# SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES



Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. I receive not honour from men. But I know you, that ye have not the love of Elohim in you. I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from Yahweh only? Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Mosheh, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Mosheh, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words? (John 5:39—47)



Y.E.A.



Compliments of

## YAHWEH'S EVANGELICAL ASSEMBLY

P. O. Box 31

Atlanta, Tx. 75551 Phone: 903-796-7420 Fax: 903-796-7511

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"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price," Isa. 55:1.

"...freely ye have received, freely give," Mat. 10:8.

#### FROM THE EDITOR

## **ANOTHER CALENDAR?**

You can tell that the Passover is getting near. I say that because it seems that every Passover someone else comes up with their own ideas concerning how the calendar should be observed seemingly every year. This new calendar is called "Yahuah's Covenant Calendar."

A young man in prison came in contact with our materials and was excitedly attempting to call us. When that failed, his mother emailed us letting us know his desires. I know that he did attempt to call, but as said, we weren't able to get in contact. My cell phone was absolutely blowing up that day with calls as well as the land line. I do apologize if any attempted to call and their attempts failed. However, we also received a "collect" call that day which we always reject. Look, we publish and mail all of our literature free of charge, and we don't mind receiving calls, but not collect.

Anyway, this young man wanted to talk to me about this "Covenant Calendar," so his mother emailed two PDF articles one entitled "Discovering Yahuah's Covenant Calendar," and the second entitled "Creation's First Tequfah."

Now listen everyone, I am open to researching various calendar proposals if they seem to follow Scripture, but please don't bother me with anything that I can prove in the first words are un-Scriptural. I'll explain. Discovering Yahuwah's Calendar begins, "A teaching from a new calendar student (Beth Holtwick ~ Feb. 2019) along with introduction by Charlene Fortsch.

1. Recently retired elementary school secretary.

2. Loves Bible study & learning

3. Enjoys teaching others; has a weekly Torah study group.

4. Feast keeping for about 8 years with sunset; has tried several moon calendars and barley; but the 13th moon was always a problem.

5. David challenged her on the "moon" not being "chodesh" aligning with her <u>theory</u> there is no 13th month anyway.

6. David shared maybe the stars were "chodesh" [in charge of the month] and actually the lesser light... not the moon! (many changes since Dec. 2018!)

Doesn't this sound like the Lunar Sabbath group's reasonings? They didn't like the way the annual feast days fell in the middle of the week most of the time, so they came up with the Lunar Sabbath teaching.

This group didn't like nor understand the 13th month every three years so they decided to nix it with their own made up calendar that makes much more sense to them.

Beth loves Bible study & learning, and enjoys teaching others. She even has a Torah study group. Hmmm.....I am going to issue a warning that most will not like, but if they don't then don't argue with me, argue with Yahweh and His word the Scriptures.

Paul writes, "<sup>34</sup>Let your <u>wom-</u> <u>en keep silence</u> in the assemblies: for <u>it is not permitted unto them</u> <u>to speak</u>; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law (Torah). <sup>35</sup>And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for <u>it</u> <u>is a shame for women to speak</u> <u>in the assembly</u>," 1 Cor. 14:34-35.

Again, he wrote, "<sup>11</sup>Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. <sup>12</sup>But <u>I suffer not a</u> woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. <sup>13</sup>For Adam was first formed, then Eve. <sup>14</sup>And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. <sup>15</sup>Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety," 1 Tim. 2:11-15.

Sadly, this man named David seems to be less Torah understanding than her, or at least equal in Torah ignorance.

In their second article entitled "Creation's First Tequfah Witness," The question is asked; "Do the LUNATIONS sequentially duplicate after like kind—time after time returning to the original place of commencement?

Answer: No, a lunation does not sequentially repeat its pattern, not even close.

While the moon may not start its sequence at the same time every month, nor in the same place, which is understandable because of its proximity to the earth and the way it rotates around the earth, the fact of the matter is that it repeats the same lunation cycle month, after month, after month from the time it was placed in the heaven and until this very day.

The question and answer they give is for the purpose of detracting from the importance of the moon as established by Yahweh in His own word.

#### THE HEBREW TERMS

The next thing they want to do is take the word "chodesh" (vdx) away from its true meaning and associate it with the "stars," as the Caesars did with their own solar calendar.

They point out that the actual Hebrew word for "moon" is "yareach" (xry), which is true, and therefore they disassociate the word "chodesh" from moon and say that it only means month, but consult any lexicon that deals with the Hebrew language and it is defined as month and New Moon, e.g. *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*: 2320 The chodesh, kho'desh from 2318; the new moon; by implication, a month:--month(-ly), new moon. See Hebrew 02318 (chadash)

They, themselves, admit that we must go to the root word to get a better idea of a Hebrew word's meaning so let's do just that.

2318. The chadash, khawdash' a primitive root; to be new; causatively, to rebuild:--renew, repair. Look at it! New! In what manner!? By rebuilding, renewing, repairing! What heavenly body that you know of goes through a cycle of becoming new by rebuilding, renewing, repairing? Isn't it the moon?

The sun is the same every day. The stars are the same every night. Yes, there are the constellations through which the sun travels about every 30-31 days which the Caesars utilized as their sun calendar and called them months, but what they did was change the original Roman lunar calendar to a solar calendar because they worshipped the sun and Julius and Augustus wanted to add a month utilizing their own names because they wanted to be like the Egyptian Pharaohs in deifying themselves.

I went on the internet and asked the question:

Does the origin of the word "month" have anything to do with the word "moon?"

They answered: Yes. They share a root and related meaning. Early cultures measured calendars by the phases of the moon. **Roman politics messed that up when naming months after particular people—like Julius Caesar and Caesar Augustus—and political pressure was used to make certain months longer (in number of days) to honor those personages.** 

#### THE ATHENIAN CALENDAR

I found an article entitled "The Athenian Calendar" by Christopher Planeaux wherein he writes:

"The term "Athenian Calendar" (also called the "Attic Calendar") has become somewhat of a misnomer, since Ancient Athenians never really used just one method to reckon the passage of time. Athenians, especially from the 3rd Century BCE forward, could consult any one of five separate "calendars:" Olympiad, Seasonal, Civil, Conciliar, and finally Metonic – depending on what event or type of event they wished to chronical. Athenians, furthermore, either created these calendars for specific purposes or adopted them from others.

All Athenian calendars, however, used lunar cycles and/or solar events (typically solstices and equinoxes but also certain stars or constellations) to affix dates.

(NOTE: I am only utilizing this article to show that the original calendars were lunar, solar, along with the constellations [stars] *JH*)

These calendars also ran roughly from midsummer to midsummer, while days ran from sunrise to sunrise. Every <u>Greek polis</u> as well as other states about the <u>Mediterranean</u>, for example, <u>Babylon</u> & <u>Egypt</u>, all used their own unique calendars independently from each other. Athenian writers like <u>Thucydides</u> and <u>Xenophon</u> understood the difficulties and limitations of having competing systems.

Every Greek calendar possessed its own determinates, methodologies, and they all began on differing dates: <u>Delphi</u>'s years began the first New Moon after the <u>Summer Solstice</u>; Boeotia and <u>Delos</u> began after the <u>Winter Solstice</u>; Chios began with the <u>Vernal Equinox</u>; whereas <u>Sparta, Rhodes</u>, <u>Crete</u>, and Miletos began with the <u>Autumnal</u> <u>Equinox</u>. Regardless, all Greek poleis originally regulated their calendars by the moon.

(NOTE: The solstices and equinoxes are called "tequwphah's" by the *Encyclopedia Judaica*." We will deal with the word "tequwphah" later. But these tequfwphh's would, once again, be a combination of the sun and constellations [stars] *.JH*)

Lunar (synodic) months each contain 29.53 days (one lunar cycle). A twelve month lunar year thus contains 354.36 days. A solar year. astronomical however, counts 365.24 days. Athenians understood from a very early time, especially with the advent of farming, that a lunar year fell 11 days short of a solar year. Any strict lunar calendar would therefore gain just over one synodic month in 3 years and drift through the seasons in 33 year cycles. (end of *excerpt*)

Another reason for utilizing this article is to show that all lunar calendars of all nations, including Yahweh's lunar calendar, had to add a thirteenth month every three years. So, this "new calendar female student" and those "men" who now support her evidently didn't care very much for Yahweh's calendar, nor did they understand Yahweh's word, nor were they rooted and grounded in it because they allowed themselves to be taken away by her reasoning. Sounds like Genesis chapter three, doesn't it?

#### YAHWEH'S WORD

The best thing to do now is get into Yahweh's word to see what He says.

"<sup>14</sup>And Elohim said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: <sup>15</sup>And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.<sup>16</sup>And Elohim made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. <sup>17</sup>And Elohim set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and Elohim saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And the evening and the morning were the fourth day," Gen. 1:14-19.

Now, everyone who truly understands Scripture, understands that this has to do with the sun, moon, and stars (especially the constellations called by Yahweh the Mazzaroth (Job 38:32).

But these people, and others like them, refuse to accept the moon because the moon, of and by itself, doesn't produce light. However, let's allow Yahweh to instruct us as to whether the moon has her/his/its light or not, and whether it is utilized in conjunction with the stars to rule at night.

"<sup>1</sup>O give thanks unto Yahweh; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. <sup>2</sup> O give thanks unto the Elohim of elohim: for his mercy endureth for ever. <sup>3</sup>O give

thanks to the Sovereign of sovereigns: for his mercy endureth for ever. <sup>4</sup>To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy endureth for ever. <sup>5</sup>To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy endureth for ever. <sup>6</sup>To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for his mercy endureth for ever. <sup>7</sup>To him that made great lights: for his mercy endureth for ever: <sup>8</sup>The sun to rule by day: for his mercy endureth for ever: <sup>9</sup>The moon (yareach/ירח) and stars to rule by night: for his mercy endureth for ever," Psa. 136:1-9.

