The Faith

Volume 73 10-12, 2009 Number 4

EPHESIANS 6:13-18

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of Elohim, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore, having your loins girded about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the good news of peace;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of Yahweh:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

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

VOLUME 73 10-12, 2009 NUMBER 4

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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Mail all correspondence, articles suggestions, and contributions to:

The Assembly of Yahweh 1017 N. Gunnell Road Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

or P.O. Box 102 Holt, MI 48842-0102, U.S.A.

Public invited to Sabbath services 10:00 A.M. Saturday at 1017 N. Gunnell Road at Columbia Highway, 3 miles west of M-99. This is south of Lansing and north of Eaton Rapids, Michigan. Phone 517-663-1268 (Office), 517-663-3724 (Secondary).

Internet – www.AssemblyofYahweh.com E-mail – TheFaith@AssemblyofYahweh.com

IN THIS ISSUE

Editorial – The End Of The Age	Page	3
Seek Ye First The Kingdom	Page	5
Help in the Time of Famine	Page	8
The Law and the Testimony	Page	11
Feast of Tabernacles - MI	Page	16
Brief History in Jamaica	Page	17
Actions Speak Louder	Page	18
A Meditation: Walking	Page	19
Song Page / Name Pin	Page	20
The Word of Yahweh/No P.P.	Page :	21/22
Yahweh's 2010 Calendar	Page	23

Editorial

THE END OF THE AGE

All scripture given by inspiration of Yahweh, indeed is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 2 Timothy 3:16.

Mankind throughout the ages has looked for answers regarding the end of the world or the end of the age – in the pyramids in Egypt, the Mayan Calendar, Nostradamus' predictions, Orson Wells' War of the Worlds, etc., etc.

We have many Scripture texts that give us insight into the occurrences at/during the end times. Matthew 24 – ...Nation shall rise against nation, kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places... Luke 21 - ...And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations... Zechariah 14 - ...Behold, the day of Yahweh cometh... Ezekiel 37 and 38 - ...Thus saith the Sovereign Yahweh, I will take the stick of Joseph with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick... Isaiah 53 - ...Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of Yahweh revealed?... Daniel 11 and 12 - ...And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people:... Revelation all - ...And behold I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be....

So what should the people of Faith look to for the answers? The written word, the Torah is only good if we read and live what it says. The scripture Revelation 22:14 comes to mind, "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." The key word in this scripture is **do** (a verb indicating someone performing an action, activity or task).

What Yahweh requires from mankind is always fair and for our own good, but mankind has always had a problem doing what Yahweh commands. This started in the garden of Eden (Genesis 2:16-17), when Yahweh said, "of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." The serpent in Chapter 3 said, "Ye shall not surely die." Eve had a choice; to listen to the serpent (the adversary/the devil) or to listen to Yahweh Elohim the creator of heaven and earth.

The clean food laws found in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 are another example of a choice to **do** what Yahweh has commanded. There are animals that are unclean to eat, such as the pig. I would like to point out that many people are advised by their physicians to not eat pork or pork products. We have been told that it takes more energy to digest pork than the energy the body receives from consuming it.

King David also highly recommended his followers to keep and **do** Yahweh's commandments. Psalm 119:1-6 – Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of Yahweh. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways. Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently. O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes! Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.

10-12, 2009 Page Three

Eleventh verse – Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. 15th verse – I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways. 35th verse – Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein **do** I delight. 48th – My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes. 60th – I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments. 77th – Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law is my delight. 89th – For ever, O Yahweh, thy word is settled in heaven. 92nd – Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction. 104th – Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. 142nd – Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth. Verses 165-168 – Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall cause them to stumble. Yahweh, I have hoped for thy salvation, and **done** thy commandments. My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly. I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways are before thee.

Another witness – Isaiah 48:17-18, Thus saith Yahweh, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I am Yahweh thy Elohim which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! Then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea.

Yahshua's witness – Matthew 5:18-19, For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall **do** and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Apostle Paul has good advice for the Hebrews of his day which transcends down through the ages to us. Chapter 12:1-2 – Therefore 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. Looking unto Yahshua the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the torture state, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of Elohim.

As the end of the age comes to mankind, we all have decisions to make. Do we choose the broad way of the world that leads to destruction or do we stay on a proven path of righteousness called the narrow way? Do we want to follow the evil one to the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10), or do we want to live and reign with **Yahshua the Messiah** the Saviour of the world? John 11:25 – Yahshua said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. As we search out our own salvation with fear and trembling and look into our sure word of prophecy which holy men of Yahweh spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, we know that the return of Yahshua the Messiah is certain as is the resurrection of the just at that last day.

