



THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

3/2019

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March 2019
Volume L, Number 12

CONTENTS



Page 1



Page 11



Page 15, 19

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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer

1 What is the Holy Spirit?

Honest Bible students must admit that when they study the subject of the trinity, they cannot ever locate the term in the sacred text.

11 Should You Observe Pentecost?

Contrary to popular belief, the observance of the annual holy days did not end when the Messiah died. If a closer relationship with Yahweh is desired, then we must observe His holy days.

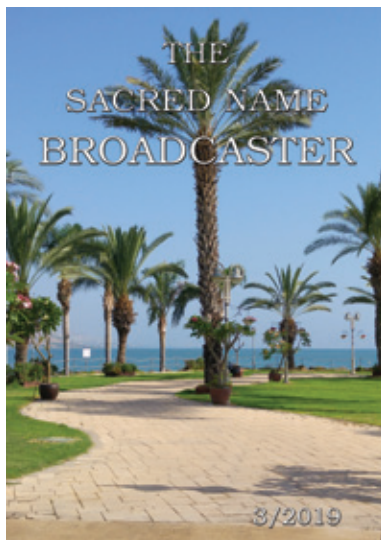
15 Radio Message: The Holy Spirit Teaches

The Holy Spirit, sent in Yahshua's Name, will teach all things that have been written down in the Sacred Scriptures.

19 Radio Message: What Do You Know About the Bible?

Are you living by every word that has proceeded out of the mouth of Yahweh? Don't you think that it is time to obey?

Our Cover:



Kinnereth, or the Sea of Galilee, is our cover photo for this month. The Jordan River, flowing from its headwaters at the base of Mt. Hermon, flows through this fresh water sea on its way to the Dead Sea.

Much of the ministry of Yahshua the Messiah was centered around Kinnereth. Although four of the disciples were fishermen, Thomas, Nathanael, and "two other of His disciples" were also fishing when Yahshua appeared to them a third time in John 21. Yahshua walked on the water of the Sea of Galilee, calmed the sea by His rebuke when a storm threatened them, and the Sea of Galilee provided transportation to the and from His headquarters in Capernaum.

"And they straightway left the nets, and followed him." (Matthew 4:20).

As Yahshua the Messiah is calling to you to follow Him, will you immediately follow and become His disciple?



WHAT IS THE

Holy Spirit?

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

When seeking an overview of the various doctrines taught by groups in ch-rchianity, the interested individual will soon notice numerous inconsistencies between what the Bible teaches and what nominal ch-rchianity believes and practices. Although most groups in ch-rchianity accept the concept of the Holy Spirit, there is a wide divergence

of opinion regarding what the Holy Spirit is, its evidence in believers' lives, and the types of fruit it bears.

Most of the more conservative groups in ch-rchianity believe that the Holy Spirit is the third person of a *trinity*. Since many questions emerge when the subject of the trinity is considered from the Bible and compared to

ch-rich doctrine, many of these questions just cannot be answered by the groups espousing these doctrines. Therefore, they have been forced to take the recourse of employing the term *trinity* to designate this doctrine and assigning the Holy Spirit to the position as its third person. Since nothing like this appears in the Bible, questions are never answered except to say that the *trinity* is a *mystery*. Nevertheless, we must recall Revelation 17:5. ***“And upon her forehead a name written, MYSTERY, Babylon the Great, the Mother of the Harlots and of the Abominations of the Earth.”***

How can there be three persons in the trinity when the Great Majesty on High is stated to be the Father, the Son, and their Holy Spirit? What is the Spirit anyway? Is the Holy Spirit a person? Will that term also serve as its name? Or is the term *Holy Spirit* actually a name? Furthermore, how can the third person, the Holy Spirit, bear the family Name, which the Apostle Paul explains is the Name of the Father conferred upon every spiritual family of the true Elohim in heaven and earth (Ephesians 3:14-15)? Is it a ghost? Sometimes ministers and liturgy will use this term *ghost*. Can the Holy Spirit exist apart from the Father and the Son? Can the Holy Spirit be seen by the human eye as though it were a person—a human (if it is a person)?

Since there are many concepts which are taught throughout nominal religion to explain the Holy Spirit, some of the popular religious groups believe that the Holy Spirit is some

kind of a being
that takes
control of

people, making them do strange things. For example, various believers, called Pentecostals, imagine that the Holy Spirit is speaking through their mouths when they speak in *tongues*. At other times, they believe the Holy Spirit will make them do things that other people might consider strange, or even abnormal. Could this be done through the Holy Spirit?

All these are legitimate questions; however, ch-richianity refuses to answer them except to say that no one can understand the *trinity*—it is a mystery.

During the ministry of the author, he met a man who insisted that he actually had another person living inside him. He believed it was an angel from heaven who had taken complete control of him so that he could no longer do as he wished, but he had to perform the behavioral inclinations of this angel. However, in further discussion, it was learned that some of the things that this man was doing could not have been sanctioned by the Sacred Scriptures as reflecting the converted conduct of someone from the spiritual family of the Most High. Consequently, it was not an angel of Yahweh, but some other type of spirit from a different source that was influencing this particular individual.

For a volume that is well within the size parameters of an average scholarly textbook, the Bible certainly has seen the fulfillment of Solomon’s prophecy in Ecclesiastes 12:12. ***“And furthermore, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.”*** So many millions of books have been written to explain (or explain away!) the Bible and its teaching that most

authors have lost sight of its true message. Furthermore, one can hardly misunderstand a scholarly textbook, nor do the students assign various subjective meanings to terms appearing in such textbooks. Why then does such a strange phenomenon occur when people read the Bible?

A Trinity—Yes or No?

Honest Bible students must admit that when they study the subject of the trinity, they cannot ever locate this term in the sacred text!

Actually, there is one instance where it does appear in the Authorized Version in its Hebrew term, and this in 2 Kings 4:42. ***“And a man came from Baal-shalishah, and brought the man of Elohim bread of the first-fruits, twenty loaves of barley, and fresh ears of grain in his sack. And he said, Give to the people, that they may eat.”***

The Hebrew term *shalishah* is defined as the number *three*. Consequently, the reader might conclude that the term *Baal-shalishah* then means the *Trinitarian Baal*! Was there actually a Trinitarian Baal? We believe indeed there was, since some of the representations of this ancient Middle Eastern pagan mighty one portray him with three stars, or a cross (with three points above ground). See various religious encyclopedias to confirm this fact. This text, therefore, refers to a pagan religion (Baal worship) featuring the trinity.

We must also note that in the Babylonian religion a trinity consisting of Nimrod, Semiramis, and Tammuz was worshiped thousands of years ago.

The same is also true of the Egyptian religion. Isis, Horus,

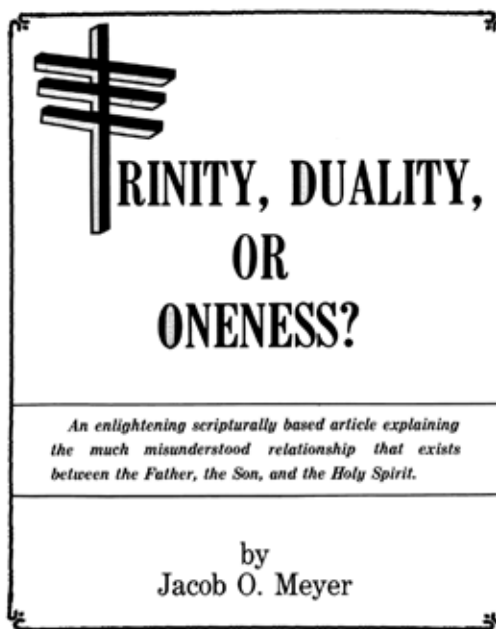


and Seb, or Osiris, Isis, and Horus, were the three persons of the Egyptian trinity. According to several authors, the Egyptians additionally worshiped three triads (trinities) of mighty ones which were designated to escort man from their human life to a blissful eternal existence. Some of these triads are mentioned in what is known as the sarcophagus texts, collected in the **Egyptian Book of the Dead**.

In the Sacred Scriptures, there is no passage that we can clearly identify to be teaching anything similar to the chr-stian doctrine of a trinity. As a matter of fact, nominal religion ADMITS that the Trinitarian doctrine must be, and has been, *proof texted*. Where then did it originate, and why was it introduced into Chr-stian doctrine (theological teaching)?

