

THE TRUE WORSHIP OF GOD

(ELOHIM)

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1. INTRODUCTION

When I first wrote this article, I had come to recognize that the times that we live in are probably the most interesting as well as disturbing times since the first few centuries after the resurrection of the MESSIAH, our Lord and Savior. Events of our day continue to be thought provoking and at times mind-blowing. The times that we now live increasingly offer much variety and different schools of thought about mankind's purpose.

We live at a time when young men with raw athletic ability can command million-dollar annual salaries. A former leader of the most powerful country in the world, a country which says, "in God we trust", was threatened with a possible subpoena which could have forced him to photograph his genitals as proof of sexual harassment. The subsequent leader of this country was accused by 16 women of sexual harassment.

I once spoke with a dear friend who talked about a gospel concert that she had attended. Apparently, the music was great. And then she noticed that most of the men at the concert were gay, as in homosexual. Another friend who attended a congregation that has at least three (3) services on Sundays to accommodate its flock, spoke of how in that congregation, 80% or more of the men appear to be gay.

A young colleague approached me to ask me to stare at a black icon on white paper. The icon was the shape of a human head. She said I was to focus on several white dots inside the icon for thirty seconds, and then, close my eyes and tell her what I saw. I did so and responded that I saw the head of a European figure with a halo around it. She asked why I couldn't just say his name. I responded that I did not know the name of this person. Needless to say, my colleague was a little annoyed with me.

Looking around, I am continually in awe of these various schools of thought and the confusion that comes with them. With it all, I have come to some general conclusions. One, and probably the most important one, is this. While in our hearts most of us think that we believe in and love the one God, the Most High, the Creator of the universe, a careful review of the actions of most who tend to call themselves Christians suggests that we all serve different deities.

Knowingly or unknowingly, these deities are served and worshipped.

I have many beautiful friends and colleagues whom I love dearly, whom I confess I am so very puzzled at times at just how gullible and careless they are with their spiritual lives. They are gullible because they will follow men with the “gift of gab” in such a relentless manner. They are careless and they are frightened of the necessary changes that will one day “save them”.

A few years back I heard a minister at a funeral read an Old Testament (Covenant) scripture and then comment that he did not agree with the scripture. He went on to say that “you can’t believe everything you read in the Bible”. Wow!

I heard another very popular minister say that he was under grace. As a result, if he were to sleep with 10 different women, it would not be accounted unto him as sin. These are astounding statements by both of these so-called “Christian” ministers.

The son of an African Methodist Episcopal (AME) minister, from the day I was born until my mid-twenties I was taught to believe that the MESSIAH was white, blue-eyed, with long blond hair, meek in composure, soft. HE, the MESSIAH, was born on December 25, and eventually died on a Friday afternoon. He arose on a Sunday morning, and went off to heaven where we hope to be with him when we die. My parents, bless their hearts, used to scare me into doing good by telling me that I might go to hell where the devil was waiting with his pitchfork. I was taught that Sunday was the “Lord’s day”. As a result, I always thought that Sunday and the “Sabbath” day spoken of in the Bible were one and the same.

My parents were good people. There were then, and there are now many people, who have been taught and abide by that same school of thought. They (my parents) meant well. However, like so many of my friends and colleagues, they were ignorant of knowledge. They were ignorant of the knowledge of the God (ELOHIM) of Israel (Yisrael), the ELOHIM of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Now, in this update I will include certain Hebrew names and words based on my continued spiritual growth. I have already included the Hebrew word ELOHIM for God. Why?

- Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Study teaches us that the Hebrew word for God here is ELOHIM. Now notice.

- 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.

Now, later in this chapter we learn that this same ELOHIM consists of more than one omnipotent deity. And no, it in no way suggests that ELOHIM is the so-called trinity, which is primarily a European teaching. In fact, except for a few instances where the Hebrew word EL has been translated as God, God has been consistently translated from this Hebrew word ELOHIM, which might be thought of as the family name. Now, back to the original article.

The most interesting thing about my friends and colleagues is that they don't seem to care. Many of them are well educated in their chosen professions. However, miseducation most assuredly has been the catalyst that got us in the position we are in today. Traditionally, we went to school to study to earn a living. We carelessly left the study of our salvation, our belief in ELOHIM, to someone whom we entrusted to study and provide us with spiritual guidance each Sunday.

It was this person's (our minister) responsibility to obtain and present this knowledge to us. Somewhere, somehow, this seeking of spiritual knowledge got caught up just like the rest of society. It became someone's job! This created a major problem, because, since we ourselves don't take the time to seriously read and study the Bible, this job (the minister's) had no checks and balances.

There is a scripture in Daniel that in part is often quoted today. Daniel is told by Gabriel the archangel:

- Dan 12:4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even* to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

Most of the times this scripture is simply stated – “in the last (latter) days, knowledge shall increase”, or something similar. This is most important because there is duality in all scripture. Most of the times, we want to believe, and I think we are taught that this scripture is referring to the knowledge of ELOHIM. However, let's examine the Scripture.

First, Daniel is instructed to seal up the words and the book that he had been given. These words, and the book, are prophecies about the Nation of Yisrael in the latter days. Next, he is told that many will run to and fro. Is this not true of today? We live in the most “wishwashy” times ever. Trust is at an all times low. We run here and there, seeking whatever this world has to offer.

And finally, Daniel is told that knowledge shall increase. First, let me say that the knowledge of the ELOHIM of Yisrael has increased. However, so has the knowledge of, and amazing belief in other gods (ELOHIM). Ministers of this day have become very skilled at explaining the righteousness of things that do not appear in scripture. And, what is worse, the people love it so! People have left their salvation in the hands of today’s ministers. They have not been taught that it was the ELOHIM of Yisrael who commanded the Apostle Paul to direct us through his teachings to the Philippians: “... **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**” (Phil 2:12).

All men and women are and shall be responsible for his or her own salvation. If there is deception, it is your responsibility to check and balance that deception. In these days of increasing knowledge, we must be challenged to do as the MESSIAH instructed us.

- Luk 18:17 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of ELOHIM as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

A challenge must be issued to all of us to take a step backward and become as a child. We must be made to understand that this is how the ELOHIM of Yisrael works, and **HE will accept nothing less!** Notice ELOHIM’s commission to the prophet Jeremiah.

- Jer 1:9 Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. Jer 1:10 See, **I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.**

Notice the principle, one must go backwards to go forward. Sounds awkward? And before we proceed, another update is necessary.

Throughout the Old Covenant, the Hebrew word translated “the LORD” (all caps) is YAHWEH. Some choose YAHAWEH. We won’t fight over this. What is important about this is that YAHWEH was one of the members of the family of ELOHIM. In fact, HE was both the spokesman and the one who actually performed the works which ELOHIM so desired. Note this.

- Gen 2:4 These *are* the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that **YAHWEH ELOHIM made the earth and the heavens,**
- Gen 2:7 And **YAHWEH ELOHIM formed man of the dust of the ground,** and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

We shall discover that this YAHWEH ELOHIM is the most important person in the Bible, which is the Word of ELOHIM (WOE). Let’s continue.

Jeremiah (Yeremayah) was commanded to root out, to pull down, to destroy, and throw down first, before he was instructed to build and to plant. Now notice YAHWEH’s instructions to the Prophet Isaiah.

- Isa 28:9 **Whom shall he teach knowledge?** and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? *them that are* weaned from the milk, *and* drawn from the breasts.
- Isa 28:13 But **the word of YAHWEH 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.**

If we have the vision we see that the ELOHIM of Yisrael desires to snare all of us that we may enter into His Kingdom. However, we must become as “little children”. The only way to do this is by destroying the falsehoods. We must allow ourselves to be broken, to fall backward first, before we can be snared and taken by ELOHIM.

We must take a look at the religions that permeate our minds and communities.

Both rich and poor people will celebrate Christmas this year. Yet, the god being worshipped at this celebration appears to be an inequitable god. Why? Some will rejoice greatly as a result of this worship, and, some will suffer greatly for it. Some will be very happy and some very sad. Yet each desire to offer the same dedicated worship to this god (elohim) (small caps).

I am one of many who have chosen not to worship this elohim. Why? Because, the ELOHIM of Yisrael does not put HIS authority, HIS signature, into such practices. Once we took responsibility for our own salvation, we searched the scriptures. The practices of the holiday known as Christmas are not to be found in scripture. I have heard ministers, beaming with pride say, “we know that Christmas is a pagan day. However, it’s okay if we celebrate a birthday to our lord.”

My question to these ministers is this. Who gives you the authority to teach the worship of anything born out of pagan ancestry in the name the MESSIAH? I submit to you that the lord that they refer to cannot be the ELOHIM of Yisrael!

In Yeremayah YAHWEH commands:

- Jer 10:2 Thus saith YAHWEH, **Learn not the way of the heathen**, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. Jer 10:3 For **the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest**, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. Jer 10:4 **They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers**, that it move not.

Has your Christian minister ever read this to you, and if not, why not? It’s in the WOE. This is just one scriptural example. We have not gotten the message clearly. YAHWEH ELOHIM has beforehand stated that HE is a jealous ELOHIM. HE is “the same yesterday, today and tomorrow”. HE will not mix HIS ways. We will learn, now or later, our choice, that HIS Word cannot be mixed with pagan idolatry. My friends, I speak blunt because these are blunt times.

The MESSIAH quoted the following scripture from Isaiah 29:13:

- Mat 15:7 *Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,*

- Mat 15:8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me. Mat 15:9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.

It is time that those of us, who say we are serious about our spiritual lives, take another look at just how the ELOHIM of Yisrael commands that THEY be worshipped.

2. THE ELOHIM OF YISRAEL

To begin with, it might be wise that we understand just **who the ELOHIM of Yisrael is**. Who spoke with Moses at the burning bush? Who spoke to the prophets of old? Let's identify the ELOHIM of the scriptures. First of all, the MESSIAH said the following:

- Joh 5:37 And **the Father himself, which hath sent me**, hath borne witness of me. **Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape**.

HE later said the following:

- Joh 6:46 **Not that any man hath seen the Father**, save **he which is of ELOHIM, he hath seen the Father**.

Note this well, we are told by HE whom so many claim to be their “personal savior”, that **no man has ever seen or heard the FATHER!** Do we believe Him? Plainly spoken, we are told here by the MESSIAH that mankind has never had any dealings with the FATHER, who is in heaven.

Speaking of the FATHER, the Apostle John (Yochanan) provides further testimony.

1Jn 4:12 **No man hath seen ELOHIM at any time**. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Yochanan testifies that **“No man has seen ELOHIM at any time.”** Yet, the prophets of old talked with and saw the ELOHIM of Yisrael. Well, just whom did they talk to and whom did they see? Note the following examples.

In Genesis 18:1 the following: “The Lord appeared to him (Abraham) by the terebinth trees of Mambre...” In Genesis 32:30, Jacob said: “I have seen ELOHIM face to face, and my life is preserved.” In Genesis 19:9-20 we note that YAHWEH instructs Moses to consecrate the people to be ready the third day (v. 10 & 11) for HIS appearance before them. In Genesis 20:1 we note: “And ELOHIM spoke all these Words saying...” In Exodus 24:9-11, the nobles of the children of Yisrael (COY) saw the ELOHIM of Yisrael. In Amos 9:1, he (Amos) “saw the Lord (ADONNAI) standing by the alter”. There are other scriptural examples of this form of personal contact between the men of Yisrael and their ELOHIM.

What is the point, you might say! Well, the MESSIAH, as we have noted earlier, said that no man has either seen or spoke to the FATHER at any time. Yet, we have now seen several men speak to and see the ELOHIM of Yisrael.

Note this well! Either the MESSIAH of the New Testament (Covenant) speaks the truth, and all those who either saw or spoke to the ELOHIM of Yisrael never spoke to or saw the FATHER, or, HE whom we assert to be the MESSIAH is not the MESSIAH. It is just that simple. Is HE the MESSIAH?

Notice an interesting statement spoken by the MESSIAH in a prayer to the FATHER.

- Joh 17:5 And now, O **Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.**

Here we learn that the MESSIAH had glory with the FATHER before the world was. HE (the MESSIAH) is now praying to return to HIS former status. What was that status? HE was obviously in the beginning with the Father!

Look at John 1.

- Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with ELOHIM (the FATHER), and the Word was ELOHIM. Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with ELOHIM (the FATHER). (Parenthesis mine)

Now note these next verses very carefully. Continuing:

Joh 1:3 **All things were made by him** (the Word); and **without him was not anything made that was made**. Joh 1:4 **In him was life**; and the life was the light of men.

And, just so we are sure whom we are talking about here, note verse 14.

- Joh 1:14 And **the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.**

And, just what is this the truth?

