

THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

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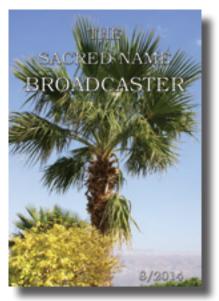
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Our Cover:

A palm tree grows tall on the arid shores of the Dead Sea. Like a tree planted by the streams of water, a blessing is assured to everyone who "walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers." Psalm 1:1.

By delighting in the Law of Yahweh and meditating on it day and night, we will walk in the way of righteousness. The wicked, however, "shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.... The way of the wicked shall perish." Are you on the pathway to salvation?

Yahweh's Weekly HOLY DAY

What are the limitations imposed by the Sabbath? Are Sabbath keepers as severely restricted as some misguided people insist who teach against its observance?

The following incident serves to illustrate these pointed questions. A discussion between several Bible students, including one who was strongly opposed to Sabbath keeping, became quite heated. "Why, the Sabbath observance is so restrictive that it prohibited all activity," he declared. "You had to stay in bed on the Sabbath because vou couldn't even put your clothes on!" Later this same person remarked that the religious group he had joined kept EVERY DAY as a Sabbath. "Then what are you doing with clothes on?" asked a bystander. No response was forthcoming! However, the question did not seem to make an impression upon him.

The Joy of Sabbath Keeping

The Jews of Yahshua's time were guilty of making the Sabbath restric-



You realize
Sabbath observance
is crucial for
True Worship.
The questions is,
how should we
observe it? This
question has been
voiced by many people. This article will
show you how to keep
Yahweh's weekly
Holy Day.

BY ELDER JACOB O. MEYER

tive, and it became repulsive to their people since they added numerous human interpretations to the law of Yahweh. When one hears the term "pharisaical" it has a negative connotation. It conjures up the picture of one who is so legalistic and rigid in his thinking that he adds many oppressive burdens to otherwise necessary rules and regulations.

The Sabbath is quite joyful to observe. It was made for the benefit of man, Mark 2:27. "And he said to them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." It should produce satisfying excitement in the hearts of those who faithfully observe it. This may be achieved through balance and by accepting the authoritative Word as it is set forth in the sacred Scriptures.

Nevertheless, the Sabbath comes with rules that govern its observance. The sacred Scriptures have clearly declared that it is not a day of personal pleasure. Almighty Yahweh wants it to be kept in a certain way so that His human creation may derive the most benefit from it. Therefore, He has commanded

that we rest on the seventh day of each week. We should always be aware that Yahweh knows best how we should live because all life and good things come through His creative power.

Correct Sabbath keeping is candidly explained in Isaiah 58:13-14. "If you turn away your foot from the sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, and the holy of Yahweh honorable; and shall honor it, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words: then shall you delight yourself in Yahweh; and I will make.vou to ride upon the high places of the earth; and I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father: for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken it."

What are we permitted to do on the Sabbath? Some religious groups teach that buying and selling on the Sabbath are sanctioned by the Bible, others reject this practice. Some allow only the purchase of certain necessities, such as food and gasoline. Are there Scriptures that will guide us to a better understanding? Have there been any examples recorded in the Bible for us to follow? Why is there such broad division among teachers of the biblical way of life?

The Sabbath commandment was made known to the children of Israel as they journeyed toward the Promised Land (Exodus 16). Israel had just emerged from Egypt (a type of sin, Hebrews 11:26). When Yahweh began making His laws known to them, they were ignorant of His covenant. They had been born and raised in a land that observed customs contrary to His laws. Hundreds of years had gone by since their ancestors had emigrated into Egypt. The Exodus generation had therefore almost totally forgotten Yahweh's ways.

Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel) knew and were obedient to Yahweh. Subsequent generations, however, grew up in the land of

We should always be aware that Yahweh knows best how we should live because all life and good things come through His creative power.

Egypt and soon absorbed pagan customs from their surrounding neighbors. When Yahweh brought them out of Egypt, He had to reducate Israel to practice His True Worship.

Yahweh taught His laws to them through the prophet Moses. Some refer to these commandments as Moses' laws. This is unscriptural. They are YAHWEH'S LAWS, according to Exodus 20:11, Deuteronomy 4:13 and 40; 6:1 and 2; 8:10, and numerous other verses. Moses was merely the intermediary through whom Yahweh communicated to Israel. Yahweh plainly declared that these were His commandments. Nolaw ministers are deceived when they call these biblical precepts Moses' laws, as if a human being alone were responsible for bringing them into existence.

Yahweh, not Moses, recorded His law on the stone tablets as a guide for His people. Moses had nothing to do with the law except to deliver it to the children of Israel. It was Yahweh who wrote on the stone so that the Word could not be easily changed (Exodus 32:15-16). Obedience to Yahweh's commandments is clearly taught in Exodus 20:6, "And showing mercy to thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments." That

comprises a very plain statement: "...Keep my commandments." A similar Scripture in the New Testament condemns those that want to believe the law has been done away. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (John 14:15). You cannot love Yahweh and simultaneously do away with His commandments (John 14:21 and 24). "For this is the love of Yahweh, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." (1 John 5:3).

The Sabbath Legislated

Exodus 20:8-11 plainly declares: "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shall you labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath of Yahweh your Elohim: in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the stranger that is within your gates: for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day: Therefore Yahweh blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."

Notice whose Sabbath it is—YAH-WEH's. It is not Moses' Sabbath! Who would dare to obviate something that was originated by the Most High? Man's laws can be annulled, but not Yahweh's commandments!

The Sabbath Meant for Rest

Yahweh gave us an example when even He, our Creator, rested on the seventh day, Genesis 2:2-3. Likewise, we are to follow His example by resting. He permitted us to work for six days and do all our personal business, but He wants us to rest on the seventh day just as He did. That is why Yahweh sanctified the Sabbath, setting it apart from the

other six days of the week.

One of man's occupations is merchandising, buying and selling. We are allowed during six days to make our livelihood, but we are commanded to cease from this mundane activity on the Sabbath.

Are there scriptural examples to prove this conclusion? An example can be found in the book of Nehemiah. Some of the Israelites were rebuilding Jerusalem after returning from Babylonian captivity. Nehemiah was their leader and governor. They were diligently trying to restore Yahweh's laws after being held captive in a foreign land for 70 years.

Take a careful look at this passage in Nehemiah 10:29-31, "They joined to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in Elohim's law, which was given by Moses the servant of Elohim, and to observe and do all the commandments of Yahweh our Sovereign and his ordinances and his statutes; and that we would not give our daughters to the peoples of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons; and if the peoples of the land bring wares or any grain on the sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy of them on the sabbath, or on a holy day; and that we would forego the seventh year, and the exaction of every debt."

The returning Jews faithfully promised Yahweh that they would not buy or sell on the Sabbath, or annual holy day (feast day). Notice that the use of the term *victuals* (food) was included in the list of items prohibited from purchase. Was this simply their own idea that they chose to follow? The obvious answer is that it is a principle of the sacred commandment.

Some years later when Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem, the Jews were disobedient. Therefore, we must conclude that the prohibition of buying and selling on the Sabbath finds its basis in Yahweh's Laws.

The Sabbath Scorned

"In those days I saw in Judah some men treading winepresses on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and loading asses with them; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the sabbath day: and I testified against them in the day in which they sold food. There dwelt men of Tyre also in it, who brought in fish, and all manner of wares, and sold on the sabbath to the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem. Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said to them, What evil thing is this that you do, and profane the sabbath day?" (Nehemiah 13:15-17).

Food purchases are prominently mentioned as constituting a Sabbath violation in Jerusalem as well as Judah, the area surrounding the city. The people of Judah, as well as the men of Tyre (pagan or unconverted Gentiles), were buying and selling food items. Nehemiah 13:18 explains, "Did not your fathers thus, and did not our Elohim bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? Yet you bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the sabbath."

They knew their fathers committed the very same sins and went into captivity as punishment. Jerusalem was made a desolation for these previous, identical transgressions of Yahweh's Laws (transgression-sin, 1 John 3:4). Now these Jewish people were again inviting the same wrath of Yahweh's judgment to fall upon them for their disobedience. Their forefathers had bought, sold, and worked on the Sabbath. For these, as well as other, transgressions, including not allowing the land to rest, they had been conquered by foreign nations and taken into Babylonian captivity.

