

The Faith

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Number 2

FEAST OF WEEKS

(PENTECOST)

Deuteronomy 16:10 – And thou shalt keep the FEAST OF WEEKS unto Yahweh thy Elohim with a tribute of a freewill offering of thine hand, which thou shalt give unto Yahweh thy Elohim, according as Yahweh thy Elohim hath blessed thee:

Acts 2:1-4 – And when the day of PENTECOST was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy [Kodesh] Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:17-21 – And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith Elohim, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of Yahweh come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of YAHWEH shall be saved.

Contending for The Faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. Jude 3

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This magazine is published for the sake of truth in honor of our Heavenly Father and His only begotten Son. It upholds the originally inspired Scriptures, teaching to declare all the counsel of The Almighty One. It proclaims the Father's scholarly recognized name, YAHWEH, and the Son's, YAHSHUA, rather than substitutions. It upholds the Ten Commandments, recognizing the name, Yahweh, in the third, and the seventh day Sabbath (not the first day of the week) in the fourth. It stands for baptism (immersion) in the name, Yahshua, the Messiah, according to Acts 2:38 and Matthew 28:19; the ordinance of feet washing and the commemoration of the Messiah's death, at the Passover season; the set times of Unleavened Bread, Weeks (Pentecost), Tabernacles, with all the yearly set apart convocation days of Leviticus 23. It advocates tithing and the observance of Yahweh's laws for our well being including clean foods. It teaches repentance of sin (disobeying Yahweh), and justification by faith in Yahshua, the Messiah, in whom we have redemption through His blood; making right the whole man, physically and spiritually; stressing the importance of the set apart righteous life, and the Power of Yahweh's Spirit of separation teaching the obedient to do His will. It is supported by "called out ones of Yahweh," which is the meaning of "Assembly of Yahweh." It is for those hearing and heeding the call of Revelation 18:4, and is proclaiming to the world that Yahweh reigns, Psalm 96.

Original editor, C.O. Dodd

Our motto: FORWARD WITH THE
ORIGINALLY INSPIRED
SCRIPTURES!

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EDITORIAL

AWAKE, AWAKE

Awake O Israel, put off thy slumber and the truth shall set you free.

Israel, it is time to awake. Awake to righteousness and sin not for some have not the knowledge of Yahweh: I speak this to your shame (1 Corinthians 15:34). Apostle Paul is admonishing the believers at Corinth to awake to the times in which they are living.

We can also relate this passage to today's world. The news is full of one catastrophe after another. The U.S.A. has been plagued with over 800 tornados this year, with droughts in some states, forest fires and swamp fires (Everglades), floods in other areas, etc. Looking at the world scene, we see on the news deadly earthquakes and cyclones (in China and Myanmar), killing thousands.

In the U.S.A. many households are hurting because of the mortgage crisis with foreclosures increasing, the high cost of heating homes in the winter, the cost of gasoline for our automobiles; let alone the high cost of diesel fuel, over \$4.00 a gallon to haul foodstuffs and other goods. The higher fuel prices are showing up in higher grocery store prices already. On the world scene there is the high cost and unavailability of rice which is a staple food for a large percentage of the world's population. The news has shown riots in the streets because of food shortages and higher prices.

The average man or woman reads and sees these reports and is disheartened by the magnitude of problems worldwide. What is a person supposed to do?

Israel's only salvation is from on high. Throughout the Old Testament when Israel would go away from or turn their backs on Yahweh, their actions became a curse and the nation of Israel would be taken over by another nation and be in bondage again. But when they would recognize their error and return to Yahweh, He would forgive them and take them back as His children.

Is it any different now in 2008? Yahweh sees all, knows all, records all; and is a righteous judge in all matters. Yahweh still forgives and welcomes the repentant back into the fold.

Yahshua's admonition in Matthew 6:10-21 is, Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

One of our greatest treasures on earth is the action and power of prayer. Prayer changes our attitude and the attitude of those around us as we enter into prayer. People usually become quiet and are respectful when a prayer is or is about to be spoken.

Yahshua's advice in Matthew 6:6-8 was, But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou has shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

The next five verses in Matthew 6 is the model prayer Yahshua gave His disciples. This prayer covers our daily needs and also we are praying for His Kingdom to come, His will to be done in earth as it is in Heaven. We ask Him to forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Does this passage come right to the point, when in America today the average family is in debt over twelve thousand dollars? Yes, we need to pray earnestly about this. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Yes, we need to pray about the evils that are rampant in our society.