To those who did not previously know, it should be obvious by now that it was the MESSIAH of the New Covenant (who died for the sins of the world), who existed before the world, who created the world, who spoke to and appeared to the men of Yisrael.

In essence, the MESSIAH (the only begotten of the FATHER) is the ELOHIM of Yisrael! In the Old Covenant KJV, we saw that the phrase the LORD, which is a translation of YHWY, or YAHWEH. It was YAHWEH who spoke to Moses and gave the Ten Commandments as well as other laws to Yisrael. When YAHWEH came to the earth in the flesh, HE came in the name of YAHSHUA, whom the world refers to as Jesus. Why this name, rather than YAHWEH? Well, we read Yochanan 17:5 earlier. Note what YAHSHUA said next to HIS FATHER.

- 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.

What name did HE manifest to HIS disciples? Let's follow-up.

- Joh 5:43 **I am come in my Father's name,** and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.
- Joh 10:25 YAHSHUA answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: **the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.**

These are two powerful statements YAHSHUA speaks here. First, HE came in HIS FATHER's name. YAHSHUA (Jesus if you prefer) is the FATHER's name. The works YAHSHUA did, HE did in HIS FATHER's name. Hopefully, you are getting the picture. Let's continue.

It was the MESSIAH as YAHWEH (in HIS own name) who appeared before the elders of Yisrael and spoke to the prophets. Perhaps for some this gives new meaning to the MESSIAH's Words to the scribes and Pharisees in Yochanan 8:58: "...before Abraham was, I AM". Here we have the MESSIAH declaring to all that before Abraham ever was, HE was "I AM"!

In Exodus 3:13-14 we find Moses talking to the ELOHIM of Yisrael. In verse 13 Moses inquired of ELOHIM that when Pharaoh and the Children of Yisrael ask, “What is His name? (that sent him) what shall I say to them?”

Notice the ELOHIM of Yisrael’s response to Moses.

Exo 3:14 And **ELOHIM said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM**: and he said, **Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.**

Are we now beginning to see that it is the ELOHIM of Yisrael who is “the same yesterday, today and tomorrow”?

Another important and little understood point about the MESSIAH is this. He was the first and future King of Yisrael! In claiming the MESSIAH as their personal savior, many of my brothers and sisters have distanced themselves from many, if not most, if not all, of the Old Covenant. Without realizing it, they have distanced themselves from the very ELOHIM they claim to believe in!

Note how in 1 Samuel 8:4-8 the elders of Yisrael requested Samuel to make them a king to judge over them. YAHWEH (remember, this is the MESSIAH, the ELOHIM of Yisrael, talking) tells Samuel that in requesting a king, the elders have rejected HIM, the very MESSIAH that we claim to know and worship today. The Prophet Isaiah taught us.

- Isa 44:6 Thus saith YAHWEH the King of Israel, and his redeemer YAHWEH of hosts; I *am* the first, and I *am* the last; and beside me *there is* no ELOHIM.

YAHWEH was the King of Yisrael. There was no other ELOHIM because HE was the only member of the family of ELOHIM the COY, or those of us who followed them have ever dealt with. And, how ironic! Because, when the YAHWEH came to HIS own in the flesh as YAHSHUA, they reject HIM again (Yochanan 1:11).

Today, many professing Christians are led to almost totally separate the MESSIAH, the ELOHIM of Yisrael, the first King of Yisrael, the giver of ELOHIM’s laws to Yisrael, the creator of the worlds (and of man and the Sabbath), from Yisrael! How can this be?

In Luke 1:32-33, The archangel Gabriel told Mary the following about her son.

- Luk 1:31 And, behold, **thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son**, and shalt call his name YAHSHUA. Luk 1:32 **He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest**: and **the Lord ELOHIM shall give unto him the throne of his father David**: Luk 1:33 And **he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever**; and **of his kingdom there shall be no end**.

Over what nation did the throne of David rule? What is the House of Jacob? Any true student of the whole WOE (the Bible) knows that the answer to both questions is Yisrael. Get this! ELOHIM's messenger told Mary that her son would someday rule over Yisrael forever.

We will learn a little later that the FATHER is the designer, the SON the maker, and man the recipient of ELOHIM's plan or design. One of the least known or understood facts about ELOHIM's plan for mankind is that the FATHER instructed the MESSIAH to "call out" a nation unto HIMSELF. That nation was called through a man, one of Abraham's seed, Jacob (Yacob), whose name was changed to Yisrael (Genesis 32:24-30). This name, Yisrael, is also the Lord's name! Read Jeremiah 14:8-9.

Notice also in Isaiah 48:9-11, ELOHIM will not forsake Yisrael for HIS name's sake. This name is mighty important to ELOHIM. We must understand that Yisrael is also the plan of ELOHIM for man.

Am I saying that only those born as physical Yisraelites are to be included in ELOHIM's plan. No! I am saying that ELOHIM established a plan to reconcile man back to HIMSELF. The first part of this plan was to call out a nation named after HIMSELF, and give it HIS instructions to live by. It was HIS plan that this nation would be a light to the nations of the world (Isaiah 49:6).

The MESSIAH was its first king, and will be its last king. Notice the MESSIAH's response to Pilate's question as to whether HE was a King in Yochanan 18:37.

- Joh 18:37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, **Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born,** and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

We often sing songs about the “King of Kings”. And this is true, HE truly is King of Kings. What we refuse to accept is that the King of Yisrael, past and future, is the King of Kings.

For those who will see it, note further New Covenant confirmation of who is the ELOHIM of the Old Covenant. In Mark 2:27-28, after HIS disciples were criticized for plucking food on the Sabbath, the MESSIAH said: **“The Sabbath was made for man,** and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore, **the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath.”**

Let’s understand the depth of what HE is saying here! There are at least three (3) important principles that are taught in this passage. 1) The Sabbath was made. Through obvious implication, the Sabbath was also designed. 2) It was made for man. We, mankind, are to be the beneficiaries of its (the Sabbath) design. The Sabbath was made for you and I! 3) The Son of Man (the MESSIAH) is Lord of the Sabbath. This is repeated in Mathew 12:8.

The MESSIAH is Lord (Master) of the Sabbath. Why? We learned previously in Yochanan 1:3 and 1:10 that HE made all things. The fact that the FATHER designed the Sabbath as well as all things is shown in the Book of Hebrews. Hebrews 1:2 states that the FATHER made all things through the SON.

So, now we have a designer of the Sabbath, the FATHER. We have the maker of the Sabbath, the MESSIAH. We have the beneficiary of the Sabbath, mankind. Many sincere brothers and sisters have been taught that the Sabbath is either done away with, or that it is the Jewish Sabbath.

I have even been told by some that the first day of the week in the Roman calendar, Sunday, is the “Christian Sabbath”. We will discuss the Sabbath and Sunday in a little more detail later. It is the lack of knowledge of the true identity of the MESSIAH that has blinded (veiled) many from understanding that the Sabbath is a vital and necessary part of the true worship of ELOHIM.

Because the scriptures are not understood, the lack of knowledge of the true identity of the ELOHIM of Yisrael has blinded the masses to what the MOST HIGH has clearly shown in HIS Word is the proper and required elements of how to worship HIM.

For instance, while it is certainly true that during New Covenant times, ELOHIM's grace is offered to all mankind, it is also true that it (grace) along with other supposedly New Covenant concepts are based upon the scriptures given to the Nation of Yisrael by the MESSIAH, the ELOHIM of Yisrael, and its first and future King.

3. NEW TESTAMENT GRACE OR OLD TESTAMENT KNOWLEDGE

Now that we know who the ELOHIM of Yisrael is, we can begin to learn how to worship HIM. In John 4:24 the MESSIAH said “ELOHIM is Spirit, and those who worship HIM must worship HIM in spirit and truth.” To do this we must first know what is “spirit and truth”.

The following is an often-quoted passage.

- Joh 6:63 **It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.**

Typically, only the first part of the verse is quoted. “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing.” However, the searcher of truth must note the second part of this verse. “The Words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.” Get this, all of the MESSIAH’s (the ELOHIM of Yisrael) Words are spirit and they are life. Hopefully, we are beginning to get a fuller meaning to the scripture, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of ELOHIM.” See Mathew 4:4.

How does man “live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of ELOHIM”? Well, now that we know the identity of the ELOHIM of Yisrael, we must also understand a few fine points about HIS Words. In Acts 17:11 we find certain Bereans who received the “Word” from Paul and Silas, with all readiness. I submit that the “Word” that Paul and Silas gave the Bereans most certainly concerned the “Good News of the Gospel”, as spoken by the MESSIAH while HE was on the earth. However, note that after receiving the Word, “they searched the scriptures daily”, as to “whether these things were so”.

The Apostle Paul had something to say about the “scriptures”.

- 2Ti 3:16 **All scripture is given by inspiration of ELOHIM, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:** 2Ti 3:17 **That the man of ELOHIM may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**

Now, let’s understand what these verses are saying. “New Testament Christians” should note this well. The Bereans searched the scriptures. Paul says that all scripture is profitable, etc. What scriptures did the Bereans search?

For those who haven't thought about it, at the time of these events, the New Testament, as we know it, did not exist. It was being lived. The scriptures that are referred to here are without a doubt the Old Covenant. Note what the MESSIAH said about these scriptures.

- Joh 5:39 **Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

By the mouth of YAHSUA, the Old Covenant scriptures testify of HIM. As HE spoke these words, the letters of the New Testament writers had not begun to be published at this time. The Gospel of Luke records the following as YAHSUA walked with two disciples (not apostles) after HIS resurrection.

- Luk 24:27 And **beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.**

Notice further how the MESSIAH further explained this to HIS disciples

- Luk 24:44 And he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that **all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.** Luk 24:45 **Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,**

The fulfillment of things written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets concerning Himself “must be fulfilled. Note carefully verse 45 as HE “opened their understanding that they might understand the scriptures.”

Can there be any question about what scriptures the Bereans searched, or that the Apostle Paul wrote of and taught, or that the MESSIAH opened the disciples' comprehension of? The MESSIAH has told us, mankind, to “live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of ELOHIM”. Is there any question in any “true” Christian's mind about whether the Old Testament contains Words that have proceeded from the mouth of ELOHIM?

Now that we know what is being referred to by the “Scripture(s)”, let's go back and examine 2 Timothy 3:16-17 closely.

1) ELOHIM inspires all scripture! No further comment appears needed. 2) It (the scriptures) is profitable for doctrine. Should those who are “led by the Spirit” teach anything other than scripture as doctrine? The MESSIAH has told us that the scriptures testify of Him. 3) It is profitable for reproof, or conviction. In essence, it is the scriptures that should convict the Christian of the MESSIAH. 4) It is profitable for correction. Note this. It is the scriptures that correct us when we go astray. 5) It is profitable for instruction in righteousness. The scriptures instruct us in righteousness. Christians need to know what the Biblical definition of righteousness is, not what many smooth talking, “in the “Spirit”, New Testament ministers incorrectly teach so many.

The answer is found in the Psalms. David was inspired to write:

- Psa 119:172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for **all thy commandments are righteousness.**

Are we understanding this? The scriptures that testify of the MESSIAH also teach that all ELOHIM’s commandments are righteousness. 6) It is profitable “that the man of ELOHIM may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work”. Note this well, this is the Apostle Paul talking! Do we believe him? The Apostle is telling you and me in this verse that all the man of ELOHIM needs to be complete and equipped for good works are “the scriptures”, i.e., the Old Testament.

Now, let me be very, very clear. We now have the Testimony, which is the New Testament. These are now scripture. Why? The definition of scripture is simply the written words considered to be sacred. However, during the apostolic age, these referred primarily to the Old Covenant. Let’s continue.

But, what about ELOHIM’s grace? When we are called to the MESSIAH by the FATHER (John 6:44), we are to “repent, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15). Repentance is the key element of one’s calling. After repentance, one is required to be baptized, after which one receives the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).

Now notice in Romans 11:29 that ELOHIM’s calling and gifts are irrevocable. One is now begotten of ELOHIM’s Spirit (1st Peter 1:3). You have now become a “new creature”. You are now expected to walk “in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:16) and no longer after the flesh.

Like a begotten baby inside the mother's womb, you have begun a new walk that has the awesome potential of a new birth. The prophets spoke of this new birth.

- Job 14:14 If a man die, shall he live *again*? **all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.** Job 14:15 **Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.**

Woe! This is Old Covenant scripture teaching the mindset of YAHWEH's true servants even before the testimony was provided. Notice how much clearer David puts it in the Psalms.

- Psa 17:15 **As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.**

These are the words of the Prophet/King David, who understands this awesome potential of mankind to awake from the grave with the likeness of YAHWEH/YAHSHUA. Now, contrast David's words with those of the Apostle Yochanan.

