

APRIL—JUNE 2011

*The
Remnant's
Walk*



Exo 12:13 And the blood shall be a sign to you, on the houses where you are. And I will see the blood, and I will pass over you.

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Personal.....

Greetings Brethren,

And Shalom in the wonderful names of Yahweh and Yahshua; the name above all names. Once again, we are heading into a most important Passover in the mist of all kinds of turbulent times around us. The Middle East is being transformed before our eyes and the enemies of Israel are closing in on her day by day.

When we look around this world there does not seem to be a lot of hope; the US dollar is on the verge of collapse and starvation is growing worldwide. Earthquakes and devastating weather conditions also seem to just keep progressively be getting worse. In addition inflation and food and gas prices are starting to soar once again as unemployment continues to be high and does not show any signs of coming down any time soon.

So what is there to have hope in? What kind of hope can we bring to others? That is the wonderful news that each and every Passover brings.

Joh 3: 16 *For YAHWEH so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone believing into Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

17 *For YAHWEH did not send His Son into the world that He might condemn the world, but that the world might have life through Him.*

Yahweh loved humanity so much that He sent His only Son to earth to die and pay the penalty of our sins so that we may repent of our sins and accept Yahshua's sacrifice to pay the penalty of our transgressions.

Sometimes we have had this verse so watered down by false Christian preachers that I believe we don't truly meditate on this great awesome thing that Yahweh and Yahshua have done for those who love them.

We are told each year at the Passover that we are to examine ourselves to make sure that we are partaking of the Passover in a worthy manner.

1 Cor 11: 27 *So that whoever should eat this bread, or drink the cup of the Master, unworthily, that one will be guilty of the body and of the blood of the Master.*

28 *But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread, and let him drink of the cup;*

This type of deep inner self reflection is not simply a few minutes of prayer, or a quick I'm sorry to our Heavenly Father. Rather, we are commanded at this time of the year to dig deep within ourselves and fully grasp the amazing feat that Yahshua has done for us by dying for our sins.

We are also to deeply reflect on looking within ourselves to see where we are still coming up short in our spiritual commitment to Yahweh and to genuinely go each year to a deeper level of repentance in our lives and relationship to our Heavenly Father and Saviour Yahshua. This is why the Passover is not taken every day or every week or month, but it is a yearly memorial that we take according to scripture once a year on the 14th day of the first month Aviv according to the biblical calendar.

May you all have a most meaningful Passover and let's pray for next year in Jerusalem!

B'Shem Yahshua,

DO YOU HATE YOURSELF?

(Reprint)



Yahshua the Messiah said, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself” (Matt. 22:39). What if you hate “yourself” is it possible to love others?

Mankind is indeed his own worst enemy. More people murder themselves each year (25,000 suicides annually in the United States) than the murder of others (18,000 homicides per year). A milder, more common, form of self hatred is the inferiority complex we all secretly harbour.

As a result, most of us are tougher on ourselves than we are on others. A best-selling book put this self deprecating attitude in colloquial terms by labelling most people’s lives as “You’re Ok, but I’m not.”

I’m Not “OK”

This “not OK” posture, according to the book’s author, psychiatrist Thomas Harris, is instilled early in life, no matter how loving and well meaning parents try to be.

By age one, the crawling baby begins to “cruise,” and his bottom begins to bruise because of the no-no’s he can now reach. Since virtually all his curiosity is punished, his infantile inferiority complex is constantly reinforced: “It’s my fault. Again. Always is. Ever will be. World without end. Amen.”

In school years, various everyday events amplify this self-disrespect. When a boy is chosen last on a baseball team, or a girl is teased for having a shabbier dress or smaller bicycle than the others, the outcast child will pout about this put down,

thus reinforcing the self-worthlessness they first learned at home.

“I’m OK, If...”

By constant diligence, a modern Pharisee can obey his own self imposed standards of behaviour, saying, “I’m ok, if...,” followed by a list of do’s and don’ts which may be more or less than the standard of conduct Yahweh requires. Like the Pharisees of old, such men “pray with themselves” like this: *“Elohim, I thank You that I am not as the rest of men, extortioners, covetous, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice in the week; I tithe all things, as many as I get”* (Luke 18:11-12). Until he breaks this self-imposed code of behaviour, the Pharisee is proud of himself *“for his works’ sake.”*

The “publican,” however, realizes the enormity of Yahweh’s grace, that unique quality of Yahweh that says to a repentant man, “you’re OK”, no if’s, and’s, or but’s. “And standing at a distance, the tax collector would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but smote on his breast, saying, Elohim, be merciful to me, a sinner! I say to you, This one went down to his house having been justified, rather than that one. For everyone exalting himself will be humbled. And the one humbling himself will be exalted...” (Verses 13-14).

Seven incomprehensible words, “Elohim, be merciful to me, a sinner”, make one incomprehensible doctrine: GRACE! An unrepentant person labouring under “you’re OK, if...” cannot fathom forgiveness. A religious hobbyist anxiously keeping score between good and bad works cannot justify, to himself, justification by faith. Yahweh’s mercy is foreign to an unmerciful man.

The doctrines of modern “*churchianity*” demonstrate this human aversion to the concept of grace. Heaven and hell are doctrines which say, “I’m OK, I’m bound for heaven; but you’re not OK, you’re bound for hell.” The doctrine of predestination assumes that people are born “not OK” or “OK,” and they are helpless to change that fate. The “rapture” (a word not found in the Bible) is a belief that all “OK” people are silently whisked away before the “bad” people get what’s coming to them.

Is Grace Sufficient?

To some professing Christians, “grace” is a loaded word. It is a code word for “license to do evil.” To an unrepentant, unchanged, carnal bigot, of course, this may be true. A truly repentant believer, however, is deeply broken up for every sin he commits. He does not want to make the same blunder again. Grace is Yahweh’s tool for wiping that man’s slate clean.

The primary problem for most believers is not necessarily the sinful *state of being*. This condition, not just the individual acts, is the stumbling block which causes their chronic self-hatred. As long as they have this “beam” (a lifetime of sins) in their eye, they will continue to see the “mote” (individual sins) in everyone else’s eye (Matt. 7:3-5).

When a believer understands Yahweh’s Torah, repents of his dead works, and receives Yahweh’s Spirit, this “beam in the eye” is totally removed. Then he can finally see his neighbours without the “mote” in their eye.

Since the new believer is now pure through Messiah’s blood, Yahweh looks upon His newly begotten son as perfect, without beam or mote. For the rest of that man’s life, Yahweh’s grace will wipe each mote from his eye, as long as he does not wilfully, deliberately, and with malice aforethought, continuously disobey Yahweh’s Torah (see Hebrews 6:4-6).

One major reason people hate themselves is because they have not taken this step in their life

to remove the beam from their own eye. They have not repented of breaking Yahweh’s laws, laws representing a way of life which brings all the happiness and fulfilment they want. Only true repentance, followed by baptism and begetting by the Holy Spirit, will remove the “unhappy makers” that cause each of us to say “I’m not OK.”

The Two Commandments

A lawyer asked Messiah, “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Torah? And Yahshua said to him, ‘*You shall love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.*’ This is the first and great commandment” (Matt. 22:36-38).

This unconditional all-powerful love by man toward Yahweh is a prerequisite for what follows: “And the second is like it ‘You shall love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ On these two commandments all the Torah and the Prophets hang” (verses 39-40).

One more scripture will make clear that *love* is in fact a four-step process. John wrote, “We love Him, because *He first loved us*” (1 John 4:19). (Paul expounded the same principle in Romans 5:6-10.) Before man can express love toward Elohim, Elohim must first express His own limitless love toward that individual.

Accordingly, the path of perfect love must grow by stages: *Yahweh first loves us*, individually, by calling us to His truth. Then *we love Yahweh* in return, exemplified by the submissive acts of repentance and baptism. After receiving Yahweh’s Holy Spirit, *we love ourselves*, because our source of self-hate (our sins) has been removed. Finally, we are free to work toward *loving others* as ourselves.

The command to “love thyself,” therefore, is not an act you can perform in a vacuum. Yahweh must be in the picture. He must first work individually with you (which He is doing, or you would not be interested in reading this magazine), then you must love Him in return. Any attempt to love yourself without these prior steps is doomed to become self-love by works, a form of *vanity*.

You can start on the road toward perfect love if you follow the outline Yahshua gave in Matthew 22:36-40. Only when you love Yahweh (because He first loved you) can you respect yourself. And

when you “love thyself,” you can continue that love toward all mankind.

When you understand this master plan of love, combined with the beauty of Yahweh’s Torah and

the enormity of His grace, you can be among the few believers on earth who can look at any other human being and say, “I’m OK, You’re OK.”

“WHAT IS SIN?”

**You who think you know what sin is, WAIT!
The Bible says much about sin you have been missing.
You must not miss this article! (Reprint)**



“AH FLOO ovah Chicago, an’ bruthern, ah sawr SIN!” – wailed the itinerant tent-meeting evangelist. Everywhere this fiery “preacher” went, he saw “sin”. But he never got around to telling his congregations *what sin is!*

Do YOU Know?