For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Majesty, for ever. With these words we are acknowledging that Yahweh you are in control, everything is yours, we are yours, and we need You in our lives, not just once in a while, but at all times.

We want and need always to remember Matthew 6:9, After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Our Father – my father, my abba – which is in heaven. Hallowed – mentally to venerate Yahweh's Name, (the Name above all Names) – is thy Name.

The awesome respect we must have for Yahweh is set forth in Ecclesiastes 12:13, Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear Elohim, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. Yahshua the Messiah carries forth this message in John 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. 1 John 5:3 – For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. Revelation 22:14 – Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

We then as believers, must keep His commandments and must stay awake and be aware always of the signs of the times. We do not want Him (Yahshua) to find us sleeping. Take heed, watch and pray, for you know not when the time is (Mark 13:32-37).

Samuel A. Graham

Feast of Weeks

Also Called

Feast of Harvest Feast of Firstfruits Pentecost

Exodus 34:22	And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks.
Numbers 28:26-31	Also in the day of the firstfruits, when ye bring a new meat offering unto Yahweh, after your weeks be out. (KJ) At your feast of weeks. (Revised Standard)
Deut. 16:9, 10, 16	Seven weeks shalt thou number unto thee: begin to number the seven weeks from such time as thou beginnest to put the sickle to the corn. (KJ) Feast of weeks – 10 th and 16 th verses.
2 Chronicles 8:13	Feast of weeks.
Jeremiah 5:24	He reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.

WHEN TO START THE COUNT FOR THE FEAST OF WEEKS

Leviticus 23:10-16	When ye come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. ... And ye shall eat neither parched corn, nor green ears until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering ... it shall be a statute for ever ... And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the Sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete .
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(Note in Rotherham – seven weeks)

(Quote from Dugger) – In Leviticus 23, v. 15, it says you are to number unto you seven Sabbaths, refers to seven weeks, as all Jews who understand the Hebrew language know. They had no word for week in their language at that time and always used the Hebrew word for Sabbath. The days were counted: “First after Sabbath, 2nd of, or after Sabbath, 3rd of Sabbath,” etc. through the entire week. This same usage is

found in the N.T. concerning the resurrection of Yahshua: “First of the Sabbath,” etc. Most Bible dictionaries also explain this usage correctly and avoid confusion.

The day of Pentecost, the year of the crucifixion, took place also on Friday, and not on Sunday, as many erroneously teach. Mt. Zion Reporter, Dugger.

Joshua 5:10-12

...and kept the Passover on the 14th day ...And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the Passover (15th), unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day. And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more (manna ceased 16th); but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year. (fruit – Strong’s Concordance #8393, income, i.e. produce)

Rotherham – So they did eat of the yield of the land of Canaan throughout that year.

Note: They were not to eat of the new crop until they had offered the firstfruits on the morrow after the sabbath.

Editors note: The “Passover” used in the following quotes is erroneous. Feast of Unleavened is correct. Quotes from Unger’s Bible Dictionary.

The Time of the Festival. The time fixed for celebrating the Pentecost is the fiftieth day from “The morrow after the Sabbath:” of the Passover (Lev. 23:11, 15, 16; or, as given in Deut. 16:9, seven full weeks after the sickle was put to the corn. The precise meaning of the word Sabbath in this connection, which determines the date for celebrating this festival, has been from time immemorial a matter of dispute. The Boethusians and the Sadduces in the time of the second temple, and the Karaites since the 8th century of the Christian era, have taken “Sabbath” in the sense of the “Seventh day of the week,” and have maintained that the omer was offered on the day following that weekly Sabbath which might happen to fall within the seven days of the Passover. This would make Pentecost always come on the first day of the week. Against this many arguments are presented, showing that such an opinion involves many arbitrary and improbable arrangements. Commenting on Lev. 23:15-22, K. and D. (Com., in loco) say that “Sabbaths (v. 15) signifies weeks. Consequently, “the morrow after the seventh Sabbath” v. 16 is the day after the seventh week, not after the seventh Sabbath.” It is therefore evident that the Jews, who during the second temple kept Pentecost fifty days after the 16th Nisan, rightly interpreted the injunction in Lev. 23:15-22. The fiftieth day, according to the Jewish canons, may fall on the 5th, 6th, or 7th of Sivan. Page 356-357

The 16th Nisan, Cutting Barley Sheaf. This day was also called “the morrow after the Sabbath,” and on it the omer of the first produce of the harvest (i.e. barley) was waved before Yahweh (Lev. 23:10-14). Page 355