- 1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of ELOHIM, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but **we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.**

Are we not seeing the same vision written in the Old Covenant that we also see written in the New Testament? Notice the Prophet Daniel's words.

- Dan 12:2 And **many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life,** and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt. Dan 12:3 And **they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament;** and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

As we consider ELOHIM's grace, we must understand the "Christian walk" and the potential new birth. The Hebrew word *chen*, and the Greek word *charis*, both translated grace, also both mean favor. We have often heard grace explained as "unmerited favor", and I agree. Yet I wonder if this is understood.

There are many scriptures, other than those noted above, that speak of the potential of all to receive ELOHIM's favor, THEIR "grace". These I chose because it is important for us to realize that no matter how good we are, there is nothing we can do to earn the potential that these scriptures describe. How can I possibly earn the potential to "shine like the stars"? We must understand that we are dealing with a love that we as humans have no experience to draw from.

We spend our lives on this earth "earning a living". All the riches of this earth do not compare to the potential that ELOHIM offers when we are called and receive HIS grace. We simply do not have the capacity to earn this potential! With HIS grace, ELOHIM has given us an awesome opportunity that we can in no way earn.

Yet, many appear to believe that once one has ELOHIM's grace, through the sacrifice of the MESSIAH, there is nothing left for that one to do! However, ELOHIM's word is abundantly clear that we must qualify for the fulfillment of this opportunity! We do have to work for the end result of ELOHIM's grace! Notice how Paul puts it to the saints of Philippi.

- Php 3:12 **Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ YAHSHUA.**

He knows he has to stay on the proper pathway. He follows this with the following:

- Php 3:20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord YAHSHUA Christ: Php 3:21 **Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body,** according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Let us remember this, "faith without works is dead" (James 2:20). CHRIST says in Matthew 10:22 that "he who endures to the end will be saved". What then does this mean, we must "endure until the end" to be "saved"? In 1st Corinthians 6:9 Paul says "**the unrighteous shall not inherit the Kingdom of ELOHIM**". In 1st Corinthians 15:50 Paul says, "**flesh and blood cannot enter the Kingdom of ELOHIM**".

The essence of it all is this, even though there are examples of temporary or immediate aspects of ELOHIM's grace, the ultimate fulfillment of this grace or favor, is to **enter the Kingdom of ELOHIM!** The MESSIAH gave us only way to do that.

- Joh 15:10 **If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.**

We must keep HIS commandments, and abide in HIS love. The MESSIAH also said:

- Joh 5:28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, Joh 5:29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

The word damnation is a translation of the Greek word "krisis" which means a judgement for or against. Note this, given that flesh and blood cannot enter the Kingdom of ELOHIM", there must be by necessity a change from flesh to spirit. Remember David was inspired to write this in Psalms 17:15: "...I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness." We noted earlier that both Job and Daniel were aware of this change to occur in the future. Our awesome potential!

There is so much about the scriptures that is either unknown or just plain misunderstood. Many do not understand that the concept of grace did not begin with the coming of the MESSIAH, or HIS death. Let's take a brief historical look at "ELOHIM's grace". Many "New Testament Christians" fail to realize that even prior to the giving of the laws to the Nation of Yisrael, there appears to have been in place something that could be transgressed.

For instance, in Genesis 5:24 we see that "Enoch walked with ELOHIM". In Genesis 6:9 "Noah walked with ELOHIM". How did these servants walk with ELOHIM? Noah was said to be a "just man, perfect in his generations". Notice in Genesis 7:1 how YAHWEH says to Noah, "you are righteous before Me in this generation". I ask, by what criteria was Noah righteous before ELOHIM and the rest of the "earth corrupt before ELOHIM" (verse 11). There had to be some separating factor or criteria.

Whatever it was, it allowed Noah to find grace in the eyes of YAHWEH (Genesis 6:8). More on Noah's grace later. Remember that scripture says "all Your commandments are righteousness." Well, if we are taught that all of ELOHIM's commandments are righteousness, and Noah was righteous, it appears that there were commandments in place during their day that both Enoch and Noah kept and others did not.

Understanding these basic principles, let us see the merciful plan of ELOHIM. Except for Noah and his family, all mankind on the earth was destroyed during the flood. Remember that Noah found grace before ELOHIM. After the flood, ELOHIM promised that HE would never again destroy all flesh with water (Genesis 9:15). However, after the flood, as the earth was replenished, sin was still around. Except for such notables as Abram, transgression was still abounding.

In ELOHIM's mercy for mankind, HE called out Moses to reestablish and codify HIS commandments. Remember, previously ELOHIM chose to destroy all mankind except Noah and his family. However, it appears that this time HE added a twist to them (the commandments).

ELOHIM knows that the human mind is constantly at enmity with HIS righteousness. So, this time it appears that ELOHIM added something to HIS commandments to provide mankind with a vehicle to save him from eminent death upon transgression of HIS commandments. This time HE added sacrifices to HIS commandments. Why, because where there is transgression, atonement must be made with blood. Hebrews 9:22 says that "without shedding of blood there is no remission". This "sacrificial law" could not perfect mankind, nor was it meant to. In Hebrews 10:1-18 we learn that ELOHIM did not desire this law (of sacrifices), nor could it make us perfect (verse 1).

However, in HIS mercy, so that man might have some temporary form of forgiveness, these sacrifices were allowed, until the true and everlasting sacrifice, the MESSIAH, would come. As Hebrews 10:14 says, CHRIST's sacrifice perfects "forever those that are being sanctified".

Prior to the coming and death of the MESSIAH, the Nation of Yisrael was bound by the "sacrificial law". As Paul says in Galatians 3:19, 23-24, this law was added because of transgressions.

It was our tutor or schoolmaster until the MESSIAH arrived. This is something new and it is major. In Hebrews 10:14 we learn that with one (1) offering the MESSIAH “has perfected forever those who are being sanctified”, or set apart. In essence, the Everlasting ELOHIM of Yisrael has given HIS everlasting blood for the atonement of our sins.

One of the hidden secrets of the New Testament is that its very foundation is built on the Old Testament. There is a consistency amongst the major players of the New Testament, the MESSIAH, Paul, Peter, and John, to quote from the Old Covenant. Let’s also examine what the scriptures, i.e., the Old Covenant, prophesied would cease at the MESSIAH’s coming.

In Daniel 9:26-27 we note that in the middle of the week the MESSIAH shall be cut off and bring an end to sacrifice and offering. Note that the middle of the week is three and one-half days, or prophetically speaking, three and one half years. Most of us are aware that the MESSIAH’s ministry lasted for exactly that period of time. The tenth chapter of the book of Hebrews provides a thorough explanation of the weakness and the eventual dismantling of the sacrificial law. It is time that all who desire to worship ELOHIM in “spirit and truth” become as children and listen to what the “Word” has to say about these things.

In Matthews 5:17-18 the MESSIAH said that HE “did not come to destroy the law but to fulfill”. We must recognize that obviously there are different laws in place here. With MESSIAH’s death, one was “brought to an end”. HE further said that “until heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled”. Let me ask a question. Has heaven and earth passed? The obvious answer is no! Will heaven and earth pass? The answer is found in Revelations 21:1. “Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. And there was no more sea.”

Now you should understand that the MESSIAH was prophesying about the new heaven and the new earth that was to come. And, it should be obvious that this event has not occurred because this verse says that at that time there will be no more sea. The last time that I looked, there was still a sea on the earth. This means that another law, other than the “sacrificial law”, must still be in effect.

Note how in the 10th Chapter of Hebrews the Apostle Paul grimly warns those that are being sanctified now.

If these (those being sanctified) “sin willfully”, there no longer is a sacrifice. In other words, if those being sanctified exhibit a pattern of knowledgeable or purposeful sin, after the Lord has put His laws “into their hearts and minds” (verse 16), “there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins” (verse 26). Even though these are in Christ, and are no longer “under the law”, or perhaps more accurately, they are no longer under the penalty of the law, ELOHIM’s laws must remain in their hearts and minds. They must show a pattern of “willful” obedience to ELOHIM’s laws rather than a pattern of “willful sin” unto death.

If the “Law of Moses” or the “sacrificial law” is no longer, then just what are these laws that must be obeyed, that have been put in hearts and minds? In Matthew 19:16-19, the MESSIAH establishes that to have “eternal life” you must “keep the commandments”. In verses 18 and 19 of Matthew, HE shows that the commandments to be kept are the “Ten Commandments”. Notice how Paul amplifies this in Romans 7:7-9 and 13:8-10. For all who do not accept that Paul believed that all the commandments are to be obeyed, read how in Acts 16:9, 17:2, and 18:4, he honors the fourth commandment, the seventh day, the Sabbath.

Being a Sabbath keeper, I believe that with the Apostle Paul and other “New Testament” teachers keeping ELOHIM’s Sabbath and the MESSIAH’s assertion that HE is “Lord of the Sabbath”, I am in good company. Perhaps Paul summed it all up earlier as we read Romans 6:16. We are all in obedience to someone, to whom then are we slaves, or better yet, to whom do we offer our praise and worship.

Look at Paul’s words in the Book of Romans

- Rom 6:15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Rom 6:16 **Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?**

Even though grace exists, we still must choose to whom we shall obey. In Romans 7:7 Paul says: “I would not have known sin except through the law”. In other words, this law teaches us what sin is. Is it any different in society? If not for a law that says do not drive through a stop sign without first stopping, would you always stop?

The New Testament amplifies and instructs us further in ELOHIM's plan for man. We have learned that the Old Covenant defines righteousness as all of ELOHIM's commandments. I would think all of us could agree that the very opposite of righteousness is sin. One of the most misunderstood necessities for any Christian, or "believer", is how ELOHIM defines sin. What is sin? Did sin remain in the world now that the MESSIAH has paid the penalty for sin? Can a true believer still sin? A true worshipper of the true and living ELOHIM would want to know.

We must understand the definitions and inherent relationship between righteousness and sin. So, let's define sin.

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

I find it interesting that the ELOHIM defined righteousness in the Old Testament, and defined sin in the New Testament. "Sin is the transgression of the law". We have learned that the law being spoken of here without a doubt begins with the "Ten Commandments". However, there are other laws that ELOHIM has commanded of us. I believe that when we repent and seek obedience to ELOHIM's commandments, we happily subject ourselves to all of ELOHIM's laws, except of course the law of sacrifice, which, as ELOHIM's word notes, is no more.

Many have been led to believe that the Apostle Paul teaches that the Old Testament and ELOHIM's laws are done away with. We must remember Paul's teachings about the scriptures. If we remember this, and Isaiah 28:9, maybe we can "search the scriptures" to understand what "law of commandments in ordinances" Paul says was abolished by the MESSIAH's death, in Ephesians 2:14-15.

Why then, do so many of our spiritual leaders put Paul's words against the Words of the MESSIAH? Without law(s), there can be no sin. If there is no sin, there is no need for judgement, for we all pass the test.

More importantly, if there is no sin, there is no longer a need for a MESSIAH! Imagine a world in which our actions cannot be held against us. Yet we have learned that sin is the transgression of the law. Sin is iniquity.

For all that have been taught, just do what you want, ignore ELOHIM's laws, believe in the MESSIAH, and you will be saved, note well the MESSIAH's Words in Matthew 7:21-23.

- Mat 7:21 **Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.** Mat 7:22 **Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?** Mat 7:23 **And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**

Since initially writing this article, I have learned that the phrase “in that day” refers to when YAHSHUA shall return to this earth as the “Lion of Judah (Yehudah)”. Please see my article “In That Day, The Return of the Children of Yisrael”

Understand this! These are not unbelievers being referred to here. Certainly, it is not the so-called Jews, who don't even believe in the MESSIAH of the New Testament! It can't be the atheist, who does not believe in ELOHIM! These are “New Testament Christians”! Who else claims to prophesy in the MESSIAH's name? Who else claims to cast out demons and work many wonders in the MESSIAH's name? And yet, in that day, after HE returns to the earth, HE will not know them!

Remember what the MESSIAH said in Matthew 15:9 to the Scribes and Pharisees: “In vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.” The commandments of ELOHIM are certainly not the same as the commandments of men. Are they? Notice what the Lord said to Yacob (Yisrael) in Genesis 26:3-5.

- Gen 26:3 Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and **I will perform the oath which I swear unto Abraham thy father;** Gen 26:4 And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and **in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;** Gen 26:5 **Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.**

Prayerfully, we now understand that in being obedient to ELOHIM's laws, we are no longer “under the law”.