There are several articles in this issue of The Faith written by believers who did choose to walk in righteousness, looking for the blessed return of Yahshua the Messiah. "Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book." Revelation 22:7.

Samuel A. Graham

Page Four The Faith

SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM

The theme of this year's Feast of Tabernacles at Eaton Rapids is found in Matthew 6. Starting with verse 31 we read: "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But **seek ye first His kingdom** and righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Life at a very basic level hinges on food, shelter and clothing. Here Yahshua is telling us that seeking His kingdom should be a higher priority than these most basic of necessities. He is in essence saying that our life depends on our pursuit of the Kingdom, that in seeking His kingdom we will actually find life!

In order to really understand what He means by "seeking His kingdom" we must look more closely at the context of this statement. Going back several chapters in Matthew we find that from the very beginning of His ministry Yahshua was preaching and teaching the kingdom message. In Matt. 4:17 we have "From that time Yahshua began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." again in verse 23: "And Yahshua went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the glad tidings of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people." In a quick review of all four of the evangels it is easy to see that Yahshua's message while here on earth was predominantly about the Kingdom; what it is, who is going to be there and when it will be consummated. In Luke 4:43 we read "And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of Elohim... for therefore am I sent..." Returning to the book of Matthew we have seen that Yahshua is traveling around the area of Galilee preaching and teaching the Kingdom. Picking the text up again in 5:1 we have "And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying... "Now, I personally have never been to Israel but I know from my studies and conversations with people familiar with the country that it is not particularly flat, especially in the area of Galilee. So when it says that "he went up into a mountain" I read that He went for a good hike! The people that would be blessed by this message (the Sermon on the Mount) had to earn it with a little bit of effort and sweat. I'm sorry, brethren, but good (life changing) teaching will not come to us as we are sitting on our couch with a bag of potato chips watching the TV. We must seek it, we must follow it wherever it goes, even up a mountain! Yahshua begins His teaching with the well known passage of the beatitudes. How radical is this teaching brethren! It flies in the face of worldly wisdom and understanding: "Blessed are the poor in spirit... Blessed are they that mourn... Blessed are the meek..." The world says that the rich and powerful are blessed, the famous and boastful are blessed, etc... Yahshua with this teaching begins to lay out a totally different way of looking at the world around us, at the law, at our relationship with Almighty Yahweh and our fellow man.

Moving on down the passage we come to a few verses all of us probably know by heart (5:17-20): "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to **fulfil**. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one

10-12, 2009 Page Five

jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." All of us in the faith understand that Yahshua came to fulfill the law in the sense that He kept it perfectly while walking on this earth and lived up to all of its prophecies concerning the Messiah and His work. We also see Yahshua as the greatest teacher of the law to ever live among men. In accordance with Isaiah 42:21 He did indeed magnify the law and make it honorable by putting it in its proper context (the heart).

Moving on in our text, the passages that follow should be truly humbling to anyone that is honest with themselves and open to correction. Yahshua makes it clear that it's not just the outward action that counts but the thought and intent of the heart from which all actions eventually flow. So, anyone who is angry with his brother without a cause or who looketh on a woman to lust after her has already sinned in his heart even though no action may have been taken. This is a high calling brethren! My father used to tell me that "you can't always help what you think but you can help what you say" and this has been good advice which I have had to fall back on many a time. But brethren, Yahshua is telling us that it DOES matter what we think. In fact, what's in our heart matters the most and it is this that we should concentrate on. That is the intent of verse 48: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." When seeking to apply the law to our lives we should always concentrate on the intent and look for the underlying **spiritual** application of the law to our lives. Yes, every jot and every tittle must be obeyed but if we are walking in love and listening for the guidance of the Holy Spirit the letter of the law will never be a problem for us.

Matthew 6:19-21 says: "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." Brethren, many people in this world around us (especially in America) are enjoying their kingdoms now. They have the 3000 sq. ft. house, they have two SUVs in the driveway, and they have a big screen TV in every room. What more could they want? They have made their choice. It is obvious where their heart lies by the abundance of their possessions. Yahshua makes it clear in v24: "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve Yahweh and mammon."

Brethren, let us not deceive ourselves by thinking that we can have it both ways. Let us cast off this world and its pleasures and seek His kingdom. As I have tried to explain in the above discourse we **must** seek His kingdom in a spiritual manner. As Paul says in Romans 7/8, the law is spiritual. Indeed, flesh and blood **cannot** inherit the kingdom of Yahweh (1 Cor. 15:50). The Apostle Paul is probably second to Yahshua in his understanding and ability to teach the law and its underlying principles. We would all do well to study his writings and learn to apply the very fundamentals of the law to our hearts and minds as he instructs us to do.

