

HOW DO WE BECOME

UNLEAVENED?

PART ONE

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1. Introduction

So, its Sunday, December 1st. Andy is preparing for church on what could be the most important day of his spiritual life. Today he is to be baptized with his father, mother, grandparents, aunts, a few cousins, best friends, and last but certainly not least, his wife and 5-year-old daughter in attendance. Finally, he hears those most important words spoken by the minister. “I now baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (HS)”. He emerges from the baptismal pool with great joy. Hugs abound.

This is all the more joy because the baptism occurred about a week prior to his 40th birthday, and a few weeks before Xmas. It is such a merry time in his life due to these most important events. A week later his wife invites family members and friends to a surprise birthday party for him. On Xmas morning the merry times continue as he showers his wife and daughter with gifts causing the wife to glow brighter than the tree in the living room. The daughter is beaming from head to toe over her gifts. Later the entire family attends Xmas services with a special joy this year because of Andy’s baptism. Everyone is quite festive.

A week later Andy and his wife attend a New Year’s Eve party while the grandparents babysit the daughter.

Wow! Baptism, birthday, Xmas and new years, all celebrated in this year. Andy now believes himself to be a “born again” Christian, ready to reap the benefits guaranteed to a “follower of CHRIST”. The only negative for Andy is the absence from all these events by his younger brother Jimmy.

Jimmy, who is 5 years younger than Andy, left the congregation that Andy, his parents and grandparents all attend several years ago.

He proclaims himself to be a spiritual Israelite (Yisraelite) and no longer fellowships on Sundays; nor does he observe Xmas, Easter, new year's, or even birthday celebrations. He recently left HIS job of 15 years because it required him to work every other Saturday. He now observes the Sabbath Day from Friday at sunset to Saturday at sunset. He also observes the holy days described in the Bible at Leviticus the 23rd chapter.

While the younger brother has been encouraged to be with the family while they observe their various celebrations, Jimmy has chosen to abstain. He now has a new job, with a little less pay, that does not require him to work on the Sabbath or the other days he considers sacred to the ELOHIM of Yisrael, whom he serves.

Both brothers and their families are racially white, Caucasians. At Jimmy's new job he met Jake, who is Black. Jake, who like Andy, considers himself to be a "born again Christian", who while remaining skeptical, has been studying with an old college friend, Mike, who also is Black. Mike also observes the Sabbath and the holy days described in Leviticus, 23rd chapter. Jimmy finds this fascinating. Eventually Jimmy meets Mike and learns that differences do exist between them.

Jimmy has been taught that whites in America, Great Britain and certain other European countries are physical descendants of ancient Yisrael. Mike has been taught that those Blacks that came to America and the Caribbean islands in slave ships are among the physical descendants of Ancient Yisrael. Mike has worked on the same job for 15 years that requires him to work every other Sabbath.

Mike has also been taught that whites cannot and should not instruct others in Biblical concepts. This is because, based on his teachings and beliefs, those Blacks who are physical Yisraelites were chosen to serve as priests to the ELOHIM of Yisrael, and only they were given the covenants and oracles of ELOHIM. Also, it was the Europeans who gained control of modern-day Christianity and convinced the world that the MESSIAH was resurrected on a Sunday, and that Sunday, the first day of the calendar week should replace the Sabbath day commanded by the ELOHIM of Yisrael. The Europeans also convinced the world regarding its calendar, Easter worship, Xmas worship, new years and other observances.

Jimmy agrees with Mike regarding the observances, but disagrees regarding the heritage of ancient Yisrael, as well as other historical nations such as Egypt and Assyria.

While not accepting his family's traditions, Jimmy does not believe his family is lost. He believes their opportunity is ahead of them, perhaps after the 1st resurrection described in the Bible. Mike believes the truths in the Bible have been, and are currently being offered to the entire world. As such, to not believe is to reject it.

Jimmy does not believe that the wicked shall burn forever. Mike does. Mike not only believes that the wicked will burn forever, but that they will be given a new form of spiritual body and will be forever eaten on by worms. Jimmy accepts that the Bible teaches that it is born for all men to die once before the resurrection, and thus Enoch is dead. Mike believes Enoch lives, held under chains of darkness.

As we can see both Andy and Jake, one white, one Black, both believe they are "born again".

We see Jimmy and Mike, one white, one Black, who agree on the commandments, the holy days and dietary laws (to a degree), yet finding themselves in uncomfortable territory because of other issues they disagree on.

If we were to take a poll on all who believe as these 4 men, from such diverse backgrounds, the vast majority would probably assert their favor before ELOHIM due to their beliefs and faith. However, their beliefs, and the beliefs of others, such as Muslims, form the very basis for much of the turmoil in the world today.

Most spiritually motivated persons have some degree of passion that drives their daily actions, whether overtly or not, whether intentionally or not. Andy's joy at his baptism and during the Xmas season appears to be as great as one might imagine Jimmy and Mike's during their holy day celebrations.

Who is to say who is right and who is wrong? This article will briefly discuss these differences from a Biblical perspective. It will take on the challenge of bridging the gaps between them, especially Jimmy and Mike. Biblically speaking it is the author's belief that the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael, to whom the author professes HIS belief, is the creator of all things. It is the author's belief that through the teachings as presented in the Bible, the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael has provided HIS plan for the restoration of all things in HIS creation back to HIM. It is the author's belief that this restoration involves patience and order. Not all things occur in a timely manner as man understands time. Not all are made to understand this plan at the same time, or even in one's lifetime.

It is the author's belief that there are two resurrections of the dead which will provide all the opportunity to know the truth of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael.