Compare this verse with Gen. 1:14-19. You will understand immediately that the two great lights are the sun and the moon. However, people with their own vendetta, of course, will deny this. However, this does clarify things doesn't it?

Here is another witness from the mouth of Yahweh, "35Thus saith Yahweh, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon (yareach) and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; Yahweh of hosts is his name: <sup>36</sup>If those ordinances depart from before me, saith Yahweh, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever," Jer. 31:35-36.

Here we are! The first great light is the sun, the second great light is the moon, the stars also! For them to discount the moon is to go CONTRARY TO YAH-WEH'S WORD and His New Covenant, by the way!!!!!

What about the moon's light?

<sup>"9</sup>Behold, the day of Yahweh cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. <sup>10</sup>For **the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof** shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the **moon shall not cause** <u>her light</u> **to shine**," Isa. 13:9-10.

Because the moon doesn't produce light, but rather reflects the light of the sun, they want to remove it from determining the calendar. That's because they don't like Yahweh's calendar in the first place and can't understand it in the second place. However, Yahweh calls the moon "the lesser light" during the creation account, and He (the utmost authority) calls that light reflection of the moon HER LIGHT!

Ezekiel agrees with Isaiah in that the moon has her light, "<sup>7</sup>And when I shall put thee out, I will cover the heaven, and make the stars thereof dark; I will cover the sun with a cloud, and **the moon shall not give her light**. <sup>8</sup>All the bright lights of heaven will I make dark over thee, and set darkness upon thy land, saith Adonai Yahweh," Ez. 32:7-8.

#### THE ANNUAL FEASTS

The sun, moon, and stars (also constellations) are given for the mowedim (מועדים). This is plural of mowed. It is translated as seasons in Gen. 1:14, however in Lev. 23 it is translated as feasts, "<sup>1</sup>And the Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts (mowedim) of Yahweh, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts (mowedim)," v.v. 1-2.

What are mowedim? What is a moed? It is #4150 in *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance* and is defined as; from 3259; properly, **an appointment**, i.e. **a fixed time or season**; specifically, **a festival**; conventionally a year; by implication, an assembly (as convened for a definite purpose); technically the congregation; by extension, the place of meeting; also **a signal (as appointed beforehand)**.

Yahweh made specific appointments for His people. These appointments are very important to Him and should be for His people for specific reasons.

The first appointment that He made was the seventh day Sabbath, "Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of Yahweh in all your dwellings," Lev. 23.

Yahweh set this appointment in motion in the beginning (Bereshiyt/Genesis) as a day of rest by sanctification and blessing (Gen. 2:1-3).

His commandments to Israel confirmed the importance to Him and to them of its importance by incorporating them into His commandments (Ex. 20:8-11; 23:12; 31:15; 34:21; Lev. 19:3; 23:3; Dt. 5:13, etc.).

However, He set the moon as the determination for the annual mowedim (appointments/feasts), "He appointed the moon (yareach/רירח) for seasons (mowedim): the sun knoweth his going down," Psa. 104:19.

Evidently, these people have been very sloppy in their study of Torah and the rest of the Scriptures. But we must press on.

We have already proven that the term "chodesh" can only apply to the moon since it is the only heavenly body that repairs, renews, rebuilds, etc. Furthermore, Psa. 104:19 confirms that it is the moon (Yareach) that determines the mowedim (seasons/feasts). We have also proven that the sun is the greater light, and the moon is the lesser light. We have also seen that originally, all calendars of the nations were lunar. This would have come down from Noah and his family.

Yahweh told Moses, "<sup>1</sup>And Yahweh spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, <sup>2</sup>This month (chodesh/moon) shall be unto you the beginning of months (chodeshim/moons): it shall be the first month (chodesh/ moon) of the year to you," Ex. 12:1-2.

The Hebrew word moed (feast/ season/appointment) looks like this in the more ancient Pictorial Hebrew ( $\square \bigcirc Y_{nn}$ ). The mem (nn) is a picture of water which is a type of the Spirit (Jn. 7:37-39). The waw/vav (Y) is the picture of a nail or tent peg with which something is combined, nailed together, or upheld, established (as a tent peg upholds or causes the tent to be established). The ayin ( $\bigcirc$ ) is the picture of an eye while the dalet ( $\square$ ) is the picture of a door.

The Hebrew word for "witness" is **TO** which produces the meaning of the eye (O) being the door  $(\mathbf{T})$  to the, or an event. Thus the word "mowed" (I Thus the word "moved" (I Thus the word "moved" (I Thus the word "moved") has to do with "a spirit (m) established (Y) witness (TO)!

The root word for mowed is ya'ad. It is #3259 in Strong's Exhaustive Concordance and is defined as; יעד ya`ad, yaw-ad' a primitive root; to fix upon (by agreement or appointment); by implication, to meet (at a stated time), to summon (to trial), to direct (in a certain quarter or position), to engage (for marriage): agree, (make an) appoint (-ment, a time), assemble (selves), betroth, gather (selves, together), meet (together), set (a time).

Look at it! It has to do with a meeting at a stated or appointed time, which would be what Yahweh has established according to His own word and command, not according to that which seems right, or good to us! Remember, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death," Prov. 14:12; 16:25.

#### **PURPOSES**

The feasts/seasons/mowedim, the appointments of Yahweh are fixed for specific purposes!

fourth commandment The states, "<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is the sabbath of Yahweh thy Elohim: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy

manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: <sup>11</sup>For in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore Yahweh blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it," Ex. 20:8-11.

"Remember" is translated from the Hebrew word zakar which is defined as; 2142. זכר zakar, zaw -kar' a primitive root; properly, to mark (so as to be recognized), i.e. to remember; by implication, to mention.

Do you get that!? The seventh day Sabbath is Yahweh's MARK! The Caesar's, who were the heads of the beast power (Dan. 7), set their own mark, contrary to, and opposite to Yahweh's mark! As stated before, this cycle was established in the beginning (Bereshivt/ Genesis means "in the beginning) as a day of blessing and holiness.

He later incorporated it into His ten commandments not only commanding it from heaven, but by writing it on tables of stone! As well as having it written in the qodesh (holy) Scriptures.

Why are we to remember it? Because Yahweh established it in the beginning as a remembrance, a memorial, a mark for HIS AC-COMPLISHMENTS!

The lunar Sabbath people have greatly erred and sought to control it with the cycles of the moon. There is no place in Scripture where it is said to be controlled, or established by the yareach/ chodesh (moon)!

Yahweh revealed the feast days the moedim, the appointments,

that were to be controlled by the moon cycles (chodeshim) to His Levitical priesthood in Leviticus chapter 23, "<sup>4</sup>These are the feasts of Yahweh, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons. 5In the fourteenth day of the first month (chodesh/ moon/lunar cycle) at even is Yahweh's passover. <sup>6</sup>And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto Yahweh: seven davs ve must eat unleavened bread. 'In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein. <sup>8</sup>But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein....<sup>23</sup>And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>24</sup>Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month (chodesh/ moon/lunar cycle), in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation. <sup>25</sup>Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh. <sup>26</sup>And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>27</sup>Also on the tenth day of this seventh month (chodesh/ moon/lunar cycle) there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the Yahweh. <sup>28</sup>And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before Yahweh your Elohim.<sup>29</sup>For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut

off from among his people. <sup>30</sup> and whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. <sup>31</sup>Ye shall do no manner of work: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. <sup>32</sup>It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye cele-brate your sabbath. <sup>33</sup>And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>34</sup>Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month (chodesh/moon/lunar cycle) shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto Yahweh. <sup>35</sup>On the first day shall be an holy convocation: ve shall do no servile work therein. <sup>36</sup>Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto Yahweh: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein," Lev. 23:4-8, 23 -36.

#### REHEARSALS

The Sabbath and annual feast days are called "holy convocations" (miqra qodeshim). "convocation is translated from the Hebrew "miqra." It is defined as; 4744. מקרא mik-raw' from 7121; something called out, i.e. a public meeting (the act, the persons, or the place); also a rehearsal:--assembly, calling, convocation, reading. (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance) #7121 is qara which is defined as; קרא קרא qara', kaw-raw' a primitive root (rather identical with 7122 through the idea of accosting **a person met**); **to call out to** (i.e. properly, address by name, but used in a wide variety of applications):--bewray (self), that are bidden, call (for, forth, self, upon), cry (unto), (be) famous, guest, invite, mention, (give) name, preach, (make) proclaim (-ation), pronounce, publish, read, renowned, say (*IBID*)

Let's take a look at this word in the Paleo and Pictorial Hebrew which will be quite revealing. The Paleo looks like this 44  $\uparrow$  while the Pictorial looks like this 24  $\uparrow$ .

The Paleo reveals that there are three heads in this word qara (to call). The aleph  $(\mathcal{4})$  is the head of an ox, or ram; the resh  $(\mathcal{4})$  is the head of a man or son, the quf  $(\mathcal{P})$ is the back of one's head. Thus, it would represent three heads in a meeting, or in convocation.

Miqra  $(44 \oplus \forall)$ /convocation) therefore, has to do with being called out since the mem  $(\forall)$ , as a preposition, means from, of, etc..

The hidden meaning of Yahweh's moedim/feasts/seasons is that they are rehearsals (miqra) for holy (qodesh) matrimony/marriage (moedim). We certainly don't want to miss the rehearsals, but many stumbling blocks are being cast before Yahweh's people to keep them from properly observing these very important commanded meetings/rehearsals according to Yahweh's own established calendar. There is Caesar's calendar (solar), the Lunar Sabbath calendar, the Enochian calendar (solar), those who only utilize the new moon after the equinox, the Hillel calendar, and now Yahuah's Covenant Calendar. I am sure that there are plenty of others that we haven't heard of yet.