Barley Sheaf: On the second feast day (16th Nisan) the first sheaf of the new harvest (barley) was symbolically offered to Yahweh by waving – not burned on the altar – Page 353

Sabbath, Morrow after the (Heb. maharath hashshabbath). A term of disputed meaning (Lev. 23:11, 15), occurring in connection with the feast of the Passover. The Sabbath referred to is not the weekly Sabbath, but the day of rest, the first day of holy convocation of the Passover, the fifteenth Abib (Nisan). As a day of rest on which no laborious work was to be performed (v. 8), the first day of the feast is called “Sabbath,” irrespectively of the day of the week upon which it fell. Thus “the morrow after the Sabbath” is equivalent to “the morrow after the Passover” (Josh. 5:11).

COUNT FOR FEAST OF WEEKS (Pentecost)

Abib 14	Crucifixion (Wednesday)
Abib 15	1 st day of Feast, High-Sabbath, Thursday, Savior in tomb
Abib 16	1 st day of count for 50 days, Morrow after Sabbath, Manna ceased. Savior in tomb (Friday)
Abib 17	2 nd day of count, Savior resurrected (7 th day Sabbath)
1	3 rd day of count, Savior seen alive for <u>40 days</u> (1 st day after resurrected)
2	4 th day of count
3	5 th day of count
4	6 th day of count
5	7 th day of count (One week of 7 days)
6	8 th day of count
7	9 th day of count
8	10 th day of count
9	11 th day of count
10	12 th day of count
11	13 th day of count
12	14 th day of count (Two Weeks)
13	15 th day of count
14	16 th day of count
15	17 th day of count
16	18 th day of count
17	19 th day of count
18	20 th day of count
19	21 st day of count (Three Weeks)
20	22 nd day of count
21	23 rd day of count
22	24 th day of count
23	25 th day of count
24	26 th day of count
25	27 th day of count
26	28 th day of count (Four Weeks)
27	29 th day of count
28	30 th day of count
29	31 st day of count
30	32 nd day of count

31	33 rd day of count
32	34 th day of count
33	35 th day of count (Five Weeks)
34	36 th day of count
35	37 th day of count
36	38 th day of count
37	39 th day of count
38	40 th day of count
39	41 st day of count
40	42 nd day of count (Six Weeks) End of <u>40 days</u> . Savior caught up.
	43 rd day of count 1 st day of tarrying
	44 th day of count 2 nd day of tarrying
	45 th day of count 3 rd day of tarrying
	46 th day of count 4 th day of tarrying
	47 th day of count 5 th day of tarrying
	48 th day of count 6 th day of tarrying
	49 th day of count 7 th day of tarrying (Seven Weeks)
	50 th day of count 50 th day – FEAST OF WEEKS (Pentecost)

The Savior was in the tomb 2 days of count (Abib 16 and 17). He was seen alive for 40 days, which makes 42 days. He told His disciples to tarry (wait) in Jerusalem “until ye be endued with power from on high.” (Luke 24:49). They tarried seven days and received the Holy [Kodesh] Spirit on the 50th day (Acts 2).

Editors Note: The preceding article by N. Bigford (deceased) was printed in The Faith May-June, 1978.

Smith’s Bible Dictionary – **Pentecost**, that is, the fiftieth day (from a Greek word meaning fiftieth), or Harvest Feast, or Feast of Weeks, may be regarded as a supplement to the Passover. It lasted for but one day. From the sixteenth of Nisan seven weeks were reckoned inclusively, and the next or fiftieth day was the day of Pentecost ...

An Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words by W.E. Vine – **Pentecost** – Pentekostos, an adjective denoting fiftieth, is used as a noun, with “day” understood, i.e., the fiftieth day after the Passover, counting from the second day of the Feast ...

The Bible Almanac – On the second day of the Festival [Feast of Unleavened Bread], a priest waved a sheaf of first-ripe barley before [Yahweh] to consecrate the beginning harvest. **The Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)**. This festival was observed 50 days after the offering of the barley sheaf at the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It marked the end of the harvest and the beginning of the seasonal offering of first fruits.

Josephus – Concerning the Festivals – 5. ... But on the second day of unleavened bread, which is the sixteenth day of the month, they first partake of the fruits of the earth, for before that day they do not touch them. ... 6. When a week of weeks has passed over after this sacrifice, (which weeks contain forty and nine days,) on the fiftieth day, which is Pentecost, ...

