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There is a little flock that is striving to faithfully keep every one of Yahweh's commandments. This Assembly is keeping the commandments of Yahweh and holding the Faith and Testimony of Yahshua the Messiah. Will you join the Assemblies of Yahweh in keeping the Word of Yahweh and faithfully using Yahweh's Name and Yahshua's Name?.

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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Our Cover:



"(The mountains rose, the valleys sank down) To the place which you had founded for them." (Psalm 104:8).Yahweh has laid the foundations of the earth.

We marvel at the beauty of Yahweh's creation. So few, however, give glory to Yahweh for the beauty of this earth. Instead, they deny our Maker and His creation.

"Fear Yahweh, and give him glory; for the hour of his judgment has come: and worship him that made the heaven and the earth and the sea and the fountains of waters." (Revelation 14:7).



by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

King Solomon, in the strongest terms, urged the True Worshiper to seek wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.

"The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: to know wisdom and instruction; to discern the words of understanding: to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness and justice and equity; to give prudence to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion: that the wise man may hear, and increase in learning; and that the man of understanding may attain to sound counsels: to understand a proverb, and a figure, the words of the wise, and their dark sayings. The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge; but the foolish despise wisdom and instruction." (Proverbs 1:1-7).

Solomon strengthens this exhortation to heed the Word of Yahweh in the second chapter of Proverbs.

"My son, if you will receive my words, and lay up my commandments with you; so as to incline your ear to wisdom. And apply your heart to understanding; for; if you cry after discernment, and lift up your voice for under standing; if you seek her as silver; and search for her as for hid treasures: then shall you understand the fear of Yahweh. And find the knowledge of Elohim. For Yahweh gives wisdom; out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding: he lays up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to them that walk in integrity; that he may guard the paths of justice, and preserve the way of his saints. Then shall you understand righteousness and justice, and equity, yes, every good path. For wisdom shall enter into your heart, and knowledge shall be pleasant to your soul; discretion shall watch over you; understanding shall keep you: to deliver you from the way of evil, from the men that speak perverse things; who forsake the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the perverseness of evil; who are crooked in their ways, and wayward in their paths: to deliver you from the strange woman, even from the foreigner that flatters with her words; that forsakes the friend of her youth, and forgets the covenant of her Elohim." (Proverbs 2:1-17).

The Assemblies of Yahweh has always encouraged the search for wisdom and knowledge. We believe that biblical wisdom builds the spiritual house of the believer. Education in biblical teaching develops a sturdy spiritual structure resting upon seven pillars of understanding, Proverbs 9:1. It is interesting to note that the book of Proverbs appears to be divided into seven sections. Perhaps in this way, Solomon sought to underscore the importance of what he taught.

Nevertheless, from our years of close observation, it becomes obvious that the wisdom of Yahweh contained in the inspired Scriptures by far transcends the wisdom of this world. For example, the world has established an educational system, apparently at variance with what Almighty Yahweh has clearly outlined in the Scriptures. In many ways, the scholarly world has followed the search for wisdom outlined by Almighty Yahweh. However, in other ways, the educational system of the world appears to maintain the traditions of ancient paganism. Surely, few people of the world follow the principles of study outlined in Proverbs 1 and Psalm 1.

When a student in a worldly educational institution has fulfilled certain matriculation requirements, he reaches a higher degree regardless of his actual level of knowledge. The sacred Scriptures do not support the concept of simply striving for the credit of degrees, but that our reward for diligent Bible study will ultimately be acceptance into the family of the Most High at the Second Coming of Yahshua the Messiah. While the world confers upon the student various academic degrees to recognize his level of intellectual advancement, history reveals that such a system is based primarily upon ancient pagan traditions.

One of the milestone levels created by the worldly educational system occurs in the graduation or commencement exercise. To mark the passing of a designated degree of learning accomplishment, solemn ceremonies are conducted which take the form of a pageant.

Prominent in the ceremony of graduation or commencement is the processional WITH THE PARTICIPANTS WEARING THE ACADEMIC ROBES; the graduates-usually dressed in CAPS AND GOWNS. The average individual unquestioningly accepts these pageants and does not seem to comprehend the dangerous pagan customs that are latent beneath these customary ceremonies. Too frequently, the student's anticipation of achievement in participating in such a ceremony outweighs his desire to serve Almighty Yahweh and avoid the contamination of this worldly system.

Let us take a close look at the graduation ceremonies and understand where they originated. Then, after having examined the facts which have been unearthed from scholarly research, each one must arrive at his own conclusion and apply the knowledge according to his own ability to obey.

Bachelor and Baccalaureate

When we scrutinize one of the terms assigned to academic degrees, some amazing facts emerge. The first full degree that is granted by a secondary educational institution is called the "Bachelor Degree." One usually thinks of a bachelor as an unmarried man with few responsibilities, the primary definition in some dictionaries. The question now arises concerning the reason why this term should be used to designate an academic degree.

Webster's New World Diction-

ary, Second College Edition, directs the inquirer to the word "baccalaureate" for further consideration . The etymology of this word is said to trace to "laurel berry" from the Middle Latin word baccalaureatus. However, they suggest that it traces to the Middle Latin term meaning "vassal farmer, a young nobleman seeking to become a knight (baccalaris)." They suggest the Gaulish term bakalakos, a staff bearer or shepherd, which they hypothesize traces to the Latin root baculum staff."

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However, a very amazing thing is evident through taking an overview of the associative field of words in the **Oxford English Dictionary**. For the word *bacchanal*, variant spellings include *bacca* and *baca* as prefixes. The word *bacchanal* (a place devoted to Bacchus) forms the basis of the word *Bacchanalia*—the festival of *Bacchus*.

To nail down this etymology more firmly, included with this article is an ancient representation of this pagan Greek and Roman mighty one of alcoholic merriment. Obviously, one can recognize that the deity himself, as well as his devotees portrayed with him, as wearing laurel wreaths like crowns around their heads—the laurel of Bacchus, baccalaureate.

Interestingly, the sacred laurel (portrayed in a wreath or circle) is held aloft by Nike, the winged victory, to crown Zeus as the victor (refer to Nicolaitanes, Revelation 2:6, 15). In the book, **Two Babylons**, authored by Alexander Hislop, he traces the name Bacchus to Dionysus and, ultimately, to Zeus (p. 72). Hislop explains that Bacchus, or Dionysus meant the *sin bearing one* as an appellative of *Zeus Soter* (Savior). Many trophies still depict Nike with wings, holding the wreath aloft to crown the victor.

There is more here than readily meets the eye. Close relationships of terms become evident through reflection. Bacchus was not merely a mighty one whose worship consisted of drunken orgies and revelry (as at the New Orleans Mardi Gras). His worship is interwoven into major Chr-stian celebrations, Chr-stmas as well as Easter, since, sometimes, he is depicted with a headband (note reference to the tippet later in this article) on which was embroidered many crosses. (Yahshua the Messiah was not put to death on a cross, but on a tree or torture stake. Have you read our article on this subject? It is free for the asking.)

Perhaps this is the reason why heavy drinking frequently accompanies the final days of a student's collegiate life just before he graduates. Is there a relationship here to the ancient worship of Bacchus, and the drunken celebrations for having won the academic victory? One can only speculate.

Why is it necessary to attend a religious service when a senior class graduates from high school or college? Does it not seem strange that such a baccalaureate service is conducted when no such description of a service appears, or is commanded to be observed, in the Sacred Scriptures? The worship of Almighty Yahweh clearly stands apart from the worship of the nations. See Judges 2:1-15. With the common Chr-stian practice of sanctifying local pagan traditions and merging them into the practices and doctrines of ch-rchianity, should we not become suspicious of a religious service that so closely resembles ancient heathen rites? Is there more than merely a coincidental

resemblance to the practices of the worship of Bacchus?

It would appear so! And, What about the required garb for baccalaureate and graduation ceremonies? Did this practice also originate with ancient pagans?

Graduation Rites Unbiblical

Quite a revealing statement is found in the **Encyclopedia Britannica**, Eleventh Edition, Vol. 23, p. 413, under the topic of "Robes." Let us understand where the use of these special robes originated.

"No thorough study has so far been made of early English academic costume as compared with that of the continental universities—a study that ought to throw much light on the subject. A vexed question is that of how far academic dress is derived from the ecclesiastical . Anthony Wood's view, that it is derived from the tunica talaris and cucullus of the Benedictines, would not now *meet with much support; but many* writers seem to be unnecessarily anxious to trace each item of academic robes to some definite ecclesiastical garment. The medieval scholar was, of course, a clerk, and had to wear the clerkly gown and the tonsure. But, the fact that this was the case makes it more difficult to distinguish between academical and ecclesiastical robes, notably in the case of brasses and other monuments of university graduates and dignitaries who were also priests. Another source of difficulty is the variety of names by which the different parts of the academic costume are called in the university statutes and elsewhere. resulting sometimes in inextricable confusion."

As we can see, it has been strongly suggested that the ACADEMIC ROBES CLOSELY RESEMBLED ECCLESIASTICAL ROBES. We shall more thoroughly pursue this direction in our investigation. If the medieval students wore clerical (religious) garb and tonsures (shaving parts of the head to emulate idolatrous priests, prohibited in Leviticus 21:5, **NIV**), there must be some relationship between academia and ecclesia.

Additionally, it must be noted that this encyclopedia article further points out that the academic robes in the British educational system trace only to the second half of the 14th century (the 1300s). From there, they appear to be traced to the University of Paris. Nevertheless, it is impossible to trace the secular history of the academic gowns much further than the 13th century C.E.

It is also interesting to note that the different academic costumes represent various degrees of educational advancement. Each particular gown, hood, cap, and cape represents various, specific universities, in addition to the wearer's advancement in the different disciplines.

Currently, the University of New York maintains the protocol explaining the accepted academic robes for each degree of educational progress. According to the noted research works, if any institution wishes to stage an academic processional, they should contact this university for specific robing requirements which are universally (sic!) accepted.