Are you sure, brethren, you know what sin is? Do you realize how broad, how gigantic and ghastly sin is? Most of you do already know the main Bible definition of sin – I John 3:4:

“Everyone practicing sin also practices lawlessness, and sin is the breaking of the Torah.” (See Charles Williams’ translation: “sin is lawlessness”.)

But that’s not all the Bible says about sin! Did you know that the Bible defines sin in MANY WAYS? The Bible portrays and defines lawbreaking in several dozen ways! The subject “sin” becomes so gigantically broad and ugly (if you study Yahweh’s Word) you will be amazed. And did you know that all sins fall into three kinds – three categories?

Sin is a Trinity!

Turn to I John 2:15-16. “Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world [Greek *cosmos* meaning “society, way of life”], the love of the Father is not in him, because all that which is in the world [cosmos]: The lust of

the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”

Do you love your “way of life,” your way of doing things? If so, Yahweh says you love this world. And this world is perishing (verse 17), or – as the Greek can be translated – “DESTROYING ITSELF” (King James “passes away”). You must forsake your way, or you too will perish!

Now notice that John divides everything “in the world” into three classes or categories (verse 16) – three divisions. One: the “lust of the flesh”. This particular lust is that pulling, yearning, down-dragging powerful desire – temptation – to satisfy and please the body. Remember, lust is an unlawful desire to satisfy, not just the normal, lawful desire to be comfortable. God want us to be comfortable, to prosper and be in good health (III John 2).

Two: “the lust of the eyes”. Here is another illegal desire, but this time through the eyes. Our eyes

focus on things that do not belong to us. Then we think “Ah, now that would be nice – wouldn’t I like to have- wouldn’t I like to lay my hands on that!” Our eyes incite us to lust and covetousness, greed and envy. That is the lust of the eyes.

Three: “the pride of life.” John is here speaking of physical life. John’s original word for “pride” means the puffing, swelling, heady, billowing, superior, proud, exalted feeling which all human beings experience. The pride of life is that warm, “good,” elevated self-satisfied feeling we get when someone pats us on the back – when someone tells us we are pretty good.

Come on now, brethren, admit it! We have all experienced the “pride of life” somewhere in our lives, haven’t we? We thought – deep down inside – we were right in our general way of lounge near the bow of the ship, thought we were right; WE WERE WRONG! Our “righteousness” – whatever its form, whatever its brand – was just so much vanity and pride. All sins fit into one or more of these three categories of I John.

Man’s First Sin, Too

Let’s see how closely man’s first sin fits John’s three-way description. Turn to Genesis 3:6. “And the woman saw that the tree *was* [1] good for food, and that it *was* [2] pleasant to the eyes, and the tree [3] *was* desirable to make *one* wise. And she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”

Did you catch that? Eve – not satisfied with the food Yahweh gave her – saw that the fruit was “good for food”. That is, her flesh, her taste buds, her appetite lusted for that particular food. Eve had an illegal desire to satisfy her body. What is that, but “lust of the flesh”?

Secondly, it was “pleasant to the eyes” – her mind (through the eyes) lusted after something pleasant to the sight. The same as John’s “lust of the eyes!”

Lastly, in her mind she DESIRED it to make her wiser. She looked for something to exalt, puff up, expand and swell the self. That is the “pride of life!” So both Adam and Eve yielded to the triple temptation, they disobeyed Yahweh; THEY sinned. Man’s first sin fit all three of John’s categories for law-breaking.

Too many of us in Yahweh’s Congregation today are like Adam and Eve. The fruit Yahweh gave them was not good enough. It is always the forbidden fruit that appeals to us. It’s the other fellow’s house, the other fellow’s championship, the other woman’s fur coat, somebody else’s name on the record book, the other fellow’s wife and not our own that appeals! Our eyes, our minds, our bodies deceive us into thinking the grass is always greener on the other side.

Now we know how sin affected our first parents. Let’s go on through the Bible to see how sin affects us today! We must know more about sin in order to root it out. The Bible uses various words for “sin” in the original texts, showing various shades of meaning. Yahweh shows us that sin is complex – not as simple as we thought. We will analyze some of these “sin” words to see that special facet of sin Yahweh is emphasizing.

Remember one thing before we continue. All these words can be correctly translated “sin”; therefore, their meanings all overlap to a certain degree. However, Yahweh’s various words for sin in the Bible are not exactly the same. These words bring out the kinds of sin – they emphasize a different aspect of law breaking, of sin, of “anti-law”.

The first and most common word that appears in the Bible for sin is *chattah*. *Chattah* means to MISS THE MARK. Here’s the point for us, brethren. “Missing the mark” is not necessarily from the habit of sinning. If you miss the mark in daily Christian living, it isn’t necessarily because you are a practicing sinner. Of course, you can fail for that reason too.

We often fail, not because we want to sin, not because we hate Yahweh in our conscious mind, but because, even though we are aiming for the mark, we are not able to HIT dead center. The purely carnal human cannot keep Yahweh’s law!

But don’t most of us want to hit the mark? Don’t most of us desire to serve Yahweh? If so, that is Yahweh’s Spirit in us! Desire to serve Yahweh, desire to live righteously does not come from our “good” carnal minds. THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A GOOD CARNAL MIND!

We need to wake up! We miss the mark because we don't want to hit it badly enough, because we don't practice hitting it enough, because we don't have enough of Yahweh's help! We need to realize we are built short of the mark – we are mark-missers, misfits by nature! Yahweh knows we will begin by missing, but with His help we can start HITTING!

Too many of us, brethren, yield to temptation. If you yield to temptation, you miss the mark; you chattah. Notice what David said when he committed adultery with Bathsheba. “Against thee, thee only, have I sinned {chattah}, and done this evil in thy sight.” (Ps. 51:4) David had allowed himself to drift away from Yahweh – the temptation got him.

Yahweh told Cain sin {chattah} would try to pull him down. Yahweh's words to Cain apply to the whole human race: “If you do well, is there not exaltation? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door”(Gen 4:7). The Revised Standard Version makes the last part of this verse clearer, saying in effect: “sin's desire will be to pull you down, but you must master it!”

We must resist temptation – we must not yield! We must strive, brethren, always to hit the mark!

Your Duty and Mine

Jeremiah 51:5 shows that the entire land of Israel is filled with sin. The Hebrew word for sin here is *asham* meaning negligence in conduct, or FAILURE IN DUTY (sometimes through ignorance).

Are you guilty? Do you really produce on your job? Do you men produce poor work? You machinists, you draftsmen, you design engineers, gas station attendants, farmers, bus and truck drivers, elevator operators – workers of all kinds – do you put out sloppy, dowdy, HALF-DONE WORK?

Remember, a Christian does the job – or at least ought to do the job – better than anybody else. Not that Christians are to be great concert violinists, star baseball pitchers or basketball stars like Michael Jordan. Christians are not the great of the world! We just pump gas. We just sit and type what the boss dictates. We just answer the phone. We drive trucks. We ride herd. We plow the soil. Whatever our employment, we just do an

ordinary job, routine work. But we must do it RIGHT – and the best!

You say you don't have as much ability as the next man – you can't do as well as he? Your zeal, your attitude, your zest for work can put you in front! (Remember, you are in competition against yourself, not the other fellow.)

How about wage cheating? Do you punch the clock a little early? Earlier at quitting time, that is? Or do you punch it earlier, before work starts? Do you do the job AS YOU WOULD WANT IT DONE FOR YOURSELF? For Yahshua?

How about you women? Do you keep sloppy homes? Do you live with a dirty bathroom, a cluttered kitchen? Are you really producing as a wife, or are you failing in your duty (*asham-ing*)?

Something or NOTHING?

Another very common Old Testament word for sin is *aven*: NOTHINGNESS, VANITY.

Nothingness, vanity, emptiness are quite often connected with idolatry. An idol is nothing and vanity. Remember, an idol is anything in your mind higher than Yahweh, or anything you love more than Yahweh.

Read I Samuel 15:22-23. *Aven* occurs in the phrase “and stubbornness is both iniquity [*aven*] and idolatry.” The Bible says stubbornness is “vanity” and a form of idolatry!

Notice how the concept of idolatry connected with “*aven-type*” sin helps explain Isaiah 1:13. “The new moon and Sabbath, the going to meeting, I cannot endure the evil [*aven*] assembly.” As the next verse says, these days were “your new moons and your appointed feasts”.

Remember Yahshua's famous rebuke of the false ministers in His Sermon on the Mount? Perhaps you did not know part of His condemnation is a quote from the Old Testament: “Depart from me, all workers of iniquity” (*aven* in Hebrew, quoted from Ps. 6:8). False ministers are still “working” idolatry (*aven*) in their lives today!

