

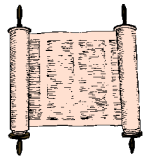
May-June 2006

YAHSHUA'S WITNESS MAGAZINE

Declaring a new and living way. (Heb. 10:20)

*My right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call
unto them, they stand up together
. (Isa. 48:13)*

A publication of Yahweh's Evangelical Assembly



Yahshua's Witness Magazine

is dedicated to His bride. Yahshua will be returning soon to receive His own unto Himself (Jn. 14:3). His bride must make herself ready (Rev. 19:7). A person who is called out of this world by the Father, who repents of his/her sins, is baptized in the name of Yahshua the Messiah (Acts 2:38), the only name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12), and receives the Holy Spirit must come to know Him as the Scriptures declare and witness of Him (Jn. 5:39-47). Peter encouraged, "But grow in grace, and the knowledge of our Sovereign and Saviour Yahshua the Messiah," 2 Pet. 3:18. We will, with Yahweh's help and the Spirit of Truth, seek to reveal a most wondrous Savior and Redeemer, a Savior and Redeemer that much of the world has spoken of, dreamed of, hoped for, but truly never known. While much of the world looks to a savior, the savior of whom they have been taught has become corrupted. Another has been substituted in the true Savior's place. Those who are called out of this world and given to Him are likened unto virgins. But in accordance with His own parable of those virgins, only five are wise while the other five are foolish. The five wise are able to enter into the planned marriage with the Messiah, but the five foolish have the door closed to them (Mt. 25:1-13). Let's be wise, remember our betrothal to the Messiah and the virginity to which He has restored us (2 Cor. 11:1-2), resist the wiles of the devil and look to and prepare for a joyous and glorious marriage that will endure for all eternity. HalleluYah!!!!

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OUR COVER: The heavens are so awe inspiring. Yahweh proclaims that His Right Hand spanned the heavens. His Right Hand, of course, is Yahshua. Recently, science has discovered that it didn't take billions of years for everything to expand, cool and slowly develop into the stars, galaxies, constellations, etc., that we see at night and through the various types of telescopes. It was all created so instantaneously that it defies the physical laws that seem to govern and influence everything. Scripture reveals that Yahshua not only created it, but upholds it all by the power of His word (Heb. 1:3). Read the article entitled "Physicists Prove Universe Created by Yahweh" by Johnny McCarty on page 14. It's a real eye-opener.

For comments or inquiries please write to YEA, P. O. Box 31, Atlanta, TX 75551.

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Or members.cox.net/thomasahobbs/yea_0.htm

A WARNING TO OUR LEADERS

The Prophet Isaiah proclaims, “Yahweh will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses. What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? saith Yahweh, Elohim of hosts?” Isa. 3:14-15.

The Hebrew word for “poor” is *aniy*. It also can be translated as; humble, afflicted, depressed, needy, etc.

The Hebrew word for “ancients” is *zaqen*. It also can be translated as; old, aged, elder, **senator**, etc.

The Hebrew word for “princes” is *sar*. It can also be translated as; captain, chief, general, governor, keeper, lord, master, prince, ruler, steward, etc.

The Hebrew word for “eaten up” is *ba ‘ar*. It can also be translated as; to kindle, i.e. consume (by fire or by eating); also, to be(-come) brutish, bring (put, take) away, burn, (cause to) eat (up), feed, heat, kindle, set ((on fire)), waste.

The Hebrew word for “spoil” is *gezelah*. It can also be translated as; that (he had robbed) (which he took violently away), spoil, violence.

Now let’s project these verses into our modern day world. Our princes, our leaders in this modern day world are the president, senators, representatives and judges of the so-called Federal Government. Of course, on the state level, we have the governors, senators, representatives and judges. In the counties we have the commissioners and judges. In the cities we have the mayors, city councilmen, etc.

These elected officials find themselves in very powerful offices of influence. There are lobbyists who, because of greed, bribe these officials in order to gain favorable concessions and laws, which exalt their clients while abasing the people and true intent and purpose of the government.

These leaders are eating up the vineyard of Yahweh in the form, not only of bribes, but taxes. Taxes are “spoil.” They are forcefully taken from the people against their will. If one refuses to pay his taxes, the government will come and forcefully take them from him and in many cases cast them into prison to serve time for the “evasion of taxes,” or impose grievous payments upon them, with interest, until the so-called debt is supposedly paid.

Furthermore, these leaders take the spoil, the taxes and “brutishly” spend (consume) them in bills, unread and hidden addendums to bills that only benefit special interest groups. The process is called “pork barrel.” Let’s see, doesn’t this refer to the uncleanness and the excesses of this system?

Even further, the judicial system rewards itself with fines and penalties upon perpetrators of crime, violence and other vicious deeds committed upon the innocent, while the victim that suffers the affliction is conveniently cast aside. Many victims suffer mentally, emotionally, and financially for life. In other words, there is no restitution paid to the victim, it is paid to the government instead.

Again, Isaiah decrees, “Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness which they have prescribed; To turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor (*aniy*) of my people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless! And what will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the desolation which shall come from far? to whom will ye flee for help? and where will ye leave your glory? Without me they shall bow down under the prisoners, and they shall fall under the slain. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still,” (10:1-4).

Mr. President, Mr./Ms. Senator, Mr./Ms. Representative, Mr./Ms. Governor, Mr./Ms. Mayor, Mr./Ms. Judge, Mr./Ms. Councilman please take note and warning. Yahweh warns that He is going to enter into judgment because you have exalted yourselves to be leaders, but have failed to properly execute your offices. You have made yourselves gloriously powerful and rich while the people are “afflicted” by your egregious behavior. You are eating up Yahweh’s vine and taking the spoil into your own houses. There is yet time to repent of your ways before the “day of visitation.” But we know that you don’t pay attention to Him, His word, nor His warnings, therefore, you will suffer the consequences in that day.

Yahweh promises to soon overthrow your corrupt system and institute a Ruler and government, which will truly bring about peace, rest, prosperity and hope for the afflicted. That Ruler is Yahshua the Messiah and His government is the Kingdom of Heaven. May that day come soon. HalleluYah!!!

JH

YAHWEH'S PRINCIPLES, OUR STANDARD

Do you think that you are living by the right principles and standards? Do you think that you have it all together? Elder Dave Ganton explains where our principles come from and how those principles must be the standards that we initiate and enact in our lives.

Yahweh has many descriptive titles attached to His name. These titles describe not only who He is but what He is, and what He does. One of these is Yahweh Rapha. This, in English, means Yahweh our healer. His healing power has no limits. He has the power to heal physically, spiritually, and emotionally if you will allow Him to work with you. In this study we will explore an aspect of Yahweh's healing power that may be overlooked. This is the healing of relationships between neighbours. According to Yahweh's principles, our neighbour is anyone we come in contact with in our daily lives, including spouses, children, co-workers, and yes even strangers that we may encounter for various reasons.

When a problem arises between us we cannot go back and right all of the wrongs that were done, and we cannot go back and start again where we left off with all of the same problems we had before. There must be a new start, a fresh beginning. In all that we do as believers, and followers of Yahweh, the Bible must be our guide. Scripture sets us principles to go by.

A SEPARATION

At one time, all of us were in the position with Yahweh that we often find ourselves in with each other. **Isaiah 59:2 but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your Elohim, and your sins have hid his face from you so that he does not hear.** There was a separation between us that we could not close nor heal. When Yahweh called us to follow His Son Yahshua, we were His enemies. He was not our enemy, we were His enemy, and He wanted to have us as His friends, since the

whole purpose of His creating us was to love us. This He does without measure. **John 3:16.** However, our sins separated us from Him. A reconciliation was necessary between us. A reconciliation was not possible with us in the condition that we were in. We could not go back and undo all of our sins or make right all of the wrongs that we had done. We were all under an eternal death sentence. **(Ro. 6:23)** Yahweh, in His wisdom and mercy, made a place from which we could have a **new beginning**, a fresh start with a clean slate. Yahweh made the initial call which began the reconciliation process. **(Jn. 6:44).**

Through Yahshua, He forgave us, wiped out the past, and set a point at which we could begin again. "And

Note this; "forgive" is a verb in Hebrew, Greek, and English. A verb requires action to complete it.

you, who were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, Elohim made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses," **Col. 2:13.**

Note this; "forgive" is a verb in Hebrew, Greek, and English. A verb requires action to complete it. Yahweh took this action. "For Elohim so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For Elohim sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him," **Jn. 3:16-17.** "...having canceled the bond which stood against us with its legal demands; this he set

aside, nailing it to the cross," **Col. 2:14.** This is the action that completed the verb, "forgive." Yahshua is the evidence of Yahweh's forgiveness. It is through Yahshua that our debt was marked paid and our slate wiped clean.

There is another aspect of Yahweh's forgiveness that We must note at this point. He also put the wrongs of the past out of His mind. "For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and **I will remember their sins no more,**" **Heb. 8:12.** He does not keep a record of our wrongs. **(1 Cor. 13:5 [IGNT]** Last part, sets us an example. More about this later.) Yahweh has the power to do this and we can take Him at His word. Yahweh, in His love and mercy, has created a new point from which we can start. The past is forgotten. From this point forward we must strive not to repeat the wrongs of the past.

Yahweh has initiated and brought into reality forgiveness and reconciliation. However, this is not just a one-time forgiveness. Since we are still carnal, we will sin occasionally. (These are inadvertent sins that He will forgive. Intentional sin is covered in **Hebrews 6:1-8** and **Hebrews 10:26-31**). When we do sin inadvertently Yahweh is faithful and will forgive us. **(1 John 1:7-10** and **1 John 2:1-2)** How many times will he forgive us? This question will be answered in the following sections of this study.

YAHWEH'S PRINCIPLES

Yahweh has set the principles of forgiveness and given us an example by using them in forgiving us. It is these same principles that He expects us to use in forgiving others who have wronged us, both those in the faith

and those in the world. Why those in the world? Yahweh's forgiveness through Yahshua is not just for us (followers of "The Way") but for the whole world. (1John 2:1-2) Our forgiveness must be the same way.