Let's Resolve The Genealogy in Matthew Once and For All

by Robert Wells

When reading the genealogy of Yahshua in Matthew chapter one and Luke chapter three, the serious student of the scriptures should recognize a major problem.

Let's examine these genealogies to see if there is a solution to the many questions that arise when comparing the two genealogies.

Matthew 1:17 "So all the generations from Abraham to David *are* fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon *are* fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto the Messiah are fourteen generations." There were three sets of fourteen generations according to Matthew.

The problem is in the third set of fourteen generations, the generations from the carrying away into Babylon unto the Messiah. From the carrying away into Babylon unto the Messiah there are only thirteen generations listed in most English translations.

The following is the traditional understanding of Yahshua's genealogical record in Matthew chapter one:

First Series	Second Series	Third Series
1. Abraham	1. Solomon	1. Shealtiel
2. Isaac	2. Rehoboam	2. Zerubabel
3. Jacob	3. Abiyah	3. Abiud
4. Judah	4. Asa	4. Eliachim
5. Perez	5. Jehoshaphat	5. Azor
6. Hesron	6. Jehoram	6. Zadok
7. Aram	7. Uzziah	7. Achim
8. Aminadab	8. Jotham	8. Eliud
9. Nahshon	9. Ahaz	9. Eleazar
10. Salmon	10. Hezekiah	10. Mathan
11. Boaz	11. Manasseh	11. Jacob
12. Obed	12. Amon	12. Joseph (husband of Miriam)
13. Jesse	13. Josiah	13. Yahshua
14. David	14. Jechoniah	

As if the discrepancy discovered in Matthew 1:17 were not enough, when comparing the genealogy of Yahshua in Matthew 1 to that in Luke 3 a whole series of questions arise because both genealogies are saying that Joseph, the last generation before Yahshua, was the husband of Miriam. The following table represents the genealogy of Yahshua in Luke chapter 3. The text actually starts with Yahshua and goes backwards to Abraham, but for the sake of comparing the two genealogies, I have started with Abraham, just as Matthew did.

First Series	Second Series	Third Series
1. Abraham	1. Nathan	1. Shealtiel
2. Isaac	2. Mattatha	2. Zerubabel
3. Jacob	3. Menan	3. Rhesa
4. Judah	4. Mal'ah	4. Joanan

First Series	Second Series	Third Series
5. Perez	5. Eliakim	5. Judah
6. Hesron	6. Jonan	6. Joseph
7. Aram	7. Joseph	7. Semei
8. Aminadab	8. Judah	8. Mattathiah
9. Nahshon	9. Simeon	9. Maath
10. Salmon	10. Levi	10. Nagge
11. Boaz	11. Matthat	11. Esli
12. Obed	12. Jorim	12. Nahum
13. Jesse	13. Eleazer	13. Amos
14. David	14. Yehoshua	14. Mathathiah
	15. Er	15. Joseph
	16. Elmodam	16. Janna
	17. Cosam	17. Melchi
	18. Addi	18. Levi
	19. Melchi	19. Matthat
	20. Neri	20. Heli
		21. Joseph (husband of Miriam)
		22. Yahshua

Some questions:

- Why are there only 13 generations listed from the Captivity of Babylon to Yahshua, in Matthew's account? Doesn't Matthew say there should be 14 generations?
- Why does Luke list 20 generations in the second series, and 22 in the third? If this is the same Joseph, shouldn't there be 14 generations in the second and third series of Luke as well?
- Why do the lineages of Joseph, the husband of Mary, almost completely differ in the two accounts?
- How can Yahshua be the Son of David, if Mary is not a daughter of David?
- If both Matthew and Luke give the genealogy of Joseph, the one through the lineage of Solomon, the other through that of Nathan - how can the lines converge in Joseph?
- How can Joseph claim descent from King David, through **both** Nathan **and** Solomon?

When I was working on the first edition of The Word of Yahweh, I was reading everything I could get my hands on that related to the scriptures. I learned about a Hebrew version of Matthew called the DuTillet Matthew, and James Trimm, who was also working on a Sacred Name translation of the scriptures at the same time, pointed out that the DuTillet version of Matthew added a generation to that third set of fourteen generations. In verse 13 most translations read "And Zerubbabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor". "DuTillet adds a generation: "and Abiud begat Abner; and Abner begat Eliakim..." That is how I dealt with this apparent error in Matthew. I took the added generation, Abner, that DuTillet has in Matthew 1:13, put it in brackets, and added a footnote.