Another thing that Yahweh required was a "fire offering." Amazingly, when we take the numerical equivalent of the letters of the word qara ( $\cancel{4} \cancel{4} \cancel{1}$ ), the quf = 100 + resh = 200 + the aleph = 1. Added together it equals to 301. The Hebrew word for fire is esh ( $\cancel{v}$ ) which equals to 301. ( $\cancel{v}$  =  $300 + \cancel{k} = 1$ )

Those called to Yahweh's moedim either are imbued with Yahweh's Spirit or are being worked with through the Spirit. The Holy Spirit appeared as "cloven tongues of fire" as presented in Acts 2:1-3.

Furthermore, the meeting one is being called to exhibits the Father as the aleph ( $\checkmark$ ), the Son ( $\checkmark$ ) as the Mediator, and the quf ( $\clubsuit$ ) as the one being called. It is a meeting of the spirit of fire, a fire offering, as you will.

With the mem  $(\mathcal{Y})$  as a prefix to qara forming the word miqra, the mem being a picture of water which is a type of the Spirit, the calling (qara) is a calling of the Spirit.

Thus, Yahweh's people, those being called as the bride and those being called as guests to the wedding, should make sure that they are rehearsing properly.

So, let's go back to the moon (yareach/chodesh) which establishes the mowedim (seasons, feasts, appointments). Remember that moed  $(\Box \odot Ym/\Delta O Y )/$ מועד) means a "spiritually (גאי) established (Y) witness ( $\Box \odot$ ), the eye ( $\odot$ ) being the door ( $\neg$ ) to the event. So what is the witness that opens the door? Isn't it when one sees the first sliver of the new moon in its rebuilding phase/cycle which is utilized to count down to the feast days? Yes, of course! The Jews themselves admit that during the temple days they required two credible witnesses to be able to report to the Sanhedrin of their sighting of the sliver of the new moon which would announce the beginning of the month (-s) and the counting to the feasts (mowedim).

#### **TEQUWPHAH**

Yahuah's Covenant Calendar makers have, as some few others, decided to begin their twenty four hour day with the morning of the day rather than the evening as our and the Jewish day begins and ends. But, Scripturally, what came first? "And the earth was without form, and void; and **darkness was upon the face of the deep**. And the Spirit of Elohim moved upon the face of the waters," Gen. 1:2.

Yahweh's first act was to command that there be light and then make a division between the darkness and the light, "<sup>3</sup>And Elohim said, Let there be light: and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And Elohim saw the light, that it was good: and Elohim divided the light from the darkness. 5And Elohim called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day," Gen. 1:3-5.



As shown above, the darkness came first, then the light. There is a progression that can be shown which will be posted below, but the fact of the matter is that first there is darkness, then darkness and light, and ultimately there will only be light, "<sup>23</sup>And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of Yahweh did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. <sup>24</sup>And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. <sup>25</sup>And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there," Rev. 21:23-25.



Do you see the progression? This is according not only to the physical world, but according to Scripture.

Continuing with the tequwphah...:

Then, in Gen. 1:14 He made two great lights to rule the day and the night. The sun was to rule the day, and the moon and stars were to rule the night.

The sun has a daily circuit as described in Psalms 19, "<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of Elo-

him; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. <sup>2</sup>Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. <sup>3</sup>There is no speech nor language, their voice is not heard. (**NOTE**: In other words, they are a mute testimony/witness. They are seen but not heard. *JH*)

<sup>4</sup>Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, <sup>5</sup>Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. <sup>6</sup>His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his **circuit** (tequwphah/unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof," vv. 1-6.

What does it say his circuit/ tequwphah is? Isn't it from the end of heaven to the ends thereof? What does this mean? To the Hebrew mind there are six directions, north, south, east, west, up, and down.

The sun rises in the east, the first end, and sets in the west, the other end, thus the plural "ends." This is the Hebrew manner of speech. If there is one it is singular, if there is another one, then the second one is plural.

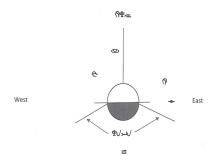
The definition for "tequwphah" is a revolution, i.e. (of the sun) course, (of time) lapse:--circuit, come about, end.

Of course it is a revolution as is stated in Ecclesiastes, "The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose," 1:5.

But his daily circuit/tequwphah is also described as, "The mighty Elohim, even Yahweh, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof," Psa. 50:1. "From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same Yahweh's name is to be praised," Psa. 113:3.

The sun was created to rule the day, the moon and stars were given to rule the night. We see the sun in his daily circuit from east to west, but he is in his chamber, his house, during the night. What is their line as described in Psa. 19? The east-west line would be the horizon. If we drew another line up and down through the earth we would have high noon and midnight.

Let's analyze the sun's daily circuit. The beit ( $\square$ ) at the bottom of the picture is the period of darkness/night called leylah ( $(\neg \neg \neg \neg \neg )$ ) in Hebrew. The beit ( $\square$ ) is the picture of a house or tent. The sun is in his chamber/house/tent during the night. (See the visual below)



The earliest rays of the sun appearing is called shachar in Hebrew, but this is just a beginning proof of his rising in the east to rule the day. The morning is called boqer ( $(n-\mu)$ ). The sun has left his house ( $(\mu)$ ) to rise ( $(-\mu)$ ) and looks

to  $(\mathbf{\hat{N}})$  the power of his rule which is high noon called Zohar  $(\mathbf{\hat{N}})$ . As we can see, before he reaches the horizon in the east, he has begun his rule, his head looking to the completion of his ascent. His ascent is called morning (boqer/  $\mathbf{\hat{N}}$ -eID).

The zayin  $(\mathbf{z})$  in the word Zohar ( ( is the seventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet representing completion, and/or perfection. Har (𝔄𝔽) in Hebrew means "mountain." The sun has completed his ascent to the top, the peak of the mountain at Zohar. Now he begins his descent which is called bow (by Yu) or going down (descending). As soon at he crosses the noon median (line), he enters into the western sky which, in this case, is called ma-erev/ma-ereb (**Dn**). This is the first erev/ ereb. The sun's eye (O) is looking  $(\mathbf{\hat{N}})$  to his house ( $\mathbf{\square}$ ).

The sun rules the daytime. Therefore, by the power of his light, the moon and stars lights are washed out before he even crosses the eastern horizon. He begins his rule before he even crosses that horizon and he continues to rule even after he crosses the western horizon for about 18 - 20 minutes.

According to the Jewish encyclopedias, the sun doesn't relinquish his rule until at least 2 or three stars appear in the sky. This is confirmed Scripturally by Nehemiah 4:21. This is the second erev. Thus, mid afternoon produces the term "between the evens" which in Hebrew is "biyn ha-erebim/biyn ha-erevim." This was the time of the slaying of the second daily sacrifice as well as the annual Passover lamb.

His daily circuit/tequwphah is from his rising in the east, assuming his power to rule the day, until his setting in the west where he enters his house ( $\square$ ) concluding his rule to the stars (when two or three appear) and the moon. According to Yahweh's word, the moon and stars rule the night ( $\Psi / J \rightarrow / J$ ).

The sun's daily tequwphah is described, therefore, in three stages the first stage being boqer  $(\widehat{\Lambda} - \Box)$ , morning, ascending, zohar  $(\widehat{\Lambda} - \Box)$  high noon, ascent completed, erev/ereb  $(\Box \widehat{\Lambda} )$  descending to his house.

Now, we know that the sun never goes dark but the earth's revolution creates this appearance to the habitations of man and Yahweh, the Creator, set it all in motion describing it in His word.

#### THE ANNUAL TEQUWPHAH

Just as there is a daily circuit/ tequwphah, there also is an annual tequwphah. What we would do to understand the annual tequwphah is to place the spring equinox along the horizontal line to the east, and the fall equinox along the horizontal line to the west. The annual zohar would be the summer solstice and annual midnight would be the winter solstice.

The first month/moon of the holy calendar year is, according to Yahweh, Abib/Aviv (green ears), "This day came ye out in the month (chodesh) Abib," Ex 13:4. This would be when the new moon is closest to the equinox.

"Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month (chodesh) Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)," Ex 23:15,

"The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month (chodesh) Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt," Ex 34:18.

"Observe the month (chodesh) of Abib, and keep the Passover unto Yahweh thy Elohim: for in the month of Abib Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee forth out of Egypt by night." Deut. 16:1.

Abib/aviv is defined as; 24 אביב 'abiyb, aw-beeb' from an unused root (meaning to be tender); green, i.e. a young ear of grain; hence, the name of the month Abib or Nisan:--Abib, ear, green ears of corn (not maize). (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance)

Primarily, this has to do with the tender green ears of the barley grain, which greens in association with other vegetation that begins to go green and tender even before the vernal/spring equinox, the beginning of the annual day.

The autumnal equinox is about the end of the annual day, but as in the 24 hour day, the sun will begin its reign even before the vernal equinox and will continue to reign for a short while after the autumnal equinox.

# THE BEGINNING OF THE DAY

The annual day of the Hebrew calendar begins with Rosh haShanah which means Rosh (head) ha (of the) shanah (year). This day always occurs around the fall equinox as the first day of the seventh moon/month, but it begins the civil year/calendar. It begins when the sun is entering its annual chamber which is the time that the darkness begins to be elongated while the light of the day is shortened.

Yahweh commanded Moses, "2Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a sabbath unto Yahweh. <sup>3</sup>Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; <sup>4</sup>But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for Yahweh: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard. <sup>5</sup>That which groweth of its own accord of thy harvest thou shalt not reap, neither gather the grapes of thy vine undressed: for it is a year of rest unto the land. <sup>6</sup>And the sabbath of the land shall be meat for you; for thee, and for thy servant, and for thy maid, and for thy hired servant, and for thy stranger that sojourneth with thee, 'And for thy cattle, and for the beast that are in thy land, shall all the increase thereof be meat. <sup>8</sup>And thou shalt number seven sabbaths of years unto thee, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee forty and nine years. <sup>9</sup>Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubile to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. <sup>10</sup>And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family," Lev. 25:2-9.

