## Lesson No. 109 - ELOHIM's Plan of Salvation, Part One

## Hosted by Donald Croswell June 7, 2019

Tonight, we are going to turn our attention tonight to Lesson No. 109 - ELOHIM's Plan of Salvation, Part 1. My approach this year will be a little different than last year when we discussed Lesson No. 57 - ELOHIM's Plan of Salvation, The Basics, Part 1. That's because we are in the season of a very special time of ELOHIM's seasonal plan of salvation. I decided to make this modification due to the fact that there are some on the study tonight who will celebrate the upcoming holy day beginning tomorrow evening, as well as some who will celebrate it a week from tomorrow night. As such, it appeared appropriate that we emphasize this great day this evening, within the context of the overall plan of salvation designed by ELOHIM.

Tonight, we will obviously repeat several concepts that those who have been with us for a while have heard before, as well as highlight our growth as we continue to study ELOHIM's WORD. If you think about it, ELOHIM designed it that way so that the more we study and consecrate on what we know to be HIS appointed times, the more we grow in our understandings of the salvational picture provided by each appointed time. Yet, no matter how often we study and repeat these appointed times, there is a singular root that should echo in our minds.

- Gen 49:18 I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD.
- Exo 15:1 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

- Exo 15:2 The LORD *is* my strength and song, and **he is become my salvation**: he *is* my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him. Exo 15:3 The LORD *is* a man of war: the LORD *is* his name. Exo 15:4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea.
- Deu 32:1 Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. Deu 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass: Deu 32:3 Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness unto our God. Deu 32:4 *He is* the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.
- Deu 32:15 But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered *with fatness;* then **he forsook God which made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation**. Deu 32:16 They provoked him to jealousy with strange *gods*, with abominations provoked they him to anger. Deu 32:17 They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new *gods that* came newly up, whom your fathers feared not. Deu 32:18 Of the Rock *that* begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee.

What do these scriptures have in common and what is their message to us? First and foremost, they all magnify the LORD (all caps). And we know that the name LORD in all caps is the tetragrammaton YHWH, historically pronounced YAHWEH! YAHWEH is the salvation that Jacob (Yacob), later renamed Yisrael, waited for. To Moses and the Children of Yisrael (COY) who had been saved from the tyranny of the Egyptians, YAHWEH had become their salvation. Next, we read of HIM as their Rock of Salvation.

It is important also to note that the Hebrew word translated salvation in each of these scriptures is "yeshua". If we have eyes to see and ears to hear, this is prophetically informing us of one of the greatest transitions the world has ever known, even though it also is one of the greatest mysteries that has blinded the world.

We know that ELOHIM's plan would later call for disciples to perform a great commission to a select group of mankind. This too was prophesized by the prophets of YAHWEH.

• Isa 8:13 Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and *let* him *be* your fear, and *let* him *be* your dread. Isa 8:14 And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Isa 8:15 And many among them shall stumble, and fall, and be broken, and be snared, and be taken. Isa 8:16 **Bind up the testimony, seal the** law among my disciples.

YAHWEH will be a trap a noose to those in Yerushalaim. And many will stumble, fall, be broken, snared and taken. Where have we seen this before?

• Isa 28:13 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

We read this all of the time and know it should be etched in our hearts. Yet earlier, the prophet taught how this would be accomplished in this great plan. The testimony would be bound and the law sealed by YAHWEH's disciples. Note this, beginning at Yerushalaim is where this will all take place with these disciples of YAHWEH. And let us take a brief step back and address the challenge that many of our Hebrew Yisraelite Brethren may present regarding the identity of these disciples.

They have generally been taught that the words of the Old Covenant prophets take precedent where there appears to be differences between the apostles and the prophets. As such, some might question whether or not verse 16 of Isaiah the eighth chapter refers to the New Covenant disciples who became apostles. Simply put, there is no other reference to disciples in the Old Covenant. It should be totally agreed upon by all that it is the disciples/apostles of YESHUA who will bind the testimony and seal the law.

Let's remind ourselves of what one of these disciples who would later bind the testimony and seal the law, the Apostle Paul, was commissioned to inform us.

• 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.

The apostle both informs and confirms ELOHIM's WORD we have just read. CHRIST was the Rock that the COY followed out of Egypt. HE was the ROCK of their salvation. Even in the Old Covenant times, HE was their YESHUA!

• 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.

Everything that happened to the COY was for examples to those persons to whom the apostles would write to in ELOHIM's WORD; HIS "called-out ones". And we should accept right here and now that these "called-out ones" are not specific to any particular congregation in modernity. The WORD is clear.

