

The Faith

Volume 82

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Number 3

They shall call on My Name

And I will hear them:

I will say,

“It is My people”

And they shall say,

Yahweh is my Elohim.

Zechariah 13:9b

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

VOLUME 82

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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 (Deceased)

Our motto: FORWARD WITH THE
ORIGINALLY INSPIRED
SCRIPTURES!

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Editorial

ONE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE

Matthew 13:45,46 – Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it. Our Savior Yahshua the Messiah spoke of this in a parable.

When mankind comes across a great truth, we want to share it, even tell the whole world if possible. Through our search for truth we find a solid foundation to build our spiritual house. One of these pearls, probably the greatest to influence us is that we have accepted the free gift of salvation (the plan of salvation) from Yahweh. John 3:16 – For Yahweh so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son (Yahshua, Yah's salvation), that whosoever believeth in him (to have faith in, to entrust one's spiritual will) should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Another pearl; Ephesians 1:3,7 – Blessed be the Elohim and Father of our Master Yahshua the Messiah, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in the Messiah: In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

Another pearl; when a person really starts to search, to seek, to look up, to make inquiry in searching out truth, they are beginning to be serious about the term "Salvation". The word Salvation is sometimes tossed around the ecclesiastical community like words and promises at a political rally – loosely. The search for Salvation is a personal search – it is an attitude changing, and life-changing experience. Your plan of action has been reset, your goal is to be in the Kingdom, you want Yahweh and Yahshua to be the center point in your life. You have accepted Yahweh's program to save mankind, his only begotten Son Yahshua the Messiah, salvation has come to your house (Luke 19:9). Apostle Paul was encouraging in Hebrews 6:9 and 12 – But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak....That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Revelation 22:14 – Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

We should view Salvation as an "action word". Yahshua wants to be active in his body of believers. For example, the good Samaritan, in Luke 10, who when he saw the man who was beaten, he had compassion on him, went to him, bound up his wounds, set him on his own beast, took him to an inn and took care of him. That is salvation in action, that is love, which if we have, it will show forth in our lives. We will have to step out of our comfort zone to help others. Luke 10:25-29 – And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love Yahweh thy Elohim with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Yahshua, And who is my neighbor? Yahshua then related the story of the good Samaritan in verses 30 through 37. Yahshua said to the lawyer, go and do likewise. Definitely a pearl of great price.

One more pearl, John 8:32 and 36 – And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

AUTHORITY

As believers in the Messiah we are confronted with a difficult paradox: we exist in a world where mankind has been endowed with great authority, albeit immensely abused, exposing us to the sinful nature of humanity. At the same time, we must cohabitate in this environment under the expectation of not conforming to its standards. The paradox then is, how does the believer navigate this secular system that is remarkably distinct from the Biblical model we are called to apply? Or to be more precise, how does the believer function under secular rule, while at the same time spiritually disconnecting oneself and eagerly anticipating the coming kingdom? The complexity of this situation was experienced by the earliest followers of Yahshua Messiah, and is as equally pertinent today as it was then. While time has continued to move, the environment remains. To discover the answer to this inquiry one must search out Yahweh's will through the inspired Scriptures. A passage that might best address this dichotomy, and provide the believer with reliable guidance to this dilemma, is from Romans 13:1-5. To gain the clearest perspective on this teaching, an exegetical survey will initially be conducted, followed by a historical snapshot of the era surveyed, and concluded with proper hermeneutical application.

The book of Romans may stand as the apostle Paul's strongest theological work, and is often recognized as such. However, the practical applications that Paul concludes his epistles with are sometimes overshadowed by the theological content. A difficult situation that the Roman assembly faced was Paul's directive on submitting to governing authorities. Paul wrote, "Let every being be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from Elohim, and the authorities that exist are appointed by Elohim" (Rom. 13:1, ISR). The main idea conveys the notion that, in no uncertain terms, believers are expected to submit themselves to their respective governments, as authority originates from Yahweh.

A leading example of this commandment is substantiated by Yahshua, who shortly before being executed, declared that the authority Pilate held as governor was in fact not his, as he assumed, but it was rather given to him by Yahweh (Jn. 19:11). Interestingly, this particular instance exemplifies a stunning model of submission on two fronts. First, though Yahshua was innocent of all charges levied against Him, He nonetheless willingly submitted to the unrighteous judgment of death by crucifixion, decreed by Pilate. Secondly, and sometimes overlooked, is the submission Yahshua demonstrated by following His Father's will (Luke 22:42). The importance of this willful submission is explained by Paul: "So he who opposes the authority withstands the institution of Elohim, and those who withstand shall bring judgment on themselves" (Rom. 13:2, ISR). This particular verse highlights the fact that a spirit of rebellion toward authoritative figures pronounces self-condemnation. When dissecting the selected passages it quickly becomes evident that Yahweh employs ruling figures as a means of maintaining civil order and structure (Rom. 13:3,4). In every society there exists a general understanding amongst citizens that when laws are infringed upon, disciplinary action quickly ensues. Punishments function as future deterrents to similar actions. Paul stresses the notion that there is no need to fear the sword-wielding authorities, so long as the masses oblige the emperors' laws.

As believers, our motivation should not hinge upon fearing punishment, but rather the simple premise that it is the right course of action in our walk with Messiah (Rom. 13:5). Willful subjection to a ruler is mandated as it mirrors the relationship with Yahweh. Upon

examination of all mitigating factors, at the time Paul wrote this epistle, it seems plausible that a spirit of rebellion was brewing within the congregation, and he sought to stamp out such sentiments. A casual review of the selected passages, may at first glance, appear out of place in relation to the prominence of the theological context of the epistle. However, when one moves beyond casual study, into deeper understanding, it becomes evident that the passages' significance is established by Paul's occasion for writing this epistle. To gain this perspective requires the determination to move beyond the text itself and into the world encapsulating the civilization at the time.