At the time I didn't realize the significance of the fact that the DuTillet Matthew was a medieval document. DuTillet Matthew was written in the Middle Ages. Whether

DuTillet copied an original Hebrew Matthew, or whether he translated a Greek text is a debate for people more scholarly than myself. But what is very interesting is that the Aramaic Peshitta offers a simple solution to the genealogy problem in Matthew chapter 1 and Luke chapter 3.

Matthew 1:16 “And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Miriam, of whom was born Yahshua, who is called the Messiah.” The word that is translated as husband is “gawra” in the Aramaic text.

In modern Aramaic script, with vowel points, this word would be pronounced “gura” and it would be vowel pointed as follows.

Or#bg (Gura) Husband

However, when the New Testament scriptures were being translated into Greek from Aramaic there were no vowel points!

This word, without vowel points, can mean man, husband, father, son, or uncle. Gawra is best translated as "man" when no other relationship clues are present. However, when there is a clarification given in the context, the word gawra takes on the more specific meaning.

There are places in the Aramaic New Testament that clearly indicate the meaning of gawra to be father.

“Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?” Matthew 7:9 WOY The word translated as man in this verse is gawra in Aramaic. Clearly this can be translated as father.

“And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a *certain* man, kneeling down to him, and saying, Master, have mercy on my son...” Matthew 17:14-15 WOY. Again, the word man in this passage is gawra in Aramaic and the meaning is undoubtedly father.

“But what think ye? A *certain* man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.” Matthew 21:28 WOY Again, this man is definitely a father!

If the Greek New Testament is a translation from Aramaic, then when the translators came to the word “gawra” in Matthew 1:16 they had to make a choice. Is this Joseph the husband of Miriam or is this Joseph her father?

This is a very important question because if the Joseph in Matthew 1:16 is Miriam’s father then the genealogy mystery in Matthew chapter 1 is solved! Also, this genealogy then becomes the genealogy of Miriam, and not her husband’s genealogy, as has been taught by all that say that the Greek New Testament texts are the original texts. On the other hand, if this Joseph is Miriam’s husband, then Joseph is of the same generation as Miriam, and it appears that a whole generation in the third set of fourteen generations in Matthew 1 seems to be missing!

Is the Aramaic word “gawra” the key to the missing generation dilemma in Matthew chapter 1? Should the word “gawra” have been translated as father instead of husband?

In my mind, the answer is yes. I base this on the fact that Matthew used an entirely different word just three verses later for Joseph, the husband of Miriam! “Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privately.” Matthew 1:19 WOY. In this verse the Aramaic Peshitta has the word baalah (h9lb). This second word, baalah, is a form of the word baal. Unlike “gawra”, this word has much less flexibility. In Hebrew and Aramaic the word baal originally meant “lord”, or sometimes “husband”. When used as a name, Baal was also a pagan deity. When the Israelites fell into idolatry, many times it was the worship of Baal

that enticed them. In New Testament times this word continued to mean “husband” and “master”. I don’t believe that Matthew would cause confusion by using two different words for the same man within just three verses. I believe that the Joseph in verse 16 is Miriam’s father, and the Joseph in verse 19 is her husband. In context there is no confusion in the Aramaic and the missing generation was there all along. This is yet another passage of scripture that is cleared up if the original texts were Aramaic, and not Greek.

If the New Testament was originally written in Aramaic, then the genealogy in Matthew 1 is Miriam’s genealogical line and the one in Luke chapter 3 is Joseph’s, the husband of Miriam’s line. This clears up all of the above questions.

The corrected genealogy in Matthew 1 looks like this in table form:

First Series	Second Series	Third Series
1. Abraham	1. Solomon	1. Shealtiel
2. Isaac	2. Rehoboam	2. Zerubabel
3. Jacob	3. Abiyah	3. Abiud
4. Judah	4. Asa	4. Eliachim
5. Perez	5. Jehoshaphat	5. Azor
6. Hesron	6. Jehoram	6. Zadok
7. Aram	7. Uzziah	7. Achim
8. Aminadab	8. Jotham	8. Eliud
9. Nahshon	9. Ahaz	9. Eleazar
10. Salmon	10. Hezekiah	10. Mathan
11. Boaz	11. Manasseh	11. Jacob
12. Obed	12. Amon	12. Joseph (<u>father of Miriam</u>)
13. Jesse	13. Josiah	13. Miriam
14. David	14. Jechoniah	14. Yahshua

May Yahweh bless you with a good understanding of His Word.