- Gal 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.
- Act 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

These were collectively called "the Household of Faith" and the "Church of ELOHIM". This word "church" is the Greek word "ekklesia" which is a "called out assembly", from whence we get the phrase, "called-out ones". They resided in Yersushalaim, Galatia, Corinth, Rome, etc.

Today, they reside throughout the cities of the world, wherever ELOHIM has called, drawn and chosen them. They are a part of many congregations who have come to the realizations of the many errors they were taught and after coming into the true knowledge of YAHWEH our YESHUA, repented, and were baptized into HIM, who was and continues to be the Rock of Salvation.

As we read ELOHIM's WORD, we learn how that YAHWEH was the central part of ELOHIM's elaborate plan for mankind.

• Php 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Php 2:6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

So, CHRIST was in the form of ELOHIM and considered HIMSELF equal to ELOHIM.

• Php 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: Php 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

And HE humbled HIMSELF as a servant in the likeness of men unto death.

• Php 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: Php 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

And in so doing this ELOHIM the FATHER highly exalted HIM and gave HIM a name which is above every name; the FATHER's name, YESHUA!

• Php 2:11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

And in confessing this name and HE to whom it was given, it is to the glory of ELOHIM the FATHER. This my Brothers and Sisters kind of sums up the plan of ELOHIM; if we have eyes to see and ears to hear. Notice what YESHUA HIMSELF would teach us about HIS new name.

• Rev 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty *and* four thousand, <u>having his Father's name written in their foreheads</u>.

First, we see a LAMB standing on Mt. Zion along with 144,000 having HIS FATHER's name written in their foreheads.

• Joh 5:43 <u>I am come in my Father's name</u>, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

These words YESHUA spoke to the Yehudans who sought to kill HIM. HE informed them that HE had come in HIS FATHER's name.

• Joh 10:24 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.

• Joh 10:25 Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: <u>the works that I do in my Father's name</u>, they bear witness of me.

Here again, HE is informing the Yehudans about this name. The works they have witnessed HIM perform, HE did them in HIS FATHER's name. So, HE came in HIS FATHER's name. HE did the works in HIS FATHER's name. The name HE was given was and is above all other names. And as we confess this name, and the person to whom it was given, it is to the glory of HIS FATHER! Why? Because this name is the FATHER's name! What is this name? YESHUA!!! This was the plan. What else should we know?

• Joh 10:26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. Joh 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. Joh 10:29 My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand. Joh 10:30 **I** and my Father are one.

And this oneness was established before the foundation of the world.

• Psa 55:12 For *it was* not an enemy *that* reproached me; then I could have borne *it*: neither *was it* he that hated me *that* did magnify *himself* against me; then I would have hid myself from him: Psa 55:13 But *it* was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. Psa 55:14 We took sweet counsel together, *and* walked unto the house of God in company.

YAHWEH (the ROCK) and YESHUA (the FATHER) have always been one. This is the example they established for mankind from the beginning of times as we know it. We learn more of this relationship by reading about the beginning of creation.

• Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Gen 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. Gen 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. Gen 1:5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Verse 5 says the evening and the morning were the first day. In this first chapter ELOHIM presents seven days in which the earth was created from being without form. Each of the 7 days have the same order, evening and then morning. ELOHIM's concept of a week day began during the week of creation and continued in the days of the COY and even unto this time of modernity.

Now, if we have developed eyes to see and ears to hear, we understand that these days of creation are truly metaphoric. Why? Because as we read of the creations of each day, we should be able to discern that these took longer than a 24-hour period to accomplish. We who have studied these events and are led by the Spirit of Truth know that ELOHIM was establishing HIS protocols of time for HIS next to final creation of that week; mankind. The Sabbath was the final creation of that week.

Yet, as we grow in ELOHIM's WORD, "called-out one's" should never forget the other important protocols that provide important insight into the mind of ELOHIM as this plan of salvation was developed. Twice, the following protocol has been provided to those called and drawn to the knowledge of the truth.

• Psa 90:4 For <u>a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday</u> when it is past, and *as* a watch in the night.

• 2Pe 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that <u>one day is</u> with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

"Called-out ones" should never be ignorant of this protocol the Prophet King David and the Apostle Peter confirmed to us about ELOHIM's WORD. So, as we journey, this should be basic knowledge. To ELOHIM, a thousand years is but a day. This is a prophetic day. And, every week day begins and ends at sunset; night, and then day.

This should be basic Bible knowledge 101, and is also why ELOHIM presented that first creation week as a major metaphor of HIS plan of salvation.

Let's continue to revisit what we also should know.