The occasion surrounding Paul's call for submission to governing authorities was likely connected to the political environment of the era. At this particular time in history the Romans ruled the known world. The emperor sat as the head of the state, managing the empire through delegation of authority to provincial governors. Given the vastness and power of the empire, threats were constant. The empire saw its greatest vulnerability at its farthest reaching borders, where neighboring empires looked to expand; threats from within the borders also presented a unique challenge, demanding an acute awareness of all affairs under Roman jurisdiction. The people of Israel fell under the umbrella of Roman rule, and were accustomed to oppressive rule. Yet, they were growing weary of it, while eagerly anticipating a promised change. Numerous historical sources have preserved the record of revolts by Jews against Roman authority. The Zealots, for example, were a radicalized sect of Judaism generally recognized for spearheading such uprisings. The Roman government viewed revolts, whether actual or perceived, as treasonous, and were met swiftly with execution. At the time the book of Romans was penned, Nero was emperor. The early years of his reign are referred to as quinquennium, or five good years. While these years may have been referred to by some as "good", it was by no means a categorical sentiment. The historian Tacitus is recognized as the first to document overt Christian persecution under Nero (Ferguson, 602).

It seems possible that Paul's concern centered around messianic believers, who in the heart of the Roman empire, were blending in with society. For a collective group, such as the body of Messiah, to stand out in opposition to Roman rule would have immediately ignited imperial action, with the prerogative of complete suppression. The threat could be further exasperated by the preaching of a coming King establishing His reign (Act. 1:6). Raising the bar beyond submission, Paul wrote to Timothy that believers should also pray for those in positions of authority, in order to "lead a calm and peaceable life in all reverence and seriousness" (1 Tim. 2:1,2, ISR). This was not a novel sentiment, as Yahshua taught the very same idea (Mt. 5:44).

There can be no misunderstanding that the Roman empire was viewed as an enemy of the faith. This divine summons to the faithful stood in sharp contrast to the cultural and social norms of the time. After all, most would prefer to curse their enemies, not pray for them. Yet, rising above this contemporary sentiment, and living in a set-apart manner, set an example on how peace was possible. The apostle Peter, writing to those in the Diaspora, echoed Paul's instruction, but added that submission to authority is "the desire of Elohim, and that by doing good you should put to shame the ignorance of foolish men" (1 Pet. 2:15, ISR). Sadly, this was not always the case, as the annals of history are stained with the blood of martyrs who faithfully submitted to Yahweh's will, and their resolve and steadfastness to the faith during the most trying times resulted in an untold number of individuals added to the body of Messiah. This brief historical synopsis supplies additional information to better understand the passages discussed. When this historical background is superimposed on Paul's writing, one is able to sense the dire situation he was confronted

with. While the information supplied up to this point focused on the political circumstances during the first century, the question may arise to the relevance and applicability for today's believers.

In the twenty-first century circumstances have undoubtedly changed. For one, not all believers are under a singular government rule as experienced in the first century. Instead, believers are spread throughout a much larger known world, under diametrically different forms of governments, ranging from free to highly oppressive, and everything in between. Despite this fact the applicability and relevance of Scripture is by no means antiquated. While geographical circumstances vary, Scripture makes it clear to all in the body of Messiah: submission to governing authorities is mandated. Recall that authority is established as a mechanism of maintaining civil order. While we are instructed to submit to the laws of our respective countries, the concern may surface as to what point, if any, are believers permitted to defy authority? This inquiry is not a hypothetical for the sake of academic purposes, but it is an actual and relevant issue in a degrading society.

In the United States, where religion is supposedly practiced freely, disciples of Yahshua are being hauled before judges, slanderously accused of being hateful bigots for no other reason than upholding Biblical values. Many of these legal issues encompass the topic of same sex marriage. Judicial action has been initiated against Christian bakers for refusing to make wedding cakes for same sex couples, in direct conflict with their belief that marriage is a holy institution between a man and a woman. Similarly, many may recall the example of the county clerk who refused to acknowledge the legitimacy of a same sex marriage by declining to issue marriage licenses that bore her name, and hence her approval. This official defied court mandates, earning her several days in jail. Are these selected cases an instance of insubordination to the Romans 13 directive, or is there Biblical precedence that these faithful servants appropriately stood against authority when it crossed the line? This pertinent question is certainly relevant today, as moral laxity abounds. The key that unlocks the paradoxical question is found in Scripture: "We have to obey Elohim rather than men" (Act. 5:29, ISR). The fact that Yahweh establishes governments presupposes that these same authorities will operate within the sphere of Yahweh's will; therefore, submission to authority is predicated upon that authority itself being submissive to Yahweh. Two examples supply credence to this fact.

First, consider the midwives in Egypt whom Pharaoh commanded that all male Hebrew babies be killed (Ex. 1:15,16). Scripture documents, "The midwives feared Elohim and did not do as the sovereign of Egypt commanded them, and kept the male children alive" (Ex. 1:17, ISR). The fact that these midwives feared Elohim and obeyed Him by not murdering innocent children – "Elohim was good to the midwives, and the people increased and became numerous" (Ex. 1:20, ISR). This appears relevant in the modern era, as there is a movement advancing the agenda of infanticide cloaked in the women's rights movement.