One of the more candid statements that the author has read in regard to the question of the trinity is found in the book, **The New Testament and Criticism**, by Dr. George Eldon Ladd (copyright 1967 by William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company), pages 60 to 61.

Here is the quote: "*Erasmus (a monk who prepared an edition of the Greek text of the New Testament), himself came under attack for omitting the theologically important Trinitarian witness concerning 'the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth' (1 John 5:7-8, AV). Erasmus defended himself by saying that these words, which appeared in the Latin Vulgate, COULD BE FOUND IN NO GREEK MANUSCRIPT KNOWN TO HIM; but he promised to include them in his later editions if they could be found in a single Greek manuscript. When such a manuscript*



was produced, Erasmus kept his promise; and for this reason these words appear in the King James Version. However, it now appears that the Greek manuscripts in question were written in Oxford by a monk who took the words from the Latin Vulgate. Among the thousands of Greek manuscripts now known, THESE WORDS APPEAR IN ONLY THREE, which date from the twelfth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries. In a DOZEN OTHER PASSAGES in the Erasmus New Testament, readings occur which are supported by NO KNOWN GREEK WITNESS." (Emphasis ours.)

In the hearing of the author, a professor of religion once remarked that, while he was telling the story of this incident in a class setting wherein he described how Erasmus was creating his edition of the Greek New Testament, Erasmus had dogmatically stated that the passage in question (1 John 5:7-

An enlightening scriptural study of the much misunderstood relationship that exists between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

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8) could be found in no Greek manuscript. It appears only in the Latin Vulgate. Consequently, remarked the professor, a sharp exchange took place between Erasmus and the Papal authorities. When Erasmus exclaimed in exasperation: "All right, if you want this passage to appear in the Greek New Testament, then produce a manuscript where it appears," **so they produced one**—stated the professor facetiously. It was PRODUCED either in Oxford or Canterbury, according to this professor.

What a tragedy that ancient theologians were **playing games** with the text of the Bible, Bible doctrine, and ultimately with the souls of people!

Consequently, the Assemblies of Yahweh has taken the position found in our **Statement of Doctrine**, where the following quote appears, "*We affirm that the Holy Spirit is the mighty power from the Heavenly Father and the Messiah dwelling within us so*

WHAT IS THE *Holy Spirit?*

that we may have the ability and strength to bring our lives into a state of perfection pleasing to our Heavenly Father, John 14:15-27. We find the Trinitarian doctrine to be foreign to the inspired Scriptures. The Holy Spirit shall be imparted to the obedient believers by the laying on of hands of the elders of the Assemblies of Yahweh after baptism, Acts 19:1-6; Acts 8:14-24; 1 Timothy 4:14; Acts 2:38; Acts 5:32."

Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

We find that the term *Holy Spirit* appears in several passages in the Old Testament Scriptures. It is obvious that Almighty Yahweh gave the great men of Faith in the Old Testament a measure of the Holy Spirit, although the Holy Spirit was not generally poured out upon the members of the Israelite Assembly, until after the Messiah rose from the grave and ascended to heaven.

In Genesis 1:2, we notice that the spirit of Elohim moved upon the face of the abyss (Hebrew—*thohom*). We find the term for Holy Spirit in Hebrew to be *ruach*, #7307 in **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible**. Defined there it means "*wind*; by resemblance *breath*, i.e. a sensible (or even violent) exhalation; fig. *life, anger, unsubstantiality*; by extens. a *region* of the sky; by resemblance *spirit*." The root, #7306, *ruach*, properly means, "to *blow*, i.e. *breathe*; only (lit.) to *smell* or (by impl.) *perceive* (fig. to *anticipate, enjoy*)."

It is obvious, therefore, from this definition that the term *ruach* **CANNOT BE A PERSON.**

The Wil-
liam
Holiday



Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament translates: "air in motion, blowing, wind, what is empty or transitory, spirit, mind, disposition, and temper." The term *Spirit of Yahweh* (or Elohim) appears 94 times in the Hebrew text.

The term *Spirit of Yahweh* is the mighty force emanating from the Almighty Father in heaven, which came upon the prophets and the patriarchs of old. Please see 2 Timothy 3:16. David indicated that the Spirit of Yahweh spoke through his tongue (2 Samuel 23:2). Therefore, we must interpret from such biblical assertions that Yahweh was speaking by His power **through His Word** which David, who was a prophet of the Most High, recorded for us. Certainly the teachings found in the Davidic psalms are inspired, as the great men of the Apostolic Assembly acknowledge (Acts 2:29-30). David certainly spoke and wrote in an **intelligible language.**

You will remember in Psalm 51, following David's sin, how he begged Yahweh not to remove His Holy Spirit from him (Psalm 51:11). Again, in Isaiah 63:10 we notice a similar warning clearly sounded. "***But they rebelled, and grieved his holy Spirit: therefore, he was turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them.***" In verse 14 the term *Spirit of Yahweh* is used.

In 1 Samuel 16:13-22, we notice how the Spirit of Yahweh came upon David after Samuel had anointed him, and, conversely, the Holy Spirit was taken from Saul. An evil spirit, thereafter, plagued Saul. Consequently, from these passages we must conclude that when someone loses the Holy Spirit, an evil spirit will

come upon him. This procedure is similar to the result Yahshua the Messiah describes in the passage wherein the demon is sent out of his house, and the house thoroughly cleansed. If the good Word of Yahweh is not thereafter placed therein, seven demons will join the first one and these eight demons will return to the house. The last condition of the man will thereupon become worse than at the beginning (Matthew 12:43-45).

The Hebrew term for *holy* that is associated with the term spirit in the Old Testament is #6944 in the **Strong's Concordance**—*qodesh*. It is defined as "a *sacred* place or thing; rarely in the abstr. *sanctity*." The term is translated *holy* in Isaiah 6:3, or, since it usually includes the definite article, we translate it as *the Holy Spirit*. Therefore, by combining the two terms, we find that *Ruach Haqodesh* should be translated the *holy* or *sacred spirit*. Since the term *spirit* is used frequently with the Tetragrammaton, the Name of Yahweh, and also quite frequently with the title Elohim, we must conclude that when the term *Holy Spirit* is combined, it must refer to a significant attribute of the true, living, and holy Elohim, the Being that is three times holier than man (Isaiah 6:3). Please see the term employed in this manner in Daniel 5:11.

Therefore, the Holy Spirit clearly means the power, life, mind, force, personality, or character of the holy and righteous Elohim (the Father and the Son) as it lives in the heart and life of the submissive True Worshiper. The Holy Spirit is PERSONALITY, not PERSON!

We must conclude that the Holy Spirit is not a person simply upon the basis of Hebrew

expression and grammar. The Hebrew language features no neuter gender. All substantives are rendered either in a masculine or feminine form, and take corresponding masculine or feminine verbs (except for the irregulars). Inanimate objects may take either a masculine or feminine verb in Hebrew, but must be given the neuter pronoun "it" in our English language translation. Similarly, the term Holy Spirit should be given the neuter pronoun "it," not "he," when translated into languages that bear neuter pronouns.

Yahshua Promises the Holy Spirit

Before Yahshua the Messiah ascended to heaven, He promised that, upon His departure, He would send the Holy Spirit to the Assembly to be its Comforter (John 16:7). We find that **THE COMFORTER WILL ONLY BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO LOVE YAHSHUA AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS.** *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that it may be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth: that the world cannot receive; for it beholds it not, neither knows it: you know it; for it remains with you, and shall be in you."* (John 14:15-17). The Comforter is called the **Spirit of Truth**. We read furthermore in verse 25, *"These things have I spoken to you, while yet remaining with you, but the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, which THE FATHER WILL SEND IN MY NAME, it shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."* (John 14:25-26).

Many people do not under-

The Holy Spirit is the Holy Word of the Father Yahweh and His only begotten Son, Messiah Yahshua. Accepting Yahweh's Word into our hearts and applying its instructions will change us so that we will bear the personality of our beloved Father in heaven.

stand these functions, and, yet, this doctrine of the trinity consistently extends from the beginning of the Old Testament to the very end of the New Testament texts. This concept is most obviously elucidated by Yahshua the Messiah Himself in John chapter 6. *"Many therefore of his disciples, when they heard this, said, This is a hard saying; who can hear it? But Yahshua knowing in himself that his disciples murmured at this, said to them, Does this cause you to stumble? What then if you should behold the Son of man ascending where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing: THE WORDS THAT I HAVE SPOKEN TO YOU ARE SPIRIT, AND ARE LIFE. But there are some of you that be-*

lieve not. For Yahshua knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who it was that should betray him. And he said, For this cause have I said to you, that no man can come to me, unless it is given to him of the Father." (John 6:61-65).