As we explore the subject matter being presented, what is the process for the concept of becoming “unleavened”? If we were to explore the core beliefs as taught to Andy and Jake, both “born again” Christians, the concept of becoming unleavened is probably a foreign subject. I say this because this concept is taken from a commanded holy day given to the Children of Yisrael in the Book of Leviticus, 23rd chapter, verses 6 thru 8. Because it is commonly believed amongst those who are considered to be “born again” Christians that such observances are not applicable to Christianity today, this concept remains a mystery.

To Jimmy and Mike this concept is a little clearer because they both observe the Biblical Feast (Appointed Time) of Unleavened Bread. Yet even though they both observe this appointed time, there are differences that could be said to be major. Both are obedient to the letter of what they know to be the law, but are they both obedient to the spirit of the law? What does it mean to be unleavened? If we simply eat unleavened bread as commanded during this seven-day festival, are we in compliance?

Many would say that they want to go to heaven, or others would say they want to be in the Kingdom of ELOHIM. How many of these would say that they want to be unleavened? Some accept that belief in Jesus CHRIST (YESHUA MESSIAH) is all that is needed to eventually make it to heaven. For certain there appears at first glance to be a type of Biblical precedent established which may imply such a belief. Note the following:

- Rom 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

If one only accepted this verse with no explanation or clarifying thought the process truly is simplified; believe that by calling this name you are saved.

To quickly clarify this, the Book of Hebrews offers a stark contrast.

- Heb 10:26 For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, Heb 10:27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Now we have another concept that the MOST HIGH's word has entered into the equation. This is most important because the concept appears to be little understood by those who follow the same path as Andy and Jake. I once asked someone who presented themselves to be a female minister, what was sin. She responded: "Well, you know, it's when you do wrong". The problem with this concept is that wrong often lies in the eye of the beholder, even if one professes belief in the MOST HIGH's word. The Bible is probably the most opinionated book in existence. It is so difficult to find absolute agreement in its words.

Yet, for some things, this should not be so. For instance, sin. The knowledge of sin should be fully understood if we believe the words of the Hebrews' author. For if we willfully partake of it, we have a very warm problem.

The concept of sin and its understanding is vital to whatever Biblical aspirations one might have.

Now we must conclude that if the MOST HIGH has made sin a key component of the goal of a Bible believer, shouldn't HE ensure that the definition of sin is not left up to us to simply make up our own meanings? Not to worry, HE did. And for those who did not know it, I have always found it amazing that the solid and definitive answer to what is sin was not given by the prophets of old.

It was provided in the New Covenant of the Bible by the disciple of the MESSIAH. Please note:

- 1Jn 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

The concept could not be any plainer. To transgress the law of the MOST HIGH is sin.

To more fully understand, let's take a closer look at this concept of unleavening and prayerfully enhance our understanding so that we may all attain the desire of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael.

2. To Eat Or Not To Eat

As we look back on our introductory subjects, we can all probably agree that they have all eaten of some form of spiritual food. In fact, we all eat of some form of spiritual food whether knowingly or unknowingly. It is truly interesting that from the beginning of creation the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael used food as a metaphor for spiritual enlightenment and growth. The first man Adam was commanded to eat not of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Yet he and his wife Eve did eat (Gen 3:11).

Later the MOST HIGH commanded the prophet Ezekiel to eat a roll. While there are certainly many examples in the MOST HIGH'S WORD, I believe these two examples should get us where we need to go. The question is, have we considered what was being eaten here? Did they eat something with their mouths to feed a physical hunger?

- **Eze 3:1** Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Yisrael. Eze 3:2 So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. Eze 3:3 And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. Eze 3:4 And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Yisrael, and speak with my words unto them.

Now, let's take a look back at the food concept established by the MOST HIGH. As a child I heard many variations of the Adam story. For instance, Adam ate an apple and his eyes were opened. This is a prevalent teaching.

To establish the proper spiritual order on our homes and communities, and indeed ultimately our spiritual walk that leads to our desired goals, we must begin to think with skepticism and discernment.

For instance, we eat apples frequently. Do they open our eyes? If not, how can we believe that this is what Adam and Eve ate?

Likewise, when we consider the Prophet Ezekiel, did he actually physically eat the roll? Notice that once Ezekiel ate the roll (book or written words) he was to go and speak to the House of Yisrael. So, once he ate the words in the roll, he possessed words or thoughts to be shared. The words he was to share were accomplished by reading. Yet the MOST HIGH chose the metaphor of eating to get HIS point across. Eating describes the ultimate form of physical absorption. Through eating, we ingest the vitamins and nutrients needed for our physical health. Through eating the words of the MOST HIGH we feed our minds with HIS vitamins and nutrients, HIS words of spiritual health. The Apostle Paul gives believers the following instructions:

- 2Ti 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto ELOHIM, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

However, the instructions being given are not always as clear cut as they would seem. Look at what the MOST HIGH caused the prophet Hosea to write.

- Hos 10:13 Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men.

What we see here is that there exist many forms of food that persuade us one way or another. The MOST HIGH did not make it so easy.

He provided so many instructions using metaphors.

We remember how the MESSIAH purposely spoke to so many outside of HIS inner circle in parables. The fact that this was done on purpose should incite, as well as excite, the called and chosen to the special relationships the MOST HIGH is currently building. Why were the metaphors given on purpose? Why wouldn't the MOST HIGH just simply speak plain language throughout HIS WORD? Why leave it up to man to decipher which fruit is ripe for righteousness sake versus which is the "fruit of lies"?

Whatever the purpose, the quest of the true believer must be to discern the fruit of truth from the fruit of lies and deception.

As we look back at Andy, Jimmy, Jake and Mike, we note that each professes a belief in the MESSIAH. Yet each disagrees on how to show that belief. Could it be that each ate different food? If so, we need to explore the source of the food each ate.

Let's start with Andy. He faithfully attends church services every Sunday. He celebrates Easter, X-mas, attends Bible studies every Wednesday. Since his baptism he has become even more active in his congregation. He regularly participates in his church's prison ministry and is dedicated to being an upright Christian, as he understands it. He walks in the tradition handed down to him by his father and his father before him.