Are you still stubborn? Bull-headed? Or is your particular brand of vanity PERSONAL IDOLATRY? Have you ever watched the women who read women's magazines? Women today seem to like the most current “~~twelve inch wide~~” look. “O-o-oh,” “a-a-ah,” “m-m-m,” say the

women as they jealously scrutinize models dressed in “~~sack~~” outfits. Yet the men will say “ugh!” Yes, women – of all the strange things – are jealous of other women! They love to copy other women, they want to know what Michelle is wearing, what Angelina Jolie – and that is vanity! Vanity of dress; it goes back of the eyes, gets inside the mind, and inflates the brain with great big, swelling pinkish, puffing clouds of vanity – nothingness – *aven*!

Many other “common sins” come under *aven* – bragging on our children, frivolity or “goofing-off,” etc, but let’s go to the next word, remembering one thing: you will either inherit everything (that’s something!) or nothing, *aven* (that’s sin).

Offbeat

Vanity is not all that is wrong with our society! Satan is twisting everything he can. Crazy, weird, outlandish, far-out, *offbeat*, PERVERSE – that describes our society! *Avon* means exactly that: PERVERSENESS. The root meaning of this word is to be *bent*, to be *crooked*, *twisted* out of place.

What about some of our modern music? Have you heard some of the weird, outlandish – yes, fiendish – modern noise? It seems that the goal of modern composers is to make as many notes clash and discord as possible.

How about some of the modern rock and roll music – the weird groups like the Beatles, the Rolling Stones? And the dances that go with them? Have you seen the frug, the swim, or the watusi? Some are harmless; some are not so harmless! – all are “*offbeat*”. If you get a chance, compare these modern dances with some of the travelogues and newsreels showing pagan African tribal dances – you’ll be amazed at the similarity!

Yahweh knew this final generation would bend, twist natural laws and natural beauty into a wrong use. That is why He inspired the word *avon* to describe our sins today.

“Why has YAHWEH spoken all this great evil against us? Or what is our iniquity, or what is our sin that we have committed against YAHWEH our Elohim? Then you shall say to them, Because your fathers have forsaken Me, says YAHWEH, and have walked after other gods, and have served them, and have worshiped them, and have

forsaken Me, and have not kept My Torah. And you have done more evil than your fathers. For, behold, you each one walk after the stubbornness of his evil heart, without listening to Me. And I will cast you out of this land into a land that you do not know...” (Jer. 16:10-13). National captivity is coming on the United States because of law breaking, because of *avon* – PERVERSION!

Yes, Yahweh knew that we would come up with crazy, offbeat modern art, weird music and lustful dances! Yahweh knew that we would half undress our women – cut dresses off above the knee so as to incite lust in men. Yahweh correctly calls us a “a people heavy with iniquity” (Isa. 1:4). And surely our iniquity (*avon*) is not hidden from Yahweh’s eyes (Jer. 16:17).

Gamal Nasser, Too?

Gamal Abdel Nasser happens to have (in his first name) another Hebrew word for sin! *Gamal* really means “labor, toil” (usually including the idea of wearisome, PAINFUL EFFORT). Even though Nasser’s name is Arabic, not Hebrew, I could not resist the parallel. Though this word can be translated “sin,” it brings out a special aspect of sin. Sin is not delicious or sweet. The results of sin always bring painful, agonizing unhappiness and toil.

Imagine how much work a gambler goes to, just to make a “fast buck”. He stays up all night, drives all the way across the state, skips meals, worries, schemes and plans and plots, fights off headache, backache and hangover – just to get something for “nothing”. It doesn’t work!

A lot of painful labor and toil (sin, *gamal*) goes into the body building game. Have you ever stopped to wonder just exactly what in the world mirrors have to do with lifting weights? I am speaking of these popular – and money-making – gymnasiums which advertise the “body beautiful” for men! And women. We know what bars are for, what disks of iron, weights, pulleys, rowing machines, etc. are for. But what about the mirrors?

Mirrors are an essential part of body building apparatus. The mirrors are there so you can see yourself – that is why a body builder can’t walk normally. He must stretch his neck, he cocks the arms slightly to make the biceps bulge, he spreads

his “lats” (the muscles that make the V-shape in the upper part of the back), etc.

You will note that body builders usually work in tight bathing trunks, or at least stripped to the waist. The reason for all this is simple. They want to see themselves! They have to build up that vanity! The “pride of [physical] life”! And all the labor and toil they go through becomes *gamal* – that is sin – as long as it is for a vain purpose.

It actually hurts to build a body. It actually takes pain and sweat and strain. But as long as you have a mirror in front of you, you’re in business. The mirror pulls you on – that vanity of seeing yourself grow.

A Nation of Cheats!

Gamal also includes the great, strenuous effort so many students put forth to cheat. Did you read about the hundred plus top men in the nation at the Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, who were expelled for cheating? My wife and I visited the academy last summer. We saw what tremendous advantages those men had there – the best of everything: beautiful area, mountain setting, fabulous new buildings, everything going for them. We noticed also they had great *esprit de corps* – spirit and zeal. But at least a hundred of them – the nation’s cream of the crop – WERE CHEATS!

The work involved in cheating is phenomenal. It takes great effort, much eyestrain, and a very fine pen to inscribe answers and formulae on a fold of skin of the palm of the hand. It takes great effort for a woman to write answers on her knees and the inside of her thighs so the teacher (who is a man) can’t ask her to lift her dress if he catches her cheating.

Stop to ask yourself how much effort you are putting forth just to get around the law! It takes pain and toil (*gamal*) to get around Yahweh’s laws and man’s laws. Stop being a cheat – just keep Yahweh’s law.

Once upon a time, men used to keep their word! Sounds like a fairy tale now doesn’t it? A fairy tale, because so few men today KEEP THEIR WORD! If you are disloyal, faithless, perfidious, or hypocritical, you are sinning, you are *ma’aling*.

Ma’al is a Hebrew word meaning to ACT TREACHEROUSLY, covertly, or fraudulently. This word is used with adultery – which is a form of disloyalty and dishonesty – and adultery fills our nation! The returned captives from Babylon under Ezra had transgressed (*ma’al*) in taking their strange wives and thus acting treacherously and perfidiously with Almighty Yahweh (Ezra 10:10).

You may not be an adulterer, but how good is your word? It should be “good as gold”! Believers are supposed to place so much stock in their word so as to bring back the old days of “once upon a time.” Are you willing to suffer in order to keep your word? Yahweh is.

Yahweh’s word never fails! “Your testimonies are very sure” (Ps. 93:5).

Ask yourself how LOYAL you are to Yahweh’s Work. Are you loyal only while it is convenient for you? Or are you – as David was – willing to hurt yourself, suffer loss, sacrifice whatever, rather than to see the Work take a loss? How about before the judge and the magistrates? How about before the police, the medical profession of the boss?

If you are loyal, Yahweh will reward. If you are not loyal, you are a sinner – you are guilty of *ma’al*! When Uzziah the king stepped out of his office and tried to gain Yahweh’s favor by burning incense, Azariah and the priests condemned Uzziah of treachery, faithlessness, disloyalty, saying to him, “for you have trespassed” (*ma’al*). See II Chronicles 26:16 and 18.

Another common sin coming under this category is sneakiness and petty thieving. Have you broken all your habits of petty thieving? You must train your children against this vice also. Petty thieving and sneakiness are very common among children!

Enough?

Are you tired of reading about sin? Have you had enough?

Yahweh has had enough!

Yahweh is fed up with sin. Yahshua is busily preparing for a new world that will gradually stamp out sin! Right now Yahshua is purging sin out of the Congregation. You need to read yet

more about the many sides of sin catalogued in the Bible.

You have plenty to work on now why not use this Passover to make that full dedication.

THE *ANSWER* TO SIN!

(REPRINT)



Do you wonder why you are not changing? Have you repented of a sin, only to repeat the same sin? Here are the steps to conquer sin *PERMANENTLY*.

Yahweh inspired different words in the original texts to emphasize different kinds of sin. All mistakes, errors and failures are sin. But by using different words to identify the different kinds of errors, Yahweh helps us to know our enemy.

Our society and our personal human nature stand condemned by Yahweh's definitions of sin. Society is set up to *TEMPT* human nature, and we yield too often! That is, we miss the mark (Hebrew word *chattah*). The vanity of personal appearance, bragging on children, general senseless frivolity is *aven*, that is, nothingness and vanity! Modern art and music is greatly "twisted", bent, wrested and perverted from its true use, *avon*. "Sneakiness," treachery (Hebrew *ma'al*) includes word breaking, disloyalty, petty thieving, etc. Clearly, the Bible *unmistakably* pictures, brands, and *condemns* sin.

Know Your Enemy

This article is intended to help you personally locate, spot, pinpoint the sin in your life *and root it out!*

Your enemy, sin, has a real target: YOU. "...its desire is toward you; but you should rule over it" (Gen. 4:7). If you do not "master" sin NOW, *while you have the chance*, you will end up a reprobate: a person who "*cannot cease from sin*"! (2 Pet. 2:13-15.)

Sin of course is not a person or personality. Sin is a *force*, a *power*. Sin is that part of your *human* nature which pulls you DOWN, makes you *want to go* the WRONG WAY, which makes you want to *give up, quit*. In short, sin is what makes us the carnal miserable wretches we are.