Where can we read about a similar prophetic warning? Turn to Jeremiah 17:19-27, which is the historical antecedent of Nehemiah's

warning. "In this manner said Yahweh to me: Go, and stand in the gate of the children of the people, by which the kings of Judah come in, and by which they go out, and in all the gates of Jerusalem; and say to them, Hear the word of Yahweh, you kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, that enter in by these gates: In this manner says Yahweh, Take heed to yourselves, and bear no burden on the sabbath day, nor bring it in by the gates of Jerusalem; neither carry forth a burden out of your houses on the sabbath day, neither do you any work: but hallow the sabbath day, as I commanded your fathers. But they listened not, neither inclined their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear, and might not receive instruction. And it shall come to pass, if you diligently listen to me, says Yahweh, to bring in no burden through the gates of this city on the sabbath day, but to hallow the sabbath day, to do no work in it; then shall there enter in by the gates of this city, kings and princes sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their princes, the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and this city shall remain forever. And they shall come from the cities of Judah, and from the places all around Jerusalem, and from the land of Benjamin, and from the lowland, and from the hill-country, and from the South, bringing burnt-offerings, and sacrifices, and meal-offerings, and frankincense, and bringing sacrifices of thanksgiving, to the house of Yahweh. But if you will not listen to me to hallow the sabbath day, and not to bear a burden and enter in at the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day; then will I kindle a fire in the gates of it, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not



be quenched."

Buying and selling on the Sabbath is obviously profaning what Yahweh designated as sacred time. These restrictions were not Nehemiah's law, but Yahweh's. It shows continuance of an existing Law. Yahweh our Elohim punished Israel for violating it. Do you imagine that He will tolerate similar sins among His people today? Hardly!

Due to the weak character of the children of Judah, Nehemiah had to initiate strong action to forestall them suffering a fate similar to their forefathers. He commanded that the city gates be closed securely as it began to grow dusk (at sundown), before the Sabbath began. "And it came to pass that, when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the doors should be shut, and commanded that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants I set over the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day." (Nehemiah 13:19).

In a modern scenario, we would see merchants engaged in their activities—their gas stations open, restaurants ready to sell sandwiches or meals, hardware stores and supermarkets with their products displayed and the laborers working on their jobs.

What did Nehemiah do? "So the merchants and sellers of all

kind of wares lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice. Then I testified against them, and said to them, Why do you lodge about the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no more on the sabbath." (Nehemiah 13:20-21).

Nehemiah closed up shop (in the vernacular). As governor, he had the authority to do this. If our government were rigid and righteous, enforcement of Yahweh's Laws would be possible. But modern governments are not obedient to Yahweh's commandments, statutes, and judgments. There are very few Nehemiahs guarding the gates of the Sabbath, and those who do are customarily called "too strict."

When Yahshua returns to set up Yahweh's government on this earth, businesses will indeed close on the Sabbath. Today, while we cannot control the merchants, we are in control of our personal lives. We dare not buy, sell, or work on the Sabbath or on the annual holy days (known as the feasts of Yahweh in the Authorized Version). Neither should we help a merchant to profit on that day by purchasing from him, so he will keep his establishment open on the Sabbath. Just think, if nobody bought any food on the Sabbath, would restaurants remain open? Restaurants, stores of all kinds, gasoline stations, and most businesses would have to close every Sabbath. Could they remain open if no one patronized them? It would not be profitable!

The Preparation Day

If we cannot buy or sell on the Sabbath, what are we to eat? How shall we get by? Are there any provisions for situations such as this? The Word of Yahweh clearly supplies the answers.

Yahweh the Creator knew the minds of people. In Exodus 16:12, He instructed the Israelites through using their life experiences. Israel murmured about the Sabbath restrictions when they learned about the limitations of this sacred day. Yahweh benevolently promised to provide food for six days, but on the seventh day, He told them that no manna would be available.

Since some food was required on the seventh day to make it joyful, Yahweh told Israel what to do. Each day they were to gather only as much as they could use (eat) for that particular day. No more was to be gathered since it could not be kept overnight until the next day. On the sixth day, Israel was instructed to gather twice as much manna, what would be needed for both the sixth day, plus a sufficient supply for the seventh day. Yahweh promised to keep it from spoiling so food could be available on the seventh day without preparation on the holy day.

The manna normally remained

edible for only one day, but when Israel gathered a double portion on the sixth day, it remained edible for two days, through the Sabbath day (Exodus 16:16-23).

During the week, some disgruntled Israelites tried to gather more than was necessary for one day. It bred worms and stank (Exodus 16:20). It did not profit them to collect more than they could use each day.

Why would the sixth day be different, so that double the daily amount of manna could be safely gathered and kept? Yahweh was showing Israel that His Sabbath was indeed different, clearly pointing out the specified day of rest. It was not a day of their own choosing. If they would exercise faith and be obedient, plentiful provisions would be theirs. When the seventh-day Sabbath came, the manna they had gathered the previous day was just as succulent and tasty as when they had gathered it on the sixth day.

Some Israelites were disobedient to Yahweh's commandments, however. Perhaps it was those who had originally gathered more than they would use in one day. They did not want this to happen to them again on the seventh. They decided to go out and gather some fresh manna on the Sabbath. What happened? "And it came to pass on the seventh day, that there went out some of the people to gather, and they found NONE." (Exodus

16:27). They were told there would be none on the Sabbath, but they exhibited an attitude of unbelief. Those who were obedient and had prepared on the sixth day had food for the Sabbath. "And they saved it until the morning, as Moses commanded: and it did not become foul, neither was there any worms in it." (Exodus 16:24). Must we learn this important lesson the hard way as Israel did?

Exodus 16:25-30 summarizes it. Yahweh was demonstrating His Will and showing His ways to Israel. The day before His Sabbath is meant to be the preparation day. The required food for the seventh day must be prepared on the sixth day. The very word "prepare" is found in Exodus 16:5. Note it carefully! "And it shall come to pass on the sixth day, that they shall prepare that which they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily." Then it will be unnecessary to gather, prepare, or buy on the Sabbath day or feast day, if we obey Yahweh's Word.

Yahweh tells us in Exodus 16:23, "And he said unto them, This is what Yahweh has spoken, to-morrow is a solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to Yahweh: bake what you will bake, and boil what you will boil; and all that remains over save it to be kept until the morning." Yahweh has given us adequate directions. Can they be misunderstood? We shall bake our

bread or meatloaf, boil the potatoes, make stew, PREPARE ALL FOOD FOR THE SABBATH ON THE DAY BEFORE (ON THE SIXTH DAY OR PREPARATION DAY). Yahweh does not want us to do this servile kind of work on the Sabbath.

A Rededication of the Day

For forty years in the wilderness Israel faithfully followed these rules, and, yet, subsequent generations failed to heed this biblical example. They began buying and selling again. Sanctifying the Sabbath was the thrust of Nehemiah's exhortation to the people of his day. He directed them to prepare for the Sabbath, and he enforced his order by locking the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath day began at sundown. See Nehemiah 13:19.

When the Judean people were being taught from the Scriptures after they came out of Babylonian captivity (Nehemiah 8:1), the priests read from the book of the Law. When they encountered the passage that commanded the keeping of the Feast of Trumpets, the first day of the seventh month, they discovered that the texts called this day an annual Sabbath, a day of rest.

According to the account recorded in Nehemiah 8:2-9, some of the people must have been concerned, because, in their ignorance of the Law, adequate preparation of food



for the holy day had been overlooked. Ezra told them not to be concerned. In Nehemiah 8:10-12, he directed, "Then he said to them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions to him for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Sovereign: neither be you grieved; for the joy of Yahweh is your strength. So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy; neither be grieved. And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared to them."

The unprepared were not told to go back to their dwellings and cook food on Yahweh's holy day, nor were they told to buy it! Verse 11 has the key, "...this day is holy...." The priests were instructing the people in the Law of Yahweh from the books of Moses. Yahweh's directions concerning how we shall keep His holy days were upheld by his ministers. All arrangements for the Sabbath should be made before sundown, when the seventh day or holy day, begins. Should anyone be unprepared, those who have prepared can share with those in need. Yahweh's Law will not tolerate any liberalization.

Travel on the Sabbath to attend services should be in keeping with His holy day, and necessary arrangements to attend services (where possible) should be made ahead of time. On the Sabbath, Yahweh wants our undivided attention to study and learn, that we may become more obedient to His Laws. Purchase all necessary requirements for going to services: gasoline, oil, and tires, before the Sabbath begins. Make the preparations beforehand!

How can Exodus 16:29 be explained? Some believe that we should not go anywhere on the Sabbath. The last part of verse 29 says, "...remain you every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day."

Does this mean that we cannot get out of bed or leave our home for any purpose?

At first glance, we could assume that we should not go anywhere on the seventh day. But further consideration, while allowing the Bible message to harmonize, brings forth the real meaning. The key word is PLACE. Remember that the Sabbath is a holy convocation (Leviticus 23:3). What was their place on the seventh day? It was to attend services, not to labor in the field. By not taking the context of this verse and considering verses 27 and 30, the meaning has been misconstrued. The meaning for our time is not to go out in the world. "So the people rested on the seventh day." (Exodus 16:30) They did not go out to do worldly pleasure, or accomplish mundane tasks. They set the Sabbath apart from the other six days of the week—they "rested." Since Yahweh had commanded attendance at a holy convocation on each seventh-day Sabbath, those who were obedient attended worship services faithfully. The same Hebrew term for *place* also appears in Deuteronomy 16:2, 11, 15.