Here we see two contrasts. In Matthew, the MESSIAH talks about teaching as doctrines the commandments of men. In Genesis we see that the descendants of Yacob are to receive great blessings because Abraham obeyed and kept the commandments, statutes and laws of ELOHIM. Also, note that Yacob's seed shall bless all nations of the earth. Who then is Yacob's seed? Obviously, it is the MESSIAH of the New Testament, who as the "Son of Man" came out of the lineage of Abraham! We have learned that all ELOHIM's commandments are righteousness.

It would appear that all who "found grace" in the scriptures and the Testimony had this one thing in common. They all were obedient to the commandments and statutes of the "ELOHIM of Yisrael". This is most crucial in understanding that is necessary to worship ELOHIM, and the criteria for the ultimate fulfillment of ELOHIM's grace in one's life.

With that, let's conclude our discussion on grace with the Apostle Paul's words.

- Heb 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily **beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,** Heb 12:2 **Looking unto YAHSUA the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of ELOHIM.**

In order to know how to "endure until the end" and to "run with endurance", to enter the kingdom of heaven, we must clear up a few points about ELOHIM's commandments versus the commandments of men.

4. THE COMMANDMENTS OF MAN OR THE COMMANDMENTS OF ELOHIM

Before we explore the commandments of ELOHIM, let's understand the basis of the true "worship" of anyone or anything. Remember what Paul states in Romans 6:15-16. "What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! Do you know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness." It is interesting that the Apostle Paul acknowledges there remains sin unto death, even after the MESSIAH's sacrifice.

Paul further said in Hebrews 5:9 that the MESSIAH "became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey HIM." Remember that Abraham obeyed ELOHIM. It is only in obedience that our worship of ELOHIM is not in vain. The Apostle John explains a vital point in 1st John 2:3.

- 1Jn 2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

If you obey false gods, it is that god that you worship! This is the most fundamental truth of the entire Word of ELOHIM. HE will have obedience from all that enter into HIS Kingdom. We will worship ELOHIM "in spirit and in truth", or we will not enter into HIS Kingdom.

Man appears to believe that ELOHIM no longer requires obedience. By now we know that the ELOHIM of Yisrael and the MESSIAH of the New Testament are one and the same. In Hebrews 13:8 we note that the MESSIAH "is the same yesterday, today, and forever". In verse 9 we note this commandment: "Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines".

Man has gone to great lengths to sidetrack the necessity to obey ELOHIM's laws. Reflecting on Yisrael's disobedience to ELOHIM's laws, the Prophet Hosea was inspired to write, "You have eaten the fruit of lies, because you have trusted in your own way" (Hosea 10:13). Many "New Testament Christians" talk openly about having a "personal relationship" with the MESSIAH. We have already seen where the MESSIAH will say to many "New Testament Christians" "I never knew you". My purpose here is not to judge the sincerity of anyone, or to condemn anyone, but to effect a thought pattern towards the knowledge of how the MOST HIGH ELOHIM requires that HE be worshipped.

From all that I read in the scriptures, there is a way that is ELOHIM's way and there is a way that is man's way.

- Isa 55:8 For **my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith YAHWEH.** Isa 55:9 **For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

The Prophet Isiah is told by YAHWEH how much higher are HIS thoughts and ways than man's.

- Pro 14:12 **There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.**

And there is an obvious end to those who do not trust in the thoughts and ways of YAHWEH ELOHIM; death.

I submit that **if ELOHIM did not command it, it is a commandment of man.** If it is not in the "Word" of ELOHIM, it is the word of man. Ministers have allowed themselves to be deceived and as a result, deceive others about obedience to ELOHIM. For an example, in Leviticus 11:2-45, ELOHIM commands Yisrael to be holy by eating only certain types of animals. Note how ELOHIM ends verse 44: **"You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."**

These scriptures teach us that one of the ingredients for Yisrael to be holy was to eat only meat declared to be clean by ELOHIM HIMSELF. So-called New Testament preachers have obviously been taught, and continue to teach others, **that the sacrifice of the MESSIAH cleaned all foods.** Remember that the MESSIAH is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Remember also that the MESSIAH was the first King of Yisrael, and will be the last King of Yisrael. Remember that the MESSIAH is the ELOHIM of Yisrael. Let's look at how the ELOHIM of Yisrael works in "spirit and in truth".

In the 10th chapter of the Book of Acts we find a beautiful story that "New Testament ministers" claim proves that there are no longer clean or unclean foods. Let's look at this story, seeking only ELOHIM's truth.

In verses 10:1-8 we find that Cornelius, a Roman centurion, a Gentile, who prayed to ELOHIM, is told by ELOHIM's angel to send to Joppa for Simon Peter, an Yisraelite. At the same time, in verses 10:9-16 we note that **Peter had a dream in which a voice came to him saying to eat all manners of unclean animals**. In verse 15 we note the following: “What ELOHIM has cleansed you must not call common.” This happened to Peter three times. Now, if we were to stop reading at this point, it is easy to believe that this confirms that there no longer remains any unclean foods. It would appear that this law was done away with.

Remember that the cleanliness laws were a vital part of ELOHIM's requirements for Yisrael's holiness. Remember also how we are instructed in the way of ELOHIM's “Word” in Isaiah 28:9: “here a little, there a little,” etc., etc., etc. Since this story does not end with verse 15, we must not be afraid to explore the remainder of the story.

If Peter is now being commanded to treat all foods as clean, he will most certainly explain this as the story continues to unfold. Continuing, notice how in verse 19 Peter is told that three (3) men were seeking him. He had had the same dream 3 times, and now there were 3 men seeking him. In verses 10:21-27 Peter went with the men and talked with Cornelius, the Gentile. In verse 10:28 we find Peter's interpretation of his dream. Peter said:

- 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 ELOHIM hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean**.

There is no mention of food here, only man! As the story continues in verses 10:34-35, Peter says further:

- Act 10:34 Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, **Of a truth I perceive that ELOHIM is no respecter of persons: Act 10:35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him**.

In essence, now, ELOHIM accepts any Yisraelite or Gentile who obeys the commandments of ELOHIM. There is an important lesson to understand with this story that the “New Testament ministers” appear not to grasp.

First, by Peter's own interpretation, this is not a story about food, but about mankind and mankind's potential. Second, ELOHIM will not break HIS Word. The Prophet Micah was led to write the following:

- Mic 4:1 But in the last days it shall come to pass, *that* the mountain of the house of YAHWEH shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. Mic 4:2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of YAHWEH, and to the house of the ELOHIM of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: **for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of YAHWEH from Jerusalem.**

This is the way it shall be when YAHSHUA returns. This is the way it has always been. Please read the entire 4th chapter of Micah.

Now note this, ELOHIM chose an Yisraelite, the Apostle Peter, to first bring HIS Word to the Gentiles. Notice what the apostles and brethren who were in Jerusalem (Zion) had to say after Peter recounted his experience to them in Acts 11:18.

- Act 11:18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified ELOHIM, saying, **Then hath ELOHIM also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.**

Note this, the inspired interpretation of this story is that Gentiles (members of the nations, other than Yisrael), who were once unclean or uncommon to Yisraelites, can now be clean through Abraham's seed who blesses the nations, YAHSHUA.

Through study we learn that food is often used as a metaphor to picture our digestion of ELOHIM's Word or Satan's "fruit of lies". My friends, as we shall learn, ELOHIM is a jealous ELOHIM and in giving us HIS Word. HE has left no stone unturned. In Isaiah 66:17 YAHWEH says:

- Isa 66:17 **They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith YAHWEH.**

Verse 15 shows that this is a prophecy yet to happen. Shall we believe the “New Testament ministers” or YAHWEH ELOHIM?

Let’s look at a few other examples of ELOHIM’s commandments versus man’s commandments. We live in a world where the days of the week are called by names such as Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The months of the year are named January, February, March, etc. The major events of the year for “New Testament ministers” are New Year’s Day, Valentines Day, Mardis Gras, Fat Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Christmas.

I challenge you to read ELOHIM’s Word to find any mention of the observance/commandment of any these days. Furthermore, search ELOHIM’s Word to find any mention of these days, period. Throughout the WOE, the days of the week are called by the numbers one through seven. ELOHIM assigned no name to these days, save for the seventh day, the Sabbath. ELOHIM named HIS months Abib (Exodus 13:4), Zif (1st Kings 6:1), Sivan, Thammus, Ab, Elul (Nehemiah 6:15), Ethanim (1st Kings 8:2), Bul (1st Kings 6:30), Chisleu (Zechariah 7:1), Tebeth (Ester 2:16), Sebat (Zechariah 1:7), and Adar (Ezra 6:15). Notice in Exodus 12:2-3 and 13:4 that Abib is the first month of ELOHIM’s calendar. It is the month of the Passover, which occurs between the Roman months March and April. This is in the spring, when life is new, not in the “dead of winter” like the Roman calendar.

Also, throughout the WOE we see days that ELOHIM HIMSELF has established to be kept as holy. Notice beginning with Leviticus 23:1-2 that ELOHIM commands HIS feasts to be “holy.

The entire 23rd chapter of Leviticus is devoted to the commandment of ELOHIM’s holy days (appointed times) (Passover, Unleavened Bread, Weeks (called pentecost by some), Trumpets, Atonement, Tabernacles, and the Last Great Day). The scriptures are ripe with examples about these “holy days” or “appointed times” which present the plan of salvation of ELOHIM.

But, what about the New Testament! Notice how the MESSIAH went up to Jerusalem at the Passover in John 2:13. Notice how the MESSIAH ate the Passover with HIS disciples in Mark 14:14, how HE kept the Feast of Tabernacles in John 7:2-37.

Note how in verse 37 and 38 it reads: “On the last day, that great day of the Feast...If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water”. Notice how in 1st Corinthians 5:7 the Apostle Paul calls the MESSIAH “our Passover”. Notice also verse 8: “Therefore let us keep the feast, not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth”.

Is there any doubt that the feast that he is giving instructions on here is the Feast of Unleavened Bread, commanded by YAHWEH ELOHIM Almighty HIMSELF? Notice how Paul kept ELOHIM’s holy days in Acts 20: 6 & 16. Where then are the days being kept as holy by this “New Testament” society of today?

I pray that we are we beginning to understand that there is a difference between **the commandments of man and the commandments of ELOHIM.**

5. “THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES”

Now that we are beginning to see clearly that there is a way that is man’s way, that totally differs from the way that is ELOHIM’s way, the obvious question is how did it get this way. Most of the “New Testament Christians” that I have previously spoken of are indeed well-meaning people. Most of them sincerely believe that they are honoring ELOHIM when they participate in activities that are clearly not scriptural. Yet, we have seen, and will further see, that the ELOHIM of Yisrael does not mix with the ways that are man’s.

We have also previously seen that there will be those who will come before the MESSIAH when HE returns who did “many wonders” in His name to whom He will profess that HE never knew them. Why do so many claim to be followers of the MESSIAH, yet do not believe HIS Words?

In Matthew 12:40 the MESSIAH said: “For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will **the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**” Why then have so many been taught and believe that HE was only in the belly of the earth for one day and two nights (from Friday evening to Sunday morning)?

Why do the ministers of today so vehemently protect the “commandments of men”? In Romans 8:7 Paul says: “...the carnal mind is enmity against ELOHIM; for it is not subject to the law of ELOHIM, nor indeed can be.” What is the law of ELOHIM? Whatever it is, it cannot be the worship of Sunday, Easter, Christmas, etc., etc., etc. Why? Because none of these are spoken of in the “Word of ELOHIM”. What is the “Word of ELOHIM”? It is the scriptures referred to by the apostles of the MESSIAH, the “Old Testament”, and the “Testimony”, the New Testament. We have shown that all of the inspired writers of ELOHIM’s Word were obedient to the laws of ELOHIM. If institutions that we follow are not subject to the Laws of ELOHIM, then who then are they subject to?

The prophesy given in Matthew 12:40 is one of major significance. In verse 38 the religious leaders of the day had asked the MESSIAH for a “sign”. Notice verse 39.

- 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:

Understand this! In all of the scripture and the Testimony, **the only sign that the MESSIAH has offered to mankind to prove that HE is truly the MESSIAH, is the "sign of Jonah"**. Why would anyone professing to "believe" in the MESSIAH fight to prove HIM wrong?

Let's understand the magnitude of this argument. **If the MESSIAH was not in the belly of the earth for exactly three days and three nights, then HE whom you profess as your "personal savior" is not the MESSIAH.** Did ELOHIM lie? The answer is a resounding NO! When one studies the WOE "in spirit and in truth", separating the manner in which the MOST HIGH has commanded that time be kept from Euro-Gentile time, you will find that the MESSIAH was in the belly of the earth exactly three days and three nights.

