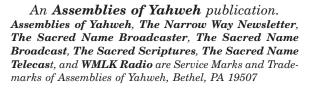
# THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

3/2023

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#### What is Sin?

Where do we go to obtain the answer to the question, "What is sin?" Definitions for the word sin are nearly as numerous as the Chr-stian denominations themselves; however, the Assemblies of Yahweh restores the pure True Worship that was founded by our Heavenly Father Yahweh. We acknowledge that sin is the transgression of the Law, 1 John 3:4. Have you?

#### The Bible on Sin

The lives of many people today are regulated by "situation ethics" rather than by the commandments of Almighty Yahweh. Will you make the commitment to keep all of Yahweh's commandments? Obedience is the only thing that will stand between you and eternal punishment in these last days at the close of this age.

#### *10* **Prophetic Trends: Sowing the Wind—Reaping the Whirlwind** 'Be not deceived; Elohim is not mocked: for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap." (Galatians 6:7). Reaching down, Yahweh has lifted us out of the quagmire of sin, showing us a new, living pathway to walk upon. Take up the light yoke of Yahshua and follow Him daily.

#### 15 Radio Message: Obedience

People of today wish to have strict law enforcement upon their fellow man, while demanding leniency from the judicial system for themselves. Often they cite "the rule of law" and it's importance to maintain order in society, while adopting a no-Law doctrine when it comes to the Law of Yahweh! Will you keep Yahweh's commandments, or search for "loopholes" to circumvent obedience?

#### *19* **Radio Message: What is Salvation?**

Few people today can give a correct, biblically-based answer to this question. Why not read the message carefully and see what the Bible really teaches.

#### Our Cover:-

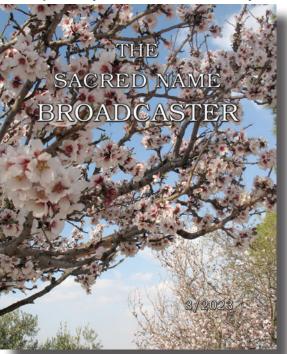
This month's cover shows the almond blossoms in Israel that bloom each spring. As the barley—which points to the Abib new moon—produces the green ears that give it its

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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer



name, we also see the beautiful almond blossom as well at the same time.

When Israel questioned Yahweh in the Korah rebellion, Yahweh then asked for a rod from each tribe. From these rods, Yahweh caused the rod of Aaron to bud and produce blooms, and even ripe almonds, all overnight.

Almond blossoms are also mentioned as an indication of advancing age in Ecclesiastes. 'Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth...." (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

"And this, knowing the season, that already it is time for you to awake out of sleep: for now is salvation nearer to us than when we first believed. The night is far spent, and the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light." (Romans 13:11-12). Are you ready for Yahshua's

return?

# WHAT IS

#### by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Ch-rchianity's view of sin is puzzling. From one group to another, we find many interpretations.

For many fundamentalist groups, sin is dancing, drinking, and playing cards.

A few fundamentalist groups see sin in wearing jewelry. Others consider various dress lengths, or certain cuts of clothing, to be sinful. Some evaluate headdress to determine whether a person is committing sin, or living righteously. The eating of certain foods is a sin to many. Some of the ch-rches in nominal Chr-stianity consider drinking alcoholic beverages to be a sin, while others think imbibing is fine. There are groups that believe driving cars is sinful, and others place the use of electricity in the same category.

We could continue enumerating various personal actions that have been considered sinful by some groups, but tolerated by others. However, the Assemblies of Yahweh wishes to reject all man-made ideas and concepts in order to restore the pure True Worship that was founded by our Heavenly Father and revitalized by the Apostolic Assembly in the book of Acts. Can we find the answer to the question, "What is sin?" Where do we go to obtain that answer?

Definitions for the word *sin* are almost as numerous as the Chr-stian denominations themselves, but it should be our aim to live exclusively by every word of Almighty Yahweh (Matthew 4:4).

A True Worshiper follows the Lamb wherever He goes. The influence of the life and actions of Yahshua the Messiah must be taken into careful consideration in finding correct answers to doctrinal questions.

We must also examine the writings of the Apostolic Assembly, which have been preserved for us in the inspired Scriptures, to see how this Holy Spirit-begotten group of people, who serve as a model for the True Worshipers of our time, applied the Truth.

#### Words for Sin in the Bible

In the Hebrew Scriptures, there are about 20 different words that denote sin. There are three commonly used terms that have been translated sin. Let us examine them so that we may achieve a better understanding of our subject from the original texts.

The word most frequently used is *i*, *chata*. The root of this word occurs in the Bible 459 times. The original meaning of the cognate verb is *to miss something*, or *to fail*. The meaning of this word denotes an offense against someone else. It connotes the concept of one who does not fulfill an agreement, the converse of which is the word zaddiq, meaning someone who is righteous and fulfills his promises beyond the requirements.

The root  $\mathfrak{scip}$ , psh' (trespass) can be found in the Bible 136 times. It is found in the early texts of the Bible, for example (Genesis 31:36). The basic meaning of this word is a *breach of contract*. In the Scriptures, we find several occasions (for example, 1 Kings 12:19) of a breach of treaty between two nations. It breaks the peaceful relationship between two parties or nations.

The Hebrew word עָּוָה, 'awah, occurs 17 times in the Bible. The concept behind this word is crookedness or wrongdoing. The noun derived from this word is עָּוֹן 'awon, and means crookedness. It occurs in the inspired Scriptures 229 times.

The use of each of these words in the Hebrew Bible conveys transgression. It is clear when you examine a cross-sectional view of these words, and the passages of Scripture in which they are found, that they point to a separation between the Almighty and His people. In Isaiah 59:2, we find the word קונה, 'awonot, indicates that a wall has been set up between Yahweh and the sinner.

#### An Old Testament Definition

We may begin to obtain some kind of accurate biblical definition of the word *sin* from various passages of the Old Testament where these Hebrew words were used. In Jeremiah 14:20-21, we discover that sin is clearly related to the breaking of the Covenant between Yahweh and His people. Notice carefully the words of the prophet. *"We acknowledge, O* Yahweh, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers; for we have sinned against you. Do not abhor us, for your name's

#### sake: do not disgrace the throne of your glory: remember, break not your covenant with us." (Jeremiah 14:20-21).

Do you see how the word sin is related to the breaking of the Covenant? The Prophet Jeremiah says that, although Israel had sinned and broken their part of the agreement with Yahweh, Yahweh should not to break His Covenant with them. He acknowledges that sin had been responsible for a separation between Almighty Yahweh and His people.

Turn now to Jeremiah 16:10 and 11, where the relationship between sin and the breaking of the Covenant Law of Yahweh is clearly demonstrated:

"And it shall come to pass, when you shall show this people all these words, and they shall say to you, Why has Yahweh pronounced all this great evil against us? Or what is our iniquity? Or what is our sin that we have committed against Yahweh our Elohim? Then shall you say to them, Because your fathers have forsaken me, savs Yahweh, and have walked after other elohim, and have served them, and have worshiped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my law."

In the Hebrew text, the word *offense* is *chatta'ah*, while the word for *sin* is *chata'*. This wickedness and sin meant the breaking of Yahweh's commandments. For this reason, Israel was punished with exile from the Promised Land.

#### Sin Punishable by Death

When considering the execution of punishment against a sinful individual, we must take into account Ezekiel 18:4 and 20.