Then there is Jake, whose life closely mirrors Andy's. He also is very active in various church ministries and is an excellent family leader. However, unlike Andy, Jake is no longer 100% certain he is being taught the total truth. It appears Mike has touched a curiosity in Jake regarding his heritage.

Yet, for now, he is not certain that this negates the joy he feels each Sunday, each Easter, each X-mas.

He ponders how so many wonderful people could be so wrong. The days he keeps are certainly family oriented and present positive images.

Now look at Jimmy and Mike, one white, one black. Both express a belief in the MESSIAH as the ELOHIM of the Old Covenant and the creator of all things. Both celebrate the Holy Days of the Book of Leviticus, though with slight variations. Both have been taught that their physical heritage is the physical Nation of Yisrael.

One believes in physical circumcision as a requirement for baptism, the other believes only in spiritual circumcision as a requirement. One believes in foot washing at Passover, one does not.

Each of their different beliefs are based on the different teachings that each has received. As a result, they, the differences are representative of different forms of food they have been fed. There are other variations of their beliefs which we will explore throughout this article.

Where does one start to discern whether or not he is eating the proper food?

- Mar 7:7 Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.

The MESSIAH here states that some claim to worship HIM, yet in vain. Why? It's because they teach the doctrines of men.

- Isa 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because *there is* no light in them.

Herein is where the differences create spiritual battles between our subjects. Neither Andy nor Jake believes that the “law” is necessary under the new covenant. This is what they have been taught and have accepted as truth. Both Jimmy and Mike believe that the law stands. They both believe that the testimony explains the intent of the law. Yet, differences still exist based on the origins of the teachings they have received.

As we move forward, I want to look further into the metaphors of the MOST HIGH before we briefly explore the fruit that each of our subjects eat. I believe that all our subjects would agree that the MESSIAH spoke about the commandments of men in a less than pleasant manner.

met·a·phor noun \ 'me-tə- fər also -fər\ : a word or phrase for one thing that is used to refer to another thing in order to show or suggest that they are similar: an object, activity, or idea that is used as a symbol of something else

Well, we should all also agree that the very opposite of the commandments of men would be the commandments of the MOST HIGH. One such commandment is found in the 23rd chapter of Leviticus.

- Lev 23:6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month *is* the Appointed Time of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread. Lev 23:7 In the first day ye shall have an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work therein.

Both Andy and Jake would declare this as an Old Covenant observance of the Nation of Yisrael. Both Jimmy and Mike observe this appointed time each year. Jimmy removes all leavening products (including leavened bread) while eating unleavened bread for 7 days.

Mike removes only leavened bread from his house while eating unleavened bread for 7 days.

This begins to open the opportunity to explore the prevailing theme of this article.

In the 23rd chapter of Leviticus we note that the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread immediately follows the day, Passover. To both Andy and Jake, the Passover is all about the Children of Yisrael slaying the lamb while in Egypt, putting its blood on their doorposts, which signaled the death angel to pass over that house and spare its first born. To Jimmy and Mike, it is also the memorial of the death and sacrifice of the MESSIAH.

It has never been expressed to Andy and Jake that the MESSIAH was the Passover Lamb. Now please note my next statement very carefully. **The Passover Lamb and the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread represent the two most important metaphors in the MOST HIGH's WORD.** Interestingly enough, the MOST HIGH instructed the Apostle Paul to make it plain in 1st Corinthians 5:6 – 5:8.

As we consider the importance of the previous statement, an argument can be made that the Apostle Paul provides the most important guidance on these 2 metaphors that the true believer must understand.

- 1Co 5:6 Your glorying *is* not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? 1Co 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even CHRIST our passover is sacrificed for us: 1Co 5:8 Therefore let us keep the Feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Let's break this down a little. The Apostle began by attacking the ingredient that impairs the product. If referring to bread, he is saying that any amount of leaven creates a leavened product (i.e., "the whole lump"). The metaphor, bread, can be reflective of self, a congregation, or a nation. If we can see it, the Apostle instructs us on how to become an "unleavened product".

CHRIST, the MESSIAH, is the true Passover sacrifice, not the symbolic lambs that the Nation of Yisrael sacrificed. There must first be acceptance in this most important understanding and truth, if one honestly desires to eat Biblical food, which is the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. It has been generally taught that the Apostle appears to be individualizing this sacrifice. More on this later.

Next he informs us how we must respond to this truth by doing what? Keep the appointed time (verse 8)! But, do we simply put away the leavened bread in our homes, gather together and eat and drink? No! The Apostle says to keep the appointed time not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness. What is the leaven of malice and wickedness? The Apostle does not leave us hanging.

- 1Co 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 1Co 6:10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Andy and Jake would no doubt think that none of the descriptions depicted here fits them. Yet, how would they answer the Apostle's call to action. KEEP THE APPOINTED TIME! Nor have they been fed the spiritual food that leads to a true and fuller understanding of the commanded Passover observance.

They appear to have not been properly instructed on what are the implications of following replacement instructions that do not appear in the MOST HIGH's WORD.

The Apostle went on to specify the requirement for the keeping of the appointed time. My wife once asked me what the phrase "in spirit and in truth" meant to me. My response was that "in spirit" is referring to our minds and our hearts. We must want it. And in doing it, we must seek the truth and walk in it.

- Joh 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. Joh 4:24 *God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.*

I believe the source of her question fits the Apostle's instructions perfectly. In fact, the Apostle explains the words of the MESSIAH. He says "in sincerity and truth". The MESSIAH said "in spirit and in truth". If we are properly chewing and digesting this food, we should accept that the sayings are the same.

The Apostle is further instructing us that this appointed time is the foundation on which the "called-out one", once he/she has accepted the MESSIAH, begins his or her walk with the MESSIAH.