Unconverted people are always absorbed with mundane things. They serve their own interests and would hesitate to reserve one day each week for rest and spiritual refreshment. Resting on Yahweh's Sabbath sets apart His True Worshipers. Yahweh accepts us as His children when we obey His commandments. When we sanctify the Sabbath, this royal sign unites us (Exodus 31:17). We become His people, His Obadiahs. He marks us as His own children by placing His Name on those who obey Him (Revelation 14:1-5).

"Speak also to the children of Israel, saying, You must keep my sabbaths: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that you may know that I am Yahweh who sanctifies you....It is a sign between me and the children of Israel forever: for in six days Yahweh

made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed." (Exodus 31:13, 17).

Yahshua said in John 14:21, "He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me: and he that loves me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest my self to him."

Obviously, if we do not keep the Sabbath, one of Yahweh's 10 Commandments, we do not love Yahweh! We despise Him and His Word! "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (John 14:15). Here is a very frank statement. Who can circumvent it? This verse is never considered by those who teach that the commandments are annulled.

"He that loves me not keeps not my words: and the word which you hear is not mine, but the Father's who sent me." (John 14:24). Yahshua strongly taught His disciples to keep the commandments. If we do not keep His commandments, we do not love Him. "If you keep my commandments, you shall remain in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and remain in his love....You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatever you shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you." (John 15:10, 16).

Yahshua confirmed that these were Father Yahweh's commandments (not Moses' laws). "He that says, I know him, and keeps not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." (1 John 2:4). This verse pointedly states that those who do not keep Yahweh's commandments (because they claim they are done away) while declaring that they know Him, are liars. We know Him by being obedient to Him and keeping His Word. Then He will manifest Himself to us.

Matthew 19:17 holds the key in Yahshua's own words. "And he

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The Sabbath Day

A SERIES IN THREE PARTS

PART 1-

Let me begin by asking you several questions. Usually the best teaching method to be employed is to present a question for consideration that will stimulate us to seek knowledge. Have you ever thought about this one? Whom do you worship as the genuine, Almighty Creator and Sustainer of the universe? "That's a strange question," you may say. "It doesn't really matter what we call the Almighty as long as we worship the Mighty Being speaking to us from the pages of the Bible." This usual response from people can actually be refuted by numerous Scriptures if we care to consider the facts. The brethren of the ASSEMBLIES OF YAHWEH worship the Almighty Creator and Sustainer of the universe by the Name which He Himself has chosen and placed in His Word. This Name has been obliterated by most of the modern translations through an overzealous attempt of the Jewish Rabbis to protect the True Name of our Heavenly Father from possible desecration. However, the Word of our Heavenly Father states that His Name is YAHWEH, that this is His Memorial forever to all generations, and that His True people

shall indeed know His True Name. See Isaiah 42:8 and Isaiah 52:5-6.

How do you, as an individual, worship the Almighty Heavenly Father? You might say, "Does it matter as long as we simply acknowledge Him?" The brethren of the ASSEM-BLIES OF YAHWEH worship our Heavenly Father according to the manner which He Himself has decreed in His Word, by keeping ALL of His Commandments, statutes, and Laws which are applicable in a spiritual sense today. He, Himself, has indicated that the only avenue open to a personal relationship with Him is through calling upon Him using His True revealed Name, which is the first commandment. Furthermore. He directs us to live a submissive life in obedience to His Will. Disobedience to the wishes of the Heavenly Father comprises a direct instrument employed by Satan the Devil to lead the people of the Most High away from the blessings which our Heavenly Father has in store for them. In order to demonstrate our love to our Heavenly Father and to receive His love in return, we must explicitly follow His directions in our life and fulfil His wishes at all times.

When do you worship the Heav-

enly Father? You will probably reply that it really doesn't matter as long as you acknowledge Him on one day out of the week. If you are anxious to find Truth and to do the Will of the Heavenly Father, I must tell you on the authority of His Word that there indeed is a difference in the sight of the Heavenly Father which days His True Worshipers shall observe for His worship. The brethren of the ASSEMBLIES OF YAHWEH worship our Heavenly Father on the days which He Himself has specified for the purpose of spiritual worship. We do not base our religion upon the noted works of theology, or on the traditions of men. The brethren of the ASSEMBLIES OF YAHWEH find our basis for worship in only one place and that is the inspired Word which He has Himself given to mankind and which is commonly called the Bible.

Why not prove to yourself what I have just stated is the truth? The Bible is not nearly as complicated, confusing, or puzzling as you may have previously been led to believe. It is just as simple as our Heavenly Father could make it. It was not His intention to confuse you. When you cut through the dense theological jungle which organized religion

has thrown up around the sacred Scriptures and adhere strictly to the Word, you will quickly come to realize for yourself how plain and simple to understand it becomes.

In order to present the subject on which I wish to speak today, I am going to ask a very dogmatic question which may shock some of the listeners, but which is, nevertheless, scriptural. I can prove the answer to you out of the Bible. The question is this: "Where in the entire Bible (both Old and New Testaments) can you find that the day specified for the worship of our Heavenly Father was ever changed from the scriptural seventh day to Sunday?" Most likely you are as I was at one time in my life. You have assumed that when the Savior died on the tree of Calvary, the day of worship was changed from the scriptural Sabbath to Sunday in honor of His resurrection. You were taught these things from childhood in the Sunday school which you attended and undoubtedly you never investigated the authenticity of the statements of your teachers, nor did you search out this subject of a Sabbath change in your Bible. In fact, you may be even grossly insulted that I should bring this subject to your attention. Who am I, anyway, to question the doctrines on which you stand, or the religion of the majority of the people of this world? I, myself, Elder Jacob O. Meyer, am nobody at all; however, I stand on the authority of the Word of Almighty YAHWEH, the Heavenly Father. It is my intention to preach this Word to you in all its purity, power, and magnitude. This inspired, spirit-breathed Word commands, "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shall you labor; and do all

thy work; but the seventh day is a sabbath of YAHWEH your Elohim: in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter; your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the stranger that is within your gates: for in six days YAHWEH made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day: Therefore YAHWEH blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it." This is a direct quote from the **King James** translation of the holy Scriptures of Exodus 20:8-11, the Sacred Name Yahweh and the title Elohim restored to the text.

Did you get the point which is made in this passage? First of all, Almighty YAHWEH instructs us to "remember the Sabbath day." Not just any day which we ourselves may set aside, or designate as holy, but the Sabbath day, one specific day which Yahweh intends us to remember to keep holy. This is a very special day, since our Heavenly Father sets His own stamp of approval on this certain day. It is of paramount importance that we come to realize this unalterable fact. Mortal man does not possess the capabilities, or the option, to set aside a certain day and declare it holy, or to be qualified for the worship of our Heavenly Father. If just any day that we would find convenient for worship is suitable in the eves of our Heavenly Father. there would be no need for Him to be so pointedly specific in the language He employs in this passage. All holiness originates from our Heavenly Father who alone is holy and able to designate certain things as being holy.

In past experience, I have known

people who were undecided as to which day was really the True Sabbath that must be observed by the New Testament believers. Consequently, they would determine in their own hearts that, in order not to be wrong, they would observe both Sabbath and Sunday. However, it would seem that Almighty YAHWEH foresaw just such a situation developing. This caused Him to declare Himself even more concisely so that His people should not become a group given to uncertainty, but a people who have formed convictions from diligent thought, study, and meditation. Yahweh states, "Six days shall you labor; and do all your work; but THE SEVENTH DAY is a sabbath of Yahweh your Elohim...." It should immediately become obvious to those individuals who are striving to do the Will of our Heavenly Father that we are commanded to declare to the world which day YAHWEH has chosen for the Sabbath. We are ordered to work for six days and rest on the seventh. In view of this fact, we cannot be doubtful or double minded, but we must make a decision, a choice, a judgment, and it had better be the right one because our eternal salvation is at stake.

Before we proceed further, we must seek out a good definition for the word Sabbath. It is always best to return to the source rather than to accept human ideas or theological traditions. In the Hebrew text, the term is shabbath and it means to take a rest, to sit still, to cease from, to interrupt. When speaking of the Sabbath day, it would then necessarily mean that we stop our mundane laboring, that we cease and desist from, or interrupt our daily routine, and that we take a

Almighty YAHWEH instructs us to "remember the Sabbath day." Not just any day which we of ourselves may set aside or designate as holy.... This is a very special day since our Heavenly Father sets His own stamp of approval on this certain day.

rest, sit down, or sit still. Relative to speaking of one certain day, the Sabbath and its observance, there can be no other definition than this. Every lexicon you may care to check will substantiate this definition.

