace and of truth.

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

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

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

Letters from Our Readers

Congregation of YHWH:

Thank you for sharing all your resources on your website! Also, thank the almighty for the Jews! I've been recently rescued from western capitalistic man-made religion called Southern Baptist. Praise to Yeshua! Now a force for truth and restoration to the Hebrew Master Yeshua Messiah. I've recently developed two websites to spread the news.

I am amazed at my own restoration! Which took in my case a couple of years of research, prayer and self-discovery. With American religion technically DOA, and mired down in moral politics resulting in spiritual death, I was personally horrified with American churches.

In closing, I'd like to request a hard copy of the "Hebraic Roots Bible." Enclosed is \$30.00 for the printing of more Bibles.

Sincerely
Brother from US

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this in high hopes and great concern.

I am learning about Messiah, reading a Bible. I come out here in the day room, reading my King James Bible. I thought I was doing good by trying to better my mind-frame.

I am trying to learn a better way of life, and I have met two gentlemen that have been spending a lot of time with me explaining things in a better way.

But the Bible they read is better than the King James Bible. The Hebraic Roots Bible is a better learning Bible. Things seem more correct with the knowledge it holds.

I am incarcerated, and I have no family in the world that I can contact for help. So if I can get or find out from y'all on a way I can receive a Hebraic Roots Bible from. I would appreciate the help.

If I had a way to pay for one, I would have no problem with paying for the information I want. I am alone and doing without. So, if by chance you can help, it would be greatly used.

Thank you for your time, for hearing me out. Thank you and have a blessed day.

A Prisoner for Messiah Yahshua,

To whom it may concern:

I would like to donate for two of your Bibles (Hebraic Roots Bible). I presently have version #1. I would like to have the latest version. Elohim is opening up doors for me to work with HOPI Native tribes in Arizona. This bible is for one of the leading members of the tribe. I see that on your website the donation is \$35 each. I am enclosing \$100 to donate for 2 Bibles and shipping.

I am hoping that this will cover all of your cost.

Thank you.
Mark Oracion
Truth for the Nations

Congregation of YHWH Jerusalem

It feels amazing to know I am being taught from YAHWEH's Holy Word from the place where He first taught. I can't tell you how wonderful it is that He has opened so much of His truth to me. I feel so humbled by His mercy and grace. He has opened the door and showed me who He really is.

I feel so much love from what He is doing for me, and not just for me, but for anyone who is receiving the teaching from Jerusalem. Thank you COYJ for your work and dedication and following Scriptures as He commanded all of us to do. His love really does endure Forever! I rejoice in Yahweh's holy name, HalleluYAH!

1 Chronicles 16:8-12 says it all.

Sister from USA

Shalom,

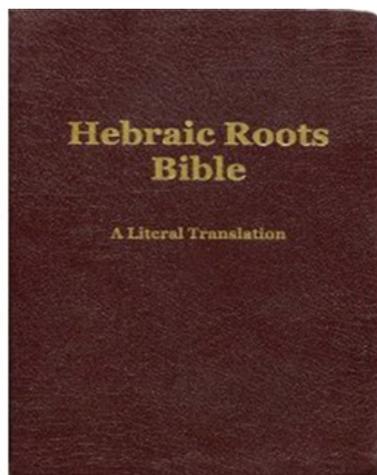
Grace to you and peace be multiplied by a full knowledge of Yahweh and Yahshua our Master.

I wanted to write this letter to thank you for sending me the Hebraic Roots Bible. Being able to read a more authentic translation and being able to put things in proper context and perspective has open my mind to a deeper understanding of Yahweh's Holy Word. Combined with your insightful footnotes I have been able to clear up so many misunderstandings, and it has opened my eyes. The amount of false doctrine being spread is astounding. Thank you for all your hard work.

In the introduction, you mentioned all the proof that the New Testament was written in Aramaic first. I teach the study group I am in, and I also have many conversations with the other service leaders, hopefully to bring them into the truth that is in Yahweh.

And if it is possible for you to do so, please send me any information you can to help me prove that the New Testament was originally written in Aramaic. Thank you for your time, and any help you can give.

Brother in USA



Get a Free Download of the Hebraic Roots Bible at www.coyhwh.com.

THE MOST AMAZING STORY OF FAITH AND COURAGE THAT A TRUE BELIEVER CAN ONLY HOPE TO FIND!

Read about the true Congregation of Yahshua and how it survived through antiquity under such duress persecution against it by its enemies. The truth is stranger than fiction. It's shocking and eye opening. If you are a believer, you will be cheerfully enlightened to find out that the original Congregation that Yahshua Messiah our Savior started in 30A.D.has survived into this present time and that ***"the Gates of Hell have not been able to prevail against it."*** ***This book is the most conclusive thorough research of the early congregation of its kind and has many references from the 2nd to 18th centuries with more than 250 footnotes.*** The Truth shall make you free. (Jn 8:32)



Did you Know:

- *How the first century congregation started and what the first century congregation believed and practiced?*
- *That most beliefs of Christianity today come from the 4th century Emperor Constantine and not from the early congregation?*
- *That millions of true covenant believers were martyred by the Roman Empire in the Middle Ages?*
- *That the remnants of the true congregation started in 30 AD are still around today?*

Go to www.coyhwh.com and download the amazing book ***"The Gates of Hell will not prevail against her"*** as a free gift for you right now! You can also write to our address for a hardcopy that we will also give you as a gift.

**Congregation of YHWH, 13300-56 S. Cleveland Ave,
#111 Fort Myers, Florida, 33907**

Stand by the roads,
look, and ask for the
ancient paths, where
the good way is; and
walk in it, and find rest
for your souls.

Jer. 6:16