So when is the kingdom coming then? Yahshua was asked this question in Luke 17:20-21: "And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of Elohim

Page Six The Faith

should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of Elohim cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for behold, the kingdom of Elohim is within you." I have to admit, brethren, I didn't understand this passage for a long time. But then at some point I finally realized that, you know what? THE KINGDOM IS HERE NOW! Yes, it's true His kingdom is coming in its full power and glory at Yahshua's soon return. But it is also true that His kingdom has always been here on this earth growing little by little down through the ages as spiritual people have forsaken the rule of this world and clung to Almighty Yahweh as their own personal Father and accepted Yahshua His son as their own **personal** saviour and righteous king. Yahshua tells us this very thing in Matt. 13:31-32: "Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof." Reading on in v33: "Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." Brethren, it is obvious to me that Yahweh's kingdom is on the move! It is growing in these last days as it never has before and it will soon consume this entire earth at the appearance of Yahshua our Messiah. Yahweh says in Isaiah 56 that His house shall be called an house of prayer for all people and we know that many shall come from the east and west to sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven (Matt... 8:11). No man / organization / selfproclaimed prophet can claim ownership of Yahweh's kingdom. It is not a Catholic kingdom, it is not a Mormon kingdom, it is not a Seventh Day Adventist kingdom, etc... Those of us who are striving to live spiritual lives and look to Yahshua as our perfect example are all fellow citizens in the kingdom as it exists today and in the future. Psalm 22:27-28 says: "All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto Yahweh: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is Yahweh's: and he **is** the governor among the nations."

Brethren, let us not sit around waiting for the kingdom to come, rather let us set about building the kingdom that is here now! We must work the works of Him that has sent us while it is still day: the night cometh, when no man can work (John 9:4). Let us follow in Yahshua's footsteps by proclaiming the good news of the kingdom to those around us. This world is dying and the people living in it need the hope our message brings.

Finally, I leave you with the words of David, a fellow citizen of Yahweh's kingdom, "All thy works shall praise thee, O Yahweh; and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the honour of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power; To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the honour of the majesty of his kingdom. Thy **kingdom** is an everlasting kingdom, **and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations**." (Psalm 145:10-13)

Mark Biggs

10-12, 2009 Page Seven

Help in the Time of Famine

From believers to non-believers, all will agree that we are living in perilous times coupled with great economic uncertainty. How can one survive this global famine and the spiritual famine for Yah's true word?

Psalms 37:18-25 - Yahweh knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be forever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied. But the wicked shall perish and the enemies of Yahweh shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away. The wicked borroweth and payeth not again: but the righteous showeth mercy, and giveth. For such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and they that be cursed of him shall be cut off. The steps of a good man are ordered by Yahweh: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for Yahweh upholdeth him with his hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Those who diligently seek the truth of Yah's word and his righteousness will survive. The righteous are not hearers of the law but doers of the law. The righteous are those that bear good fruits.

John 15:5-10 - I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 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.

Key signs of a righteous person will be evident in what they actually do, not just what they say. Ask what fruits are they exhibiting, fruits of righteousness or unrighteousness? By their fruits you shall know them if they are true believers.

True believers will radiate Yah's glory and be humble as their Great Shepherd Yahshua. Matthew 5:16 - Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. (Not self).

True believers will have the true spirit of Yah; the spirit of truth which Yah gives to those that obey him (Acts 5:32). In the last days, Yahshua constantly warned his disciples to be aware of false believers led by false spirits which are not of Yah but the deceiver Satan.

Matthew 24:4-5, 11 - And Yahshua answered and said unto them, take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name saying I am the Messiah, and shall deceive many. Verse 11 - And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

Page Eight The Faith

True believers are empowered by Yah's true spirit and are determined to keep trying even at times they might fall but as David they are truly repentant and their daily prayer is Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O Yah; and renew a right spirit within me. In the last days, he will not fail his remnant but they will see his glory and need not fear in the time of famine. Yahweh and Yahshua reign!!

Psalms 24:1-5 - The earth is Yahweh's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of Yahweh? Or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from Yahweh, and righteousness from Yahweh of his salvation.

Psalms 34:6-10 - This poor man cried, and Yahweh heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of Yahweh encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. O taste and see that Yahweh is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. O fear Yahweh, ye saints: for there is no want to them that fear him. The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek Yahweh shall not want any good thing.

True believers will also remember Yah's blessing for those who pay their tithes and offerings. Even a widow's mite is honourable.