Later in his first letter to the Corinthians the Apostle shows how the Passover helps validate our beliefs.

- 1Co 11:26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. 1Co 11:27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink *This* cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

- 1Co 11:28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. 1Co 11:29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Andy and Jake may well associate these verses, when read alone, with the communion they partake every first Sunday. However, eventually they both will need to discern the food they ingested that brought them to this conclusion. If they ate the written food in context, they would possibly realize that the two verses complement each other. Remember, the apostle made it plain who is the Passover. He then made it plain that once we acknowledge this, **WE MUST KEEP THE APPOINTED TIME**.

Now Jimmy and Mike both keep the Passover and the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread, yet interesting enough, through very different lens. Jimmy believes that the requirement for partaking of the Passover, for both male and female, is baptism.

His Passover observance epitomizes a selfless reflection of humility by recognizing that it is only through the sacrifice being acknowledged on this day that the “called-out one” has been able to maintain throughout the year just passed. Prior to being given wine and bread the baptized males and females are separated. With a pan and towel, the males and females line up in their perspective places to wash and dry the feet of the person either in front or behind them. See Yochanan 13:14-15. This commanded act of humility mentally prepares each baptized person to receive the Passover wine and bread. Once the foot washing is completed the men and women come back together. As Jimmy and others are provided with bread and wine, they are given a few moments for prayer and self-reflection of what each means to them individually.

The Passover service is then closed out by the reading of the MESSIAH's words provided to HIS apostles in Yochanan 14th to 16th chapters, which reflect a theme of oneness to the Body of CHRIST.

Mike's Passover observance reflects a typical Sabbath service with an emphasis on the 1st Passover as a forerunner of the true Passover, the MESSIAH. The youth and adult choirs sing hymns. The circumcision requirement is repeated. The women, children, and circumcised males receive bread and wine as they exit the service.

As we can see, the Passover observance attended by Jimmy and Mike picture two vastly different views on how the MOST HIGH's WORD requires the called-out one to focus his/her appetite. A few points are worthy of our attention here. The quest to determine if one is eating the proper spiritual food rests with the source of the food we eat.

This document does not deal with all the sources. Its purpose is to explore those who outwardly express belief in the Biblical MESSIAH.

Now, we have shown some of the practices of Andy and Jake. Specifically, both observe the annual celebration known as Easter. If we search for a day by this name in the MOST HIGH's WORD, except for a mistranslated word (Acts 12:4) in the KJ version, it will not be found. The word translated Easter there is Pascha, which means Passover.

With the discourse in 1Corinthians 5:6-8, the Apostle declares that the Passover lamb is a metaphor for the MESSIAH, who through HIS sacrifice became "the LAMB of ELOHIM" (Yochanan 1:36). The metaphor is used again by the Apostle Yochanan in Rev 5:6, 7:17, 14:10, 15:3, 19:9, 21:22-23, 22:1 and 22:3. It appears so simple when one eats and digests the MOST HIGH's words describing the Biblical subject of the MESSIAH's sacrifice.

The Nation of Yisrael sacrificed a lamb each Passover. The Apostle has informed us that the MESSIAH has become the Passover to all that are of the church; the ekklesia, which means “called-out ones”.

For the “called-out one” the acceptance of this sacrifice is renewed each year by the observance of the Passover on the 14th day of Nisan as commanded. Remember the Apostle’s first instruction about this observance. “Purge out the old leaven”. This is the requirement for partaking of the Passover. Well, what is the proper metaphoric act provided by the MOST HIGH that symbolizes our act of purging. Let’s look at what another apostle fed us.

- Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus CHRIST for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Baptism requires repentance/faith. This action is required of the believer as one prepares for the beginning of a new life of belief in the MESSIAH. Each year believers should renew this action as they prepare to partake of the Passover. Wait a minute now. What am I saying? Am I saying be rebaptized each year prior to partaking of the Passover? Metaphorically/spiritually, the answer is a resounding yes. We should rebaptize our inner spirit in the truth that we walk in. We must be honest first to ourselves.

Where have we fallen short? What do we now need to focus on? We need to recognize at this time more than ever the following.

- 1Co 10:1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 1Co 10:2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 1Co 10:3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

- 1Co 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was CHRIST. 1Co 10:5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. 1Co 10:6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. 1Co 10:7 Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. 1Co 10:8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. 1Co 10:9 Neither let us tempt CHRIST, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 1Co 10:10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. 1Co 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. 1Co 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. 1Co 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

After partaking of the Passover, the believer celebrates the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread. But how do believers celebrate the appointed time? Is it by simply eating unleavened bread? What would this alone accomplish? **Is it simply about putting leavened bread out of the home for seven days? What would this alone accomplish?**

The Apostle Paul says “purge”, then acknowledge the true Passover Lamb, and then celebrate the appointed time with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Earlier I discussed a conversation with my wife regarding “in spirit and in truth”.

What is sincerity? Isn't it being true to one's self? To keep the appointed time in sincerity and truth, one must look in the mirror and identify the leaven in one's life. Once we identify the leaven, we renew our commitment through purging these leavening agents from our lives. This is why the metaphor pictured by the appointed time should involve removing all leavening agents from our homes, not just leavened bread, which is a finished product. We need to understand the significance of this. So, let's take a brief step backwards.

- Exo 12:15 Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.
- Exo 12:19 Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.
- Exo 13:7 Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days; and there shall no leavened bread be seen with thee, neither shall there be leaven seen with thee in all thy quarters.