In modern theology, the scriptural seventh-day Sabbath has become somewhat of a terror. This supernaturally appointed day is depicted as a horrible yoke of bondage. It is described in almost loathing terms, perhaps not merely to discredit this certain day, but also to bring disrepute upon the Creator of it, Almighty YAHWEH, our Heavenly Father. You certainly must have become aware as I was quoting the fourth commandment, that this day is not the Sabbath of the Jew as so many educators and ministers preach, but it is the Sabbath of YAHWEH, our Mighty One! It was never sanctified or, set apart, by, or for, the Jew, although the Jews down through history have observed it faithfully, perhaps being somewhat overzealous in many aspects of its observance.

I would like to have you examine a New Testament passage which bears out this thought. These are the words of the Messiah, our Redeemer and Savior, Yahshua. In Mark 2:27, we find this verse recorded as being spoken by our Savior; "And he said to them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." This verse again bears out that this day is not Jewish in origin, nor are those who preach it and advocate its observance guilty of "Judaizing." The inspired Scriptures state that it was created by Almighty YAHWEH, our Heavenly Father, and set aside for worship, being made for man. Mention of the word Jew is not even found in any of these passages; rather, this day, the scriptural Sabbath, was put into effect thousands of years before there was ever a Jew. Notice also Leviticus 23:3. "Six days shall work be done: but on the seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, a holy convocation; you shall do no manner of work: it is a sabbath to Yahweh in all your dwellings."

The Sabbath commandment continues, "In it vou shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter; your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the stranger that is within vour gates..." This clarification of the way the Sabbath is to be observed, the amount of work which may be done on this day, and by whom, is certainly completely explicit and described in words which are not easily misinterpreted. True Worshipers of Yahweh are not to engage in any work, nor are our children. We are to rest and relax in a refreshing atmosphere. Nor are we to employ Sabbath goys (gentiles), people who do not normally observe the Sabbath and whom we may employ to do work which we may think necessary to have done on the Sabbath. Even our livestock is to experience this weekly rest cycle so that they may also be refreshed.

If these injunctions were obeyed to the letter today, all commerce and industry would forthwith cease. The entire world would become quiet and a truly relaxing atmosphere would envelop this earth.

This age in which we live is noted for activity. It can truly be said that today there is activity at all hours of the day and night. I sometimes wonder if perhaps there is not more noise and activity at night than during the day! No wonder people have tense nerves which hold them as tight as a fiddle string. It really is no wonder that the only people truly profiting are the drug companies with their multitude of remedies for tension headaches and insomnia. The modern nervous malady of hypertension and anxiety could be relieved with a weekly Sabbath free from noise and movement.

If a true Sabbath were observed, there would be a lot less labor unrest, since it is a proven fact that when a man is overworked he becomes distressed and restless.

The question of which day is truly the New Testament Sabbath is one which is vital to your salvation,

since it will relate to the mark of the Beast which will appear at the end of the age. See Revelation 13. Do you worship the Almighty Creator and Sustainer of the universe who set apart a certain day for worship, or are you disobedient to His commandments? Are you receiving the blessings which come from Sabbath keeping? Are you imagining that the Scripture sets forth something it does not say? Why not look into the Word of YAHWEH today and prove this to yourself, one way or another? You may be surprised with the answer you will find there.

PART 2—

Do you worship the True and genuine Almighty Creator and Sustainer of the universe who has the authority to command in His Word and to follow with the enforcement of His Will? Do you stand implicitly on His Word and humbly allow His commandments to rule over your life? Do you believe that when the Heavenly Father spoke, He spoke with authority and that His Word is binding and unchangeable?

The brethren of the Assemblies of Almighty YAHWEH stand without reservation on the Word of Almighty YAHWEH, the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. We are convinced that the Bible does not have to be interpreted by manmade theology, but that it is self explanatory and it best interprets itself. We do not believe that the Bible must be rationalized as we see constantly in this modern era of skepticism, but that it is True, and we can rely upon it as our authority. Why do I make statements such as these? With just a basic, sound, human reasoning and thought, in conjunction with deep Bible study, we have proven that the Word of our Heavenly Father can be relied upon for its authority.

After proving that Father Yahweh is real and exists, that His mighty and unlimited power is completely beyond the capacity of mortal man to refute, we stand squarely before Him confronted with a choice of

<u>PROPHETIC</u> <u>TRENDS</u>



TUMULTS AND WARS

And they asked him, saying, Teacher, when therefore shall these things be? And what shall be the sign when these things are about to come to pass? And he said, Take heed that you be not led astray: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am he; and, The time is at hand: do not go after them. And when you shall hear of wars and tumults, be not terrified: for these things must come to pass first; but the end is not immediately." (Luke 21:7-9).

When the disciples of Yahshua the Messiah asked Him regarding the events that will take place in the end of the age, He first warned His disciples to take heed and beware that they not be led astray. Yahshua further instructed that wars and tumults would take place at the end of the age, before the Great Tribulation. On July 8, 2014, the day after Tisha b'Av (according to Yahweh's sacred calendar), war broke out between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. With Hamas firing thousands of rockets into Israel, the Israeli Defense Force responded with air-strikes, mortar fire, and, eventually, a ground offensive.

Israel's only defense against these thousands of rockets is a missile-defense system known as the Iron Dome. Based on the Patriot Missile technology developed by the United States of America, the trajectory of an incoming missile is calculated by the Iron Dome missile battery, and an Israeli missile is fired to destroy the

incoming Hamas rocket. All of this takes place in a matter of seconds, while air raid sirens blare a warning for Israeli citizens to seek immediate cover in their bomb shelters. Sadly, the Israelis only have 15 seconds, or so, to take cover, should the Iron Dome missile fail to destroy its target.

Though Israeli citizens braved the barrage of missiles, and the subsequent air raid warnings, rockets still found their mark deep into Israel. Fearing a missile collision with an airliner, the FAA banned American carriers from flying to Ben Gurion Airport from the United States. These rockets reached Tel Aviv, as well as Jerusalem. Psalm 91 gives encouragement for just such occurrences. "You shall not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flies by day; for the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor for the destruction that wastes at noon day." (Psalm 91:5-6).

Several miracles by Almighty Yahweh have come to light. Israel Today reported on July 18 that a miraculous intervention occurred regarding a rocket fired toward central Tel Aviv. When this missile was fired from Gaza, the Iron Dome precisely calculated its trajectory to strike Tel Aviv in a heavily populated area. The commander recalled how a first interceptor rocket missed the incoming missile. A second interceptor was fired, and it also failed to destroy the incoming missile. Suddenly, the Iron Dome (which also calculates wind

speeds) indicated that a major wind came from the east and sent the missile harmlessly into the Mediterranean Sea. When a reporter asked one of the terrorists from Gaza why they couldn't aim their rockets more effectively, he responded: "We do aim them, but their [Elohim] changes their path in mid-air." IDF Colonel Ofer Winter reported that a predawn raid intending to use darkness as cover was delayed, forcing soldiers to move toward their objective as sunrise was approaching. The troops were in danger of being exposed at daybreak. Winter explained how heavy fog quickly descended to shroud their movements until their mission was accomplished. Only when the soldiers were in a secure position did the fog finally lift.

A Perpetual Enmity

With more than a thousand dead civilians in Gaza, the world press fanned the flames of anti-Israeli and anti-Semitic sentiment around the world. It was reported that in France eight synagogues were attacked, one of them was firebombed by a mob of 400. A kosher supermarket and pharmacy were smashed and looted. The crowd's banners included statements such as "Death to Jews" and "Slit Jews' Throats". "These are the worst times since the Nazi era," Peter Graumann, president of Germany's Central Council of Jews, told the UK Guardian. "On the streets, you hear things like 'the Jews should be gassed', 'the Jews



should be burned'—we haven't had that in Germany for decades. Anyone saying those slogans isn't criticising Israeli politics, it's just pure hatred against Jews: nothing else. And it's not just a German phenomenon. It's an outbreak of hatred against Jews so intense that it's very clear indeed."

"Across Europe, the conflict in Gaza is breathing new life into some very old, and very ugly, demons," Jon Henley of the **Guardian** wrote. He continued, "Germany's chancellor, Angela Merkel, has called the recent incidents 'an attack on freedom and tolerance and our democratic state'. The French prime minister, Manuel Valls, has spoken of 'intolerable' and clearly antisemitic acts: 'To attack a Jew because he is a Jew is to attack France. To attack a synagogue and a kosher grocery store is quite simply antisemitism and racism."