"Behold, all souls are mine;

There are only two ways to travel in the world: the broad way that leads to death, or the narrow way that leads to life everlasting

as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sins, it shall die." (Ezekiel 18:4).

"The soul that sins, it shall die: the son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him." (Ezekiel 18:20).

The soul who commits sin should be sentenced to die. The **offense** against Almighty Yahweh is breaking His Covenant Law—a very serious breach of faith—and is considered to bring retribution from the Most High.

From reading the 18th chapter of Ezekiel, we see plainly that those who sin will receive severe punishment, while those who repent of their sins will live. The contrast is very obvious-life as opposed to death. If a righteous man turns away from Yahweh and commits sin at the end of his life, he will be declared a sinner in the judgment; whereas the sinner who has done wicked deeds all of his life and, yet, just before he dies, becomes a believer and does righteousness, will be rewarded with everlasting life.

Many times, Almighty Yahweh uses sickness to recall people to righteousness. Two Scriptures declare this very candidly: Psalm 38:4 and 18 and Psalm 41:5. "For my iniquities have gone over my head: as a heavy burden they are too heavy for me.... For I will declare my iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin." (Psalm 38:4, 18).

"My enemies speak evil against me, saying, when will he die, and his name perish?" (Psalm 41:5).

#### Rabbinical Interpretation of Sin

We can discover great lessons by taking into account the *sitz im leben* (life setting) of the New Testament. Yahshua the Messiah was of the tribe of Judah (Hebrews 7:14). He was Hebrew and an Israelite. He was knowledgeable in the Law of Yahweh and, along with His disciples, was well acquainted with the Jewish culture, having been reared in Judaism.

The rabbis of Yahshua's time had an understanding of sin. The common rabbinic term for *sin* is from the root עָבָר, 'avar, and the noun is 'avarah, meaning to pass over, indicating that sin was a rejection of the Will of Yahweh.

We find an indication here of the definition of sin as it was understood in the time of Yahshua. Without a doubt, when Yahshua spoke of sin, He meant breaking the Law of Yahweh. Because Yahweh desires His people to be obedient to the Covenant, to break the Covenant is to disregard, or reject, the Will of Almighty Yahweh. There was no question in Yahshua's time about the meaning of this word, or the concepts conveyed by it.

#### John's Definition of Sin

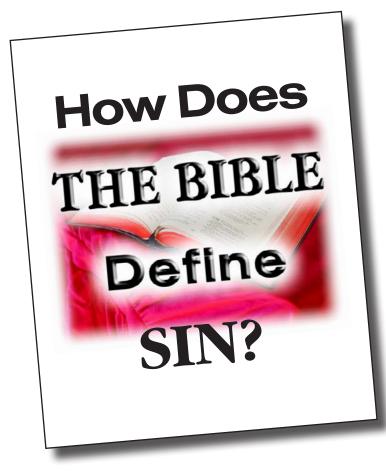
By turning to the New Testament, we can see the fact substantiated that sin is the transgression of Yahweh's Covenant Law. This is emphasized very strongly in John's first epistle. *"Everyone that commits sin also transgresses the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."* (1 John 3:4).

Where did John get this definition? We have already seen from Old Testament passages in Jeremiah that sin is the breaking of Yahweh's Covenant Law. John's definition, although simplified and straightforward, is in perfect harmony with the definition of sin given by the Prophet Jeremiah.

If we go back even further into biblical antiquity and scrutinize Genesis chapter 2, verse 16, we find that Yahweh commanded (laid commandments upon) the man. Sin took place in the third chapter, when the first man and woman disobeyed Yahweh's commandments and followed the instructions of Satan.

Consequently, John was merely reflecting an Old Testament concept; his interpretation of sin was in perfect harmony with the biblical concept of sin from Genesis. It also reflected the contemporary understanding of the definition of the word *sin* as it existed in rabbinical Judaism during the time of Yahshua the Messiah.

However, this definition—sin is the transgression of the Law—is opposite the definition of sin given by the groups of nominal Chrstianity. For them, sin is rarely attached to a *biblical* injunction,



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but, rather, it is merely what the individual wishes it to be.

#### Other Biblical Definitions of Sin

Let us take into account several other definitions of sin that are found in the inspired Scriptures. One of the most penetrating definitions is in Romans 14:23: "And whatever is not of faith is sin." The biblical definition of faith is found in Hebrews 11:1: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen." Faith is trust in the Word of Almighty Yahweh, as the writer of Hebrews explains throughout that Great Faith Chapter (Hebrews 11). Therefore, faith is related to the keeping of the Covenant, with its rules and regulations, as opposed to following the way of Satan.

Satan concentrates upon the physical, the immediate gratification of the flesh, while Yahweh's way is to build for the future. There are only two ways to travel in the world: the broad way that leads to death, or the narrow way that leads to life everlasting (Matthew 7:13 and 14).

In Proverbs 24:9, we discover another definition of sin: "*The thought of foolishness is sin....*" Premeditating on foolishness, which is something worthless, or doing something that will oppose the sound doctrines of the Bible, is called sin by the writer of the Old Testament. Let us notice Hebrews 10:26-30. If someone sins willfully (premeditates sin), he will be destroyed by Yahweh's devouring fire.

In Jacob (James) 4:17 is another definition, given by

Yahshua's brother: "To him therefore that knows to do good, and does it not, to him *it is sin.*" Almighty Yahweh has shown mankind what is good. He has instructed us in the ways of goodness and uprightness. The tree in the Garden of Eden, described in Genesis chapters 2 and 3, was symbolic of knowing good and knowing evil. Almighty Yahweh had shown the good way and instructed Adam and Eve in righteous living. They rejected that instruction and followed Satan. They wanted to know evil and followed the father of the lie.

We might also consider Jacob 2:11, where he shows what transgression of the Law really means: "For he that said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not kill. Now if you do not commit adultery, but kill, you have become a transgressor of the law." The Apostle John introduces yet another definition of sin near the conclusion of his book. However, this definition is in perfect harmony with what he has already stated. "All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not leading to death." (1 John 5:17).

Turn to Deuteronomy 6:25. "And it shall be righteousness to us, if we observe to do all this commandment before Yahweh our Elohim, as he has commanded us." Do you see how beautifully the Scriptures harmonize? Righteousness is the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh, just as unrighteousness would be disobedience to those commandments. Therefore, the Apostle John is correct in saying that sin is the transgression of the Law, and all unrighteousness is sin. We may discover a greater truth by reading righteousness as right-use-ness.

#### The Chr-stian Concept of Sin

Where did the modern Chr-stian understanding of the meaning of sin originate? The **Hastings Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics** says that there is a close relationship between the Greek and Egyptian interpretation of sin, and the understanding of it, that regulates the Chr-stian religion.

We read the following in the article "Sin," Vol. 11, page 546: "We are accustomed to draw a distinction between sin and crime." Obviously, this is what Chr-stianity does today. They say, as did Hobbes ("A Dialogue of the Common Laws"), "all crimes are indeed sins, but not all sins, crimes."

Note carefully the conclusion of

the article on page 555:

"Henceforth the Greek doctrine of sin develops in two main directions. On the one hand, sin becomes identical with ignorance, righteousness with knowledge: ...And this, indeed, may not unfairly be described as the characteristically philosophic doctrine. Conceiving moral rightness as essentially a matter of right knowledge, they held it to be unthinkable that a man should know the better and yet deliberately choose the worse. And, if this theory proved manifestly out of harmony with the facts, as Aristotle says, that was because right knowledge was wholly or temporarily obscured by vicious appetite, and nonetheless the ideal to be pursued was knowledge. It did not greatly trouble the philosopher that on this view the gates of heaven were barred to the general mass of toiling mortality and that no weight was given to the great non-intellectual virtues of patience and humility and charity, all that we sum up as 'other worldliness."