Each of these verses commands that all leaven be put out of our homes during the appointed time. For those who maintain the belief that only the removal of leavened bread is required, notice Exodus 13:7. Leavened bread is required to be removed. However, it also reads, "neither shall there be leaven seen with thee in all thy quarters". Now, if we seek to obey in sincerity and truth, **we must conclude that both the leavened bread and the leavening agents must be removed during the appointed time.**

This commandment coordinates with the vision given to the Apostle Paul to “purge out the old leaven”. Remember, leaven is provided as a metaphor for sin. It is the leaven that causes the wheat to grow into the finished loaf of bread. In commanding this appointed time, the MOST HIGH is instructing the “called-out ones” to concentrate not only on the more obvious sins, but also those that may appear to be minor. Yet we are to be aware that even the minor sins have the potential to grow into “willful sin”; thus, the requirement to remove all leaven from our households during this appointed time.

Jimmy has been taught to remove all leavening products as well as leavened bread from his home. From the first day of the appointed time, he and others like him are instructed on the virtues of using the seven days of the appointed time as a time of reflection and cleansing, of trying to work at becoming a newer creature in CHRIST.

Mike has been taught to only remove the leavened bread. The prevalent teaching he is provided concentrates on the Children of Yisrael’s deliverance from Egypt, and how in their haste, the bread was not allowed to rise or turn into a finished product.

With this understanding, if Andy were to be taught by Mike, and Jake by Jimmy, who would gain the most? Andy would no doubt be instructed that before taking his first Passover, he must be physically circumcised. Andy responds that he is already physically circumcised. With that settled, Mike would invite Andy to attend services and to partake of the Passover.

Jake’s experience with Jimmy would take on a different perspective. Jimmy invited Jake to first begin attending Sabbath services and Bible studies. Through it all Jake would begin to learn that he has worshipped a false MESSIAH all his life.

He now would begin to see the futility in all that he has been taught and through prayer and study would begin to show a repentant attitude. He would get baptized in the name of the true MESSIAH and then be ready to partake in the Passover.

As we can see, the emphasis is slightly different for the requirements taught for Passover observance. Let's remember that the Apostle Paul urged "called-out ones" to first purge out the old leaven prior to partaking in the Passover.

This is the true preparation. Let's also remember that the Apostle Peter instructed the Pentecost (Weeks) observers in Acts to repent and to be baptized. Together these would appear to collectively establish the New Covenant requirements for partaking in the Passover.

Of course, we all recognize that these scenarios are all hypothetical. There are no assurances that either Andy or Jake will accept or understand what the Apostles Peter and Paul are teaching. Is it any different for Mike and Jimmy regarding the Passover? For Mike, the teaching has always been that a major part of repentance involves physical circumcision. Jimmy has always been taught that the primary act of repentance begins with the commandments. While Mike has also been taught commandment keeping, circumcision remains a prevalent part of his teaching regarding the Passover.

Let me ask a question. What is the source of food that each of our subjects is eating? If questioned, for sure each would proudly claim the Bible as the source. Andy and Jake both remember the joyous celebrations of the holiday seasons. Can any of these celebrations be found in the Bible without some form of indirect inference and interpretation involved? We spoke earlier about the word Easter. What about X-mas and other more traditional holidays?

Are there straight forward, direct commandments anywhere in the Bible commanding or inferring these days to be kept by believers? Let me answer that question. Absolutely not.

What about the Sabbath and other holy days that both Mike and Jimmy keep? There are direct commandments for each of these. What about the differences between them, such as circumcision and the identity of Yisrael? Well, there was a law of circumcision given to Abraham and his male descendants. There also was a commandment preventing uncircumcised males from partaking of the Passover. See Ex. 12:48. So Mike has a valid argument for physical circumcision. However, Jimmy has been taught what he understands to be a spiritual evolution of circumcision. This teaching can also be found in the Bible, taught by both the Apostle Peter and the Apostle Paul. So, Jimmy too has a valid argument for spiritual circumcision as necessary rather than physical circumcision.

Where does this leave us? It appears obvious that the food being eaten by both Andy and Jake has a source other than the Bible. Yet each feel justified in their actions and choices.

It is obvious that both Jimmy and Mike have as a foundation actions that can be found in the Bible, yet in different eras, the Old and New Covenants.

What is our purpose, or more important, what should be our purpose? Notice how the apostles appear to approach this subject in one mindset. Let's take a quick step back and allow their words to feed our thoughts for a moment.

- 1Co 12:8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

- 1Co 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. 1Co 12:12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is CHRIST. 1Co 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 1Co 12:14 For the body is not one member, but many.
- 1Co 12:18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. 1Co 12:19 And if they were all one member, where *were* the body? 1Co 12:20 But now are they many members, yet but one body.
- Eph 4:4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; Eph 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- Col 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Col 3:16 Let the word of CHRIST dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
- Jas 5:19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Jas 5:20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.
- 1Pe 3:8 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:

- 1Jn 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. 1Jn 4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

These words are such that we need to explore how we get to this level of oneness and the mindset it will take for each of us to get there.

It is obvious that there are major Biblical conflicts in the food provided to Andy and Jake. They both agree in their actions. However, it is clearly problematic for them to identify their food source. However, this should not be the case with Mike and Jimmy, based on the words of the apostles.

The quest for all of us is how we get to where we need to go. How do we discern the foods that are offered to us each and every day? How should the “called-out ones” look at their differences? How do they treat those that are outside true Biblical teachings, like Andy and Jake?

With those thoughts in mind, let’s explore the mindset that the MOST HIGH’s WORD admonishes the “called-out ones” to seek.

3. One Lord, One Spirit, One Body

The apostles each spoke to the oneness of the calling when one is called to the MESSIAH. Well, since we are talking about the MESSIAH, perhaps we should look at what HE desired of HIS followers. Shouldn't it be to perform the mission as spoken by the MESSIAH just prior to HIS sacrifice? Let's slowly walk through HIS words.