Rosh haShanah is the head, the beginning of the civil/agricultural year. This begins when the power of the sun is waning into the darkness of the annual night.

This sets the pattern for the 24 hour day wherein the sun is entering into his chamber because he has crossed the horizon in the west and is entering into his daily chamber/house/tent until his rising by approaching and crossing the eastern horizon to begin the daylight portion of the day.

The Caesars disrupted this pattern by arranging for the 24 hour day to begin and end at midnight, but the Jews (Hebrews) have continued to preserve this pattern as they have also preserved the annual calendar even though they admit to their change of the sighting of the visible crescent moon to the molad (dark/hidden moon) which was done by Hillel in the fourth century.

The Jews were also given the job of preserving the Old Testament, "<sup>1</sup>What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? <sup>2</sup>Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of Yahweh," Ro. 3:1-2.

Through their preservation of the oracles of Yahweh, they have also been given the preservation of the calendar which, as already stated, they admit to changing somewhat. But the template is still there.

#### THE THIRD YEAR

There were twelve stones in the breastplate of the high priest of Israel. Each stone had a specific name of one of the tribes of Israel engraved thereon. There were twelve months/moons in a lunar year and each month/moon was assigned a stone. The tribe represented by the stone of the month/ moon was to provide for the daily sacrifices and offerings of the tabernacle and later temple.

For two years there was no problem, but in the third year there was a thirteenth month. Which tribe was to provide for that thirteenth month? It would have been the tribe of Levi who had no inheritance in the land. So how could they provide for the thirteenth month/moon? Yahweh had it figured out!

Every third year a special tithe was set aside for the Levites, widows, orphans and strangers, "<sup>28</sup>At **the end of three years** thou shalt bring forth all the tithe of thine increase the same year, and shalt lay it up within thy gates: <sup>29</sup>And the Levite, (because he hath no part nor inheritance with thee,) and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, which are within thy gates, shall come, and shall eat and be satisfied; that Yahweh thy Elohim may bless thee in all the work of thine hand which thou doest," Dt. 14:28-29.

"<sup>12</sup>When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of that tithe, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled; <sup>13</sup>Then thou shalt say before Yahweh thy Elohim, I have brought away the hallowed things out of mine house, and also have given them unto the Levite, and unto the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all thy commandments which thou hast commanded me: I have not transgressed thy commandments, neither have I forgotten them: <sup>14</sup>I have not eaten thereof in my mourning, neither have I taken away ought thereof for any unclean use, nor given ought thereof for the dead: but I have hearkened to the voice of Yahweh my Elohim, and have done according to all that thou hast commanded me. <sup>15</sup>Look down from thy holy habitation, from heaven, and bless thy people Israel, and the land which thou hast given us, as thou swarest unto our fathers, a land that floweth with milk and honey," Dt. 26:12-15.

What were the Levites to then do? "<sup>25</sup>And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>And this your heave offering shall be reckoned unto you, as though it were the corn of the threshing floor, and as the fulness of the winepress. <sup>28</sup>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. <sup>29</sup>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.

This abundance every third year would allow the Levites to be able to provide for the daily sacrifices and offerings for the tabernacle and later the temple in the thirteenth month.

Instead of snubbing one's nose at the thirteenth month/moon, one should diligently search the Scriptures in order to comply with them rather than dreaming up an unscriptural alternative. An alternative that easily disproved by the Scriptures themselves.

Of course, it won't matter if what is proven out of Yahweh's word here to those who have embraced their phony doctrine, just as it hasn't mattered to the Lunar Sabbath calendar people, or the Enochian calendar people, and other various phony calendrical doctrines. They will continue to maintain their error, but this expose' is for those who will allow Yahweh's word to continue to lead and guide them to the proper rehearsals for holy matrimony to Yahshua the Messiah.

#### THE STARS ALSO

We know that the stars play a role with the moon in ruling the night, but what other role would they play?

Psalms 19 says, "The heavens declare the glory of Elohim; and the firmament sheweth his handywork," v. 1.

A quick look at the ISA Basic Hebrew English Interlinear reveals that "declare" should be "declaring" or "recounting.," in other words, something that is continually taking place.

In effect, the whole creation is declaring the wondrous works of Yahweh for those who are wise enough to see (that wisdom given by Yahweh, of course), but sadly, so many are blinded to the truth of a purposeful creation through a stupid "theory of evolution" because there is a great cherub created by Yahweh who refuses to give the glory and honor to Him, but rather seeks to glorify himself in Yahweh's place (Ez. 28; Isa. 14).

The sun glorifies Yahweh through his daily and annual trek while the moon and stars glorify Him nightly and monthly.

As a matter of fact, the sun, moon, and stars work together like a marvelous clock in order to bring forth and announce Yahweh's glorious handiwork.

Yahweh declares the fact of the Mazzaroth (Zodiac) in Job 38:32 and its seasons. The Mazzaroth/ Zodiac, of course, is the constellation belt that surrounds the earth.

There is a phenomenon called the "precession of the equinoxes" that quite interestingly is declaring and confirming Yahweh's Scriptural story and purpose by this precession.

We have discovered that Adam and Chavvah (Eve) were created when the equinoxes were taking place in Taurus (spring equinox) and Scorpio (autumnal equinox).

Taurus pictures an ox which would represent the Hebrew letter aleph  $(\not D'/4/\aleph)$ , the first letter of the alphabet representing also the "beginning."

Adam's name actually begins with the aleph, thus the declaration of the first the beginning constellations is that the first man, Adam ( $\kappa$ /Taurus) came under the sting of death (Scorpio/scorpion).

It takes about 2160 years for the equinoxes to traverse a constellation, which is quite interesting in itself.

Did you know that the moon's diameter is 2,160 miles? Did you know that the sun is 400 times larger than the moon, but it's distance is 400 times greater from the earth than that of the moon? This is why a full lunar eclipse is possible. Yahweh created it all and set it in motion for His own marvelous purposes!

Did you know that when Israel marched around Jericho, which gets its name from the Hebrew yareach (moon), once every day for six days, the result of 6 x  $360^{\circ}$  =  $2160^{\circ}$ ? There has to be a correlation between 2160 years, 2160 miles, and 2160 degrees.

The precession of the equinoxes taking 2160 years to travel through a constellation is quite interesting also since there are twelve (12) constellations in the belt encircling the earth which yields some pretty significant numbers especially since 2160 x 12 = 25920 years also called a **great year**. In other words, it takes 25920 years for the vernal equinox to begin in Leo and come back to the beginning point in the Leo (lion) constellation again.

The next set of constellations after Taurus and Scorpio was Aries and Libra. Aries is the head of a ram/sheep while libra is represented by scales.

Because of his sin, Adam realized that he was naked and needed to be covered so he and his wife made aprons of fig leaves to cover themselves. This covering was a type of man establishing his own "covering" religions/faiths for his sins which is not acceptable to Yahweh. After all, once disconnected from their source of life giving sap, fig leaves die, wilt, dry out (no life giving spirit), become desiccated and crumble to pieces.

Yahweh provided "skins" to cover their nakedness (Gen. 3:21). This was a prophecy that Yahweh, Himself, would provide the acceptable sacrifice in His own time and in His own way.

equinoxes Eventually, the moved out of Taurus and Scorpio into Aries (a ram/lamb) and libra (scales). Yahweh announced through Abraham and Isaac that during this period the acceptable sacrifice would be offered by demanding that he take his son Isaac to offer him as a sacrifice, but, as we know, Yahweh provided a ram (Aries) whose horns were caught in a bush, for a substitute for Isaac.

During this time frame Yahweh delivered Israel out of Egyptian bondage/slavery through the Passover sacrifice (Aries) taking them in the wilderness to make a covenant with them and to give them His Torah (law = scales of justice/ Libra).

About the time that the equinoxes were exiting Aries/Libra and entering into Pisces and Virgo, Yahshua offered the only acceptable sacrifice, but before doing this He called His disciples (fishermen/Pisces) to become and to fish for His virgin bride (Virgo).

We are now on the verge of the equinoxes leaving Pisces and Virgo and entering into Aquarius (water being poured out) and Leo (the Lion).

Yahweh says, "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions," Joel 2:28 (See also Acts 2:17).

This will take place upon the return of Yahshua the Messiah coming this time, not as a lamb of sacrifice, but with the boldness and power of the "Lion of the Tribe of Judah." (See Gen. 49:9)

The fact of the matter is that the two great lights (the sun and moon) along with the stars, were set for the seasons (mowedim) which declare a day, a week, a month, a year, Sabbatical years, Jubilees, and even the great year. To remove any part of it is error and taking away from Yahweh' word and appointed times.

## A Prisoners Plea, Help Us Remove the Bushel

Yahshua the Messiah, the Aleph and the Taw, our Master and Savior, admonishes us, as "children of light" - John 12:36, to be, "the light of the world..." -Mat.5:14. For most of us, especially myself, we formerly walked and were held captive in darkness. After having the scales removed from our eyes and awakening to His truth, we are now called to be, "the light of Yahweh" -Eph. 5:8. However, our enemy, who knows the Scriptures better than both you and I together, understands strategically, that all he must do to extinguish this light from being seen, is to place a "bushel" -Mat. 5:15, over this light, so it is hidden.

My name is Joseph Miller and some of you may know my mother and I, and our small outreach, The Root Bears You. For those that don't, I am in the midst of serving a 7-year prison sentence, currently incarcerated at Allen Oakwood Correctional Institution, (AOCI) in Lima, Ohio. Over the last four years and through two institutional transfers, we have faithfully distributed over 120 Restoration Study Bibles into the hands of inmates, whom I have personally had the pleasure of witnessing to while at London (LOCI), Marion (MCI) and here at AOCI. Having thoroughly researched several Sacred Name bibles, I chose this translation so that we could essentially put a restored Name version, Hebrew/Greek Interlinear and Strong's Dictionary all combined, into the hands of inmates who often do not have access or space for all of these books individually.