LOVE, THE FIRST STEP

Let us begin now to apply these principles to ourselves in our dealings with others. The first step in forgiveness is love. If we do not love we cannot forgive. The word used most often for love in Hebrew is *Ahav* and in Greek it is *Agapao*. These words are both **verbs** that denote action to complete.

Can we truly love someone who has wronged us? We are commanded to do so. (More on this shortly) There is a very important point that we must understand. Mankind, on his own cannot meet the requirements to love and forgive as Yahweh does. Why? "Because the carnal mind is enmity against Elohim; for it is not subject to the law of Elohim, nor indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please Elohim. 9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of Elohim dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Messiah, he is none of his," **Ro. 8:7-9**.

It is the *Ruach Ha Qodesh*, the Holy Spirit within us that will enable us to obey the commands to love and forgive. Yahweh, through the Holy Spirit, is our teacher and source of our power to obey. He is love. (1 Jn. 4:8) He who does not love does not know Elohim; for Elohim is love. "And hope does not disappoint us, because Elohim's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us," **Ro. 5:5**. We love, because he first loved us. (1 Jn. 4:19) "For Elohim did not give us a Spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control," **2 Tim. 1:7**. Believers have an advantage that those in the world do not have. They have Yahweh as partner and adviser in their life walk together. In the world "two's company, three's a crowd". In Yahweh's way of life,

"Two's company, three's a blessing", Yahweh is the third partner in every relationship we have as believers.

Since the above is true, it is the responsibility for converted recipients of the *Ruach Ha Qodesh* to follow the principles of love and forgiveness, set by Yahweh and exhibited in Yahshua, and to show that example to those we encounter during our lives. In doing this we are accurately representing our heavenly Father and His Son, and are faithful ambassadors.

Since love is the first step in forgiveness, let's investigate Yahweh's definition of love. We will find it in the book of Corinthians.

SPIRITUAL MIRROR

The Bible is our spiritual mirror. When we look in it we must look at how it reflects us personally. It reflects to us what we should be and what Yahweh wants us to be. Our goal in this life's walk with Yahweh is to grow to the point that this mirror will be an accurate reflection of us as it is of Him and His Son. In the love chapter we have Yahweh's definition

*I would like to point out an ingredient in this fruit —
Patience.*

of love. "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails," **1 Cor. 13: 4-8**.

When we look at the different points in the above scriptures we can see how accurately they reflect Yahweh's love for us. We must look at each of these points and ask how accurately they reflect our love for others. One point I would like to bring to your attention is; **it keeps no record of wrongs**. Yahweh does not keep a record of our wrongs. Remember;

Heb. 10:17 "I will remember their sins and their misdeeds no more."

We must be as willing, as Yahweh is, to forget the wrongs committed against us. When we do this it opens the way for a new beginning. Yahweh has given us this point of new beginning and we also must give this point of new beginning to others as well or this scripture is not a true reflection of us.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Another excellent scriptural mirror to look into is the fruit of the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law," **Gal. 5:22-23**. This is the fruit that the Holy Spirit within us must be producing.

Notice that the above points are not "fruits" but are all a part of one fruit. If one ingredient is lacking the fruit is not complete. Note that the first ingredient in this fruit that is mentioned is "Love". Also note from 1 Cor. 13:13 that of the three things that abide forever, faith, hope, and love, that the most important of these is love. This is because Yahweh is love. "He who does not love does not know Elohim; for Elohim is love," **1 Jn. 4:8**. I would like to point out an ingredient in this fruit — **Patience**. This could be the most difficult ingredient to let grow within us. Please note that the first point mentioned in the love chapter is patience. Perhaps it is mentioned first because it is the most important point in showing true love. Without patience with others it is nearly impossible to reflect the rest of the ingredients in both scriptures. With Yahweh's Spirit within us, let us look at the two great commandments, realizing that we do have the power to obey them. (**2 Tim. 1:7**)

THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

The first and greatest commandment is to love Yahweh above everything. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he

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 great and first commandment, And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself,' Mat. 22:36-39. We will fulfil the first great commandment in obeying the second. "If any one says, 'I love Elohim' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love Elohim whom he has not seen," **1 Jn. 4:20.**

There is something here to take careful note of. The command is to love our neighbour as we love ourselves, **not** love our neighbour as he loves us. We are to love our neighbour whether he loves us or not. Yahshua tells us this very thing. "For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?" **Mat. 5:46.** "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them," **Lk. 6:32.** How do we show this love even if they don't? "But I say unto you, **Love your enemies, bless them** that curse you, **do good to them** that hate you, and **pray for them** which spitefully use you, and persecute you," **Mat. 5:44.** "**Bless them** that curse you, and **pray for them** which spitefully use you," **Lk. 6:28.**

This is not a principle exclusive to the New Testament. Yahweh does not change. "If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall surely bring it back to him again. If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying under its burden, you shall refrain from leaving him with it, you shall help him to lift it up," **Ex. 23:4-5.**

The apostle John tells us not to love in words only. "Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth," **1 Jn. 3:18.** "For we are his workmanship, created in Messiah Yahshua for **good works**, which Elohim prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them," **Eph. 2:10.**

FORGIVENESS

Let us look for a moment at what we have learned about the principles of forgiveness as applied by Yahweh. He desired to forgive us. This desire sprang from the great, all encompassing love, He has for us. We were His enemies, disobedient and hostile to Him, yet He forgave us. He reconciled with us while we were His enemies. Take very careful note of this; **Yahweh did not require a penalty to be paid by us for our sins.** Yahshua paid our penalty. This concept is very important in our forgiveness of others. The carnal nature wants to get back at those that wrong us. We want to exact a penalty from them. We desire vengeance. This is why there are arguments, assaults, and murders etc. According to the principles of forgiveness set by Yahweh and exhibited in Yahshua, we cannot require a penalty to be paid by those who wrong us. We must leave it in Yahweh's hands. Consider the following; "Do not say, 'I'll pay you back for this wrong!' Wait for Yahweh, and he will deliver you," **Prov. 20:22 (NIV).** "Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what

The carnal nature wants to get back at those that wrong us.

is noble in the sight of all," **Ro. 12:17.** "See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all," **1 Thes. 5:15.** "Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing," **1 Pt. 3:9.**

Truly converted believers take note. If we claim Yahshua as our Messiah, and we are His ambassadors we must follow His example and represent Him exactly as He is. "When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he trusted to him who judges justly. We have been called to give praise and honor to Yahweh and Yahshua in word and in deed and to reflect their love and mercy to those

yet in darkness," **1 Pt. 2:23.** "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, Elohim's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light," **1 Pt. 2:9.**

"Maintain good conduct among the Gentiles, so that in case they speak against you as wrongdoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify Elohim on the day of visitation," **1 Pt. 2:12.**

WE SET THE STANDARDS

The title of this study is, Yahweh's Principles, Our Standards. In this section we will come to understand that it is **we** who set the standard that Yahweh will use in forgiving us. Yahweh sets the principles but we set the standard. There are many scriptures that verify this. Following are a few: "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses," **Mat. 6:14-15.**

Notice the prayer outline that Yahshua gave when asked how one should pray, especially,

"And forgive us our shortcomings, **as we also have forgiven those who have failed in their duty towards us.**" **Mat. 6:12 (Weymouth Translation,** which makes the meaning much clearer.) Note that we are to even ask that Yahweh forgive us with the same standard that we use to forgive others.

This is a very serious matter not to be taken lightly. If someone has wronged you and you do not forgive them, you have made the judgment that they are not worthy to be forgiven. Consider this; "For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get," **Mat. 7:2 .** If we wish to be shown mercy and be forgiven by Yahweh, we had better set our standards very high in dealing with our fellowman. Note the following; "For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy; yet

mercy triumphs over judgment,” **Jas. 2:13**.

The parable of the unmerciful servant has a wealth of instruction on this subject. **Matthew 18:23-34**. Pay careful attention to **verse 35**, “So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother **from your heart**.” From the heart means that you not only must forgive, but you must **want** to forgive. This want or desire to forgive comes from the love that we must have for our fellow human. Remember, we have Yahweh's love within us through the Holy Spirit and it is this love that empowers us and that we reflect to our neighbour.

NO LIMITS

Since Yahshua's disciples were still very much carnal minded, they asked a question that is natural to all of us. “Then Peter came up and said to him, ‘Master, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?’ Yahshua said to him ‘I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven,’” **Mat. 18:21-22**.

If one wishes to do the math and spend his time counting the wrongs done to us by individuals, then one must forgive an individual four hundred and ninety times. However, keeping in mind that the measure we give others is the measure Yahweh will give us in return, if we are going to count our neighbor's sins against us, we most assuredly must be counting the number of times we sin against Yahweh. If we count our neighbor's sins, Yahweh will count ours. Consider this scripture; “Blessed is the man whose sin Yahweh does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit,” **Psa. 32:2**. Let us strive to follow Yahweh's example and not remember our neighbor's sins against us. (**Jer. 31:34, Heb. 8:12, Heb. 10:17**)

RECONCILIATION

With true forgiveness comes reconciliation. Reconciliation is the action that completes forgiveness,

whether between us and Yahweh, or us and our neighbor. Remember, “love” and “forgive” are both verbs. This means they require action to complete. Without the action that they demand they are empty words. Let's use James' instruction concerning faith to help us understand this concept more clearly. It is the same principle. “So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. But some one will say, ‘You have faith and I have works.’ Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith,” **Jas. 2:17-18**.

Applying this same biblical principle to forgiveness, it is meaningless without the actions to prove it. As Yahweh provided us with a fresh starting point in our relationship to Him, we must provide that fresh starting point for our brothers and sisters. This is the beginning of reconciliation that completes forgiveness. This principle is doubly important to believers. We will be sure Yahweh hears us if we follow Yahshua's instruction.

“So if you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that

With true forgiveness comes reconciliation.

your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift,” **Mat. 5:23-24**. (The inference here is, if you don't then **your gift will not be accepted**.)