Though media pundits and government officials wring their hands over this rise in anti-Semitism, it is important to note that the sacred Scriptures prophesy that a perpetual enmity would exist between Arabs and Jews. "Moreover the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, Son of man, set your face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it, and say to it, thus says the Sovereign

Yahweh: Behold, I am against you, O mount Seir, and I will stretch out my hand against you, and I will make you a desolation and an astonishment. I will lay your cities waste, and you shall be desolate; and you shall know that I am Yahweh. Because you have had a perpetual enmity, and have given over the children of Israel to the power of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time of the iniquity of the end; therefore, as I live, says the Sovereign Yahweh, I will prepare you to blood, and blood shall pursue you: since you have not hated blood, therefore blood shall pursue you." (Ezekiel 35:1-6).

Psalm 83 lists 11 nations and peoples who have made a Covenant for the destruction of Israel. "O Elohim, keep not silence: hold not your peace, and be not still, O El. For, lo, your enemies make a tumult; and they that hate you have lifted up the head. They take crafty counsel against your people, and consult together against your hidden ones. They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent; against you they make a covenant: The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre: Assyria also is joined with them; they have helped the children of Lot. Selah." (Psalm 83:1-8).

Muslim leaders and clerics rail against Israel, often inciting Muslims to attack and "kill the Jew." Still, the hatred against Jews is a hatred and reviling against Almighty Yahweh. "Because you have said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas Yahweh was there: therefore, as I live, says the Sovereign Yahweh, I will do according to your anger, and according to your envy which you have showed out of your hatred

against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I shall judge you. And you shall know that I, Yahweh, have heard all your revilings which you have spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to devour. And you have magnified yourselves against me with your mouth, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard it." (Ezekiel 35: 10-13).

Psalm 83 clearly indicates that these enemies of Yahweh tumult against Him, and they hate Elohim. Notice that "they that hate you have lifted up the head." Beheadings have become commonplace in these regions of strife, just as Yahweh's Word has prophesied. Obadiah verse 10 states: "for the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever." Verse 12 continues, "But do not look on the day of your brother in the day of his disaster, and rejoice not over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither speak proudly in the day of distress." Have we forgotten how joyful Muslims were on September 11, 2001? They even gave out candy to their children so that they too could rejoice!

Yahweh has promised retribution against Edom in Obadiah 15, "For the day of Yahweh is near upon all the nations: as you have done, it shall be done to you; your dealing shall return upon your own head." Ezekiel 35 concludes, "In this manner says the Sovereign Yahweh: When the whole earth rejoices, I will make you desolate. As you rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do to you: you shall be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Edom, even all of it; and they shall know that I am Yahweh." Psalm 83:18 states, "That they may know that you alone, whose name is Yahweh, Are the Most High over all the earth."

New Terror Threat

A new terror group — more evil than Al Qaeda — has arisen in the Middle East. Known as ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), also known as ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant), these terrorists are more radical than Al Qaeda. With a distinctive black flag, this terror group has spread from Syria into regions of Iraq. For the past year, videos have been surfacing on the Internet showing ISIS terrorists beheading Chr-stians and even Muslims who were not radical enough. Pouring over the border into Iraq, they quickly overran Iraqi army bases, seized their weaponry, and annihilated the Iraqi soldiers. For this reason, many Iraqi soldiers fled their posts to save their lives. As they captured villages and towns, they conscripted men into their army and executed any they deemed as undesirable. In these towns and cities, they have cleaned out the bank vaults, making them the most wellfinanced terror group in the world.

As ISIS grew, it threatened to advance toward Baghdad. Internet videos are uploaded showing these terrorists killing their own Muslim people who were not radical enough, and any Chr-stians were given the ultimatum to convert or die. Terror-stricken Chr-stians were even reported to have committed suicide rather than be tortured and executed for not converting to Islam. Reminiscent of historical accounts of more than 1,000 years ago, these Muslim terrorists behead any who resist them. Children reportedly have been cut in half or beheaded, women raped, and men executed mercilessly.

ISIS leaders have declared that their black flag will fly over the White House. Photographs showing someone holding a piece of paper with Arabic writing declaring "we are here" were taken in front of the White House and Congress. At a rally in the Hague, a crowd waying the black flags of the Islamic State (ISIS) chanted "Death to the Jews." A banner at a rally protest in Ferguson, Missouri, stated. "ISIS is here." Like a snowball gathering size and speed as it rolls down a hill, this terror network has become an international threat in just a few months time. This caused President Obama to begin using air-strikes in Iraq against ISIS, after 40,000 Chr-stian refugees fled to a remote mountain without food and water,

facing certain death. New cause for concern arose after congressmen and senators declared that US government agencies are tracking more than 100 of these terrorists already in the United States.

Pestilences and Plagues

An outbreak of the Ebola virus has focused the world's attention on Liberia and Sierra Leone. Beginning in February, the Ebola outbreak began in the remote regions of Equatorial Guinea and then spread to Sierra Leone. Unable to contain the spread of this fatal disease, it has spread to Liberia. Then, an American traveling to Minnesota from the region got sick and died in Lagos, Nigeria, infecting doctors and medical personnel. With an over-60 percent mortality rate, Ebola is deadly. It is spread through contact with bodily fluids: sweat and blood. Even though great precautions are taken through the wearing of protective gear, many medical personnel are also infected. An American doctor and an aid worker from a humanitarian group known as The Samaritan's Purse were flown to Atlanta, Georgia, for treatment after becoming infected. They were given an experimental drug, taken from the tobacco plant and grown in mice, which has shown some effectiveness in treating the disease. A Catholic priest, who was infected with Ebola and subsequently flown to Madrid, Spain, for treatment with this experimental drug, died, however.

The Chikungunya virus, first reported in the Caribbean several months ago, has traveled to the mainland United States. The Centers for Disease Control has listed over 500 cases in the United States and its territories. Although it is not deadly, those infected with Chikungunya report fevers and significant joint pain for about a week.

Health officials in Jefferson County, Colorado, warned the public to stay away from sick and dead rabbits, because they may have a





rabbit fever—a disease that can infect humans. Rabbit fever can be passed on to humans, if people handle sick or dead bunnies, or if they're bitten by an infected tick or flea. Tularemia (rabbit fever) symptoms include high fever and swollen lymph nodes on the side where the bacteria entered the body.

A man in Eagle County, Colorado, has died from the Hantavirus. Hantavirus is a disease that kills nearly half of the people who are infected with it. Carried by deer mice, most cases are the result of coming into contact with the deer mouse's excrement. Health officials say it can take six weeks to see symptoms, which include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and other symptoms—including large muscle aches.

Yahweh Rapha

Psalm 91:3 promises deliverance from "the deadly pestilence." We are also assured that "there shall no evil happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your

tent," Psalm 91:10. "And Yahweh will take away from you all sickness; and none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which you know, will he put upon you, but will lay them on all them that hate you." Deuteronomy 7:15. If we are faithful to Almighty Yahweh and observe all of His commandments, then Yahweh promises that He will protect us. "... And he said, if you will diligently listen to the voice of Yahweh your Elohim, and will do that which is right in his eyes, and will give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you, which I have put on the Egyptians: for I am Yahweh, who heals you." Exodus 15:26.

"Bless Yahweh, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless Yahweh, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgives all your iniquities; who heals all your diseases; who redeems your life from destruction; who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies." Psalm 103:1-4.

"Yahweh is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness. He will not always chide; neither will he keep his anger forever. He has not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us after our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his lovingkindness toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pities his children, so Yahweh pities them that fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust." Psalm 103:8-14.

Trust in Yahweh

During these times of widespread upheaval and commotion, we must cling to a source of stability so that our lives may have purpose. That source is Almighty Yahweh, our Father in heaven, and His Word, the sacred Scriptures. We need not fear the things that are coming upon the earth when we recognize that Almighty Yahweh has a purpose. His plan and His Will are being worked out here on earth, and He will establish His Kingdom on this earth in a few short years. Whenever we pray the Savior's model prayer, we are asking that Yahweh's Kingdom be established on this earth and that His Will would be done on this earth, just as it is in heaven.

The Kingdom of Yahweh will be a tremendous era of joy, peace, productivity, and fulfillment. War will be abolished, and, instead of weaponry manufacturing, agricultural tools and implements of husbandry will be produced. Rather than being discouraged, when we perceive prophetic events occurring rapidly, let us look up, for our redemption is drawing near.

If your life is in turmoil, or if you are having doubts about the future, why not turn to the source of stability—the sacred Scriptures? The members of the Assemblies of Yahweh have hope in their hearts for the future. We sincerely believe the Word of Yahweh. We practice the Faith as we find it defined in Hebrews 11:1. We daily seek to live our lives in harmony with Yahweh's Laws.

Take hope for the future! By understanding the trends that are appearing in the news media today as they relate to Bible prophecy, you need not fear the unknown. Anxiety will disappear, and you can confidently face the future unafraid.