Our leaders, the "New Testament ministers", have attempted to void the laws of ELOHIM by cataloging ELOHIM's laws and holy days as "Jewish" that are no longer applicable to the "New Testament Christian". This is the prevailing teaching of these modern times. Everywhere you look on the face of the earth, this is the primary teaching. Yet in Matthew 7:13-14 the MESSIAH said: **"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."** Where then did this way originate that is wide and broad that many go in by?

Through the years I have often gotten the impression that many in today's world believe that there is a great battle going on between ELOHIM and Satan and his demon followers. When one considers that the world in general does not keep those days commanded in the scriptures by Almighty ELOHIM to be honored and kept holy, it becomes somewhat confusing to understand why the majority of those who are called Christians have never heard of the holy days of ELOHIM. And better yet, how did this confusion come about.

We have shown how ELOHIM called out a nation to HIMSELF to be a light to other nations. This nation, Yisrael, was warned by the Almighty to not follow the ways of the nations around it. In Exodus 4:22, ELOHIM calls Yisrael His "son", HIS "firstborn".

Notice how in Leviticus 26:3-13 that Yisrael is promised great blessings if it walked in ELOHIM's statutes and keeps HIS commandments. In contrast, Yisrael is promised terrible curses in Leviticus 26:16-43 for disobedience to the Almighty. **The Nation of Yisrael was punished greatly for following after the ways of the nations.** Yet, throughout its history, there were men and women who obviously were trusted by ELOHIM to not go "the way of the nations."

The prophet Daniel was told by Gabriel (the Archangel), that the Words he (Gabriel) had given him would be "closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many will be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand" (Daniel 12:9-10).

Few people realize that ELOHIM is actually in control of all things. There is no fight going on between Almighty ELOHIM and Satan. Notice how in Job 1: 6 "there was a day when the 'sons of ELOHIM' came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them." I am sure many of you have read this scripture. But have you digested what is being said here?

The "sons of ELOHIM" here are angels reporting their activities to YAHWEH. Satan was among them. Notice how in verse 8 that YAHWEH allows Satan to consider testing Job. In verse 12 Satan is told "only don't lay a hand on" Job. In verse 6 YAHWEH allows the testing to increase but commands Satan to "spare his life". YAHWEH ELOHIM is in total control of the situation. Satan has no power unless given to him by YAHWEH!

Notice how as a result of disobedience YAHWEH wanted Ahab to go up and fall at Ramoth Gilead in 1st Kings 22:19-20. In verses 22 and 23 we see how YAHWEH allowed a "lying spirit" to persuade Ahab's prophets. Is there any doubt that this "lying spirit" is what we commonly call a demon? Isn't a demon simply a "fallen angel"? My point in presenting these examples is to simply show the scriptural evidence that YAHWEH ELOHIM is in control of all things. All things that have happened and that will happen, ELOHIM has shown us in HIS Word.

The Nation of Yisrael failed in its initial mission to teach the nations of its day because of its harlotry played with other gods (Hosea 4: 12-18).

With the failure and subsequent punishment of the Nation of Yisrael, the "light to the nations" had been removed. In Luke 21:24 the MESSIAH said:

- Luk 21:24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and **Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.**

Here is a key to the miseducation of the scriptures that so many have received and followed. Though Yisrael failed initially, it did provide for generations to come ELOHIM's protocol for obtaining eternal life. Follow ELOHIM's commandments and statutes and not the ways of the nations (Gentiles), or be cut off. Today, we live under the "time of the nations (gentiles).

ELOHIM is merciful in providing understanding to those who are diligent to seek it. Notice how that in Amos 3:7 "YAHWEH does nothing, unless HE reveals HIS secret to His servants the prophets." We saw earlier where we have been given the equipment (the Old Testament) "for every good work" and for "correction" and "reproof".

Now let's look to see what ELOHIM has revealed to us by the prophet Daniel. In Daniel 7:19-27 we see where Daniel sought understanding regarding the last of four great beasts. Out of this beast we see that a horn shall arise that will "speak pompous words against the MOST HIGH, persecute the saints of the MOST HIGH, and **shall intend to change times and law**". What would be considered pompous words against the MOST HIGH? Would teaching that man's laws, not ELOHIM's laws, are what mankind should obey be considered pompous? This horn persecutes the saints of the MOST HIGH. Who are the saints of the MOST HIGH? In Revelation 14:12 they are described as "**those who keep the Commandments of ELOHIM and the faith of the MESSIAH**".

So then, this horn persecutes those who both obey the Commandments of ELOHIM and keep the faith of the MESSIAH. Finally, this horn shall intend to change times and law. Whose times and laws do you think that this horn intends to change? Since the horn speaks pompous words against the MOST HIGH while persecuting the Most High's saints, it should be obvious that it is the MOST HIGH's laws that it intends to change.

Notice how in verse 23 Daniel is told that this fourth beast is a fourth kingdom on earth that shall devour the whole earth. For the sake of time and space I will state a historical fact here that any serious student of truth can research in his/her own time. In the history of the earth, there have only been four kingdoms that have ruled over what was considered the known whole world. These kingdoms are, in order of their rule, Babylon, the Media/Persia Empire, Greece under Alexander the Great, and the Roman Empire.

Notice how in Daniel 2:37-38 Nebuchadnezzar is told that the ELOHIM of heaven has given him a kingdom that rules wherever men dwell. Notice how in verse 5:31 the Babylonian kingdom is given to Darius the Mede. Notice how in Daniel 8:20-22 Daniel is told how Greece overcame the kings of Media and Persia. Notice how in verses 23-25 another king shall arise with fierce features, understanding sinister schemes, who shall destroy the mighty as well as the "holy people". Is there any doubt that this kingdom is the Roman Empire? We should all pray for patience and wisdom and read the entire Book of Daniel along with the Book of Revelations to obtain understanding.

Earlier we noted the names of days, months, and holidays that were in direct contrast to the names of the days, months, and holy days found in the scriptures. Where did these contrasting days, months, and holidays come from? Remember the fourth beast that from all appearances is the Roman Empire and the little horn that came out of it? Since they do not appear in Scripture, have you ever considered where names such as Sunday, January, and Easter came from?

All these names have been handed down to us from Rome. Consider this, Sunday is the "Venerable Day of the Sun", which was/is worshipped on that day. January was Janus, the two-headed Roman god who was said to be able to see the past and the future. Ever heard of the Janus Mutual Fund of today? Check out its logo. Easter is Eostre or Estarte, the goddess of the dawn and of fertility. Consider the things done at Easter, colored eggs, rabbits, sunrise services, etc. These are all about fertility. What about July and August? These honor Julius and Augustus Caesar. Notice a connection here? Of course, the Roman Empire gave them all to the world, not the MOST HIGH.

Consider that the calendar that the world follows today is derived from the Julien calendar commissioned by Julius Caesar.

It requires days to begin at midnight and a new year to begin in the "dead of winter".

We have seen how the first month of ELOHIM's new year begins in the springtime. ELOHIM's days begin and end with the setting of the sun. Notice ELOHIM's original order of the day in Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23 and 31; evening and morning. In Leviticus 23:33 the scriptures interpret ELOHIM's order for a day as follows: "... from evening to evening you shall celebrate your Sabbath".

ELOHIM's people have maintained this order since the beginning of time. However, as a result of Yisrael's disobedience, beginning with Babylon, ELOHIM has allowed the Gentiles and Satan to significantly influence the civil affairs of the earth (notice in Revelation 13:2 that the dragon gave the beasts, the four nations, its power). These Gentile nations have also directly influenced the spiritual affairs of the entire earth by saturating it with the various forms of idol gods worshipped by these nations.

We are warned by the MESSIAH in Matthew 24:24 that "false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive if possible even the elect". Notice how in interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Daniel 2:31-45), Daniel prophesies about the entire rule of the Gentile nations, which is only brought to an end by a kingdom set up by the "ELOHIM of Heaven".

Notice the consistency of scripture in Daniel 7:17-18. After the four kingdoms arise out of the earth, the saints of the MOST HIGH shall receive the kingdom forever and ever.

A false message has infiltrated the minds of many, teaching that the laws, statutes and commandments of these Gentile nations have replaced the laws, statutes and commandments of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael. And just what is this false message? Isaiah was led to prophesy the following:

- 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.**

The "law and the testimony" is the entire Word of ELOHIM from Genesis to Revelation. If a minister does not speak according to this Word, whatever words being spoken should be questioned.

In Micah 4:2 we earlier read that "out of Zion the law shall go forth and the Word of ELOHIM out of Jerusalem". In other words, those who choose to follow the teachings of the true MESSIAH should only yield to instructions flowing from Zion for spiritual direction. Remember that the MESSIAH prophesied that the Gentiles would trample Jerusalem until their time is fulfilled. Remember also that it is the little pompous horn, that comes out of Rome, that intends to change times and laws.

In Revelation 22:14 the Apostle John is inspired to write: "**Blessed are those who do the commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.**" Daniel prophesied, "the wise would understand" (Daniel 12:10).

Knowing that we live in the "times of the Gentiles", we need to look very closely at the commandments of the MOST HIGH to gain important wisdom towards attaining to the "true worship of ELOHIM".

6. IN “SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH”

We have read how Abraham kept ELOHIM’s commandments. In fact, all of the servants of ELOHIM in the scriptures kept HIS commandments. Many hear and even quote ELOHIM’s “Ten Commandments” every week. Whether knowingly or unknowingly, we typically concentrate our thoughts on the last six of these commandments. These six teach us how to love our brother as ourselves. However, if we are to worship the MOST HIGH ELOHIM in “spirit and in truth”, we must become better acquainted with the first four (4) commandments. These are most important, for these four commandments teach us how to “love YAHWEH our ELOHIM with all our hearts.” Let’s take a brief look at the first four commandments.

In Exodus chapter 20, ELOHIM said:

- Exo 20:1 And **ELOHIM spake all these words,** saying, Exo 20:2 **I am YAHWEH thy ELOHIM, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.** Exo 20:3 **Thou shalt have no other gods before me.**

First, we learn that this ELOHIM is YAHWEH, the same one who would later come into the world as YAHSHUA (called Jesus Christ by most of modernity’s Christians), speaking to the only family of the earth HE ever knew (Amos 3:2). This is the first commandment.

Remember the ministers who tell their congregations that they know “that Christmas was a pagan day”, but “it’s okay to celebrate a birthday to the Lord”. I ask you again, based on this commandment, who gives this minister or any other person the authority to lead you to worship a pagan day in the name of the Lord. As we have seen, this authority certainly does not come from the ELOHIM of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, YAHWEH thy ELOHIM of Yisrael. Continuing.

- Exo 20:4 **Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:** Exo 20:5 **Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them:** for I YAHWEH thy ELOHIM *am* a jealous EL, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me; Exo 20:6 And **shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.**

In Exodus 20:4-5, we are commanded to make no graven images, whether of things in heaven or in the earth or under the earth, to bow down to serve them. Why do those who call themselves Christians make statues of Mary, the mother of the MESSIAH, to bow down and pray to it? Why do others place a man painted portrait in their places of worship and in their homes and offices, and venerate this portrait as if it was the MESSIAH. Is this the MESSIAH? Are we that naive? Even if we knew what the MESSIAH looked like in HIS human form (which, by the way, we do not), this commandment clearly states that we are not to make an image of HIM or likeness of anything to bow down to it or serve it. This is the second commandment by teaching how YAHWEH shows mercy to those who loves HIM and keeps HIS commandments.

Now, there are some in modernity that may hold on to the thought that all of these commandments were given only to the COY. Let’s insert here what YAHWEH states to HIS disciples when HE came in the flesh.

- Joh 14:15 **If ye love me, keep my commandments.**

Isn’t this the very same thing that YAHWEH thy ELOHIM spoke to the COY. The only way to show our love for YAHSHUA is to keep HIS commandments.

- Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;

And for loving HIM and keeping HIS commandments, HE promises to give us the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth. HE late makes HIS love plain.

- Joh 15:10 **If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love;** even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

Are we keeping ELOHIM’s commandments, or, the commandments of man, given to us by the beast who seeks “to change times and laws” as we have previously learned. Or, are we abiding in HIS love by the keeping of the commandments of YAHWEH/YAHSHUA?

Now to the third commandment.

- Exo 20:7 **Thou shalt not take the name of YAHWEH thy ELOHIM in vain**; for YAHWEH will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Here we are commanded to “not take the name of YAHWEH thy ELOHIM in vain”. Let’s examine the word vain here in its context.