Do you see the relationship here between nominal Chr-stian concepts of our time and ancient Greek understanding of sin? First of all, it included *situation ethics*. Then, it showed the intrinsic, inherent goodness of man. It thought of sin as different, or apart, from crime. On this point, the writer sought to show a difference between sins, as does the Roman Catholic Ch-rch with mortal and venial sin.

#### The Relationship of Grace to Sin

If sin brings on the sentence of death, and if it is the transgression of Yahweh's Covenant Law, how do we relate the Chr-stian doctrine of grace to such a concept? Nominal Chr-stians today declare that you cannot keep the Law, that it was too rigid and stringent for the average individual to observe. They conclude that Yahshua the Messiah kept the Law for us and, then, annulled it when He died. He extended *grace* to the people, which means in Chr-stian interpretation, *license to do as you please*.

However, grace (Greek is charis) does not mean license to do as you please. Rather, it means mercy, or unmerited kindness, should someone disobey. Here we find a relationship with what is stated in Hebrews 10:26, "For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more a sacrifice for sins." However, if someone does not premeditate sin, we then have an advocate with the Father, and we can be forgiven of that sin (1 John 2:1-3). Grace is not lasciviousness. Judah (Jude) 4, "For there are certain men who sneaked in secretly, even they who were of old written of beforehand to this condemnation, lawless men, turning the grace of our Elohim into lasciviousness, and denying our only Master and Sovereign, Yahshua the Messiah."

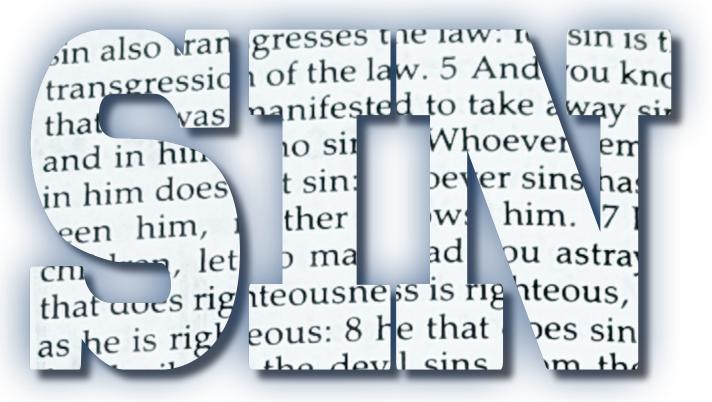
#### The Great Apostasy

In 2 Thessalonians chapter 2, we discover that there is a great apostasy that will occur just before the end of the age. In that time, there will be a great falling away, or defection, from the Truth.

Over the past several decades, a movement has become well established that teaches the keeping of the commandments of the Most High, and that a person must enter into a Covenant relationship with Almighty Yahweh through obedience to His Law. But we have also

Continued on page 18.

## THE BIBLE ON



One of the greatest monarchs who has ever reigned on this earth was King Solomon. Taking the throne of the tiny country of Israel from his father David, he succeeded in building it into a powerful nation which commanded respect from the great empires on the world scene at that era. At the height of this power, his regal splendor as he sat upon the throne of Israel in Jerusalem caused his fame to spread abroad so that other rulers came to visit him. When Solomon embarked upon the construction of the magnificent by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Temple of Yahweh in Jerusalem, Hiram, the king of Lebanon, furnished materials and artisans to complete the work. During the time that Solomon was standing at the head of a well-known government, he had the opportunity to critically evaluate the success and failure of many different nations. His observation, which we find in Proverbs 14:34, should be a guideline for our nation today. "Righteousness exalts a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people." If only our own nation would have the desire to draw upon the experience of King Solomon and take his advice, rather than to continue to stumble along under the increasing burden of sin which has been dragging our nation down in recent years, we might continue to enjoy greatness as the people who are the heirs to the blessings of our Heavenly Father.

The most unpopular thing that a minister can do is to go on the air and cry out against sin. This subject is perhaps the most unappreciated by our contemporary society around us. The natural tendency of people today is to explain away misbehavior as a psychotic maladjustment, which is the result of a repressed upbringing. I am convinced that these alibis and excuses for simple lack of discipline are the responsibility of a misguided educational system. Except for extreme situations, a person is responsible for that sin. Sin is still sin, and sin has been declared by our Heavenly Father as offensive to Him. There are no "situation ethics" to be found in the Bible.

Just what is sin? Even though you may have heard the word literally hundreds of times, can you give a scriptural definition? You may be just as I was while I was a part of nominal religion. We repeated these words and terms, but never actually understood the correct definition. As I stated in an earlier article, there are several definitions of sin, but the firm and absolute definition for sin is found in 1 John 3:4. "Everyone that commits sin also transgresses the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." Some translations say "Sin is lawlessness."

Usually, when someone raises the question of obedience to the Laws of the Scriptures, a rather passionate argument ensues. I was raised under the same teaching which I am sure has influenced many people of today. I was not raised in a commandment-keeping organization which taught obedience to all of the scriptural Laws. However, after I began my thorough Bible study, one of the first things I learned was that I was wrong in rejecting the Laws and commandments which are found in the Bible. Relative to our study on the "unpardonable sin," let us turn to some passages in the Bible which have led me to take a stand for scriptural Law keeping. I am not going to try to "ram this down your throat," but I would like to show you some of the things which I have found.

Most people usually turn to the books written by the Apostle Paul when they try to find substantiation for the theory that the Law was done away with, or annulled, when the Savior died. Frankly, they have a very flimsy case for reaching this conclusion. Have you ever read what the Apostle Peter has to say about Paul's writings? This is found in 2 Peter 3:15-16. "And account that the long-suffering of our Master is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also. according to the wisdom given to him, wrote to you; as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to be understood, which the ignorant and unlearned wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, to their own destruction." Now that is quite an eye-opening revelation from the pen of Peter, who warns that Paul's writings are hard to understand and that caution should be exercised when studying Paul's epistles.

As I stated previously, the only place where you can go in the entire Bible, which could be interpreted as teaching that the Laws of Yahweh were done away with when the Savior died, would be the writings of Paul. However, when I checked these passages for myself, I was stunned when I came across Romans 3:31 where we read, "Do we then make the Law of no effect through faith? By no means: No, we establish the Law." How shocking to me when I first read this verse. I had been taught that the writings of Paul declared that we no longer were obligated to keep the Law of Yahweh and that it

...the firm and absolute definition for sin is found in 1 John 3:4.

"Everyone that commits sin also transgresses the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."

was a yoke of bondage around the people's necks. Here was a Scripture that said that Paul established the Law. Reading on a little further in Romans, I came to chapter 7, verse 12, which reads, "So that the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and righteous, and good." Now to me, that certainly did not sound as though Paul was teaching a doctrine which was hostile to the Law of Yahweh. What do you think about this? And then in verse 16 of this same 7th chapter of Romans, Paul says that he consents to the Law—that it is good! In verse 22, he informs us that he delights in the Law of Yahweh after the inward man, and in verse 25, he says that with the mind he serves

the Law of Yahweh.