"But when these things begin to come to pass, look up, and lift up your heads; because your redemption draws near." Luke 21:28. either obeying His Word, or living in disobedience. When we read words such as Deuteronomy 5:12-15 are we just to thrust them aside as insignificant and unimportant, or explain them away through the teachings of worldly knowledge? Do we merely spiritualize this entire passage and simply give lip service to it? This passage in Deuteronomy 5 reads, "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy, as Yahweh your Elohim commanded you. Six days shall you labor; and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to Yahweh your Elohim: in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter; your man-servant, or your maidservant, your ox, or your ass, or any of your cattle, or your stranger that is within your gates; that your manservant and your maidservant may rest as well as you. And you shall remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and Yahweh your Elohim brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm: therefore Yahweh your Elohim commanded you to keep the sabbath day."

The keeping of the Sabbath comprises a most essential aspect of the Law of YAHWEH. It is one of the Ten Commandments which was given as part of the Covenant Yahweh made with Israel. This same Law constitutes a vital part of the new Covenant, as recorded in Jeremiah 31:31-34 and quoted in Hebrews 8:8-12. The change in the agreement is that instead of a continuing of animal sacrifices for sin, now there would be one sacrifice which would cover all sin, a perfect sacrifice which was offered once for all to those people who would try their best to merit it by living an obedient life.

Most people assume that the Messiah Yahshua rose again from the dead on the first day of the week and that since His resurrection we honor Him by observing Sunday as the Chr-stian Sabbath. The question that arises when I hear something like this being proclaimed is, how can we honor the son BY DISOBEYING THE FATHER'S COMMANDMENTS?

I read in Isaiah 42:21, "It pleased Yahweh, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify the law, and make it honorable." Now that doesn't sound as though He would ever consider doing away with His Law, or even bending or changing it slightly, as in the case of the Sabbath commandment. Furthermore, the adjective "Chr-stian" never appears anywhere in the Bible in combination with the term "Shabbath." In the latter part of Isaiah 42:23-25, we read, "Who is there among you that will give ear to this? That will listen and hear for the time to come? Who gave Jacob for a plunder; and Israel to the robbers? Did not Yahweh? He against whom we have sinned, and in whose ways they would not walk, neither were they obedient to his law. Therefore he poured upon him the fierceness of his anger; and the strength of battle; and it set him on fire all around, yet he knew not: and it burned him, yet he laid it not to heart." Will you be one of those faithful individuals who will listen when Yahweh speaks to you in the time to come in these last days at the close of this age?

In fact, THE SAVIOR DID NOT RISE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK! He arose as we read in Matthew. 28:1, "Now late on the sabbath day, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week...." Have you ever tried to count three days and three nights from a Friday impalement until a Sunday resurrection? It simply cannot be done, can it? At one time in my life, I puzzled over this problem myself. That was until I studied all the Scriptures connected with the resurrection account, and I was simply amazed to see just how beautifully all the passages harmonize. The nebulous atmosphere which surrounds this

resurrection account is simply created in ch-rchianity in an attempt to retain pagan beliefs. Our Savior was placed in the grave at the end of the preparation day or on the 14th day of the first scriptural month at the beginning of the days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This was the day which is commonly called Wednesday today. He arose in the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn (the Greek word employed here is epiphosko, #2020, and means "to draw on," not sunrise) toward the first day of the week. Every account in the books of the four evangelists—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—state that when the women arrived at the tomb, the Savior was gone. He had been resurrected beforehand. The past tense of the word is always employed to describe the empty tomb. If you have not proved this to yourself as yet, be sure to write immediately for our free booklet, "The Sign of Yahshua's Messiahship," which explains the resurrection from the pages of your Bible and shows you in simple language just how it occurred. Remember also that the beginning of the biblical day is at sundown; therefore, the term epiphosko, the dawn of the day, is at dusk.

If we find the Bible to declare that the resurrection was not on Sunday, that the Savior never issued a command that His disciples are to observe any holy day except the Sabbath, then we must do some sincere heart searching. We cannot continue to observe a day which was never sanctioned by the inspired Scriptures.

In fact, every last individual on the face of this earth will be required to observe the Sabbath during the Millennium, or suffer the consequences of eternal death. In Isaiah chapter 66, we find in the last several verses of the chapter that a new heaven and a new earth will be created by Almighty Yahweh at the close of the age. We read in verse 23 a most astounding comment that should cause people

to stop and make a reappraisal of their position regarding the Sabbath of Yahweh. We read there, "And of lit shall come to pass, that from observe one new moon erations, to another; and from one sabbath between to another; shall all flesh come to worship before me, eart says Yahweh." This does not offer any option to the people who are existing on this

people who are existing on this earth during the ages beyond the ages of men, in the Millennium, or thereafter. All flesh is under orders to appear before Yahweh to worship on each Sabbath day.

In Ezekiel chapter 20, Almighty Yahweh indicts Israel for failure to obey His commandments which He has given to make them a separate nation who will receive great rewards for obedience. In verse 11, Yahweh states, "And I gave them my statutes, and showed them my ordinances, which if a man does, he shall live in them." Then He continues in verse 12, "Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am Yahweh that sanctifies them."

Did you perceive that the observance of the weekly Sabbath comprises a sign between our Heavenly Father and His people? On the last broadcast I referred to the mark of the Beast (Revelation 13). The mark our Heavenly Father places in our hand and in our forehead symbolizes commandment keeping. It would then follow that the mark of the Beast about which we are warned in such forceful language in Revelation 14:9-12 would be commandment breaking—sin. When we observe the weekly Sabbath, a bond of recognition is established between Yahweh and His people. We read in Exodus 31:12-17 of this same sign uniting our Heavenly Father and His obedient servants. Please follow me carefully as I read. "And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying,

Therefore the children

of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to
observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between me and the children of Israel forever:
for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he

workers the rested and was refreshed.

EXODUS 31:16-17

Speak also to the children of Israel, saying, You must keep my sabbaths: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that you may know that I am Yahweh who sanctifies you. Therefore you shall keep the sabbath; for it is holy to you: every one who desecrates it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work in it, that soul shall be cut of from among this people. Six days shall work be done; but on the seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to Yahweh: whoever does any work on the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. It is a sign between me and the children of Israel forever: for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed."

At no time is the observance of Sunday ever set forth in terms such as we find here. The reason that the observance of the Sabbath is described as comprising a sign between us and our Heavenly Father is that when we observe the seventh-day Sabbath, we acknowledge that the Mighty One we worship is the very same One who created this universe. After the creation, He set aside this day as a period of rest and recuperation. He commanded that this day which we commonly call Saturday,

from Friday night sundown until Saturday night sundown, is holy time. If we encroach upon it by doing our own business, we refuse to acknowledge His authority, we therefore, sever the bond that should unite us. We sever the sign which indicates to the World that we worship the only authentic, living, and true Mighty One, the One who possessed the power to create this universe and who holds sway

over our daily lives.

You noticed in the passage that this observance of the weekly Sabbath is to be a sign throughout all generations. It is to be a perpetual Covenant, or agreement. It is to sanctify us and set us apart. Some of the critics might point out that the death penalty is attached to Sabbath breaking and ridicule this Law as being contrary to the love of our Heavenly Father. They might even suggest that this penalty is unenforceable today since we do not have the option to execute anyone when we find the Sabbath Law being broken. Have you ever considered that when you violate YAHWEH's Laws, you may well be weakening yourself spiritually? Have you ever perceived that Almighty YAHWEH may be removing His Holy Spirit from you and you may be dying spiritually, perhaps without realizing it?

Eternal life and the Holy Spirit is given to those who obey Yahweh (Acts 5:32). Why not begin today to obey and in a short time you will just be amazed to see how much you have grown in wisdom and knowledge of spiritual things.

PART 3—

I have been speaking on a scriptural subject which is generally unpopular with most people of this world today. I have been speaking on the subject of which day is the

scriptural Sabbath. I have been showing from the pages of your own Bible that the day that is commonly called "Saturday" was, still is, and always will be the seventh-day Sabbath, the day which has been sanctified and set apart by our Heavenly Father Himself. He created it for our rest and recuperation from a week of labor and designated it as the sanctified time for His worship. At no time in the entire Bible is the first day of the week (which we commonly call "Sunday") spoken of in this manner. No commandment can be found throughout the entire Bible for mankind to observe Sunday as a holy day. Nor did any of Yahweh's people down through history ever observe it as their day of rest when they were worshiping Almighty Yahweh, the True Creator and Sustainer of the universe. Now I would like to bring up some additional questions and answer them from the pages of the Bible.