Biblical Robes Different from Secular

It is not widely recognized, but the Bible describes distinct differences b e t w e e n robes worn b y the priests of Yahweh and the priests of Baal. The specific regulation of ceremonial attire for the priests of Yahweh is clearly described in Exodus 28 and 29.

The priests of Yahweh were directed to wear very specific holy garments. The Hebrew terms are translated as follows. Exodus 28:4 reads: "And these are the garments which they shall make: a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a coat of checker work, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother; and his sons, that he may minister to me in the priest's office." These garments were considered sacred attire, and they were described in the Scriptures as being very colorful and comprised a required uniform for service.

The *ephod* (**Strong's** #646) was a short garment designed to contain two onyx stones on the shoulders on which were engraved the names of the tribes of Israel. These stones were mounted in a setting and fastened on the shoulders of this outer garment as a memorial before Yahweh. Braids or chains of gold were to be attached to the settings and dropping down from the shoulders toward the armpits like modern military uniforms. The ephod was made of fine linen, white in color.

The breastplate (Hebrew— choshen mishpat) was to

be worn over



the ephod, and this was to contain the precious stones of Urim and Thummim. The settings of stones in the breastplate were intended to represent each of the tribes of Israel individually.

A robe (*me'il*, **Strong's** #4598) was worn under the ephod. It was made of blue fabric with decorations. Under the robe was to be worn a tunic (*ketoneth*, Strong's #3801) of fine linen. A turban was the head dress. Linen, in biblical terminology, means "a white, undyed fabric." Additionally, linen britches were to be worn as an undergarment so that when Aaron, or his descendants, performed the service of sacrifice on the ledge of the altar, their private parts would not be exposed before the congregation.

It is obvious that when the priests of Yahweh ministered in the office of Yahweh's earthly religious representative, they would dress in a white outer garment, the *ephod* covering the robe. This colorful garb would have probably set them off from the rest of the worshiping congregation. Additionally, the younger priests did their work in a white *ketoneth* (tunic) only.

The priests of Baal also wore distinctive garments. You find them described in Zephaniah 1:4. "And I will stretch out my hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the Chemarim with the priests." The remnant of Baal was called chemarim (Strong's #3649), since this was the title of their presiding priests. Various background etymologies to the root word *kamar* suggest that it means "black robed, cassocked." This term is also used in 2 Kings 23:5 and Hosea 10:5. Yahweh's priests were called *kohenim*.

Consequently, those ministers, academics, or government functionaries who presently clothe themselves in long, black cassocks are not following the biblical religious traditions in the instructions given by Almighty Yahweh for His priests. They are perpetuating the practices of the Baal priesthood!

The priests of Baal were ultimately priests of sun worship. We will see in our continuing study that sun worship forms the foundational background for the religious customs and traditions of this universal Babylonish system. These are strong assertions, but, nevertheless, provable from the noted research works that are commonly and widely used in the educational system of our time.

As we have already seen, academic robes apparently have some intrinsic relationship to ecclesiastical robes. This is easily explained. In medieval times, as well as in ancient Egypt and Babylon, it was the priests who were the learned, educated men.

For example, the priests of Aesculapius served as the early physicians. Therefore, the relationship between these two fields (religion and education) in ancient history is virtually inseparable and indistinguishable. This is how their dress came to be interrelated. To some extent, the same is true today.

The Academic Headdress

By reading through Exodus chapters 28 and 29, it becomes apparent that the priests of Yahweh were to be supplied with a white turban embroidered with decorations. The modern-day academic system employs its various ritual headdresses worn to distinguish the different degrees. A different hood or cap reflects each degree.

The **Encyclopedia Britannica**, Eleventh Edition (same bibliography as before) has the following to say about the different headdresses: "The hood was originally worn by all scholars, as by everybody, and had evidently no academic significance. Sometimes a cap was also worn, the hood being thrown back (Chaucers Clerk of Oxenford in the Elsmere manuscript illumination, wears a red skull cap, and a third tippet and hood, with the hood falling rather back though not on his shoulders) but the undergraduate

hood had gone out of use by the end of the 16th century Bachelors hoods were to be lined throughout with fur, which we learn from the statute de admissione ad pelluram (1432) to have been budge. Masters and noblemen might use miniver, or silk in summer. There were evidently hoods of at least two kinds for masters It is not settled when the modern colorings of hoods arose, they probably followed those of the gowns of the faculties, but about these we are equally uncertain. The Oxford Proctor still wears a miniver hood. The modern Cambridge hood has preserved the original shape more closely than the Oxford one, being a hood and tippet combined, the hood having square corners. The tippet, which appears as part of the early costume of certain doctors, was probably, like the judge's tippet, originally the shoulder cape forming part of the same garment as the hood. Clark and others would derive it from the almuce, but do not seem to show any definite ground for so doing. Its place seems to have been taken by the scarf worn by D.D.'s, etc., probably developed from the hood with long liripipe as worn turban-wise on the head or as a scarf around the shoulders. It seems rather far-fetched to derive the scarf from the two pendants of the almuce."

Additionally interesting is the following observation from the Encyclopedia Britannica, same article. "Academic dress underwent much inquiry and some revision at the time of the Reformation, chiefly in the direction of sobriety and uniformity, excess of apparel being repressed as severely as ever but not with much effect. Burleighs letter to the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University (1585) and the statutes of Queen Elizabeth strictly enforced the wearing of cap and gown by all, and hoods and habits by those entitled to wear them, and similar regulations were made for Oxford by Laud's statutes of 1633, further details being dealt with by a decree of 1770."

It is obvious from this last quote,

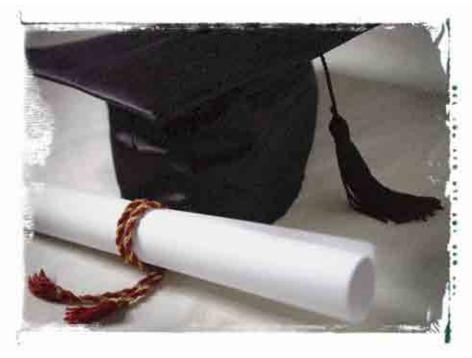
that originally there was some disagreement concerning academic garb but the government later standardized the regulations. Apparently, Queen Elizabeth took the lead in making these distinctions. The cap and gown were required in academic processions just as they are today with the need to wear them on such occasions made mandatory.

The Mortarboard

A most enlightening quote from the Encyclopedia Britannica reads as follows: "GLORY, in works of art, is a general term for any radiance of light appearing around the body of a holy person, such as a nimbus, halo, aureole, mandorla, or vesica piscis. Its purpose is to represent spiritual character through the symbolism of light. The sun disk was used in ancient Egypt to symbolize a divine being's specific relation to the sun. In Hellenistic and Roman art the sun-[diety] and emperors appear with a crown of rays. Because of its pagan origin, this form was avoided in early Christian art. By the 5th century, however, a disk-shaped form behind the head, called a nimbus or halo, was fully accepted. Originally reserved for [Messiah] and the virgin, the nimbus was soon used for the saints also. A cross within a round nimbus became identified with representations of [Messiah] in the Middle Ages. The triangular nimbus symbolized the Trinity. For some time, in the 5th century LIVING PERSONS OF EMINENCE WERE EQUIPPED WITH A SQUARE NIMBUS; THE MEMORY OF THIS CUSTOM IS PRESERVED IN THE ACADEMIC MORTARBOARD.

"The nimbus, as well as the aureole, is also found in the Buddhist art of India. Their earliest date of appearance is the late 3rd century B.C.E., and it is likely that these ideas were originally brought to India by the Greek invaders."

The currently popular mortarboard headgear worn during graduation ceremonies is obviously derived from ancient paganism. It



appears as though the four corners were meant to represent the points of the cross. Should the True Worshiper wear one of these, or should he reject this traditional hat as rank paganism even though he may not be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies? This highly regarded research work, **Encyclopedia Britannica**, has clearly spoken. The academic mortarboard cap came down to us from paganism—from sun worship. The final decision is now yours to make.

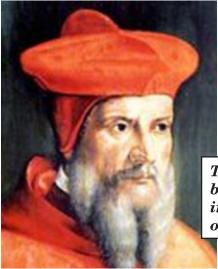
The mortarboard also has some significance in Free Masonry, because the **Encyclopedia of Free Masonry** indicates that the mortarboard is used for ceremonial construction purposes. This encyclopedia attributes to Nimrod the status of being one of the original Masons. According to them, Nimrod employed 40,000 masons to build Babylon (the tower) and Nineveh. Recall in Genesis 10:8-12 that Nimrod was the prime mover in opposition to Yahweh, and he was the founder of Babylon and Nineveh.

Representations of Plato and Aristotle depict them as wearing the hat of a Greek educated man, which appears to be something like a yarmulke presently worn by the Jews. It is significant to note that in the historical apocryphal book of 2 Maccabees 4:11, we find the fol-

lowing quote: "He set aside the royal ordinances especially favoring the Jews, secured through John, the father of Eupolemus, who went on the mission to the Romans to establish friendly relations and an alliance with them, and abrogating the lawful ways of living, HE INTRODUCED NEW CUSTOMS CONTRARY TO THE LAW. For he willingly established a gymnasium right under the citadel, and HE MADE THE FINEST OF THE YOUNG MEN WEAR THE GREEK HAT. And to such a pitch did the cultivation of Greek fashions and the coming in of foreign customs rise, because of the excessive wickedness of this [sinful] Jason, who was no high priest at all, that the priests were no longer earnest about the services of the altar, but disdaining the sanctuary and neglecting the sacrifices, they hurried to take part in the unlawful exercises in the wrestling school, after the summons to the discus throwing, regarding as worthless the things their forefathers valued, and thinking Greek standards the finest." (The Bible, An American Translation, Smith-Goodspeed version.)

