

# The Faith

Volume 71

7-9, 2007

Number 3

## **Is Yahweh Warning His Creation Concerning End Time Prophecy?**

Romans 15:4 -- For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

The U.S. and World news is constantly showing floods, forest fires, high winds, tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes, tsunamis, etc.

The Book of Revelation alerts all regarding the end time occurrences.

Revelation 8:5 -- And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

Revelation 8:6 -- And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

**Are we heeding Yahshua's warnings (through John); and returning to Yahweh's commandments before Yahshua the Messiah returns? Revelation 19:11-21**

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

VOLUME 71

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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**

# **Is the Bride Preparing for the Great Wedding Feast The Marriage Supper of the Lamb?**

Before a wedding the couple usually take their prospective mates around to meet each others family; first the parents then aunts, uncles and cousins presumably to establish a good relationship within that group of people.

As the bride of Yahshua is preparing herself, we should be establishing our relationship with Yahshua the Messiah, our soon coming King and Saviour.

Why does a person want to establish a closeness with someone who lived on this earth almost 2,000 years ago? We are living in the year 2007 in a land of plenty (United States): new automobiles, plenty of homes available to purchase, grocery stores stocked with all kinds of food. If we want to take a bus or train trip or fly around the world, that's available too. There are many churches and preachers, priests and rabbis who invite you to their church or synagogue. There are services every Sunday, some even keep the seventh day Sabbath. They have large auditoriums and gymnasiums; activities for everyone (sewing circles, day trips to amuse ourselves, Octoberfests with beer tents and pig roasts), day care for the little ones, etc. They even have Bible studies and midweek prayer meetings. What more could you ask for?

Even with all of the above mentioned things, sometimes we need something more. Some one who really loves us and cares about us, who would even die for us. When we look around, we realize this is a pretty large order to fill. Yes, there are those people willing to give a kind word, some financial help, and even some hours of helpful labor. But, still there are times you feel alone and need a friend to talk with or confide in. Where do we turn, who do we turn to? The answer is, of course, Yahshua the Messiah.

When we heed help, is there a way back to righteousness? Yes, the Word of Yahweh declares it. An example is in Acts 2. After Peter related to the people that they had killed Yahshua the righteous one, and that His blood was upon their heads; he then told them to repent of their sin. Verses 22-24, Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Yahshua of Nazareth, a man approved of Elohim among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which Elohim did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of Elohim, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have impaled and slain: Whom Elohim hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be held by it. Verses 36-40, Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that Elohim hath made that same Yahshua, whom ye have impaled, both Sovereign and Messiah. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua the Messiah for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy [Kodesh] Spirit. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as Yahweh our Elohim shall call. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

The definition of the word untoward (#4646 in Strong's Concordance) is: warped, winding, perverse, crooked and forward. You can see by this definition that the world hasn't changed much. When we look around, we see this world is full of crooked and evil perverseness.

What do we do when we find ourselves in these situations? We must take Peter's admonition to heart. Peter knew first hand that he needed Yahshua's blood to cover his sins, his forward tongue, before he was converted. Remember the words in Luke 22:31-32, And the Master said, Simon, Simon [Peter], behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. Strengthen (#4241 in Strong's) – to set fast, to turn resolutely in a certain direction, to confirm, stablish. Yes, even the disciple Peter had to be converted and change.

And so in 2007, when a man (or woman) finds himself (or herself) in a sinful, or low esteem state of mind and feeling all alone, it is time to return to the One who loves us, who died for us, who became the sin for us. 1 Peter 2:24-25, Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree; that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

There is a decision we each need to make. Do I want to be at that great Marriage Supper of the Lamb? John wrote in Revelation 19:9, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.

In Matthew 22:11-14, And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in this place not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.

We see by these scriptures that if we want to be at that marriage supper of the Lamb, Yahshua the Messiah, we need to have our wedding garment on. What is the wedding garment? The right doing, repenting, forgiving, keeping Yahweh's commandments, believing in and accepting Yahshua, our righteousness. Let us each strive to be an honored guest at the greatest Wedding Feast of all time.

A Servant, Samuel A. Graham

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## **Revelation 22:16-17**

**16 I Yahshua have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the assemblies. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.**

**17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.**

# GREAT GRACE WAS UPON THEM ALL

John Robinson

Ephesians 2:8 is an oft quoted verse, but I suspect it's seldom understood. The apostle Paul said "by grace are you saved, through faith..." But what is this grace that we are saved by?