In Matthew 24:20, the Apostle records the words of Yahshua the Messiah in regard to fleeing from Jerusalem during the time of trouble which He was predicting for that era. He says, "And pray that your flight be not in the winter; **NEITHER ON A SABBATH."** For three and-a-half years, our Savior was living with and teaching His disciples. He taught them what the Scriptures said on important biblical doctrines. Surely He would have informed them that the day of rest would be changed after His impalement, since they knew about His impending death. This passage can have a dual interpretation. It can refer to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 Common Era, when the Roman general, Titus, destroyed the city. It can also point to the time of trouble at the close of the age, when the armies of this world will be gathered to make war against each other in the bloody battles which are predicted to take place, when a military man attempts to rule this world. If we acknowledge that the latter interpretation will be the one which applies to us today,

then we have what amounts to a command from our Savior to observe the Sabbath. We would, therefore, be breaking the Sabbath commandment should we begin a journey on this day. If we say that this day to which our Savior refers in this passage is the "Chr-stian sabbath," we would certainly be adding to the Word, since the term "Chr-stian sabbath" is never found in the entire Bible. The only Sabbath spoken about is the SABBATH OF YAHWEH. The adjective "Chr-stian" is never used anywhere in the Bible in relation to the term Sabbath.

In Mark chapter 2, we encounter a rather outstanding example of the teaching of our Savior concerning the Sabbath day and how it is to be observed. The Pharisees had been trying to find fault with the teachings of Yahshua. They had followed His party around seeking to find fault with His conduct so that they might ridicule Him before the people and thus undermine the effectiveness of His ministry. They had finally noticed some of the disciples picking heads of grain while they were passing through ripe grain fields, undoubtedly on their way home from the synagogue on the Sabbath. This was an obvious case of Sabbath violation since the disciples were evidently harvesting. However, Yahshua brings various Old Testament Scriptures to the attention of the accusing Pharisees in defense of His disciples, which indicates that the spirit of the Law is to be our guide in the spiritual era regulated by the new Covenant. The disciples were saved because they were not storing away the grain they were picking. This Law appears in Deuteronomy 23:24-25.

Then Yahshua the Messiah makes several pronouncements that should be noted because of their paramount importance in seeking light concerning which day is to be observed as the Sabbath. He says in Mark 2:27, "...The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." Note this verse carefully. The Sabbath was made for man,

not for the Jew. The Sabbath was obviously made for man before there ever was a Jew. Continue to read verse 28, "So that the Son of man is Master even of the sabbath." In your **King James** text, the word "L-rd" is employed. For several reasons that I shall produce for the interested reader, if requested, we do not care to use this word. However, if you allow this term to be valid and stand as printed, then a sharp question will ensue. We might ask, "Which day is the day of our Savior, the day that we are to observe in honor of Him as the 'L-rd's day?" The only valid answer can be the seventh-day Sabbath!

In Luke chapter 4, we read of Yahshua proclaiming to Israel that He was their Messiah for whom they had been looking with eager anticipation. We read in verse 16, "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and he entered, as his custom was, into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up to read." 1 Peter 2:21 forthrightly tells us to follow in the steps of our Savior. If it was the custom of our Savior to attend Sabbath services, we also should be interested in doing what He did on the Sabbath, following His example, rather than doing our own pleasures. See also Isaiah 58:13-14.

In the book of Acts, we notice that the Apostles did exactly as Yahshua had done. We read of the Apostle Paul also worshiping on the Sabbath day and that it was his custom to do so (Acts 17:2). Perhaps one of the most outstanding chapters to indicate that the Apostles observed the Sabbath (parenthetically I would urge that we note that this was about 15 years after the Savior was impaled according to the USHER chronologies) is in Acts chapter 13. They came to Antioch of Pisidia on their missionary journey and went into the local synagogue. Paul was invited to preach the message, and He spoke in a very Holy Spirit-inspired way. He preached the Messiah to the gathered Sabbathobserving crowd. We read in verse



42, "And as they went out, they asked that these words might be spoken to them the next sabbath." If the Gentiles were allowed to observe Sunday as their day of worship (as so many of the world's theologians teach), why did they not have a worship service on the first day of the week, the following day? Surely you would imagine that Paul should inform them that just any day would henceforth be acceptable to Yahweh now that His Son had made an atonement for sin. However, we find the Apostle teaches something diametrically opposite. We read in verse 44, "And the next sabbath almost the whole city was gathered together to hear the word of Yahweh."

The Apostles were preaching the Word of Yahweh as the only foundation for our New Testament religion. If we believe in observing the pure and true religion, which is so absent in worship and theology today, then we must follow the example of the Apostles. The Word of Yahweh contains the commandment legislating that a certain day must be kept each week for His worship. Just as the Apostle Paul preached the Word of Yahweh, including the genuine Sabbath day on the seventh day of the week, the ministers of the Assemblies of Yahweh still preach this enduring Word in all its power and majesty.

If we carefully investigate the Scripture of John 20:19-26 (a passage represented as teaching New Testament Sunday worship), we

find that this assertion could not be further from the truth. At evening of the first day of the week is actually the beginning of the second day of the Week! The scriptural day begins and ends at sunset. See Genesis chapter 1. Anyway, if you wish to worship as the Apostles did here in this passage, you would have to worship late Sunday evening, rather than Sunday morning with the rising sun, as the majority of Chr-stians do today. This was actually the first opportunity that the Apostles had to gather following Yahshua's resurrection. We still do not find any commandment here to observe any Sunday, nor do we find that Sunday worship was later commanded.

I think that it is about time to ask ourselves the question, "Where did Sunday worship originate anyway? If we cannot find a commandment anywhere in the Bible to observe Sunday, where does it come from?" For hundreds of years, this day has masqueraded as the "Chr-stian sabbath." This day has been an imposter appropriating the worship which should rightfully be offered on the scriptural Sabbath day, the seventh day of the week. Let's do something interesting today! In your own home, you probably have an encyclopedia. Why not do a little personal study and investigation on this Sabbath question? Look up the word "Sabbath."

You will find in the reference books in your own home that the scriptural Sabbath was observed from the time that our Savior died until 325 Common Era. At that time, the Council of Nicea decreed that the venerable day of the sun should be observed from then on. The edict of the Council of Nicea also decreed that worship on the scriptural Sabbath would be a capital offense and that no one could henceforth teach its observance.

For the sincere Bible student who is seeking to do the Will of Almighty Yahweh, this should be most enlightening! Now check another important point. The presiding chairman of the Council of Nicea was **Emperor Constantine.** Read the article on his biography in your own encyclopedia. Most reference works will give you the information that Constantine was a sun worshiper (!), that he lived a most unsavory life, murdering his relatives in cold blood. He was not a Chr-stian; yet, because he was the emperor, he presided at the council that was to set rules for the "Chr-stian" religion. As emperor, Constantine ruled over all matters of religion in his empire, and so he set himself over the Messianic worship also. History records the fact that Constantine was not even baptized until on his deathbed! Do you think that it is advisable to take the life of such an individual as our model or to live by legislation which came out of his council, rather than to obey the commandments of Almighty Yahweh?

In my library is a Catholic Catechism. In the explanation of the third commandment (the Sabbath

commandment), I find a most startling admission! "The New Testament makes no implicit mention that the Apostles changed the day of worship, but we know it from tradition." Nowhere in your Bible is tradition ever elevated to the same position as are the Words of Almighty Yahweh, our Heavenly Father. If the tradition which is indicated in this Catechism is the tradition of Constantine and the Council of Nicea, then this tradition must be forthrightly rejected as being incapable of legislating Sunday worship on the part of the True Worshiper of Almighty Yahweh. Our Father in heaven alone is powerful enough to legislate on religion. He had done so; we must humbly submit to His authority.

Why is it that when we study the ancient worship of Baal, the modern Chr-stianity we see around us today

appears to be almost identical with this false idol worship? In Hosea 2:16-17 we learn that the English word "L-rd" and the Hebrew word "Baal" are synonymous (having exactly the same meaning). If you care to look at Ezekiel 20:29, you will notice that Yahweh indicts Israel today in this manner. "Then I said to them, What means the high place to which you go? So the name of it is called Bamah to this day." The definition of the term bamah is "heights of Baal," Is it not strange that, even though it is unnecessary to do so, almost every church today is built on a high elevation, or with high steps going up to the sanctuary? In our neighborhood here at Bethel, it seems that every church stands out prominently, because it is located on a prominent elevation of land, and, then, beside this, the building itself is constructed with high steps to an upper level for the sanctuary.

If we further investigate Baal worship, we find that Baal was depicted as a male divinity in the ancient agricultural and phallic worship. He was worshiped as the mighty one of the sun. It is no wonder that ministers who go to seminary and do deep study on the subject of ancient religions without proper supervision sometimes become atheists when they find that the religion that is practiced today so closely resembles ancient idol worship. After having been taught the theory of evolution as being plausible, the only possible conclusion doubting students erroneously conclude is that religion as we know it today also evolved. True Worship is different from paganism because it is founded on the sacred $^{5}N_{\rm B}$ Scriptures.