A second significant example may be seen with Daniel's righteous defiance. During Babylonian captivity Daniel faced harsh opposition by the King's governors. These rulers conspired to usurp Daniel from his position of authority, motivated by sheer jealousy. However, they recognized that Daniel was a righteous man, who could only be ensnared by causing him to infringe upon Yahweh's Torah (Daniel 6:4,5). These deceptive governors then persuaded the king to enact a law directing the inhabitants of the land to exclusively worship the king. Upon learning of this royal decree, Daniel boldly defied this directive by publically worshipping Yahweh in the same manner that he did day after day. Daniel was then sealed in a lions' den and left for dead as punishment. The following day

Daniel emerged from the den unscathed, because of his continued obedience to Yahweh, and he prospered greatly as a result (Dan. 6:28).

Today, there is a growing agenda to eradicate all public references to the Bible. We see centers of justice forced to remove Ten Commandment memorials, the very bedrock establishing justice and the core principles upon which this nation was founded. So-called centers of education are pushing evolution theory instead of creationism. There is a growing agenda to remove all Biblical references from classrooms. We should not be surprised to see this battle raging, since the darkness hates the light, for light exposes darkness. While we are commanded to submit to authority, believers today cannot compromise their faith to appease the masses. Though the consequences may seem harsh and unpalatable, Yahweh has demonstrated that He blesses those who remain faithful to Him. Each of us has citizenship in our respective countries, subject to the laws of that land, yet we must never lose sight that our true citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20).

Authority is a divine institution, given to man for the purpose of managing society. As subjects of those in power, the Bible makes it clear that believers are to submit themselves to authority. Failure to do so is tantamount to rejecting Yahweh. This submission, however, need not be blind. When authoritative figures neglect their responsibility of upholding divine standards, believers must stay loyal to Yahweh, regardless of man's imposed consequence. Though the prospect of punishment exists, standing up in the face of adversity and holding fast to the faith, one can expect Heavenly approval. This concept is vital for all modern believers to grasp as the moral fabric of society slowly unravels, and the adversary incessantly probes Yahweh's children to compromise their faith.

Jason McLaughlin

Works Cited---Ferguson, Everett. Backgrounds of Early Christianity. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2003. Institute for Scripture Research. The Scriptures, South Africa, ISR, 2009.

ONE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE

(Continued from Page 3)

Have you made a commitment to and a covenant with the Savior of mankind (Yahshua the Messiah)? He is patiently waiting for each and every one of us to ask him to come into our life and be our personal Savior.

Samuel A. Graham

34TH ANNUAL UNITY CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 8)

There is a growing element of camaraderie and a mutual feeling of trust and understanding when we meet at the Unity Conferences, at Yahweh's Feasts and on the weekly Sabbaths. This 34th Annual Conference was truly a blessing for the Assembly of Yahweh at Eaton Rapids and we want to thank each and every one who came. Thank you to each presenter for your participation. Much has been accomplished during and through these Conferences, and Yahweh willing, much more will be accomplished during and through future Unity Conferences. Next year (2019) the Shalom Assembly of Yahweh in Sterling, Illinois is planning to host the 35th Annual Unity Conference. May Yahweh the Father and His Son Yahshua the Messiah bless us all in the coming year as we serve them.

34TH ANNUAL UNITY CONFERENCE

The Assembly of Yahweh, Eaton Rapids, Michigan hosted the 2018 Unity Conference with brethren gathered from Kenya, India and many states around the country. Samuel Graham welcomed all, giving a short history of the Conference with some of the benefits from Yahweh's saints gathering together mentioned.

Arthur Rose of British Columbia, Canada came to the Conference in Cisco, Texas, many years ago to recruit the youth to help in the ministry he had started in India. Tony Suckla took the challenge and joined Arthur. Later on Tony returned to the U.S., sold his personal property, and went back to the work in India, which has grown immensely with an English teaching school, feeding children, teaching Yahweh's Word, a school bus, and the translation of the Bible in the Telegu language.

The first endeavor of the Conference was an ad about Yahweh's Name in the word HalleluYah published in one of the largest circulation newspapers in the U.S.

In 1999 the need for a bible with Yahweh and Yahshua's names restored was discussed. Elder Jerry Healan related the need for another Sacred Name Bible that any and all believers would have access to. Brother Bob Wells was led after the Conference that year to start this project. Many other brothers and sisters assisted in the work. The Word of Yahweh became a reality in less than a year start to finish. When we look back, we definitely can see the hand of Yahweh in it. The number of copies of The Word of Yahweh distributed to believers in the U.S. and around the world is a testimony of another worthy project for the body of Yahshua originating at the USA Conference.

At the 2017 Conference in Pennsylvania we learned that a bible was being translated into the Russian language. Elder Jake Meyer reported the Bible was going to press in 2018. Halleluyah! Another victory!

The following Elders and Brothers presented their thoughts, observations and insights throughout the Conference.

Robert Young, Pennsylvania – The Latter Rain.

George Garner, Missouri – Walk before Yahweh in Righteousness.

E. G. Robinson, Georgia – What type of love do you have?

Frank Kennedy, Delaware – Who do men say is the Son of man?

Jerry Healan, Texas – Who is Melchizedek?

Teddy Wilson, Idaho – The letter killeth; Yahweh versus Yehovah

Dwayne Wilson, Illinois – Dealing with sound justice in the family.

Randy Folliard, Missouri – The name Yehovah; We love Yahweh's name.

Alan Mansager, Missouri – The vanishing Word (main message Sabbath).