Modern-day Judaism seeks to explain, in many different ways, the headcovering they use for their worship. It has been the opinion of the author that the only reasonable explanation for this headdress, currently in use, harks back to the Maccabean era when the scriptural practices of the Jewish people were heavily influenced by the Greek occupational army under Antiochus Epiphanes. There is no record that Yahshua the Messiah covered His head for worship when He was here on this earth. The Apostle Paul strongly contends that a MAN must have his head UNCOVERED for worship, while the WOMAN'S head is COVERED, because man and woman reflect the spiritual headship (1 Corinthians 11:2-16). Have you read our free article entitled "Headship"? If not, write in for it immediately. Most knowledgeable rabbis will confirm that there is no biblical commandment for a man to keep his head covered for worshipthat it is only a tradition.

As you have already seen from



the **Encyclopedia Britannica**, the four-cornered mortarboard type of academic hat traces to representations of the halo. People of prominence who were believed to hold a close relationship with the sun deity were represented as having a halo around their heads. Idolatrous Canaanite priests represented their association with the sun through the tonsure, shaving their heads to leave a round tuft of hair.

As the **Encyclopedia Britannica** pointed out, the square halo, or nimbus, has been retained today in the academic mortarboard. An enlightening study to prove this can be found by perusing the **Oxford English Dictionary** under the subject of "cap." The section on "cap" directs us to the word *cater*. The word has its root origin in the word *quatre*, *quarter*, or *four*. It is also said to mean *diagonal*.

The term *catercap* refers to the four-cornered mortarboard top plus the cap to which it is affixed, describing the square cap worn by academics at a diagonal angle, one point forward. The wearer of such a cap is recognized as a university man.

Historical etymology brings out the following literary references: (1588) "You presbyter, John Catercap, are some man in the land;" (1589) "They [Sir Peter and Sir *Paul] were none of these catercaps,* graduates, nor doctors;" (1691) "He feareth neither proud priest, anti-Christian pope, Tyrranous Prelid, nor [sinful] catercap." Additionally, the term cater-capt (wearing a catercap, academic) was used thusly in 1669: "A proud prelate...and a most pragmatical malignant against the parliament, as all his cater-capt companions also are."

The catercap, therefore, signifies an academic and harks back to an-

The actual construction of the biretum or catercap can be seen in this mid-16th century portait of an unknown Cardinal.

cient pagan rituals wherein the sun was worshiped. It is plainly stated that early art in our common era did not depict people wearing a halo, because this is PAGAN in origin, but after the growing apostasy, a halo was represented by the priestly garb and academic mortarboard.

Zephaniah Warns Against Paganism

The prophet Zephaniah, in the first chapter of his prophecy, clearly brings out the judgment of Almighty Yahweh against pagan apostate worship. Yahweh says, *"I will consume* man and beast; I will consume the birds of the heavens, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumblingblocks with the wicked; and I will cut off man from off the face of the ground, says Yahweh." (Zephaniah 1:3).

Attached to nominal Chr-stianity are a host of pagan traditions reflecting ancient sun worship. Sunday worship is the usual day that is set aside for public worship. Representations of the sun through the profuse use of the circle as a symbol and in religious art betray their origin. The cross is a distinct sign of sun worship used widely in ancient heathenism. Even the word "church" has been traced by Dr. Bullinger in The Companion **Bible** to the Hebrew word *kikkar* (a circle or a disc), obviously referring to the solar sphere. All of these representations trace to ancient Egyptian and Babylonian worship and, probably, ultimately, to the antediluvian apostasy of Cain.

When the author realized these SHOCKING TRUTHS for the first time, he was amazed that Almighty Yahweh had not used His mighty power to totally eliminate this foul, pagan corruption from off the earth. However, the thought was immediately impressed upon him that in the end times Almighty Yahweh is calling out a people for His Name. These people are slowly being brought into a knowledge of His pure, eternal Truth. Yahweh's ministers are preaching the strong meat of the Word in an effort to cleanse this select group of people from their past pagan practices so that they may offer pure worship to Almighty Yahweh.

You will notice that the significance of the selection of remnant True Worshipers comes out very clearly in the passage just quoted in the book of Zephaniah, as well as chapter 3, verses 9 and 10. *"For then will I change to the peoples a pure language, that they may call upon the name of* Yahweh, to serve him with one consent. From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, even the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring my offering.... The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth; for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid." (Zephaniah 3:9-10, 13). It is our hope that every reader will become an obedient True Worshiper.

Yahweh Judges Apostate Baal Worship

The prophet explains the reason for Yahweh's judgment. "And I will stretch out my hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the Chemarim with the priests." (Zephaniah 1:4).

As we have already seen, Jerusalem, the center of the pure worship of Yahweh for this whole earth, had become corrupted in King Solomon's time. Solomon had introduced pagan worship into Jerusalem through the religions of his multitude of wives and concubines.

It appears as though each one of these women brought her own favorite personal worship with her, 1 Kings 11:1-10. A shrine was built in the valley of Hinnom for each one of these foreign women. Each idolatrous temple was supervised by an imported pagan priest. Apparently, some of these priests were capable philosophers, because it appears as though they somehow convinced King Solomon that all the world was worshiping the same Mighty Oneonly in different ways. This may have been the reason why Solomon weakened in his determination to serve Almighty Yahweh exclusively, until, finally, at the end of his life, Yahweh became angry with him for his apostasy.

Almighty Yahweh strongly declares that He will eliminate the pagan idolatrous priests and the remnant of Baal from Jerusalem. After His great day of judgment at the end of the age, the pure worship of Yahweh will be restored in Jerusalem. For this reason, Almighty Yahweh, today, is preparing His remnant of spiritual children for the purpose of teaching the people of this world the restored, pure worship of the True Mighty One of Israel, Almighty Yahweh and His Son Yahshua the Messiah.

Idolatrous Customs Assimilated by Israel

The prophet Zephaniah describes some of the abominable customs of these idolatrous priests of Baal. "And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship, that swear to Yahweh and swear by Malcam; and them that are turned back from following Yahweh; and those that have not sought Yahweh, nor inquired after him.

"Hold your peace at the presence of the Sovereign Yahweh; for the day of Yahweh is at hand: for Yahweh has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

Canaan are undone; all they that were loaded with silver are cut off. And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with lamps; and I will punish the men that are settled on their lees, that say in their heart, Yahweh will not do good, neither will he do evil. And their wealth shall become a plunder; and their houses a desolation: also, they shall build houses, but shall not inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, but shall not drink the wine of them." (Zephaniah 1:5-13).

We might identify those who bow down on the housetops and worship the starry hosts as those who engage in astrology, a throwback to a popular practice at the tower of Babel. Almighty Yahweh warns that people cannot straddle the fence in their religious opinions, or jump back and forth from one religion to another, or one religious doctrine to another, as did Israel in 1 Kings 18. They must make a firm decision between Yahweh and Baal (represented by Molech). Yahweh will punish those who dress in foreign attire (perhaps

Almighty Yahweh warns that people cannot straddle the fence in their religious opinions, or jump back and forth from one religion to another, or one religious doctrine to another, as did Israel in 1 Kings 18.

And it shall come to pass in the day of Yahweh's sacrifice, that I will punish the princes, and the king's sons, and all such as are clothed with foreign apparel. And in that day I will punish all those that leap over the threshold, that fill their master's house with violence and deceit. And in that day, says Yahweh, there shall be the noise of a cry from the fish gate, and a wailing from the second quarter; and a great crashing from the hills. Wail, you inhabitants of Maktesh; for all the people of a reference to the Babylonish garment of Yahshua (Joshua) 7:21, or the garb of the pagan *Kemarim*). That foreign attire relates to the black robes and other pagan vestments worn by idolatrous priests. Why should the Israelite man Achan desire such paganism?

Have you ever seen anyone avoid stepping on a threshold? This refers to the worship of Dagon (1 Samuel 5). The priests of Dagon avoided stepping on the thresholds when entering houses of worship. Their idolatry has been responsible for filling this earth with violence. Almighty Yahweh says we must eliminate that which is displeasing to Him. The author was once offered a reward of \$100 for a picture of a Catholic priest stepping on a threshold.

The *catercap* may be represented in verse 10 of Zephaniah 1, where the New International Version translates "New Quarter." Perhaps the association emerges also in verse 11, where the term MORTAR is found in the Hebrew. Some commentators believe that the term relates to the mortar and pestle used to prepare various substances. Perhaps it relates to the geographical shape of the area. But it could also refer to the ancient mortar board currently used in various construction occupations and also employed in various modern-day academic ceremonies.

Yahweh's judgment is clearly demonstrated in Zephaniah 1:18. "Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of Yahweh's wrath; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he will make an end, yes, a terrible end, of all them that dwell in the land."

From these biblical prophetic passages that we have scrutinized, it becomes clearly apparent that Almighty Yahweh very strongly condemns those calling themselves True Worshipers while following pagan idolatrous customs. Yahshua tells us that we must be perfect in our dedicated service to the Most High, Matthew 5:48. We must apply this scriptural knowledge to ourselves and live it. We must also understand that it is incumbent upon us to restore the old paths wherein is the good way and walk therein, Jeremiah 6:16. We cannot receive blessings from the Most High until we demonstrate humble obedience to Him and His Laws.

Yahweh's Eternal Wisdom Rejected by the World

The Apostolic Assembly of the book of Acts demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of the Word of Yahweh. Yahshua the Messiah had taught His disciples for three-and-a-half years and conveyed to them the knowledge of eternity that transcends human concepts and understanding. It is far superior to the knowledge of the world. Knowledge held by the world will include and assimilate some of Yahweh's wisdom, but, in the final analysis, the Holy Spirit will reveal much deeper understanding than worldly education teaches, whereupon the wisdom of the wise will become as foolishness (1 Corinthians 3:18-20).