• Gen 1:14 And God 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: Gen 1:15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. Gen 1:16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: *he made* the stars also.

Also, we find that ELOHIM created the lights in the firmament to divide the day from night, for signs, for seasons, for days, and for years. Again, through the guidance of ELOHIM's Spirit of Truth, we now know that that in verse 14, the Hebrew word for seasons is "moed", which means appointed times; thus, putting this concept of the plan in a much broader perspective. These lights in the firmament were to be a guideline for ELOHIM's seasons; HIS appointed times. What are these appointed times for which ELOHIM created the lights in the heavens? Well, ELOHIM's WORD informs us of such times, which the world of modernity does not recognize. But, the seeker of ELOHIM's truth will not be blinded by the world.

• Lev 23:2 Speak unto the children of Yisrael, and say unto them, *Concerning* the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim *to be* holy convocations, *even* these *are* my feasts. Lev 23:3 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 the LORD in all your dwellings.

Beginning with these scriptures, we see the feasts of YAHWEH being proclaimed to the COY. YAHWEH did not say that these were the COY's feasts, HE said they were HIS feasts. We also know now that this word feasts, is also the Hebrew word "moed", the same word we saw in Genesis 1:14 for seasons, which we now know means "appointed times". Here in Leviticus, YAHWEH is proclaiming to the COY the appointed times already set up during the week of creation.

Verse 3 teaches that the first of these appointed times is the weekly Sabbath, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of every week, as began in the beginning. And here is where the creation metaphor begins to truly magnify in our hearts and minds. With this knowledge, we now know that prophetically, the days of creation week represent a 7,000-year period of time, during which ELOHIM developed a concept of appointed times, that would later be presented to the nation which ELOHIM HIMSELF created, Yisrael.

However, we need to ensure that we are all on the same page with Bible 102, which is perhaps the most important of all ELOHIM's concepts as they relate to HIS plan of salvation.

• Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. Gen 1:27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Here on the sixth day of creation week ELOHIM said, "let Us" create this being, male and female. Who then is this "us" called ELOHIM? In the days of modernity, another concept that is prevalent in the thinking of many that profess Christianity is that of a trinity. This belief is that ELOHIM, which is the plural family name in Hebrew for those of the family of the MOST HIGH, is made up of three distinct persons. Well, let's take a step backwards and understand what is presented to us by ELOHIM's WORD. We already read in John (Yochanan) 10:29 that YESHUA and HIS FATHER were one. Well, how consistent is this pattern of HE and HIS FATHER?

• Rev 21:22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. Rev 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

At the conclusion of ELOHIM's plan of salvation, we find the family of ELOHIM, united, as they were in the Genesis, as one, now on the earth in the New Yerushalaim. Who is ELOHIM? The FATHER and the LAMB. Who is this LAMB?

• Joh 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

This LAMB was YESHUA. In the Old Covenant, HE was YAHWEH the ROCK of Salvation. HE was also known as something else before.

• Psa 89:18 For the LORD *is* our defence; and the Holy One of Israel *is* our king.

So, in the Old Covenant HE was the Holy One of Yisrael and the ROCK of their Salvation. In the New Covenant when HE as YAHWEH come in the flesh, HE would also call HIMSELF the following:

• Mat 9:2 And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee. Mat 9:3 And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This *man* blasphemeth. Mat 9:4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? Mat 9:5 For whether is easier, to say, *Thy* sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk? Mat 9:6 But that ye may know that the **Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins**, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

Here, as HE healed the man on the Sabbath, HE called HIMSELF "the Son of Man". Why, because that is how HE was now being presented, as designed by the plan of the TWO members of ELOHIM. So, we see that HE was now YESHUA, the Son of Man, and the LAMB of ELOHIM.

And as we begin to look more closely into these appointed times ELOHIM had established for the salvation of mankind, we will soon see two other important titles for this MAN. We already know of the first appointed time, the weekly Sabbath. Briefly we read the following:

• Lev 23:5 In the fourteenth *day* of the first month at even *is* the LORD'S passover. Lev 23:6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month *is* the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.

We know that the Passover is the most important appointed time for "called-out ones". With their baptism and repentance, this day cleanses them of their prior sins. Then there is the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread which provides "called-out ones" a period of additional internal cleansing after the Passover. And, if they endure, the next appointed time presents them with an opportunity of great joy and jubilation. As I said earlier, some will honor it tomorrow night and others next week.

• Lev 23:10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest unto the priest: Lev 23:11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. Lev 23:12 And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto the LORD.