In Luke 2:40 we are told that (Yahshua) "was filled with wisdom; and the grace of Yahweh was upon Him." Just what was this grace that was upon Him? In John 1:14 it says "He was full of grace and truth." Again I ask, what is this grace that He was full of?

In Colossians we are told to sing with grace in our hearts. So whatever it is, we too are supposed to be filled with it.

The English word grace is translated from the Greek word "charis". Strong's Concordance defines it as "the divine influence upon the heart and its reflection in the life..." And this Greek word "charis" is followed in the concordance by a very similar word "charisma" which is recognized as a common word in our language. It means gift from Yahweh and this is why the word "charismatic" is used to describe believers who at least attempt to utilize the gifts of the spirit. So instead of neglecting or resisting this divine influence, we are told to stir up the gift/charisma/divine influence that is within us.

In Acts 4:33 it says "with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection...and great grace was upon them all." So whatever this grace was, it was apparent to outside observers. And Barnabas "saw" it in Acts 11:23 when he visited the believers in Antioch and it made him glad. In Galatians 2:9, James and Peter perceived the grace that was given to Paul. In Acts 13:43, Paul and Barnabas encourage both Jews and proselytes (converts) to continue in this grace.

In 1 Corinthians 15:10, the Apostle Paul gave all the credit for his works to the grace of Yahweh which empowered him to "labor more abundantly than the rest." When he prayed for his infirmity to be taken away his prayer was answered "my grace is sufficient for thee." So he gladly accepted his infirmities in exchange for the power of the Messiah.

Surely this is the grace we need today instead of the cheap grace that is being offered by most religious teaching. Many people imply that grace abounds even if we continue in sin, but Paul said in Romans 6 that grace and sin are incompatible. He said in Galatians 2:21, "I do not frustrate the grace of Yahweh." The only way to avoid that is to walk in the spirit so that the righteousness of the law can be fulfilled in us (Romans 8). And he says we can actually fall from grace if we try to establish our own righteousness (Galatians 5).

Many people assume that grace and mercy are almost synonymous terms. But I believe that this is a misconception that inhibits us from asking for and receiving this divine influence that we so terribly need.

Mercy is what we ask for after we sin. But grace is what we ask for in our time of need *before* we sin. I believe this is what empowers us to be new creatures. This divine influence is what enables us to miraculously love our neighbor as ourselves even if they have mistreated us or persecuted us. This divine influence gives us supernatural ability to lay down our lives and to love our Creator with all our hearts, minds, soul and strength. And when this occurs the world can see His reflection in our lives.

# Was the New Testament Written in Aramaic or Greek?

By Robert Wells

I have recently been looking into the idea that the New Testament was originally written in Aramaic. Of course this is not a new idea. Ever since I came out of Roman Catholicism and into the truth of Yahweh's word I have heard that the New Testament was originally written in Hebrew or Aramaic. Without going into a lot of detail, you should know that Aramaic is a Hebrew dialect.

I was sharing some of what I have been learning about the probability of an Aramaic original New Testament with a brother at another assembly, and he said that he disagreed. When I insisted that the evidence for an Aramaic original is very strong, he said something like: "Well it really does not make any difference".

What difference would an Aramaic original New Testament make? It's not really an issue of salvation, or even understanding the basic message of the bible. But it is about the credibility of the claims of Christianity. It is claimed that the NT was originally written in Greek. It is claimed that Yahweh's torah was done away with. We could list other outrageous claims that make no sense in light of what the people of Yahshua's time called the scriptures, that is the tenach or the Old Testament.

Consider the last words of the last Old Testament prophet, Malachi. Malachi 4:4-5 "Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, *with* the statutes and judgments. 5 Behold, I will send you EliYah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of Yahweh:"

And what is the EliYah message? Basically the EliYah message is "My Elohim is Yahweh". In no uncertain terms EliYah showed the priests of Baal that Yahweh is the only all-powerful Elohim and that they were worshipping idols. Psalm 106:36-37 "And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. 37 Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,"

In Exodus 23:13 Yahweh says "And in all *things* that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other elohim, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth."