After I had read these Scriptures, and others which Paul wrote, and which, actually, teach Law and commandment keeping, I was anxious to return to the Old Testament and see what it had to say about itself. I found many Scriptures which said that the Law of Yahweh would endure forever! Let me just show you a few. Psalm 119:160, "The sum of your

word is truth; And every one of vour righteous ordinances endures forever." Verse 152 says, "Of old have I known from your testimonies, That you have founded them forever." Psalm 111:7-10 reads. "The works of his hands are truth and justice; all his precepts are sure. They are

established for ever and ever; they are done in truth and uprightness. He has sent redemption to his people; He has commanded his covenant forever: Holy and reverend is his name. The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: His praise endures forever." Now those are just a few passages from the Psalms, but you can go to the Torah, the Law, and find this same thought; you can go to the prophets and find it also. Solomon in Ecclesiastes 12:13 says, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: all has been heard: fear Elohim, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole of man." Actually,

the words "duty of" appears in the **King James Version** and was added by the translators. If we eliminate them, the verse ends, "this is the whole man," or "this makes the whole man."

One of the most concrete reasons for dictating against a conclusion that the Law of Yahweh could ever be annulled is that of a specific statement which has been written into the Old Testament. The stateand 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." Now, this is an absolutely clear passage which cannot possibly be misunderstood, and, yet, many people appear to be misunderstanding it and explaining it away constantly.

How would you, as an indi-

vidual, identify the body of True Worshipers down through the ages? Many people of whom I ask this question reply that they can be recognized by their fruits. This is a correct answer, but what are the fruits? Some people may answer with the fruits of the Spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23. Certainly, the

True Worshipers must show these spiritual fruits; please notice especially the last few words of verse 23. However, Yahshua our Messiah has given us the keys to accurate recognition in Matthew 7:15-27. I haven't time to discuss this entire passage here, so I will just pick out some of the key verses. He tells us to beware of false prophets who appear to come in sheep's clothing. We are cautioned to check on them, since they could be ravening, or hungry, wolves inside. We can know them by their fruits. He says. In verses 21-23 we read, "Not every one that says to me, Master, Master, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: all has been heard: fear Elohim, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole of man."

ECCLESIASTES 12:13

ment is found in Isaiah 8:20. "To the law and to the testimony! If they speak not according to this word, surely there is no morning for them." Do you suppose that the Apostles would have wished to be known as writers of darkness, as people in whom there is no spiritual light? You would hardly think so. Especially after reading what our Savior says in Matthew 5:17-19. "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 yothe 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,



"For the wages of sin is death; but the free gift of Yahweh is eternal life in the Messiah Yahshua our Master."

ROMANS 6:23

me in that day, Master, Master, did we not prophesy by your name, and by your name cast out demons, and by your name do many mighty works? And then will I profess to them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work lawlessness." When I read this Scripture, I was amazed and especially so after coming to realize that the Greek word translated *iniquity* here means *lawlessness*. Some people are actually thinking that they are doing the Work and Will of the Heavenly Father and our Savior, when, in fact, they are misleading people and will be rejected by our Savior because of their teaching against the Law of Yahweh. The remaining verses of the chapter indicate that it is not acceptable to Yahweh to just hear the Bible read—we must obey!

Have you been wondering if you are unknowingly committing the unpardonable sin? If you are breaking any of Yahweh's commandments today, you may very well be doing this. In fact, Acts 5:39 says that those who are not obedient do not have the Holy Spirit, and without the Holy Spirit, you are destined to die the eternal death. As you are reading this today, why not check in your Bible what I have said, and take a good look at what the Bible says. Obedience is the only thing that will stand between you and eternal punishment in these last days, at the close of this age. <sup>SNB</sup>

#### **PROPHETIC TRENDS** today's news in prophecy

Sowing the Win Reaping the Wi

The problems that are plaguing the world today have originated far in the past-they didn't just simply appear out of nowhere. For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. If we apply this rule to the problems that we face today, we can then trace them to their root cause. The little things that we do from day to day will also produce a reaction. If what we do is right and proper, we will reap good and positive results. However, we will receive a negative reaction if our actions are improper and wrong.

The same is true with our everyday habits. If we eat something that is disagreeable to us, then we become sick. However, if we correct our bad habits and replace them with good behavior, then a more healthful lifestyle will result in us feeling better. If someone eats the wrong kind of food for an extended period of time, he may not even notice the subtle difference in his health, but, eventually, one of his internal organs might suddenly fail, resulting in sickness, or even death. Although the internal organs of the human body are capable of eliminating a certain amount of poison from the food we eat, eventually these

organs will begin to break down under the strain as they retain the poison that will cause the body to become diseased.

This illustration reveals what has happened to our present world. From the time when sin entered into the world through the transgression of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3, their descendants have been born into an environment of wrongdoing. The stigma of sin has been indelibly imprinted upon the human race. Since then, the carnal tendencies of humans have been to REJECT the life that Almighty Yahweh, our Heavenly Father, as outlined for His human creation in His Word. On the other hand, the one who seeks to live the life of humble obedience to Almighty Yahweh by living in harmony with His Word will receive rich blessings. Considering the benefits that we receive when we do what is right, you would think that everyone would be eager to live in harmony with the Word of Yahweh and turn from a life of disobedience. Regrettably, however, this is not the case. It seems that mankind explores ways to circumvent obedience to the Heavenly Father and His way of life. How about you? Do you do

the same?

#### **Blessings for Obedience**

Two of the most remarkable passages of Scripture are found in Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy, 28. These two passages set forth promised blessings for keeping the commandments of Yahweh, along with the curses, or punishments. for disobedience. In these two chapters, Almighty Yahweh has brought us to a decision pointthe fork in the road of life. He is showing us the destination to which obeying His commandments will lead us, as we look down that pathway and see the Kingdom of Yahweh. The other road is also exposed to our view, and this is a road that will lead to judgment and eternal death in the Lake of Fire. Here we may observe that the principle of "for every action there is a reaction" can also be proven in the inspired Scriptures.

"And it shall come to pass, if you shall LISTEN DILI-GENTLY to the voice of Yahweh your Elohim, to observe to DO ALL HIS COMMANDMENTS which I command you this day, that Yahweh your Elohim will set you on high above all the nations of the earth: and all

these BLESSINGS shall come upon you, and overtake you, if you shall listen to the voice of Yahweh your Elohim. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the fruit of your ground, the fruit of your beasts, the increase of your cattle, and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading trough. Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.

"Yahweh will cause your enemies that rise up against you to be defeated before you: they shall come out against you one way, and shall flee before you seven ways. Yahweh will **COMMAND THE BLESSING** upon you in your barns, and in all that you put your hand to; and HE WILL BLESS YOU in the land which Yahweh vour Elohim is giving you. Yahweh will establish you for a HOLY **PEOPLE** to himself, as he has sworn to you; IF YOU SHALL **KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS** of Yahweh your Elohim, and walk in his ways. And all the peoples of the earth shall see



that you are called by the name of Yahweh; and they shall be afraid of you. And Yahweh will make you plenteous for good, in the fruit of your body, and in the fruit of your cattle, and in the fruit of your ground, in the land which Yahweh swore to your fathers to give you. Yahweh will open to you his good treasure the heavens, to give the rain of your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand: and you shall lend to many nations, and you shall not borrow. And Yahweh will make you the head, and not the tail; and you shall be above only, and you shall not be beneath; if you shall LISTEN TO THE COMMANDMENTS of Yahweh your Elohim, which I command you this day, to observe and to do them, and shall NOT TURN ASIDE from any of the words which I command you this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other elohim to serve them." (Deuteronomy 28:1-14).