According to both Strong’s and Young’s Exhaustive Concordances, it comes from the Hebrew word “shav”, which carries the following meanings: lies, vanity, false, falsely, lying, and vain. The obvious implication here is that we are not to associate YAHWEH’s name in any false or pretentious manner. We should not use YAHWEH’s name in a playful manner, for this is both vain and false. This understanding is necessary because vanity alone only implies uselessness. Knowing that it also includes falsehoods adds a more correct weight to the commandment. This is the third commandment. Now we get to number four, which is the one most commonly changed by the beast power.

- Exo 20:8 **Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Exo 20:9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: Exo 20:10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of YAHWEH thy ELOHIM:** *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates: Exo 20:11 For *in* six days YAHWEH made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Here we are commanded to “remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy”. We are commanded to work the first six days of the week and rest on the seventh day. We are further told that YAHWEH blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. This is the fourth commandment.

The aforementioned concordances show that the word holy here is translated from the Hebrew word “qodesh” which means a separation, object set apart. While it appears that man tends to belittle each of the first four commandments, it is this fourth commandment that “New Testament Christians” take the most liberty of. As a result, I will spend a little more time with it.

First, let’s understand one essential thing. It was by the very mouth of YAHWEH ELOHIM that the Sabbath day was made holy. It is only by the mouth of YAHWEH ELOHIM that it can be substituted for or diminished in any way from its holy status. When YAHWEH came into the world as YAHSHUA HE said the following which we have touched upon. The apostle Mathew quotes YAHSHUA as follows.

- Mat 12:8 For **the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.**

The Gospel of Mark quotes it as follows:

- 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.**

Though Mark was not a disciple, it is obvious that what he is quoting is fact. The fourth commandment confirms both that the Sabbath was indeed made for man, and that YAHWEH made it. Both the Apostle Mathew, Mark and Luke (Luke 6:5) confirm that YAHSHUA proclaimed that the Son of Man, YAHSHUA HIMSELF, is Lord (master) of the Sabbath. This should end the speculation. Yet it hasn’t.

Because the Sabbath day is obviously taught throughout the Old Testament, I will quote from only one Old Testament Scripture. The Prophet Isaiah quotes the following from YAHWEH

- Isa 58:13 **If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, *from* doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of YAHWEH, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking *thine own* words:** Isa 58:14 **Then shalt thou delight thyself in YAHWEH; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of YAHWEH hath spoken *it*.**

Remember that this is the MESSIAH talking. Many of today’s Christians have been taught that the Apostle Paul somehow did away with the Sabbath. Does Paul have that authority?

I have studied New Testament verses that are used by the seminaries of today’s churches to teach that the Sabbath day was changed, and the first day of the Roman week, Sunday, is now holy. My only question to anyone who would teach or believe such a thing is, where is “thus saith YAHWEH (the Lord)” that Sunday, or the first day of the week, is now holy? Enough about Sunday.

Paul, an Yisraelite, became the Apostle to the Gentiles (nations). He is the only writer in the WOE whose letters are used to teach that one of the MOST HIGH’S commandments have been done away with. And, before we take a look at the Apostle Paul, remember this. It was Abraham’s obedience that brought him favor before ELOHIM. If Paul is an Apostle of ELOHIM, it is his actions, his obedience, and not just his words that have brought him favor before ELOHIM. With that point in mind, let’s examine Paul’s “actions” regarding the Sabbath day. For it will be his actions, not some misunderstood letter to the “called out” Gentiles, that will tell us whether or not Paul obeyed the commandments of Almighty ELOHIM and worshipped HIM in “spirit and in truth”.

To know Paul’s actions, we must take a walk through the book of Acts. In Acts 13:13-14 we note how Paul and his party went into the synagogue at Antioch on the Sabbath day. In Acts 13:42 we read where the Gentiles begged Paul to preach to them the “next Sabbath”. In verse 44 of the same chapter, we note that “on the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the Word of ELOHIM”. It was at Antioch that New Testament believers were first called “Christians” (Acts 11:26).

Now something interesting happened here that is worth mentioning. The Jews were upset and jealous of Paul’s teaching, and as a result, we note in verse 46 that Paul now turns entirely to the Gentiles. One would think that if Paul somehow was given “another commandment” or was changing a commandment, this would be the appropriate time to do it. So, let’s continue our walk through the book of Acts.

We often hear many quotes from the Book of Philippians. Look at what Paul was doing while he was in Phillipi. At Acts 16:9-13 we note that Paul on the Sabbath day went out to the city on the riverside, where prayer was customarily made. The 1st and 2nd Books of Thessalonians are also well quoted books. Note how in Acts 17:2 it was Paul’s “custom” to reason the scriptures on the Sabbath day in Thessalonica. The two Books of Corinthians are also well quoted.

Note in Acts 18:4 how Paul “reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath” while he was at Corinth. I ask you, how often is every? Notice also how Paul celebrated ELOHIM’s Feast of Unleavened Bread at Philippi (remember the Book of Philippians?). These, my friends, are the Apostle Paul’s actions. He kept the commandments of the MOST HIGH! In doing so, he also kept the Holy Days/Appointed Times of the MOST HIGH.

Let no one deceive you. All of the writers of scripture, both old and new, were obedient to the commandments of Almighty ELOHIM. Note also, that all of the writers of scripture (whether it is Old Testament or New Testament) were Yisraelites.

The ELOHIM of Yisrael, the ELOHIM of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, i.e., the MESSIAH, put a lot of effort into putting HIS commandments into HIS servant’s hearts and minds. I repeat! Only the MOST HIGH ELOHIM and HIS Son qualify to add to or take away from His commandments!

Remember that in the Book of Revelations the saints of YAHSHUA are defined as follows:

- Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of ELOHIM, and the faith of YAHSHUA.

Earlier we read about the Comforter. In this update, let’s briefly look at the commission of the Comforter.

- Joh 14:26 But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he **shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.**

The first commission of the Comforter, which is promised to all who shall repent and be baptized (Acts 2:38), is to teach all things by bringing all things to your remembrance that YAHSHUA has said. We know that YAHSHUA spoke to the Old Covenant prophets as YAHWEH ELOHIM. HE has spoken to us in the New Testament through HIS disciples/apostles and a few others as YAHSHUA. The essence of these words is that we must read the WOE in order for the Spirit of Truth to operate with us. This is why the Apostle Paul wrote the following:

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

Through studying for ourselves, the Comforter recognizes our approval to bring the WOE back into our remembrances as needed. If we don’t study the WOE, we are not approved. If we don’t study the WOE, there is nothing in our memory that allows the Comforter to guide us into “spirit and truth”.

- Joh 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, **he shall testify of me**.
- Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, **he will guide you into all truth**: for **he shall not speak of himself**; but **whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak**: and **he will shew you things to come**. Joh 16:14 **He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you**.

These scriptures about the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth should now be a little clearer without my words. For a greater look into the workings of this Spirit, please read my article “The Holy Spirit”.

Finally, if you are not obedient to the commandments and laws of ELOHIM, you are not worshipping ELOHIM, and walking in “spirit and truth”! If you are not worshipping ELOHIM, who then are you worshipping and why?

7. THE VEIL

Why then do so many who profess belief in the MESSIAH, honor the tradition or commandments of men? Why do so many beautiful, well meaning, professed followers of the MESSIAH, students of the Bible, supposedly, observe man's traditions, and, "love it so"? Perhaps these two scriptures give us a clue.

- Isa 6:9 And he said, Go, and tell this people, **Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.** Isa 6:10 **Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.**
- 2Th 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; **because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.** 2Th 2:11 And **for this cause ELOHIM shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:** 2Th 2:12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

These Old and New Covenant scriptures speak to a purposeful type of blinding from the truth for those who choose to believe the untruths. It becomes apparent that a "veil" (a covering or blinding) exists over the world, for otherwise this simply could not be so.

The fact that a "veil" exists is confirmed in Isaiah 25:7. "He will destroy ... the surface of the carving cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations." Notice that the context here is future. Note what the MESSIAH told HIS disciples in Matthew 13:11 after they inquired about HIS speaking to the multitudes in parables:

- Mat 13:10 And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? Mat 13:11 He answered and said unto them, **Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven,** but to them it is not given.

In the previous versions I only quoted verse 11. Yet, YAHSUA's complete words here echo what HE first spoke to the Prophet Isaiah. The fact that HE spoke to all others in parables speak to the veil. HIS disciples were privileged to have their minds opened because of their obedience and faith in YAHSUA.

In this final update to this article, let's read all of YAHSHUA's words here and simply meditate on them.

- Mat 13:12 For **whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.** Mat 13:13 **Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.** Mat 13:14 And **in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias,** which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: Mat 13:15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. Mat 13:16 But **blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.**

The MESSIAH also said in Matthew 20:16, "... For many are called, but few chosen."

I ask the question, can those who partake in the traditions of men, be of the chosen? According to all the scriptures we have read to this point, the answer must be a resounding no. Does this mean that those who have not been chosen are lost? I believe not. For if ELOHIM chooses those given to understand the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, it is ELOHIM and not they who chose, at this time.

Matthew 20:16 also says: "So the last will be first, and the first last". So, it becomes obvious that ELOHIM has an established timetable in which this opportunity will be offered to all. Upon whom then is this opportunity given first?

We have seen in Matthew 13:11 how the disciples (apostles) were given it. Let us look at this process of many being called but few being chosen.

Peter spoke the following:

- 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 ELOHIM shall call.**

So, there is a calling of Yisraelites and others.

YAHSHUA said in Yochanan 6.

- Joh 6:44 **No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

So, we must first be drawn to YAHSHUA by the FATHER. The Apostle Paul gave further insight.

- Rom 9:15 For he saith to Moses, **I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.** Rom 9:16 **So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of ELOHIM that sheweth mercy.**

Upon whom then does ELOHIM show mercy and draws to the MESSIAH, if it is not of those who will it? In Exodus 20:6, we read the following in the 2nd commandment: “... but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments”. Keeping ELOHIM’s commandments is the will of ELOHIM.

Notice Solomon’s conclusion about the matter in Ecclesiastes 12:13: “fear ELOHIM and keep HIS commandments”. We have seen that it is ELOHIM the FATHER who calls. Let us not forget, “few are chosen”. What about the called and the chosen? Could willful obedience to ELOHIM’s laws be the separating factor?

Look at the parable of the sower. In Matthew 13:19, it says that there are those who hear the Word of the Kingdom and do not understand, and the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sewn in his heart. The fact that they heard the Word (ELOHIM’s Word, not man’s) shows that these were called. In Matthew 13:20, there are those who received the seed (the Word) on stony places. These hear the Word with joy, yet there is no root. These endure only a short time. Because of the Word, they stumble. Notice that these also hear the Word. So obviously they too were called. In Matthew 13:22, we see yet another group that received the seed among the thorns. These hear the Word but the care and riches of the world choke the Word, rendering them unfruitful.

Notice again that these also heard the Word and as such were called.

Now in Matthew 13:23, there are those who receive the seed on the good ground. These hear the Word, understand it, and bear fruit and produce.

Note the moral of the parable. The MESSIAH likens the Word unto a seed. When a seed is planted, it produces fruit of the kind of seed planted. If one plants an apple seed which roots, what does it grow? It obviously grows apples. Likewise, if the seed that is planted is the Word, and it roots, the fruit that is grown is growth and maturity in the Word. As we look at the parable, who are these who understand the Word and who overcome the persecutions that will surely follow? These are they who surely understand that the MESSIAH, the ELOHIM of Yisrael, “is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow”.

And please understand that a calling is simply an invitation. As we search through the scriptures, it becomes obvious that those who mature in ELOHIM’s Word are those who have chosen, after being called, to obey ELOHIM’s commandments. For in Acts 5:32, Peter says: “... the Holy Spirit whom ELOHIM has given to those who obey Him”. Isn’t that interesting? ELOHIM gives the Holy Spirit to those who obey Him.

Let us look at the work of the Holy Spirit. In John 14:26, the MESSIAH says that the Holy Spirit is the “Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father”. In Psalms 127:1, it is written: “Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it”. Earlier, I posed the question, could those that follow man’s traditions be of the chosen. Can the “Spirit of Truth” be leading them? Search man’s traditions and we find a very long listing of “lies” and “pagan” (idol) traditions. Would the “Spirit of Truth” teach such things? Paul says in Romans 10:13-17 that to believe (the truth) one must hear. To hear someone must preach.

To preach, they must be sent. Paul in 1st Thessalonians states: “Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good.” How then do we prove all things? We saw the answer in Isaiah 8:20. “To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them”. So we see that any preacher or minister who does not teach ELOHIM’s law, and the testimony of the MESSIAH, cannot be led by the Spirit of Truth. In Matthew 24:4, the MESSIAH warned HIS disciples: “Take heed that no one deceives you.” In the next verse, He says “For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ’, and will deceive many”. We prove any preacher or teacher through ELOHIM’s Word.