This principle can also work in reverse. If you are offering your gift or prayer at the altar of Yahweh and remember that you have something against your brother (anyone) you must first make that right, and then offer your prayer. (Could this be why prayers go unanswered?) The only way that we can have something against our brother, or neighbour, is if there is something that we have not forgiven. If we are harboring ill feelings about someone, then there has

been no forgiveness. With forgiveness, ill feeling or resentment is replaced with love and concern for the other party. When the love and concern is present, a new beginning point has been created for the offender, even if he doesn't know it.

This brings a question. If this person does not know that I have forgiven him, how can I be reconciled to him? Perhaps you can't be right away. But you have created a new starting point that in the future could bear fruit. There is a monumental scriptural example of this very thing, in which we have all received this type of forgiveness before we even knew we were forgiven.

YAHSHUA'S EXAMPLE

Consider Yahshua, “And Yahshua said, ‘**Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do,**’ And they cast lots to divide his garments,” **Lk. 23:34**. Let us make this very personal. Each and every one of us is the “them” that Yahshua asked His Father to forgive. I was not even born, yet Yahshua asked the Father to forgive me. We are all responsible for the death of Yahshua. We are all guilty of murdering the author of life. I did not know that I was forgiven until I was twenty-six years old. However Yahshua had created the new starting point when He forgave me and died to prove it. This starting point of reconciliation did not bear fruit in me for nearly two thousand years. It was His love and kindness that drew me to Him. It will be His love and kindness reflected from you that will at some point bear fruit in the one that you forgive. The first move is yours, and mine, and every truly converted recipient of the Holy Spirit.

May Yahweh in His love and mercy grant us the desire and the power to follow His principles and set the standard at the highest point and be that beacon in the darkness that reflects His glory to our neighbor. “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do

(Continued on page 23)

THE FIRST MONTH FOCUSES ON YAHSHUA

PART II

In the last issue, we discovered how the first month testifies of Yahshua. Another action takes place during the first month, which also leads to the second annual Holy Day observance. This article will reveal how Yahshua and His firstfruits are tied together.

THE WAVE SHEAF

Another important event that took place during the days of unleavened bread, which typified Yahshua was the offering of the so-called wave sheaf. Much can be gleaned concerning this wave sheaf if we study it carefully.

Israel was commanded, “Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto Yahweh. And the meat offering thereof shall be two tenth deals of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire unto Yahweh for a sweet savour: and the drink offering thereof shall be of wine, the fourth part of an hin. And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your Elohim: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete: Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto Yahweh,” Lev. 23:10-16.

This wave sheaf was to be the very

first of sheaf or *omer* of the harvest. It was the firstfruits which was to be offered to Yahweh to celebrate the harvest itself. They couldn’t even begin to eat of the new harvest until this wave sheaf had been offered. The Hebrew name for this wave sheaf is quite revealing in itself for it was named the *omer reshuyth*.

An *omer* is simply a measure. The term *reyshiyth* has to do once again with a “beginning.” Remember that Yahshua is the “beginning.” This *omer* was the beginning of the harvest, but it also was the beginning of a count down to the next holy day season. We will deal with this count

Much can be gleaned concerning this wave sheaf if we study it carefully.

shortly, but first, let’s look at this term “*omer*.”

THE OMER

“Wave sheaf” is translated from the Hebrew terms *omer reyshiyth*. As stated, the *omer* is a measure. What is an *omer*? How much is an *omer*?

In the account of gathering the manna in the wilderness, we find that each Israelite went out daily for five days gathering the manna, which was measured out with an *omer*, “And when **they did mete it with an omer**, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating,” Ex. 16:18.

But on the sixth day they gathered twice as much, two omers for each man, “And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses,” Ex. 16:22.

This *omer* of manna served several important aspects. It was “bread from heaven,” which was given for their sustenance. (v. 4) It was given to prove them whether they would walk in Yahweh’s law or not. (v. 4) It was given for them to see the glory of Yahweh. (v. 7) It was given so that they would know Yahweh was/is their Elohim. (v. 12) It was given to lead them to Yahweh’s seventh day Sabbath rest. (vv. 5, 22-23, 25-30)

The measure of the *omer* was, and is, an extremely important measure for us to consider. We find Israel being sustained by an *omer* of manna every day of their trek in the wilderness. We find that the measure of an “*omer*” is utilized to begin the count-down to the next holy day in succession.

It is in Exodus chapter sixteen that we learn what an “*omer*” is. We read, “Now an *omer* is the tenth part of an *ephah*,” Ex. 16:36. It is the tenth part of an *ephah*? What is an *ephah*? We must go all the way to the book of Ezekiel to learn what an *ephah* is, “Ye shall have just balances, and a just *ephah*, and a just bath. The *ephah* and the bath shall be of one measure, that the bath may contain the tenth part of an homer, and the *ephah* the tenth part of an homer: the measure thereof shall be after the homer,” Ez. 45:10-11.

Are you beginning to see that a tenth is an important figure with Yahweh? The *homer* was the overall measure just like in our day and age, a bushel is the overall measure. Then we begin to break the bushel down into pecks (dry measure) and/or quarts (liquid).

In Israel, the *homer* was the overall measure. A tenth of an *homer* was an *ephah*. A tenth of an *ephah* was an *omer*. Thus, the *omer* was a tithe of a tithe.

When Israel harvested their fields, they measured their grain in *homers*. They would tithe a tenth of an *homer*, an *ephah*, to the Levites, "And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation...But the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer as an heave offering unto Yahweh, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance," Num. 18:21, 24.

The Levites, in turn, would tithe a tenth of the *ephah*, an *omer*, to the High Priest, "And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying, Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for Yahweh, even a tenth part of the tithe. And this your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you, as though it were the corn of the threshingfloor, and as the fulness of the winepress. Thus ye also shall offer an heave offering unto Yahweh of all your tithes, which ye receive of the children of Israel; and ye shall give thereof Yahweh's heave offering to Aaron the priest. Out of all your gifts ye shall offer every heave offering of Yahweh, of all the best thereof, even the hallowed part thereof out of it," Num. 18:25-29.

The significance of this is that the High Priest was also a type of Yahshua the Messiah in His capacity

as the Heavenly High Priest after the order of Melchizedek. The *omer* (tithe of a tithe) was also a type of Yahshua. The *omer* of manna was a type of Him as well as the wave sheaf (*omer reyshiyth*) of barley.

THE ESTIMATION

The grain associated with Passover and the wave sheaf (*omer reyshiyth*) was barley. We can establish the price of an *omer* of barley by going to Lev. 27, "And if a man shall sanctify unto Yahweh some part of a field of his possession, then thy estimation shall be according to the seed thereof: **an homer of barley seed shall be valued at fifty shekels of silver,**" verse 16.

An *homer* of barley was valued at fifty shekels. This would make an *ephah* of barley, which is a tithe (tenth) of an *homer*, to be valued at five shekels. This, in turn, would make an *omer* of barley, which is a tenth or tithe of an *ephah*, to be valued at one half (1/2) shekel.

This value of the half shekel is important to understand for we read, "And Yahweh spake unto Moses, say-

Are you beginning to see that a tenth is an important figure with Yahweh?

ing, When thou takest the sum of the children of Israel after their number, then shall they give every man a ransom for his soul unto Yahweh, when thou numberest them; that there be no plague among them, when thou numberest them. This they shall give, every one that passeth among them that are numbered, half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary: (a shekel is twenty gerahs:) an half shekel shall be the offering of Yahweh. Every one that passeth among them that are numbered, from twenty years old and above, shall give an offering unto Yahweh. The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less than half a shekel, when they give an offer-

ing unto Yahweh, to make an atonement for your souls. And thou shalt take the atonement money of the children of Israel, and shalt appoint it for the service of the tabernacle of the congregation; that it may be a memorial unto the children of Israel before Yahweh, to make an atonement for your souls," Ex. 30:11-16.

Interestingly, the Passover was a memorial to be observed by Israel throughout their generations. The half shekel atonement money was a memorial. The value of the *omer* of barley was a half shekel, thus, this would also serve as an atonement for the children of Israel. It was also offered during the Passover season all being a memorial to Yahweh, all serving as a type or example of Yahshua and His one sacrifice.

Another very interesting item is the Hebrew term for "barley." Barley is pronounced *se'owrah* or *se'or*. The Hebrew spelling is very interesting for Strong's Exhaustive Concordance reveals that the basic Hebrew letters utilized for *se'or* is *shin, ayin, resh* (**4OW**). These same basic letters are utilized for the kid of the goats which was offered for an atonement on the day of atonement. The Hebrew term for goat is *sa'iyr*. The basic Hebrew letters are (**4OW**). Yahshua, of course, is our atonement (Ro. 5:9-11).

However, one other very interesting item that brings this all together is the gate or door to the tabernacle compound given to ancient Israel. The gate or door to the compound which had the altar of sacrifice just inside was called the *sha'ar*, and I am sure that by this time you guessed it, the basic Hebrew letters for this gate or door are (**4OW**). Yahshua proclaimed that He is the door (Jn. 10:7). In the *Omer*, the atonement money, the kid of the goats for atonement and the door or gate to the compound, we find very powerful representatives or types of Yahshua. These all work together in order to cause us to get focused on Him.

REYSHIYTH OR FIRSTFRUITS

The “wave sheaf” is the English translation for the Hebrew words *omer reyshiyth*. We have explored the term *omer*, let us now explore the term *reyshiyth*. *Reyshiyth* is defined as; from the same as 7218; the first, in place, time, order or rank (specifically, a firstfruit). It is generally translated as; beginning, chief(-est), first(-fruits, part, time), principal thing. (Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance, Hebrew Lexicon)

The *reyshiyth* is a firstfruit. By this it means that it is first in place, time, order or rank. It is the “beginning” of a thing. The firstborn son of a family is that family’s *reyshiyth*. Jacob told his oldest son, “Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning (*reyshiyth*) of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power,” Gen. 49:3.