Tony Suckla, India and Herb Solinsky, Texas – The Calendar (more light on the ancient ways of determining Yahweh's Feast Days).

Mike Banak, Missouri – Celebrating Yah's Name everywhere.

Mike Abbaduska, Illinois – Return to me saith Yahshua.

Peter Kihara, Stephen Nganga, and Paul Bett, Kenya – Exhortations; Invitation to visit Kenya.

Phillip Thomas, India – The truth about Islam.

Missionary Reports – Jacob C. Meyer, Caribbean; Peter Kihara, Kenya; Tony Suckla, India; E.G. Robinson, Nigeria; Dwayne Wilson, Kenya; Robert Davis, Africa.

FOUR PILLARS

Faith, Repentance, Obedience, Love

I have faith that each and every word spoken by my Elohim Yahweh and by His beloved Son Yahshua Messiah is true. The things I can see affirm His providence. That all the universe is not once more formless and empty and in darkness as it was before His creation shows me that all is under His care and guidance; that Yahweh is directing the universe and the affairs of humankind with wise benevolence.

At Deuteronomy 4:31 we are told, “For Yahweh your Elohim is a compassionate El, He does not forsake you, nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them.” And in Deuteronomy 31:6, “He does not fail you nor forsake you.” And at John 14:16-18 the Messiah affirms this, “And I shall ask the Father, and He shall give you another helper to stay with you forever...I shall not leave you orphans – I am coming to you.” Yahweh’s word is transcendent beyond the limits of time and space and thus the promises He has made, to all who are willing to accept them on His terms are beyond time and space. Each of those promises were conditional, they offered not only blessings, but also curses as well, for you to choose as you will.

Man cannot come to a loving understanding and to true knowledge of Elohim or Yahshua Messiah by making value judgments as to which words of Scripture, Yahweh’s Holy Instructions, he will follow, for by doing so he puts his limited knowledge above the Word of our omnipotent Creator. At John 10:35 Messiah tells the Yehudim, “And it is impossible for Scripture to be broken...” We can also see at 2 Timothy 3:16, “All Scripture is breathed out by Elohim and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for setting straight, for instruction in righteousness.” Job is asked by Elohim, “Should a reprover contend with the Almighty (Job 40:2)?” and at verse 8, “Would you also set aside My Judgments? Would you pronounce Me wrong, and you be declared righteous?”

Our Elohim Yahweh has told us over two hundred times to “Obey My commands”, to “Follow My paths”, to “Walk in My ways”, to be “Holy as I am Holy”. Our Messiah has told us “Be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect” (Matthew 5:48). In faith I believe I can become Holy [separate] and Perfect, why would a loving Elohim place a burden upon me that I could not bear? In Hebrews 10:14 we find, “For by one offering He has perfected for all time THOSE WHO ARE BEING SET APART.” (emphasis added) We also find, “And this also we pray for; your perfection...” (1 John 2:5). Also see 1 John 4:17,18.

We are told we can reach this perfection by guarding Yahweh’s Word and by the love of our Elohim. We are also told of two men who “walked with Yahweh Elohim”. Enoch in Genesis 5:22, 24 and Noah in Genesis 6:9, “Noah was a righteous man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with Elohim.” Abram was told, “Walk before Me and be perfect.” (Genesis 17:1) Eli was told his house, the priesthood, was to walk before Yahweh Elohim forever at 1 Samuel 2:30; and Solomon was commanded to, “Guard the charge of Yahweh your Elohim: to walk in His Ways” (1 Kings 2:3).

Walk before Me and walk in His Ways; we see this several more times in Scripture, but to walk with Him, seems to be different, more personal, a much more intimate and special relationship!

How do we strive to obtain this deeper relationship with our Creator? In Amos 3:3 we are asked, “Would two walk together, without having met?” In Genesis 4:26 we find

our starting place, “Then it was begun to call on the Name of Yahweh.” Began to call on His Name, to introduce yourself to the El of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob by recognizing the power of that Name which is above all names, Yahweh Elohim. Learn what He expects of you. He has given you the gift of Torah, the five Books He told to Moses, and the Books of the Prophets and the Books of Wisdom. The Whole of His gift of love to us the TaNak, the Old Testament.

When Yahweh Elohim spoke the Ten Words from the Mountain top (Exodus 20:18-20) the people were afraid, “And Moses said to the people, Do not fear, for Elohim has come to prove you, in order that His fear be before you, SO THAT YOU DO NOT SIN” (emphasis added). In order to walk with Elohim, you must be Holy as He is Holy. If you are worldly, [unrighteous], you are in rebellion to Yahweh, you are in fact walking contrary to Him. To walk with Him you must be in reconciliation with Him. But how do we who have sinned harmonize with a sinless Creator, one who finds sinners to be an abomination to Him?

It is now that we see the second pillar of our four, Repentance. Two Hebrew words are translated as repentance [repent]. Strong’s H5162, [nacham] *naw-kham*’ a primitive root, properly to sigh, i.e. breathe strongly; by implication to be sorry, i.e. (in a favorable sense) to pity, console or (reflexively) rue; or (unfavorably) to avenge (oneself); - comfort, comfort self, ease [one’s self], repent, (-er, -ing, self).