Can a minister or teacher who does not incorporate ELOHIM's 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and the 7th (Sabbath) days into his ministry, knowing that there is no mention of any other weekly cycle found in the Bible, be teaching according to the Spirit of Truth? Can a minister or teacher, who does not incorporate ELOHIM's established Holy Days into his ministry, be teaching according to the Spirit of Truth? Only when one hears ELOHIM's truth, and obeys ELOHIM's Word through repentance, and forsakes the ways of the world, can one begin to understand the rich meanings that seem to be hidden in ELOHIM's Holy Days.

Here then are ELOHIM's "chosen". Remember Revelation 14:12: "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of ELOHIM and the faith of the MESSIAH". Simply put, this means that a saint believes with all his heart, mind, and soul that the MESSIAH meant exactly what HE said to the Scribes and Pharisees who asked for a sign in Matthew 12:38-41. A saint has the faith that his savior, the MESSIAH, was in the belly of the earth exactly 3 days and 3 nights. A saint, one chosen, will prove all things, knowing that ELOHIM has provided in HIS Word (the Bible) the proof of the MESSIAH's sign exactly as HE stated.

What is interesting here is that unless one accepts and obeys ELOHIM's laws, the simplicity of these truths cannot be understood.

In many of life's experiences, I have shared, and have known others who have shared, our vision and understanding given by ELOHIM of the beauty, wisdom and knowledge stored in HIS Holy Days. However, in these experiences, it has been noticed that very few are willing, at this time, to work (i.e., work for or worship, study) to allow ELOHIM's Words to grow on their hearts and in their minds.

In Luke 9:62, the MESSIAH said the following Words to one who wanted to follow Him, yet only after going to bid his household farewell:

- Luk 9:62 And YAHSHUA said unto him, **No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of ELOHIM.**

When the mercy of ELOHIM is upon us, we must want it and stand in it. It is not easy. Grace is involved, and yet YAHSHUA and the FATHER know what is at stake. The Kingdom of ELOHIM is the following:

- Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but **they shall be priests of ELOHIM and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.**

To these, the veil is lifted. And yet these must endure until the end. To these we read where the Apostle Paul said to “study to shew thyself approved unto ELOHIM”, “rightly dividing the truth”. As we look at this process, it becomes obvious that one called and chosen must first hear the Word. Yet one must act upon what one hears, not blindly, nor simply accepting.

We are required by ELOHIM to prove what we hear. ELOHIM has given all those called the proper tools to ensure the accurate course to walk. Once we began that walk, there is no turning back. Remember what Paul said in 2 Timothy 3:15: “All scripture is given by inspiration of ELOHIM, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”

Remember how the Bereans received the Word (the “seed”) with all readiness (prothumia – willingness) and searched the scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so (Acts 17:10)? We can learn so much about ELOHIM’s Word in these few verses. Note in verse 10 that the brethren sent Paul and Silas to Berea. Remember what Paul said in Romans 10:13-17.

To believe one must hear. To hear, someone must preach. To preach, someone must be sent. Paul was sent. He preached. The Bereans heard, yet not blindly. In verse 12, they searched the scriptures. We must pause here to understand another important point. These Bereans were primarily Yisraelites. They knew the “commandments”. And yet they searched the scriptures. Note that after searching the scriptures, verse 12, many believed. What we see in this testimony are those who obey the “commandments”, and now have the testimony of the MESSIAH (see again Revelations 14:12).

Let me again ask this very serious question: Why do so many students or readers of the Bible accept doctrines that are obviously unbiblical? We spoke earlier about some of these nonbiblical (false) doctrines: Easter, Christmas, etc. I say to the serious Bible student, search the scriptures (Old and New) to find any commandment changing ELOHIM’s Holy Day, the Sabbath, from the seventh day of the week to the first day of the week.

Search to find communion services on the first, second, third or fourth Sunday of the month. Or for that matter, find any mention of a day called Sunday, period. Search to find such terms as the “rapture”, “trinity”, etc. Search to find any human besides the MESSIAH who has died and gone to heaven. How does this compare with Paul’s teaching in 1 Corinthians 15:51-43. For he says, “the dead will be raised incorruptible” when the trumpet shall sound.

There appears to be a major conflict here. In Isaiah 66:23, we note that when the MESSIAH returns, all flesh, yes, there shall be flesh on the earth, shall come and worship (shachah – to prostrate, bow down, humbly beseech) before HIM from “New Moon” (ELOHIM’s beginning of a new month) to “New Moon”, and from “Sabbath to Sabbath”. I am not a judge of any man, but it appears that a great deception has taken place. Who then is the deceiver, the “Spirit of Truth” or Satan (the Dragon).

Why then this deception, and why is it (the “veil”) so widely accepted? Well, if we are to accept ELOHIM’s Word in its entirety, we must accept that with ELOHIM, there is always (and has always been) a protocol, a design, if you would. ELOHIM’s Word declares that there are at least two (2) resurrections. Remember what the MESSIAH says in John 5:29. There is a “resurrection of life” and a “resurrection of condemnation”, or as the King James version reads, of “damnation”. As to the second of these resurrections, both words, condemnation and damnation, are feeble and I believe somewhat misleading translations of the Greek work “krisis”, which literally means a decision for or against.

If we notice the biblical description of this second resurrection in Revelation 20:12-15, we note that those in this resurrection “were judged, each one according to his works”. Here, a decision is to be made, and not necessarily a “condemnation” or a “damnation”. For we note in verse 15 that there are some in this second resurrection whose names are in the book of life.

Yet, for those in the first resurrection (Revelation 20:4-6), we note that “they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years” prior to the raising of those in the second resurrection. “Over such (these in the first resurrection) the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of ELOHIM and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years”. As you can see, for those in the first resurrection, at this point, a decision has already been made.

Let us understand a most vital point here. In order to separate those to be in the first resurrection from those to be in the second resurrection, the “veil” was necessary. If we choose to see it, the “veil” (the purposeful closing of the eyes to perceive ELOHIM’s plan) actually establishes ELOHIM’s mercy for all mankind.

For we know that ELOHIM’s Word is true. We read the following in the Book of Hebrews.

- Heb 6:4 For **it is impossible for those who were once enlightened**, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, **and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost**, Heb 6:5 **And have tasted the good word of ELOHIM**, and the powers of the world to come, Heb 6:6 **If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of ELOHIM afresh, and put him to an open shame.**

In essence, they have known the truth, and rejected ELOHIM. They have chosen their reward.

In ELOHIM’s mercy, HE allows and understands that not all are prepared to handle “the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in ELOHIM” (Ephesians 3:9). Our Heavenly FATHER knows that to know these truths and to reject them is to sign one’s own death sentence!

ELOHIM, in HIS own wisdom and above all, HIS mercy and love for all mankind, has allowed Satan to “veil”, i.e., to deceive the nations. In 1st Thessalonians 2:4, we note the following:

- 1Th 2:4 But as we were allowed of ELOHIM to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but ELOHIM, which trieth our hearts.

The word allowed is translated from the Greek word “dokimazo” which means approved. As we have been approved and put in trust with the gospel, we speak. Isn’t that fascinating? To receive the gospel or in other words, to be entrusted with or put in trust with the gospel, one must be approved. In essence, ELOHIM in HIS love and mercy, will not “open” one’s mind to HIS unfathomable truths until HE approves it.

Remember also, it is ELOHIM's desire that all be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1st Timothy 2:3-4). Yet, understand, each in his proper time. This approval by ELOHIM will not come without tests. You see, to set one's path to follow ELOHIM's Word automatically establishes you as an outcast.

The world chooses to follow the myth. It has had an opportunity to know ELOHIM's truths, but because of weakness, the "veil" has covered (blinded) most of ELOHIM's truths. Who wants to be an outcast?

Well, the greatest outcast in the history of the world was our Lord and savior, the MESSIAH. HIS disciples paid a heavy price for following HIM. They chose the riches of the world to come far greater than the riches of this present world. ELOHIM knows that to follow HIS ways, to obey "HIS commandments" (all of them, not just one, two, or three, etc.) is a heavy burden on one who truly walks in the spiritual mind, i.e., seeking first the "Kingdom of ELOHIM". This is why Paul says to know your election by ELOHIM (1 Thessalonians 1:1). We must count the cost.

Remember in Isaiah 25:6-8, it is said, "ELOHIM will destroy the veil". In 2 Timothy, we see a very clear indication of ELOHIM's protocol. For it states that a servant (one called and chosen) must be able to teach and correct opposition, if perhaps ELOHIM will grant them (those previously in opposition) repentance unto life. Remember the Bereans who believed. The one thing I must stress here is that ELOHIM has given mankind all that he needs in HIS "Word". We know this "Word" as the "Bible".

Yet, it is sometimes obviously true, all are not at this time prepared to handle what the Bible has to offer in its entirety. And let me say here that when I state, "in its entirety", I do not mean that we must know everything in ELOHIM's Word. But what I do mean is that in order to obtain an entrance into the Kingdom of ELOHIM, we must know the difference between ELOHIM's way and Satan's way. For there is no other way but ELOHIM's way. We must discern this difference and make our choice. The choice is ours to make, whether it is now, or whether it is later, it must be made.

There are many scriptural examples of the "veil" being lifted from ELOHIM's servants in this age.

Who better to start with than the MESSIAH' own disciples. Notice in Luke 24.44, after HIS resurrection, the MESSIAH reminded them of the Words HE had spoken to them while HE was still with them. And then notice how in verse 45: **“HE opened their understanding that they might comprehend the scriptures”**. Here we see that prior to this time, the very same men who had walked the earth with our Lord and Savior did not comprehend the scriptures until “HE opened their understanding”. I.e., HE lifted the “veil” from their eyes and their minds.

It is truly wonderful to see how our Heavenly FATHER has ensured that we have such beautiful examples of the potential for all mankind preserved for each and every one of us. For it is the FATHER's desire that “all” would eventually comprehend the “scriptures”, repent, and enter the Kingdom of ELOHIM.

We see another example with the two (2) men who walked with the MESSIAH after HIS resurrection on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24:13-32. Notice in verse 31 how “their eyes were opened”. Notice further in verse 32 how they said, **“HE opened the scriptures to us”**. Remember in Psalms 127:1 how “Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it”. Without their understanding being opened by the Lord, there was still vanity in these men's knowledge of ELOHIM's Word, even though they were obviously students of the scriptures. Eventually, they were approved. Like those who went before us, we must remember to study and “prove all things”.

There are other examples provided in the scriptures of the “veil” being lifted, but time does not permit (nor is it necessary) to show each example. What we see here is that all things happen in ELOHIM's time. For those whom the “veil” is being lifted in this age 1st Corinthians 4:5 offers this caution:

- 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 ELOHIM.

For those who have been called, and who have chosen to walk according to the Word of ELOHIM, unflinchingly and without wavering, David offers a most wonderful prayer in Psalms 119:41-48, and the following words in Psalms 65:4:

- Psa 65:4 **Blessed is the man whom thou choolest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.**

For all mankind, David offers this insight of hope in Psalms 133:

- Psa 133:1 A Song of degrees of David. **Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!** Psa 133:2 **It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;** Psa 133:3 **As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.**

There is hope!!

8. SUMMARY

Again, my purpose in this article is not to judge or to condemn my fellow man. What is clearly shown in scripture is the condemnation of false practices taught “in the name of” the MESSIAH, which were not designed by the FATHER, and were not made and/or given by the MESSIAH.

However, it is my ultimate desire to entice the reader to take a sincere look at his/her actions on a daily basis, and to identify, through a study of the Word of ELOHIM, and observations of your own daily actions, whom you really serve. Remember, the Apostle Paul admonishes us in 1st Thessalonians 5:21 to “prove all things” and to “hold fast to that which is good”. It is important that all who seriously desire to be servants of ELOHIM revisit the first four commandments, as well as all others given to the only nation that YAHWEH knew. Imprint these commandments on your minds and in your hearts. Why, because the ten commandments must be understood to represent the beginning of “that which is good” given to the servants of ELOHIM?

Responsibility for one’s knowledge of ELOHIM’s Word lies with the individual, not with the minister. Ministers who purposely mislead others, who refuse to repent, will be held responsible for their actions. It is each of us as individuals who must “prove all things”. We must rethink the position previously taught to us that weakens the authority of the scriptures.

Remember the MESSIAH’s Words we read earlier in Yochanan 6:63. The Spirit quickens. YAHSHUA’s words “are spirit” and “are life”.

Paul magnifies a true believer’s conviction.

- 1Co 2:11 For **what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of ELOHIM knoweth no man, but the Spirit of ELOHIM**. 1Co 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of ELOHIM; **that we might know the things that are freely given to us of ELOHIM**.