The firstborn son had a special blessing, “If a man have two wives, one beloved, and another hated, and they have born him children, both the beloved and the hated; and if the firstborn son be hers that was hated: Then it shall be, when he maketh his sons to inherit that which he hath, that he may not make the son of the beloved firstborn before the son of the hated, which is indeed the firstborn: But he shall acknowledge the son of the hated for the firstborn, by giving him a double portion of all that he hath: for he is the beginning (*reyshiyth*) of his strength; the right of the firstborn is his,” Dt. 21:15-17.

The firstfruits of all things belonged to the priests, “The priests the Levites, and all the tribe of Levi, shall have no part nor inheritance with Israel: they shall eat the offerings of Yahweh made by fire, and his inheritance. Therefore shall they have no inheritance among their brethren: Yahweh is their inheritance, as he hath said unto them. And this shall be the priest’s due from the people, from them that offer a sacrifice, whether it be ox or sheep; and they shall give unto the priest the shoulder, and the two cheeks, and the maw. The

firstfruit (*reyshiyth*) also of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the first of the fleece of thy sheep, shalt thou give him. For Yahweh thy Elohim hath chosen him out of all thy tribes, to stand to minister in the name of Yahweh, him and his sons for ever,” Dt. 18:1-5.

The *omer reyshiyth* (wave sheaf) was a type of Yahshua the Messiah of whom Paul declares, “Paul, an apostle of Yahshua the Messiah by the will of Elohim, and Timotheus our brother, To the saints and faithful brethren in the Messiah which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from Yahweh our Father and the Sovereign Yahshua the Messiah.... Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible Elohim, **the firstborn** of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible

*Yahshua is the beginning
(reyshiyth) of all creation.*

and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And **he is the head of the body, the assembly: who is the beginning (reyshiyth), the firstborn from the dead**; that in all things he might have the preeminence., Col. 1:1-2, 12-18.

Notice that! Yahshua is **THE BEGINNING**, the *reyshiyth*! Paul here reveals that it was Yahshua Who created all things and furthermore, all things consist (are upheld) in and by Him. Yahshua is the beginning (*reyshiyth*) of all creation. Therefore, the Scriptures declare “In the beginning....” Gen. 1:1, and “beginning” is *reyshiyth*.

THE COUNT

Thus, the *omer reyshiyth* was the very first “omer” of the harvest. It was the beginning (*reyshiyth*) of the harvest season. But it was another type of beginning because it began the countdown to the next festival period which was termed *shavout*, the feast of weeks, or better known today as Pentecost.

Yahweh instructed concerning the wave sheaf, “Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: **on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it**,” Lev. 23:10-11.

Controversy has raged as to whether this “Sabbath” is the first day of unleavened bread, which is an annual holy day, or the seventh day Sabbath. The term for “the Sabbath” in verse 11 is *hashabbat*. The only day that was ever called *hashabbat* was the seventh day Sabbath.

The command continues, “And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; **seven sabbaths** shall be **complete**: Even **unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath** shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto Yahweh,” Lev. 23:15-16.

Seven Sabbaths were to be “complete.” The Hebrew for “complete” is *tamiym*. *Tamiym* has to do with being perfect, without blemish, without spot, undefiled, full, perfect, etc. Animals that were sacrificed were to be without blemish (*tamiym*). A blemish free week to Yahweh and the Hebrews was a week that started with day one and ended with the seventh day Sabbath.

Seven Sabbaths, seven sevens,

(Continued on page 23)

DISCUSSION BETWEEN A YAHWIST AND JEHOVAH'S WITNESS

This is the story of a spiritual encounter between Elder George E. Paña, representing Yahweh's Evangelical Assembly and Mr. Elido B Oracion, a defender of the Jehovah's Witnesses. It took place on February 20, 2006, at Crystal Motorcycle Transport Terminal, Crossing Sayre Highway-BUSCO Rd., North Poblacion, Maramag, Bukidnon, Philippines.

By Elder George E. Paña

Elder Paña is at the affirmative side while the Jehovah's Witness is at the negative. There were some spectators during the time of discussion.

Elder Paña:

In your presence, my dear friend, Jehovah's Witness and others who are here, I can prove by the references I have now in my hands, that Yahweh is the correct, original and true pronunciation of the heavenly Father's name and I can prove also with many references even your own books, that Jehovah is an incorrect, and erroneous pronunciation of our Creator's name.

(Then Elder Paña read the references proving that Yahweh is the true name of the heavenly Father. The references he utilized are The Word of Yahweh, New English Bible, Christian Community Bible, Encyclopedia Judaica, Encyclopedia Americana, Grolier Encyclopedia, Catholic booklets, Jehovah's Witness Books and a Filipino Catholic Bible.)

Jehovah's Witness:

He read their book and said, "We agree that Yahweh is true, but we utilize the name Jehovah because of people's familiarity with

it since the 14th century."

Elder Paña:

Can you read in the Holy Scripture where popularity should be a reason to call upon a name and worship it, even though it is erroneous and false?

Jehovah's Witness:

You are a deceiver!

How can you call the one a deceiver who is telling you the truth?

Elder Paña: You are calling me a deceiver, Mr. Jehovah's Witness. May I ask you a question? Is the name Yahweh true or false?

Jehovah's Witness:

True, of course!

Elder Paña:

How can you call the one a deceiver who is telling you the truth? The one who is teaching or telling people a falsehood is the true deceiver and liar.

Jehovah's Witness, commenting

desperately:

I can't believe your doctrine. You are just a very little group. We, the Jehovah's Witnesses, are millions in number all over the world.

Elder Paña:

Can you read a text in the Word of Yahweh telling us that we must not believe the little group's teachings even though they are true? My friend, Mr. Jehovah's Witness, please read Mat. 7:13-14 (Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and **few** there be that find it.); Lk. 12:32 (Fear not, **little flock**; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.); and Dt. 7:7 (Yahweh did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for **ye were the fewest of all people**.)

YAHWEH OR JEHOVAH?

Controversy rages as to the correct pronunciation of the name of the Creator. Can we prove which is correct? Or at least get to the closest form?

By Jerry Healan

The most accepted and traditional pronunciation of the name of the Heavenly Father is “Jehovah.” But is that the proper and correct way to pronounce His name and does it matter?

Let’s take the last question first. How many of us have had our own name misspelled or mispronounced? I know that I have many, many times. People get very technical and touchy over the correct pronunciation of their names. I must admit that it gets to be aggravating when people misspell my name or mispronounce it. How about you?

Does it matter when a check is written or a deed to some type of property (e.g. house, car, etc.) whether the name is correct or not? If the name appears incorrectly on such items then you must first sign it incorrectly and then sign your proper name or initial it. Some won’t even allow this unless they personally know and trust you.

The point is that it is very important to us and to the system of legality that people get our names correct. If it is so important to us, then what about the name of the most important Being in existence? What about the name of our Great Creator? Shouldn’t His name be very important not only to Him, but also to us? Once we think of it in these terms, doesn’t it go without saying that His name is very important?

The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia has this to say about the significance of names in the

Scriptures, “In many places throughout the OT *šem* (Hebrew for name) serves no greater purpose than to identify some person, place, or thing, and to distinguish this one from other persons, places, or things. But it would be quite incorrect to say that in the OT a name was just an identity tag and no more. There, as in other ancient literature, the name of a person most of the time revealed his character, his personality, even his destiny. In fact, a person’s name was often considered to be but an expression, indeed a revelation, of his true nature, as the many popular etymological explanations of names

The pronunciation Jehovah was unknown until 1520, when it was introduced by Galatinus...

given to people in the OT makes clear.

Because a person’s name is so closely related to what he is, *šem* comes also to mean ‘fame,’ ‘renown,’ ‘reputation.’ For one’s reputation, the name one makes for oneself, is but an extension of what that person is.” (Vol. 3, p. 481.)

If names were important to people, places and things, then the name of the Creator had to have much more intrinsic value and importance.

WHENCE COMES JEHOVAH?

The New Brown-Driver-Briggs-

Gesenius Hebrew-English Lexicon has this to say about the name Jehovah, “The pronunciation *Jehovah* was **unknown** until 1520, when it was introduced by Galatinus; but it was contested by Le Mercier, J. Drusius, and L. Capellus, as against grammatical and historical propriety.” (p. 218.)

Professor Anson F. Rainey of Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel, says, “The Anglicized form, Jehovah, is a ‘ghost word’ based on four consonants YHWH, with the vowels of another word, *adonai*, meaning, ‘my Lord.’ The Hebrew scribes of the Middle Ages put those vowels in to remind the reader to say *adonai* rather than pronounce the sacred Name. But in the first syllable, they nevertheless put in an *e* rather than an *a* so as not to cause anyone to see the syllable *ya-* and inadvertently blurt out the sacred Name!” (Biblical Archeology Review, 1985).

“The English form ‘Jehovah’ arose by a latinized combination of the four consonants (YHWH) with the vowel points that the Masoretes used to show that they meant the reader to say ‘Adonai’ when reading the tetragrammaton. That is, they left the consonants for ‘Yahweh’ in the text but put with them the vowels for ‘Adonai’ — *a, o, a*. Though the older English versions sometimes used this **hybrid form** with compound names (such as ‘Jehovah-Jireh’ [Gen. 22:14]), usually the divine name has been rendered by ‘the LORD,’ following the ancient Greek

translations of the OT, which commonly rendered Yahweh by *kýrios*.” (ISBE, Vol. 2, p. 507.)

The Encyclopedia Britannica, 14th Edition, Vol. 12 admits, “The pronunciation ‘Jehovah’ is an **error** resulting among Christians from combining the consonants *Yhwh* (*Jhvh*) with the vowels of ‘*Adhonay*, ‘Lord,’ which the Jews in reading the Scriptures substituted for the sacred name, commonly called the *tetragrammaton* as containing four consonants. It is first found in manuscripts of Martini’s *Pugio Fidei* (1278), belonging to the 14th century; and Galatinus (1518) is found arguing against abbreviating it to ‘Jova,’ on the analogy of the Latin *Jovis* (as proved by G. F. Moore).” (p. 995.)

Look at the various descriptions for the name *Jehovah* to wit, an error, a ghost word, a hybrid, an unknown, etc. Doesn’t that send up a warning flag that something is wrong with that pronunciation?