Malachi 3:6-10 - For I am Yahweh, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith Yahweh of hosts. But ye said, wherein shall we return? Will a man rob Yahweh? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith Yahweh of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Even in perilous times, let us not forget the poor, widow, fatherless and those in need. Blessed is he that considereth the poor: Yahweh will deliver him in time of trouble (Psalms 41:1).

In these last days, true believers be of good courage and be not discouraged.

Psalms 34:15-22 - The eyes of Yahweh are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry. The face of Yahweh is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cry and Yahweh heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. Yahweh is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but Yahweh delivereth him out of them all. He keepeth all his bones not one of them is broken. Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate. Yahweh redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

10-12, 2009 Page Nine

Let us all try to be and stay in the category of the righteous. Remember the importance of daily repentance (true repentance of the heart). We all have sinned and come short of the glory of Yahweh. Be not deceived. Even our Master Yahshua exhorts the importance for all of us to ask Yahweh to forgive us of our sins in the Father's prayer. This is a daily requirement. Let us not give up trying on the journey to perfection. We have Yahshua to help us. Matthew 28:18 - And Yahshua came and spake unto them saying: All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Therefore, all our weaknesses can be overcome in Yahshua's name, it is possible to be and stay in the category of the righteous. Don't give up.

Submitted by M. Richards

Another Cottage Assembly of Believers

Hosted by Ken and Jan Gordon, meetings are held on the Sabbath twice monthly at the Library in Silver Springs, Florida (this is east of Ocala, Florida). Contact Ken Gordon at his e-mail: onespirit56@gmail.com.

Pastor Samuel Graham was invited to attend their Sabbath meeting by John and Joyce Rhodes and Don and Janice Trumble of greater Ocala, Florida.

Sabbath Services Online

You can now listen to

Assembly of Yahweh Sabbath services online.

Go to http://aoy.triumphpro.org to listen.

Page Ten The Faith

The Law and the Testimony

(Excerpt from November, 2009 Issue)

Abominable Practices

Isa 55:6-9 Seek ye Yahweh while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: (7) Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto Yahweh, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our Elohim, for he will abundantly pardon. (8) For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith Yahweh. (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 last issue of The Law and the Testimony focused on Yahweh's feast days and the fact that all believers in the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are supposed to be keeping these feast days. They are not Jewish feasts. They are Yahweh's feasts and all who believe in Him and His ways are to be keeping them.

This issue will show that man's ways are abominable from Yahweh's perspective. This includes man's feast days or holidays.

Deu 12:29-32 When Yahweh thy Elohim shall cut off the nations from before thee, whither thou goest to possess them, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their land; (30) Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their elohim, saying, How did these nations serve their elohim? even so will I do likewise. (31) Thou shalt not do so unto Yahweh thy Elohim: for every abomination to Yahweh, which he hateth, have they done unto their elohim; for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their elohim. (32) What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

We should not worship Yahweh in the same way that another nation worshiped their idols. We should worship Him in the way that He desires. Therefore, don't try to honor and worship Yahweh with a tradition rooted in idolatry! Don't take a pagan custom and apply it to the worship of Yahweh!

Halloween is one such holiday.

Many reading The Law and the Testimony are already quite knowledgeable about these things. Since this is an electronic publication, it may be passed on to those who had no idea of the seriousness of this topic. Therefore there is a need to publish and speak out against things that are abominable in Yahweh's eyes.

The following is an excerpt from an article titled Eight Pagan Sabbaths, Sun God Worship & Halloween, written by Maria Merola, used by permission. Some of this is a real eye opener even for the well informed believer.

10-12, 2009 Page Eleven

Most of us have been taught in the Christian Church to believe that the "holidays" which we celebrate today are "Christian" simply because the Church of Rome has declared it to be so. While most people know that the origins of these holidays are pagan, we rationalize them away, and we convince ourselves that celebrating this will not hurt our conscience. You may be one of those people who does not want your child to feel isolated from his peers and so you may be saying to yourself: "Well everybody is doing it, so it can't be that bad…it's just harmless fun for children."

What I am about to share with you will illustrate that if we allow our children to participate in these pagan customs, we are directly violating the commandment of our Creator, and we are opening up our children to come under the curses that are listed in Deuteronomy 28 and in Exodus 20 when we worship other gods (whether out of ignorance) or willfully, we open up our children to witchcraft and demons when we allow them to participate in these activities.