This is quite clearly demonstrated in Acts 4:13. "Now when they beheld the boldness of Peter and John, and had perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Yahshua."

Have you considered an Obadiah School of the Bible education? We will be happy to discuss such a step with any baptized member who wishes to learn the pure Word of Yahweh. Write, or telephone, today! Assemblies of Yahweh PO Box C, Bethel, PA 19507 or telephone (717) 933-4518 Yahshua's disciples were called ignorant and unlearned men. Already the religious establishment of Judaism had assimilated many heathen concepts into their ecclesiastical system. Yahshua the Messiah came to eliminate corrupted human knowledge and customs, urging its

What is sound knowledge? Is it not found in the sacred Scriptures?

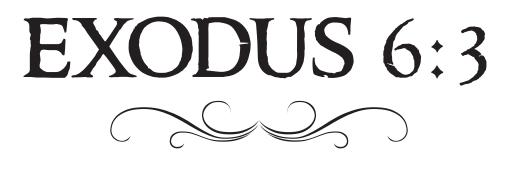
replacement with the true, sound, Holy Spirit taught wisdom, knowledge, and understanding that is found in the sacred Scriptures, as taught by Almighty Yahweh our Heavenly Father. Yahshua is the greatest teacher ever to walk this earth. He is known as a Jewish Rabbi, but not affiliated with the noted Yeshivoth (academies) of Hillel and Shemai.

What is sound knowledge? Is it not found in the sacred Scriptures? Can worldly knowledge be placed on a superior level above that which Almighty Yahweh's ministers are teaching? The world will rarely recognize their credentials, although they teach the purity of Yahweh's Word—the whole counsel of Yahweh's Word.

Peter and John were no exception. They were rejected by the Sanhedrin. They were called ignorant and uneducated men. Nevertheless, their wisdom was far advanced above the ecclesiastical teachings of their time. This was clearly demonstrated by the answers they gave to their questioners. Should you spurn what the Holy Spirit is revealing today through Yahweh's true ministers? Yahshua is the Head of the Body and is teaching His spokesmen the wisdom that confounds the worldly wise (Luke 2:41-52).

Continued on page 18.

Scholarship Lays to Rest an Error of Interpretation in



Q. "Please publish a thorough explanation of Exodus 6:3 in view of the Sacred Name doctrine you espouse." ~ P.M., New Jersey

The verse in question reads as follows in the **King James** translation: "And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of El Shaddai, but by My name Yahweh was I not known to them."

If this verse is understood as it appears in the authorized text (**King James** Version), it will conflict with a host of other Scriptures. The correct interpretation of the Bible is to harmonize the text from Genesis to Revelation and allow it to speak to us with authority without manifest contradictions. We must always carefully evaluate each passage linguistically and grammatically from the language of the most ancient texts (the autographs, as closely as we can return to them).

The first use of the Name Yahweh is found in the Hebrew text of Genesis 2:4. In the first chapter and the beginning of the second, only the word *Elohim* is used. This is signifiElder Jacob O. Meyer

by

cant when we understand that the preexistent Son was the Creator of the heavens and earth (Colossians 1:16 and other Scriptures). If you have not investigated this subject thoroughly, write in immediately for our published article called, "The Spokesman."

Let us consider some of the earlier passages proving that the ancients knew and used the Sacred Name. In Genesis 4:1 is recorded the declaration made by Eve after giving birth to Cain, **"I have gotten a** *man with the help of Yahweh.*" Apparently Eve already knew, used, and spoke the Name of Yahweh. You will notice that the very earliest of the ancient patriarchs were worshipers of Yahweh.

In Genesis 4:26 appears what some consider to be a conflicting verse: "And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enosh. Then began men to call upon the name of Yahweh." This verse must be interpreted as calling profanely upon the Name of Yahweh. It can also be translated as calling upon themselves the Name of Yahweh, meaning that they believed themselves to be the Almighty. Could this have been an early form of Pantheism? It is obvious from the construction of the verse in Hebrew that mankind was doing something disrespectful, or contemptuous, to desecrate the Name of our Heavenly Father Yahweh. It does not mean that mankind did not know the Sacred Name beforehand.

Let us consider several verses from the book of Genesis that will help us to understand that righteous people worshiped in the True Name of Yahweh Elohim, the Almighty Heavenly Father.

"And he removed from there to the mountain on the east of Beth-el, and pitched his tent, having Beth-el on the west, and Ai on the east: and there he built an altar unto Yahweh, and called upon the name of Yahweh. " (Genesis 12:8).

"And Abram moved his tent, and came and dwelt in the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and built there an altar unto Yahweh." (Genesis 13:18).

"And Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beer-sheba, and called there on the name of Yahweh, the Everlasting El." (Genesis 21:33).

"And Yahweh appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the Elohim of Abraham

Continued on page 14.

PROPHETIC TRENDS today's news in prophecy

TAKE HEED, WATCH, AND PRAY!

"Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign when these things are all about to be accomplished? And Yahshua began to say to them, Take heed that no man lead you astray." (Mark 13:4-5).

"And as he sat on the mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of your coming, and of the consummation of the age? And Yahshua answered and said to them, Take heed that no man leads you astray. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am the Messiah; and shall lead many astray." (Matthew 24:3-5).

"But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts should be overcharged with debauchery, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that day come on you suddenly as a snare: for so shall it come upon all them that dwell on the face of all the earth. But watch you at every season, making supplication, that you may prevail to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." (Luke 21:34-36).

"Watch therefore: for you know not on what day your Master comes. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what watch the thief was coming, he would have watched, and would not have permitted his house to be broken through. Therefore be you also ready; for in an hour that you think not the Son of man comes." (Matthew 24:42-44).

"But of that day or that hour

knows no one, not even the angels in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take heed, watch and pray: for you know not when the time is. It is as when a man, sojourning in another country, having left his house, and given authority to his servants, to each one his work, commanded also the porter to watch. Watch therefore: for you know not when the master of the house comes, whether at evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrowing, or in the morning; lest coming suddenly he should find you sleeping. And what I say to you I say to all, Watch." (Mark 13:32-36).

For more than four decades, the Prophetic Trends section of the Sacred Name Broadcaster has been bringing the warning message at the end of the age that will precede the return of our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah. So few people, however, have heeded this warning message. How about you? Have you acted upon the information that the Assemblies of Yahweh has brought to your mailbox? It seems that there are daily reports which portend the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. This demonstrates the urgency of the moment, which demands your prompt action. There is not a moment of time to lose!

Almighty Yahweh has displayed His loving kindness and tender mercy toward this generation. He is giving the people of this world one more chance to repent of their sins. He does not wish to destroy anyone who may as yet repent, but is calling upon all people to repent. But will you heed this call to repentance?

"So you, son of man, I have set you a watchman to the house of Israel; therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say to the wicked, O wicked man, you shall surely die, and you did not speak to warn the wicked from his way; that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at your hand. Nevertheless, if you warn the wicked of his way to turn from it, and he turns not from his way; he shall die in his iniquity, but you have delivered your soul. And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel: In this manner you speak, saying, Our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we are rotting away in them; how then can we live? Say to them, As I live, says the Sovereign Yahweh, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked: but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn, turn you from your evil ways; for why will you die. O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 33:7-11).

"Again, when I say to the wicked, You shall surely die; if he turns from his sin, and does that which is lawful and right; if the wicked restores the pledge, gives again that which he had taken by robbery, walks in the statutes of life, committing no iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die. None of his sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him: he has done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live. Yet the children of your people say, The way of Yahweh is not equal: but as for them, their way is not equal. When the righteous turns from his righteousness, and commits iniquity, he shall even die

in it. And when the wicked turns from his wickedness, and does that which is lawful and right, he shall live by it. Yet you say, The way of Yahweh is not equal. O house of Israel, I will judge you every one after his ways." (Ezekiel 33:14-20).

It is our duty to sigh and cry out against the wickedness of this generation. "And Yahweh said to him, Go through the middle of the city, through the middle of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done in the middle of it." (Ezekiel 9:4). We are getting to the point, however, that those who speak out against sin are shouted down, or falsely accused of hate speech. We must warn our neighbors, so that that they also may prepare for the time of trouble to come. "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up your voice like a trumpet, and declare to my people their transgression, and to the house of Jacob their sins." (Isaiah 58:1).

With each day, news events clearly show to each one of us that the hands of the end-time prophetic time clock point toward the midnight hour. Are you ready for the Second Coming of Yahshua the Messiah? If not, then get down on your knees immediately and begin to repent, so that you will not be destroyed in the climactic events which will take place in the next few years. If our spiritual life is not in a healthy spiritual condition, then we just might be rejected when Yahshua the Messiah returns. Even the Apostle Paul feared the coming judgment of Yahweh: "... but I buffet my body, and bring it into bondage: lest by any means, after that I have preached to others, I myself should be rejected." (1 Corinthians 9:27).

Department of Justice?

Todd Starnes of Fox News reported recently that Department of Justice (DOJ) employees were mailed a brochure entitled "LGBT Inclusion at Work: The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Managers." Among the directives in this brochure was an order for workers to vocally affirm homosexuality. "Don't judge, or remain silent," the brochure read. "Silence will be interpreted as disapproval." They were told to post "DOJ Pride" stickers in their office to indicate "that it is a safe place."

"This administration is the most radical, immoral agenda on the American people; [Bible believers] are not merely required to 'shut up,' but now they are being coerced to embrace immorality that goes against their sincerely held religious beliefs. [Bible believers] are frightened and terrified of losing their jobs, you just can't keep your head down and do your job. Now you have to become an advocate for the LGBT agenda — and if you don't — the DOJ will consider that to be intolerant," the report stated.

Reinterpret Your Bible!