SIN

Sin will take you farther than you want to go

And

Sin will keep you longer than you want to stay

And

Sin will cost you more than you want to pay.

Submitted by Susan Mungjoy

ON BEING A SERVANT

We serve our Creator by serving others. The world defines greatness in terms of power, possessions, prestige, or position. Our Heavenly Father, however, measures greatness in terms of service, not status. He determines your greatness by how many people you serve, not how many people serve you. This is so contrary to the world's idea of greatness that we have a hard time understanding it, much less practicing it.

The disciples even argued about who deserved the most prominent position. And now, over 2000 years later, leaders still jockey for position and prominence in churches as well as in the secular world.

Everyone wants to be a leader. No one wants to be a servant. We would rather be generals than privates. Our Messiah, however, was glad to call himself a servant. He did menial tasks that others avoided. He washed people's feet (John 13:1-17). He helped children (Matthew 19:13-15). He fixed breakfast. He served lepers. Nothing was beneath Him. He came here to serve and we should strive to be like Him.

Remember, you were shaped – that is created – for service. Knowing your shape (your talent) is important, but having a servant's heart is even more important. Without a servant's heart, you may be tempted to use your talents only for your own personal gain.

We also may be asked to serve in ways we are not talented. If you see a man fall into a ditch, you would help him out. You wouldn't say, "I don't have the talent of mercy." While you may not be gifted for a particular task, you may be called to do it if no one who is gifted at it, is around. Your primary service should be in the area of your talent but your secondary service is wherever you are needed at that moment. No special talent or gift is required to stay after a meeting to take out the trash or stack up chairs.

A real servant pays attention to needs. They are always on the lookout for ways to help others. When they see a need they seize the moment, just as the Scripture commands us in Galatians 6:10 – Whenever we have the opportunity, we have to do what is good for everyone especially for the family of believers. Paul gathered brushwood for a fire to warm everyone after a shipwreck. He was just as exhausted as everyone else, but he did what everyone needed. When someone in need is right in front of you, you have the opportunity to grow into servanthood.

We miss many occasions for serving because we lack sensitivity and spontaneity. Great opportunities to serve never last long. They pass quickly, sometimes never to return again. You may only get one chance to serve that person, so take advantage of the moment. ...

A great reformer John Wesley's motto was, "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."

Begin by looking for small tasks that no one else wants to do. Do these little things as if they were great things and eventually you will be given great things to do. Whatever you do, do it with all your heart. Do not wait for perfect conditions or until you are perfect. The truth is, almost everything we do is done poorly the first time we do it. It doesn't have to be perfect to be blessed. Small tasks often show a big heart.

Sometimes you serve upward to those in authority and sometimes you serve downward to those in need. Either way, you develop a servant's heart. True servants finish their tasks, keep their promises, and complete their commitments. They don't leave a job half done, or quit when they get discouraged. They are dependable and are trustworthy.

GIFTS

On the last day of the Feast of Unleavened someone mentioned that we all have gifts and should search them out. I was awakened that night at 3:00 a.m. and the Holy [Kodesh] Spirit directed me to write these words regarding “gifts”.

What is a talent or a gift? We all have them. Is one gift better than or greater than another? Does it make a difference how it is used to be of great value and how do we consider its value or importance? Is it how much money we make with it or how famous we become or whether we perform in front of an audience big or small? Most important is that it be done with all our Heart, Mind, Soul and Strength for the Honor and Glory [high esteem] to the Almighty Yahweh our Creator who gave us these talents, gifts, and everything for that matter. So everything we do, say, think, hear, look at etc., is a gift from Yahweh which makes that gift special whether it be big, small, great, famous, before a crowd or audience, together or alone.

What makes that gift special depends on the Purpose for which the gift is presented. Is it for fame, riches or attention, or any reason other than giving back to Yahweh in appreciation for His giving; not for our gain or approval for ourselves. Singing in a choir, dancing, speaking to a group, as long as it is giving the best we know how at the time back to Yahweh who gave it. He gives all things and all good things are gifts which must be given back to Yahweh; the best of your ability, great or small; for His ways are not our ways nor His thoughts our thoughts.

It is certain that Satan’s [the adversary’s] evil ways change the hearts of some men to do evil, for most of the things in this world are done for personal gain or satisfaction or egoism (without thought of Yahweh) and not done without paying a price. The evil one has taken the good gift that Yahweh has given and caused or changed it for evil because he wants to be worshiped and higher than his Creator.