Let us concentrate specifically upon verse 63. ***"It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing: THE WORDS THAT I SPEAK TO YOU ARE SPIRIT AND ARE LIFE."*** Very clearly spoken, is it not? The definition is candidly obvious for all to comprehend. Therefore, the mind, life, character, and the personality (not person) of Yahweh, Who is invisible, are all **contained in His Word**. When we read the Bible and apply the instructions contained therein, we may become like Yahweh.

The Sacred Scriptures contains the spoken Word of the Father and His Messiah written down and preserved for us. Please see Psalm 107:20, ***"He sends his word, and heals them, And delivers them from their destructions."*** Consequently, the Word is the Spirit, but the Word is personality—NOT A PERSON! The Holy Spirit is the Holy Word of the Father Yahweh and His only begotten Son, Messiah Yahshua. Accepting Yahweh's Word into our hearts and applying its instructions will change us so that we will bear the personality of our beloved Father in heaven.

Born Again or Born from Above?

The Apostle John has a great deal to say in his evangel concerning the Holy Spirit. We find in John chapter 3 a passage that appears to be frequently misunderstood in ch-rchianity. The

WHAT IS THE *Holy Spirit?*

explanation, or description, of the True Worshiper who is made spirit is found in verse 8. ***"The wind blows where it will, and you hear the voice of it, but know not from where it comes, and to where it goes: so is every one that is born of the Spirit."*** To be born of the Spirit obviously refers to the second birth. Revelation 1:5 interprets the second birth in this way. ***"And from Yahshua the Messiah, the faithful witness, THE FIRSTBORN OF THE DEAD, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him that loves us, and loosed us from our sins by his blood."*** The only human who has had two births, one from the physical flesh and the other to be born again from the dead, is Yahshua the Messiah.

We can also see in John 3:3, ***"Except one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of Yahweh."*** The *born-again* experience, which is so heavily emphasized in fundamental Christianity, merely means that the person must be BORN AGAIN FROM THE DEAD and made spirit. ***One is not born again when he is baptized.*** He is *begotten anew*, but NOT YET BORN. He has not yet endured to the end (Matthew 24:13). The only human in the entire Sacred Scriptures described as being born again, the One who has been born again from the dead (brought to life), is ***Yahshua the Messiah*** in Revelation 1:5, ***"And from Yahshua the Messiah, the faithful witness, THE FIRSTBORN OF***

THE DEAD, and the ruler of



An Answer to a Question About the *Born-Again* Doctrine

By Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Question: What does it mean to be "born again"? When are we born again?

—New York

The born-again doctrine to which you refer is very prominently taught in evangelical Christianity today. Widespread interest in this doctrine has grown and spread subsequent to the expansion of religious freedom and its widespread popularity. Evangelical Christians believe that one is born again when he has repented, has been baptized, and has received the Holy Spirit. They insist that they are born again at that very moment even though they continue to exist in their fleshly bodies. Evangelical fundamentalists teach that this born-again experience makes one a child of the Most High immediately and that all of the requirements for salvation have been completed with nothing remaining to be accomplished by the individual. The passage of Scripture that is

used as a foundational text to prove this doctrine is John, chapter 3. Let us examine this passage carefully to determine what it actually says; then, let us compare it to other related Scriptures which set forth the explanation given by the Bible and harmonize all of them so that we may acquire a broader, more accurate, perspective.

In John 3:3, Yahshua the Messiah explained to Nicodemus, "...Truly, I say to you, Except one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of Yahweh."

You will notice here in this verse that two words are crucial to our complete understanding of the text. The first word is the Greek term *genneteo*. It is the third singular, first aorist, subjunctive present form of the Greek verb *gennaō*.

The second term that is crucial to our understanding of the text is the Greek word *anōthen*. This word specifically means *from above*, although it has been rendered by some translators as *once or again* in the *Authorized Version*; (as in the *Authorized Version*; the *Arabic* and *Griechisch* Greek Testament inform us that the word has the primary meaning of *from above*, but offers as a secondary consideration the adjacent notion of *renewing, anew*). The root of this word has been traced to the word *anō*, meaning *above or upwards*.

Are you beginning to comprehend a little more clearly the concept that Yahshua the Messiah tried to convey to Nicodemus? He was telling Nicodemus that he would be born from above (new from above). Interestingly, this same word *anōthen* is used in verse 31 of John chapter 3, and there it has been translated as *from above*. We must take these variations in translation into careful consideration to broaden our perspective.

Again, please take special note of this fact, because it is most crucial to our understanding and reveals another occasional inconsistency that crept into the *King James* translation. Therefore, occasionally a more modern version of the Bible is to be preferred.

Perhaps one of the best renderings of this verse into the English language has been accomplished in the *Charles R. Williams* translation. "Yahshua answered him, I must surely say to you, no one [Yahweh] unless he is born from above." Consequently, it is easy to perceive that the new birth is from above, from the Almighty Heavenly Father, from the very heavens. Let us continue on now with remainder of John chapter 3. Undoubtedly the same question may enter your mind that Nicodemus expressed in verse 4, "How can one

Most people professing a belief in the Bible claim that they have been "born again." Have they? What does the Messiah say about it, and what did the Apostles teach? You need to know!

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the kings of the earth. To him that loves us, and loosed us from our sins by his blood." Therefore, we can readily notice that it is imperative for us to allow the Bible to interpret itself. We cannot read into, or introduce into, the Scriptures things that are not there. We must fulfill Isaiah 28:9-13.

Notice that the one who is born again from the dead is spirit and cannot be seen. He is like the wind that can be experienced (felt), but cannot be seen with human eye. See also Job 4:13-16. One cannot be born again now, while he is still human, but the repentant, obedient True Worshiper will be made spirit at the resurrection of the dead.

Power from on High

Yahshua the Messiah conferred the promise of the Father

upon His disciples, as He promised in Luke 24:48-49. ***"You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send forth THE PROMISE OF MY FATHER upon you: but stay you in the city, until you be clothed with POWER FROM ON HIGH."***

You will notice that the promise of the Father is ***"power from on High."***

Turn to Acts 1:8, ***"But you shall receive POWER, when the HOLY SPIRIT has come upon you: and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the farthest part of the earth."***

You will notice that the promise of the Father upon the disciples which Yahshua, also called the Comforter, and which is also called the Holy Spirit, is regularly called ***power from on***

High. The Greek term is *pneuma hagon*. The term *pneuma* is #4151 in the Greek dictionary of the New Testament of the **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible** and is defined as "a current of air, i.e. *breath (blast)* or a *breeze*; by anal. a *spirit*, i.e. (human) the rational soul, by impl. *vital principle*, mental *disposition*, etc., or (superhuman) an *angel*, *daemon*, or ([sublime]) [*Yahweh*], [Messiah's] *spirit*, the *Holy Spirit* :—ghost, life, spirit (-ual), -ually), mind."

The term *hagios* appears as #40, and is defined as "*sacred* (phys. *pure*, mor. *blameless* or *religious*, cer. *consecrated*):—(most) holy (one, thing), saint." This term *pneuma hagon* confirms what the Old Testament teaches—that the Holy Spirit is not a person, but it is a force, or personality. It is power, it is life and personality, but IT IS NOT PERSON. It is called *dunamin*, *ekz*, *hupsous*, or power (*dunamis*) from on high.

When Yahshua the Messiah ascended to heaven, He pronounced the blessing upon His disciples of the Messianic Assembly, that *they would receive power from on High*. In Acts chapter 2 on the day of Pentecost, when the assembled multitude asked what these things meant, Peter said, **"For these are not drunken, as you suppose; seeing it is but the third hour of the day; but this is that which has been spoken through the prophet Joel: And it shall be in the last days, says Yahweh, I will pour forth my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: yes and on my servants and on my handmaidens in those days**

will I pour forth of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy." (Acts 2:15-18).