- Joh 17:6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. Joh 17:7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. Joh 17:8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. Joh 17:9 **I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.** Joh 17:10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. Joh 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. **Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.** Joh 17:12 **While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name:** those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. Joh 17:13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. Joh 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Joh 17:15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. Joh 17:16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

- Joh 17:18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. Joh 17:19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Joh 17:20 **Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;** Joh 17:21 **That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us:** that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

These words are read at the Passover services each year by those who have been taught as Jimmy has been taught to observe this memorial service. Notice that this entire discourse is a prayer by the MESSIAH to the FATHER about the disciples that followed HIM. In verse 6 notice that the FATHER gave them to HIM and they have kept the FATHER's word, which are represented by the words the MESSIAH has given them (verses 7-8). Next we see the MESSIAH only praying for HIS followers, not for the world (verse 9). Verses 11 and 12 open an interesting point. The MESSIAH asks the Father to "keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we *are*." In verse 12 He says "I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept".

You may ask why this is so interesting. These words, while read at Passover services by Jimmy and others, do not appear to be fully understood by many who read and hear them. I have attended many of these services and have fellowshiped with these brethren and have yet to hear the name issue discussed. Yet, those of the physical circumcision like Mike openly and often teach the importance of this name. This discussion finds the MESSIAH requesting the FATHER to keep these followers through HIS (the FATHER's) own name. The MESSIAH proclaims that HE has kept them through the FATHER's name.

Well just what is this name that the MESSIAH has kept HIS followers? The only identifiable name spoken is Jesus. Many believe that the true Hebrew translation of this name is YESHUA. This is fine, but we who desire to attain this oneness must not allow the great tare (Satan) to divide us on this. The point I want to make here is that the MESSIAH obviously came in the FATHER's name. Some get this and some haven't. We must understand that each has something that the other needs. Let's continue.

I want to get to something here that we all need to understand. In verse 14 HE says "I have given them thy word". Remember earlier He said that the words HE gave the disciples were the FATHER's WORD. Now we come to verse 20 and note HIM saying "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word". Thus, we see that the disciples' words are the MESSIAH's words, which by extension are the FATHER's words. I believe this to be most important to the growth of the body of the MESSIAH.

Many of us fail to see or accept that the apostles' word is also the FATHER's WORD. Some may ask why do I emphasize this point. Well, within the Body some accept the teachings of the apostles only in part. If we took a closer look at all our 4 subjects, how many get this very vital Biblical realization. Andy and Jake appear to miss much that the apostles teach, such as Sabbath and Holy Day observance, the definition of sin, etc. As such, can either claim to be faithful and obedient to the FATHER's WORD? Now both Jimmy and Mike understand these things. Yet, beyond these important things, even they seem to pick and choose. Jimmy and like believers do not accept the Apostle Paul's discourses on women and their roles in the Church. Based on food he has been fed, there is no need for women to cover their heads.

And, there appears to be a slowly developing acceptance of women in the pulpit. Mike has also been fed food that disagrees with the apostles' teaching on physical circumcision.

Obviously, each of our subjects cannot be correct on these teachings. Yet, the MESSIAH adamantly desired that HIS followers become one, as both HE and the FATHER are one. This means that respect for each other's studies is of the utmost importance.

The discourse in the 17th Chapter of John (Yochanan) describes that the MESSIAH developed a most special relationship with HIS apostles. That being the case let's look at how HE started this relationship.

- Mat 5:1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: Mat 5:2 And he opened HIS mouth, and taught them, saying, Mat 5:3 Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Mat 5:4 Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Mat 5:5 Blessed *are* the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Mat 5:6 Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Mat 5:7 Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Mat 5:8 Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Mat 5:9 Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Mat 5:10 Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Mat 5:11 Blessed are ye, when *men* shall revile you, and persecute *you*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Mat 5:12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *is* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

- Mat 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost HIS savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Mat 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Mat 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Mat 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Mat 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. Mat 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Mat 5:19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

This discourse is between the MESSIAH and HIS apostles **only**. These are the 1st major instructions provided to them from HIM. There is so much here. However, I want to concentrate on verses 13 through 19. They are informed that they are the salt of the earth; i.e., the preservers of the Fathers word, which is like a lit candle, providing light to those who accept it. True believers know that this word was first given to the prophets. This is why HE made it clear to the apostles in verses 17 through 19, the FATHER's law stands through the words given by the MESSIAH to HIS apostles.

The walk of the "called-out ones" is such a treacherous walk if there is no oneness of direction developed amongst the household of faith.

Let's look at an example of something recently brought to my attention.

- Mat 13:24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: Mat 13:25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. Mat 13:26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. Mat 13:27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? Mat 13:28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto HIM, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? Mat 13:29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Mat 13:30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Here we find in this metaphor the tares are allowed to grow in the world (verse 38), not necessarily in the church, along with the wheat. Yet, in this harvest, the tares will be bound first, in bundles for burning.

What does this saying to the apostles mean? As we grow towards our oneness, we cannot allow the enemy to divert our attention from the truth. There are some amongst my physical Yisraelite brethren who believe these words show that various weaknesses are allowed amongst the “called-out ones” resulting in some of the negative behavior seen in the church recently.

However, I believe we must focus on what these words to the apostles are truly saying. Remember the following:

- Joh 17:15 t I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. Joh 17:16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

The “called-out ones” are not removed from the world, yet they are not of the world. They think, speak, eat and walk differently from the tares of the world. Notice the timetable when the tares are gathered. The MESSIAH says they are to be gathered first, before the wheat. If first, this must be a metaphor for the second resurrection. Why? Because we know that the saints shall be raised first to reign with the MESSIAH for 1,000 years. As such, the gathering of the tares follows these 1,000 years. Why am I including this you may ask? We must become of one mind. To the “called-out one” this should not be a mystery.

Are these concepts understood by all? I fear not. Notice another word given to the apostles that substantiates these words.

- Mar 2:27 And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: Mar 2:28 Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.

Because they have now been taught by the MESSIAH why the Sabbath was made, it is important to know who made the Sabbath.