Almighty Yahweh wishes us to know that, if we TAKE CONTROL OF OUR LIFE AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE BIBLE, we will come under the shelter of His protection during the forthcoming Tribulation. "He that dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of Yahweh, He is my refuge and my fortress; mv Elohim. in whom I trust. For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings shall you take refuge: His truth is a shield and a buckler. 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 noonday. A thousand shall fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but IT SHALL NOT COME NEAR YOU." (Psalm 91:1-7).

The signs of the times indicate to the enlightened believer—who is under the guidance of the Holy Spirit —that the troubling events of this era are a fulfillment of Bible prophecy. These prophetic trends reveal to the Bible student that the last days are upon us! Knowledge is being increased. Are you taking advantage of this increased knowledge by gaining a good understanding of the Bible message, or are you rejecting it with little contemplation? **"But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and**  seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.... And he said, Go your way, Daniel; for the words are shut up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall purify themselves, and make themselves white, and be refined; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but they that are wise shall understand." (Daniel 12:4, 9-10).

Can you see the blessings that you are missing when you live a worldly life, apart from our Heavenly Father? If there is doubt within your heart concerning the faithfulness of these promises, we can supply you with many witnesses that will testify to the goodness of Almighty Yahweh. Do you have faith to accept them, as did the men of Faith that are listed in Hebrews 11? "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen. For in it the elders had witness borne to them. By faith we understand that the worlds have been framed by the word of Yahweh, so that what is seen has not been made out of things which appear. By faith Abel offered to Yahweh a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he had witness borne to him that he was righteous, Yahweh bearing witness in respect of his gifts: and through it he being dead vet speaks. By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see the death; and he was not found, because Elohim translated him: for he has had witness borne to him that before his translation he had been well-pleasing to Elohim: and without faith it is impossible to be well-pleasing; for he that comes to Yahweh

#### MUST BELIEVE that he is, and that he is a REWARDER of them that SEEK after him." (Hebrews 11:1-6).

The evidence of the goodness of Almighty Yahweh is all around us. He will bless us when we obey His commandments, and He already has! Our benevolent Heavenly Father has placed us within this pleasant earthly environment to enjoy its abundant goodness. He has given us life, health, and the fruit of the earth. He has asked for so little in return. He wishes to have our respect and reverence as our spiritual Father. Look closely at your personal life today. What more could we ask from this life? Don't you enjoy many things which your forefathers didn't have? After we have received these things, we don't seem to appreciate them, however. Do you return thanks each day to Almighty Yahweh for all of His blessings?

#### Disobedience is Personal Greed

Almighty Yahweh causes His blessings to fall upon the just and the unjust alike. He sends sunshine and rain upon the earth. "That you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven: for he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust." (Matthew 5:45). Rather than obeying Almighty Yahweh because of these blessings, the heart of worldly people continues to rebel against Yahweh's commandments. Satan influences the hearts and minds of those who are not totally submitted to the Will of our Heavenly Father. THEY DO NOT LOVE Yahweh as they should. They follow Satan and his temptations, because their minds are filled with GREED AND LUST to acquire things for themselves which they should not have. Their reasoning is that since they cannot SEE Almighty Yahweh, then they really cannot be assured that there IS an Almighty! Since the existence of an Almighty is suspect, they assert, should we have to OBEY His commandments? Such reasoning takes them in the direction of DOING AWAY with the Law of Yahweh. Undoubtedly, you have heard such reasoning throughout the years. This teaching is rejected by the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh, because it is UNSCRIPTURAL. IT IS FROM SATAN THE ADVERSARY.

Greed and avarice are caused by lust, when the heart of man begins to dwell upon getting something that he is NOT ALLOWED have. "For all that is in the world, the LUST OF THE FLESH and the LUST OF THE FLESH and the vainglory of life, is NOT OF THE FATHER, but is of the world. And the world passes away, and the lust of it: but HE THAT DOES THE WILL OF YAHWEH remains forever." (1 John 2:16-17).

Jacob pinpointed the root of **GREED AND LUST** with perfect accuracy in the fourth chapter of his epistle. "From where come wars and from where come fightings among you? Come they not from here, even from *vour pleasures that war in vour* members? You LUST, and have not: you kill, and COVET, and cannot obtain: you fight and war; you have not, because vou ask not. You ask, and receive not, because you ask amiss, that you may SPEND IT IN YOUR PLEASURES." (Jacob 4:1-3). How perfectly clear! Jacob said that the illegal desire to have leads to wars, fightings, and all kinds of sin. The reason for this desire is to gratify SELF, to get pleasure, and satisfy the



Woe to them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! ISAIAH 5:20

carnal nature. The very basic root behind sin is self-gratification. You can now see the very root source of all of the problems of the world—EGO!

Yahshua the Messiah, during His Ministry, declared this truth."You are of your father the devil, and the LUSTS of your father it is your will to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and stands not in the truth, because THERE IS NO TRUTH IN HIM. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a LIAR, and the father of it." (John 8:44).

#### **Blessings or Curses?**

The blessings and the curses of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 reveal that the trends in the world today are leading to the fulfillment of these prophetic curses and punishments. Remember, we have learned that DISOBE-DIENCE to the commandments of Yahweh brings about these CURSES. Disobedience is sin. "Evervone that commits sin also transgresses the law: for sin is the transgression of the law." (1 John 3:4). WE ARE GETTING CLOSE TO THE END OF THE AGE! News events point toward the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. The signs of a growing storm are all around us. Like so many people who get caught in a sudden rain shower—even though they see the storm approaching—THEY DO NOT HEED THE WARNING. The wind is rising and the sky is darkening—can you see this impending disaster that is imminent? When it strikes, the storm will be severe. Have you prepared your spiritual ark of safety?

"But it shall come to pass, if you will not listen to the voice of Yahweh your Elohim, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command you this day that all these curses shall come upon you, and overtake you. CURSEd shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the field. Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading-trough. Cursed shall be the fruit of your body, and the fruit of your ground, the increase of your cattle, and the young of your flock. Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when you go out. Yahweh will send upon you cursing, confusion, and rebuke, in all that you put your hand to do, until you be destroyed, and until you perish quickly; because of the EVIL of your doings, whereby you have FORSAKEN ME." (Deuteronomy 28:15-20).

#### **Protection for Obedience**

Almighty Yahweh promises protection to those who follow His directions. But we must not forget one vital factor, which is returning the small portion of our increase back to Almighty Yahweh in the form of our tithes. "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and prove me now with this, says Yahweh of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast its fruit before the time in the field, says Yahweh of hosts. And all nations shall call you happy; for you shall be a delightful land, says Yahweh of hosts." (Malachi 3:10-12). Our great nation has robbed Almighty Yahweh, and He has punished us with a curse. The devourer is eating away at our prosperity. The rapid rise in inflation has put many people and businesses at the brink of bankruptcy. Where will it end? UNLESS THESE DAYS SHOULD BE SHORTENED. IT WILL END IN OUR DEMISE! You have read the warnings. The handwriting is on the wall!