Consequently, the power from on High is DESCRIBED as THE SPIRIT of Yahweh poured out upon His people. It is not described, or identified, in any passage whatsoever as a *person*, but as **power from on High!**

Upon Peter's convicting sermon, many in the assembled multitude asked what they must do to be saved. Peter answered by explaining what we find in Acts 2:38-39. **"And Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua the Messiah to the remission of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as Yahweh our Elohim shall call to him."**

In order to receive the Holy Spirit, one must meet certain qualifications initially established by the Messiah. He must repent and be baptized into the Name of Yahshua the Messiah. After having fulfilled these qualifications, he will receive the mind, the character, the personality, the power, and the life of Almighty Yahweh.

But he must repent! We might ask, "Repent of what?" The term *repentance* means *to be sorry or broken up for the SINS previously committed*. Romans 3:25 says, **"Whom Yahweh set forth to be a propitiation, through faith, in his blood, to show his righteousness because of the passing over of the sins formerly committed in the forbearance of Yahweh."** Those sins are transgressions of Yahweh's Law (see 1 John 3:4).

Yahweh only gives His Spirit to those who obey Him. **"But**

Peter and the apostles answered and said, We must obey Yahweh rather than men. The Elohim of our fathers raised up Yahshua, whom you killed, hanging him on a tree. Him did Yahweh exalt with his right hand to be a Prince and a Savior, to give repentance to Israel, and remission of sins. And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, WHICH YAHWEH HAS GIVEN TO THEM THAT OBEY HIM." (Acts 5:29-32).

How, then, can anyone who does not keep the commandments of Yahweh insist that he indeed has the Holy Spirit? **The Holy Spirit is only given to those who obey Yahweh.** You have read the text for yourself in Acts 5:32 (above). Consequently, repentance from sin and turning toward a life of obedience to Almighty Yahweh are the PRE-REQUISITES for receiving the Holy Spirit. **Baptism** into the Name of Yahshua the Messiah is the SECOND PREREQUISITE. If you have not been immersed into the Name of Yahshua the Messiah, you cannot truthfully say that you have received the Holy Spirit. Why not study this subject with our free literature? Request the article, *Baptism, Burial into Life* from Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA, 19507.

We find in the record of the New Testament Apostolic Assembly that the disciples laid hands on those who had fulfilled the prerequisites and they received the Holy Spirit.

Turn to Acts 9:14-17, **"And here he has authority from the chief priest to bind all that call upon your name. But Yahshua said to him, Go your way: for he is a chosen vessel to me, to bear my name**

WHAT IS THE *Holy Spirit?*

before the Gentiles and kings, and the children of Israel: for I will show him how many things he must suffer for my name's sake. And Ananias departed, and entered into the house; and laying his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Master, even Yahshua, who appeared to you in the way which you came, has sent me, that you may receive your sight, and BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."

You may also see a similar greeting in Acts 19:1-7. Here we find the Apostle Paul encountering at Ephesus the disciples of John the Baptist who had been immersed with the baptism of repentance, but had not been baptized into the saving Name of Yahshua the Messiah. Paul instructed them to be immersed into Yahshua's Name, and, when he laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. These men were blessed to receive a gift of languages and prophecy, similar to the 12 Apostles in Acts chapter 2. Since the 12 men that formed the nucleus of the Ephesian Assembly had to deal with a polyglot audience due to the many visitors at the international Temple of Diana (Artemis), like the Apostles of Acts 2, they needed special tools to do their job. Not everyone who receives the Holy Spirit will receive the gifts of languages or prophecy. Other gifts and fruits await them according as Yahshua assigns them to fulfill His needs. Incidentally, these men were the members to whom Paul wrote the epistle to the Ephesians, and to whom Yahshua addressed the mini-epistle of Revelation 2:2-7,

chastising them for



"Now he that establishes us with you in the Messiah, and anointed us, is Yahweh; who also sealed us, and gave us the EARNEST OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR HEARTS."

2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22

leaving their first love.

The Holy Spirit is conferred upon the believers by the laying on of hands of the presbytery. Turn to 2 Timothy 1:6-7, ***"For which cause I put you in remembrance that you stir up the gift of Yahweh, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For Yahweh gave us not a spirit [not the person] of fearfulness; but of power and love and discipline."*** Also turn to 1 Timothy 4:14, ***"Neglect not the gift that is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with the LAYING ON OF THE HANDS OF THE PRESBYTERY."***

Some people insist that they have received the Holy Spirit before they are immersed into Yahshua's Name. However, the only instance in the New Testament wherein such a phenomenon occurred was in the case of Cornelius (Acts 10 and 11). Cornelius and his companions (gentiles) received the Holy Spirit as a sign to the Apostles

that they should be baptized and be received into fellowship with the Apostolic Assembly. This was a ***unique incident***, and we cannot insist that this sequence of events takes place at all times. We must fulfill the qualifications as the Apostles instructed us.

The Down Payment

Many people believe that the Holy Spirit is poured out in great abundance upon them when they believe and are baptized. However, the Scriptures tell us that, at first, we only receive a small portion of the Holy Spirit, literally a seed. Yahshua the Messiah received the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Turn to John 3:31-35, ***"He that comes from above is above all: he that is of the earth is of the earth, and of the earth he speaks: he that comes from heaven is above all. What he has seen and heard, of that he bears witness; and no man receives his witness. He that has received his witness has set his seal to this, that Yahweh is true. For he whom Yahweh has sent speaks the words of Yahweh: FOR HE GIVES NOT THE SPIRIT BY MEASURE. The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into his hand. He that believes on the Son has eternal life; but he that obeys not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of Elohim remains on him."***

However, to the average Believer, Yahweh gives the Holy Spirit only in small portions. ***"Now he that establishes us with you in the Messiah, and anointed us, is Yahweh; who also sealed us, and gave us the EARNEST OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR HEARTS."*** (2 Corinthians 1:21-22). ***"In whom you also, having heard***

the word of truth, the good tidings of your salvation,—in whom, having also believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is an earnest of our inheritance, to the redemption of Yahweh's own possession, to the praise of his glory.” (Ephesians 1:13-14).

The English term **earnest** is found in the Greek text as *arrabona*. It is a loan word from Hebrew or Aramaic, where it can be found in Genesis 38:17. It was transliterated, or reproduced, in the **Septuagint** (the Greek translation of the Old Testament), and from there it found its way into the Greek New Testament. In the Hebrew lexicon of **Strong's Concordance**, you may find it under #6162, “*araboun*, (in the sense of exchange); a *pawn* (given as security).” The word is from #6148 which is *arab*, and is defined as also “to give or *be security* (as a kind of exchange).” We may also find the term in the Greek lexicon as #728, ‘*arrhabon*, of Heb. origin [6162]; a *pledge*, i.e. part of the purchase-money or property given in advance as *security* for the rest:—earnest.”

When someone repents of their past sins, turns toward a life of obedience and righteousness, and then is baptized into the Name of Yahshua the Messiah, the elders of the Assembly will lay hands on him and the Holy Spirit will come upon the individual. But each repentant believer only receives a small portion, or, as in the case of a purchase, the earnest money, declaring that the final payment will be made at the eventual settlement. The ‘*arrhabon* is the small amount of Holy Spirit which we nurture each day so that it will grow by the study

of Yahweh's Word, prayer, and by applying these sacred words to our personal lives. The ‘*arrhabon* signifies that this pledge will be fully paid when the resurrection of the dead occurs, and we are changed from flesh to spirit. Please read the resurrection chapter of 1 Corinthians chapter 15.

Speaking in Tongues

There are many groups in Christianity teaching that when an individual receives the Holy Spirit, he must speak in other *tongues* as a sign that he has received it. Nothing could be further from the truth! The Sacred Scriptures clearly indicates that there was a special application for *tongues* in the New Testament times. The term **tongue** in Greek is *glossa*, #1100. It means, “*the tongue; by impl. a language (spec. one naturally un-acquired):—tongue.*” The tongue in our mouths is used to speak languages, and this is exactly what it means. **THE TONGUE SPEAKS SOUNDS WHICH IN A LANGUAGE BECOME INTEL-LIGIBLE SPEECH USED AS A MEANS OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PEOPLE.**

Some groups point to Acts chapter 2 as the scriptural example of why they talk in an unintelligible jabbering. However, three times in this chapter we observe that the people heard the wonderful works of Yahweh **IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE**. There were sixteen nationalities represented as being in attendance at this annual holy day. Please notice verses 6, 8, and 11. When the disciples began to speak in other languages (or tongues), it was **TO COMMUNICATE** the wonderful works of Yahweh to others who

could understand these foreign languages. The Holy Spirit of Yahweh took the tongues of these Galilean Jews, and through their mouths Yahweh spoke the wonderful works of the Most High (His Messiah and His coming Kingdom) in the languages of all the ethnic peoples that were gathered. Language is **meant to serve as a medium of communication**. Why do we speak except to communicate ideas or to question others?