- Heb 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Heb 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by HIS Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

- Col 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

With these verses we now know that the MESSIAH created, made, all things just as HE was instructed. With this knowledge we now understand verse 2:28 of Mark. HE, the MESSIAH is Lord of the Sabbath. Andy and Jake do not understand this. They have been fed a diet that professes the first day of the Roman calendar, Sunday, as the New Covenant Sabbath.

There is a lot of confusion in this teaching. Some believe that Sunday is the 7th day of the week. Some accept that Sunday is the 1st day of the week, yet because the MESSIAH is commonly taught to have risen on a Sunday, it was erroneously changed. They haven't been taught that the MESSIAH HIMSELF proclaimed that the law stands and that HE HIMSELF honored **only** the Sabbath.

- Luk 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

They haven't been taught that this was also the apostles' customs.

- Act 13:44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.
- Act 17:2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

- Act 18:4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

So, if one truly wishes to become one with the MESSIAH, one must practice what the MESSIAH and the apostles practiced. The Sabbath cannot be a question mark in a believer's walk. But what about the walk of a true believer? Let's now focus on something that may be a very deceptive concept.

Can a true believer not accept that both the Apostle Peter and the Apostle Paul recognized that with the shed blood of the MESSIAH came a change in all the blood requirements for man, the sacrificial law and the law of circumcision? In looking at the apostles' teachings, many have yet to truly understand that ALL of their instructions are targeting "called-out ones".

The Apostle Peter wrote the following:

- 1Pe 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus CHRIST, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 1Pe 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus CHRIST: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

The Apostle Yochanan wrote the following:

- 1Jn 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus CHRIST.

The Apostle Paul wrote something similar to the following language in all HIS letters:

- 1Co 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in CHRIST Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus CHRIST our Lord, both theirs and ours:

These verses present the consistent theme of the apostles. If we believe that any of the apostles is inconsistent with other parts of the MOST HIGH's WORD, do we not open the door for error in the MOST HIGH's WORD. May it never be. The true believer, called by the FATHER to the SON, must patiently strive to accept the WORD as it comes to them, without questioning that which has yet to come to them, as it may have come to others.

In order to understand this concept, let's look briefly at the Apostle Peter's spiritual conversion on the subject of circumcision and baptism. He said the following to the uncircumcised Gentile, Cornelius:

- Act 10:28 And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

In fact, if we remember how David considered Goliath the uncircumcised Philistine to be quite low (1 Sam 17:26), all Yisrael considered the uncircumcised of the world to be unclean. And, based on the commandment of the MOST HIGH, they had a right to do so. Yet, the Apostle Peter is seeing something that is significantly impacting how he looks upon others, circumcised or not.

- Act 10:34 Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: Act 10:35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. Act 10:36 **The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus CHRIST: (he is Lord of all:)**
- Act 10:41 **Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God,** *even* to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

Now we must focus on what happened in Peter's sight while this event was playing itself out.

- Act 10:44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. Act 10:45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, **because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.** Act 10:46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. **Then answered Peter,** Act 10:47 **Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?** Act 10:48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

Here the circumcised “called-out ones” noted that the HS was poured out on uncircumcised Gentiles. Later, the MOST HIGH used the Apostle Paul to expand on the teaching. What all “called-out ones” must understand is that if we close our minds to any part of the MOST HIGH’s WORD, we become deficient in our understanding. If we become deficient in our understanding, we become deficient in our teaching to others. Our light becomes dull. We stop bearing the proper fruit.

The instructions to Yisrael in the Old Covenant are both specific and detailed. Yet, equally true, the MOST HIGH's modifications to physical circumcision in the New Covenant are also specific and detailed. The only controversy revolves around acceptance.

The MOST HIGH chose arguably the 2 most important leaders/teachers of the New Covenant to teach other called-out ones this principle. During my tenure with "hanging out" with many so-called "called-out ones", I have oft heard many openly disagree with the apostles, mainly Paul.

My response to this is that all the apostles, including Paul, were directly called to their ministries by the FATHER through the MESSIAH. We must be patient to allow the MOST HIGH to reveal HIS WORD to us.

Those brothers and sisters who have allowed their pallets to digest these teachings seem at times to more fully digest the spiritual nature of the MOST HIGH's holy days. This includes the removal of all leaven in preparation for the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread. This also includes observing all 8 days of the Appointed Time of Tabernacles. This also includes a more complete and fuller understanding of the calling.

This also carries with it a profound understanding of the eternal death, preceded by both the 1st and the 2nd resurrections. I have struggled with those who are caught up in the belief of the eternal burning hellfire punishment of the wicked, and of course, the eternally biting worms (see my article "Will They Burn Forever?").

Yet, if we are to become one as the MESSIAH desired of us, we all have to be open-minded on Biblical concepts that others may have been given the revelations.

Let's take a look at a Biblical subject such as the HS. I have heard some "called-out ones" say it is Jesus CHRIST HIMSELF. Other "called-out ones" say it is the power of the MOST HIGH.

However, looking back at Andy and Jake, the HS is the 3rd member of what is commonly called the trinity. The HS is a member of the family of the triune ELOHIM family. Unfortunately, neither Andy nor Jake have considered that the word, trinity, does not even exist in the MOST HIGH's WORD. The MOST HIGH is quite specific and detailed in HIS directions to HIS people.

Regarding the HS, I believe understanding revolves around acceptance also. Let's look at a set of scriptures.

- Job 27:3 All the while my breath *is* in me, and the spirit of God *is* in my nostrils;

Here Job speaks about the "spirit of ELOHIM" in his nostrils. Now ask yourself. Could this spirit that's in Job's nostrils be the same as the Comforter of truth? Whatever type of spirit is in Job's nostrils, he calls it the "spirit of ELOHIM". Why? Like everything else, the WORD of the MOST HIGH clarifies all things.

- Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

This form of spirit comes directly from the MOST HIGH. Doesn't this represent a form of HS, the breath of the MOST HIGH? Notice something else.