Now, according to the majority position of Christianity, the New Testament was divinely inspired in Greek. This cannot be so! The Greek scriptures, referring to both Yahweh the Father and Yahshua the Son, use terms such as Theos, Kurios, Xristos, Pnuma Theon, and Pnumotos Hagion. Who are these "people", these beings? Every one of these are well documented pagan titles! What are these names/titles doing in The Word of Yahweh to describe Yahweh and Yahshua? Why would Yahweh Elohim transgress His own law? If the New Testament was inspired in Greek, then not only would Yahweh be transgressing His own law, but He would be forcing all of the NT writers to transgress, also He would be forcing every person reading, translating, and studying the Greek New Testament to transgress. That just does not make sense! Yahweh is not going to say one thing in the Old Testament and then ignore His own words in the NT. He said in Malachi 3:6 "I am Yahweh. I change not ..."

Let's look at some examples of verses in the New Testament translated from Greek original texts that just do not make sense and then see if the same verse in the Aramaic Peshitta makes any sense. Then, if in fact the verse makes more sense from the Aramaic text, try to figure out why the difference. I think we'll see at least a couple of eye openers!

Romans 5:6-8 "For when we were yet without strength, in due time the Messiah died for the wicked. For scarcely for a righteous {Strong's #1342} man will one die: yet peradventure for a good {Strong's #18} man some would even dare to die. But Elohim commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, the Messiah died for us." WOY

Almost no one will die for a "righteous" man, but if he is a "good" man they will? What does the "good" man have that the "righteous" one doesn't? This verse makes absolutely no sense in English. The two key words that we need to look at are in verse 7. They are "righteous" and "good".

1342 δικαιος dikaios dik'-ah-yos 1) righteous, observing divine laws. 1a) in a wide sense, upright, righteous, virtuous, keeping the commands of Yahweh.

18 αγαθος agathos ag-ath-os' 1) of good constitution or nature.

If the Greek is correct, then logic says that the person that some might be willing to die for is better than the one hardly anyone would die for. But according to the definitions of these words in Strong's, the opposite is actually true! Dikahyos can be used as a description of the perfect Messiah, but agathos while meaning a good overall person, has no such higher level. So the Greek doesn't make any sense either!

Romans 5:7 (from Aramaic) For hardly anyone would die in behalf of a wicked man, but for a good man, some might die.

How is it that the Greek version is so different? The Greek says righteous where the Aramaic says wicked! We find the answer if we look at the Aramaic words for wicked and righteous. The Aramaic word for wicked is spelled (resh-shin-yud-ayin-aleph). The Aramaic for righteous is (resh-shin-yud-nun-aleph). These two words in Aramaic are spelled similarly. The difference is the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last letter. The ayin and the nun in Aramaic look very similar. And so, if a scribe or translator is not extremely careful he can make the wrong choice, which this one obviously did. It's interesting to note that although these two Aramaic words look very similar, they are not pronounced similar. Therefore, this is solid evidence of an original Aramaic text! Since the words are not pronounced similar, the Greek could not have been transcribed from an oral Aramaic source.

Matthew 26:6-7 "Now when Yahshua was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, there came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat *down to eat*." WOY

A leper living in a suburb of Jerusalem with the general population? I don't think so!

Leviticus 13:44-46 "He is a leprous man, he *is* unclean: the priest shall pronounce him utterly unclean; his plague *is* in his head. And the leper in whom the plague *is*, his

clothes shall be rent, and his head bare, and he shall put a covering upon his upper lip, and shall cry, Unclean, unclean. All the days wherein the plague *shall be* in him he shall be defiled; he *is* unclean: he shall dwell alone; without the camp *shall* his habitation *be*.”  
WOY

Same letters for jar merchant or leper: **abrg** Jar merchant is pronounced “garava”, and leper is pronounced “garba”. This text gives us strong evidence that the original was Aramaic and not Greek. Whoever translated it into Greek saw the Aramaic letters and had to decide whether this is jar merchant or leper. It seems that he either ignored the torah or did not know the torah!