To *win this battle* over your human nature, your sin, you must *clearly see* what sin is. You must know your enemy, to defeat him.

Sin Splints

Trackmen and athletes are familiar with the excruciating, stabbing pains of "shin splints." Yahweh is familiar with the stabbing, excruciating *pains* of sin! We who are believers must also become familiar with the sins in our own lives. Let's discover a few more facets and kinds of sin, both *national* and *personal*, which Yahweh identifies in the Bible before we give the *answer* to sin.

There are sins that are unintentional, but the Bible does talk about *intentional sin*, since all human beings and nations DO SIN INTENTIONALLY, some time or other in life. The Hebrew *zimmah* means *meditated wickedness, a plan for evil*, especially with sins of unchastity, incest, rape. Many such sinners (people *plotting* crime, sexual criminals) roam our streets today. We don't call them sinners; we call them homicidal maniacs, psychopaths, or unfortunate, or sometimes misunderstood. The ugly episode of the concubine (Judges 20) is termed *zimmah* in Judges 20:6.

Our nation is filled with sexual looseness and lewdness, for which we must be punished! (Read Jeremiah 13, especially Verse 27 where "lewdness" is *zimmah*.)

Our NATIONAL *lewdness* will mean our VERY DESTRUCTION! (See how frequently the word "lewdness" {*zimmah* in Hebrew} is used through the middle chapters of Ezekiel.)

A Worldwide Sin

Yahweh is going to intervene soon, because of sin, and shake this earth! All nations and probably all individuals too are guilty of REVOLT, REBELLION! To break away from, to change allegiance, to fall away, apostatize, REBEL is the definition of the Hebrew *pasha*, another word translated sin. Yahweh says our teachers have committed *pasha* in Isaiah 43:27: "Your first father sinned, and your interpreters *transgressed* against Me." Furthermore, Jeremiah shows in Chapter 2, Verse 8 that the priests and pastors have also *rebelled*. "The priests did not say, Where is Yahweh? And they who handle the Torah did not know Me. And the shepherds rebelled {rebelled, *pasha*} against Me; and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things not profitable.

The leaders, teachers, and educators of this world HAVE REBELLED! And rebellion *never goes unpunished* (See Prov. 16:25, and Prov. 17:11).

Make sure that rebellion is not a part of *your personal life*!

Sin Is Personal

Sin is not only national and worldwide, it is *individual* and *personal*.

Can you control *your* rashness, your temper? The sin of *going astray* (especially through

temper or rashness) is serious, once requiring the blood of a sin offering: Lev. 4:13-14 and Num. 15:27-29.

You must be constantly on guard against this sin of *piercing*, or breaking through the limits of self-control and decency. This sin of GOING ASTRAY through *ignorance* or temperamental *rashness* is called *shagag* in Hebrew, and requires the blood of Yahshua Messiah to wash you clean.

Even David fell victim to this sin: before I was afflicted I *went astray* {*shagag*}; but now I have kept Your Word" (Ps. 119:67). David also overcame, as the phrase "now I have kept Your Word" shows!

Worse Wandering

A related word, *shagah*, means to WANDER IN MIND, either from drunkenness or from just plain being carried away by *foolishness*. Do you get carried away *eating*? Some of you reading this article are *enormously overweight*; you need to change, stop getting carried away.

Sad to say, some of you readers also get *carried away* by too much alcohol! This is GLUTTONY! The Bible demands self-control and moderation (true "temperance") in *all* things (Gal. 5:23, Phil. 4:5).

Another *very common sin* included under *shagah* is just exactly what the word says: MIND WANDERING. An uncontrolled, wandering mind (even without the help of alcohol) produces forgetfulness and daydreaming.

Do you often forget when you *should remember*? Some forgetting of course is innocent. But forgetting can also be A Sin! Sometimes we forget because *we want to forget*, to remember is unpleasant.

Stop forgetting! If you have to, as many of Yahweh's ministers do, carry a notebook or three-by-five cards with you at all times. Jot down things you *MUST remember*: important appointments, vocabulary words, a grocery list, daily duties, etc. Make it a habit to check your card or notebook *every day*.

Moreover, too many of us allow our minds to wander, *daydreaming*! Do you realize that Yahweh condemns daydreaming? *Daydreaming is a sin*!

Are you letting your children get into this ugly habit? If you allow them to stay awake, lying in bed for long periods of time, they will pick up this vicious trait. Letting the mind just “flit off” into a never-never land of make believe and dreams of vicious, mind-and-character-destroying sin!

Watch for this malfunction (sickness) of the brain in both yourself and your children.

Falsity and Sham

How open and honest are you?

Openness, innocence, and straightforwardness are earmarks of conversion. The direct opposite qualities: treacheries, slipperiness, DECEIT, and SHAM (Hebrew *bagad*), are earmarks of carnality and sin. *Bagad*, often translated *perverseness*, is a form of treachery, slippery dealing, what we sometimes call *double dealing*. Business today is filled with double dealers, slippery salesmen, deceitful advertisements and sales “pitches,” falsified claims for phony products. Yahweh condemns slippery, crooked business in Prov. 11:3, 6.

And what of you? Do you once in a while, as wives, use just a little *deceit* to convince your husband? And you husbands, do you once in a while *exaggerate* to impress men at the office, the wife, the family? Stretching the facts is a form of deceit and sham, slipperiness. And all deceit, all slipperiness *is sin*!

The New Testament Speaks

Just as there are differences in Hebrew synonyms for sin, so also the New Testament shows various *aspects* of sin by using different words.

Interestingly enough, the most common word for “sin” in the New Testament is *hamartia*, meaning exactly the same as Hebrew *chattah*, MISS THE MARK. The English word *sin* translates *hamartia* in the great Bible definition of sin, 1 John 3:4. It was this sin that “entered the world” with Adam. See Romans 5.

Evil Thing?

Many of you talkative women, you who *pass on information*, are condemned by the Bible. Titus 2:7-8 shows what you *ought* to practice.

“...holding forth yourself as a pattern of good works about all things in doctrine, in purity, sensibleness, incorruption, Choose sound words that are instructive, so that no man can point the finger of scorn at us, that he of opposition may be ashamed, having nothing bad to say about you.” This “bad” thing is GOSSIP. The Greek word for bad is *phaulos* meaning evil or empty thing, something without basis. Isn’t that exactly what gossip is?

It is easy to speak senseless things and to gossip. If you allow yourself to fall into this easy trap of back yard scuttlebutt, you are guilty of *phaulos*, sin.

Check yourself next time you pass on *information*. Gossip is *phaulos*, evil, empty *sin*!

Active and Passive Sin

For those who would like to study more, possibly with a concordance or an interlinear, you will be interested in the two Greek words for *evil* or *sin*: *kakia* and *poneria*. *Kakia* is sin, but it is the *passive* type. *Kakia* does not try to destroy others; in other words it is *passive*, it is *lacking*, it is no good, good for nothing. Passive sin is FAILING *to do what you know is right*.

On the other hand, *poneria* is actively, *aggressively bad*, it is destruction on the march.

Satan is called “the evil one” in Greek, the “one of *poneria*.” Satan is *aggressively* evil, *seeking* to destroy everyone.

Search yourself! You’ll probably see some *passive* evil, and worse yet some *active evil*! Errors of omission and errors of commission, both must be rooted out!

Last but Not Least

One last thing before we attack sin. Are you one of those all-too-frequent “members” who holds your *own* opinion, contrary to the Congregation? Do you think the Congregation “just doesn’t understand”? Do you think some others of Yahweh’s ministers are “just a little bit off”? Do you feel *your explanation of Scripture* is MORE CORRECT than Yahweh’s Congregations? Do you dare “judge” the authority of Yahweh Himself placed over you? Do you disagree with the Feast locations, the handling of tithes, the poor fund?

MANY OF YOU DO!

You are holding on to your own opinion, you are *opinionated*! You are stubborn and bullheaded! And worst of all, you're wrong, you're DEAD WRONG! YOU ARE MISSING THE MARK! And that's sin! You're guilty of *chattah* and *hamartia*.

Why don't you *give up* your opinion, surrender your will to Yahweh, before Yahweh has to *shake* YOU? May Yahweh help those of you who in some form or another pit yourselves against Yahweh and His Congregation to *repent and CHANGE*.

The ANSWER

Now we're ready for the *attack*!

Actually, if you read these two articles on sin, and if *you got the point*, you are *already* well on your way to changing! You see, the *first* step in conquering sin is TO SEE sin.

You must *know* your enemy. You must pray, study the Scriptures, listen to sermons whenever possible, and *strive* to see YOUR sins. If you do not see them, how can you fight them? Paul said he would not have known (understood) sin, unless the *Torah* revealed what it was (Rom. 7:7).

If you do not think you have any sins, or have not seen a *new* sin for a long time, you are self-righteous. Ask Yahweh to *show you how you look to Him*, and He'll do it!

That's the first step. But there are two more steps.