- Isa 63:7 I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, *and* the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Yisrael, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of HIS lovingkindnesses. Isa 63:8 For he said, Surely they *are* my people, children *that* will not lie: so he was their Saviour. Isa 63:9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old. Isa 63:10 But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.

Here in the 9th verse we note that an angel, “the angel of HIS presence”, saved Yisrael, as the MOST HIGH was afflicted with them. Through this angel, the MOST HIGH redeemed Yisrael.

Yet, in verse 10, they rebelled and vexed HIS, the MOST HIGH’s, HS, which now turned and fought against them.

- Isa 63:11 Then he remembered the days of old, Moses, *and* his people, *saying*, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock? where is he that put his holy Spirit within him? Isa 63:12 That led them by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name? Isa 63:13 That led them through the deep, as an horse in the wilderness, *that* they should not stumble? Isa 63:14 As a beast goeth down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD caused him to rest: so didst thou lead thy people, to make thyself a glorious name.

When verse 11 says “within him”, I believe the context warrants further investigation as a mistake that should be “in the midst of them”. Note how the scripture turns from discussing an angel to discussing the HS by which the MOST HIGH led Yisrael from Egypt. Sound confusing? Let’s look at the language back in Exodus.

- Exo 23:20 Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Exo 23:21 Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him.
- Exo 23:22 But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries. Exo 23:23 For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off.

Yisrael was told that an angel would be sent before them to lead and to protect them. They were told to not provoke him. Now consider this. What is another word for provoke? Could it be vex? They were told to obey the angel’s voice, and yet do all that the MOST HIGH speaks. The angel was in the midst of Yisrael. Here we see that YAHWEH is speaking through this angel. Has HE done this before? Remember Moses and the burning bush? Who was in the bush?

- Exo 3:2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush *was* not consumed.

Here we see that it was an angel of YAHWEH in the bush that Moses saw. Yet, when the angel spoke, it was as if YAHWEH HIMSELF spoke.

- Exo 3:4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here *am* I.

YAHWEH spoke through HIS angel, possibly the angel of HIS presence. It is the angel's voice, but YAHWEH's words. Through the Prophet Isaiah we know that Yisrael did provoke, or vex, this angel of the MOST HIGH's presence, HIS HS. Confused anyone?

I often wonder why is it so difficult for some "called-out ones" to accept that angels are a vital form of the concept, HS. Let's look at something in the New Covenant that should shed some light.

- Rev 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus CHRIST, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: Rev 1:2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus CHRIST, and of all things that he saw.

Here we see that the FATHER, the MOST HIGH, gave a revelation to HIS SON, who signified it by HIS angel unto Yochanan. Sound familiar? This appears to be the protocol for how the MOST HIGH works, if we can but see it.

Well, Mike and those who have similarly studied get this. Jimmy does not. For now, Andy and Jake remain clueless to this. We note this protocol in the New Covenant, the Book of Revelations. Is this something new? Note this.

- Amo 3:7 Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

And just how was this revealed to the prophets?

- Eph 3:5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

What spirit is this?

- Rev 22:6 And he said unto me, These sayings *are* faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

Yes, this was the ministering spirit provided to the servants of the MOST HIGH. This is consistent throughout the MOST HIGH's WORD to see. So, it appears there are some groups that get this, and some that haven't as of yet.

If we are to obtain the desired level of oneness, we must learn from one another and not let our personal arrogances plague our growth in CHRIST towards the oneness so desired by the FATHER and HIS SON.

We exist today during a remarkable time. The excuses for the "called-out ones" to not get it right have been taken away. Notice that I said the "called-out ones". Based on all that we have seen, we cannot honestly say that either Andy or Jake are "called-out" at this point of their lives. Why, simply because they do not accept the commandments of the MOST HIGH. The MESSIAH said to HIS disciples that many would come in HIS name and deceive many (Matt 24:5).

It is safe to say that through acceptance of so much that can be traced to idol worship as Christian, their minds have not been opened to see the unfathomable riches of the MOST HIGH's truths. Yet, "called-out ones" are supposed to understand the mercy of the MOST HIGH towards themselves as well as to those outside. How then can we bring all of this together?

There are two New Covenant verses that have meant so much to me and my views of the church and those outside of it.

- 1Co 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

It is the MOST HIGH that gives repentance to acknowledge HIS truth. Those who know not the truth for whatever reason either have not been given it, or, perhaps they received and rejected it and have been given a reprobate mind (Rom 1:28).

With this understanding, our single most objective should be to continue to "unleaven" our lives. We should view this process as if each of us were parts of a tree.

In order for the fruit of this tree to grow, we must first continue to "study to shew thyself approved unto ELOHIM" to "rightly dividing the word of truth". The goal of this objective is to become as the ultimate tree, who is none other than the MESSIAH HIMSELF.

In truth we have learned that it is the MOST HIGH's desire that HIS "called-out ones" become one. As we reflect on those not "called-out" we must also remember that the MOST HIGH desires to save all mankind.

- Ti 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; 1Ti 2:2 For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 1Ti 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 1Ti 2:4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 1Ti 2:5 For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man CHRIST Jesus; 1Ti 2:6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

The “called-out ones” must grow in their understanding of the MOST HIGH’s timetable. In doing so, “the called-out ones” must humbly realize the special opportunity given to them today. The Apostle Paul sums up our walk as follows:

- 2Ti 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient, 2Ti 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 2Ti 2:26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

To obtain this we have to excel in our tolerances for one another, as well as those who are outside. The MOST HIGH tells us that we must be merciful as he is merciful.

- Isa 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

- Eze 33:11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

The MOST HIGH's WORD clearly shows HIS Timetable. We must grow in or understanding of the times. For this is the time for great unleavening of souls. Let's move on to Part Two and understand it together.