These efforts have been accomplished in part, by donations collected through our outreach, The Root Bears You, that I founded in 2015. My mother, Barbara Deerwester, is a missionary and baptized member of The True Body of Messiah, who acts as a coordinator on the outside working with and through several different Assemblies. In this labor of love, she faithfully distributes uplifting and educational materials about our Faith, monthly, to various inmates on our personal mailing list and even stands in the gap, advocating for those who don't have a voice to speak for them on the

outside, by calling or writing letters of support for Parolees.

Having both hands on the plow while cultivating this fertile soil within these camps of deprivation, I have come to uncover and witness firsthand a massive roadblock that has reared its ugly head standing strong in opposition of this Restoration Message. I have identified the disparaging drivers behind these wheels and their vehicle fueled by prejudice and contemptuous disdain. In my dealings living through these persecutions, I have come to understand why Yahweh has planted me here in this time He has uniquely created for us all to exist in.

Over the last four years, as an investigative journalist, I have undertaken the daunting task of chronicling and exposing all of the acrimonious and tiresome, discriminatory tactics that these state religious services departments, employees and officials have colluded within, through their underhanded suppression of our faith. This pattern of corrupt activity has remained consistent between all ODRC's Chaplains and Religious Services Administrators, throughout

these three institutions, and it is happening nationwide as well. The intended result is a trojan horse, Constantine like effort, to leave our Faith distorted, unknown and untaught and they will do whatever they can to keep this message as limited as possible inside of these walls.

From my own personal experience, I have seen the pugnacious antagonism and harrowing despising that these so-called Institutions, 'Religious Services Departments', have towards this True Body of Messiah. Inmates who have pledged to follow this Way, like myself, experience firsthand what it means to be, "persecuted for righteousness sake" - Mat 5:10, as we strive to, "live reverently in Messiah" -2 Tim. 3:12. Consequently, we are left with deep, mental, spiritual and psychological wounds from this vexing torment and we have the scars to prove it.

Contrariwise, inmates get their "unfair" share of 'religion' in prison alright. A predominant religion that tells them they are no longer under the law! Quite a conundrum indeed. We all got here by breaking the law! Is it any wonder why the rate of recidivism is so high? Those in the positions of power don't really want inmates to be reformed, they want them to become conformed, to the pattern of this world, which is lawlessness, so that inmates are receptive to thinking they have a license to sin (break the law), being under grace. That's why Christianity is the religion of choice having the most funding (and when the chapel is open, the most calendar services offered), so that the scattered sheep walk right back through these revolving doors keeping the beds and chapels filled.

What is 'tsedeq' is now by design, spoken of in an evil way (2 Pet 2:1-2) by the "pastors who scatter the flocks" (Jer 23:2), who have effectively stamped out Yahweh's 'Derek Qodeshim' and instead introduced a stolen word policy (Jer 23:20) from their own version of "scripture" which promotes rebellion, apostasy, defection and disintegration through the false body of the peoples preferred choice "Christianity".

Throughout the Covid 19 pandemic, most of our country's freedom to assemble has been effectively limited. In prison, True Worshipers were never given this opportunity in the first place. If anything, it almost finally seemed fair to us that these other faiths were not allowed to congregate. Before COVID, the chapel calendar gave these other faiths chapel space and time everyday all over the state, but when it comes to True Worshipers having а 'qodesh miqra' per the Torah covenant commands we have agreed to keep, we are told that we are not permitted to assemble. Then when we cut through all the red tape and submit all the paperwork requesting services, meeting all policy requirements, the Religious Services Administrator still denies us. In the past I have attempted to have DVD's sent in and have simply asked for chapel time to be given to watch these services on Yahweh's Sabbaths. Through coordinated conspirators these efforts have also been thwarted. Truly these are those of whom the manner of scriptures parallel, "forsake the assembling of ourselves"-Heb. 10:25.

The faith that True Worshipers are called in the state of Ohio, or rather that ODRC defines us under is, either 'Sabbatarian', or 'Assembly of Yahweh'. Out of an act of sheer hatred, as I have been able to document, several truculent chaplains have even been caught changing these declared affiliations back to their preferred religious catchment of choice, 'Christian'. They do this to keep the totals low to further deprive the inmate the ability to have services offered and so that when it comes time for Passover/ Unleavened Bread, they can save money by not providing unleavened meals for seven days.

One of the ODRC policies in place for religious services is "the rule of called, five", (72REG02, VI.H.2.), which states, ["Congregate Services: The approval of Congregate Services for any group and requested by at least five (5) documented members of that group not already receiving such services must be referred to the religious services administrator (RSA) for final decision."]

The very fact that this rule of five exist, violates the Religious Land Use Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA -defined later) in itself, as it poses a substantial burden upon me or anyone else to practice this faith and be allowed to have services offered. It also allows chaplains to manipulate these numbers by not changing inmates faith per their request as I have recorded with factual evidence. This also infringes upon our rights under the 1st and 14th Amendments. Where does it ever mandate restrictions on religious assembly within the Constitution, stating that you have the freedom to assemble, as long as there are at least 5 members?

Another ODRC policy that is used against any of us who would dare to have a holy convocation per the Torah commands we have agreed to keep, is (72-REG-01 VI. B. 4. a.) which states, [ "Congregate activities such as worship services, prayer services, study classes etc., must be led by, or under the immediate control of a chaplain or approved religious services provider."]

When we attempt to study and or pray together on the Sabbaths or any day for that matter, we are told, that per this same policy, (72-REG-01 VI. B. 4. a.), we are in an illegal group and threatened with disciplinary action. Then we meet their "rule of five" and have five men request these services, they still deny us services and then they validate this denial by quoting this exact same policy, (72-REG -01 VI. B. 4. a.). This has also repeatedly happened and been documented at all three institutions. This is the clear cut and dry discrimination that I'm showcasing within my claim. What a convenient, double standard policy they have crafted. Indeed, "And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand..." Dan. 8:25.

What these prison administrations fail to realize however is that this vitriolic bias behavior has already been deemed unconstitutional violating the Equal Opportunity clause within the 14th amendment. In the case of Cruz vs. Beto it was held that, "every prisoner is entitled to a reasonable opportunity of pursuing his faith comparable to the opportunity afforded to fellow prisoners who adhere to conventional religious precepts". Then when legal facts are presented to these men and women in support of what our Constitutional and Civil freedoms are under the RFRA and RLUIPA, and even when letters are written from

Elders, like the ones several of you have previously sent to the Religious Services Administrator (RSA) in Columbus, Dr. Michael Davis, they play the odds that you'll never actually be able to find legal representation. And believe me, it is not easy.

Even though ODRC claims this is an "approved faith", there is no specific policy in place. This conglomerate "Christian" hierarchy then maintains this oppression by operating behind the fact that there is no policy for our faith, while there are in fact 9 faiths (Protestant, Jehovah Witnesses, Jewish, Buddhist, Wiccan, Asatru, Roman Catholic, Muslim, Native American) represented through their approved policies. This seemingly then allows them to further "illegally" oppress our faith group, by not granting us services, the freedom to assemble on the Sabbath's, kosher meals, etc.

As some of you may know who have been following our plight over the last few years, I have been actively engaged in attempting to get our faith in Ohio recognized by ODRC. The powers that be, have met me headstrong at every turn, countering and hindering any and all efforts I have exhausted in my aim to have our Civil / Constitutional Rights upheld. Since September 2019, I have had a legal team from Ohio State University's, Moritz Civil Law Clinic, assisting me. Throughout four semesters amidst COVID interruptions, and four different sets of student interns under the supervising Attorney/Professor, a Demand Letter and policy I drafted for our faith group was finally submitted to ODRC's central office.

Just recently, all of the demands we requested, (i.e. services, kosher meals, Holy Days off from work, and the adoption of the policy for our Faith), were denied and the University did not want to help me proceed forward with litigation. Ironically, this same legal team, helped an inmate get his Wiccan policy adopted, but yet they refuse to honor our Faith. How appropriate. We do however now have an attorney who has stepped forward and is willing to represent us and fight for our cause. He also knows that our airtight, open and shut case, will set a precedence for Yahweh's True Worshipers nationwide.

Because there is a lack of Elders / volunteers for this faith group, this is and always has been the way for "Christian" chaplains and the "Christian" RSA to disallow fellowship and even the playing of DVD's, the chaplains excuse which themselves from the duty thereof out of policy by claiming these DVD's, "compromise the fundamental tenets of their own faith". This very policy, (72-REG-01, VI. A. 4), again ambiguously states in the previous sentence that, ["Institutional chaplains must provide for the spiritual needs of all requesting offenders regardless of faith preference or lack thereof."] If that's the case then these chaplains should not belong to any faith and as already proven in, [ Northern v. Nelson 315 F, Larson v. Valente (456 U.S. 228) "when states hire chaplains for one faith but not for another...they run in danger of violating the Establishment Clause". (source: Rights Of Prisoners 4th Edition, Michael B Mushlin, Vol 2, pg 135.)]

Again, in contradictory fashion, 'ODRC's Religious Services Manual', Page 3, Section II, 'Overview of Religious Services and DRC Chaplaincy', reads: [ "It is the policy of DRC that inmates are free to subscribe to any religious belief they choose. Inmate religious practices, as opposed to belief, shall be regulated as to time, place, and manner; and inmate participation in religious activities and practices shall be voluntary and shall not be subjected to coercion or undue restriction. The First Amendment of the Constitution states, "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." This sentence defines the "establishment clause" and the "free exercise clause". The "establishment clause" ensures that governmental institutions and employed officials will not favor one religious faith over another. Further, the "free exercise" clause ensures that governmental institutions and employed officials will not prevent the presence of legitimate religious expression.]