Matthew 7:6 “Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.”  
WOY

Should be: “Do not hang earrings on dogs....” The Aramaic word tithlon (hang) looks very similar to talon (to lead or give). The only difference is that the word tithlon (hang) has two taws at the beginning of the word and the word talon (to lead or give) has only one tau. Also, the Aramaic word qudesha (earrings) and qudsha (holy) are spelled identically. It looks like the Greek translator missed the second tau in the word tithlon, which led to misinterpreting the word qudesha (earrings) for qudsha (holy). “Do not hang earrings on dogs, and don’t cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you” makes more sense because now the verse has two similar images joined together in the same verse. This is a grammatical structure in Hebrew and Aramaic called synthetic parallelism. Again, this is strong evidence that the original scripture was Aramaic and not Greek. It’s interesting to note that Papias, who was a student of the apostle John, said that Matthew wrote in the Hebrew dialect (Aramaic is a Hebrew dialect) and everyone else translated as best they could.

This verse is a metaphor. Both images, dogs and pigs, represent people that do not want anything to do with the word of Yahweh. It is saying that these kinds of people should not be given precious things that they will not appreciate or understand.

Matthew 23:8 “But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Rabbi, *even the* Messiah; and all ye are brethren.”

Although Rabbi does mean teacher, the literal meaning of Rabbi is “my great one”. If Yahshua is saying that the disciples should not be called teachers, why does He say to them in Matthew 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen”? Why would He contradict himself? If you apply the literal meaning of Rabbi to Matthew 23:8, then He did not contradict Himself. “But be not ye called my great one: for one is your great one, *even the* Messiah; and all ye are brethren.” This makes perfect sense when read in context. Read Matt. 23:1-12.

Matthew 24:32-34 “Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer *is* nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, *even* at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation {Strongs #1074 γενηα genea *ghen-eh-ah*} shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.”



This verse makes it sound like the end would come soon, as a matter of fact within about 40 years, doesn't it? In the NIV a footnote by the word generation says "or race". Charles Ryrie adds that the Greek *ghenehah* can mean race or family and this makes good sense here. That is, the Jewish race or family will be preserved no matter how terrible the persecution until Yahshua returns. Yet, although Ryrie's judgment seems to be 100% correct, there is no translation from the Greek that renders the best meaning available from the Greek word *genea*, which is family.

Again, the Aramaic makes it clear with the word "sharbata", which in this context definitely means tribe.

Mark 9:49-50 "For every one shall be salted {melkh} with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt. Salt *is* good: but if the salt have lost his saltiness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt {melkh} in yourselves, and have peace one with another."

"Salted with fire" does not make sense! The Aramaic word "melkh" can mean salt or vaporize. In context this is definitely vaporized! Read Mark 9:41-50

Mark 7:18-20 "And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, *it* cannot defile him; Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all foods? And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man.

Mark 7:19 The phrase, purging (cleansing) all foods, is not in the Aramaic Peshitta and may have been added in an attempt to play down torah, implying that Yahshua is saying all foods are clean.

Luke 1:59 And it came to pass, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they called him Zachariah, after the name of his father. 60 And his mother answered and said, Not *so*; but he shall be called John. 61 And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name. 62 And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called. 63 And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all. 64 And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue *loosed*, and he spoke, and praised Elohim. 65 And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judaea. 66 And all they that heard *them laid them up in their hearts*, saying, What manner of child shall this be! And the hand of Yahweh was with him.

Laid them up in their hearts is just a little strange sounding, isn't it? In fact, this would have sounded just as strange to Greek ears as it does to us because this is a Semitic idiom meaning "to think about it". Aramaic speaking people would have no problem with this expression. This is a significant clue pointing to the language that Luke originally wrote his gospel [glad tidings] in. Why would a Greek text, going to a Greek speaking people, use this idiom in the first place?!

If you find this topic interesting, you should read the book *Ruach Qadim*, by Andrew Gabriel Roth. *Ruach Qadim* was the main source for the material in this article.

## 2007 UNITY CONFERENCE REPORT

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Unity Conference was held August 3-5, 2007 hosted by the Assembly of Yahweh, Eaton Rapids, Michigan. Pastor and Elder Sam Graham was the moderator. Pastor Sam does an absolutely amazing job in not only keeping things moving but also maintaining order when discrepancies arise on a topic. This year was one of the best Unity Conferences held and anyone who could not feel Yahweh's Spirit among the brethren just simply was not open to it. The weekend is an intense one with little free time. The ladies who prepared the meals for all to eat the entire weekend did an excellent job. The food was nourishing, tasty and abundant for all. They will surely be blessed for their assistance in making the weekend go so well. This geographical area of the country, like so many others, is under a drought condition. Though rainfall is much needed there, it held out until the wee hours of Monday and then there were several "quickie" hard rains which came through.