The Bishop of Salisbury, Nicholas Holtam, thinks that Chr-stians need to reinterpret the Bible to accept gay marriage. In a letter to the **London Telegraph**, he wrote: "Sometimes Chr-stians have had to rethink the priorities of the G-spel in the light of experience." Bishop Holtam, who was appointed to the role in 2011, said "attitudes towards homosexuality have changed 'considerably' over the last 50 years and allowing gay marriage would actually strengthen (sic) the institution."

It is true that attitudes toward homosexuality and gay marriage have changed over the years, but it is because the populace is being worn down by the media and special interest groups to accept this behavior. What was an abomination to Yahweh then is still an abomination to Him today. If Yahweh does not change, then why should we? *"For I, Yahweh, change not; therefore, you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed."* (Malachi 3:6).

Even Queen Elizabeth II has come out in favor of same-sex marriage, thus clearing the way for the legalization of same-sex marriages in England

and Wales. Prime Minister David Cameron, the leader of the traditionminded Conservatives proposed this legislation, even though backbenchers of his own party sought to derail the bill. "The public seemed to take it for granted that gay marriage should be a part of British life. It was perhaps a sign of how Britain has evolved (sic) in past decades into a much more cosmopolitan nation than its starchy. traditionalist image would suggest," the **Washington Post** reported. Do you think that Almighty Yahweh will evolve in His stand against this practice, after He has declared it to be an abomination? Absolutely not!

Paul Speaks Out

There is nothing new under the sun. Paul was sent by our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, to the Gentiles. "And I said, who are you, Master? And the Master said, I am Yahshua who you persecute. But arise, and stand on your feet: for to this end have I appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness both of the things in which you have seen me, and of the things in which I will appear to you; delivering you from the people, and from the Gentiles, to whom I send you, to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to Yahweh, that they may receive the remission of sins and an inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith in me." Acts 26:15-18.

In his epistle to the Roman Assembly, Paul was forthright in bringing the message of Truth to an Assembly of True Worshippers living in the sinfilled capital of the Roman Empire. His summation of Roman society in Romans chapter one is very applicable today. How can we "reinterpret" the very forthright and bold statements of Paul, who had been sent to open the eyes of the Gentiles so that they would turn from acts of darkness to the obedience of light.

Yahweh sent Elder Jacob O. Meyer and the elders of the Assemblies of Yahweh to a modern-day Rome to bring the light of Yahweh's Truth to a sin-filled generation. We cannot weaken Scripture to appease a society that has turned from Yahweh's Word to the works of the flesh. We must declare that sin is the transgression of Yahweh's Law and that we must depart from all sin if we wish to receive salvation.

"For this cause Yahweh gave them up to passions of dishonor: for their women changed the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust toward one another, men with men working indecency, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was due. And even as they refused to have Elohim in their knowledge, Elohim gave them up to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, hateful to Elohim, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, unmerciful: who, knowing the ordinances of Yahweh, that they that practice such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but also consent with them that practice them." (Romans 1:26-32).

"But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone; which is the second death." (Revelation 21:8)

"And there shall in no wise enter into it anything unclean, or he that makes an abomination and a lie: but only they that are written in the Lamb's book of life." (Revelation 21:27)

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh; neither does corruption inherit incorruption." (1 Corinthians 15:50).

Free Speech Fallout

Senator Ted Cruz, a Texas Republican and supporter of traditional marriage, joined with those who fear that free-speech ramifications could emerge as a result of increasing support for gay marriage in the United States. "If you look at other nations that have gone down the road towards gay marriage, that's the next step of where it gets enforced," he said of hate speech regulations that are in place in other countries. "It gets enforced against ... Pastors who decline to perform gay marriages, who speak out and preach biblical truths on marriage, and that has been defined elsewhere as hate speech — as inconsistent with the enlightened view of government." Some pro-gay marriage advocates in the U.S., the senator believes, want the nation to end up with the same ramifications on the books — and in a paradigm in which individuals can be punished or denigrated for refusing to substantiate, or for speaking out against, same-sex unions

Aake Green, a Pentecostal pastor in Sweden, likened homosexuality to cancer during one of his sermons. As a result, he was brought up on charges over these claims - statements that, in America, would currently be protected by the First Amendment. "He was the first clergyman convicted under Swedish laws that make incitement to hatred against racial, religious or national groups illegal — legislation that was amended in 2003 to include homosexuals. Mr. Green was convicted in June 2004 and sentenced to 30 days in jail, but was allowed to remain free pending appeal. In the end, Green won his appeal" the BBC reported.

Supreme Court Ruling

In a landmark decision, the United States Supreme Court has overturned portions of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and the Proposition 8 referendum in California. Passed in 1996, DOMA made certain that whenever marriage is mentioned in a federal law or policy, that it is was specifically referring to the union of a man and a woman only. The Supreme Court allowed states to decide how they would define marriage. Pennsylvania also passed a similar law in 1996, which defined marriage as a civil contract in which a man and a woman take each other as husband and wife. Same-sex marriages, even ones entered legally elsewhere, are void in Pennsylvania. Immediately following the Supreme Court decision, the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania filed a lawsuit to overturn this law.

Not even waiting until the courts have made their ruling regarding the Pennsylvania law, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania (which is adjacent to Philadelphia), decided without precedence that they would begin to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Now we have same-sex marriages in Pennsylvania (even though it is still against the law), the very state that was founded upon conservative biblical principles and religious freedom. Would William Penn (for whom Pennsylvania is named), who was a religious man (a Quaker), be in favor of such practices? Would not the founding fathers of Pennsylvania have rebuked the willful disregard for the law of this land? Why didn't the Montgomery County District Attorney, Risa Ferman, rush to the courts to receive an injunction from a judge to stop this practice? The same applies to state Attorney General Kathleen Kane, who also has said that she will not defend the state's same-sex marriage ban (because she disagrees with it) leaving Governor Tom Corbett and his legal team to defend the marriage act in court against the ACLU lawsuit.

But wait! There's more!

Fuller Theological Seminary, one of the most esteemed evangelical

theology training schools in the nation, has opened their doors to its first LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) group, founded by a homosexual seminarian who hopes to carve out a similar acceptance for other gays in the broader evangelical community through his role as president of the nation's first LGBT student club sanctioned by a major theological seminary. Not surprisingly, a few conservative Chr-stian leaders have stepped forward to criticize Fuller's approach, warning that they are dealing in compromise. Such comments prompted Fuller's president, Mark Labberton, to issue a statement in an attempt to clarify the school's somewhat muddled position on homosexuality. "Fuller's position on same-sex marriage and behavior, reflective of our evangelical tradition's reliance on the Scriptures, affirms that every student, faculty member, administrator, and staff person at Fuller is expected to abide by the Community Standards that 'premarital, extramarital, and homosexual forms of explicit conduct are inconsistent with the teaching of Scripture."

Ignoring the fact that this gay club was formed by a confirmed homosexual, who is convinced that he can embrace the Chr-stian faith without rejecting what the Bible clearly says is sin, Labberton insisted that the gay club "is not an advocacy group to alter seminary policy nor to direct any efforts in that direction." What a laughable statement! Of course, the end result is going to be a further weakening of the stand that homosexuality is a sin! This is their intended goal. This is what has been occurring all over the world during the past 40 plus years. Immorality abounds, and those who speak up against sin are viciously attacked. "And Justice is turned away backward, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth has fallen in the street and uprightness cannot enter. Yes, truth is lacking; and he that departs from evil makes himself *a prey.*" (Isaiah 9:14-15).

"An unjust man is an abomination to the righteous; And he that is upright in the way is an abomination to the wicked." (Proverbs 29:27).

"...it is an abomination to fools to depart from evil." (Proverbs 13:19b).

Take Heed!

We are warned by Yahshua the Messiah not to become overcharged with debauchery, drunkenness, and the cares of this life; and yet, so many people have become drunken with the spirit of Babylon. "And there came one of the seven angels that had the seven bowls, and spoke with me, saving, Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot that sits on many waters; with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and they that dwell on the earth were made drunken with the wine of her fornication." (Revelation 17:1-2).

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come forth, my people, out of her, that you have no fellowship with her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues: for her sins have reached even to heaven, and Yahweh has remembered her iniquities." (Revelation 18:4-5). Now is the time to depart from Babylon. The midnight cry is going forth, "Behold, the bridegroom! Come forth to meet him." (Matthew 25:6b). Depart from Laodicea and join with Philadelphia, the end-time Assembly that is keeping the commandments of Yahweh along with the Faith of Yahshua.

Watch and Pray!

No one knows exactly when Yahshua the Messiah is going to return, except Almighty Yahweh. "But of that day, or that hour knows no one, not even the angels in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father." (Mark 13:32). Our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, has instructed us to take heed, watch, and pray, for we do not know when the time is. When Yahshua comes will He find you sleeping, or will He find you alert and watching? "And he comes, and finds them sleeping, and says to Peter, Simon, Do you sleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray, that you enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Mark 14:37-38).

The Kingdom is Near!

When the Kingdom of Yahweh is established, this era will be no more in remembrance. The saints of the Most High will help the Messiah to rebuild this corrupted, polluted earth. Satan the Devil will be bound for 1000 years in the bottomless pit, Revelation 20:1-3. Then, the saints of the Most High will assist Yahshua the Messiah to rebuild this earth into what Almighty Yahweh envisioned at creation. These Spiritbegotten children of the Most High will rebuild the system of things from the ground up, using as their guidelines the Covenant Law of Almighty Yahweh. It will be Yahweh's world. "And they that shall be of you shall build the old waste places; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in." (Isaiah 58:12).

To be a part of this great event, you must repent of your sins and be converted into a saint. You must eventually make this decision. Will you accept the biblical description of the True Worshipers found in Revelation 12:17 and 14:12? Or will you follow the multitudes of this world, who will accept the Mark of the Beast? We hope that today the Holy Spirit will motivate you to make that first step toward being a saint — repenting of sin and then beginning to keep every one of Yahweh's commandments in His Royal Law.