In Mark 7:13, Yahshua tells us that the traditions of men make the word of [Yahweh] ineffective in our lives. If abandoning these traditions of men will cause the word of [Yahweh] to become more effective in our lives, then we must abandon Christmas, Easter, Halloween, Valentine's Day and every other vestige of sun god worship that has been "dressed up" to appear "Christian." We must go back to the Feasts ordained by [Yahweh] which commemorate our Messiah, and renounce the pagan holidays that we celebrate in the church today. All of these pagan practices are actually for the "beast" of Rome (Antichrist) and not for [Yahshua the Messiah], as illustrated in this chart:

The Eight Pagan Sabbaths:

- Imbolic Saint Valentine's Day February 2nd-February 15th
- Ostara (Easter) Rome changed it to Passover week to identify her with [Messiah's] Resurrection. March 21st-March 25th (Pope changed to Passover week to confuse with [Messiah])
- Beltane (Mayfest) (goddess of fertility/Mary) May 1st
- Midsummer Solstice (First Day of Summer) June 21st (Catholics call it St. John's Day)
- Lughnasadh (Catholic Mary's Ascension) August 1st-August 15th
- Mabon (First Day of Autumn) September 21st
- Samhain (Halloween) Catholic "All-Saints Day" and "All-Souls Day" October 31st
- Yule (Christmas) birthday of false [Messiah] December 21st-December 25th

The "Yule" Wheel is a pagan representation of all the annual celebrations offered up to the pagan sun god and moon goddess in their many different "reincarnated" forms. The wheel has eight segments signifying "eight pagan Sabbaths" each year. Notice the five pointed star of witchcraft also called the "Eastern Star." The star is within a circle representing the sun god, Baal.

This is the Pagan Yule Wheel used by witches and Wiccans. You will notice that all of these



Page Twelve The Faith

pagan feasts are on important "Christian" holidays. Yule is Christmas; Ostara is Easter; Beltane is Mayfest; Imbolic is Saint Valentine's Day; Lughnasadh is the "Assumption of Mary" in the Catholic Church; Samhain is "All-Saints" Day or Halloween.

This image is from ancient Babylon representing the "sun god" Baal or "Shamesh." Notice the "eight" sections symbolizing the "eight pagan Sabbaths."

Maria Merola quotes from http://www.jeremiahproject.com/culture/halloween.html below.

History traces Halloween back to the ancient religion of the Celtics. The Celtic people were very conscious of the



spiritual world and had their own ideas of how they could gain access to it - such as by helping their over 300 gods to defeat their enemies in battle, or by imitating the gods in showing cleverness and cunning. Their two main feasts were Beltane at the beginning of summer (May 1), and Samhain at the end of summer (Nov. 1). They believed Samhain was a time when the division between the two worlds became very thin, when hostile supernatural forces were active and ghosts and spirits were free to wander as they wished.

The Celtic priests who carried out the rituals in the open air were called Druids, members of pagan orders in Britain, Ireland and Gaul, who generally performed their rituals by offering sacrifices, usually of animals, but sometimes of humans, in order to placate the gods; ensuring that the sun would return after the winter; and frightening away evil spirits. To the Celtics, the bonfire represented the sun and was used to aid the Druid in his fight with dark powers. The term bonfire comes from the words "bone fire," literally meaning the bones of sacrificed animals, sometimes human, were piled in a field with timber and set ablaze. All fires except those of the Druids were extinguished on Samhain and householders were levied a fee to relight their holy fire which burned at their altars. During the Festival of Samhain, fires would be lit which would burn all through the winter and sacrifices would be offered to the gods on the fires. This practice of burning humans was stopped around 1600, and an effigy was sometimes burned instead.

Samhain was the supreme night of demonic jubilation. Spirits of the dead would rise out of their graves and wander the countryside, trying to return to the homes where they formerly lived. Frightened villagers tried to appease these wandering spirits by offering them gifts of fruit and nuts. This is the origin of our present day "trick-or-treat." They began the tradition of placing plates of the finest food and bits of treats that the household had to offer on their doorsteps, as gifts, to appease the hunger of the ghostly wanderers (demons). If not placated, villagers feared that the spirits would kill their flocks or destroy their property. Druids would demand that the villagers would give their virgin daughters for a human sacrifice by threatening to place a "hex" or a spell on the family if they did not comply. This is where the term "Trick or Treat" came from. It means "give me a human sacrifice or I'll cast a spell on you."

The problem was, if the souls of dead loved ones (actually demons) could return that night, so could anything else, human or not, nice or not-so-nice. The only thing the

10-12, 2009 Page Thirteen

superstitious people knew to do to protect themselves on such an occasion was to masquerade as one of the demonic hoard, and hopefully blend in unnoticed among them. Wearing masks and other disguises and blackening the face with soot were originally ways of hiding oneself from the spirits of the dead who might be roaming around. This is the origin of Halloween masquerading as devils, imps, ogres, and other demonic creatures.