Now, this is the next appointment for ELOHIM's "called-out ones" in HIS plan. ELOHIM's WORD is ripe with metaphors which, once understood, present the wonderful details of HIS plan of salvation. In verse 10 a sheaf of the first fruits of the spring harvest had to be brought unto the priest to be waved and accepted by YAHWEH. At the same time, in verse 12, a male lamb without blemish was to be offered unto YAHWEH; similar to the LAMB offered for YAHWEH's Passover.

So, we have the first fruits of each year's spring harvests and an unblemished lamb being offered before YAHWEH to be accepted. What do these metaphors teach us? The Apostle Yochanan has already informed us of the LAMB of ELOHIM. What about this first fruits?

• 1Co 15:20 But <u>now is Christ risen from the dead</u>, <u>and become the first fruits of them that slept</u>. 1Co 15:21 For since by man <u>came</u> death, by man <u>came</u> also the resurrection of the dead. 1Co 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 1Co 15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

Earlier, I mentioned that we would eventually see two other titles for YESHUA. The Apostle Paul teaches us that YESHUA, our Passover LAMB, is also the First Fruits from the dead of all those that will be HIS at HIS second coming on that "notable Day of the Lord".

Now, as I was reviewing this lesson, a very important lesson within the lesson jumped out at me. One of the errors of the group with which I was baptized, the CGI, and others with similar doctrines, is their failure to recognize the importance of YESHUA's resurrection from the dead. Notice, YESHUA did not become the First Fruits until HE was resurrected from the grave. We will see this importance play out as we continue to study this great plan of salvation. We will note a little later how HIS becoming the First Fruits was played out. Let's learn more about this appointed time.

As I was reading these scriptures for tonight's lesson, I began to wonder what did this commandment mean to you and I; that is, to bring a sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest unto the priest when the COY came into the land. Notice that this follows the commandment to partake in YAHWEH's Passover, which suggests that the Passover is intricately influenced by the harvests of the land.

"Called-out ones" know now that YEHSUA is their Passover. So, when we partake of HIS body and blood, after having washed one another's feet, it is as if we have come into the land of the "household of faith".

Now, we must recognize and honor how that YESHUA, the First Fruits of this New Covenant land, was waived to the FATHER, to prepare the way for the harvest to come. So, we see that Passover, Unleavened Bread, and this next appointed time are all about the harvests of the First Fruits; YAHWEH/YESHUA being the First Fruits. Yet, the next appointed time, is also about the other first fruits to come. And this is where we have come to an understanding that modernity's title for this next appointed time, Pentecost, is in error. Let's briefly revisit.

• Act 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

This is the first Biblical record of this word, Pentecost.

Thus, it is reasonable why the Pentecostal world believes it to be some new concept that began right here in the Book of Acts. This word Pentecost comes from the Greek word "pentekoste", which means fiftieth. However, in fact, this appointed time was given several names assigned to it by YAHWEH of ELOHIM, none of which is Pentecost.

• Exo 23:14 Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year. Exo 23:15 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 Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:) Exo 23:16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.

Here we read that it was first called the Appointed Time of Harvest, the first fruits of the COY's labors. As you read this, meditate on the metaphor of what New Covenant labors we now harvest for this appointed time.

• Exo 34:22 And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the first fruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end.

And here we see that it is also called the Appointed Time of Weeks, of the first fruits of the wheat harvest. In fact, this verse explains the nature of the two appointed times of harvesting, Weeks and Tabernacles. To the COY, these appointed times were presented in the form of harvests of the field of crops; we notice wheat is mentioned. And remember, this was for an example to us. However, we must remember our recent lesson when YEHSUA called forth those disciples to whom HE would make "fishers of men". They observed YESHUA's final Passover in the flesh, and then recorded these words.

• Act 1:1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

• Act 1:2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: Act 1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: Act 1:4 And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me.

After HIS resurrection from the dead, YESHUA was seen by HIS apostles for forty days, discussing the Kingdom of ELOHIM. We should all recall that YESHUA had done something very similar before as YAHWEH, as HE was with Moses for 40 days teaching him things on how to prepare the COY for their wilderness experience and the land flowing with milk and honey, the Kingdom of Yisrael. YESHUA then told them to stay in Yerushalaim and wait for the promise from the FATHER. The apostles knew that the next appointed time, the Appointed Time of Weeks, would occur in about ten days. Notice what they believed the promise to be.

• Act 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. Act 1:6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, <u>Lord</u>, <u>wilt</u> thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

Here we note that the apostles, like the COY, had not yet discerned the metaphors of the scriptures or the times. They knew a great future event was prophesied to occur on all of ELOHIM's appointed times. This is why they thought HE might be returning immediately on that day in their time to restore the Kingdom to the COY.