There is so much someone can learn at the Unity Conferences. Yes, there are things which on occasion come up that may seem to one or another as being "off the wall." But, on the other hand, we know that Yahweh is working and it seems in these days, He is working overtime. You do not know why certain things come up but you do know that He is in charge. Therefore, we attempt to follow biblical instructions and "search the scriptures; prove ALL things." On topics of controversy, we remind ourselves that "iron sharpens iron" and if the time were here that we'd all be in 100 percent agreement, there would be no sharpening necessary. I think all concur that time is yet to be seen and, when it is seen, we will have our true Leader here with us. HalleluYAH!

As the weekend commenced, Pastor Sam asked each individual present to give a short introduction of themselves. There were some excellent statements made pertaining to the Conference and the prayers of what they hoped to get accomplished. As time permitted between the various speakers, elders from the various assemblies represented were asked to give a rundown of what is happening within the different areas of the country and specifically within their congregation.

All attendees were blessed to hear Elder George Kinney speak on "Deeper Things," and something I think most agreed upon was that when we refer to Yahshua Messiah, it makes it sound like He has a first and last name. More properly, we should say "Yahshua THE Messiah." What an interesting insight to something we've said and used for years and years,.

David Kenders spoke on Daniel and handed out both an article and a "timeline" on "Daniel's Mystery Solved." He discussed the "Dome of the Rock" along with addressing questions such as "When will a temple be built in Jerusalem?"; "Will the sacrifices of animals start before or after the temple is built?"

Rock Key Yah gave a presentation on "New Order --- New Testament," followed by some lively discussion between attendees and Rock Key.

Bob McDonald's presentation entitled "A Pure Bride," focused on total abstinence of alcohol. It was a well-documented and heartfelt speech, providing much food for thought for the attendees. There was substantial debate on this issue at its conclusion.

Matthew Janzen handed out a book he prepared/authored entitled "Which Side Will You Choose?" This concerns beards on the men in the assembly and the necessity/biblical significance of them. He provided scriptural and historical information for all to take home with them.

The above speakers concluded Friday's schedule. As you can see, it was a very full day with folks breaking up around 9:30 pm and many traveling to their hotels to prepare for an early start Sabbath morning.

Sabbath morning commenced with Walter Schwenk speaking on "A Parable on Genesis 22." He handed out a booklet entitled "Glory to Yahweh," which included not only information on the topic at hand but some other interesting tidbits as well and definitely worth spending some time reading. The topic basically dealt with the real meaning of Genesis 22 and the differences between the figurative interpretation of "Offer him up there for a burnt offering" and the plain meaning "Cause him to ascend there, to what is ascending."

Sabbath Services were then held with the room getting so full that additional chairs had to be set up for attendees. Many of the folks who arrived just for Sabbath Services stayed for the presentations to come that afternoon. What a blessing to have so many of Yahweh's people gathered in His Name!

Jerry Healan spoke on "Wonders in the Hebrew" which focused on the Paleo Hebrew characters. He showed where the characters used in words such as "ground," meant something related. In this case, the Hebrew word for "ground" is "adamah." The letters for "ground" are the equivalent of a-d-m-h; for "Adam" they are a-d-m. The last two letters of the name "Adam" make up the word "blood." As Jerry went through his presentation, you could not help but to see the power of the Almighty in putting forth His language with all its "hidden" merits. There truly are wonders in the Hebrew language.

Jake Meyer discussed "Firstborn Redemption" which was the first part of a continuing series he is developing. He reminds all that the scriptures were written for the people seeking salvation. Discussing how sin entered through the fall of one of Yahweh's creations, he went into how the Bible discussed Yahweh's ultimate goal to have His creation come back to Him. We are called to receive, ransom and release in order that we may receive the firstborn's allotted inheritance. An excellent presentation which will be continued.

Bob Wells then talked about the "Biblical Calendar." This is a topic which comes up at many of the Conferences. He went into quite a bit of history of how the calendar came to be what it is today. The presentation included four errors in Hillel's calendar and the three characteristics of barley in the state of Abib. This appears to be one of the most-discussed topics at Unity Conferences historically, and as such, was followed by discussions as to whether unity on this issue is even possible at this time.