Trick or Treat also became attached to a European custom called "souling." Beggars would go from village to village begging for "soul cakes" made out of square pieces of bread with currants. The more soul cakes the beggars would receive, the more prayers they would promise to say on behalf of the dead relatives of the donors. At the time, it was believed that the dead remained in limbo for a time after death, and that prayer, even by strangers could guarantee a soul's passage to heaven. This idea of being able to pray for the souls of the dead is of course false and unbiblical. This pagan practice of offering prayers or doing any kind of ritual for the souls of the dead is condemned by [Yahweh]:

Isaiah 8:19 "And when they say to you, "Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter," should not a people seek their [Elohim]? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living?

Deuteronomy 18:11 "There shall not be found among you..... anyone who calls up the dead..."

Deuteronomy 14:1 "..... you shall not cut yourselves nor shave the front of your head for the dead." [end of excerpt]

Halloween is without a doubt an abominable practice according to the Word of Yahweh. As you can see from the above chart, all of the major holidays that are commonly practiced have their origins in paganism. In the light of Deuteronomy 12:29-32, it should be a "no brainer" that, indeed, all of the popular Christian holidays are antithetical to the Word of Yahweh. Yahweh says not to apply the way the pagans worshiped their idols to worshiping Him. Celebrate at your own risk. We are to keep Yahweh's feast days and not the customs of man.

We should not worship Yahweh in the same way that another nation worshiped their idols. We should worship Him in the way that He desires. Therefore, don't try to honor and worship Yahweh with a tradition rooted in idolatry! Don't take a pagan custom and apply it to the worship of Yahweh!

Christmas is another such a custom.

Jeremiah 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. 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. 4 They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not. 5 They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil. neither also is it in them to do good.

Page Fourteen The Faith

There is also a lot of paganism in the secular celebration of Easter. Bunnies and eggs are symbols of fertility. These things are remnants of the pagan celebration of Eastre.

Yahweh receives no honor when you associate Him with a holiday that has its roots in Satan worship. Now, you might think that I am stretching the truth when I say that these holidays have their roots in Satan worship. Turn to...

Psalm 106:34 They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom Yahweh commanded them: 35 But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. 36 And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. 37 Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,

Yahweh gave us holy days, which (of course) the entire world ignores! Rather, they establish their own days and customs. If Yahweh has His commanded observances, why would we need to add observances that have roots in paganism? They are an abomination to Yahweh.

Deuteronomy 17:2 If there be found among you, within any of thy gates which Yahweh thy Elohim giveth thee, man or woman, that hath wrought wickedness in the sight of Yahweh thy Elohim, in transgressing his covenant, 3 And hath gone and served other elohim, and worshiped them, either the sun, or moon, or any of the host of heaven, which I have not commanded; 4 And it be told thee, and thou hast heard of it, and enquired diligently, and, behold, it be true, and the thing certain, that such abomination is wrought in Israel: 5 Then shalt thou bring forth that man or that woman, which have committed that wicked thing, unto thy gates, even that man or that woman, and shalt stone them with stones, till they die.

This reveals how Yahweh feels about idolatry. Any kind of idolatry is an abomination to Him. Beware lest we also have an idol hidden in our hearts, or in our homes:

Deuteronomy 7:26 - Neither shalt thou bring an abomination (H8441) into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing.

H8441

הבעות הבעות to'ebah to'ebah to-ay-baw', to-ay-baw'

Feminine active participle of H8581; properly something *disgusting* (morally), that is, (as noun) an *abhorrence*; especially *idolatry* or (concretely) an *idol:* - abominable (custom, thing), abomination.

We are to detest the cursed idols and the abominable practices of the idolators, and not take their practices and apply them to Yahweh!

We should rid our hearts and our homes of all idolatry, which Yahweh hates. Let's not put our will or mans will above Yahweh's will, lest we commit self-idolatry. If we are setting ourselves up as elohim, we are imitating Satan's practices.

Contact info: Berean2007@gmail.com

10-12, 2009 Page Fifteen

Feast of Tabernacles – Eaton Rapids, Michigan October 5th through October 11, 2009 Last Great Day – October 12, 2009

The theme this year was:

"But seek ye first the Kingdom of Yahweh, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33

Many different brothers and sisters shared their moving testimonies of faith in how Yahweh and Yahshua have blessed their lives. We were blessed with beautiful vocal and instrumental offerings given to Yahweh. The children gave us an enjoyable presentation of Jonah and The Whale. Thank you everyone for sharing the gifts and talents that Yahweh has given to you with all of us.