We are on a collision course with history. But the prophet Joel ends his prophecy with an encouraging note, which is the identical message that we are proclaiming today. The message that we preach is the Kingdom of Yahweh ruling on this earth. When this era arrives, Almighty Yahweh's Laws will be obeyed. The human race will prosper through the BLESS-INGS poured out from on High, rather than a CURSE that we

are seeing today because of sin. "Fear not, O land, be glad and rejoice: for Yahweh has done great things. Be not afraid, you beasts of the field; for the pastures of the wilderness spring, for the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and the vine yield their strength. Be glad then, you children of Zion, and **REJOICE IN YAHWEH your** Elohim; for he gives you the former rain in just measure, and he causes to come down for you the rain, the former rain and the latter rain, in the first month. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with new wine and oil. And I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmer-worm, my great army which I sent among you. And you shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and shall praise the name of Yahweh your Elohim, that has dealt wondrously with you; and my people shall never be put to shame. And you shall know that I am in the middle of Israel, and that I am Yahweh your Elohim, and there is no one else; and my people shall never be put to shame." (Joel 2:21-27).

How wonderful to know that Almighty Yahweh will not retain His anger forever! After He has punished people for their sins, there will be a time of blessing for those OBEDIENT ones who remain. In the Kingdom of Yahweh, ALL will be keeping the Law of Yahweh—and all will receive a BLESSING.

#### The Choice Is Yours

Have you become convinced of the truthfulness of the Bible through these trends in the fulfillment of Bible prophecy? Are you

now MOTIVATED to become more **DEDICATED** to Bible Truth? The course ahead is clear-we must choose the PATH OF LIFE, one that follows the commandments of Yahweh. Rejection of these principles of Yahweh's commandments will only cause the world to sink ever deeper into the quagmire of sin. This will hasten the day when our Heavenly Father will pour out judgment upon this world—the punishment that it justifiably deserves for the sins that it has committed. We hope that the Word of Almighty Yahweh, our Heavenly Father, will spur you to greater obedience to Him.

#### The Wonderful Kingdom of Yahweh

Only those who are obedient will be granted entrance into the Kingdom of Yahweh. Only those who overcome sin will inherit the Kingdom. "He that overcomes shall inherit these things; and I will be his El, and he shall be my son. But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone; which is the second death." (Revelation 21:7-8).

Have you considered the importance of keeping the commandments of Yahweh? Only those who live the Kingdom Way of Life will be allowed into the holy city, "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything unclean, or he that makes an abomination and a lie: but only they that are written in the Lamb's book of life." (Revelation 21:27).

"And he says to me, Seal not up the words of the prophecy of this book; for the time is at

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# **Obedience**

In each election cycle, we are once more bombarded with comments on the issue of law and order in our land. While candidates from both political parties are lashing out at the rise in violence in the United States in recent years—lamenting the astronomical acceleration in lawlessness—it would appear that none of the candidates can force himself to take the initiative to propose, and then impose, firm measures against the violence taking place.

The spiraling crime rates are a prime example. Have you ever looked the issue squarely in the face and considered what could be the underlying reason behind this increase in lawlessness in our country in recent years? Foremost in your mind to reply to this question might arise answers such as too few policemen, congested court schedules, lenient judges, insufficiently brief sentences. Amusingly, political candidates suggest that more policemen should be trained and activated as law enforcers and that they should be given better equipment; while, conversely, in a time of crisis, public officials always seem to restrict the police from using that better equipment! Perhaps it is actually the fault of the general public for not insisting that LAWS BE STRICTLY ENFORCED WITH NO FAVORITISM, because, in the final analysis, it is the public who elects the officials. Paradoxically, the public wishes to have strict law enforcement for the other

The law of 6 Uphweh is perfect, restoring the soul: the testimony of Alahweh is sure, making wise the simple. he precepts of 6 Vahweh are right, rejoicing the heart: The commandment of 6 Upahweh is pure, enlightening the eyes. he fear of Mahweh is clean, enduring for ever: he ordinances of 6 Jahweh are true, and righteous altogether. PSALM 19:7-9

fellow, while, simultaneously, they demand leniency from the system for themselves personally. How can law enforcement agencies hew a straight and firm line under such trying circumstances? The result is the current lawless attitude in the public sector.

Basically, it is **human nature** which is responsible for the ES-CALATION OF LAWLESSNESS. This elusive human factor is traceable directly to the rebellion of the Adamic race against the Laws of Almighty Yahweh, the Heavenly Father. I would like to take you into the Scriptures and bring to your attention some of the primary reasons why lawlessness exists in the world today and what could be done to remedy the situation.

Immediately, when a minister raises the question of lawful living, meaning obedience to the Laws of Almighty Yahweh, our Heavenly Father, as found in the Bible, objection enters the mind of the average listener. For centuries, the ch-rches of nominal Chr-stianity have taught that the Law of Yahweh was done away with (annulled) when the Savior died upon the tree of Calvary. This is erroneous, however, since we read in numerous passages in the Bible that the Law of Yahweh would continue, or endure, forever. While public officials offer lip service to the keeping of the scriptural commandments, paradoxically they, themselves, often do not attempt to live personal lives of obedience to a high standard of morality. Furthermore, over the years, human attitudes have engendered animosity against the Bible, which certainly is regrettable.

Ministers of nominal religion have taught that they have the Holy Spirit of the Messiah which He left with His Assembly upon His ascension. However, has vour ch-rch ever informed vou concerning the prerequisite for receiving the Holy Spirit? First, of course, is repentance, and, then, baptism. However, Acts 5:32 informs us that the Holy Spirit is only given to those who obey the Almighty, which means keeping His commandments. The commandments include the use of the Sacred Name of the Heavenly Father; they include obedience to the Sabbath commandment, which is so neglected today; they even teach us respect for older people.

For example, did you know that there is a commandment in the Bible which instructs children to stand when their elders enter a room? It is found in Leviticus 19:32. "You shall rise up before the gray head, and honor the face of the old man, and you shall fear your Elohim: I am Yahweh." Incidentally, we have articles on the subject of baptism and to answer the question, "What is the Biblical Definition of Sin?" You may obtain these articles free of charge by writing to our address: **The Sacred Name Broadcast**, PO Box C, Bethel, PA 19507. I know that you will find these articles most informative.

A tremendously informative Scripture may be found in Isaiah 51:6-8. This passage contrasts the people of Yahweh, those who are keeping His Laws, with the wicked-those who are disobedient to Him. "Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath; for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall grow old like a garment; and they that dwell in it shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be forever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.

"Listen to me, you that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear not the reproach of men, neither be dismayed at their revilings. For the moth shall eat them up like a garment, and the worm shall eat them like wool; but my righteousness shall be forever, and my salvation to all generations." How truly enlightening! Have you never read in the Bible that the Law of Yahweh was to endure forever? In reality, this thought may be found in a number of places in the Bible, especially in passages like Psalm 119, which is a passage lauding the keeping of the Law of Yahweh. (The author calls Psalm 119 and Psalm 19, the two Great Law Psalms.)

While we realize that the Law of Yahweh will endure forever, the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh approach the keeping of the Law from a different perspective than do most commandment-keeping groups. Unless someone has been truly converted—experiencing a total change Now, if the Law of Yahweh is perfect, how can we improve upon it, or why should it be done away with at any time in history?

This perfection will work miracles if we apply it to our hearts, which will lead to the converting, or the returning of the soul.

of his spiritual perception—the keeping of the Law will eventually become a burden to him. In the Assemblies of Yahweh, we sincerely desire to know what the Heavenly Father wishes us to do to find life everlasting, and we serve Almighty Yahweh joyfully. Our basic point of motivation in the Scriptures would be found in Psalm 40:7-8, which is quoted in Hebrews chapter 10. "Then I said. Lo, I have come; In the roll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do your will, O my Elohim: Yes, your law is within my heart."