The same interpretation is also true in Acts chapter 19, a passage we had considered previously when Paul baptized and laid hands on the 12 men who were to become the nucleus of the Ephesian Assembly. Since Ephesus was the location of the great temple of Diana of the Ephesians (Artemis), people from all over the ancient Middle East went there to worship this pagan mighty one.

The branch of the Apostolic Assembly planted in Ephesus was meant to serve as a witness to all those who came to worship this pagan mighty one. Just as in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2), there were 12 men who were to form the nucleus of the Assembly in Ephesus. They were given a special gift of speaking in the languages of the people of the nations so they could communicate to them the wonderful works of Yahweh.

1 Corinthians chapter 14 has been frequently referred to as teaching some kind of a mystical speaking in tongues wherewith someone can communicate with the invisible spirit world. Yet, when we read the passage carefully, verse 9 stands out clearly. “***So you also, unless you utter by the tongue SPEECH EASY TO BE UNDERSTOOD, how shall it be known what***

WHAT IS THE *Holy Spirit?*

The Holy Spirit Functions

Here is only a partial list of how the
Holy Spirit functions:

- a) The Holy Spirit teaches all of the sound doctrines (1 John 2:20).
- b) The Holy Spirit brings all things to our remembrance (John 14:26).
- c) The Holy Spirit bears witness of the Messiah (John 15:26).
- d) The Holy Spirit gives life (Romans 8:9-11).
- e) The Holy Spirit gives access to the Father (Ephesians 2:18).
- f) The Holy Spirit aids our prayers (Ephesians 6:18-19 and Romans 8:26-27).
- g) The Holy Spirit gives gifts to the Assembly members (1 Corinthians 12).
- h) The Holy Spirit bears good fruits (Galatians 5:22-26).

is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air.” The term *easy to be understood* in Greek means **INTELLIGIBLE SPEECH**. Throughout this passage, we find that when someone speaks in the languages of the nations, he is speaking to those who cannot understand the common language (the *lingua franca*). However, if there are people attending the Assembly who are unfamiliar with different languages spoken there, then interpretation of those languages must occur. This is not some mystical interpretation, but,

rather, it is a knowledgeable interpretation of exactly what the preacher has spoken. Please see the illustration in Daniel chapter 5, as well as in other places in the Sacred Scriptures.

It is the opinion of the author that in 1 Corinthians chapter 14 the Apostle Paul is actually **DISCUSSING HIS OBJECTIONS TO A FOREIGN LANGUAGE LITURGY**, such as the Roman Catholic Church used in their Latin mass. Other ethnic religions also have retained their native language liturgies in worship. We would not apply it

to the Hebrew tongue, however, since the Hebrew language, we believe from the Sacred Scriptures, is the language of heaven. However, in the Assembly we speak our common tongues, or we interpret, so all may hear and understand.

Conclusion

As we have seen from the Sacred Scriptures, the Holy Spirit is not a person, but actually a force, or **personality**. No trinity can ever be found in the Bible (except once attached to a pagan idol Baal). Rather, the majesty on High is composed of Father Yahweh and His Son, Yahshua the Messiah, and their spirit, which is their power and personality dwelling in the hearts and lives of men. The Holy Spirit comes in the Name of Yahshua (John 14:26). Those who would receive the Holy Spirit must repent and turn from their sins (meaning their transgressions of the Law), and turn back to Almighty Yahweh and His Word. They must, thereupon, yield themselves **willingly** to comply with the Sacred Scriptures. The Holy Spirit is received following baptism which cleanses the human vessel through burial of the old man so that a new creature can develop (an outward sign of an inward cleansing). Cleansed and prepared, the repentant believer will receive the pure and living mind and personality of Yahweh the Father and Yahshua the Son.

If you are interested in further information on the Holy Spirit, please write in and begin taking the Correspondence Course offered by the Assemblies of Yahweh. One of the lessons deals with the Holy Spirit. In addition, we have several articles on this subject that may be helpful to you.

SNB

Some “New Testament” churches today claim that Pentecost is merely an Old Testament observance, abolished when the Messiah died. However, there is also adequate New Testament authority for keeping this holy day—proof that it was never “done away.”

Should You Observe Pentecost?

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

While there are groups calling themselves Pentecostals, few and far between are the Christian groups who observe *Shavuoth*, Pentecost, the Feast of Weeks.

Many members and co-workers in the Assemblies of Yahweh have discovered, during a period of thorough study, that the Scriptures prove that the annual holy days are to be observed in our time.

Leviticus 23 provides one of the prominent passages regarding this subject. Not only are the holy days listed in their correct order, but we are also informed concerning

when to observe them, where they are to be observed, why we observe them, and, in most cases, how they are to be observed.

A great many additional Scriptures could be cited to reinforce the doctrine of keeping the feast days. Surely, proving the necessity of Yahweh's appointed feast days should not comprise a difficult task for any sincere student of the Bible who systematically studies the Old Testament.

When we attempt to prove the necessity of keeping Yahweh's holy days in the New Testament, we quickly discover that, contrary

to popular belief, the observance of the annual holy days did not end when the Messiah died. This article is not intended to set forth the importance of keeping all the feast days (although all of them are to be kept in this New Testament era), but to prove from the New Testament the mandatory observance of the Feast of Weeks, called Pentecost in Acts 2:1.

Holy Days Not Annulled at Messiah's Death

Yahshua said, ***“Do not suppose that I have come to do away with the Law or the Prophets. I have not come***

to do away with them but to enforce them. For I tell you, as long as heaven and earth endure [which they obviously are at present], not one dotting of an i or crossing of a t will be dropped from the Law until it is all observed,” Matthew 5:17-18, **An American Translation, Smith Goodspeed.**

Let us consider the translation of these verses from **The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition, Bible.** *“Think not that I came to destroy the law or the prophets: I came not to destroy, but to fulfil. For truly I say to you, Till heaven and earth pass away, one yotye or one tittle shall in no wise pass away from the law, till all things be accomplished. Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whoever shall do and teach them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say to you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven.”* (Matthew 5:17-20). This Scripture definitely proves that the purpose of the Messiah’s coming to this earth was not **to do away with** (or annul) Yahweh’s Law, but to enforce that Law, make it more binding, and to observe it. Please read also Malachi 3:6.

The Greek prime root term—*luo*’ (**Strong’s Concordance, #3089**) means *to loosen or abolish, annul.*

We must do what Yahshua showed us. **“For to this were**

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they will be
accepted into
His Kingdom.***

you called: because the Messiah also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow his steps.” (1 Peter 2:21). Yahshua the Messiah observed the Law of Yahweh as a faithful, obedient son of Yahweh.

***The Messiah Kept
the Passover in the
Book of Matthew***

“Now on the first day of unleavened bread the disciples came to Yahshua, saying, Where will you that we make ready for you to eat the passover? And he said, Go into

the city to such a man, and say to him, The Teacher says, My time is at hand; I keep the passover at your house with my disciples. And the disciples did as Yahshua appointed them; and they made ready the passover.” Matthew 26:17-19. See also Luke 22:13-15.

Now, those who claim that the holy days are no longer in effect, attempt to explain that after Yahshua’s death these days need no longer be observed. Such reasoning poses many questions.

For instance, why would the Messiah tell us in Matthew 5 that the Law was not to be abolished? Also, why would Yahshua observe the feast days, and give His life as an **example** to live by (*“...that you also should do as I have done...”* John 13:15), if He had not intended us to continue keeping Yahweh’s holy days of Leviticus 23 after His life on earth?

***Only Four
of Six Fulfilled***

Consider that of the six annual holy days listed in Leviticus 23, only four have been “fulfilled.” Passover and Unleavened Bread (fulfilled twice: once in Egypt and, again, at Yahshua’s death); Pentecost (also fulfilled twice: the first time in the *mattan Torah*, the giving of the Old Covenant Law at Sinai, followed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2); and the Day of Atonement (fulfilled when the Messiah atoned for our sins by His death upon the tree of Calvary). The remaining holy days—the Feast of Trumpets and the Feast of Tabernacles—have not yet been fulfilled, but will be at the Second Coming of the Messiah.