And isn't it possible that that year may also have been the Year of Yubilee? Why do I suggest this? Well they ask if this is the time the kingdom would be restored to Yisrael. Remember, the Year of Yubilee (Leviticus 25<sup>th</sup> chapter) is all about freedom and restoration.

• Act 1:7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. Act 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Act 1:9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. Act 1:10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Act 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

With these words and actions, the Apostles began to understand that there was much more to this picture than they thought they knew. And this is why the more we learn, the more we must grow in our humility for understanding of ELOHIM's WORD.

Again, as I was reading these words, I realized there was much more here than I myself may have previously noted, even though I may have taught it in a different way. In verse 8, YESHUA told HIS disciples they would be witnesses unto HIM. Notice where they would be witnesses; first unto Yerushalaim, then into all Yehuda, then into Semaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth. The picture just gets greater and greater, yet more and more consistent. Why am I emphasizing these words? Remember what we read in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> chapters of Isaiah of the prophesies about YAHWEH's disciples and Yerushalaim?

• Heb 8:7 For if that first *covenant* had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. Heb 8:8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

• Heb 8:9 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 the Lord. Heb 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

Yerushalaim was the capital of the Nation of Yehuda. Semaria was the capital of the Nation of Yisrael. This is where the New Covenant was to be first be witnessed. And then, it would be witnessed to the uttermost parts of the earth; to the Gentiles (i.e., the nations of the world).

Now, in Acts 2:1, they were in one accord, in one place. How did they know how to be in one accord at that particular time? It is also of an appointment which has become confusing, beginning with the name, and then with the method of counting to the fifty days when this appointment is to be kept each year. We have all made some mistakes at this. This is why we keep studying, listening and studying; until the Spirit of Truth gives us some understanding. We will get back to these events soon. First, we must remember another very important protocol that many in the Household of Faith do not recognize how important or relevant it is to the Appointed Time of Weeks.

• Mat 12:39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: Mat 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Before I would allow myself to enter into a covenant with YESHUA, I had to prove this to be true to myself, without any outside guidance. I was bold enough to consider that either HE was in the belly of the earth for three days and three nights, or, HE was not the MESSIAH.

It was as simple to me as that. This was HIS sign. We now also see that HE was the First Fruits. HE was the sheaf that was to be waved. **Obviously, HE could not be waved before HE was also resurrected.** Sadly, many in modernity have eliminated this consideration from their count to fifty. In Part Two of this lesson, we will see how the failure to consider HIS resurrection has caused other errors to occur in "the Household of Faith". Now, notice how that it was at HIS resurrection that HE would receive yet another name.

• Rom 1:3 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; Rom 1:4 And <u>declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead</u>:

How powerful is this statement? YESHUA was declared to be the SON of ELOHIM, with power, by the resurrection from the dead. So now, in the New Covenant, we see that it was by HIS resurrection that YESHUA became both the FIRST FRUITS from the dead, and, the SON of ELOHIM! Again, Brothers and Sisters, if you have eyes to see and ears to hear, this too is the hope of all "called-out ones"; to be raised in new spiritual tabernacles, with power as the first fruits of YESHUA, and, the sons of ELOHIM! This is our potential, at the first resurrection, if we endure until the end.

Unfortunately, many groups who partake of this appointed time have forgotten one of the golden rules of YESHUA becoming the FIRST FRUITS. We must always account for HIS sign, the three days and three nights, and HIS resurrection. These groups do not. After HIS resurrection, certain events happened.

• Joh 20:1 The first *day* of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

- Joh 20:2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. Joh 20:3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.
- Joh 20:8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. Joh 20:9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. Joh 20:10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home. Joh 20:11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, *and looked* into the sepulchre,
- Joh 20:14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. Joh 20:15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. Joh 20:16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. Joh 20:17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

After HIS resurrection from the dead, YESHUA appeared to Mary on the first day of the week (which is the morrow after the weekly Sabbath) and **did not allow her to touch HIM** because HE had not yet been presented to HIS FATHER for acceptance, as the appointed time required. Until that occurred, HE could not be touched. Why? Remember, Leviticus 23:11 stated the sheaf must be waved on the morrow after the Sabbath. The confusion of modernity is which morrow after the sabbath is the sheaf waved.