George Garner then presented a book, "Deity of the Nations," which was written by Elder A. B. Traina many years ago and Yahweh's Assembly in Messiah just completed reprinting it. He mentioned that, without doubt, this is a book that needs to be studied and not just read.

On Sunday morning, Bob Hopperton started off the presentations with one concerning the Avian Flu. There is a major concern over this flu spreading rapidly in the coming months to the point that some hospitals are stockpiling "body" bags. Although if it hits, there is little that can be done about it, there are some things we may be able to do to protect ourselves and from what some of the information states, not eating pork is one. You do not hear much about it on the news but there has been information in the Smithsonian magazine as well as talk show discussions on it.

Al Raines, another first-time for the Unity Conference, spoke on "Giants in the Land" and how the mere names of some of the "giants" pertain to and have a parallel

(Continued on Page 18)

# BURIAL OR CREMATION?

## Consider These Scriptures

Genesis 19:24-28 – Then Yahweh rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from Yahweh out of heaven... And he [Abraham] looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

2 Peter 2:6 – And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live wickedly:

Malachi 4:1-3 – For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith Yahweh of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith Yahweh of hosts.

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Genesis 23:19-20 – And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre: the same is Hebron in the land of Canaan. And the field, and the cave that is therein, were made sure unto Abraham for a possession of a burying place by the sons of Heth.

Genesis 49:29-31 – And he [Jacob] charged them, and said unto them, I am to be gathered unto my people: bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, In the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a burying place. There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah.

Genesis 50:25-26 – And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, Elohim will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence. So Joseph died, being an hundred ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Exodus 13:19 – And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, Elohim will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.

Joshua 24:32 – And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem ...

2 Samuel 21:14 – And the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son buried they in the country of Benjamin in Zelah, in the sepulchre of Kish his father:

1 Kings 2:1 & 10 – Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; ...So David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.

Matthew 27:57-60 – When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Yahshua's disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Yahshua. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen

(Continued on Page 18)

# IN MEMORIAM

**Celebrating the life of Bishop William J. Murphy**, who was born May 12, 1912 in Bishopville, South Carolina. His earthly journey ended June 9, 2007 in Takoma Park, Maryland. He was the son of sharecroppers (the tenth of 14 brothers and sisters) and the grandson of former slaves. He was educated and grew up in Greensboro, North Carolina. As a young adult, he relocated to Washington, DC and there was drawn to salvation.

Among his favorite songs were I Saw The Light, He's My King, and the song he wrote Are you Waiting And Watching for The Master Today?

Early in the 1970's Bishop Murphy accepted the revelation of the Hebrew names of the Heavenly Father Yahweh and His Son Yahshua our Savior. He began to worship and to speak using these names, and to teach others about the Sacred Names. Along with being the Bishop and Pastor of the now named Temple Rock of Ages Assembly of Yahshua in Washington, DC, he was also the presiding Bishop of a fellowship of churches of like faith. In the 1990's as he began to age, he decided to step down as the pastor and ordained Betty Connor Kenneybrew to be the new and current pastor.

“And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Messiah from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.” Revelation 14:13

Submitted by Elaine Portier

**Celebrating the life of Anna Mae McDonald**, who was born May 10, 1922 in Murray City, Ohio. She passed away peacefully August 19, 2007 in Newark, Ohio. Anna Mae was baptized in May, 1979. She was strong in the faith, a member of the Assembly of Yahweh, showing love to everyone. She was a prolific writer and sketch artist. She loved celebrating the Sabbath and the heavenly Father Yahweh's Feast Days.

Anna Mae loved to wear her kodesh name t-shirts and witnessed to those who would ask about them. She picked out the very first logo for the t-shirt ministry.

Two days before Anna Mae went to sleep she had a vision. She had been in a nursing home. We (Robert and Lois McDonald) were visiting her and she told Lois, “You would not believe what goes on here at night. Yahweh believers came in here last night with their pillows and bedding and slept around my bed.” She was admitted to Hospice Saturday night; the nurse suggested the family stay because she wasn't expected to live through the night. *That night several Yahweh believers had their pillows and bedding and slept around her bed.* We believe this was Yahweh's way of comforting her. Yahweh answered all the prayers of those praying for her. Yahweh truly was merciful and she just went to sleep, praise Yahweh.