The Second Step

Here is a simple-sounding, but difficult-to-perform point. Pay close attention. You may be missing this *vital key*! "HATE evil, and *love* good" (Amos 5:15). The Bible commands you to *hate*, to *loathe*, YOUR SINS!

There is one great reason that sin is difficult to hate, the carnal mind LOVES sin!

"We all had our conduct in times past *in the lusts of our flesh*, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were *by nature* the children of wrath, even as others" (Eph. 2:3). Here is the point; Lusts are *pleasant*, *appealing*, *strongly pulling* desires, desires which are illegal! These strong, illegal pulls and desires of the human mind are *exactly* what the human mind *wants*! The human mind, by nature, LOVES *its lusts*! The carnal human

mind HATES *Yahweh's way*, *hates* to give up its *lusts*!

Can you see this terrible tendency in yourself? Can you realize your mind wants its way, not Yahweh's? If so, you CAN overcome.

But how?

It is simple. Yahweh HATES sin. Notice Proverbs 6:16: "These six things Yahweh hates; yea, seven are hateful to his soul..." Read the rest of the verses of Chapter 6 for yourself. Yahweh here reveals His HATRED against sin. Slowly but surely, you too can receive (through Yahweh's Spirit) true hatred of sin.

When you *really* hate sin, you will begin to overcome! Ask for Yahweh's Spirit! Ask for Yahweh's mind, ask for *help*, to HATE.

Another aid in the direction of hating sin is something you can do for yourself. Did you realize the entire Old Testament history is a chronicle of the results of sin? Read, *meditate*, THINK DEEPLY on the sufferings and failures of Old Testament men and women *who sinned*. MEDITATE on the results of your *personal* sins. Picture yourself locked out of Yahweh's Kingdom, thrust into oblivion. *Think* about the Lake of Fire, about *eternal failure*, about DEATH! Your sins will KILL YOU if you do not change.

Receiving Yahweh's own help through His Holy Spirit, meditating on the results of your sins, *will make you* an overcomer.

The Third Step

REPENT!

2 Corinthians 7:10 shows that there are two kinds of sorrow: one worldly, one righteous. Worldly sorrow is what Saul demonstrated in 1 Samuel 15, when he begged Samuel to pardon his sin and pray for him. Reading Saul's words would make you think he was *really repentant*. But the fruits showed otherwise.

Righteous sorrow, which Saul did not have, *does work a change*, repentance!

How can you have righteous sorrow?

You must become more concerned about Yahweh and His Work than *yourself*! You must draw so close to Yahweh that you *really care* what Yahweh thinks and feels about you. Make no mistake: your sins *do affect* Yahweh your Father. Yahweh is not an insensitive monster, but a kind, loving and deeply interested Parent, a Parent who grieves over His errant children.

The New Building

If you understand Yahweh's parenthood, if you are this close to Yahweh, you will be able to truly repent TO YAHWEH, when you sin. You will be ashamed of yourself, for what you have done to Yahweh personally, to Yahweh's love, to Yahweh's ways, to His outstretched helping hand. Yes, righteous sorrow, sorrow strong enough to make you change, is sorrow to Yahweh, not just sorrow for "having messed yourself up."

Worldly sorrow is *sorrow* all right, maybe to the point of bitter tears, but it is sorrow for having failed yourself. You are sorry because you have not lived up to the "image" you have of yourself. You are sorry because this mistake does not exalt you. It tarnishes your picture, it spoils your self-esteem, it lowers you in your own mind.

That is selfish, worldly sorrow.

For Failure, Take This

If you are trying to overcome, but not succeeding, then try this. Analyze the reason you are trying to overcome. Is it purely selfish, in the same way as worldly sorrow described above?

Do you want to overcome so that you may put yourself forward? So that you will rise in the eyes of others? So that you will be advanced? So that you may "get ahead"? So that your position will be raised? If so, your motive for overcoming is CARNAL! The carnal mind wants to "get ahead" (walking "after the flesh"). The righteous mind (walking "after the Spirit," Romans 8) wants to serve others.

Analyze yourself, honestly now! For what reason do you want to get rid of sin? If it is just for yourself, and not for the Work, you probably are not overcoming.

CHANGE your *motive* for overcoming, pray for the desire to serve others. When you really achieve a desire to serve others, you will realize *why you need to overcome*. You will have an unselfish goal for changing. Seeing other peoples' sufferings and needs will give you a desire to change for their sakes, to help *them*!

You **WILL BEGIN TO OVERCOME!**

As you begin to overcome, it will help you to *strive* for a new habit. Let's put it this way: "Do not be overcome by {the habit of} evil, but overcome the evil with {the habit of} good" (Rom. 12:21).

Sin is the thing we *usually* do. Sin is hard to root out because it is customary, usual, pleasant, easy, *habitual*.

Build a new habit. *Make yourself* do the opposite of sin. **MAKE yourself** practice the right way several times, even if "you do not need to." Repeat the good habit several times *in a row, over learn!*

To pick up a simple example as an illustration, take smiling. Suppose you are a "frowny" person, can't make yourself smile. Well then, once you find a good reason for smiling, and you do actually smile once, then *make yourself* SMILE AGAIN. Smile several times in succession. Instead of practicing your old habit of constantly frowning, search for reasons, excuses, and opportunities to smile. Smile at yourself. Smile at others. Smile just because it's a good feeling to do *differently* than your old sinful way. Smile, *smile*, SMILE! Pretty soon, smiling will be easy.

Work at, *build* the habit of righteousness! (Connect this with Hebrews 5:14, note the word "exercised.")

Will You CEASE?

The answer to sin is...STOP!

Sin grows constantly worse. Sin goes from bad to worse, from worse to wretched, and from wretched to absolute filth and abomination! The Hebrew word *ra*, translated *sin* many times in the Old Testament, means exactly that: *rot*, *filth*, DUNG! Yahweh hates sin so much He calls it *manure* and *sewage*! That's how bad our sins are. Will we cease?

"Therefore, Messiah having *suffered* for us in the flesh, also you arm yourselves with the same thought, because he having *suffered in the flesh* HAS BEEN MADE TO REST FROM SIN, for him no longer to live in the lusts of men, but to live the remaining time in the flesh in the will of Elohim" (1 Peter. 4:1, 2).

My earnest prayer for you brethren, and the prayer of all of Yahweh's ministers, is that you too will *cease from sin!*

Letters from our Readers

Dear Mr. Esposito,

This money is for 10 of the "Great Falling Away" books. It would be great to have some of the recorded tapes as well. When I was lost, and almost gone, I had visited my mom's house either during, or after a major surgery. I saw the book "The Great Falling Away" and began reading it.

Around that time some of my family invited me over for Shabbat. I didn't go at first but then went. I learned about the true names of our Abba and His son, partly by "The Great Falling Away" book. I called on our Abba and my life has been made new. I'm now a new creation, and "The Great Falling Away" has been a tool. Thanks be to our Heavenly Father for His un-failing love. Praise Yah!

OK, USA

Hello Brother Esposito,

The blessings of Yahweh upon you! I recently discovered your beautiful website. I have listened to some of the sermons and read some of your articles and they have really made me think differently. I love that you prove all things by the scriptures, which we all must do, but as we know, some don't.

I am requesting information of the nearest Congregation of YHWH to me at the above address.

Also, please send me the following books:

THE GREAT FALLING AWAY
THE CHOSEN PEOPLE
WHO IS THE MESSIAH OF ISRAEL
HEBRAIC ROOTS BIBLE

Enclosed is a donation to bless your ministry.

May Abba Yahweh continue to lead us into all truth and protect us from all that is false.

Wis, USA

Shalom!

Hello. I must first say that I am not used to writing actual letters in this email world. It is refreshing! Our family has been so grateful to have been led to your website. We just downloaded and finished reading the 'Great Falling Away'. Wow! What a great book! It reaffirms everything that we have been discovering about the Pagan Church of today. Needless to say, we are without a church and considered crazy by those who we used to attend church with and have bible study with.

We continue praying for them and show them DVD's and information about how deceived they are and they continue in their ways. We thought that everyone would wake up as we did once the scales fell from our eyes – but alas – it does not happen. We are experiencing how small the remnant is. We would like to contribute some money to you for your efforts. We really appreciate your ministry.

Could you please let us know if you have anyone in your database around the Los Angeles area, ...hahaha...right?? We are a rare breed out here and feeling quite alone, but would be so excited to find others who are seeking Yahweh's truth and not just man-made traditions. Also, we would love a hard copy of each of the books to lend out as that is easier than emailing a download file...

We live in California, and own a couple surf retail stores here and have been so convicted to GET OUT! We have three children and home school them, but know that the surroundings here are bad for them (and us.) As crazy as it sounds, I would love to move to Israel!! He is calling us home!!!

Thank you so much for all you do!! Any and all information would be much appreciated!!

Warmly,
CA, USA

Dear Don,

I have listened to your teachings online. THANK YOU! for putting them online for us to access.