The language between OD-RC's 'Religious Services Manual', Page 3, just quoted above, and their 'Congregate Service' policy in place (72-REG-01 VI. B. 4. a.) that is used as a doubleedged sword to deny us services and or fellowship, is obviously of an ambiguous nature and legitimately does indeed impose a substantial burden upon inmates who are only trying to faithfully keep the central tenet of their approved faith. The government institutions and employed officials in place are also clearly disobeying their very own written rules because they ARE INDEED favoring one religious faith over another, nine faiths to be exact, those being the nine represented with their own policies.

Furthermore, policy (72-REG-01, VI. B. 4.) agrees with this and states, [ "All inmates shall be afforded access to religious services subject to legitimate departmental or institutional interests and concerns including security, safety, health, discipline, rehabilitation, order, and the limitations of and allocations of resources."]

Accordingly, policy (72-REG -01, VI. B. 4. c.) states that, [ "The eligibility of an inmate to participate in the religious observances of a particular faith group shall be determined according to the faith requirements of that religious faith group."]

What are the faith requirements of the members of our Faith? Well, as our scriptures unequivocally dictate, we are to commanded, per the covenant commands we have agreed to keep, to assemble for a "holy convocation", each and every seventh day and each of the seven annual sabbaths / Holy Days. This phrase, 'holy convocation', in Hebrew, as stated elsewhere is "qodesh miqra" and legislates a set apart, separate from the world, assembling of likeminded believers together, literally a congregation. See all eight commands at: Lev. 23:3, 7, 8, 21, 24, 27, 35, 36.

Right now, in Ohio and all across America, the work Yahweh is doing, the seeds we are attempting to sow through His Assemblies, Elders, and people like me, are quickly being scattered by the winds of false doctrine which predominantly choke out this message. It is time for the seeds that are being sown to be germinated and take root. It is time for the cultivation through the watering they need. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Master of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest." -Mat 9:37-38.

Without a spoken voice proclaiming His truths in His Name how are the unfruitful works of darkness ever to be reproved, (Eph 5:11)? Yahweh's Shepherds within His True Body Of Messiah (Jer. 23:4) are very much needed to step up and answer the call to come and feed His flocks the Unleavened Bread of sincerity and truth prior to His Great Re Gathering. Assembly leaders and Elders, more than anyone, know that this includes getting involved within the pris-(Mat. 25:36), ons where Yahshua, like man, keeps some of His most valuable treasures secure, behind lock and key.

"Remembering the prisoners as if chained with them" -Heb. 13:3, implies helping them in times like these. If we are all the same Body of Messiah, but many members (1 Cor 12:20), with Yahshua at the head, then we should be extending our hands in relief, for when one of us suffers, we all suffer.

"For I have heard the slander of many, fear was on every side; while they took counsel together against me...But I trusted in thee, O Yahweh: I said, Thou art my Elohim. My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me. Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies sake. Let me not be ashamed, O Yahweh; for I have called upon thee: let the wicked be ashamed, and let them be silent in the grave. Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous." -Psa. 31:13-18

"But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the good news...and many of the brethren in the Master, waxing confident by my bonds, are MUCH MORE BOLD TO SPEAK THE WORD WITHOUT FEAR." -Philippians 1:12-14.

And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of Elohim? But as for you, ye thought evil against me: but Elohim meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive." -Gen. 50:19-20

Thank you for your ears eyes and attentive mind in taking the time to read these words. I pray that the many members can unify and come together as One Body for this common cause that will touch so many lives. Step up and Help Us Remove the Bushel. In Yahshua's Name - Amein and HalleluYah.

You do not bear the root, The Root Bears You.

b'ahavah, Joseph Miller 3/25/21

NOTE: Anyone who is moved to help in this endeavor can send supporting funds here to YEA. Please mark them as: Prisoner Situation. Thank you and we do pray for your support. JH

### ANOTHER PRISONER'S PLEA!

When time permits, could someone please help me out on an issue I've been having trouble with? When Yahshua says, "If you love me, keep my commandments," what commandments is He talking about? This has caused a great deal of uncertainty. I simply don't know.

Some people tell me ALL 613 of them...some say that the ceremonial and civil laws are

done away with, and only the ten commandments remain...others say I'm to pick and follow only those that pertain to personal conduct from the civil law & the ten commandments... most people I ask simply don't know either and can't answer the question. Still others say, I'm no longer under the law but under the "law of grace."

In Mat. Chapter 7 Yahshua says, "Until heaven and earth pass away not one..." So, obviously I am still under some sort of law (s), right? Heaven and earth hasn't passed away.

In Acts 15, there are some in the church who clearly felt Paul should be teaching Gentile believers to be circumcised and to follow the law of Moses...other clearly felt no, not so...

My belief in Yahweh and faith in His son Yahshua is complete. It's a moot point. But now, how do I conduct myself as a Gentile believer in everyday life? I've gone to a meeting (s) at sunset on Friday where we face east, recite something in Hebrew, and drink grape juice, but I can't find such things in Scripture. I just want to do that which is pleasing to Yahweh but I don't know what to do. I'm just winging it, and I don't like that. I can't put all of my heart and mind into something I'm not sure of.

Can you help me out and explain it in simple layman's terms that someone who is ignorant of Scripture, like I am, can understand? Thank you. DP/NV

#### **ANSWER:**

In the first place, you state that you are ignorant of the Scriptures. Here is what you must do... "Study to shew thyself approved unto Yahweh, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth," 1 Tim. 2:15.

Also become a Berean who, "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so," Acts 17:11.

Life is a learning process. If you will dedicate yourself to Him and His word of truth, then you will begin a learning process that will be continual until the day you die. I am so blessed to continue to be learning to the age of almost 78 years now. The more one learns, the more one realizes that he doesn't know.

#### 613 COMMANDMENTS

The first thing I will address is the "613 commandments." I have read somewhere that they originally searched the Torah and found 611 commandments, but added two more for some reason that I can't remember at the present time.

However, the very word "Torah" is rather revealing in the fact that the Hebrew letters are  $\pi$  which, when we convert them to numbers equals 611 ( $\pi$ = 5 + 1 = 6 +  $\pi$  = 200 +  $\pi$  = 400 = 611). Isn't this quite interesting!?

However, let's consider the 613 so-called commandments. Many of those commandments only had to do with a tabernacle/temple, priesthood, and sacrifices and offerings that are quite impossible to fulfil today since there is no temple in Jerusalem nor a bonafide Levitical priesthood to serve that temple and offer those sacrifices and offerings.

Next, some of those commandments only applied to men, others to women, others to children, others to a community as a whole, etc.

But let's allow Yahshua to give an answer because He is the sole authority, "16And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? <sup>17</sup>And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, Elohim: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. <sup>18</sup>He saith unto him, Which? Yahshua said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, <sup>19</sup>Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. <sup>20</sup>The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? <sup>21</sup>Yahshua said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. <sup>22</sup>But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. <sup>23</sup>Then said Yahshua unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. <sup>24</sup>And again I say unto

you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of Elohim. <sup>25</sup>When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? <sup>26</sup>But Yahshua beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with Elohim all things are possible," Mt. 19:16-26.

Why didn't Yahshua just say, "Why, haven't you heard that there are 613 commandments!? Keep all 613 and you will be saved!?"

No, He didn't say that, He enumerated five of the ten commandments, of which four have to do with loving your neighbor as yourself. But He purposely left out the first four which mainly have to do with loving Yahweh our Elohim with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength (Mk. 12:29-30). He also left out the tenth commandment which has to do with covetousness.

The fact of the matter is that the young man was putting his wealth before His Creator and was, therefore, not performing the law of love to Him. His possessions were more important to him. Covetousness worked in him to the point that his riches were more important than his Creator.

John writes, "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law," 1 Jn. 3:4.

He also writes, "<sup>1</sup>My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Yahshua the Messiah the righteous: <sup>2</sup>And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. <sup>3</sup>And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. <sup>4</sup>He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. <sup>5</sup>But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of Yahweh **<u>perfected</u>**: hereby know we that we are in him. 6He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked," 1 Jn. 2:1-6

Paul writes, "What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Yahweh forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet,"

Yahshua proclaimed, "<sup>28</sup>And one of the scribes came, and

having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all? <sup>29</sup>And Yahshua answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; Yahweh our Elohim is one Yahweh: <sup>30</sup>And thou shalt love Yahweh thy Elohim with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. <sup>31</sup>And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. <sup>32</sup>And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one Elohim; and there is none other but he: <sup>33</sup> And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. <sup>34</sup>And when Yahshua saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of Elohim. And no man after that durst ask him any question," Mk. 12:28-34.

situations focused on in these Scriptures focus only on the tables of the ten commandments which are summarized into the two chief commandments being love to Yahweh and love to neighbor.

#### CIRCUMCISION

Why did Paul resist circumcision under the Mosaic covenant?

Let's think about it, all of the Israelite men who left Egypt were circumcised, but none of them were blessed to enter into the land of promise because of disobedience (except for Yahshua Ben Nun and Caleb Ben Yephuneh).

While Israel was in the wilderness for 40 years, none of their male offspring born in the wilderness were circumcised. Yahshua Ben Nun had to circumcise them just before they entered the land (Josh. 5:1-9)

So, the question is, what did physical fleshly circumcision do for them? It certainly did nothing for the foreskin of the heart, did it?

After this, Israel began to circumcise their children in accordance with the law of Moses, but after Yahshua Ben Nun's death what happened? They fell away

Everyone of the texts and

to Baal worship!

Israel had to go through a series, a period of judges time after time because of their rebellion against Yahweh. Did circumcision help? Another question is, "Did the wearing of the tzit tzits (made by the hands of men) do anything for them? Absolutely not.

Then they entered into the period of the kings with the same results until both the kingdoms of Israel and Judah had to be cast out of the land.