THE GREAT ERROR

One of the major problems with the whole controversy and concept that those who use the names *Jehovah* or *Yahweh* fall prey to is that they are calling the tetragrammaton (the four Hebrew letters that make up the name) consonants. There are two men who set the record straight concerning this, Josephus and Rabbi Arthur Green.

Josephus writes concerning the high priest entering the holy of holies on the Day of Atonement, “A mitre also of fine linen encompassed his head, which was tied by a blue riband, about which there was another golden crown, in which was engraven the sacred name [of God:] **it consists of four vowels**,” (The Works of Josephus, Book v., Chapter v., p. 556.)

Rabbi Green says, “I further betray my faith by the use of the

English word ‘God,’ rooted as it is in old Germanic **paganism**. I struggle with ways to replace this term in English but come up empty-handed. By ‘God,’ of course, I mean Y-H-W-H, the One of all being. This name of God is the starting point of all Jewish theology. It is to be read as an impossible construction of the verb ‘to be.’ HaYaH—that which was—HoWeH—that which is—and YiHYeH—that which will be—are here all forced together in a grammatically impossible conflation. *Y-H-W-H is a verb that has been artificially arrested in motion and made to function as a noun*. As soon as you try to grab hold of such a noun, it runs away from you and becomes a verb again. ‘Thought does not grasp you at all,’ as the wise have always known. Y-H-W-H as noun can be the bearer of predicates, but those too become elusive as soon as the verbal quality of the divine name reasserts itself. Try to say anything definitional about Y-H-W-H and it dashes off and becomes a verb again. This

Look at the wondrous glory of Yahweh’s name!

elusiveness is underscored by the fact that **all the letters that make up this name serve in ancient Hebrew interchangeably as consonants and as vowels**. Really **they are mere vowels, mere breath**. There is nothing hard or defined in their sound. The name of that which is most eternal and unchanging in the universe is also that which is wiped away as readily as a passing breath.” (Seek My Face, Speak My Name, p. 18.)

Look at the wondrous glory of *Yahweh*’s name! He has taken the most versatile letters of the Hebrew alphabet because they serve as both consonants and vowels, yet in their weakest state, as vowels, to make up His name. It is a name of power for it

carries with it the energy of action as a verb, and the glory of the nominative in the proper noun. In other words *Yahweh*’s name has all of the attributes of a sentence, noun and verb, subject and predicate all wrapped up into one!

Men have been taking the vowels YHWH and adding more vowels to them thereby elongating the name and making something out of it that it is not (*Jehovah*, *Yehovah*, *Iehovae*, *Iehova*, *Yahuwah*, etc.).

A better and more simplified way of looking at the name in the form of vowels in the English would be IAUE or YAUE (pronounced *Yahweh*). We would prefer to utilize only these four letters, but so many people become confused and don’t understand how to pronounce IAUE or YAUE, so we continue to utilize YAHWEH for the present time.

The Oxford English Dictionary even sheds a little more light on the vowel nature of the letters under its definition of the name *Jehovah* (je-ho’vä), n. [The common European spelling (with **j = y** and **v = w**) of *Yehowah* or *Yahowah*, the Massoretic form of the Hebrew name previously written without vowels JHVH (YHWH)....

Thus, Peter Galatin didn’t coin the name *Jehovah* after all, but rather *Yehowah*. The problem is that the English language looks at the “J” and “V” and not understanding how these letters were pronounced in Latin and German, they instead utilize the hard consonantal “J” and “V” rather than the “Y” and “W.”

CONFESSIONS OF THE JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES

The *Jehovah*’s Witnesses have published a booklet entitled The Divine Name That Will Endure Forever. A vowel point system was added to the Hebrew Scriptures in

(Continued on page 22)

(They just don't realize it, yet.)

By Johnny R. McCarty

NASA announced Thursday, March 16, 2006 that scientists working with the Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe (WMAP) have new evidence to support the concept of universe inflation. This concept, first proposed 25 years ago, states that the universe expanded from the size of a marble to its current size in **less than a trillion trillionth of a second**. The current size is so large that we cannot observe all of it even with the most powerful devices.

Read that again! Scientific proof that the known universe expanded at a rate **faster** than the laws of physics allow! How can that have happened? As far as is known, the immutable laws of mechanics, physics, thermo-dynamics, and quantum physics **all** tell us that this is an impossibility. So, what could have possibly happened to cause this phenomenon? What power, what force was at work during the first instance of the creation of the universe?

“In the beginning Elohim created the heavens and the earth,” (Genesis 1:1). **“By the Word of Yahweh were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. He gathered the waters of the sea like a heap, setting the depths in storehouses. Let all the earth fear Yahweh; let all the people of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spoke, and it was; He commanded, and it stood,”** (Psalms 33:6-9 MKJV). **“By the Word of Yahweh were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth,”** (Psalms 33:6 MKJV). Here is the Scriptural answer to that question. Yahweh the Almighty performed the miracle of creation! He spoke the universe into being!

Yahweh did not create the universe a vain, empty or chaotic thing. His creation was perfect from the beginning. **“Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell if you have understanding! Who has set its measurements, if you know? Or who has stretched the line on it? On what *are* its bases sunk, or who cast its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of Yahweh shouted for joy?”** (Job 38:4-7). The creation of the universe caused all the angels and heavenly creatures to shout for joy because the work of Yahweh was so perfect and beautiful! His creation declares His existence and power! **“The heavens declare the glory of Yahweh; and the expanse proclaims His handiwork,”**

(Psalms 19:1 MKJV). He alone has the power to transcend the physical laws of the universe He created and even now, maintains.

And by His Word, Yahshua the Messiah, He sustains it. **“Yahweh, who at many times and in many ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds, who being the shining splendor of His glory, and the express image of His essence, and upholding all things by the word of His power, through Himself cleansing of our sins, sat down on the right of the Majesty on high,”** (Hebrews 1:1-3). Every second of every day, Yahshua sustains the universe in its present form.

Man has been given the ability and knowledge to study the most fundamental and most monumental things of the universe in which he exists. However, he is so blinded that even when he discovers evidence that **only** a supremely intelligent being could have created the universe, he fails to recognize it. Soon, however, the blindness will be taken away and he will be forced to acknowledge his Creator.

Praise be to Yahweh that His plan of Salvation will be carried to fulfillment. Yahshua the Messiah will soon return in Power and Glory such as mankind has never seen. He will usher in the Kingdom of Yahweh upon this earth. Every knee shall bow and every mouth acknowledge Him as King and Savior! At that time, the scientist who made the discovery of the events of the first instant of the creation of the universe will truly understand exactly how and Who caused this glorious event.

May His Kingdom come quickly!

- Yahshua is the Word (Jn. 1:1-2, 14; 1 Jn. 1:1-2)
- All things were made by Him (Jn. 1:3, 10; Eph. 3:9; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2, 10).
- He upholds everything by the word of His power (Heb. 1:3).
- By Him all things consist (are held together; Col. 1:17).
- He is the “arm of Yahweh” (Isa. 53:1; Jn. 12:37-38).
- He is His right hand (Psa. 110; Mt. 22:44; Mk. 12:46; Lk. 20:42; Acts 2:34; Heb. 1:13; 1 Pt. 3:22; Isa. 48:13, 66:2).

WHO IS THE REDEEMER?

Redemption is such an important and powerful topic. When we look into this topic, an explosion of information takes place. There are so many avenues of exploration that it seems as if redemption becomes a heart with countless blood vessels issuing forth there from. Volumes upon volumes can be written and expounded upon concerning this extremely important topic. Let's begin our journey into its many, many avenues, although this journey can only be a brief, thumbnail sketch, a small beginning of something that is so much greater than we can ever complete in our brief life span.

By Jerry Healan

The laws of redemption are given by Moses through Yahweh in the book of Leviticus, chapter 25, "The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me. 24 And in all the land of your possession ye shall grant a redemption² for the land. 25 If thy brother be waxen poor, and hath sold away some of his possession, and if any of his kin come to redeem² it, then shall he redeem² that which his brother sold. 26 And if the man have none to redeem² it, and himself be able to redeem² it; 27 Then let him count the years of the sale thereof, and restore the overplus unto the man to whom he sold it; that he may return unto his possession. 28 But if he be not able to restore it to him, then that which is sold shall remain in the hand of him that hath bought it until the year of jubile: and in the jubile it shall go out, and he shall return unto his possession," vv. 23-28.

We find in the above scriptures that an owner of land, if he became poor and destitute, he could sell all or a portion of it in order to sustain himself and his family. But this sale of the land would be more like a lease in our day. According to these scriptures, if the one who sold the land desires to redeem it or buy back the sale or lease, if he is unable to do so, he may go to a brother or kinsman (close relative) to buy it back. However, if none of his kinsmen are able or willing to help him, the land returns to him or his family at the occurrence of the jubilee year. Thus, we find that the jubilee year is the year of redemption of the land, which restores it to its rightful owners.

The law concerning houses was a

different matter, however. Moses writes, "And if a man sell a dwelling house in a walled city, then he may redeem² it within a whole year after it is sold; within a full year may he redeem² it. 30 And if it be not redeemed² within the space of a full year, then the house that is in the walled city shall be established for ever to him that bought it throughout his generations: it shall not go out in the jubile. 31 But the houses of the villages which have no wall round about them shall be counted as the fields of the country: they may be redeemed², and they shall go out in the jubilee," Lev. 25:29-31.

The walled city was treated differ-

One thing that is very odious to our people is the term slave or slavery.

ently from un-walled cities or houses in the open field. But when it came to the cities of the Levites, there was a different requirement, "Notwithstanding the cities of the Levites, and the houses of the cities of their possession, may the Levites redeem² at any time. 33 And if a man purchase of the Levites, then the house that was sold, and the city of his possession, shall go out in the year of jubile: for the houses of the cities of the Levites are their possession among the children of Israel," vv. 32-33.

SLAVERY

One thing that is very odious to our people is the term slave or slavery.