I absolutely love your teachings. I would love to be part of your physical congregation. What are the chances of me coming to Israel to meet you and visit Israel?...of course I have a family and work in South East Texas/South West Louisiana. but I dream of visiting Israel. If there is an opportunity please remember me! I want to come!

My Catholic blinders have been removed 2 years ago, I now keep Sabbath and the Feast, However the rest of my Catholic family thinks I'm nuts. Please send several copies of the Great Falling Away and any other suggestions to bring lifelong Catholics to YHWH.

Blessings,
TX, USA

Hello,

We recently stumbled upon your wonderful website, www.coyhwh.com and noticed you were offering to send out books as a gift. This certainly must be YHWH's way of letting me know we as a family ought to read the books because during our stay at SUKKOT last year we met some people who were telling us about your books as well. They had so much positive comment out them.

Could you please send "The Chosen People" and "The Great Falling Away"

Our sincere thank you.

PA, USA

Greetings Don,

And shalom from Babylon. We wanted to write you with our sincerest thanks for all the work that Yahweh is doing through you in Israel.

We feel so blessed to be able to be part of the true work of Yahweh. For years we had searched for a work originating from Israel that had proper doctrine and was truly being led by Yahweh and He directed us to you. Halleluyah.

May you and your family and the other Elders in the congregation be blessed as you do the most important work on the planet.

Missouri, USA

Dear Don and Staff,

My hat goes off to you for the wonderful bible translation that you have put together. Truly Yahweh ahs guided you to such a wonderful important work.

It is the easiest to read and yet most accurate translation that I have ever seen. May you continue to be blessed as you serve Yahweh,

WA, USA

Greetings elder Don,

I am happy for the good work you do. You made the video section very watchable and I am now watching and listening to a sermon entitled "**the power of Elohim**"

Well done! Go ahead and YHWH will abundantly bless you and will fight on our behalf against the enemies of this very work.

B'SHEM YAHSHUA,
Kuel, Elder in Sudan

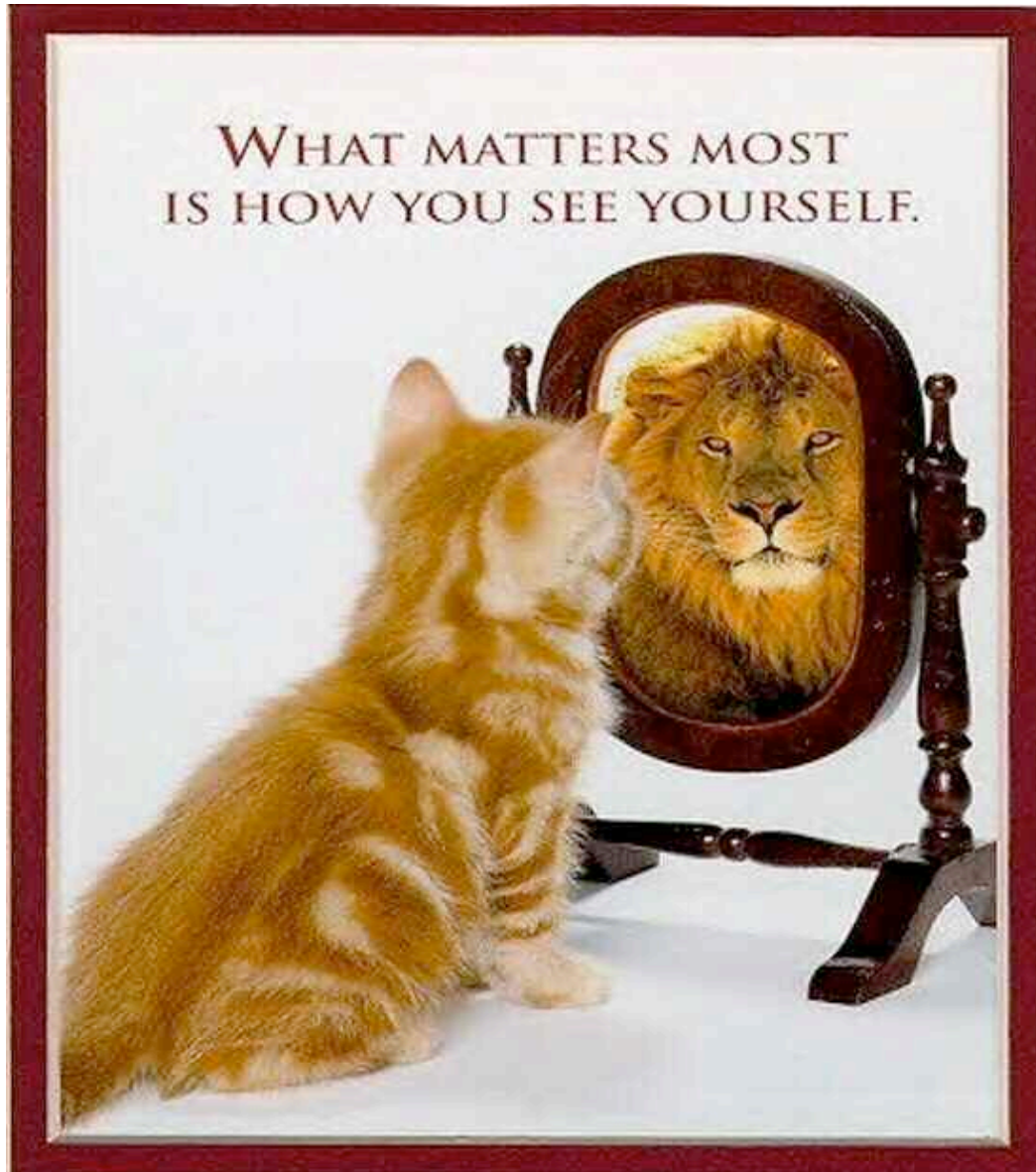
Dear Brethren,

We would like to request your restored edition:
"Hebraic Roots Bible"
"The Chosen People"
"The Great Falling Away" and
"Who is the Messiah of Israel?"

Hope all is well with everyone. A fantastic job is being completed with the work of Yahweh, and you are regularly in our prayers. We wish all a happy feast that is full of learning experiences.

With regards,
Canada

JUST WHAT DO YOU MEAN — SELF RIGHTEOUS?



There is a spiritual disease as common as the common cold - but seldom recognized for what it really is. What are its symptoms? How can you tell if you are afflicted with it? **(Reprint)**

All diseases have symptoms. . Self-righteousness is a spiritual disease and has its own peculiar

symptoms that can be recognized, isolated and worked upon. By themselves, the symptoms do not

explain what self-righteousness is. They only point out the presence of the malady. But isolating the symptoms will nevertheless be of help in defeating and wiping out the disease. Here then, are seven symptoms of self-righteousness and what can be done to curb and stamp it out.

UNTEACHABILITY

First and foremost, a self-righteous person is not teachable. The patriarch, Job, before his total conversion, was a classic example of self-righteousness. He was not teachable. We read his statement in Job 27:6, ***"I hold fast by my righteousness, and I will not abandon it..."*** Job was sure in his own mind that he was righteous and was not about to be taught to the contrary!

Another example of this symptom of unteachableness can be found in Jeremiah 2:35. Jeremiah wrote what Yahweh said to the ancient nation of Judah: ***"Yet you say, because I am innocent, surely His anger shall turn from me. Behold, I will judge with you, because you say, I have not sinned"***.

Ancient Judah was self-righteous. The people felt they were innocent; they felt they had not sinned. This made Yahweh's job of teaching them very difficult. It is virtually impossible to teach a person who thinks and is convinced he is right. However, whenever that person is willing to admit he may be wrong, he has begun to open his mind to instruction. And so a clear sign of self-righteousness is resistance to being teachable. Are you teachable? Are you easy to be entreated? Or are you stubborn – difficult to instruct?

PRIDE IN OBEDIENCE

In Luke 18:11-12, we read about the Pharisee who fasted twice in the week. He was proud of his obedience. Today most of us are more sophisticated in the expression of our pride. Rather than telling people outright when we are fasting, or that we give tithes of all our increase and generous offerings beside, we go around dropping hints. But being more sophisticated about it does not make us any less self-righteous.

Do you glory in telling your friends you won't be able to accept a dinner invitation because you are fasting? Are you happy to share with your brethren the fact that you don't have finer things because you have "given most of your money to Yahweh"? Such hints are symptoms of self-righteousness. They show that in one form or another we are proud of our obedience to Yahweh.

The opposite of this attitude is humility. True humility leaves no place for self-righteousness. When we strive to do our best in fasting, giving or whatever, without bragging, recognizing our own shortcomings at the same time, we won't be expressing self-righteousness.

THE SELF-ORIENTED MIND

To a self-righteous person, the main theme of conversation revolves around the self. "I", "me" and "my" become the center of conversation, since it is the focal point of one's thoughts.

In Job 29, we have an excellent example of the self-oriented mind. In just 25 short verses, Job uses the personal pronouns, "I" "me" and "my" 52 times! Job was clearly self-oriented. This is epitomized in verse 14: "I put on righteousness, and it clothed me..."