As in previous years, the book of Deuteronomy was read in segments throughout the eight days. The following men each presented a teaching ...Bob McDonald: Salvation in No Other Name; Bill McDiarmid: Because You Do Not Lay It To Heart, 2 Corinthians 4, and I Have Fed You With Milk, Not Strong Meat; Tom Lanphere: Angels; Mark Biggs: Seek Ye First The Kingdom of Yahweh; Don Frith: Hidden Meanings in Yaacov's First Four Sons Names; Rocky Spence: Are You Willing?; Tom Schattke: Gift Of The Power To Do His Work and Why Are We Here?; Eric Gentile: Booster Shots; Bob Wells: Signs Of The End Of Days; Jerry Shrader: Yahweh's Feast Days; Al Raines: All About Our Nose. These were inspiring and uplifting messages. They can be listened to by going to www.aoy.triumphpro.org.

We enjoyed being able to fellowship with brethren attending the 2009 Feast from Arizona, California, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Canada, The Netherlands and U.S.V.I. We had many who camped in tents and campers on the Assembly land while some visited for a day and others traveled daily from their homes. It was a pleasure to fellowship with returning brothers and sisters as well as those led by Yahweh to come for their first feast.

Some special events during the feast included an educational lecture and wild edibles walk, horse back riding and an outdoor event. Thanks to Sarah Bristol, Beth Biggs and Amy Runkel for teaching the children's classes. The ladies enjoyed a tea party with beautiful tea cups and teapots with delicious sweet treats provided by Beth Gatzke. A lovely time was had by all. We had our annual hayride, campfire, and hot dog roast. We had a good time and enjoyed our fellowship together.

During the Feast we witnessed eight brethren baptized in the name of Yahshua the Messiah. The Saints immersed into Yahshua the Messiah were: Roger Anderson, Ray and Lana Boyko, William Burlison, Aaron Kevorkian, Douglas Vore, Richard Vore and Mark Werda. We welcome them all to The Family of Yah. HalleluYah!

Thank you to each and everyone who helped make this an enjoyable and memorable feast. We look forward to honoring and serving Yahweh again with you at His appointed times. May Yahweh bless you and keep you in His care.

Submitted by S. Brechting

Page Sixteen The Faith

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SACRED NAME MOVEMENT IN JAMAICA

Bishop C.H. Brown of <u>The 7th Day Church of G-d Pillar and Ground of the Truth</u>, who had attended several conferences and camp meetings sponsored by A.N. Dugger and C.O. Dodd, and others, were the first Pioneers to bring the Sacred Name message to his Assembly located at Amity Hall, St. James Jamaica.

The article in The Faith Jan-Feb 1982 issue written by L.D. Snow, thus confirmed that Bishop C.H. Brown of the island of Jamaica has spent time in the USA lecturing and that he always exalts the Name of the Creator and His Son Yahshua.

When this Sacred Name message was introduced to the 7th Day Church of G-d in Jamaica some of the members accepted the calling of "come out of her my people."

Later, my parents Hubert (now deceased) and Ivy Gallimore now 87 years old, who accepted the Sacred Name message, were baptized by Elder Vincent Taylor in Yahshua's name in 1953 in the Parish of Trelawney, Jamaica where the mother Assembly of Yahweh in Jamaica so humbly began.

As the years went by this message of the Name Movement under the Administrative leadership of Pastor B. Henlon reached several areas of Jamaica and was Registered as <u>The International Assembly of Yahweh.</u> As Father Yahweh continued to lead His people along, some migrated to other areas of the world carrying the message of the Sacred Name.

Pastor B. Henlon now 87 years continued to preach and teach the sound doctrine of Yahshua without wavering. Many who have heard of the doctrine preached have fallen into the categories of the Parable of the Sower (Matt 13:18-23).

Currently, there are several Sacred Name Groups under different Administrative Leaderships. Some of these groups have access to the Media by Radio or TV. These avenues helped make known the Glorious Name Message. Praise Yah!!

I give Father Yahweh thanks and sincerely pray for His continued anointed Power in sustaining Pastor B. Henlon and the other Eliyahs who have pledged an allegiance to follow the doctrine of Yahshua instead of man-made doctrine (Matt.15:3, Matt. 23, Isa. 29:13-14, 2 Cor.11:13-15). I give Father Yahweh thanks also for Pastor Samuel Graham the coordinator of The Faith Magazine, the oldest of all Sacred Name Correspondence in Jamaica, which is still being well appreciated by so many believers. All praises to Yahweh our Elohim and thanks be to His Son Yahshua. Halleluyah!!