So the question emerges, “Why would these observances

be abolished before they had been fulfilled?" The answer is, "They **were not done away!** They continue to be a 'shadow of things to come,' yet future." See Colossians 2:16-17.

The Feast of Trumpets signifies looking ahead to the Messiah's Second Coming and His choosing the firstfruits from the human harvest of the earth. The firstfruits are those converted individuals who have remained faithful, and they will be accepted into His Kingdom.

The Feast of Tabernacles foreshadows that coming Kingdom—the earth in a Millennial State with Yahshua our Messiah reigning as King.

Paul Perpetuates Pentecost

We know from Scripture that the Messiah left a faithful following on earth. In John 17, Yahshua prays that His followers will remain strong in the Faith. Of His numerous followers, there were only twelve that were especially close to the Messiah—these were appointed His apostles. They were the individuals with whom Yahshua worked closely and who would be the most qualified to continue Yahshua's Work on earth after His ascension on High.

Paul (as one "born out of due time," 1 Corinthians 15:8) teaches us in 1 Corinthians 11:1 to imitate him, just as he was following Messiah.

Keeping this Scripture in mind, what do we see Paul planning to do in Acts 18:21? **"...I must by all means CELEBRATE THE COMING FEAST as is my custom at Jerusalem...."** Chapter 20:16 tells us which Feast he was planning to attend. Verse 16 reads, **"For**

Paul had determined to sail past Ephesus, that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost."

Was Paul going there just to witness to the many "Jews" that would have come from all over Judea to attend the feast? Back to Acts 18:21: **"I must by all means CELEBRATE the coming feast..."** So he didn't go there merely to witness. This text also is in agreement with Acts 24:11, **"Seeing that you can take knowledge that it is not more than twelve days since I went up TO WORSHIP at Jerusalem."** Paul did not go to Jerusalem to sacrifice, but to worship, as all True Worshipers do today when they attend the observance of Yahweh's holy days, worshiping in spirit and in Truth. See John 4:20-24.

Paul Was Counting

Paul planned to keep Pentecost (Feast of Weeks, Leviticus 23:15-22) on yet another occasion. **"But I will stay at Ephesus until Pentecost."** 1 Corinthians 16:8. The phrase "until Pentecost" indicates that Paul was counting Sabbaths, as we are commanded to do in Yahweh's Torah Law. See Leviticus 23:15-16. If we look at this comment closely, it also reveals that Paul must have kept Passover. How else would he know when Pentecost would arrive unless he counted the seven Sabbaths and the 50 days?

The count to Pentecost begins with the first day after the first weekly Sabbath falling on, or following, Passover day. Therefore, the count toward Pentecost would begin during the Feast of Unleav-

ened Bread, on the day after the Sabbath following Passover, Abib 14 (Leviticus 23:15-22), meaning that the count must begin on Abib 15 (see Yahshua 5:10-12), or later, during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, following a weekly Sabbath.

Acts 20:6-7 shows that Paul carefully planned his count toward Pentecost. **"And we sailed away from Philippi at the Days of Unleavened Bread, and came to those of Troas in five days; and we stayed there seven days. And upon the first day of the week, when we had gathered together to break bread..."** (eat a common meal, including unleavened bread, which is broken and not cut, verse 11). The eighth word in verse 7 is translated **week**. The reference number for this word in **Strong's Concordance**, Greek Dictionary, is #4521. It is **sabbaton**, of Hebrew origin, meaning *the Sabbath*; therefore, on the first of the Sabbaths, the day on which the count toward Pentecost, the Feast of Weeks, begins. The word **day** in verse 7 is in italics and should be omitted.

Therefore, rendering this verse with the corresponding corrections to the translation, it should read, **"And upon the first of the Sabbaths...."** The Sabbaths were counted toward Pentecost. This was the first one; there would be six more. The context in verse 6 shows that this was the appropriate time of the year to begin the counting since it was during the Passover season.

Conclusive Evidence

Carefully review what happened, and you should perceive the beauty of the Sacred Scriptures opening up to our

deeper understanding. Now you have proved that the observance of Pentecost is most important. It is a memorial of Israel's entering into the Old Covenant and the beginning of the New Covenant Assembly in Acts 2, following the Messiah's death, resurrection, and ascension on High.

Acts 20:6 shows Paul sailing

from Philippi after Unleavened Bread. Verse 7 portrays him counting toward Pentecost, and Acts 21:17 reveals him arriving at Jerusalem for Pentecost. Finally, in Acts 24:11, Paul reflects on the time when he was in Jerusalem, **WORSHIPING** on Pentecost. We can answer with scriptural authority that Paul

did keep the Feast of Weeks.

Does that mean you should do likewise? "Be imitators of me, even as I also am of the Messiah." (1 Corinthians 11:1). We must follow the Lamb where He goes (Revelation 14:4), walking always in His footsteps by following His example. (1 Peter 2:21-22).

SNB

"Go you therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, immersing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

MATTHEW 28:19-20

Yahshua the Messiah gave instruction to His disciples to make disciples of all nations and **TEACH them to observe all things.**

Unlike the Internet, which can be manipulated and even turned off at times, the shortwave signals can cross borders that are closed to the message of Truth. WMLK, though silent at the moment, has commissioned a new, more powerful transmitter to send forth these glad tidings to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people.



"And I saw another angel flying in mid heaven, having eternal good tidings to proclaim to them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people; and he says with a great voice, 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 sea and fountains of waters."

REVELATION 14:6-7

Will you help to fulfill the Great Commission?



The Sacred Name Broadcast

RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

The Holy Spirit Teaches

In reading or studying the Bible, the possibility always exists of overlooking some of the great lessons which our Heavenly Father wishes for us to learn. Unless the Holy Spirit teaches us the message of the Bible, there is no way that we can fully comprehend what has been written by the prophets of old.

Yahshua our Messiah informed His disciples upon His departure after His earthly sojourn, that it was for the purpose of receiving His right to rule from the Father, Almighty Yahweh. This departure was necessary also, so that Yahweh would pour out the Holy Spirit upon worthy individuals who would continue to teach His disciples. Refer to John 14 through 16, and you will clearly perceive

the truly remarkable message regarding the teaching power of the Holy Spirit.

In John 16:12-15, we read, “I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when it, the Spirit of truth, has come, it shall guide you into all the truth: for it shall not speak from itself; but whatever things it shall hear, these it shall speak: and it shall declare to you the things that are to come. It shall glorify me: for it shall take of mine, and shall declare it unto you. All things whatever the Father has are mine, therefore said I, that he takes of mine, and shall declare it unto you.”

One of the primary interests that most average people hold

concerning religious matters is understanding what will be taking place in the future. When a minister mentions prophecy, usually an immediate interest is manifested. Some religious groups even go so far as to predict things to happen in the future, perhaps even going into specifics regarding dating the events which they believe will be taking place. When the author was a young man, some of the sermons by ministers interested in eschatology would frighten him. Some of those prophetic sermons, as they described weird looking, vicious beasts, or battles in which millions of people would be destroyed, were enough to keep the average person amply supplied with “nightmare” material for weeks to come! Possibly

this is the reason why there exists a certain amount of apprehension about the biblical, prophetic messages. The vivid imaginations of ministers have occasionally done more harm than good, when they should have given the people of the Almighty **a message of hope** instead of one of despair about the age to come.

Some people assume that a human being will be raised up in the end times to prophesy about specific events that will come to pass. The truth of the matter is that, in these days, a group of people has been raised up by

the spirit of prophecy.

How perfectly understandable the passage is now that we have restored the portion under scrutiny back to its position in the context. It is the brethren who have the testimony of Yahshua the Messiah, the people who teach that He is the Messiah, those that testify that Yahshua is the Savior of the world, who will have the spirit (the Holy Spirit), which was given by prophecy. It is this prophecy which we read back in John 16:12-15. This Holy Spirit will then teach the Body of the

an accusation against them in Jeremiah 23:9.

“Concerning the prophets. My heart within me is broken, all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine has overcome, because of Yahweh, and because of his holy words. For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourns; the pastures of the wilderness are dried up. And their course is evil, and their might is not right; for both prophet and priest are profane; yes, in my house have I found their wickedness, says

Some people assume that a human being will be raised up in the end times to prophesy about specific events that will come to pass.

Almighty Yahweh to understand the prophecies which have been recorded by the prophets of old, hundreds of years ago.