A truly converted spirit-led mind is interested in other people. In Philippians 2:4 we read: "Let no one be mindful only of his own things, but let each one also be mindful of the things of his neighbour". This Yahweh-like focus of attention is clearly away from self.

Have you ever listened to a candid tape recording of your own conversation? It is a very interesting exercise. You might be highly embarrassed if you did. It could show how oriented toward self you may really be.

Think about the topics of your daily conversations. Do you detect too much self-orientation? The Bible teaches us to love our neighbour as ourselves. We need to do this more every day, for only then will we truly have other people in our hearts and minds, instead of only the self.

"DOING YAHWEH A FAVOR"

The fourth symptom of the disease of self-righteousness is that of feeling we are doing Yahweh a service. In Job 35:7 we read that Elihu pointed out to Job: "If you are righteous, what do you give to Him? Or what does He receive from your hand? Job somehow felt that Yahweh was highly honoured and helped by his service. But in reality Yahweh does not need us. We desperately need Him!

The self-righteous person remembers what he has "given up" to serve Yahweh. Rather than thinking about what he has gained by serving Yahweh, he feels he is a tremendous asset to Yahweh, and that Yahweh is tremendously benefited by his servitude.

If your child were to come to you and tell you he really adds to the family and that you, the parent, just could not do without him (or her), you would tend to think that child was rather vain in his thinking. Wouldn't you much rather see your child come to you with the attitude, "Thanks, mom and dad, for allowing me to be part of this family. Thanks for sharing all that you have with me".

In this analogy, we should be able to see the difference between the person who thinks he's doing Yahweh a service and the person who is grateful that Yahweh has allowed him to be part of His Congregation and His Family.

LACK OF COMPASSION

The self-righteous person lacks compassion – an empathy and feeling for other people. (The word "compassion" comes from the Latin, meaning "with feeling".) He is almost invariable critical of others when they sin and judges them harshly. "Why, I wouldn't do that," he tells himself. Thus he can't understand one who does. He is so "righteous" in his own sight it is difficult for him to make allowances for another's weaknesses!

He is quick to condemn and point out where he could have done better – but slow to empathize and admit he might have done the same thing under the same circumstances.

In Isaiah 65:1-5, we read of ancient Judah's attitude toward people who were sinners. Yahweh condemns the people who, while they themselves were sinners, said to other sinners, "Keep to yourself! Do not come near me, for I am holier than you!" This "holier than thou" attitude is typical of a self-righteous person. Not being able to see his own faults and sins, he is critical of others' mistakes and shortcomings.

The parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32) gives us a good example of a self-righteous person. Three characters are mentioned in this parable, though we often overlook the elder brother of the prodigal son.

The elder brother was angry when the prodigal son received forgiveness. He lacked compassion for his licentious, wastrel brother, and was not happy to see him rescued from destitution and at home once again. He was proud of his own obedience while his brother sinned. Thus he was very self-oriented.

And lacking compassion, the elder brother was unable to understand that his brother had changed

and repented. He thought his brother's return merely meant he – the "faithful" one – was about to lose even more of his patrimony. He was angry with his father for giving more of it to the spendthrift son. In his self-righteousness, he felt he had been overlooked by his father.

Have you ever been prevented from having and expressing true Christian love and doing good deeds for others by similar feelings? Examine yourself to see if you have compassion for your fellow man – especially for your brothers and sisters in Yahshua.

SELF-PITY

The sixth sign or symptom of self-righteousness is self-pity. We read in Genesis 4:13 that Cain said to Yahweh, "My punishment is greater than I can bear". In this sense, Cain was self-righteous. He did not want to change his attitude; he didn't ask forgiveness for his sin; he just wanted to wallow in self-pity.

Was Yahweh so harsh that Cain could not have found forgiveness? The point is that Cain didn't feel truly sorry for his sin. He didn't want to repent. When he was punished, he only felt sorry for himself!

Self-pity is a cancer of the spiritual life. It eats away at a person's morale and well being and destroys the desire to fight back at one's sins and hurdle one's difficulties.

Self-pity is a self-defeating attitude. You may recognize wrong in your life, you may see your mistakes, but self-pity will cause you to act as if the situation is hopeless. Self-pity is expressed in the attitude, "Que sera, sera – whatever will be, will be". Rather than change, fighting to pull yourself out of the rut, you just accept the way things are. But self-pity will never make you happy because it is a symptom of self-righteousness!

JUSTIFICATION OF SINS

The seventh and last symptom of self-righteousness to be discussed in this article is justification of sin.

The truly self-righteous, self-oriented person will justify his own sins. Being righteous in his own eyes, it is easy for him to think he does not have any real sins. So when a fault or a problem is pointed out to him, he justifies and excuses it. This justification makes wrong seem right in his eyes.

However, long before he comes to the point of calling out and out sin right and good, the self-righteous person hides his eyes from his own sins.

In Revelation 3:17 we see how this self-righteous attitude works. A great deal of self-righteousness is imputed to the Laodiceans. They have an “answer for everything”, including their spiritual slothfulness. In the eyes of Yahweh, they are “lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot...” But this is not so in their own eyes. They say, “I am rich, and I am made rich, and I have need of nothing...” They justify their lukewarm attitude. In their own minds they make it right.

In Job 32:1-2, we find that Job “justified himself rather than Yahweh”. Job was experiencing a physical trial. Seemingly, he was being punished by Yahweh. So he searched his own heart but could not find a reason for his plight. Therefore, Job concluded that since he was not wrong, Yahweh had to be at fault. He felt all of his trials were totally undeserved – that Yahweh was unfair and unjust for treating him in such a manner. He wanted to argue the point with Yahweh.

In one translation we read that Job wanted an umpire or an unbiased judge to sit in judgment between him and Yahweh (Job 23). This is the height of self-righteousness!

Yahweh finally answered Job’s self-justifying arguments in Job 40:8, “Will you also set aside My judgment; will you condemn Me so that you may be justified?” This, in fact, is what had happened.

Then Yahweh was able to convince Job that his attitude was wrong and Job finally saw his own folly. We read his repentant words in Job 42:3, “So I declared, but did not understand things too wonderful for me; yea, I did not know”. He had come to REAL REPENTANCE, loathed himself, surrendered to Yahweh and now repented in dust and ashes (Job 42:6).

SELF-righteousness – or YAHWEH’S Righteousness?

Job had earlier said, as we read in Job 29:14, “I put on righteousness and it clothed me...” And he continued to boast of himself. But that righteousness clearly was not Yahweh’s righteousness.

In Philippians 3:4-9 the Apostle Paul plainly defined the difference between human self-righteousness and Yahweh’s righteousness. Paul began by listing the various things he could be “proud” of. He then

went on to show in verse 8 that he counted all of these past glories as nothing – as so much DUNG!

In verse 9 we read why he had given it up, “and be found in Him [Yahshua]; not having my own righteousness of law, but through the faith of Messiah, having the righteousness of YAHWEH on faith”.

Paul recognized the difference between self-righteousness and Yahweh’s righteousness. Before his conversion, Paul had been self-righteous. But after his conversion he became filled with Yahweh’s righteousness as a result of the faith of Yahshua in him.

In Romans 10:1-3, Paul showed the difference between the Israelites’ righteousness and Yahweh’s righteousness. Lacking the Holy Spirit, the Israelites tried to establish their own righteousness, which became self-righteousness. In verse 3 we read, “For being ignorant of the righteousness of YAHWEH, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, they did not submit to the righteousness of YAHWEH”.

Brethren, are any of us still trying to do the same thing?

Yahshua said that of Himself He could do nothing (John 5:19). He knew it. He admitted it. As a result, His righteousness was not self-righteousness; it was Yahweh’s righteousness. He did not trust in His own power to be righteous. He prayed without ceasing and asked Yahweh to impart His righteousness to Him.

And just as Yahshua looked to His Father for that strength, so we are admonished to “But seek first the kingdom of YAHWEH and His righteousness...” (Matt. 6:33)

The fight against self-righteousness is a constant battle. It involves daily contact with Yahweh through prayer and Bible study – having Yahweh and Yahshua through the Holy Spirit living in you. As Yahweh continues to live in you, His righteousness will replace self-righteousness.

Galatians 2:20 shows Paul lived with the power of Yahshua in him. It was his contact with Yahweh that gave him the righteousness that he manifested daily. Zechariah 4:6 also explains it: “Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says YAHWEH of Hosts.” It is total trust in Yahweh for the righteousness that can make you truly righteous. We must do our part, certainly, but the real strength

and the help to do it comes from Yahweh. And we must seek His help in prayer every day.

So during this Passover season, let's each examine himself or herself, searching our hearts and examining our motives, and begin to root out every tract and vestige of self-righteousness!

PROVE ALL THINGS! When is the Passover.....