For those people who truly desire to serve the Heavenly Father, the Law of Yahweh will be within their heart, close to their seat of affection. How often you may find this intrinsic message of the Scriptures taught by the prophets and the Messiah when He was here on this earth! When someone delights to do the Will of Yahweh, he will find ways to keep the commandments, rather than looking for "loopholes" to circumvent obedience. The entire outlook of the people will be altered, and the Holy Spirit will truly give us the fruits which are mentioned in Galatians chapter 5.

To understand more completely the wonderful lessons which we may find in the keeping of the Law of Yahweh, let us turn to Psalm 19, and we will begin reading with verse 7. Notice what the Law of Yahweh will do. "The law of Yahweh is perfect, restoring the soul...." Now, if the Law of Yahweh is perfect, how can we improve upon it, or why should it be done away with at any time in history? This perfection will work miracles if we apply it to our hearts, which will lead to the converting, or the returning, of the soul. Can there be conversion without comparing our lives to the life of Yahweh and Yahshua, His Son, which He has given to us in His Law?

"The testimony of Yahweh is sure, making wise the simple." This Law of Yahweh, because it deals essentially in certainties, or absolutes, will give the people of Yahweh an education. It will teach you the way of Yahweh. Verse 8, "The precepts of Yahweh are right, rejoicing the heart...." The word *right* in this clause means righteous, or just and equitable. This righteous Law will indeed make you happy. It will give you a happy, fruitful life. "The commandment of Yahweh is pure, enlightening the eyes." The commandments of

Yahweh, when they are obeyed, will purify your life and bring it into harmony with the Will of the Heavenly Father. This purification will open your eyes to more truth than you have ever been able to comprehend before. Obedience to the commandments of Yahweh will throw light on many different Bible doctrines that have previously been obscure to you.

Verse 9a, "The fear of Yahweh is clean, enduring for ever...." We should read this sentence as, "The reverence of Yahweh is cleansing, enduring forever." This means that when we revere Yahweh and keep His commandments, we will be cleansed from sin, and, if we remain in such humble submission to Him, we shall be cleansed from sin forever. Again note that the Law of Yahweh is forever. Verse 9b-10, "The ordinances of Yahweh are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the droppings of the honeycomb." Do you perceive the kind of different attitude that will bring about true conversion? When we desire to obey Yahweh and keep His commandments above all things, we will find that obedience is sweeter than the most delectable delicacy (honey), and we will agree to obey even if it might mean losing some of this world's prestige and material things.

Verse 11a, "Moreover by them is your servant warned...." We cannot know when we are straying from Yahweh, unless we have His Law in our hearts to warn and direct us as a road sign, or policeman, would do. "In keeping them there is great reward." What greater reward could we receive for keeping the commandments of Yahweh than everlasting life, when the New Covenant is universally established at the return of the Messiah to set up His Kingdom on this earth? Verse 12, "Who can discern his errors? Clear me from hidden faults." The answer to the question is that no one can truly comprehend how he could be drifting away from the Heavenly Father, unless he has been instructed in the Law of Yahweh concerning His Will. Also, we should apply the Law to our hearts so that we will entertain no secret thoughts of disobedience. This will necessitate perfect conversion.

Verse 13, "Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me: Then shall *I be upright....*" When the practice of sin is premeditated, the guilty person will actually be committing the unpardonable sin. When you know that a behavioral act is wrong to practice, but do it anyway simply because of expediency, there is no further sacrifice for sin, as we read in Hebrews 10:26-31. "And I shall be clear from great transgression." This great transgression is, in reality, the mark of the Beast at the end of the age.

Verse 14, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Yahweh, my rock, and my redeemer." This passage covers a tremendous amount of territory. Can you truly perceive from this latter part of Psalm 19 how important it is to obey Almighty Yahweh and keep His Laws? In reality, this is the central message of the Bible. Sin is the transgression of the Law (1 John 3:4). The wages of sin is DEATH, but the gift of Yahweh (for obedience) is eternal life through Yahshua the Messiah,  $\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{B}}}$ our Master (Romans 6:23).



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seen in the recent past another movement that has risen to divert some of those people who had begun to enter into the Covenant relationship with the Almighty, urging them to return to nominal Chr-stian ways. It is deplorable to see people, once so dedicated in keeping the commandments of Yahweh, turn aside and go in an opposite direction. They have made a full circle, doing exactly what the apostles and prophets taught against.

The basic truths of sound doctrine emphasize the fact that when one sins, he is committing transgression of Yahweh's **Law**. As a result, he is subject to incurring the judgment and wrath of the Most High. If we can totally grasp, without reservation, the scriptural definition of sin (transgression or breaking Yahweh's Laws), then any no-Law teaching will be clearly manifested to all who examine it carefully. Yahweh abhors sin! He hates it! Man is sinful and disobedient to the commandments of Yahweh. This incurs death to the offender. Yahshua the Messiah came as visible evidence of grace, giving Himself by shedding His blood to cleanse sinners from their unrighteousness. Yahweh did not give us grace to do away with His Laws, but to assist in times of need to keep it.

Do you have a correct understanding of the Bible message? May we assist you to achieve a better understanding?  $s_{NB}$ 



What must I do to be saved? This is a question which concerns everyone, but few people seem willing to examine thoroughly to determine and see what the Bible teaches on the subject. Salvation, to most people, means to go to heaven when you die. It means going to ch-rch a few times during the year, such as Christmas and Easter, or having the pastor visit you when you are sick. It may mean a ch-rch wedding or a ch-rch camp for your children. However, people rarely open their Bibles to search for the meaning of this term. Let us do some searching in the Scriptures to learn whether we can arrive at some positive knowledge where this term is concerned.

One evening, during an evangelistic meeting, a young man in the crowd begins to develop feelings of conviction. Sitting in the audience, he suddenly feels very sorry for his present life, living in sin, and, as the minister's words of warning fall upon his ears, he determines to do better. Then there is an altar call by the minister, and he feels he must act. He rises from his seat and walks hurriedly down the aisle to where the preacher stands at the front of the building. He shakes the preacher's hand and perhaps kneels for a while at the altar praying to the Heavenly Father. He is then informed that he is saved, and that all is well with his soul. But—is it? Is this the way to salvation?

Many readers of The Sacred Name Broadcaster may believe this type of salvation fervently, but, in reality, it is not scriptural. No one is saved at the moment when he becomes convicted of his past life and begins to live for the Savior. Plainly, your Bible says, **"But HE THAT ENDURES TO** THE END. THE SAME SHALL BE SAVED." Matthew 24:13. Therefore, you are not saved until the end of the age, or the end of your life, no matter how many inspiring sermons you may hear which tell you some other plan of salvation.

Additionally, we find in Romans 5:9-10, "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, shall we be saved from the wrath of Elohim through him. For if, by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

while we were enemies, we were reconciled to Yahweh through the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, shall we be saved by his life." Now notice carefully, in this passage we encounter the thought that we shall be saved from wrath through the Messiah. This refers definitely to the judgment of Yahweh, which is predicted to be poured out upon this earth during the last seven plagues which will climax the tribulation. See Revelation 16. Therefore, through a righteous life, we shall find protection through the Messiah from these last plagues, but, in addition, we shall be called to meet Him in the air when He returns.