The author has, over the years, received many letters wishing to know the true interpretation of Revelation 19:10, especially the dependant clause, ***“for the testimony of Yahshua is the spirit of prophecy.”*** Could it be that a human being, a person, is the spirit of prophecy? Let us understand.

Rather than lift a portion of a verse out of context, let us look back to the middle of the previous verse and pick up the contextual thought. ***“And I fell down before his feet to worship him. And he says to me, See you do it not: I am a fellow-servant with you and with your brethren that hold the testimony of Yahshua: worship Yahweh: for the testimony of Yahshua is***

Messiah all things that have been previously written down in the Sacred Scriptures for our admonition and learning, we upon whom the ends of the age are come (1 Corinthians 10:11).

The passage of Scripture in 1 Peter 4:11 explains: ***“If any man speaks, speaking as it were the oracles of Yahweh....”*** Another translation could be, “If any man speaks, let him speak in agreement with the Words of Yahweh.” The human failing, which is so prevalent today, is that men desire to speak when Yahweh has not spoken (Jeremiah 23:31). ***“Behold, I am against the prophets, says Yahweh, that use their tongues, and say, He says.”***

Jeremiah the prophet, in his time, served as Yahweh’s spokesman, crying out against the evil conduct of the priests and prophets in Israel. He brings

Yahweh. Therefore their way shall be to them as slippery places in the darkness: they shall be driven on, and fall in it; for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation, says Yahweh.”

When we read some of these prophecies which we find in the Old Testament, the Hebrew Bible, we can perceive how they are remarkably fulfilled in our contemporary era. In our time, we also observe very little crying out by ministers against the sinful excesses of the modern world. Few ministers preach against adultery, or the illicit sex, that permeates the thinking of our society with moral pollution down to its very core! This sick concept of the “new morality” has drained away the spiritual strength of our once mighty nation, until we today may observe an evident weakness

in both mind and body. No strong willpower of conscience remains, such as our forefathers once possessed, as a major weapon of defense against the forces of evil. Forgotten are strong exhortations to the ministers of the land, such as we find in Isaiah 58:1. ***“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.”*** Today, ministers seem to teach only uncontroversial concepts.

If ministers of religion today would cry out against the sins

and trust in oppression and perverseness, and rely on it; therefore this iniquity shall be to you as a breach ready to fall, swelling out in a high wall, whose breaking comes suddenly in an instant. And he shall break it as a potter's vessel is broken, breaking it in pieces without sparing; so that there shall not be found among the pieces of it a sherd with which to take fire from the hearth, or to dip up water out of the cistern.” (Isaiah 30:8-14).

Actually, the Assemblies of

the hands of evil-doers, so that no one returns from his wickedness: they have all of them become to me as Sodom, and the inhabitants of it as Gomorrah.”

If you have never studied your Bible in depth, you could read this passage and never comprehend what Yahweh our Heavenly Father wishes us to learn. You might suppose that in our day the worship of Baal no longer exists. However, all you need to do to understand that these predictions will be fulfilled completely in our day is to read

The truth of the matter is that, in these days, a group of people has been raised up by Almighty Yahweh to understand the prophecies which have been recorded by the prophets of old, hundreds of years ago.

of America, as the prophets of old cried out against the sins of ancient Israel, they would hardly last very long, either on the air or behind their pulpits! People love to do as they please. Notice how the prophet Isaiah describes our time. ***“Now go, write it before them on a tablet, and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come forever and ever. For it is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of Yahweh: that say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not to us right things, speak to us smooth things, prophecy deceits, get out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us. Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, Because you despise this word,***

Yahweh ministry is different in this regard! The members of the Assemblies of Yahweh are a **different people** who VOLUNTARILY desire to serve Yahweh, a loving Father in heaven, and to strictly obey Him. They seek to do His Will and desire to learn what the Bible teaches them to do, so they can be converted from a sinner to a saint. Concluding with Jeremiah 23:13-14, we find further indication of how the ministers of our day have neglected the commission to which they have been called by the Heavenly Father.

“And I have seen folly in the prophets of Samaria; they prophesied by Baal, and caused my people Israel to err. In the prophets of Jerusalem also I have seen a horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies; and they strengthen

Hosea 2:16-17, making use of the center-column or marginal cross-references in your Bible. The worship of Baal is a worship that held Israel in its iron grip for many centuries. During the days of EliYah the prophet, Israel had apostatized into the worship of Baal, almost to the last individual. This renowned prophet of Israel called the northern kingdom back to the worship of Yahweh. He taught that the worship of Baal (or L-rd, see center column) comprised a grievous sin against the Most High. However, during the ministry of the prophet Jeremiah, the religious leadership of Israel continued with the worship of Baal, rejecting the Name of Almighty Yahweh. THE NAME OF OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN IS YAHWEH, His Word tells us, and He will not tolerate any SUBSTITUTIONS!

The worship of Yahweh is different!

In the worship of Yahweh, the people are voluntarily submissive to His Will. When He commands, the people humbly obey. They do not seek ways to circumvent obedience.

The prophet Jeremiah continues, asserting that even the prophets of Israel were committing adultery. See Isaiah 42:8, Psalm 68:4, Psalm 83:18, and Isaiah 52:4-6. Customarily, we would expect the prophets and priests to lead their congregations into greater spiritual dedication and moral purity. In Jeremiah's day, just as in our time, it would appear as though, all too frequently, the prophets and priests (ministers if you please) are leading their flocks in the opposite direction. If the leaders of the people are themselves guilty of committing sins which the Bible condemns, how can they speak out boldly against sin? Please recall that

Jeremiah, although serving as Yahweh's prophet, was also a priest, even the son of the High Priest Hilkiah, then the animosity launched against him is obvious. See Jeremiah 1:1, 15:10-18, and 18:1.

In fact, the pendulum has swung far to the reverse side of the spectrum. These spiritual leaders of the people are even strengthening the hands of evil doers! Consequently, no one repents of his wickedness and turns from his sins, which the Heavenly Father compares to the sins of Sodom and Gomorrah, cities of sexual, immoral indulgence on a broad, massive scale.

How many of this world's ministers today are heard to cry out against the ordination of a homosexual minister? How many members of those religious denominations resigned their membership in disgust? How many Catholics are outraged against the widespread pedophilia (child molestation) by priests? Does anyone even comprehend that such depraved conduct is repulsive to the Most High, since ministers seem to avoid reference to the Laws of Almighty Yahweh? They usually teach only that one should love sinners, not that Yahweh will judge the world for sin in the righteousness lived by Yahshua the Messiah. Yet, the governments of the world consider such conduct a criminal act!

Nevertheless, this is exactly the idea that made the worship of Baal popular. In the worship of Baal, the people created the almighty in their own image, to conform to their own personal likes and dislikes. If you wished to believe or do something, and your ch-rch forbade this, all you had to do was to change ch-rches

and find a ch-rch which believed as you did. Or, more customarily, simply defy the leadership and live hypocritically in violation of the standard of morality that the Bible sets forth. As a consequence, many varieties of Baal worship developed, until in EliYah's day there were 850 different kinds of religious thought and practice.

The worship of Yahweh is different! In the worship of Yahweh, the people are voluntarily submissive to His Will. When He commands, the people humbly obey. They do not seek ways to circumvent obedience. Conversely, the people of Yahweh seek ways to please and obey Him. ***"But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh."*** (Matthew 4:4).

Diligently, the people of Yahweh search the Scriptures to learn what the Almighty wishes them to understand, to learn, and to obey, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. When they encounter a new Truth, they don't look the other way or somehow rationalize it away—but THEY OBEY IT. This means that they become a part of True Worship, people who live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of Yahweh.

THEY HAVE RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT BECAUSE THEY OBEY HIM. ***"And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, which Yahweh has given to them that obey him."*** (Acts 5:32). WHEN THE BIBLE IS PREACHED, WE SAY AS DID THE EARLY APOSTLES, ***"We must obey Yahweh rather than men."*** (Acts 5:29). SNB



The Sacred Name Broadcast

RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

What Do You Know About The Bible?