At the present time, we are in a great wilderness. While the unbelieving Talmudic, Qabbalistic Jews have returned to the land (not all, but some) and many are observing the seventh day Sabbath, the annual holy days, circumcision, wearing of tallits, kippas, tzit tzits etc., what is that doing for them?

They continue to obstinately refuse to openly recognize the names of Yahweh and Yahshua the Messiah.

They are even in the process of seeking to restore the Levitical priesthood, the temple, sacrifices, etc., but what will that do for them?

Yahweh has already warned them through the prophets.

What does Isaiah say, "The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. <sup>2</sup>Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for Yahweh hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me. <sup>3</sup>The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider. <sup>4</sup>Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken Yahweh, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. <sup>5</sup>Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. <sup>6</sup>From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment. <sup>7</sup>Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers. <sup>8</sup>And

the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city. <sup>9</sup>Except Yahweh of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. <sup>10</sup>Hear the word of Yahweh, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our Elohim, ye people of Gomorrah. 11To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith Yahweh: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats. <sup>12</sup>When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts? <sup>13</sup>Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. <sup>14</sup>Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them. <sup>15</sup>And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. <sup>16</sup>Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; <sup>17</sup>Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. <sup>18</sup>Come now, and let us reason together, saith Yahweh: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. <sup>19</sup>If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: <sup>20</sup>But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of Yahweh hath spoken it. <sup>21</sup>How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. <sup>22</sup>Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water: <sup>23</sup>Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. <sup>24</sup>Therefore saith the Adown, Yahweh of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies," Isa. 1:1-24.

Has anything changed since many of the Jewish people have returned to the land and are now in possession of Jerusalem? The book of Revelation declares, (speaking of the two witnesses) "And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which **spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt**, where also our Adown (Master) was crucified," Rev. 11:8.

What are the Talmudic, Qabbalistic Jews doing about this spiritual condition? Absolutely nothing! They continually perpetuate it.

What will a temple and Levitical priesthood do for them? Absolutely nothing! Don't people realize that back in Yahshua's day, when He was baptized by John the Baptist that the Holy Spirit vacated the temple built by the hands of men and entered into Yahshua the Messiah which made Him the temple of the Spirit!? He declared, "<sup>13</sup>And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Yahshua went up to Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: 15And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the

temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; <sup>16</sup>And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. <sup>17</sup>And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up. <sup>18</sup>Then answered the Jews and unto him, What sign said shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? <sup>19</sup>Yahshua answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. <sup>20</sup>Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? <sup>21</sup>But he spake of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Yahshua had said," Jn. 2:13-22.

Moses instituted the covenant of blessings and cursings. The people had promised that all that Yahweh had said, had commanded they would do and be obedient (Ex. 19:8; 24:3, 7).

The Hebrew word that was translated as "do" is esav (עשר) which also means "to work." This is why Paul continually addressed the "works" of the law.

Yahshua came to institute a "law/covenant of grace." This means that without Yahshua, we can do nothing. Yahshua said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing," Jn. 15:5.

Previously, He had said, "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me," In. 5:30.

The Pharisees trusted in themselves that they were righteous and were able to fulfil, do the works of the law, "And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: <sup>10</sup>Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, Elohim, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice in

the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. <sup>13</sup>And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, Elohim be merciful to me a sinner. <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted," Lk. 18:9-14.

The Torah, Prophets and writings (Psalms, etc.) as well as the New Testament (especially Paul) reveals that there is a law of sin in the flesh which makes it impossible for man to work his salvation out through his own ability to keep Torah (read especially Romans 7). Therefore, the covenant of Yahshua is a covenant of grace, however it is not a covenant of grace through lasciviousness.

We must walk as closely as we can to the commandments realizing that there can be moments of weakness when we give in to the flesh as Paul reveals. Our only avenue of escape is found in Yahshua the Messiah and His glorious sacrifice. We must certainly avoid the puffed up self righteous attitude of the Pharisees who trusted in themselves that they were righteous which attitude is found in modern day Judaism.

## **MODERN RABBINISM**

I want to publish some excerpts from a man who was born in Orthodox Judaism, but began to question the Rabbinic way of doing things at an early age.

He would read Scripture and then question why the Rabbis teach opposite to and contrary to the Scriptures through Talmudic reasoning.

He writes, The second fundamental principle of Rabbinic/ Pharisaic Judaism is the belief that the Rabbis have absolute authority to interpret Scripture, and what they say in religious matters is binding even if it is known to be factually untrue. This is best expressed by the Rabbinical doctrine that if the Rabbis say right is left or left is right you must obey them. When I was growing up this was a problem I faced on a daily basis. I would constantly be coming to my rabbis and protesting that this or that "interpretation" in the Talmud seemed to fly in the face of the explicit words of Scripture. I was told time and

again that the Rabbis have interpreted it this way and we had no right to question it.

One day, one of my rabbis sat me down to convince me of the absolute authority of the Rabbis. He began to tell me the story of Rabbi Eliezer, which appears in the Babylonian Talmud, tractate Baba Metsia, page 59b. Rabbi Eliezer was the greatest of the Rabbinical sages and the teacher of the legendary Rabbi Akiva. One day Rabbi Eliezer was engaged in a debate with the rest of the rabbis on some minutia of rabbinical law. Rabbi Eliezer maintained that a certain type of oven could not contract ritual uncleanness while all other rabbis said it could. The Talmud relates that "On that day R. Eliezer brought forward every imaginable argument" but he could not convince the other rabbis. Rabbi Eliezer became very frustrated. His rational arguments clearly proved he was right but this was not enough to convince the other rabbis to change their ruling. What was he to do? In desperation Rabbi Eliezer invoked a miracle. He shouted out, "If I am right, let the trees prove it!" All the rabbis in the academy suddenly heard a great rumble and when they looked outside they saw an entire orchard of trees inexplicably being uprooted and flying into the air. The rabbis were very impressed but they turned to Rabbi Eliezer and said, "We do not listen to trees." Rabbi Eliezer tried again. He shouted out: "If I am right let the river prove it!" Everyone in the academy ran outside and witnessed as the great river began to flow backwards. The rabbis were now extremely impressed but they turned to Rabbi Eliezer and said, "We do not listen to rivers." Rabbi Eliezer was by now steaming at the collar and shouted, "If I am right let the walls of the academy prove it." The walls of the academy immediately began to cave in. The rabbis turned to Rabbi Eliezer and said: "We do not listen to walls." Rabbi Eliezer was at his wits end and finally shouted out, "If the law agrees with me, let it be proved from Heaven!" At that moment all those present in the academy heard a voice call out from heaven saying: "Why do you dispute with Rabbi Eliezer, seeing that in all matters the law agrees with him!" The rabbis were again impressed but turned to

Rabbi Eliezer and said, "Sorry, we do not listen to Heaven." As my rabbi was telling me this story he opened to Deuteronomy 30:12 which says concerning the Torah "it is not in heaven." Of course, this phrase is part of a verse that says there is no excuse not to follow the Torah because it is not in heaven or across the sea but in our hearts and mouths. The Israelites had just heard the Torah directly from Moses and knew exactly what it meant, so there could be no excuses not to live by it. But this same verse was brought up by the Rabbis as proof to Rabbi Eliezer why they should not listen to the Creator in matters of Torah. Once the Torah was given it was no longer in heaven and therefore [Elohim] had no say in interpreting it. My rabbi's conclusion from all this was that the interpretations of the Rabbis even superseded a direct decree from [Elohim] Himself, so who was I to question them. When my rabbi finished explaining these things to me I turned to him and thanked him. I told him it was all I needed to hear. Until then I had had my doubts about the Oral Law (Talmud) and the Rabbis, but now I knew for certain that this was not of [Elohim]. (*The Hebrew Yeshua vs. The Greek Jesus*" by Nehemiah Gordon, pp. 14-16)

I have posted this to let you know that there are a lot of selfrighteous Pharisaical hypocrites who seem to be walking in the Torah, but are totally missing the point just as Rabbinic Judaism both past and present are doing the very same.

## GRACE

Getting back to circumcision, Paul warns, "<sup>21</sup>Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? <sup>22</sup>For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. <sup>23</sup>But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise. <sup>24</sup>Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. <sup>25</sup>For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. <sup>26</sup>But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. <sup>27</sup>For it is written, Rejoice, thou

barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. <sup>28</sup>Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. <sup>29</sup>But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. <sup>30</sup>Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. <sup>31</sup>So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free. <sup>1</sup>Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith the Messiah hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. <sup>2</sup>Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, the Messiah shall profit you nothing. <sup>3</sup>For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4the Messiah is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. <sup>5</sup>For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. <sup>6</sup>For in Yahshua the Messiah neither circumcision

availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love," Gal. 4:21-31, 5:1 -6.

For those who still don't get it, Paul declares that there are two covenants. The Old Covenant has been broken, "6Then Yahweh said unto me, Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying, Hear ye the words of this covenant, and do them. <sup>7</sup>For I earnestly protested unto your fathers in the day that I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, even unto this day, rising early and protesting, saying, Obey my voice. <sup>8</sup>Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart: therefore I will bring upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do; but they did them not. <sup>9</sup>And Yahweh said unto me, conspiracy is found Α among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>They are turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, which refused to hear my words; and they went after other elohim to serve them: the house of Israel

and the house of Judah have broken my covenant which I made with their fathers," Jer. 11:6-10.

He also wrote, "<sup>31</sup>Behold, the days come, saith Yahweh, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: <sup>32</sup>Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant <u>they brake</u>, although I was an husband unto them, saith Yahweh: <sup>33</sup>But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith Yahweh, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their Elohim, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know Yahweh: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith Yahweh: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more," Jer. 31:31-34.