Continued from page 9..

your father: fear not, for I am with you, and will bless you, and multiply your seed for my servant Abraham's sake. And he built an altar there, and called upon the name of Yahweh, and pitched his tent there: and there Isaac's servants dug a well." (Genesis 26:24-25).

"And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If Elohim will keep me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace; and Yahweh will be my Elohim: And this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be Elohim's house: and of all that you shall give me I will surely give the tenth unto you." (Genesis 28:20-22).

And Elohim said to Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, In this manner shall you say to the children of Israel, I AM has sent me to you. And Elohim said moreover to Moses, In this manner shall you say to the children of Israel, Yahweh, the Elohim of your fathers, the Elohim of Abraham, the Elohim of Isaac, and the Elohim of Jacob, has sent me to you: this is my name forever, and this is my memorial to all generations.(Exodus 3:14-15).

It is obvious, therefore, from studying these passages, that the Almighty has a specific Name and that the faithful patriarchs worshiped the Almighty in that revealed personal Name. We must conclude that they called upon the Almighty Heavenly Father Yahweh, invoking His Name as an act of worship. Therefore, we must seek another explanation for Exodus 6:3 than what appears in the **King James** Version. Let us analyze this passage carefully.

We notice in Exodus 6:2 that Elohim (the mighty ones) spoke to Moses and said, **"I am Yahweh."** The word *Elohim* is a masculine plural noun which usually takes a singular verb. It is a collective noun, similar to many English words such as: school, congregation, flock, herd, and crowd. It is derived from a Hebrew root which means *strong*, *powerful or mighty*. The abbreviation of this word is El.

When Elohim introduced Himself to Moses, He said, "*I am Yahweh.*" He used no other Name as the personal word that He has chosen to represent Himself. He called Himself Yahweh. Therefore, this thought must govern the meaning of verse 3.

If you have a good study edition of the Bible, you will find that the verse contains quite a number of italicized words. Bible students will remember that those italicized words do not appear in the original texts but were added by the translators, but He was known to the patriarchs by the Name Yahweh also, as we have already seen. They all called upon and worshiped in the Name of Yahweh.

But this is not all that can be said about this verse. By taking another look at the context, we see that verse 4 is clearly related to what we are studying. "And I have also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, wherein they were strangers." (Genesis 6:4).

In Matthew 22:23-33 appears a quote made by Yahshua to support the doctrine of the resurrection of the dead He was preaching. He

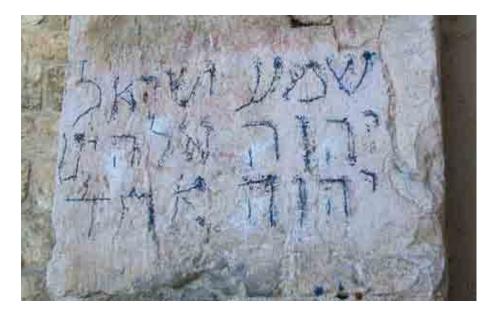
...the Almighty has a specific Name and that the faithful patriarchs worshiped the Almighty in that revealed personal Name.

because they believed it was necessary to include them to complete the thought. However, this is erroneous, since a better understanding of the original text can be uncovered on many occasions by simply dropping the words. The italicized words are "the name of."

As the verse reads now, it should be rendered, "And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by El Shaddai, but by My name Yahweh was I not known to them."

Hebrew grammatical rules tell us that a question in Hebrew does not necessitate the interrogative "hê" or the interrogative pronoun in order to be recognized as a question. The context will determine whether a sentence is declarative or interrogative (a question). By reading this verse again in context with verse 2, you will discover immediately that it can indeed be a question. Certainly, Yahweh appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob by *El Shaddai* (Genesis 17:1, 28:3, 35:11, 43:14, 48:3, 49:25), used a quote from Exodus 3:14-15. Yahshua applied Exodus 6:3-4 to this interpretation when He said, "Yahweh is not the mighty one of the dead but of the living." Let us see what He meant when the multitude became so greatly astonished at His teaching.

Yahweh acknowledged that He had established His Covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to give them Canaan's land. Where were Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob when this passage of Scripture in Exodus 6:3 was being spoken? Obviously, they were in the tomb. Therefore, modern liberal scholars conclude that the Covenant to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob merely meant that they were to receive a portion of the land (6'x 3' x 6'—a grave) as their eternal inheritance. Can you see how ridiculous is such an interpretation? Yahweh intended more than such a simplistic interpretation. He intended the future inheritance of all Canaan's land to be a reality for the patriarchs after their resurrection.



In Hebrews 11:8-21, we learn that Abraham sought a country where he could live in righteousness forever. He looked for a city whose builder and maker is Yahweh. This is a real city—a large area of land—not merely an ordinary grave.

These great men of faith all died with a living faith in their heart, believing in the promises of Yahweh, but never receiving them. They saw them in the distance—the dim future. They believed. They acted. But they never received the inheritance that had been promised by our Heavenly Father. Does that mean Yahweh is unfaithful to His promise? Or does it mean that we, through patience, will eventually inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh? Obviously, Yahweh intended us to expect a resurrection, and this is the thrust of Yahshua's New Testament teachings.

When we return to Exodus 6:3, we can now obtain a broadened view of this verse. The word *known* here in the Hebrew is crucial to the understanding of this verse. It is from a Hebrew verb () yādá (**Strong's** #3045). The word defined here is to *know by seeing, touching, experiencing,* or *comprehending*, and is used in a great variety of ways: observation, care, recognition, instruction, designation, punishment, etc.

The verb appears in its niphal conjugation (passive or reflective voices). The **Brown, Driver, and** **Briggs Hebrew Lexicon** indicates that the word means, to make known, be, or become known, to be revealed, or discovered, to be perceived. The Holladay Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon to the Old Testament (based upon the Koehler-Baumgartner Lexicon) defines the niphal verb yādá as make oneself known, reveal oneself, let oneself be seen, to become known.

What does it mean to know, perceive, comprehend, understand, realize, and feel the Name of Yahweh? The Name of Yahweh is derived from the Hebrew verb of existence. It is in its *hiphil* (causative) conjugation. Therefore, it would mean *he who causes all to exist*.

This is the Name of everlasting life. We cannot receive everlasting life unless we call upon this Name. It is the Name that will restore to life those who are the righteous dead. Those who are called by this family Name will finally live forever throughout all eternity. Yahshua the Messiah came to preach and proclaim a restoration of that Name, just as the Assemblies of Yahweh, the modern-day Eliyah, are doing.

Therefore, when we read the passage in context, the correct meaning of Exodus 6:2-8 comes through quite clearly. "And Elohim spoke to Moses, and said to him, I am Yahweh: and I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as El Shaddai; but by my name

Yahweh I was not known to them. And I have also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their sojournings, in which they sojourned. And moreover I have heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant. Therefore say to the children of Israel, I am Yahweh, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will free you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm. and with great judgments: and I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you an Elohim; and vou shall know that I am Yahweh your Elohim, who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will bring you in to the land which I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for a heritage: I am Yahweh."

Indeed, the Almighty Heavenly Father was worshiped by the Name Yahweh, but ancient patriarchs in bygone generations did not comprehend, or realize, the meaning of the Name Yahweh. They believed in the El Shaddai, who was powerful enough to preserve them during their lives. They died; they are reposing in the grave until this day, awaiting the resurrection of the dead. Then they will receive the blessings of residence in that eternal city that has been promised to them by our Heavenly Father and which they hope to receive through obedience to His Covenant and through His Name Yahweh.

Today, we must enter into the Covenant with Yahweh just as did Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and ancient Israel. We shall then experience the life-giving Name of Yahweh when Yahshua the Messiah returns, and the resurrection of the righteous dead occurs. We will be changed into His likeness and adopted into the spiritual family called by the eternal

Continued on page 18.

A most unusual and, to many, puzzling incident occurred in Acts chapter 5. It is a tragic account of unbelief and lack of faith on the part of two people who appeared on the surface to be totally dedicated. The early Apostolic Assembly demonstrated their absolute faith in the message brought by the Messiah to the point that they left all to follow Yahshua. People usually give approving lip service to such sacrifice and total dedication; they affirmatively acknowledge the noble dedication and self sacrifice of Simon Peter, Andrew, Jacob (James), and John.

"And passing along by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishers. And Yahshua said to them, Come after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men. And straightway they left the nets, and followed him. And going on a little further, he saw Jacob the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the boat mending the nets. And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after him." (Mark 1:16-20).

They smile approvingly as they read of the sincerity and dedication of Matthew when he was called by Yahshua the Messiah. "And as Yahshua passed by from there, he saw a man, called Matthew, sitting at the place of toll: and he says to him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him," Matthew 9:9. But such acts of sacrifice and dedication were commonplace in the Apostolic Assembly.

Acts chapter 4 ends with the

report that Barnabas had sold his possessions and had given them to the apostles for use in proclaiming the Kingdom of Yahweh. The following chapter is devoted, then, to the account of Ananiah (Ananias) and Sapphira. These two people heard the message of the Kingdom. Apparently, they immediately believed what they heard. They might have been baptized into the Name of Yahshua the Messiah among the original 3000 believers on the day of Pentecost. They were evidently so overjoyed at the beginning that they made the decision to sell some unneeded property and contribute all of the proceeds toward proclaiming the message of salvation. Before long, a buyer for their property was found and the sale consummated.

But then something happened to these two dedicated people. Perhaps they received such a good price for their property that it made them hesitant about giving such a great sum of money to some unknown apostles. Perhaps they remembered some luxury they had long hoped to own. Possibly some of their friends had put a seed of doubt in their minds. Whatever the cause might be, they lost some of their faith. Unbelief entered into their hearts. To some small degree, their total dedication waned. Was it not right to reserve just a little bit of this income for themselves just in case the Kingdom wouldn't come as soon as everybody expected it?