In modern Church tradition we are told that we inherit the “original sin” of Adam and Eve. This tradition is in contradiction to Scripture. Ezekiel 18:20 reads, “The being who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the crookedness of the father, nor the father bear the crookedness of the son. The righteousness of the righteous is upon himself, and the wrongness of the wrong is upon himself.” We also see this in 2 Kings 14:6, “But he did not put to death the children of the strikers, according to what is written in the Book of Torah of Moses, in which Yahweh commanded, saying, Fathers are not put to death for the children, and children are not put to death for the fathers, but each one is put to death for his own sin.” (Deuteronomy 24:16). While we did not inherit the sin itself, we do suffer the consequences of that sin, death in a fallen world!

This theology causes people to feel guilty about their sin and to look to their religious leadership for how to assuage these feelings of guilt. They are told they must be sorry *naham* [nacham] for their sins. They are encouraged to wrap themselves in a comfort blanket of grace and all will be well with them. Sinners are told that by raising their hands and reciting the sinners’ prayers, all of their sins are washed away by the blood of J-sus, who is their sin offering. But the sin offering in Scripture was only for unintentional sin, Leviticus 4:22-28, sins which were unknowingly committed were also covered by the guilt offering, Leviticus 5:2. It is in Leviticus 6:2-5 we see knowingly sinning, and the atonement for these, required not only a guilt offering but restitution as well.

How do we make restitution to Yahweh Elohim? To find the answer we need only look to the second Hebrew word for repent, *shuv*. Strong’s H7725, [shuw] *shoob*; a primitive root; to turn back (hence, away) transitively or intransitively, literally or figuratively. Strong’s lists over ninety meanings for this word, but for our purpose I will use the primary root meaning, to turn back (hence away).

For the attainment of the holiness necessary to walk with Yahweh depends on those two things, turn back to Elohim and the turning away from the world of sin. We can see this clearly in Ezekiel 14:6,7, “Thus said the [Sovereign] Yahweh, Repent and turn back from your idols, and turn back your face from all your abominations. For anyone of the

house of Israel, or the STRANGERS who sojourn in Israel...” (emphasis added). And once more in Ezekiel 18:30-32, “Repent, and turn back from all your transgressions by which you have transgressed, and make for yourself a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O House of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies, declares the [Sovereign] Yahweh. So turn back and live!” Yahweh Elohim in Malachi 3:7 said, “From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my laws and did not guard them. Turn back to me and I shall turn back to you...but you said in what shall we turn back?”

This is a compelling question for us today. As we saw above most Christian theology teaches repentance means to be sorry, to change your mind, or to believe in J-sus because He did it all for you, you are no longer under the law because J-sus nailed the law to the cross [tree, stake]. But these are man-made traditions invented by the post-apostolic, exclusively gentile church fathers. Repentance for them was passive, just say you are sorry and you are under Grace and saved, once saved always saved and the like. These church fathers have led people to view Grace as a pardon from all sin past, present and future. While the reality of Grace is a reprieve, the postponement of punishment – “For the wages of sin are death” until repentance and atonement can be made, as they surely must!

James the brother of our Messiah understood the Hebrew teshuva, repentance. As he shows in Chapter 4, “Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with Elohim! Who therefore intends to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of Elohim (verse 4). ...Draw near to Elohim and He shall draw near to you (verse 8). ...Humble yourselves in the sight of the Master and He shall lift you up (verse 10).” These are absolute requirements of repentance, to be brought to salvation!

When Adam and Eve were created they were created in the image of their Creator, Yahweh Elohim, without sin, Holy and perfect as Elohim Himself is. And when we were at the very moment of birth we too shared the same status. It is only as we mature that we sin, sometimes unintentionally, and sometimes knowingly, “For all have sinned and fall short of the esteem of Elohim.” As we are told in Romans 3:23.

Teshuva is a daily turning away from sin and towards Yahweh. Wherein each and every thought and action is submissive to the will of Yahweh Elohim, “Overthrowing reasonings and every high matter that exalts itself against the knowledge of Elohim, taking captive every thought to make it obedient to the Messiah” (2 Corinthians 10:5). “So then subject yourselves to Elohim.” (James 4:7a). “Yahweh, who does sojourn in Your tent? Who does dwell in Your set-apart mountain? He who walks blamelessly, and does righteousness, and speaks truth in his heart.” (Psalms 15:1,2) Our purpose and goal in life should be to walk with our Elohim Yahweh, to feel the joy of being within His love, to make His Word the aim of all our actions for His glory [high esteem]! (See Ephesians 4:12-15.)

We as human beings of course realize that we are not “perfect” beings, yet we are called to be perfect. We see that Enoch and Noah were perfect long before the gifts of Torah and the Holy [kodesh] Spirit were given to mankind. They had no Messiah to imitate. We have Holy gifts yet many refuse to believe. Oh no, we are taught, only the Messiah was perfect, how can this be when we have Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and Moses as role models of perfection? Yahshua our Messiah, James, Peter, John and Paul all spoke of our perfection. How can this be? Once more we find our answer in Scripture, “With Elohim all things are possible,” (Matthew 19:26), “... all things are possible to him

that believes” (Mark 9:23), “for with Yahweh all things are possible” (Mark 10:27), “Abba, Father all is possible for you” (Mark 14:36) and once more in Luke 18:27, “What is impossible with man is possible with Elohim.”

“I believe Master, help my unbelief” (Mark 9:24b). We may well have to pray like this man many times to be able to overcome those small doubts we all share. We have a mighty Yahweh Elohim, one who is able to do works beyond our understanding. Yet we do not ask for things that are worthy of His Power and Might. Yahweh great and wonderful, help me in my unbelief so that I may be Holy as you are Holy, allow me to walk with You in belief each day.