Again, it is written, "<sup>7</sup>For if that **first** *covenant* (NOTE:

while the word "covenant" is added to this verse in italics, which means that it was added to clarify the understanding, the point is that Paul is inspired to write that there are two covenants, the first which engenders to bondage. These two verses absolutely destroy the concept of a "renewed covenant." *[H*) had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. <sup>8</sup>For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith Yahweh, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: "Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith Yahweh. <sup>10</sup>For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith Yahweh; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them an Elohim, and they shall be to me a people: <sup>11</sup>And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know Yahweh: for all shall

know me, from the least to the greatest. <sup>12</sup>For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. <sup>13</sup>In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away," Heb. 8:7-13.

Yahweh says that He broke His covenant with all the people, "Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars. <sup>2</sup>Howl, fir tree; for the cedar is fallen; because the mighty are spoiled: howl, O ye oaks of Bashan; for the forest of the vintage is come down. <sup>3</sup>There is a voice of the howling of the shepherds; for their glory is spoiled: a voice of the roaring of young lions; for the pride of Jordan is spoiled. <sup>4</sup>Thus saith Yahweh my Elohim; Feed the flock of the slaughter; <sup>5</sup>Whose possessors slay them, and hold themselves not guilty: and they that sell them say, Blessed be Yahweh; for I am rich: and their own shepherds pity them not. <sup>6</sup>For I will no more pity the inhabitants of the land, saith the Yahweh: but, lo, I will deliver the men every one into his neighbour's hand, and into the

hand of his king: and they shall smite the land, and out of their hand I will not deliver them. <sup>7</sup>And I will feed the flock of slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I took unto me two staves; the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bands; and I fed the flock. <sup>8</sup>Three shepherds also I cut off in one month; and my soul lothed them, and their soul also abhorred me. <sup>9</sup>Then said I, I will not feed you: that that dieth, let it die; and that that is to be cut off, let it be cut off; and let the rest eat every one the flesh of another. <sup>10</sup>And **I** took my staff, even Beauty, and cut it asunder, that I might break my covenant which I had made with all the people. <sup>11</sup>And it was broken in that day: and so the poor of the flock that waited upon me knew that it was the word of Yahweh. <sup>12</sup>And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. <sup>13</sup>And Yahweh said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in

the house of Yahweh. <sup>14</sup>Then I cut asunder mine other staff, even Bands, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel," Zech. 11:1-14.

The very subjects of this prophecy tells us when Yahweh broke His covenant with all the people. It was at the Passover sacrifice of Yahshua in "one month" which the Hebrew actually says "month one," that is, the first month of the sacred calendar, the month of Abib.

This is speaking of Yahshua's contention that He had with the three groups who were shepherding the people at that time which were the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Scribes.

His price was that of thirty pieces of silver (Mt. 26:15) which Judas returned to the chief priests and elders casting them into the temple (Mt. 27:3) and with which they bought the "Potter's Field," (Mt. 27:9).

Upon His death, He broke the covenant that He had made with all the people. In other words, Yahshua was the One Who appeared to Moses and Israel making a (marriage) covenant with them in the first place, "<sup>1</sup>They say, **If a man put away his wife**, and she go from him,

and become another man's, shall he return unto her again? shall not that land be greatly polluted? but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to me, saith Yahweh. <sup>2</sup>Lift up thine eyes unto the high places, and see where thou hast not been lien with. In the ways hast thou sat for them, as the Arabian in the wilderness; and thou hast polluted the land with thy whoredoms and with thy wickedness. <sup>3</sup>Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed. <sup>4</sup>Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, My father, thou art the guide of my youth? <sup>5</sup>Will he reserve his anger for ever? will he keep it to the end? Behold, thou hast spoken and done evil things as thou couldest. <sup>6</sup>Yahweh said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king, Hast thou seen that which backsliding Israel hath done? she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot. <sup>7</sup>And I said after she had done all these things, Turn thou unto me. But she returned not. And her treacherous sister Judah saw it.

<sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks. <sup>10</sup>And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith Yahweh. <sup>11</sup>And Yahweh said unto me, The backsliding Israel hath justified herself more than treacherous Judah. 12Go 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. <sup>13</sup>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.<sup>14</sup>Turn, O backsliding children, saith Yahweh; **for I am married unto <u>you</u>**: and I will take you one of a

city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion," Jer. 3:1 -14.

Israel made a vow to Yahweh while Yahweh made a vow to them. They exchanged marriage vows. The price for the vows is revealed in the book of Leviticus, "1And Yahweh spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When a man shall make a singular vow, the persons shall be for Yahweh by thy estimation. <sup>3</sup>And thy estimation shall be of the male from twenty years old even unto sixty years old, even thy estimation shall be fifty shekels of silver, after the shekel of the sanctuary. <sup>4</sup>And **if it be a** female, then thy estimation shall be thirty shekels," Lev. 27:1-4.

Fifty has to do with freedom, liberty, jubilee. Yahweh had to empty Himself of the freedom, liberty, power, honor, glory as Elohim, "<sup>5</sup>Let this mind be in you, which was also in the Messiah Yahshua: <sup>6</sup>Who, being in the form of Elohim, thought it not robbery to be equal with Elohim: <sup>7</sup>But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: <sup>8</sup>And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross," Phil. 2:5-8.

He paid the price for his bride's vow which was thirty shekels of silver as enumerated here in Leviticus, in Zechariah, and in the gospel/evangel accounts! HalleluYah!!!!!

Paul sums it all up, "<sup>17</sup>Behold, thou art called a Jew, and restest in the law, and makest thy boast of Elohim, <sup>18</sup>And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; <sup>19</sup>And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, <sup>20</sup>An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law. <sup>21</sup>Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? <sup>22</sup>Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? <sup>23</sup>Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou Yahweh? <sup>24</sup>For the name of Yahweh is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written. <sup>25</sup>For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision. (NOTE: All have sinned and come short of the glory of Elohim, Ro. 3:23 <sup>26</sup>Therefore if the uncir- $|H\rangle$ cumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision? <sup>27</sup>And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law? <sup>28</sup>For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: <sup>29</sup>But <u>he is a Jew</u>, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not <u>in the letter</u>; whose praise is not of men, but of Yahweh," Ro. 2:17-29.

Paul further reveals, "<sup>18</sup>Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised. <sup>19</sup>Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh. <sup>20</sup>Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called," 1 Cor. 7:18-20.

The commandments are basically an exhibition of love as already pointed out. The first five have to do with love for Yahweh and the second five have to do with loving one's neighbor as one loves his own self.

Therefore, Paul confidently declares, "1Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith the Messiah hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. <sup>2</sup>Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, the Messiah shall profit you nothing. <sup>3</sup>For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. <sup>4</sup>the Messiah is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. <sup>5</sup>For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. <sup>6</sup>For in Yahshua the Messiah neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but **faith which** worketh by love. <sup>7</sup>Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye

should not obey the truth? <sup>8</sup>This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you. <sup>9</sup>A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump," Gal. 5:1-9.

Take notice here that Paul warns that the teaching of physical circumcision is like leaven.

If there are any who are teaching or demanding that a man be circumcised, then as Paul states here, "This persuasion comes not of Him that calls you!" Beware of such a person and avoid him for it is obvious that many in this world today who are circumcised are not able to fulfill the law in its entirety and completeness. We all stumble and fall and need the grace of the Messiah to cover and forgive our shortcomings, our failures.

There are many who seek to discredit the Apostle Paul, but Yahshua, Himself, declared, "<sup>15</sup>...<u>he is a chosen vessel</u> <u>unto me, to bear my name</u> <u>before the Gentiles, and</u> <u>kings, and the children of</u> <u>Israel</u>: <sup>16</sup>For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake," Acts 9:15-16.

No one has written like Saul/ Paul! No one, other than Yahshua, continues to suffer ridicule, doubt, accusations, etc., etc.

Peter declares, "9Yahweh is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of Yahweh will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. <sup>11</sup>Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and righteousness, <sup>12</sup>Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of Yahweh, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? <sup>13</sup>Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. <sup>14</sup>Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. <sup>15</sup>And account that the longsuffering of our Master is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; <sup>16</sup>As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction," 2 Pet. 3:9-16. grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of Yahweh: <sup>9</sup>Not of works, lest any man should boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in the Messiah Yahshua unto good works, which Yahweh hath before ordained that we should walk in them," Eph. 2:8-10.

May all take these things to heart and be greatly blessed! HalleluYah!!!!! *JH* 

## Finally, he writes, "8For by

## PRAYER LIST

Prayers have been specifically solicited for the following: Yahweh's work throughout the world, especially here in the US and Britain, the Philippines, India, Africa, etc., Chris Ashby, Brahe Beede, George Blissard, Marie Boileau, Ether & Michelle Branch, Jasmine. Jaci, & Lyndie Branch, Chris & Marissa Brown, Elijah Collett, Lewis Hanner Compton, Derrick & Joshua Corley, Michelle Cox, Darryl & Barbara Creel, Gary and Barbara Deerwester, Sue Dodd, Matthew Dorado, Hilda Driedger, Melissa Fauth, Courtney Foster (severe headaches), Mark Foster, James & Lynn George, David & Lexi Harris, Frances Healan, Don Jeffries, Julian Junior, Mr. & Mrs. Keakley, Gayle Kennedy, Elaine Keyes, Alun Kirk, Arvil Kirk, Robert Kirk, Tanya Kirk's mon, Richard & Donna Krenke, Bailey Lane (3 yr. old—cancer), Susana Malm, Joe Margoitta, Jacob C. & Daphne Meyer, Joshua Mitchell, Johnny McCarty, George Pana, Judy Pyle, Thomas Rhobards, John Mark Ritter, Brent Rouser, Lydia Sepulvado, Henry Sunderman, Joseph Taylor. Please pray for the men and women in prison who have been influenced by the Sacred Names Assemblies that their walk will be perfect before Yahweh both in and out of the prison walls. JΗ



P. O. Box 31

Atlanta, TX 75551

Phone #903-796-7420

Fax #903-796-7511

Email: jerryhealan@sbcglobal.net

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