Anna Mae loved Yahweh and Yahshua and has the blessed hope of being in the first resurrection.

Submitted by Robert and Lois McDonald

## Song Harvest presents:

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

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

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Go to [www.songsforyahweh.com](http://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.

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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.

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

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# **A GIFT FROM YAHWEH THE HOLY (KODESH) SABBATH**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment is saying that the Creator needed a rest after He made the earth, the sea, and all that is in them. So He rested on the seventh day. He knew that those who were created in His own image would need a rest at the end of the week. So He hallowed the Sabbath, a divine rest, and gave it to His people, a Gift of Yahweh to all who would accept it! Of course one may rest at night, or day, or on Sunday, but it is not holy (kodesh).

Those who kept the Seventh day Sabbath would receive rest for the body and be refreshed, Exodus 23:12. They would be sanctified by Him and blessed, Exodus 20:11 and 31:13. The Sabbath would be a Perpetual Covenant between them and Yahweh, Exodus 31:16-17. He would reveal Himself to them, John 14:21. He will bring them to His Holy (Kodesh) Mountain, Isaiah 56:2, 4, 6-7.

Keeping the Sabbath would be a Sign between Yahweh and the person who set it aside to Rest and not Work. A Sign that He was theirs and they were His, Exodus 31:12, 13, 15-17.

Submitted by: M. Garrison

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## **Yahweh's Heavenly Light shall shine on Your walk of faith to guide you.**

**Know that darkness flees from:**

**The Light of Holiness [Kodeshness]  
The Light of Righteousness  
The Light of Love  
The Light of Truth  
The Light of Compassion  
The Light of Mercy  
The Light of Forgiveness  
The Light of Grace  
The Light of Peace  
The Light of Hope  
The Light of Faith**

**This I profess joyfully, I am a child of Yahweh, a disciple of Yahshua  
And a receiver of the Holy (Kodesh) Spirit.**

Submitted by Russell Medina



# 2007 UNITY CONFERENCE REPORT

(Continued from Page 11)

with our emotional “giants” in everyday life. We must have the faith component to face our giants and conquer them.

Last of the speakers was Mike Banak who spoke on “Restoration Trends: The Best of Yahweh.” He attempted to show the results from his study of “restoration groups” and what trends are evident from that study. Mike also analyzed the downfall of many restoration groups as a warning to those following the same path.

The Unity Conference ended with agreement that next year’s Conference will be held in Cisco, Texas, hosted by Assembly of Yahweh-7<sup>th</sup> Day.

Every year, sincere believers can see that unity is coming and we will all be unified one day. It will not be by force but by the awesome power of Yahweh and Yahshua the Messiah! HalleluYAH and pray that that day come soon!

Submitted by D. Wellington

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## BURIAL OR CREMATION? - Consider These Scriptures

(Continued from Page 12)

cloth, And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 – ... how that the Messiah died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

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# Yahweh's

2007 Calendar

New  
Moon  
Days

YAHSHUA'S MEMORIAL (Passover)  
APRIL 3  
Celebrate APRIL 2 after sunset

Annual  
High  
Days

Jan. 21  
Feb. 19  
Mar. 21  
Apr. 19  
May 18  
June 17  
July 16  
Aug. 15  
Sept. 14  
Oct. 13  
(Border  
-line)  
Nov. 12  
Dec. 12

FESTIVAL OF UNLEAVENED BREAD  
APRIL 4 through APRIL 10  
  
FEAST (appointment) OF WEEKS  
MAY 24  
~~See Leviticus 23:10, 11, 15, 16, 21~~  
  
FEAST (appointment) OF TRUMPETS  
SEPTEMBER 14  
  
DAY (appointment) OF ATONEMENT  
SEPTEMBER 23  
  
FEAST OF TABERNACLES  
(Booth or Huts)  
SEPTEMBER 28 through  
OCTOBER 4  
  
LAST GREAT DAY  
OCTOBER 5

Apr. 4  
Apr. 10  
May 24  
Sept. 14  
Sept. 23  
Sept. 28  
Oct. 5  
  
7 days  
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Begin YAHWEH's days with the sunset preceding the indicated Roman days lasting till the next sunset.

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