However, Yahweh, in sending Adam forth to seek his own way from the garden of Eden, knew that some would seek to enslave others. Israel became slaves to the Egyptians, but Yahweh delivered them from the house of bondage at His own chosen time. But the nations, as well as Israel, still continued the practice of slavery.

Moses writes concerning slavery, "And if a sojourner or stranger wax rich by thee, and thy brother that dwelleth by him wax poor, and sell himself unto the stranger or sojourner by thee, or to the stock of the stranger's family: 48 After that he is sold he may be redeemed² again; one of his brethren may redeem² him: 49 Either his uncle, or his uncle's son, may redeem² him, or any that is nigh of kin unto him of his family may redeem² him; or if he be able, he may redeem² himself. 50 And he shall reckon with him that bought him from the year that he was sold to him unto the year of jubile: and the price of his sale shall be according unto the number of years, according to the time of an hired servant shall it be with him. 51 If there be yet many years behind, according unto them he shall give again the price of his redemption² out of the money that he was bought for. 52 And if there remain but few years unto the year of jubile, then he shall count with him, and according unto his years shall he give him again the price of his redemption². 53 And as a yearly hired servant shall he be with him: and the other shall not rule with rigour over him in thy sight. 54 And if he be not redeemed² in these years, then he shall go out in the year of jubile, both he, and his children with him. 55 For unto me the children of

Israel are servants; they are my servants whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt: I am Yahweh your Elohim," Lev. 25:47-55.

We find in the above two sections that the land can be redeemed by man and also that one could be redeemed from slavery by man. But the redeemer had to be either the man, himself, or a near kinsman as the terms "ga'al" and "geullah" suggest. (See definitions provided below.)

YAHWEH'S WIFE

Israel was Yahweh's wife via the covenant that they made with Him in the wilderness (Ex. 19 — 24). However, Israel was unfaithful to that covenant, was divorced and destroyed, "Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith Yahweh; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith Yahweh, and I will not keep anger for ever. 13 Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against Yahweh thy Elohim, and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree, and ye have not obeyed my voice, saith Yahweh. 14 Turn, O backsliding children, saith Yahweh; for **I am married unto you**: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion: 15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding," Jer. 3:12-15.

"O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away. 5 Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth. 6 For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of Elohim more than burnt offerings. 7 But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me," Hos. 6:4-7.

Notice that it says that He has "hewed them by the prophets." Isn't that what John the Baptist was declar-

ing? "And now also the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire," Mt. 3:10.

Isaiah writes, "Thus saith Yahweh, 'Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, **whom I have put away**? Or which of My creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and **for your transgressions is your mother put away**,'" 50:1.

Yahweh had recorded in His own law, "When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some **uncleanness** in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house," Dt. 24:1.

The Hebrew word from whence "uncleanness" is translated is "ervah." It is defined as; from 6168; nudity, literally (especially the pudenda) or figuratively (disgrace, blemish). (*Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*) Israel was committing adultery and whoredom against Yahweh which is

Israel was Yahweh's wife via the covenant that they made with Him in the wilderness (Ex. 19 — 24).

definitely "uncleanness!" "And I saw, when for all the causes whereby **backsliding Israel committed adultery** I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet **her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also**. 9 And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that **she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks**. 10 And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith Yahweh," Jer. 3:8-10.

Hosea writes, "Say ye unto your brethren, Ammi; and to your sisters, Ruhamah. 2 **Plead with your mother,**

plead: for she is not my wife, neither am I her husband: let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts; 3 Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst. 4 And I will not have mercy upon her children; for **they be the children of whoredoms**," Hos. 2:1-4.

Finally, Jeremiah is inspired to declare, "Then said Yahweh unto me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth. 2 And it shall come to pass, if they say unto thee, Whither shall we go forth? then thou shalt tell them, Thus saith Yahweh; Such as are for death, to death; and such as are for the sword, to the sword; and such as are for the famine, to the famine; and such as are for the captivity, to the captivity. 3 And I will appoint over them four kinds, saith Yahweh: the sword to slay, and the dogs to tear, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the earth, to devour and destroy. 4 And I will cause them to be removed into all kingdoms of the earth, because of Manasseh the son of Hezekiah king of Judah, for that which he did in Jerusalem. 5 For who shall have pity upon thee, O Jerusalem? or who shall bemoan thee? or who shall go aside to ask how thou doest? 6 Thou hast forsaken me, saith Yahweh, thou art gone backward: therefore will I stretch out my hand against thee, and destroy thee; I am weary with repenting," Jer. 15:1-6.

Thus, in accordance with His own law, statutes and judgments made with Israel, He found uncleanness in Israel, His wife, gave her a bill of divorcement, and sent her away. Both Israel and Judah transgressed and sinned against Yahweh so greatly that they not only had to be cast out of His sight, but they were destroyed.

THE INJURY OF ADAM

Hosea 6:7 declares, "But they

(Israel) like **men** have transgressed the covenant..." The word "men" is translated from the Hebrew word "*Adam!*" Adam was the first man. Yahweh made His covenant with Adam, but Adam transgressed that covenant, took of the forbidden fruit and brought death upon himself and his posterity, "Wherefore, as **by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men,** for that all have sinned," Ro. 5:12.

The Apostle Paul stresses this time and time again, "For since **by man (Adam) came death,** by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as **in Adam all die,** even so in the Messiah shall all be made alive," 1 Cor. 15:21-22.

It was Adam's sin that caused a law of sin, corruption and death to be passed upon all men, all sons of Adam, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of Elohim," Ro. 3:23. Paul reveals that there is a law of sin in the flesh, "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. 22 For I delight in the law of Yahweh after the inward man: 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Ro. 7:21-24.

Adam was the first man. It was through him that all men receive their physical inheritance. Our inheritance through Adam is sin, corruption and death. Again, Paul writes, "For the love of the Messiah constraineth us; because we thus judge, that **if one died for all, then were all dead,**" 1 Cor. 5:14.

Solomon, in his wisdom, declared, "For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not," Eccl. 7:20.

The book of Proverbs has this to say, "Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?" Prov. 20:6. How true this is! So many go about thinking that they are OK, that they are good,

or righteous, it's everyone else who has the problem. But the Scriptures reveal that we have a law of sin in the flesh and even when we want to do good and right, we fail (read Ro. 7:14-25).

Verse 9 of Proverbs 20 asks, "Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?" In this same vein, one of the psalmists asks, "If thou, Yahweh, shouldest mark iniquities, O Yahweh, who shall stand?" Psa. 130:3.

David cried out, "Have mercy upon me, O Elohim, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. 5 Behold, **I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me,**" Psa. 51:1-5.

Again, he pleaded, "Deliver me from

Our inheritance through Adam is sin, corruption and death.

the **oppression of man:** so will I keep thy precepts," Psa. 119:134. This statement that David made in Psalms 119 here is rather obscured by the English language. David is asking Yahweh to deliver him from the **IN-JURY OF ADAM!** The injury of Adam is that we are all born, live and die in sin. It is clear from the Scriptures that man has no power to cleanse himself from his sin, the power of corruption and death.

WHO CAN REDEEM!?

The Psalmist declares, "Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world: 2 Both low and high,

rich and poor, together. 3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. 4 I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp. 5 Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about? 6 They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches; 7 **None of them can by any means redeem¹ his brother,** nor give to Elohim a **ransom¹** for him: 8 (For the **redemption¹** of their soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever:) 9 That he should still live for ever, and not see corruption. 10 For he seeth that **wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish,** and leave their wealth to others. 11 Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names. 12 Nevertheless **man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish.** 13 This their way is their folly: yet their posterity approve their sayings. Selah. 14 **Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them;** and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling. 15 But **Elohim will redeem¹ my soul from the power of the grave:** for he shall receive me. Selah. 16 Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased; 17 For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him. 18 Though while he lived he blessed his soul: and men will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself. 19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light. 20 **Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish,**" Psa. 49:1-20.

What is this Psalm saying? It is saying that no man, no son of Adam, no matter the power and wealth that he possesses, can redeem his brother from the grave. The powerful and wealthy, themselves, think that they

will live forever, but the price of their own redemption is so precious that they simply have no power to redeem themselves from the grave and the corruption that comes with it. Only Elohim has the power to redeem from the grave!

We find this statement in the book of Job, "Because there is wrath, beware lest he take thee away with his stroke: then a great ransom cannot deliver thee. 19 Will he esteem thy riches? no, not gold, nor all the forces of strength," 36:18-19.

We cannot be redeemed from our sins, our corruption, our death and the grave by corruptible things such as silver, gold and the power of man, "And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear: 18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers," 1 Pet. 17-18.

Another psalmist asks, "What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?" Psa. 89:48.

Yahshua asked, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Mt. 16:26.

Yes, what man lives and shall not see death? Who has the power and wealth to save himself from death and the grave? Even though a man might gain possession of the earth and everything that is in it, the price of his redemption is so much more costly and precious than the whole earth and everything in it!

YAHWEH IS THE REDEEMER

David declares, "But Elohim will redeem¹ my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me," Psa. 49:15.

The Prophet Hosea is inspired to write, "I (Yahweh) will ransom (*padah* – redeem¹) them (Israel) from the power of the grave; I will redeem² them from death: O death, I will be

thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes," Hos. 13:14.

Isaiah is a very powerful prophet with such an important message. Yahweh declares through him, "Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith Yahweh, and thy redeemer², the Holy One of Israel," Isa. 41:14.

Again, he writes, "But now thus saith Yahweh that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed² thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine...Thus saith Yahweh, your redeemer², the Holy One of Israel; For your sake I have sent to Babylon, and have brought down all their nobles, and the Chaldeans, whose cry is in the ships," Isa. 43:1, 14.

Again, he writes, "Thus saith Yahweh the King of Israel, and his redeemer² Yahweh of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no Elohim...Remember these, O Jacob and Israel; for thou art my servant: I have formed thee; thou art my servant: O Israel, thou shalt not be

For thus saith Yahweh, Ye have sold yourselves for nought; and ye shall be redeemed² without money.

forgotten of me. 22 I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed² thee. 23 Sing, O ye heavens; for Yahweh hath done it: shout, ye lower parts of the earth: break forth into singing, ye mountains, O forest, and every tree therein: for Yahweh hath redeemed² Jacob, and glorified himself in Israel. 24 Thus saith Yahweh, thy redeemer², and he that formed thee from the womb, I am Yahweh that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself," Isa. 44:6, 21-24.