Yahweh tells us through Paul in Romans 12:2, to be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of our mind. Matthew 6:20 tells us to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust corrupts and in verse 33, to seek first His kingdom and righteousness.

The adversary has twisted the things of this world for evil, trying to take all spirituality out of this world to make us like him; trying to strip us of the good that Yahweh created; **but we were born for spiritual things.** When the adversary reminds you of your past, you remind him of his future; and that Yahweh did not promise us a smooth ride through this life, but did promise us a smooth landing. HalleluYah!

Submitted by Douglas Panetta

Announcing!

THE 24TH ANNUAL UNITY CONFERENCE

To be held at the Assembly of Yahweh – 7th Day, Cisco, Texas

August 1, 2 and 3, 2008

All brethren of good will are invited to attend and enjoy the fellowship with Yahweh's people, and to join in the Biblical discussions. Various speakers throughout the three-day event will make Unity Conference Presentations. The first session will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, August 1, 2008.

The local Assembly members will be providing lunch and dinner on Friday and Sabbath. Lunch will be provided on Sunday. If you know you will be attending, please let them know so they will have a better idea of how much food to prepare. You may contact the Assembly at P.O. Box 509, Cisco, TX 76437 or by phone (254) 643-1534.

The location is ten miles south of Cisco, Texas on US Hwy 183 to 109 County Road 280. Campsites are available on the grounds and motels are listed below (with Cisco 10 minutes away and Eastland 20 minutes away).

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Cisco | - Best Western, (254) 442-3735
- Knight's Inn, (254) 442-3040
- Oak Motel, (254) 442-2100 |
| Eastland | - Budget Host Inn, (254) 629-3324
- Ramada Inn, (254) 629-2655
- La Quinta, (254) 629-1414 |

Please contact the Assembly at the above address or telephone number for information on where to send an outline of the topic you wish to present and send one copy to Samuel Graham, 1020 Scout Road, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827, (517) 663-3724 at least one month before the Conference. Please bring at least 50 copies with you to the Conference.

Please be aware the trip is worth it! You will be glad you visited. The Unity Conference is truly a blessing to those who attend.

ON BEING A SERVANT

(Continued from Page 19)

Do not be discouraged if your service goes unnoticed. When you work for the Master, nothing you do is a waste of time or effort. If you teach developmentally delayed children, clean up after sick or elderly people, counsel emotionally needy youths; or even if you just give a cup of cold water "to one of the least of my followers, you have given it unto me" (Matthew 10:42).

So my fellow servants, go forth and serve and be open to the recognizing of other people's service.

Mark Holsti

Song Harvest presents:

Remember Who You Are

Our third album of original, sacred name music has eleven songs of worship, praise, and rejoicing, professionally recorded in a mix of styles.

For example, "Remember Who You Are" is a high-energy song that reminds, You are the King's child. "Rejoice" exults that our names are in heaven. A jazzed up "The Resurrection Story" taunts, Hey grave, where is thy victory today? The haunting "When I cry to Yahweh" finds comfort in David's psalms of the Messiah, and the evocative "Passover Day" recalls the Messiah's sufferings on our behalf.

Don't miss this companion to our previous albums, Song Harvest and What Is His Name. Suggested donations for Remember Who You Are - \$10.00, What Is His Name - \$12.00, Song Harvest - \$11.00. Be sure to include your name and shipping address.

For ordering or additional information, visit us on the web at www.halleluyah.org/harvest.htm; e-mail harvest@halleluyah.org; call 1-800-588-9675; or write Song Harvest, P.O. Box 183, Cisco, TX 76437.

Songs For Yahweh

Go to www.songsforyahweh.com on the internet. The music is free for you to download onto your computer and listen to at any time you wish. You may also burn the files onto a compact disk. To order these songs on CD, send a donation of \$2.00 for each CD you would like. For all 9 CD's send a donation of \$18.00. Make all checks and money orders out to Linda Arthur and mail to Songs For Yahweh, P.O. Box 6, Wallace SC 29596. Please specify which CD's you want to order. For more information call (843) 535-0115.

More Songs Available

Music that is inspired and anointed by the Spirit of Yahvah has been written and ministered by Tammy Robinson and we are making it available to you.