Together they made the decision. They agreed to give only a portion of the proceeds of their sale to Yahweh's ministers and to keep some of it for themselves. Ananiah took their gift, went to where the apostles were staying, and laid it at their feet; but, Peter, having received the

gift of discernment from the Holy Spirit, was able to perceive what had taken place. He asked Ananiah, "How much did you receive from the sale of the property?" Ananiah answered, "This certain sum that I'm giving you is what we received." The words of Acts chapter 5 are very plain and clear; we can imagine Peter's penetrating eyes looking searchingly into the very heart of the man standing before him. Sadly Peter asked, "Why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land? The decision was yours to make. You could have offered only half of the price to Yahweh, and He would have accepted this. But you made an AGREEMENT with Him to give ALL. Now it will be required of you."

Elder Jacob O. Meyer

by

As if lightning had struck, Ananiah collapsed and died on the floor at Peter's feet. Here was a man who had been healthy and strong just moments before. Now he lay dead at the feet of the apostle, because he had allowed a spirit of unbelief to invade his heart. There was nothing left to do but assign a burial party to dispose of the remains of this once dedicated believer in the Messiah who had turned aside to follow the Adversary, Satan the devil.

Several hours later, Ananiah's wife, Sapphira, became concerned about the length of time her husband had been gone. She went searching for him and finally came to the abode of the apostles. She approached Peter and inquired about the whereabouts of her husband, since she knew the errand on which he had gone. Peter looked at her.

Again, the gift of discernment from Yahweh's Holy Spirit was active. "Tell me how much you received

TOTAL DEDICATION

for the land you sold," Peter asked. Sapphira named the sum that had been brought by Ananiah. Sadly Peter said, "Why have you agreed to lie to Yahweh's Holy Spirit? The burial party that interred your husband has just returned and is now about to carry you away and bury you beside him."

Upon this pronouncement of Yahweh's judgment, she also collapsed and died, and the burial party carried away her remains to the grave. Although people believe in the judgment of Yahweh, and they approve of the total sacrifice that the Apostolic Assembly made, that's fine for other people, they think. Perhaps some day we'll do it also. However, Yahweh does not require anyone to give up all of his worldly possessions to come into the Faith. What Almighty Yahweh is looking for is TOTAL SUBMISSION and SUBJECTION to His Word. There are certain requirements to be found in the Word of Yahweh, and those requirements are His Covenant Law in the Old Testament.

Surprisingly, very few people are dedicated, diligent, and sincere enough to live up to these Covenant requirements. And yet, we have proven that the Bible is true. The Scriptures are the inspired Word of our Heavenly Father Yahweh. He is all powerful, and when we make an agreement with Him, we should fear to break it. Where does the problem lie?

The present trends in the world today are surprisingly similar to what they were in the days when Israel came out of Egypt. Almighty Yahweh is presently calling out a people from this Babylonish system to be separate from the world. They are in a symbolic wilderness at the present time, learning sound doctrine, and learning to have an eventual part in the Kingdom of Yahweh. The Babylonish system of our time has made many people skeptical and cynical, and it holds a tremendously glamorous attraction for each individual. Permissiveness is always more gratifying to the carnal mind than discipline. But,

remember, this is Satan's world, and Satan's world will eventually end when Yahshua returns to establish the Kingdom of Yahweh on this earth.

When Israel came out of Egypt, they came out with tremendous anticipation. But what happened along the way? Let's allow the writer of Hebrews to tell us.

"Therefore, even as the Holy Spirit says, Today if you will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, Like as in the day of the trial in the wilderness, Where your fathers tried me by proving me, and saw my works forty years. Therefore I was displeased with this generation, And said, They do always err in their heart: But they did not know my ways; As I swore in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest. Take heed, brethren, lest there shall be in any one of you an evil heart of unbelief, in falling away from the living Elohim: but exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called Today; lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin: for we have become partakers of the Messiah, if we hold fast the beginning of our confidence firm to the end: while it is said, Today if you shall hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. For who, when they heard, did provoke? No, did not all they that came out of Egypt by Moses? And with whom was he displeased forty years? Was it not with them that sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom swore he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that were disobedient? And we see that they were not able to enter in because of unbelief." (Hebrews 3:7-19).

This passage in Hebrews chapter 3 is laying the foundation for the great faith chapter of Hebrews 11. Compare the third chapter with Hebrews 11. Which group of people would you rather be associated with in your spiritual walk down the Narrow Pathway leading to life everlasting? Of course, one would be truly honored by a close association with the faithful Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Gideon, Jephthah, and all of the others who sacrificed for the Faith of Yahweh's Word.

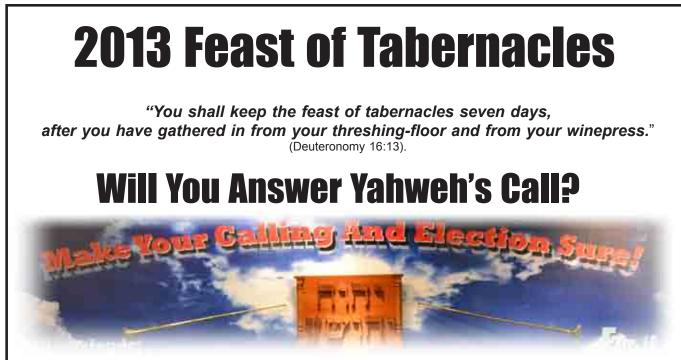
But you can actually be associated with those people! Today, we have in the Assemblies of Yahweh the same identical Faith as those spiritual forefathers. We are striving to be in complete harmony with the Word of Yahweh. We seek to restore the old paths and rebuild the Faith of our fathers in anticipation of the soon coming of the Kingdom of Yahweh to this earth under Yahshua the Messiah.

How is your faith? Is it strong? Don't let unbelief interfere with the proffered everlasting life Almighty Yahweh has extended to you. Build your faith so that you will never doubt and possibly fall away.

Ananiah and Sapphira allowed unbelief to divert them from eternal life. The Israelites died in the wilderness for the same reason. Will you be among those described in Revelation 15:2-5? They had a living Faith.

"And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire; and them that come off victorious from the beast, and from his image, and from the number of his name, standing by the sea of glass, having harps of Yahweh. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of Yahweh, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are your works, Oh Yahweh El Shaddai; righteous and true are your ways, you King of the ages. Who shall not fear, Oh Yahweh, and glorify your name? For you only are holy; for all the nations shall come and worship before you; for your righteous acts have been made manifest.

"And after these things I saw, and the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened." S_{NB}



Each year in the fall, in the seventh scriptural month, as commanded by our Heavenly Father, the Assemblies of Yahweh members gather to observe the Feast of Tabernacles in the United States and at various other sites around the world. Don't miss this tremendous spiritual milestone of the year. Write today for information about the **2013 Feast of Tabernacles**.

Continued from page 15.

and immortal Name Yahweh. Are you planning to be in that resurrection? There is salvation in the Name of Almighty Yahweh. "And it shall come to pass, that whoever shall call on the name of Yahweh shall be delivered; for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those that escape, as Yahweh has said, and among the remnant those whom Yahweh does call." (Joel 2:32). The name of Yahweh is a strong tower; the righteous runs into it, and is safe." (Proverbs 18:10). Without calling upon the Name of Yahshua the Messiah and trusting in His shed blood to atone for our sins, we shall not be saved. "And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, in which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12).

The choice is yours. Trust and obey. ${}^{S_{NB}}$

Continued from page 8.

Conclusion

In this research article, the editor has set forth some of the reasons why members of the Assemblies of Yahweh do not garb themselves in ceremonial academic dress when participating in ceremonies in the secular educational field. The information we have presented comes from some of the most highly regarded research material in the scholarly world-the Encyclopedia Britannica and the Oxford English Dictionary. The Assemblies of Yahweh places great value on education, and some of this education, at present, is available in the educational system of the world. However, we must clearly reject that knowledge taught by the worldly system which is contrary to the Word of Yahweh. We must reject the practices that are traceable to ancient pagan practices. All of what we believe and practice must be in complete harmony with the Word of Yahweh. Therefore, the Assemblies

of Yahweh has established its own educational institutions to teach a purified doctrine.

With this startling information we have presented, the reader is challenged to prove to himself the veracity of the conclusions we have drawn. You must make your own decision. You must personally stand before the judgment seat of the Messiah to answer for what you have done during your human life.

"And if it seems evil to you to serve Yahweh, choose this day whom you will serve; whether the elohim which your fathers served that were beyond the River, or the elohim of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh." (Yahshua 24:15).

Just like Yahshua, the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh have voluntarily chosen to serve Almighty Yahweh, and Him alone. May you develop a similar personal conviction. We must serve Yahweh rather than men (Acts 5:29). ${}^{S}N_{B}$

The Sacred Name Broadcast

RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

The Modern Philadelphia Assembly

Are you interested in the Bible and spiritual things? If so, you are a rare person in these modern days when most people have rejected the Bible as a direct motivating force in their lives. Times are good today! People have plenty of money to buy what they desire, and they don't seem to need anything more to satisfy themselves than the materialism which seems to dominate their entire existence.

It is amazing that people could have become so spiritually cold so soon after the revival during, and immediately following, World War II. Yet this apparently is one of the prophesied signs of the times. Upon examining our society with close scrutiny, it immediately becomes apparent that we are living in an age which corresponds with the prophecy of the book of Revelation, chapter 3, verses 14-22.

The congregation, which is last to be described by our Savior Yahshua the Messiah, exists within a society that bears similar characteristics to our time. Existing concurrently and simultaneously, however, with people who have become hardened by worldly materialism, we find a small group of people who have unselfishly dedicated their lives and resources to our Heavenly Father Yahweh and our Savior Yahshua.

This group of people, although small and insignificant in numbers, becomes a dynamic force as it allows itself to be used in the preaching of the end-time warning message at the close of the age of man. These people perceive that a judgment of the wicked, worldly oriented, self-centered people is imminent; therefore, they are making certain that they will be included in the protection offered to the True Worshipers of the Almighty in the end-time tribulation. How about yourself? Do you fit into this significant category? Can you be certain?