When we truly repent of our sins our sins are not only forgiven, they are forgotten! “But You have lovingly delivered my being from the pit of corruption, for You have cast all my sin behind Your back” (Isaiah 38:17); “Who is an El like you – taking away crookedness and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance? He shall not retain His wrath forever, for He Himself delights in loving commitment, He shall turn back, He shall have compassion on us, He shall trample upon our crookedness! And You throw all our sins into the depths of the sea” (Micah 7:18-20); “For I shall forgive their crookedness, and remember their sin no more” (Jeremiah 31:34b). Also see Hebrews 10:16,17. We have seen this great witness as to the necessity of repentance,... that we may return to the sinlessness of our conception – “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born from above, he is unable to see the reign of Elohim” (John 3:3). Once we are truly repentant our nature will change as Paul described in Colossians 3:1,2, “If, then you were raised with Messiah, seek the matters which are above, where Messiah is, seated at the right hand of Elohim. Mind the matters above, not those on the earth.”

I would like to paraphrase Jonathon Edwards, the 18th century pastor, to show the working of a repentant mind. It is a true sense of the excellency of Yahweh Elohim and the work of redemption, and the ways and works of Yahweh revealed in Torah. There is a divine and superlative glory [esteem] in these things, excellency that is of a vastly higher kind and more sublime nature than in other things, and a glory greatly distinguishing them from all that is earthly and temporal. He that is spiritually enlightened truly apprehends and sees it, or has a sense of it. He does not merely rationally believe that Yahweh is glorious, but has a sense of the gloriousness of Yahweh in his heart. This is what it means to walk with our Elohim Yahweh. To be in obedience to His will.

“Beloved ones, now we are children of Elohim. And it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone having this expectation in Him cleanses himself, as He is clean. Everyone doing sin also does lawlessness, and SIN IS LAWLESSNESS” (1 John 3:2-4, emphasis added).

As we saw above, Enoch, Noah and Abraham were all found to be perfect even before the gifts of Torah, the Messiah, and the Holy [kodesh] Spirit. We today have those gifts to instruct us, to encourage us, and to strengthen us. The only things that stand between us and being perfect are unbelief, a lacking of faith, and a fear of failure. We see this in the traditions of men in churches today. That it is normal to sin, everyone sins, we are not alone, take comfort in this. We are redeemed by the blood, don’t even try to be set-apart!

In scripture we are told of false teachings, Proverbs 14:12, “There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is death.” And 2 Corinthians 11:3, “But I am afraid, lest, as the serpent deceived Eve by his trickery, so your minds should be corrupted from

the simplicity that is in Messiah.” Paul warns the Ephesians at 4:14, “so that we should no longer be children, tossed and borne about by every wind of teaching, by the trickery of men, in cleverness, unto the craftiness of leading astray.” Also the prophet Jeremiah spoke of this, “O Yahweh, my strength and my stronghold and my refuge, in the day of distress the nations shall come to You from the ends of the earth and say, Our fathers have inherited only falsehood, futility, and there is no value in them” (Jeremiah 16:19). Our Messiah in Revelation 12:9 tells us, “And the great dragon was thrown out, that serpent of old, called the devil and satan, WHO LEADS ALL THE WORLD ASTRAY.” (emphasis mine).

No man ever sins out of necessity, it is always by choice. Just as Yahweh Elohim provided Abraham with a ram to sacrifice, Genesis 22:8; because of his faith, so too will He provide for us in our times of affliction, Psalms 34:19, “Many are the evils of the righteous, but Yahweh delivers him out of them all.” “And the ancestors, becoming jealous sold Yoseph into Mitsrayim. But Elohim was with him, and delivered him out of all his afflictions...” (Acts 7:9,10).

Now, once you become the [set-apart] creature you were intended to be, we must confess our faith, as Sha’ul did at Acts 24:14, “And this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the Elohim of my Fathers, believing all that has been written in the Torah and the Prophets.” The Elohim of my Fathers; at Exodus 3:15 we see just who the Elohim of Sha’ul (Paul) is, “I am the Elohim of Abraham, the Elohim of Yitshaq, and the Elohim of Ya’aqob.”

Sha’ul had much to say about our walk in obedience: “...so also we should walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4); “And I say; walk in the Spirit...” (Galatians 6:16); “If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:25); “...unto good works, which Elohim prepared beforehand that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10); “To walk worthy of the Master...” (Colossians 2:6); “...that as you received from us how you should walk and to please Elohim, you shall excel still more” (Colossians 4:1).

Walk to please Elohim. Let’s examine how Yahshua Messiah pleased, obeyed, our Father Yahweh Elohim. “So Yahshua said to them, when you lift up the Son of Adam, then you shall know that I am He, and I do none at all of Myself, but as My Father taught me, these words I speak. And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do what pleases Him” (John 8:28,29). “Though being a Son, He learned obedience by what He suffered” (Hebrews 5:8). “For this you were called, because Messiah also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps, who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth” (1 Peter 2:21,22). As we saw in 1 John 3:4 sin is lawlessness. While it is true that we are not found right, “by works of Torah,...for by the Torah is the knowledge of sin” (Romans 3:20). If we are to walk with Yahweh Elohim we must have a right view of Torah. It’s for us a way of life, the Instruction of how we are to live in love. And by choosing to be followers of Messiah we have come under an obligation, as we saw above, to walk even as He walked. No man receives a reward for doing what he is obligated to do!

We are in obedience to the Word, Torah, of Yahweh Elohim out of love for Him; out of our desire to please Him. “Be imitators of Elohim as beloved children. And walk in love, as Messiah loved us, and gave Himself for us, a gift and an offering to Elohim for a sweet smelling fragrance” (Ephesians 5:1,2); and 2 John verse 6, “And this is love, that we walk according to His commands, this the command, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.”