Continued from page 6.

said to him, Why do you ask me concerning that which is good? One there is who is good: but if you would enter into life, keep the commandments."

"Not everyone that says to me,

who did not do the Will of Yahweh are called workers of iniquity in the Bible.

The necessity to obey Yahweh and keep His commandments is to endure forever: yesterday, today,

The necessity to obey Yahweh and keep His commandments is to endure forever: yesterday, today, tomorrow, and even through the Millennial reign.

Master, Master, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but HE THAT DOES THE WILL OF MY FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN." (Matthew 7:21). The Will of the Father, Yahweh, is that we obey Him and keep His commandments, and this instruction includes obedience to the fourth commandment. Those tomorrow, and even through the Millennial reign. "There remains therefore a sabbath rest for the people of Yahweh." (Hebrews 4:9). It is our duty to keep the Sabbath. The Sabbath is Yahweh's institution that memorializes His creation and points us toward the Millennium, the seventh and final 1,000-year

period of man's existence. See Matthew 24:20 for a future prophecy.

The weekly Sabbath is the same today as when Yahweh originally established it. He specified a certain day. He named it the Sabbath, the only day of the week given a name. Had He changed it, He would have named another day. He did not speak of another day (Hebrews 4:4 and 4:7-8). Nor has anyone else the right to designate another day (such as Sunday, the first day of the week) as the weekly "Chr-stian" Sabbath. We cannot combine the modifier "Chr-stian" with "Sabbath" since it never appears in this configuration in the Bible.

"Let us fear therefore, lest by chance, a promise being left of entering into his rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it." (Hebrews 4:1).

Will we enter into His rest? As spiritual virgins, will the bridegroom find us resting on His holy day, awaiting His return? Or will we pursue the things of the world and miss the blessing of being accepted into His Kingdom?



by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

The word *herb* is found in **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance** under #6212, Hebrew *'es'eb* (eh-sev), from an unused root meaning: *to glisten* (or be green); *grass* (or any tender shoot): *grass*, *herb*.

Genesis 1:29-30 says, "Then Elohim said, I give you every seedbearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food," New International Version.

In the preceding verses, we notice that in the beginning, at the time of creation, Yahweh planned that the earth should feed us with green herbs. An abundance of vegetables and fruits are available from which to choose our food, along with the flesh foods that Yahweh approved that are fit for consumption, as explained in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14. These vegetables and fruits grow in various climates—different varieties for nutritional needs. Perhaps you have noticed the abundance of citrus fruits available in winter when more vitamin C is needed to keep down colds and to raise body temperature. Yahweh planned His creation for man's good.

However, those who market products have also brain-washed people to believe that everything grown and sold is edible. The majority of vegetables and fruits are easily recognizable to us, but do we readily recognize the fact that mushrooms are not scripturally approved as food for Yahweh's people?

Think back to Genesis 1:30. Are mushrooms green? Do they bear seeds? The answer to both questions is definitely, NO!

Mushrooms are not green; they have no chlorophyll. Instead, they grow in darkness, see Genesis 1:4-5. Yahweh made a distinction between light and darkness. The green color of the leaves of plants approved as edible indicates that chlorophyll is present. Mushrooms do not contain chlorophyll.

Chlorophyll is the green substance which, under the influence of sunlight, helps the starches and sugars develop our food. The process is called "photosynthesis." Mushrooms, therefore, do not absorb the energy of the sunlight, and, therefore, their food value to nourish the human body is limited. They live either on decaying matter or as parasites on other living plants and animals. These brown, grey, or white plants don't qualify as food for man.

Mushrooms differ from flowering plants in their chemical influence on air. Mushrooms absorb oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide in the same manner as animals or man use oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide. Plants use carbon dioxide and give off oxygen. Mushrooms also resemble animals in their chemical composition in other ways.

Mushrooms belong to two groups of fungi: (1) Basidiomycetes, or spore bearing, in which the spores are exposed, and (2) Ascomycetes in which the spores are enclosed in sacs.

The nutritive value of mushrooms is very low. Therefore, why eat something that will not provide the best nutrition for your body? Put proper nourishment into your body with food that our Heavenly by showing your love to Him.

Other delicacies of this world include lobsters, oysters, and snails; are we to continue eating these abominations (Isaiah 65:4) after we understand the dietary laws in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14?

Some books of plants show

extreme pain, to lethargy, vomiting, and distorted vision. It is too late to pump the stomach, because all of the mushroom's toxin has been absorbed into the bloodstream. These symptoms last from four to six days and usually end in death, or permanent damage to the liver. Some mushrooms that are considered safe for food may cause illness if taken with alcoholic beverages. These symptoms may range from nausea to mild hallucinations, or mild diarrhea.

Frequently, reports of mushroom botulism appear in the news media. Is the source of the problem really botulism, or could it be that a poisonous variety of mushrooms somehow slipped past the inspectors at the packing house? Knowing that certain noxious mushrooms look very similar to those considered edible, can we reasonably take a chance by eating them? There are a great variety of vegetables much more tasty and with no poisonous counterparts that one can eat without concern of imminent death.

Yahweh very plainly and simply tells us what He wants us to do. If we really love Him, we will do what He asks.

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from Yahweh? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor Yahweh with your body," 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

2 Corinthians 5:10 explains: "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Elohim that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

"We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom Yahweh has given to those who obey Him," Acts 5:32.

We all want the Holy Spirit of Yahweh to dwell within us. Let's clean up our human vessel so that it will provide a satisfactory home in which His Spirit may dwell as His Temple.

Yahweh very plainly and simply tells us what He wants us to do. If we really love Him we will do what He asks.

Father has approved.

All mushrooms are fungi; but not all fungi are mushrooms. Medical science has learned that 20 percent of tropical diseases are caused by fungi. Diseases caused by fungi are not at all rare in tropical climates.

Also, mushrooms have no seeds. They are reproduced from spores. These spores can only be seen through a microscope. Did Adam carry his microscope with him to look for food? How ridiculous! Spores cannot be considered seed, nor do mushrooms re-seed themselves.

Almighty Yahweh was very plain when he gave Adam the rules (Genesis 2:16) for edible fruits and vegetables. In Malachi 3:6, we find that Yahweh does not change! Let's read Titus 3:3. "For we ourselves also were sometime foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another," New Standard Reference Bible.

Probably most of us, at one time or another, were deceived by the majority to believe mushrooms were a delicacy. We also served our lusts or pleasures by smothering our steaks or pizzas with a generous helping of mushrooms. But we were foolish, deceived, and disobedient. Now we want to please our Heavenly Father, and our aim is to obey His commandments. Omit those things which are not pleasing to Father Yahweh, and you will please Him

mushrooms as an herb. But can we believe everything man declares as truth? The knowledge of this world is foolishness (1 Corinthians 3:19). Yahweh's Word is Truth, John 17:17. Remember, some herb books also contain cures derived from paganism and witchcraft.

"He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And herbs for the service of man; That he may bring forth food out of the earth," Psalm 104:14. Yahweh put the herbs here for our service (use), but the word herb should be translated green herb. Let us not do as did the people of Gilgal in 2 Kings 4:38-40 and put an herb in our vessel that could be "death in the pot."

In an article in a Pennsylvania newspaper, there appeared an account of how a turtle ate a poisonous mushroom. This mushroom did not kill the turtle. Later, a man killed and ate the turtle. In turn, the poison of the mushroom ingested by the turtle killed the man. Because of the man's disobedience in eating turtle meat, he died. (Isaiah 65:4).

Death from mushrooms frequently comes slowly and is a very painful death. Several hours after the mushroom is eaten the poisonous toxin enters the bloodstream. It is carried to the liver which, in turn, tries to change it into a different compound to detoxify the poison. This deadly toxin attacks the liver cells. By that time, the victim begins to feel all of the symptoms. They range from

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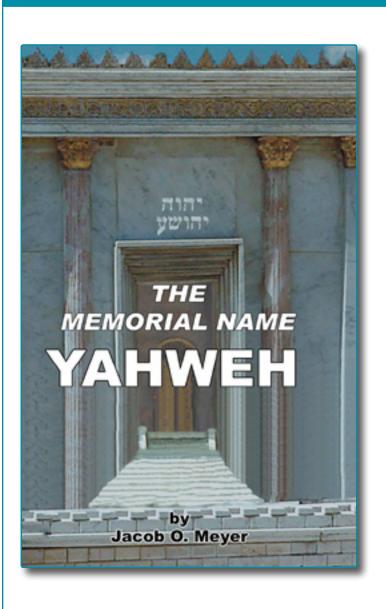
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by Elder Jacob O. Meyer



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