Leviticus 23:5-6 states, **“In the first month, on the fourteenth of the month, between the evenings is the Passover to YAHWEH. And on the fifteenth day of this month is the Feast of Unleavened to YAHWEH; you shall eat unleavened things seven days.”**

From this scripture it should be clear that the Passover and days of unleavened bread are two different ceremonies, or why would Yahweh separate them in Leviticus 23? The Passover is on the 14th day of the first month of the year (Aviv), and the feast of unleavened bread begins on the 15th day of the month, but the Jewish community keeps the Passover on the 15th day of Aviv, the first day of unleavened incorrectly, and some have also incorrectly followed in their footsteps.

Early on, when the Israelites came out of Egypt, Yahweh commanded them to keep the Passover on the beginning of the 14th day of the first month, after sunset (Ex. 12:6). They were then commanded to stay in their homes until the break of day (Ex. 12:22). Then on the daylight portion of the 14th, they were to quickly gather their possessions and leave the city of Goshen where they lived, and gather at Ramses, the capitol city of Egypt. Scripture tells us that the Israelites left Ramses on the night portion of the fifteenth day of the first month. (Deut. 16:1b) **“For in the month of Aviv, YAHWEH your Elohim brought you out of Egypt by night.”** (Num. 33:3a) **“And they pulled up stakes from Ramses in the first month on the fifteenth day of the first month.”**

We are told that we are to celebrate each year and commemorate the coming out of Egypt on the fifteenth of Aviv. (Ex. 12:42) **“It is a night of celebration to YAHWEH, for bringing them out from the land of Egypt. This night is a celebration for all the sons of Israel to their generations.”**

This is not the night of the Passover, but the following night. Many refer to this festive meal as the night to be much observed. The reason the Jews keep Passover on the 15th instead of the 14th is that they have combined these two ceremonies into one.

Exodus 12:8 tells us that we are to eat the Passover with unleavened bread. Now if this were the fifteenth, it would already be unleavened bread, there would be no reason to even state this unless it was the 14th, the day before unleavened bread. Also, everything Yahweh names, he does for a purpose. The name Passover is named for the death angel passing over the Israelites at midnight. Now there may be two evenings to a day, the beginning and ending evening, but there is only one midnight. If the 14th day is Passover, then the Passover meal was eaten early on the 14th, and the death angel passed over at midnight on the 14th. Then the Israelites went to Ramses on the daylight portion of the 14th, and left Ramses the night of the 15th, as scripture states.

Let's look at the Gospel of Luke. Luke 22:7, **“And the day of the Unleavened came, on which the Passover must be slaughtered.”** Which day was this? It was the day before Yahshua was crucified, and when he was crucified, it was the daylight portion of the 14th, the day before the Holy Day of Leviticus 23:7. John 19:31 **“Then, since it was Preparation, that the bodies not remain on the tree on the Sabbath, for that Sabbath was a holy day.”**

Let us go back to Luke, and look at what Yahshua commanded his disciples at the beginning of the 14th of Aviv, the night before he died. Luke 22:8 **“And He sent Peter and John, saying, Having gone, prepare for us the Passover, that we may eat.”** Luke 22:11 **“And you will say to the housemaster of that house, Our Master says to you, Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?”** Luke 22:13 **“And having gone, they found as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover.”**

The Apostle Paul also tells us when we should observe the Passover meal.

I Cor. 11:23 **“For I received from the Master what I also delivered to you, that the Master Yahshua in the night in which He was betrayed took bread...”**

Clearly, scripture shows us that Yahshua kept his last Passover on the beginning of the 14th of Aviv, the same time the lambs were being killed (Lk. 22:7), then was taken at midnight of the fourteen by the Pharisees and died on the daylight portion of the 14th still on the Passover, to show He truly was the

Passover lamb. The Jew, according to their own tradition and not scripture, were keeping Passover the next day wrongly so, combining it with the night to be much observed. (John 18:28)

Feast of Sukkot (Tabernacles) 2011

It is truly one of the most exciting experiences that you will have in your life, to be blessed to spend a feast in Israel and take a Pilgrimage in the land. After reading the Holy Scriptures for so many years, to be able to see it all with your own eyes will be a life changing experience. We are trying to truly encourage representatives from countries all over the world to come and experience this rare blessing, and represent their given nation as **Zech 14:16** states. After spending the feast in Jerusalem you will never want to spend it anywhere else. As it states in

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

We are living in these times where Yahweh has brought Judah back to the land of Israel after 2500 years of Diaspora. Come and share what Yahweh is doing in His land Israel in these end times.

Before Sukkot you will arrive in the **Old City** and we will build our Sukkah before the opening night of the feast. Then, during Sukkot we will travel several days around the **Old City of Jerusalem** and you will get to see the **Mount of Olives**, **The City of David**, as well as **David's tomb** and the **room of the last supper**, and also the remains of the **House of Caiphas** where they still have today the remains of the scourging room where Yahshua would have been held the night before His crucifixion. We also hope to possibly go to **the Israeli Knesset** during Sukkot, as well as take you to a biblical park that will teach you everything there is to know from a Hebrew perspective on the harvest fruits of Sukkot and the land of Israel.

After Sukkot we will stop at the **Valley of Elah** where David fought Goliath, before stopping to visit Beersheba where Abraham made covenant with Yahweh and the well he dug with his own hands. We will also see Ekron that day and see the ancient remains of a Philistine village and archaeological artifacts that have been discovered.

The next day you will get to see sunrise at Masada, Qumran, and the Cave of the Columns, where the famous copper scroll spoke about, then go through the Jordan Valley to Bet Shean.

The next day we will travel in the north and you will be blessed to see **Nazareth** the very village where Yahshua grew up. Then we will go through The **Jezreel valley** where Ahab's Palace was and ride through the beautiful landscape near Mount Gilboa as we continue through the valley of Armageddon on our way to the famous 1st century city and port build by Herod called Ceasarea.

The next day we will go by Kursi where Yahshua cast the demons into the pigs, and Capernaum where He spent most of His ministry in the north and will end the day taking **a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee**, the very water that Yahshua walked on. And then also visit Bethsaida, the fishing village where Peter and Andrew was from as well as being the ancient old testament city of Gesher.

The last day of the pilgrimage we will see go north through the **Hula Valley** to **tel Dan**, which has a beautiful nature reserve and the altar that Jeroboam built for the golden calf. **Caesarea Philippi**, where Yahshua revealed himself to His disciples and also see King Agrippa's Palace before we head down and see the only Pomegranate winery in the world. The next day will be an early departure in the morning for the airport if you are not coming to the bible school.

This would include **16 days and 15 nights** during the feast and the tour, **NOT including airfare, but including** all touring costs during and after Sukkot with two meals daily.. We have been given a very good price of **\$1599 per person based on double room occupancy**. Children under 2 are free and Children between 2 and 11 are **25% off**, and child 12 and over are full price. You can download all feast information and applications at www.coyhwh.com . **The price is \$1599 per person is based on double room occupancy.**

RETURN TO THE LAND PROGRAM 2011



(Math 24:32)

But learn the parable of the fig tree

Return To the Land is a program designed by Hayahad Bible Seminars in conjunction with Jewish Organizations in Israel to help those now living in the nations to understand and experience exactly what was involved in creating the modern state of Israel.

We are living in one of the most fantastic times in the history of humanity. To live in the time to see Israel become a nation again after 2520 years of Diaspora and to grow into the nation they are today.

That struggle to regain their homeland did not come easy but took much hard work, dedication and the blessing of the Elohim of Heaven to make this a reality.

The program will be focused on helping those in the nations to understand the struggles, hardships and perseverance that it took on behalf of our brother Judah to be the nation they are today.

We will have lectures on everything from Holocaust survivors and the starting of the Kibbutzim, who were among the first ones to come back to the land, to young Israelis who are learning their place in modern society.

In addition, we will hear from senior military officials down to everyday young Israeli soldiers to try to comprehend what they go through on a daily basis living amongst enemies that want to destroy them.

Our students will be privileged to see everything from archeological sites to military institutions and the Yad VaShem Holocaust museum to fully understand what sacrifice was required by Judah to be a nation again today.

Become an Ambassador for Israel



2 Cor 5:20- *Then on behalf of Messiah, we are ambassadors, as Yahweh is exhorting through us*

Rev 5: 10- *and made us kings and priests to our Elohim; and we shall reign on the earth.*

Scripture clearly tells us that to be true believers we will be Kings and Priests of the Most High Elohim in His Kingdom and that we are now Ambassadors for Yahweh's soon coming Kingdom. To this end, we will teach and train our students how to prepare for this most important job. Ambassadors are not just sent, but they must be trained for the position and country that they are going to.

We are truly focused on training our students in leadership, young and old. What a true Ambassador does, and how he ought to behave. Whether you are just getting out of school and want to dedicate your life as a servant of Elohim or you are older

and want to make that next step in your calling to a more complete role in serving our Heavenly Father and His children.

In royal families, children are trained from birth to prepare to someday take the throne. Many people will spend years of their life going to worldly learning institutions to learn secular skills that most will not even be used in the Kingdom age, don't you think it is worth a few months of your life to learn skills that you will take into our Heavenly Father's Kingdom?