Later, that same day, we note Yochanan's account of the following:

- Joh 20:19 Then the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, **when the doors were** shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, **came Jesus and stood in the midst**, and saith unto them, Peace *be* unto you. Joh 20:20 And when he had so said, **he shewed unto them** *his* **hands and his side**. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.
- Joh 20:24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. Joh 20:25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

After appearing to Mary, later on that same day, YESHUA appeared to 10 of HIS disciples, who were obviously convinced of who HE was. Now, I mistakenly said 11 in the first version of this lesson. I will explain why in a moment. Judas (Yudas) had already hanged himself. And now we see that Thomas was not there, and when told of it, did not believe it. Here also is where I must correct myself again. We see the following scripture concerning the doubting Thomas.

• Joh 20:26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace *be* unto you. Joh 20:27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust *it* into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. Joh 20:28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

Now this is what I stated in the original version of this lesson.

"When YESHUA appeared to HIS disciples a second time, this time with Thomas present and HE allowed HIMSELF to be touched. Notice, verse 26 says that after 8 days YESHUA again appeared.

This time to Thomas and the other 11 disciples."

I should have stated "and the other 10 disciples". However, I allowed myself to erroneously make a big deal about why the scripture said "after 8 days; just like the pastor that initially taught this concept. We both were wrong. Why? Notice in verse 27 that YESHUA only asks Thomas to touch HIM at this time. Well, what about the other 10? We know that HE had appeared to them later on the first day of the week, after HE had appeared to Mary and others. Thankfully, during this past year, someone pointed the following out to me. I listened, and researched it, and was compelled by ELOHIM's WORD to revise my understanding of these events. Following is Luke's version of these events.

- Luk 24:1 Now upon the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain *others* with them. Luk 24:2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. Luk 24:3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.
- Luk 24:10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary *the mother* of James, and other *women that were* with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

Yochanan already informed us that when YESHUA spoke to these ladies (primarily Mary), HE did not allow HIMSELF to be touched. HE had not yet been waved. As the day unfolded, Luke records these events.

• Luk 24:13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem *about* threescore furlongs. Luk 24:14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened. Luk 24:15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed *together* and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

We won't read this whole account. However, we see that this was later on the same day in which HE had appeared to the women (the morrow after the weekly Sabbath).

• Luk 24:30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake, and gave to them. Luk 24:31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. Luk 24:32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? Luk 24:33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, Luk 24:34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. Luk 24:35 And they told what things *were done* in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.

So, later that same day HE departed from the two men and they went immediately to what Luke says were the eleven. Now my Brothers and Sisters, we must reason together. The Apostle Yochanan has already told us that when YEHSUA appeared to them on the first day of the week, Thomas was not there. HE only appeared to the disciples once on this day, not twice. There were only ten present. This is probably why I erroneously said eleven in the original version, having read this account before, without reasoning it out. Now notice what happened next.

• Luk 24:36 And as they thus spake, <u>Jesus himself stood in the midst</u> <u>of them</u>, and saith unto them, Peace *be* unto you.

Remember, Yochanan said "came YESHUA and stood in the midst".

• Luk 24:37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. Luk 24:38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

• Luk 24:39 <u>Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see</u>; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. Luk 24:40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them *his* hands and *his* feet.

Luke provides a little more of the details of this occurrence. Here, as YESHUA appeared to the ten, HE allowed HIMSELF to be handled; i.e., to be touched. As such, by this time of this same day (the morrow after the weekly Sabbath), HE had been waved and accepted by the FATHER. ELOHIM is faithful in HIS WORD to provide the evidence of what we need to understand HIS plan, if we have ears to hear and eyes to see. Notice what happened on the morrow after the Sabbath, after YESHUA appeared to the women and could not be touched.

• Dan 7:13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. Dan 7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

This Brothers and Sisters is what the FIRST FRUITS of the harvest is all about as YESHUA was presented to the Ancient of Days, FATHER ELOHIM. To the COY, it was simply the high priest waving the first fruits of the harvests of wheat before YAHWEH. To "the Household of Faith", it is all about YAHWEH, now named YESHUA, completing the most important goal of this beautiful plan ELOHIM designed for that man and woman HE placed in HIS garden so many thousands of years ago. And remember also, HE is our HIGH PRIEST.

• Heb 5:5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, today have I begotten thee.

- Heb 5:6 As he saith also in another *place*, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.
- Heb 5:8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; Heb 5:9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; Heb 5:10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

When HE, the true HIGH PRIEST, presented HIMSELF before the FATHER, HE was waved, HE was given dominion, glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve HIM; an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away, a kingdom that shall not be destroyed. How are we to be so sure of this timing. Note what YESHUA told HIS disciples after HIS waving.

• Mat 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. Mat 28:17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

We read how this power was given unto HIM. We read where when HE appeared to them a second time, after 8 days, HE focused strictly on Thomas touching HIM; not the other ten. So, the teaching that we must consider an extra period of time within the eight days is in error. Now let's make some sense of this.