Submitted by N. Roxby

10-12, 2009 Page Seventeen

Actions Speak Louder Than Words

We can say we love one another; but, if we don't have the actions to prove our love - what does it mean? If we truly love someone, our actions will speak for themselves. The actions will speak louder than words! Let's see what the scriptures say.

Roman's 13 v 8 to 10: 8) Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

I don't think Paul/Saul is saying the rest of the commandments/law is destroyed. Remember what Yahshua said in **Matthew 5 v 17 to 20**. I believe Paul is saying the law is based on love. The love of Yahweh, love for others, and even love of our self.

Our debt is to love one another. **9**) For this, THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, THOU SHALT NOT KILL, THOU SHALT NOT STEAL, THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, THOU SHALT NOT COVET; and if there be any other commandment it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF.

Each item above is an **action**. We can say we love another; but, if we commit adultery against them, murder them, steal from them... where is the love?

Remember what Yahshua said in **Matthew 7 v 12.** Basically, do unto others as you expect to be done to you. Would you think someone loves you if they deliberately hurt you?

10) LOVE worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

I believe verse 10 summarizes verses 8 and 9. Love is not hurtful. Yahweh wants us to love. The commandments are a prescription (e.g., a step by step list) to show love.

Submitted by A. Richards

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Page Eighteen The Faith

A MEDITATION: Walking Together Through Daily Life

Father, Holy Spirit I feel your presence. Father Yahweh, it's me, your son. Father Yahweh come, come walk with me! In the dawns early glow, as darkness retreats before the sun.

Walk with me this new day. From its infancy let me grow: New beginnings, New thoughts, New Joy. Walk with me in this new day.

Father, come walk with me when morning turns to day. Your light shines forth to make plain the new pathways:

Of growth, Of Truth, Of knowledge.

Walk with me and guide me.

Father, come walk with me.

The sun has reached its highest place. Its rays give warmth to my body.

When I ask and serve, you give bountifully:

Your love, My health, Prosperity.

Walk with me down the paths of service.

Father, come walk with me. When afternoon stretches out toward the evening.

Coping with life's episodes brings fatigue.

Keep your example ever before me, lest I forget to live:

With kindness, With Understanding, With wisdom.

Walk with me; strengthen me, each step of the way.

Father, come walk with me. When all of the beauty of the day shows forth in the evening sun set.

Your assurance that life is worth living:
The faithfulness of a family,
The love of a life long mate,
The joy of a job well done.

Walk with me in the way of peace beyond all understanding.

Son, my son! It's Yahweh. In the cool of the evening come, come walk with me.

We will walk together as always:

I will give you Joy to make loneliness fade; I will be there to guide you if the way is dimly lit.

I will be there if the steps are too high.

I will give endurance for the pain you bear;

I will give strength for the weight of your burden.

I will always give you the love that you share with others.

My son, come walk with me. Together, we will walk the pathway of eternal life.

Thank you Father! Thank you.

By Walter E. Eschtruth

10-12, 2009 Page Nineteen

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Page Twenty The Faith

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10-12, 2009 Page Twenty-One

YAHWEH'S 2010 CALENDAR

NEW MOON DAYS

January 17th
February 16th
March 18th
April 16th
May 16th
October 10th
May 16th
November 8th
June 14th
December 8th

CALCULATED FEAST DAYS

Passover 1st Day of Unleavened Bread Last Day Unleavened Bread Feast of Weeks Feast of Trumpets Day of Atonement 1st Day Feast of Tabernacles	March 31 st April 1 st April 7 th May 21 st Sept. 11 th Sept. 20 th Sept. 25 th	OR OR OR OR OR OR OR OR	April 29 th April 30 th May 6 th June 19 th Oct. 10 th Oct. 19 th Oct. 24 th
Last Great Day	Oct. 2 nd	OR OR	Oct. 24 th Oct. 31 st

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

Genesis 1:14 And Elohim said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

Seasons – Strong's #4150 moed – an appointment, i.e. a fixed time or season; spec. a festival;

Psalm 104:19 He appointed the moon for seasons:

Leviticus 23:4 These are the feasts of Yahweh, even holy [kodesh] convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

Jeremiah 31:35-36 Thus saith Yahweh, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon ... If those ordinances depart from before me, saith Yahweh, ...

Exodus 9:31 And the flax and the barley were ruined: for the barley was in the ear, and flax was bolled.

Exodus 12:2 This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

Deuteronomy 16:1 Observe the month of Abib, and keep the Passover unto Yahweh thy Elohim: for in the month of Abib Yahweh thy Elohim brought thee forth out of Egypt by night.

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10-12, 2009

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