The Bible is a familiar book to most people of this world, but few people really know what it says. Many people have studied the Bible in Sunday school from the time they were small children. They may have repeated the Savior's model prayer on hundreds of occasions. They may have heard many sermons being preached, or, in times of trial, they may have read a few Psalms, but few people really understand the message of the Bible in terms of what it teaches. Your Bible is composed of 66 sections, which are called books. The Old Testament segment is composed of five books of Law, the books of the prophets, the Psalms, and inspirational books;

in all, a total of 39 books. The New Testament is composed of 27 books, the first four—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John—are the account of the life of Yahshua the Messiah; the remaining books being letters by the Apostles to individuals and Assemblies, climaxed by the Apocalypse, which is most commonly called Revelation. It has been common in the past to separate between the Old and New Testaments and to place a barrier between them. However, this is indeed a misconception when we read the New Testament and learn that many passages are quoted from the Old Testament Scriptures.

The word *Testament* is a relatively obscure term to most

people. Some of the more modern versions use the term *covenant* to translate the Greek word *diathēkē*. The Hebrew word *berith* in the Old Testament **King James** version has always been translated *covenant*. The first mention of the New Covenant may be found in Jeremiah 31:31-34. This may surprise many listeners, but it is nevertheless a provable fact if you would like to check it for yourself. Allow me to quote from this passage, Jeremiah 31:31-34. ***“Behold, the days come, says Yahweh, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day***

that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they broke, although I was a husband to them, says Yahweh. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says Yahweh: I will put my law in their inward parts, and in their heart will I write it; and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be my people: and they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know Yahweh; for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says Yahweh: for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin will I remember no more."

I hope that you were carefully reading this passage. You will find that the Law of Yahweh will be inscribed upon the inward parts of Israel and will be written on their hearts. Consequently, it is vital that we understand this obvious fact—that the Law of Yahweh will hold a major place in the New Covenant of Israel. The Hebrew word for *new* can mean either *new* or *renewed*. The Law has not been done away with when the Savior died upon the tree of Calvary. In fact, Yahshua the Messiah Himself in Matthew 5:17-20, informs us that the Law was to endure until Heaven and earth passed away. He even emphasizes this point so strongly that the meaning is unmistakable to anyone who is seeking to serve the Almighty sincerely. The following is taken from the **Moffatt** translation of Matthew 5:17-20, which should clarify the message for you if you have any doubts in your mind at this moment. ***"Never imagine I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to destroy but to fulfill. (I tell you truly, till heaven***

and earth pass away, not one iota, not a comma, will pass from the Law until it is all in force, Therefore whoever relaxes a single one of these commands, were it even one of the least, and teaches men so, he will be ranked least in the realm of heaven; but whoever obeys them and teaches them, he will be ranked great in the realm of heaven.) For I tell you, unless your goodness excels that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the realm of heaven."

Obviously, from reading this passage and thinking upon it, it becomes candidly clear that none of the Law of Yahweh has ever been done away with when the Savior died upon the tree of Calvary. Yahshua the Messiah came to fulfill what was written in the Law, the Psalms, and the Prophets concerning Him. The Messiah took a position opposed to those who would think to relax one of the commandments, even though they may be thought to be one of the least commandments. Yahshua the Messiah taught that unless our goodness excels that of the recognized religious leaders of His day, we would in no case enter into the Kingdom of the Heavens. This is quite plain and clear. Unless we obey all of the Law of Yahweh in every form in which it was given, we will just not be allowed into the Kingdom of Yahweh.

But let us go back to Hebrews 8:8-12. You may be surprised to find in this segment of Scripture an almost exact quote of Jeremiah 31:31-34. The writer of Hebrews shows that Almighty Yahweh did not find fault with the Law which He had given as a Covenant, but that He found fault with the people. The people had a stony, cold heart, in which there was no love for Almighty Yahweh and for the

Truth. Almighty Yahweh shows that one day He would take that stony heart out of the bodies of Israel and He would give them a warm heart, a heart of flesh. He would write His Laws upon those hearts of warm flesh, and He would be their Mighty One, and they would be His people. This means that they would allow the Almighty Heavenly Father Yahweh to direct their lives, to submit to Him as their strong and powerful protector. They would submit willingly to His government and His Laws, and this would make them His people. If you would like to learn more about this incident when Yahweh enters into the second Covenant relationship with Israel, turn to Ezekiel 36. Let us read verses 25-28, ***"And I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and you shall keep my ordinances, and do them. And you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and you shall be my people, and I will be your Elohim."***

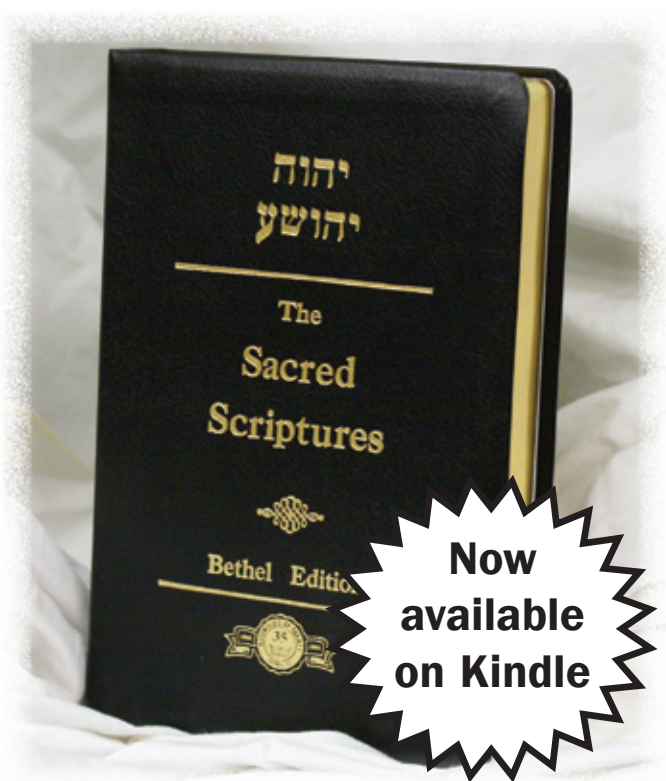
What a wonderful description of life in the Kingdom of Yahweh! These prophetic writers are unitedly showing one culmination of prophecy at the end of the age. They are depicting an era when all people would live as true Israelites, when they would all be keeping the Law of Yahweh. Then all people will be recipients of the Holy Spirit of Almighty Yahweh to keep them in the Narrow Pathway which leads

***“Sanctify them in the truth:
your word is truth.”
(John 17:17)***

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to a rewarding and happy life.

Here, then, is the message which most Bible readers have missed. They have apparently not seen the importance of keeping the Law of Yahweh now, at this time. We read in Isaiah 66:23, that the weekly, seventh-day Sabbath will be observed in the Millennium. We read in Zechariah 14: 16-21 that the Feast of Tabernacles will be observed in the Millennium. How can we ever hope to be kings and priests—meaning the governing officials and the teachers of the people in the Millennium—unless we learn how to obey the Scriptures now, in this life, with the Holy Spirit of Almighty Yahweh teaching us? The answer obviously is that we would be poor leaders of the people, unless we have learned the executive process now. This is what life is really about!

At one time, Yahshua the Messiah was asked by a young ruler, “*Good teacher, what good thing must I do to have eternal life?*” The answer of the Messiah

was very straight forward and to the point. “*If you will enter into life, keep the commandments!*” It has often occurred to us that if Yahshua the Messiah would have asked some special feat of the young man, or the world for that matter, there would have been no argument or attempted circumvention. “*If you will enter into life, keep the commandments.*” Now that is very plain and simple, impossible to misunderstand, don’t you think? By way of clarification the young man asked, “*Which commandments?*” Almost mechanically, Yahshua the Messiah begins to quote from the decalogue. Most ministers recognize this fact, but they explain it away by saying that He omitted the first five commandments. Thinking logically, we would have to conclude that the Messiah did not do away with the commandments, which show respect to the Almighty Heavenly Father. Let us never forget that at every turn when the Messiah is asked which

are the most important of the commandments, He invariably quoted from Deuteronomy 6:5, “*...and you shall love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.*” This verse is situated within a passage of Scripture which shows the importance of keeping the commandments of Yahweh. Do you know how we can show love to the Heavenly Father? Let us turn to 1 John 5:3, “*...For this is the love of Yahweh, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.*” The message of the Bible, then, is government. It is the government of the Kingdom of Yahweh ruling on this earth. That government is the keeping of the commandments, statutes, and judgments which are found in the Scriptures. This is the message from the beginning of Genesis, and it is the message right through the book of Revelation at the end. Don’t you think that it is time you obeyed? ^{SNB}

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If Almighty Yahweh lays this need upon your heart, and you desire to join us in this endeavor, we pray that His richest blessing will be upon you.