Time and time and time again Isaiah witnesses that Yahweh is Israel's Re-

deemer, "As for our redeemer², Yahweh of hosts is his name, the Holy One of Israel...Thus saith Yahweh, thy Redeemer², the Holy One of Israel; I am Yahweh thy Elohim which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go...Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth; say ye, Yahweh hath redeemed² his servant Jacob... Thus saith Yahweh, the Redeemer² of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of Yahweh that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee...And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I Yahweh am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob...Art thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep; that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed (ga'al = Redeemed²) to pass over? Therefore the redeemed² of Yahweh shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away...For thus saith Yahweh, Ye have sold yourselves for nought; and ye shall be redeemed² without money...Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for Yahweh hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed² Jerusalem...For thy Maker is thine husband; Yahweh of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer² the Holy One of Israel; The Elohim of the whole earth shall he be called," Isa. 47:4; 48:17, 20; 49:7, 26; 51:10-11; 52:3, 9; 54:5. (See also Isa. 54:8; 59:20; 60:16; 62:12; 63:4, 9, 16)

The Prophet Jeremiah witnesses that Yahweh is the Redeemer, "For Yahweh hath redeemed² Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he...Their Re-

deemer² is strong; Yahweh of hosts is his name: he shall thoroughly plead their cause, that he may give rest to the land, and disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon” Jer. 31:11; 50:34.

Finally, the Prophet Micah has this to say, “Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail: for now shalt thou go forth out of the city, and thou shalt dwell in the field, and thou shalt go even to Babylon; there shalt thou be delivered; there Yahweh shall redeem² thee from the hand of thine enemies,” 4:10.

All of these prophets witness that Yahweh is the Redeemer of Israel. David and other psalmists witnessed that Yahweh is the Redeemer. There can be no other redeemer. Yahweh is the Redeemer.

THE KINSMAN REDEEMER

The English words redeem, Redeemer, redeemed, ransomed, etc., in the above scriptures are overwhelmingly translated from the Hebrew word “*ga'al*.” *Ga'al* has to do with the Oriental law of kinship, to wit, a kinsman redeemer!

While Yahweh was Israel’s King, Elohim, etc., He also was their Father and their Husband. It is true that Yahweh was/is Spirit, while Israel was/is flesh. But the apostles witness that Yahshua is our Redeemer, “And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man’s work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear: 18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of the Messiah, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, 21 Who by him do believe in Elohim, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in Yahweh,” 1 Pet. 1:17-21.

“The Messiah hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree...But when the fulness of the time was come, Yahweh sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons,” Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5.

Paul wrote to Titus, “For the grace of Yahweh that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, 12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; 13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great Elohim and our Saviour Yahshua the Messiah; 14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works,” 2:11-14.

Since the prophets witness that Yahweh is the Redeemer and the apostles witness that Yahshua is the Redeemer, the only conclusion to which we can

Ga'al has to do with the Oriental law of kinship, to wit, a kinsman redeemer!

come is that Yahshua is Yahweh, not Yahweh the Father, but Yahweh the Word. Thus, the Apostle John witnesses, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with Elohim, and the Word was Elohim. 2 The same was in the beginning with Elohim. 3 All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In Him was life; and the life was the light of men...He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. 11 He came to His own, and His own received Him not. 12 But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of Elohim, even to them that be-

lieve on His name: 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of Elohim. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth,” Jn. 1:1-4, 110-14.

Let’s understand, Yahshua could not have been a son of Adam through a man. He could be a son of Adam only through the woman. If He were a son of a man through a man, then He would have, through inheritance, had the same law of sin coursing through His body that we have. The Scriptures that proclaim that no man can redeem his brother, nor himself from the power of the grave would have applied to Him as it does to all men. He was conceived by the Heavenly Father Yahweh in the womb of the virgin Miriam through the power of the Holy Spirit. Since His Father was Yahweh the Father, His inheritance was the law of life.

Miriam was betrothed to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit (Mt. 1:18). Her virginity is not only confirmed by the Matthew account, but in Luke she states, “How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?” 1:34. Yahshua, through the power of the Holy Spirit, was not only conceived in the womb of the virgin Miriam, but he, “...being in the form of Elohim, thought it not robbery to be equal with Elohim: but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men...” Phil. 2:6-7. In other words, He emptied Himself of the glory that He had with the Father as Elohim, became a man, became flesh, was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin. (Heb. 4:15)

This was the only way that the costly price of redemption, the ransom of Yahweh’s people, the ransom from the grave could be paid.

CONCLUSION

Yahweh established a law of redemption in order to be able to re-

deem land that was sold to others, especially strangers, and also to buy or redeem the children who were compelled to sell themselves into slavery. The law of redemption required either the owner of the land or a near kinsman to redeem it and to redeem them from slavery. If they weren't able to be redeemed, the land and or the people were to be restored at the year of jubilee.

But no man, nor near kinsman could redeem one from the grave and death. The price was too costly. The only One Who could redeem the people from death and the grave was Yahweh. The prophets witnessed that Israel would be redeemed by their Husband Yahweh. The apostles witness that Yahshua was, in fact, the Redeemer. Yahshua was Elohim. He was Yahweh the Word.

In order to redeem His children, His people, His kinsmen, His bride, He had to, by the words of His own law, become flesh (Jn. 1:1-14, Phil. 2:5-8; Ro. 1:1-7; Gal. 4:4; 1 Tim. 3:16).

The book of Hebrews declares, "But we see Yahshua, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of Yahweh should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee. And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which Yahweh hath given me. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For verily he took not on him the na-

ture of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to Elohim, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted," Heb. 2:9-17.

We at Yahweh's Evangelical Assembly testify to this marvelous truth. If you cannot see and understand these truths, then you simply do not understand the power, majesty and glory of Yahweh. May He bless you to see the truth of the matter.

DEFINITIONS:

Redeem¹ = 6299. פדה padah, paw-daw': a primitive root; to sever, i.e. ransom; gener. to release, preserve:--X at all, deliver, X by any means, ransom, (that are to be, let be) redeem(-ed), rescue, X surely. (SEC [*Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*])

Redeem², redeemed², and Redeemer²

*The only One Who could
redeem the people from death
and the grave was Yahweh.*

= 1350. גאל ga'al, gaw-al': a primitive root, to redeem (according to the Oriental law of kinship), i.e. to be the next of kin (and as such to buy back a relative's property, marry his widow, etc.):--X in any wise, X at all, avenger, deliver, (do, perform the part of near, next) kinsfolk(-man), purchase, ransom, redeem(-er), revenger. (SEC)

Redemption¹ = 6306 פדיון pidyowm, pid-yome': or pidyom {pid-yome'}; also pidyown {pid-yone'}; or pidyon {pid-yone'}; **from 6299**; a ransom; --ransom, that were redeemed, redemption. (SEC)

Redemption² = 1353. גאולה g@ullah,

gheh-ool-law': **feminine passive participle of 1350**; redemption (including the right and the object); by implication, relationship:--kindred, redeem, redemption, right. (SEC)

Ransom¹ = כפר kopher, ko'-fer: **from 3722**; properly, a cover, i.e. (literally) a village (as covered in); (specifically) bitumen (as used for coating), and the henna plant (as used for dyeing); figuratively, a redemption-price:--bribe, camphire, pitch, ransom, satisfaction, sum of money, village. (SEC)

3722. כפר kaphar, kaw-far': a primitive root; to cover (specifically with bitumen); figuratively, to expiate or condone, to placate or cancel:--appease, make (an atonement, cleanse, disannul, forgive, be merciful, pacify, pardon, purge (away), put off, (make) reconcile(-liation). (SEC)

Redeem: **1.** to buy back **2.** to get back; recover, as by paying a fee **3.** to pay off (a mortgage or note) **j4.** a) to convert (paper money) into gold or silver coin or bullion b) to convert (stocks, bonds, etc.) into cash c) to turn in (trading stamps or coupons) for a prize, premium, etc. **5.** a) to set free by paying a ransom b) to deliver from sin and its penalties, as by a sacrifice made for the sinner **6.** to fulfill (a promise or pledge) **7.** a) to make amends or atone for b) to restore (oneself) to favor by making amends c) to make worthwhile; justify —**SYN.** See RESCUE (*Webster's New World Dictionary*)

READER'S COMMENTS

I want to express my sincere thanks to you all at YEA for continuing my subscription for Yahshua's Witness Magazine after my recent release from the prison-industry complex here in Texas. YWM has been an invaluable source of edification and reinforcement of my convictions concerning how we who would "earnestly contend for the faith" should hold fast to the commandments of Yahweh our Saviour.

KR/TX

Elder Jerry Healan, hope this note will find you in the best of health and benevolent at all times my beloved friend in Yahweh. Make sure to tell all of the brother's there that I said Shalom to them. My brother in Yahweh & Yahshua the Hebrew Messiah, thank you, my brother, for the recent magazine. It's a blessing to all who see the whole truth.

I like the chapter about X-mas. I don't even like to say that pagan word. There will be a lot of people that will take part in this pagan holy day, but there are also a lot of people that will not be a part of this as well.

My family here is all well. They just miss me some kind of bad. I did go up for parole, all the praises to Yahweh the Most High Creator of this whole universe. I have done over 13-1/2 years now for daytime burglary & grand larceny.

I am truly not the same person that I was many, many years ago. I have been writing to you now for over 11 years.

Well my friend, I just wanted to thank you again for the Yahshua's Witness Magazine. Please take good care of yourself my friend and brother in Yahweh & Yahshua the Hebrew Messiah. Shalom,

JT/VA

I'm writing to let you know that I truly enjoy the YEA newsletters. They've blessed me in the knowledge, wisdom and laws of Yahshua-Yahweh. In fact, they're the basis of my foundation of faith that I have obtained in the faithfulness of His word. They are priceless and meet my every need, want and desire.