We know that YESHUA died on the Passover. We know that HE was in the belly of the earth 3 days and 3 nights, which will always be the first 3 days and nights of the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread. Now, there are congregations who teach that **the count must always begin during the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread**. Well let's allow ELOHIM's WORD to guide us. If you have a calendar handy, it will help with clarity.

This year, the Passover began on the evening of Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup> and ended at even on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>. First, we must account for YESHUA's sign; the three days and three nights; i.e., HIS resurrection. So, we have Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights; and Saturday, Sunday and Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup> days; three days and three nights.

Once HE is resurrected and waved, according to the scripture, the sheaf and the LAMB, both representing YESHUA, must be presented on the morrow after the next weekly Sabbath. The key is, the morrow following the weekly Sabbath that follows YESHUA's sign; the three days and three nights, the resurrection. The next morrow after the weekly Sabbath this year is Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>, which occurs after the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread. Once the sheaf and the LAMB have been presented, we see the following:

• Lev 23:15 And ye shall count unto you <u>from the morrow after the sabbath</u>, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave <u>offering (Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>)</u>; seven sabbaths shall be complete:

So, from the Sunday April 28th, seven Sabbaths must be counted. Let's count. We have May 4<sup>th</sup> (1), May 11<sup>th</sup> (2), May 18<sup>th</sup> (3), May 25th (4), June 1<sup>st</sup> (5), June 8<sup>th</sup> (6), and June 15<sup>th</sup> (7). Those that teach that the count must begin during Unleavened Bread started the count on April 21<sup>st</sup>, and thus ending with the weekly Sabbath on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Consider this. If YESHUA's death had actually occurred this year, it would have been on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>. HIS resurrection would have been on Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup>, just before sunset. Why, after obtaining the knowledge of the proof sign of YESHUA's messiahship, would anyone choose to ignore this importance in modernity?

• Lev 23:16 Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.

And, the morrow after the seventh Sabbath is June 16<sup>th</sup>, fifty days. And this is how we arrive at the Appointed Time of Weeks in the year 2019. Now notice what else happens on the fiftieth day. We already know that YESHUA was the FIRST FRUITS.

• Lev 23:17 Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baken with leaven; *they are* the firstfruits unto the LORD.

Now, everything in ELOHIM's WORD is there for a reason. Some things represent smaller issues and others larger, yet all relevant. Here, the COY were commanded to bake two wave loaves with leaven. Remember, the offering of the first sheaf in verse 13, prior to the 50 days, was unleavened bread offered with wine. Why was it unleavened? Well, we remember, that first sheaf represented YESHUA, the MESSIAH. The Apostle wrote of this as well.

• Heb 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

YESHUA, the FIRST FRUITS, is the only man who has lived in this body of flesh who was without sin. Thus, the unleavened bread offered with the wine. We notice in Leviticus 23:17 two loaves of leavened bread that are first fruits unto YAHWEH, being offered on the fiftieth day, the Appointed Time of Weeks. What is this saying to you and me?

Well, since these 2 leavened loafs are offered to YAHWEH, they must represent an alternative to the typical understanding of leaven presented by the Appointed Time of Unleavened Bread, where leaven is pictured as sin. Sin cannot be offered unto YAHWEH. As such, these 2 leavened loafs must represent leaven as simply as a form of growth, other than sin. And whatever this form of growth, it is presented unto YAHWEH on the Appointed Time of Weeks. Let's repeat Acts 1:8.

• Act 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Here we see the prophecies once again come to light. The disciples witnessing began at Yerushalaim. We now know that this represents the beginning of YAHWEH's New Covenant, first with the two Houses, Yehudah and Yisrael. In times past, I reasoned that these two leavened loafs were probably the COY (1) and those "called-out" from the nations (2). As I was studying for this lesson, I began to see otherwise. Remember, the New Covenant is made first with both the House of Yehudah and the House of Yisrael. Let's seek some clarity in ELOHIM's WORD. The Apostle James (Yacob), further instructs us on what this truly represents.

• Jas 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

This epistle of Yacob was sent to whom? It was to the twelve tribes scattered abroad. And, although this epistle was sent to Yisraelites scattered abroad, we know these were either current or potential members of the Household of faith. Why?

- Jas 2:1 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Lord* of glory, with respect of persons.
- 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.
- Jas 1:18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

These either had been, and or, are potentially being, begotten with the word of truth. And as such, these Yisraelites, drawn, called and chosen unto YESHUA, are the beginnings of the second group commemorated on this day, the first fruits unto YESHUA.