Titles available are: A Child's Heart, Heal Them with Your Love, Sacrifice, and Stand. Cassette Tape \$10.00, Compact Disc \$15.00. *These are suggested donation amounts to help cover production costs. If you are inspired to contribute a larger amount, please know that your donations are always appreciated. However, we understand if you are unable to contribute or would like to contribute less.*

Contact Information: First Assembly of Yahvah, 806 RSCR 3330, Emory, TX 75440, (903) 473-6268, www.assemblyofyahvah.com.

THE WORD OF YAHWEH

2nd Edition

The Word of Yahweh (2nd Edition) is now available with three cover choices: **Bonded Leather; Hard Cover; and Soft Cover (Lexotone Perfect Bound)**. If you have not placed your order yet, please fill in the order form below to order your copy now. Make check or money order payable to: **Assembly of Yahweh, 1017 N. Gunnell Road, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 (USA)**. Michigan residents add 6% sales tax.

Prices are listed below: **Please note the price change for a case of Leather**

- Bonded Leather - \$40.00 each when purchased singly, \$35.00 each in carton (case) of 10.
- Hard Cover - \$25.00 each when purchased singly, \$20.00 each in carton (case) of 10.
- Soft Cover - \$20.00 each when purchased singly, \$15.00 each in carton (case) of 12.

Shipping and Handling costs are as follows: **Please note changes**

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- United States - Per carton (case) of 10 or 12
\$20.00 per case, media mail
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- Canada - \$10.00 each, priority mail intl.
\$50.00 per case (10 or 12), priority mail intl.
- All Other Foreign Countries - \$11.00 each, priority mail intl. Contact Post Office for per case cost approx. 28 lbs. per case.

If you would like to donate a copy and or copies to someone in the USA, send \$25.00 each (includes S&H-priority mail, Soft Cover only). If you would like to donate a copy or copies to someone in a Foreign Country (India, Africa, Philippines, etc.), send \$35.00 each (includes S&H-priority mail, Soft Cover only).

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Please note: As of September 16, 2007, until further notice, the Assembly of Yahweh, Eaton Rapids, MI, can not take any new requests for free copies of The Word of Yahweh.

Songs of Deliverance

An uplifting and thought provoking CD of songs written and recorded by D. R. Smith is available for a donation of \$5.00. Be inspired by songs such as *Come To Me He Cries*, *The Joy Yahshua Brings To Me*, *The Great Cloud of Witnesses* and many more that glorify Yahweh and His Son Yahshua.

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Yahweh's

2008 Calendar

New Moon Days	YAHSHUA'S MEMORIAL (Passover) APRIL 21 Celebrate APRIL 20 after sunset	Annual Convocation Days
	FESTIVAL OF UNLEAVENED BREAD APRIL 22 through APRIL 28	
Jan. 10		April 22
Feb. 9		April 28
Mar. 9	FEAST (appointment) OF WEEKS JUNE 11	June 11
Apr. 8	See Leviticus 23:10, 11, 15, 16, 21	Oct. 2
May 7		Oct. 11
June 5	FEAST (appointment) OF TRUMPETS OCTOBER 2	Oct. 16
July 5		Oct. 23
Aug. 3		
Sept. 2	DAY (appointment) OF ATONEMENT OCTOBER 11	
Oct. 2		7 days in all – the number of completeness
Oct. 31 (Borderline)	FEAST OF TABERNACLES (Booths or Huts) OCTOBER 16 through OCTOBER 22	
Nov. 30		
Dec. 29	LAST GREAT DAY OCTOBER 23	

Begin YAHWEH's days with the sunset preceding the indicated Roman days lasting till the next sunset.

ON BEING A SERVANT

(Continued from Page 13)

A lot of people don't know the meaning of commitment. They make promises casually then break them for the slightest reasons without hesitation and without remorse or regret. Every week churches and other organizations must improvise because volunteers didn't prepare, didn't show up and didn't even call to say they weren't coming.

Abraham, Moses, Samuel, David, Daniel, Timothy and Paul were all called faithful servants. Imagine what it will feel like one day to hear, "Well done thou good and faithful servant. Enter into thy rest."

Do not call attention to yourself. Paul exposed a kind of service that appeared to be spiritual, but was really just a "put on" – a show, an act. This was the sin of the Pharisees. They turned helping others, giving offerings and even prayer into a performance (Luke 18:9-14).

There are 750 Halls of Fame in America and more than 450 Who's Who publications, but even though the people listed in them are prominent, very few are significant. The most significant service is often unseen. What you do in secret will be rewarded openly.

(Continued on Page 15)

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