These words by the Apostle Paul refer to our own minds and of the mind of ELOHIM. YAHSHUA taught us that ELOHIM would send us the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, to teach us that part of the mind of ELOHIM we need to obtain eternal life.

Once we repent, get baptized, and diligently began to study and prove all things in faith, the Spirit of truth teaches us the mind of the MESSIAH, just as the Apostle teaches.

- 1Co 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

And as verse is suggesting, what are the things given to us freely by ELOHIM? Remember what the MESSIAH told the rich man in Luke 18:18-20. To enter into eternal life, “keep the commandments”. We have allowed ourselves to be taught that ELOHIM’s laws were only for the Jewish people. Yet, everything in the Bible points to the Nation of Yisrael and is thee for all to read!

We have read how that the MESSIAH is prophesied to rule over the Nation of Yisrael forever (Luke 1:33). Notice what the MESSIAH said to HIS disciples when questioned by Peter about their futures in the Kingdom of ELOHIM.

- Mat 19:28 And YAHSUA said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That **ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.** Mat 19:29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

This is the MESSIAH’s own prophesy regarding HIS reward to the twelve (12) that walked with HIM. Notice Ezekiel’s prophecy about the Nation of Yisrael’s future in Ezekiel 37:1-14. Yisrael is metaphorically pictured here as dry bones that are brought back to life and given YAHWEH’s Spirit and placed back in its own land, Yisrael! The Apostle Paul explains in Romans 11:25-32 that Yisrael was blinded so that others might be grafted in. In verse 26 he says, “all Yisrael shall be saved”. And, knowing that certainly not every Yisraelite shall be spiritually saved, please see my article “Why Did The MOST HIGH Choose Yisrael?”, to gain an in-depth understanding of what the Apostle is teaching here.

Notice the agreement between the Old and New Testaments.

It is mankind, desiring to live not according to the laws of the MOST HIGH but according to the laws of man, that has created the differences!

When we consider and accept the reality that the MESSIAH of the New Testament is also the very member of the family of ELOHIM that called out the COY and spoke to the prophets of old, maybe we can begin to understand what the New Covenant truly is! Notice what the ELOHIM of Yisrael spoke through the Prophet Jeremiah (Yeremyah).

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

The New Covenant is prophesied to begin with the House of Yisrael and the House of Yehudah, the COY. Let's look at how the New Testament describes the New Covenant that true "Christians" are under and whether it differs from the covenant prophesied about the Nation of Yisrael. The Book of Hebrews, the 8th chapter should rightly be titled the New Covenant chapter. First notice verses 6 and 8.

- Heb 8:6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also **he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.**
- 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:

YAHSHUA is the new mediator of a better covenant. HE found fault with the Old to give us a new one based on better promises. Now, notice how in verses 8 through 13 the New Covenant is the same as described by the prophet Yeremyah! Understand this about this “New Covenant”, these are ELOHIM’s laws being put into the minds and written in the hearts of men and women!

What are ELOHIM’s laws? Since it is the prophets of old who wrote this “New Covenant”, are the commandments of ELOHIM excluded with the new? Notice what the Apostle Paul said about ELOHIM’s law in Romans 7:12. “The law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.” Is Paul talking about the laws of man here?

We have seen how the teachings of all the apostles (including Paul) were founded upon the scriptures, the Old Testament. These scriptures equip the man of ELOHIM “for every good work”.

Notice how we are prepared for the New Covenant in the Old Testament by David.

- Psa 40:6 **Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.** Psa 40:7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book *it is* written of me, Psa 40:8 **I delight to do thy will, O my ELOHIM:** yea, *thy law is within my heart.*

By the Prophet Hosea, ELOHIM says:

- Hos 6:6 For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

ELOHIM has always desired that we seek HIS knowledge with our hearts. The law of sacrifices ended with the death of YAHSHUA. It is only through HIS knowledge that we can know the road that leads us to HIM. The ELOHIM of Yisrael has provided us with a surer sacrifice once and for all, HIMSELF. HE has warned us through the Apostle Peter how untaught and unstable people would twist the writings of Paul and the rest of the scriptures to their own destruction (2nd Peter 3:15-16).

We have now seen that the New Covenant is the laws of ELOHIM put in our minds and written on our hearts. Hebrews the 10th chapter thoroughly explains how we are no longer under the sacrificial law. We now have direct access to the MESSIAH and thus to the FATHER. Why would any sincere person desiring to enter into the Kingdom of ELOHIM want to spoil this blessing, knowing that ELOHIM is a jealous ELOHIM?

As we conclude in our seeking the understanding of how to **worship the MOST HIGH in spirit and in truth**, let us look quickly and with an open heart at the city that is promised to “those that do HIS commandments” (Revelation 22:14).

The New Jerusalem is described in detail in Revelations 21:10-22:5. Notice in verse 21:12 that there are twelve gates. On these twelve gates are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Yisrael! The wall of the city has twelve foundations (verse 21:14). On these foundations are the names of the twelve apostles of the MESSIAH!

Notice in verse 22:22 that there is no temple in the city because both members of the family of ELOHIM, the Lord ELOHIM Almighty (the FATHER) and the Lamb (the MESSIAH) are its temple. The reward for obeying the commandments is the right to the tree of life and entrance into the city (verses 22:12-14). Every gate has the name of a tribe of the Nation of Yisrael and every foundation the name of the Apostles of the MESSIAH (each one an Yisraelite)! Notice how that the Old is reestablished with the New.

In this final update of this article, I want to share a few scriptures that I have known for some time, as well as some that have been opened to me in recent years that should enhance our understanding of the WOE. I have spoken about the role of the COY to the salvational plan of ELOHIM. Let’s bring some needed clarity to our mindsets. First, notice words of YAHWEH ELOHIM written by the Prophet Amos.

- Amo 3:1 **Hear this word that YAHWEH hath spoken against you, O children of Israel**, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying, Amo 3:2 **You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.**

The COY were the only family of the earth that YAHWEH had known.

- Hos 11:1 **When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.**

YAHWEH called the COY HIS son. This was a very special relationship. We know that YAHWEH ELOHIM gave HIS laws, statutes and commandments to the COY. As such, for disobedience the COY would be punished for its iniquities. It was punished by being scattered throughout the nations of the world.

- Eze 11:16 Therefore say, Thus saith ADONAI YAHWEH; Although **I have cast them far off among the heathen,** and although **I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come.** Eze 11:17 Therefore say, Thus saith ADONAI YAHWEH; **I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.**

Further study teaches that although the COY are now scattered throughout the nations, when YAHSHUA returns, HE shall gather their remnant and place them back in their land. However, we must not fall in the trap of ignorance about the importance of what ELOHIM gave to the COY. The Apostle Paul spoke elegantly about his people and others who shall have the exact same spiritual opportunity.

- Eph 2:19 Now therefore **ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of ELOHIM;**

Do you want or desire to be a fellow citizen with the saints, and of the Household of Faith (HOF)?

- Eph 2:20 And **are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, YAHSHUA Christ himself being the chief corner** *stone*;

Well, the Apostle teaches that both the saints and the HOF stand on the foundation of both the apostles and prophets. These are the prophets of the COY. As we have spoken, all of the apostles are of the COY. YAHSHUA is the chief corner of these saints who are built on this foundation of the apostles and prophets of the COY.

- Eph 2:21 **In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:** Eph 2:22 In whom ye **also are builded together for an habitation of ELOHIM through the Spirit.**

This is how the saints are measured. They should be this specific building, fit together growing unto a holy temple for a habitation of ELOHIM through the Spirit of Truth.

Too many Hebrew Yisraelites of modernity emphasize the prophets more than the apostles. How can that be? In spirit and truth, please meditate on YAHSHUA's final prayer to the FATHER before HIS death.

- 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.**

These words refer strictly to the disciples of YAHSHUA who became HIS apostles. Note HIS next words very, very, very carefully.

- 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.**

YAHSHUA ONLY prayed for these 12 Yisraelites to whom HE had already promised that they would sit on 12 thrones judging the tribes of Yisrael throughout HIS millennial reign when HE returns. However, it gets a little more interesting.

- Joh 17:20 **Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;**

Now YAHWEH also prays for another group. This group includes ONLY those **who shall believe on YAHSHUA through "their word", whether they be called-out Yisraelites or those called out of the nations.**

Note this well. In this final prayer, **YAHSHUA prays ONLY for HIS 12 apostles and those who shall believe on HIM through the word of these 12.** This is the protocol of the HOF to lead us to the following consistent desire of ELOHIM.

- 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.

As the FATHER and YAHSHUA are one in each other, the HOF is called-out of this world to be one with THEM. This can ONLY happen if we accept the word of these 12. And we know also that YAHSHUA added the Apostle Paul to this group. And through the Apostle, the teachings of the prophets and the apostles have been bridged. Note these words.

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

Here is where we must open our minds to the metaphoric nature of the WOE. If we did not accept and understand that ELOHIM has used metaphors throughout the WOE, we would believe here that salvation is only attainable by Jews (Yehudans) and Greeks. Let me simply state that through study Yehudans represent the COY as a whole, and Greek represents the nations of the world. At the time of this writing the tribe of Yehudah was the primary face of the COY, and Greece (as noted in that the New Testament was written in Greek) maintained a level of preeminence, even though Rome ruled. Paul later enlightens us on this.

So, the Gospel of CHRIST is the power of ELOHIM unto salvation to everyone that believes; to the COY first, and to the nations. The Apostle continues.

- Rom 2:8 But **unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,** Rom 2:9 **Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;** Rom 2:10 **But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:** Rom 2:11 For **there is no respect of persons with ELOHIM.**

These are powerful words for us to digest. Remember, YAHSHUA said that HE only knew the COY, thus HE would punish them. In fact, all the contentious that don't obey the truth, etc., there shall be tribulation and anguish. And yet, there is an order; to the COY first, and then the Gentiles (nations).

However, the Apostle also teaches that glory, honor and peace shall come to those that work good; to the COY first and then to the nations. In this discourse, we are given what the Apostle was giving us earlier as he spoke of the Greek. He was talking about the nations of the world.

Brothers and sisters, this is ELOHIM's protocol. HIS commandments were first given to the COY. And yet they were meant for the entire earth. The COY were told the following about the commandments of ELOHIM by their intercessor, the Prophet Moses.

- Deu 4:5 Behold, **I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as YAHWEH my ELOHIM commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.**

By obedience to YAHWEH's commandments, the COY were promised possession of their land; never spiritual salvation as a whole nation.

- Deu 4:6 Keep therefore and do *them*; for **this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.** Deu 4:7 **For what nation is there so great, who hath ELOHIM so nigh unto them, as YAHWEH our ELOHIM is in all things that we call upon him for?** Deu 4:8 **And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?**

For so doing, the COY would be a light to the nations of the earth.

- Deu 4:9 Only **take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;**

When YAHWEH came into the earth, HE warned all of us, whether of the COY or the nations.

- Mat 15:9 But **in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.**

We talked earlier about the commandments of man versus the commandments of ELOHIM. YAHSHUA continues.

- Mat 19:17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? *there is none good but one, that is, ELOHIM:* but **if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.** Mat 19:18 He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Mat 19:19 Honour thy father and *thy* mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

YAHSHUA taught that to enter into life, we must keep the commandments, with the ten commandments as a starting point. But remember, YAHSHUA was formerly YAHWEH ELOHIM. HE told us what we needed to know.

- Joh 14:15 **If ye love me, keep my commandments.**
- Joh 14:21 **He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me:** and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.
- Joh 15:10 **If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.**

What were YAHSHUA 's commandments? HE first gave them to the COY through Moses. And finally, HE gave us others through HIS servants the apostles, who provided the New Covenant version of those same commandments HE gave to the COY; upgraded for new group, whose promises were greater. These new promises were the entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven, to reign with YAHSHUA. This is the ultimate power of YAHSHUA's commandments.

I ask you in the spirit of love, whose commandments have you chosen to obey, those that cannot be found in scripture, or the commandments of the MOST HIGH that are written throughout all the scripture, the law and the Testimony?

Though the gate is narrow and the way is difficult, it is open to all, for it is ELOHIM's desire that none should perish, but that all should inherit eternal life! To the only nation HE ever knew, HE gave them HIM mindset about death and life.

- Eze 18:31 **Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?** Eze 18:32 For **I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith ADONAI YAHWEH: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.**

Let us all begin to willfully develop our character to discern **the true worship of ELOHIM!** And as you continue to grow, always remember, **the MESSIAH is the ELOHIM of Yisrael and of Abraham, and of Isaac and of Jacob!**

Now what about you???

Shalom!