This is what Leviticus 23:17 is teaching us that; these two loathes, representing the two houses of the COY, were the first fruits unto YAHWEH. However, Acts 1:8 also tells of how that others from the uttermost parts of the earth will be drafted into this New Covenant. The Apostle Paul was commissioned to sow the fruits of this understanding as he wrote to the "called-out ones" of the nations.

• 1Co 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept. 1Co 15:21 For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead. 1Co 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 1Co 15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

With these understandings, we also know that many fail to recognize that this day the world calls Pentecost is actually the Appointed Time (or Feast) of Weeks, called also Harvests and First Fruits, that had been honored in the land of Yisrael since Yisrael came out of Egypt. Notice who were present when this day arrived to implement the New Covenant.

• Act 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. Act 2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. Act 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Act 2:5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Through previous lessons, we learned that there were probably members of both the House of Yisrael as well as the House of Yehuda present in the land, and based on the New Covenant prophecy, were both represented in attending this great appointed time. However, they were all Yisraelites, metaphorically referred to as Yehudans, representing both leavened loafs. The Apostle Peter makes this clear during his speech.

• Act 2:22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

Notice what else we learn of this particular appointed time.

• Act 2:39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. Act 2:40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Act 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

As the Apostle Peter was speaking to this diverse crowd of Yisraelites, out of every nation, in their native languages as translated by these cloven tongues of fire, he told them that the promises were to them (the COY) and their children, as well as to all that are afar off (the nations of the world), as many as ELOHIM shall call. This represents the duality we sometimes learn in ELOHIM's WORD. For the Apostle Paul was later led to teach us that the protocol of ELOHIM's WORD is to the Yehudan (i.e., the COY) first, and then the Greek/gentiles (i.e., the nations).

• Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

• Rom 2:10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:

After receiving the Apostle's words at the first New Covenant Appointed Time of Weeks, many of these Yisraelites recognized the errors of their ways, repented after accepting this knowledge, and were baptized, becoming the first fruits of many more to follow. This day, commanded to be kept fifty days after the morrow after the first Sabbath following YESHUA's resurrection, commemorates the evolution of these events under the New Covenant. It also remembers that the commandments first given to the COY under the First Covenant, are examples to us in modernity.

The Apostle Paul expands on these lessons throughout his epistles.

• Eph 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; Eph 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: Eph 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Eph 2:14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Eph 2:15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; Eph 2:16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: Eph 2:17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. Eph 2:18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

We know now that this one SPIRIT by which we now have access unto the FATHER is HE who came in the FATHER's own name, YESHUA.

• Eph 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, Eph 2:20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, Eph 2:21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, Eph 2:22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Here we find the Apostle Paul speaking to the Gentiles, the nations referred to as "afar off and to the uttermost parts of the earth", who were formerly strangers and aliens to the body of Christ. Now, these "called-out" Gentiles, who also had been baptized into YESHUA, were fellow citizens with the saints of the COY, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. They now were potentially of the first fruits unto YESHUA, to be realized at the resurrection of the saints of ELOHIM.

Finally, some in modernity proclaim that it was on this first Appointed Time of Weeks where the New Covenant church began. Notice Acts 2:41 said that about three thousand souls were added. Well the scripture says they were added. Added to what? It did not say that it was begun here. They were added to a foundation that was already established through HIS disciples.

• Mat 16:15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Mat 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. Mat 16:17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Mat 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven.

YESHUA was the Rock of Salvation; the Holy One of Yisael under the Old Covenant. HE became the Son of Man; the LAMB of ELOHIM; the HIGH PRIEST; the FIRST FRUITS; the SON of ELOHIM!

• Mat 18:18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Mat 18:19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. Mat 18:20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

These verses, considered together, teach us that the twelve disciples were given authority to bind on earth what would be also bound in heaven, and loose on the earth what would be loosed in heaven. And beginning with them, who frequently gathered together in HIS name prior to that first Appointed Time of Weeks, ELOHIM began HIS church upon the ROCK, YESHUA, beginning with YESHUA's disciples.

This is the beginning of "the Household of Faith", the New Covenant church to which those 3,000 souls were added to on the very first Appointed Time of Weeks, Harvests, and First Fruits. These represent the two loafs, and others to follow who, if they endure until the end, shall become the first fruits of all those whose creation began on the sixth day of those first seven days (7,000 years) of ELOHIM's creation week.

With the next 7,000 years, the process of becoming members of the family of ELOHIM is full swing! What a wonderful and beginning of the marvelous plan of which we are being given this measure of understanding.

All praises to the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael!

Shalom!