I constantly receive letters that reflect a sincere concern on the part of a few people that they desire to be included in the body of True Worshipers which will meet the Savior in the air when He returns. Many letters ask the question, "Are you people the true ch-rch?" My usual reply is, "You must prove to yourself from your own Bible that the Assemblies of Yahweh is the True Body of Messiah. I personally believe that it is, or I wouldn't be talking to you now over the air, and, if I might insert here parenthetically, struggling with every concerted effort to preach the true message of salvation around the world as a witness with the meager resources at our disposal."

How would you go about finding the True Worshipers in these last days? Your Bible gives you the answers. Will you give me a few minutes of your undivided attention as I briefly describe for you the body of believers called the Assemblies of Yahweh, comparing our beliefs to the Bible? Then I will rest my case and allow you personally to decide if we are right or wrong.

When a minister proceeds into this area of thought, people become rather emotional, since no one likes to be proven wrong. You might even resent my inference that you could be wrong in your religious beliefs. I recall, in my idealistic youth, my own family was very hostile to a certain religious sect which prides itself on preaching from house to house. I was raised in a strict conservative German Baptist home, and when these people would come to our door, my family would become rather indignant and would not even take the time to listen to, or even to discuss the Bible with these people. I have personally, from the Bible, proven this sect to be in error in several areas of doctrine, but I am not hesitant to sit down with them and discuss our differences, pointing out to them why I have found them to be wrong. Why not take a brief unbiased look at the Assemblies of Yahweh, as I show you from the pages of your own Bible, just what characteristics Yahweh's own people will bear in the last days? It is not my intention to condemn, but rather to instruct and teach.

Perhaps the best place to begin in the Scriptures is with the passage which describes the Assembly of Philadelphia in Revelation 3:7-12. We read in verse 7, "And to the angel of the assembly in Philadelphia write: These things says he that is holy, he that is true, he that has the key of David, he that opens and no one shall shut, and that shuts, and none opens."

Let's just pause here for a moment to gain the full impact of these words. Our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, is speaking to the group of believers who reside in the Philadelphia era at the end of the age of man.

The term *philadelphia* means to be fond of or friendly to the brethren. It has often been translated "brotherly love." The word indicates a genuine and sincere concern and fondness for the brethren in the Faith. In our day and age, we find some nominal church organizations ruling their people in harsh, unnecessary suppression and fear. Yet these groups all (almost without exception) present themselves as being of the Philadelphia congregation.

Here, the Assemblies of Yahweh shines forth brightly. There is no need for suppression, since we look to the Holy Spirit and the power of our Heavenly Father to hold this organization together in a bond of love, rather than fear. In 1 John 4:18



If you are looking for the True Body of the Messiah in these last days, you will have to look for a small group of people, even as Yahshua Messiah, our Savior, predicts in Luke 12:32, *"Fear not, LITTLE FLOCK; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."* While these people are few numerically, they are diligently working for the Messiah, and, consequently, they receive His supernatural blessing, which opens doors so that they can move ahead and grow. He leads them like a flock and protects their efforts from being destroyed by Satan-motivated forces.

we read, "There is no fear in love: but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has punishment; and he that fears is not made perfect in love."

How obvious it becomes, that we are not to serve our Heavenly Father out of fear, but out of love, consequently, the True Body of the Messiah is built on a foundation which is the only lasting foundation, as the Bible indicates.

Then, in verse 8 of Revelation 3 we read, "I know your works (behold, I have set before you an open door, which none can shut), that you have a little power, and did keep my word, and did not deny my name."

In our day and age, the trend on every hand in society seems to be toward consolidation, expansion, and bigness. If an organization is small, people assume that it cannot be correct. Unless a religious organization bears in its name a reference to its being universal, people assume that it will never amount to very much. Yet, the Kingdom of Yahweh is referred to as having the smallest and insignificant of beginnings. It begins like a grain of mustard seed, the smallest of seeds, yet it never stops growing until it becomes the largest of herbs. Thereafter, many people can find comfort in its branches.

All the way down through the annals of the Bible, you will note that it was always only a few individuals or families who worked the Will of the Almighty, and who were blessed by Him. Even as the nation of Israel grew from the family of one man into a mighty nation, so the Assemblies of Yahweh has grown from one man into an organization which today is presenting a forceful witness to the world. The man to whom I refer is not human, rather it is our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, Who is the Head of the Body and the Leader to whom we look for guidance, as

we read in Revelation chapter one.

If you are looking for the True Body of the Messiah in these last days, you will have to look for a small group of people even as Yahshua Messiah, our Savior, predicts in Luke 12:32, "Fear not, LITTLE FLOCK; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." While these people are few numerically, they are diligently working for the Messiah, and, consequently, they receive His supernatural blessing, which opens doors so that they can move ahead and grow. He leads them like a flock and protects their efforts from being destroyed by Satan-motivated forces.

The blessing of Almighty Yahweh is worth so much more than worldly knowledge, or human ingenuity. With this blessing upon us, the Assemblies of Yahweh has experienced growth in astronomical percentages during the past decades, for which we return all thanks and praise to our Heavenly Father. We are the product of the power of Yahweh's Holy Spirit, in that the modern-day Assemblies of Yahweh are the reconstitution of the Apostolic Assembly of the book of Acts.

But above all else, once more the Sacred Name enters the picture. The Name of our Heavenly Father remains our banner under which we march toward victory in this life and salvation at the Second Coming of our Savior. The True Worshipers are characterized in the Philadelphia Assembly as those who have kept His Word and have not denied His Name. Because these people are virgins who are betrothed to be the bride of the Messiah, they hold fast and OBEY EVERY WORD which He and the Heavenly Father have spoken (Matthew 4:4). They obey His commandments explicitly as they try to order their lives to His wishes (Matthew 5:17-20). A virgin in the Scripture is one who has never given her love to any other than to the one to whom she is betrothed, choosing earthly affliction rather than to turn from this conviction of faithfulness. We read about this in

2 Corinthians 11:2, as the Apostle Paul says to the Corinthians, "... *for I espoused you to one husband, that I might present you a pure virgin to the Messiah.*" Time and time again we read that it is only those who are keeping the commandments of Yahweh and have the faith of the Messiah who will

The blessing of Almighty Yahweh is worth so much more than worldly knowledge, or human ingenuity.

be granted the gift of eternal life in the Kingdom. See Revelation 12:17.

When we return to the commandments, we learn that the first commandment should read, "I am YAHWEH your Elohim, who has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other elohim before me." The term Elohim, translated into our English language from Hebrew, means mighty one. Consequently, you can see that we are to have one Mighty One who tells us that His Name is Yahweh, as in Psalm 68:4 and Isaiah 42:8, among other scriptural passages. The True Believers are to be called by His Name, not by the name of a man, or some universal concept, as we find the nominal religious organizations of our era commonly doing. See Ephesians 3:14-15.

At 12 different places in the New Testament, we read that the true name of the people of the Almighty is the Assemblies of Yahweh (if the Sacred Name is restored to its rightful place in the Scriptures). The Name which our Heavenly Father inspired to have the prophets write in the Hebrew Scriptures, and which was spoken audibly to ancient Israel, has been proven in these last days to be Yahweh.

You are undoubtedly familiar with the abbreviated form of the Sacred Name in the sentence command, "HalleluYAH." This Hebrew term has been transliterated (meaning transferred over) into almost every language on the face of this earth. It means "Praise you Yah." The title, "THE L-RD," is not acceptable for use in referring to the Almighty, primarily because it is not a name, and secondly, it is equivalent to the title of the old pagan idol, Baal. The word G-d is unacceptable for use in referring to the Almighty, since it is actually derived from pagan worship and was never used in reference to the True Almighty until around 700 in this common era.

However, while all theologians and many lay members in the nominal churches know the Name of the Almighty Heavenly Father, very few know and use the Savior's True Hebrew Name. It is Yahshua the Messiah. In fact, I have documented evidence from several reliable sources that He was never known, or called, by the name J-sus Chr-st, which is commonly used in our day. His Name, Yahshua, means Yahweh is salvation. This is the name we must trust for our salvation.

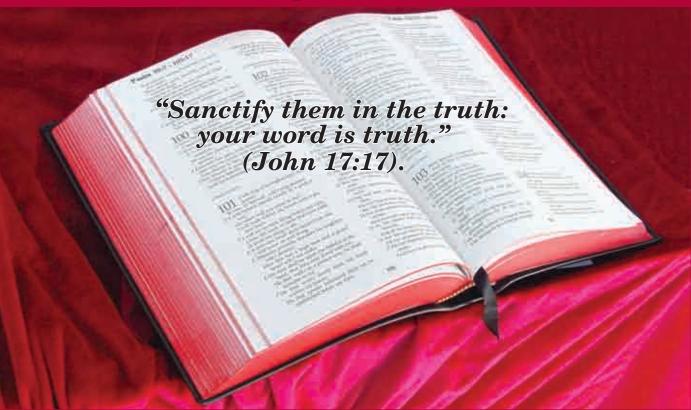
The Greek word which has been translated ch-rch is *ecclesia*. It means a *congregation* or *assembly of called-out ones*. You are being called out of spiritual blindness, out of a life of sin, out of falsehood and error into Truth and righteousness. What a wonderful message we may receive from the meaning of this word. We must recognize from dictionary and encyclopedia references that the term ch-rch originates from a pagan religious vocabulary. Have you checked this out for yourself? Why not write for our free article?

In these last days, there is only one thing which is imperative for you to pursue — that is the salvation of your soul. Materialism will never save you for eternal life. Will you answer the Savior's beckoning call and come to Him today? ^{S}NB The Sacred Name Broadcaster Bethel, PA 19507

PERIODICAL

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