Suppose, however, that a person dies holding a faith in the Messiah within his heart. We are assured that the person will not be consigned to the lake of fire, which would be symbolic of the wrath of Yahweh; conversely, he would be called up in the resurrection to meet Yahshua the Savior in the air when He returns to gather His people and to establish Yahweh's Kingdom on this earth. As a consequence, we must, in each instance, endure to the end to be saved, meaning that we must live our lives in harmony with the Word of Yahweh, either until our death, or until the Second Coming of the Messiah, if we wish to be saved. Now, we can candidly perceive how a glaring inconsistency, which is contrary to the teaching of the inspired Scriptures, has developed in the doctrines of nominal Chr-stianity.

Hostility against the commandments of the inspired Scriptures appears to be latent in the minds of people who have been reared in nominal Chr-stianity. In particular, the one commandment that is the most despised seems to be the fourth one, which legislates one day each week to keep holy for the worship of Almighty Yahweh. When one questions which day to keep holy, the usual rejoinder is that the Sabbath is for the Jews; but, this is not at all what our Bible teaches. Mark 2:27 indicates that the Sabbath was made for MAN. and not one word is uttered about it being only for the Jews.

Yahshua our Messiah explained in John 4:22, when He spoke to the Samaritan woman, "You worship that which you know not: we worship that which we know; for salvation is from the Jews." Strangely, then, theologians and ministers have roamed far afield in their interpretation of the Scriptures. They have obviously lost the Semitic flavor of the original Scriptures and of the True Worship by rejecting the seventh-day Sabbath for the first day of the week.

Where should the Bible student go to find sound doctrine, anyway? Basically, the Old Testament is the exclusive source of Truth, and the New Testament complements the Old. Surely, the entire Bible teaches the same thing, and both sections of the Bible were Semitic in origin. Yahshua the Messiah was descended from the family of David, and He was of the tribe of Judah. "What advantage then, does the Jew have? Or what is the profit of circumcision? Much every way: first of all, that they were entrusted with the oracles of Yahweh." Romans 3:1-2. The Apostle Paul confirms that the Words of Yahweh were committed to the Jews for safekeeping and those Words are found originally in the Old Testament.

For some additional thoughts to further our understanding of this subject of salvation, let us turn to Romans chapter 1, where we shall read from verses 16-18, "For I am not ashamed of the good tidings: for it is the power of Yahweh for salvation to evervone that believes: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For in this a righteousness to Yahweh is revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, But the righteous shall live by faith. For the wrath of Yahweh is revealed from heaven against all lawlessness and unrighteousness of men, who hinder the truth in unrighteousness."

While the Authorized Version employs "g-spel," more modern versions render the Greek term euangellion as good tidings, or good news. In reading this passage from the King James Version, I substituted the more correct translation "good tidings" for the archaic and incorrect term "g-spel." The Good News of the Messiah is the power of Yahweh unto salvation, which means that the message brought by the Messiah, faith in Him and His atonement sacrifice, will provide the power to save you. However, there is a requirement and that is: we must live in righteousness. Righteousness is not some vague, intangible concept, but it is the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh. This definition may be determined from Deuteronomy 6:25 and Psalm 119:172.

The wrath of Almighty Yahweh will be revealed against those people living in impiety and unrighteousness, who do not teach the heaven-sent message of the Truth from Yahweh. How many ministers today will tell you that the Messiah taught the keeping of the Law of Yahweh in Matthew 5:17-20? He certainly did! The average ch-rch member has learned that the keeping of the commandments is **Judaizing**, and that the Law of Yahweh comprised a voke of bondage around the people's necks. Such assertions are absolutely unscriptural.

Those are the people who hold the Truth of Yahweh in unrighteousness. The Law of Yahweh was given for our own good. It was established for all time and will be kept throughout the earth in the Kingdom of Yahweh, as we may learn in such places as Isaiah chapters 65-66. Salvation, then, may be realized through faith in the blood of the Messiah and His righteous life, which will cleanse us from all our sins. Just remember, additionally, that the Bible defines sin as the transgression of the Law of Yahweh. Yahshua the Messiah gave Himself to cleanse us from our sins; but, after we have accepted that cleansing, we must prove ourselves worthy of the Messiah's sacrifice by living righteously, imitating Yahshua in obedience to the Law of Yahweh. No disobedient child will be accepted into the Kingdom of Yahweh. See Ezekiel 18:4 and 20.

Since we are seeking for a sound understanding of the term

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Yahshua.

salvation, let us turn to Acts 4:12. Notice carefully the application which is made here and the association between salvation and the Name of the Messiah. "And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, in which we must be saved." Who says that a name is unimportant, or inessential, in our quest for salvation? If it was, we would hardly encounter such Scriptures as this! The Messiah's Name, Yahshua, means Yahweh is salvation. In this Name, you find portrayed the One who gives the gift of salvation, or everlasting life, in the Kingdom of Yahweh, John 3:17. Almighty Yahweh sent His Son into the world so that the world, through Him, might be saved. "For Yahweh so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes on him should not perish, but have eternal life. For Yahweh sent not the Son into the world to judge the world; but that the world should be saved through him." (John 3:16-17).

The Name of the Almighty Heavenly Father is **YAHWEH**. In the Hebrew language, every name has a meaning, and the meaning of the Almighty's Name is eternal, endless, everlasting. When we call upon the Name which means everlasting life, we will receive it from the One who possesses it and is able to convey it to His people. The Messiah came in His Father's Name, speaking to the human race on His Father's behalf. He was called by the Name of the Father, as are all True Worshipers. You may find this confirmed by reading Ephesians 3:14-15.

The apex in names referring to salvation can only be found in the Name of **YAHSHUA**. Since there is no greater Mighty One than Yahweh alone, He created the plan to offer salvation to the world through Yahshua, His Son. Yahweh is our Mighty One, and He will save His faithful True Worshipers; this is the exact message which was brought to this earth by the Messiah, the Redeemer of Israel.

In writing to the Corinthian brethren, we find in 2 Corinthians 6:1-2, "And working together with him we entreat also that you receive not the grace of Yahweh in vain (for he says, At an acceptable time I listened to you, And in a day of salvation did I help you: behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is a day of salva*tion*)." Now is the accepted time for you to come to a knowledge of salvation, the best time for you to begin your journey toward the Kingdom of Yahweh. Today is a day of salvation for many people who have not heard of the Truth of Yahweh, His saving Name, His righteous Law, His Covenant with His people. For you, the call comes ringing out today, so don't turn away your ear. Begin to study and heed the doctrines of the Scriptures. Call upon the Name of Yahshua the Messiah, and you SNB will be saved!

#### PROPHETIC TRENDS REAPING THE WHIRLWIND

#### Continued from page 14.

hand. He that is unrighteous, let him do unrighteousness still: and he that is filthy, let him be made filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him do righteousness still: and he that is holy, let him be made holy still. Behold, I come quickly: and my reward is with me, to render to each man according as his work is. I am the Aleph and the Tau, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are they that do his commandments that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, and the sorcerers. and the fornicators, and the murderers, and the idolaters, and everyone that loves and makes a lie." (Revelation 22:10-15).

Will you choose the correct path in life—the narrow way that leads to life everlasting in Yahweh's Kingdom? The brethren of the Assemblies of Yahweh are working diligently to enter in to that glorious age. How about you? As Yahshua the Messiah gathers His lost sheep, will you hear His voice and heed His call? Keep your eyes firmly fixed upon the Kingdom of Yahweh! Come out of the Babylon now, because the hour of His judgment has come. Come out of the world and become a member of the spiritual family of Yahweh, our Heavenly Father. This action will assure you a place in Yahweh's everlasting Kingdom. SNR

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