In most Christian religions today the love that is taught is denominational, a group value which is based on, for the most part, emotionalism and not spiritualism, on

tolerance instead of temperance. It is through this denominational love that an Us, those of the group and a Them, those of a different denomination is formed. Holy Wars have been fought between one group that claims to be followers of the Elohim of Abraham, of Yitshaq, and of Ya'aqob against another group of equally devout followers. Is it easier to kill them than to pray for them? Can there be love in war? In death over prayer? Does the blood of those who are killed in Holy War cry out from the ground as does the blood of Abel?

“By this we know that we love the children of Elohim, when we love Elohim and guard His commands. For this is the love for Elohim, that we guard His commands, and His commands are not heavy: (1 John 5:2,3). Yahweh, through His commands, the Ten Words, tells us how to love Him, with the first four commandments, and how to love each other, with the final six of those commands. These Ten Commandments are the moral law of love. See Exodus 20.

The Messiah Yahshua said, “You shall love Yahweh with all your heart, and with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and great command. And the second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commands hang all the Torah and Prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40). Yahshua Messiah had earlier at Matthew 5:19 said, “Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.” The call to love “Your neighbor as yourself” is said to be the most quoted verse from the Bible, Leviticus 19:18. This is often thought of loving only those like you, not as universal love of all mankind, all of Elohim’s children. But reading further in Leviticus, at 19:34, we find “Let the stranger who dwells among you be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself.” Also see Deuteronomy 10:19. We can thus see the bringing of “Stranger” to the same level as “Neighbor”!

In Matthew 5:44 the Messiah includes your enemies, “Bless those cursing you, do good to those hating you, and pray for those insulting you and persecuting you.” And at verse 46 He tells us, “For if you love those loving you, what reward have you? Are the tax collectors not doing the same too?” We find in this fifth chapter of Matthew a series of antitheses to express “Love your enemies” (Matthew 5:21-44). These are many times viewed as the Messiah raising the bar of conduct of love, as he did with forgiveness, while in fact He is, in light of Leviticus 19:34, clearing up how we are to love. As he Himself loved and how our Heavenly Father Yahweh loved, with forgiveness!

In the Torah we find Yahweh’s love, being conditional, bringing Judgment to those “who hate Him” and showing “love to those who love Him”. We are told over and over of the Divine Blessings for those who obey the Covenant relationship and by contrast curses to those who refuse to obey. “For I have withdrawn My peace from this people, declares Yahweh, even the loving commitment and the compassion” (Jeremiah 16:5b). But we can see even the Mosaic Covenant does not make Yahweh’s love totally dependent upon our obedience, rather Grace stretches the boundaries of His love, to allow us the opportunity to repent. We can see an example of this in Exodus chapters 32-33, the golden calf. “And Yahweh passed before him and proclaimed Yahweh, Yahweh El, compassionate and showing favor (grace), patient, and great in loving commitment and truth for thousands, forgiving crookedness and transgressions and sin...” (Exodus 34:6,7). Also see Psalms 86:15, Psalms 89:14. How many times have you seen, at ball games or on billboards and church signs, John 3:16? “For Elohim so loved the world that He gave His only brought-forth Son, so that everyone who believes in Him should not perish but

YAHSHUA'S JEWELS



Yahshua's Young People

"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." (1 Tim. 4:12)



Are you stressed? There are pressures at school, work and in the home. Social media is also becoming an addiction and a stressor. Young people today face many challenges, more than in the past.

HOW DO YOU COPE?

1. **FIND YAHSHUA:** (John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.)
2. **STAY AWAY FROM NEGATIVE FRIENDS:** Good friends build you up, not break you down.
3. **THINK POSITIVE:** No matter how bad your day, think of at least 3 amazing things Yahshua has done in your life. Don't let Satan trick you. Yahshua has done amazing things in all our lives.
4. **RELAX → REST:** The greatest being, Father Yahweh rested. So, rest is even more necessary for us.
5. **HAVE FUN:** Do something you enjoy! Whatsoever has virtue (is positive), (Philippians 4:8). Remember, Yahshua came to give you life more abundantly (John 10:10b).

Don't let the stress of this life crush you. Take a break and ask Yahshua for help. He will always be there for you!



THE RELAX GAME !!!



RELAX → Each time you find this word, breathe in (inhale) and out (exhale) for 3 times very slowly. The word appears 4 times. (The word can appear backwards or in any direction.)

Remember to stop and do the breathing exercise each time you find the word.

WIWIBTXALERFQZLGI XJXE JEA
MZCIWI IWIQJNIAEIWIXTETAT
GQETYULYESNEUI SFVA AIRCAE
RAAERTYUERTUIOPPPYYTUIOPT
E IWIBV XYQLFQZLGI XJXE JEA
L AAERTYUERTUIOPPPYYTUIOPT
A QETYULYESNEUI SFVA AIRCAE
X AAERTYUERTUIOPPPYYTUIOPT
R ELAXRTYUERTUIOPPPYYTUIOP
GQETYULYESNEUI SFVA AIRCAE
MZCIWI IWIQJWIAEIWIXALERE

IN MEMORIAM

William “Bill” Graham – 92, of Lansing, Michigan passed away peacefully August 10, 2018. Bill was born June 5, 1926 to Laurimore and Mabel Graham. After graduating high school, Bill joined the Navy and served from 1944-46 aboard the LST1076. Bill met the love of his life Doris Nelson; they were married September 18, 1948; they were one month short of celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary. He became a printer, retiring in 1989 from the State of Michigan Legislative Service Bureau. Once retired, he spent his time entertaining at senior centers and nursing homes. He loved to sing and play the piano.