RW/TX

I recently read an article of yours given to me by a member of your worship. I must admit I was terrified to know the extent of deception in the world. In my "limited research" I found that nearly, if not all, days of the week, months of the year, & American holidays (Holy Days) were derived from Pagan beliefs. This probably doesn't surprise you as much as it did me, because you already knew. Anyway, I was raised on these

We love your magazine and newsletter, they are great!

holidays & thought them to be "good." So it was definitely a shock.

TP/AR

Thank you my friend and Elder Brother Jerry Healan for responding to Mr. Pinkston's Article, and warning the Brethren. You are truly a Great Man of Yahweh, and I pray and thank Yahweh for You.

We love your magazine and newsletter, they are great! Keep on following "The Way", and again, thank you.

E&GC/KY

Shalom Brethren,

Please keep in mind that it was Yahweh that gave me the understanding

and ability to answer this man. I am nothing. I know that you understand this and I do appreciate your accolades, but I just can't let those things go to my head.

Yahweh bless,

Jerry

Great answer to the Yahwist article of John A. Pinkston! Well done!

JF/TX

Dear Brother Healan, or the writer of the May – Aug. 2005 Vol. 9, Issue 2 (The Cult of Yahwehism). I am a Yahwist in Messiah. I have in possession several letters, and posted articles on line, several letters from so-called educated scholars like that (John A. Pinkston) fellow. They are disgusting and offensive. Anyway, I also have much on the Sacred Names defense, but my hat is off to you sir. This is the best article in defense of our Father's precious name I've ever seen. PRAISE YAHWEH!!!

DRW/CA

I was blessed to read another inmate's copy of the YEA Newsletter, May-Aug. 2005 which contained "An Answer to the Cult of Yahwehism." It was extremely informative and gave me a leg to stand on in regards to my faith/testimony/reason for my belief in the Sacred Name doctrine, etc.

CG/CA

I enjoyed every word of the YEA Newsletter May-August Issue. I'm requesting the free publications entitled "Yahweh Speaks Out Concerning the Importance of His name," and "The Scholars Speak Out Concerning the Importance of Yahweh's Name."

JMc/TX

I really enjoyed your last Newsletter

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

and the study on the Names. I'm working to show a person that works at Moody College in Chicago how important the Names are and I sent that part of the Newsletter to them to read and study on their own time. You put the study together really well. Thank you for all your help, and for the Newsletters and Magazine. I really enjoy them and also share them with others on our unit.

LE/TX

What you're doing here is monumentally important. Your studies are some of the best anywhere now.

CG/MI

Greetings to all of Yahweh's Evangelical Assembly in the precious name of our Savior Yahshua Messiah!

I am so very grateful to the family of believers at Yahweh's Evangelical Assembly. I have a much more accurate understanding of the Scriptures and, of course, a more intimate relationship with our Husband and our Redeemer because of the teaching you make possible.

There have been a few men here who recently came out of the deception of

Christianity and Islam...Praise Yahweh! In an attempt to defend one of them I was attacked and beaten. I believe my left eardrum is busted or certainly damaged in some way. I have not yet been to the infirmary to have it checked. To avoid more trouble I must be discreet in how it happened. Could you please send me some literature so I may share it with those who are turning to Yahweh?

Please remember us convicts in your prayers; that our repentance will not be merely superficial but deeply heartfelt and abiding. We are so heavily entrenched in lawlessness. It truly takes a mighty move of the Set-Apart Spirit to tear our hearts and cause the necessary love for our Redeemer to sustain us.

MD/TX

Please send me one more year subscription of your "Yahshua's Witness Magazine" and "YEA Newsletter." I really learn a lot from them both and consider it a blessing from Yahweh to receive them.

I am locked up in T.D.C. Prison and have no funds right now, but when I get out in Jan. 2007, I will give my tithe as dew.

Thank you for all your spiritual help and may Yahweh bless you with all of your needs in Yahshua HaMashiach's Name. HalleluYah!

RS/TX

I would like to take this time to express my gratitude. Thank you so much for sending me TRUTH. This Correspondence Course is awesome. It really helped me to put into perspective the things that Yahshua has warned us about when it comes to deception. With lots of prayer and His Spirit, I've come to know Yahweh like I've never known Him before. All of the correspondence that I've received from you has made a great difference in my learning.

JM/TX

Your articles and booklets are helping me to truly understand how much I've been deceived since childhood. I am increasing my knowledge and growing spiritually with your help.

TG/TX

I think your format in these lessons is very informative and superb.

TL/TX

(Continued on page 23)

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order to retain pronunciation. In regards to the Name, they say this, "When it came to G-d's name, instead of putting the proper vowel signs around it, in most cases they put other vowel signs to remind the reader that he should say 'Adho-nai'. From this came the spelling Iehouah, and eventually, Jehovah became the accepted pronunciation of the divine name in English." (p.8).

In the Kingdom Interlinear translation of the Greek Scriptures, we find the following admission on page 23 of the forward, "While inclining to view the pronunciation 'Yahweh' as the more correct way, we have retained the form 'Jehovah' because of people's familiarity with it since the 14th century. Moreover, it preserves equally with other forms,

the four letters of the Tetragrammaton JHVH."

The gravity of the situation is that they admit a more erroneous form of the name (Jehovah) is preferred over the more correct one (Yahweh) simply because of familiarity and custom or tradition.

The Savior warned of clinging to erroneous traditions, "And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of Yahweh, that ye may keep your own tradition. For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, *It is Corban*, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; *he shall be free*. And ye suffer him no more to do ought for

his father or his mother; **Making the word of Yahweh of none effect through your tradition**, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye," Mk. 7:9-13.

The correct pronunciation of the name is Yahweh. Jehovah is an Anglicized, hybridized, ghost word of erroneous tradition. Man, by his own tradition has made the true name "Yahweh," of none effect.

We have given you the truth. It is now your responsibility to uphold it. May Yahweh bless you to do so.

(NOTE: *This article is available as a tract which can be easily distributed. If you desire to receive and distribute this important information to others, please contact us and we will seek to fulfill your requests.*)

(Continued from page 7)

men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven," **Mat. 5:14.**

I will let our loving Messiah's words end this study. "If you abide in

me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have

spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you,"

Jn. 15: 7-12.

HalleluYah!!! May Yahweh bless your studies. Elder Dave Ganton

(Continued from page 10)

seven memorials of the Creator and His creative powers were to be counted. The count began at the true beginning, the first day of the week. Seven has to do with spiritual perfection and completion. It has to do with rest, covenant, promise or an oath, sanctification, etc., etc. Seven perfect sevens are counted and on the day after the seventh Sabbath, the seventh seven, which is the beginning of another count, a new wave offering was to be brought forth. Yahweh swore by Himself seven times, or He sevened Himself seven times. On the fiftieth day which is the first day of the eighth week, a new beginning and new offering is brought forth!

THE NEW FIRSTFRUITS

On the fiftieth day a new wave offering is brought forth, "Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the **firstfruits** unto Yahweh," Lev. 23:17.

The original "wave sheaf" typifies Yahshua as the firstfruits, the beginning, the firstborn from the dead. It was offered without leaven, for Yahshua was without sin. But now Israel was to bring forth two wave loaves, which were to be baked with leaven.

This began to be fulfilled fifty days

after Yahshua had ascended into heaven to be received as the firstfruits from the dead. Yahshua ascended before Yahweh on the first day of the week (Jn. 20:17). Seven Sabbaths, seven perfect weeks were fulfilled and on the fiftieth day the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the disciples raising up a new era, a new dispensation, a new covenant. It was called the New Testament or New Covenant Assembly, which also would be kept in the Father Yahweh's name.

The Hebrew term for "firstfruits" in Lev. 23:17 is *bikkuwrim*. *Bikkuwrim* is defined as; from 1069; the first-fruits of the crop. Notice that it comes from another Hebrew term, which is *bakar*. *Bakar* is defined as; a primitive root; properly, to burst the womb, i.e. (causatively) bear or make early fruit (of woman or tree); also (as denominative from 1061) to give the birthright.

These are baked with leaven, thus they are sons of, descendants of Adam. These are to be the first of the earth who will be born into the kingdom of heaven, into the family of Elohim. It is Yahshua's firstfruits assembly, which was begun on the day of Pentecost as reported in Acts chapter two.

Yahshua's firstfruits are also recorded in Revelation chapters seven and fourteen. Yes, they are revealed to be of the house of Israel in Revelation

chapter seven, but these are only the firstfruits of the complete harvest of all the house of Israel and non-Hebrew nations who come to possess the Spirit of the Savior Yahshua by repenting and being grafted into Yahshua the Messiah.

These are called out of the world, but while still remaining in the world, being the sons of Adam, there is still leaven, sin working in their fleshly bodies (Ro. 7, esp. vv. 13-25; Gal. 5:16-17, etc.).

But the day will come when they and all of Yahweh's people will be given new bodies, for the fleshly body cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven. The new bodies will no longer have any tendency or desire to do works contrary to Yahweh's righteous laws and commands.

This is how the Scriptures and the first month of the year should be utilized to bring forth Yahshua the Messiah. The focus is on Him and His power to be our Passover Lamb, to completely unleaven us and to serve as our beginning our firstfruits from the dead so that we may be able to have eternal life and also so that the creation may be delivered into the hand of the saints of Yahweh forever. HalleluYah!!!! *To be Continued.....*

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I want to thank everyone who has made this Bible study available to me, freely. I pray that Yahweh, our Elohim, will meet all your needs according to His riches in Yahshua. Thank

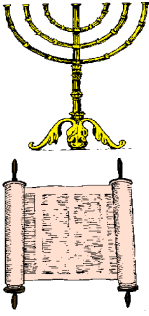
Yahshua's Witness Magazine

you truly. Your brother in Yahshua.
SW/TX

Would you put me on your list to receive your magazine? I received it at one time. I would very much like to

receive it again. I know this time it's the truth I need in my life to help me grow.

JH/TX



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