Bill is predeceased by daughter Janet Graham and granddaughter Lisa Humphrey. He leaves precious memories to be cherished by his loving wife Doris; daughter Susan Graham of Potterville, son William (Jean) Graham of New Palestine, Indiana; his grandchildren and great grandchildren; and many friends.

Bill was baptized into Yahshua the Messiah in his youth. Bill and Doris, having the gift of hospitality, welcomed many early believers into their home. Bill sang and played piano at the Assembly of Yahweh, Eaton Rapids for many years. Bill and Doris divided their time on Sabbaths between the Assembly of Yahweh at Eaton Rapids, Springvale Academy in Owosso and Yahweh’s House of Prayer in Kendallville, Indiana.

Carmela Valenzuela Anabieza – 54, of Lapasan, Cagayan De Oro City, Philippines, passed away in Yahshua the Messiah on September 2, 2017. She was born November 18, 1962 in Lapasan. Carmela was preceded in death by her father Bruno Valenzuela. She leaves her husband Eduardo B. Anabieza, mother Veronica, brothers Andrew, Bruno Jr., Edgar, Dan, and Glenn; sisters Florence and Hope; and three children Eduard, Anbelie and Chelsea.

To her friends and family she was known as a generous giver and a strict educator. She was much loved by close relatives and friends, and deeply aggrieved for her passing.

Baptized into Yahshua the Messiah along with her husband Eduardo in 2004, Carmela had helped in spreading the good news to the community and also educating the young children as a daycare teacher to leave good seeds for the future. Moving to Poblacion, Claveria, Misamis Oriental in October, 2012, she with her family created pamphlets in her local vernacular, fans and bookmarks with bible verses and the Name written on it to hand out to people in the area. A year before she died, she spent much of her time, with the help of her family, in translating the bible into Cebuano in hopes that it could spread the word into the community.

Carmela will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

Submitted by: Bro. Edwardo B. Anabieza

I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Master, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. 2 Timothy 4:7,8

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SPIRITUAL THOUGHT BITES

Nothing on earth is more profitable than keeping the Father's commandments and spending time in prayer.

Those who are in prayer often are those whose hearts are on fire for Yahweh and seek him constantly.

As a true believer, this world is not about you but it is about you doing your heavenly Father's work as His faithful representative.

Those believers who know they're bought with a price and are no longer their own have come out of the world and keep the commandments.

To really know Yahweh and Yahshua and love them means you want to spend your spare time with them and you've made room in your non-spare time as well.

Eyes looking steadfastly on the Creator above are not tempted by the sins of the world below.

To love your neighbor as yourself is backed up by praying for them.

Submitted by: Samuel Teague, Casa Grande, Arizona

BEFORE YOU DIE SEEK YAHWEH

2 Peter 3:9 said "Yahweh is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

The doctrine Yahshua preached to mankind was not his but of him that sent him (**John 7:16**). Today the same message is continued to be preached by those who are conformed to his image, believe in him and obey his words. It is imperative that one repent of his/her sins and be baptized in Yahshua's name. **Acts 4:12** said, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

To the backsliders Almighty Yahweh in **Jeremiah 3:22** said, "Return, ye backsliding children."

Jeremiah 4:3,4 "Break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns. Circumcise yourselves to Yahweh, and take away the foreskins of your heart."

To the unbelievers, Yahshua is tenderly calling those who hear his voice to come follow him. Swing your heart's door widely open and bid him enter while you still have life to do so.

Halleluyah!

N. Roxby (A servant of Yah)

Yahweh's 2018 Calendar

New Moon Days	YAHSHUA'S MEMORIAL (Passover) APRIL 1 Celebrate MARCH 31 after sunset	Annual Convocation Days
Jan. 19	FESTIVAL OF UNLEAVENED BREAD APRIL 2 through APRIL 8	April 2
Feb. 18		April 8
Mar. 19	FEAST (appointment) OF WEEKS MAY 22 See Leviticus 23:10, 11, 15, 16, 21	May 22
Apr. 18		Sept. 11
May 17		Sept. 20
June 15		Sept. 25
(Borderline)	FEAST (appointment) OF TRUMPETS SEPTEMBER 11	Oct. 2
July 15		
Aug. 13		
Sept. 11	DAY (appointment) OF ATONEMENT SEPTEMBER 20	7 days in all – the number of completeness
(Borderline)		
Oct. 11		
Nov. 9	FEAST OF TABERNACLES (Booths or Huts) SEPTEMBER 25 through OCTOBER 1	
(Borderline)		
Dec. 9	LAST GREAT DAY OCTOBER 2	

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

FOUR PILLARS

(Continued from Page 14)

possess everlasting life.” We can also see the loving relationship between our Father Yahweh, His beloved Son Yahshua, and Us! “Because of this the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life, in order to receive it again” (John 10:17). “But Elohim, who is rich in compassion, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses...” (Ephesians 2:4,5).

Just as we set the bar of our being forgiven by how much we forgive, Matthew 6:12; so too do we set the limits of how much we will be loved by how much we love others! While for us to love in a true Biblical sense may seem to be a daunting or even impossible goal to achieve, remember Peter walked on the water (Matthew 14:28-31) until he thought he couldn't. Master, I believe, Help me in my unbelief.

Doug Beatty
Petersburg, Virginia

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