



THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

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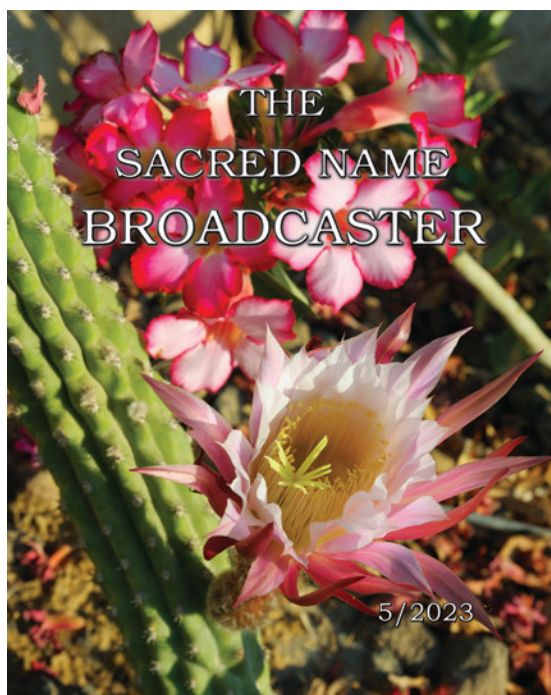
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Yahshua the Messiah reminded us that we should not be anxious for our daily sustenance. Rather, we must serve Yahweh and trust in Him for our daily needs. **"And why are you anxious concerning raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: yet I say to you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if Elohim does so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?"** (Matthew 6:28-30).

Have you made the Kingdom of Yahweh your goal in life? **"But seek you first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you."** (Matthew 6:33).

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Flesh fit for Food

When the True Worshiper first learns that Almighty Yahweh has prohibited in His Word the eating of certain kinds of flesh commonly consumed, the first reaction is usually one of disbelief. Has the Almighty prohibited the use of all meat in our diets? Usually, one who is unconverted will have been eating a great deal of pork, and, when we examine the contents of many prepared meats, we

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find that they contain pork. Most bakery products sold in the north contain some animal fat, which is usually lard.

However, Almighty Yahweh has legislated in His Word that His people can indeed eat meat, and

these commandments are found in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14. When a person reads the long list of animals, birds, and fish that are approved for food in the inspired Scriptures, he immediately realizes that there are many creatures whose flesh can be eaten. This article will devote itself to giving a list of those animals, birds, and fish that Almighty Yahweh has declared to be safe to eat. It will also

examine some reasons for prohibitions against some of the creatures commonly eaten that are forbidden for human consumption. It will set forth reasons why animals, which are satisfactory for human use, are so specified by our Heavenly Father.

It should be initially established that we eat only the creatures that Almighty Yahweh has specified in His commandments, because we wish to be obedient to His Word. Yahweh has created us to be the Temple of His Holy Spirit. We should follow His directions, because we wish the Holy Spirit to remain in us, and, therefore, we cleanse His Temple in anticipation of receiving His guiding presence. We obey these commandments, not because we are legalists, but because we love Him. When we were deep in sin and spiritually dead because of unrighteousness, Yahweh looked down upon our shameful condition, and He sent the Messiah to rescue us by becoming our substitute sacrifice. Subsequently, because of all He did for us, we love Him so much that we wish to do all in our power to please Him.

There is no burden in obeying Yahweh with this attitude, because we desire to show our love to Him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Can you see the difference between keeping the Law of Yahweh spiritually and trying to obey it only in a fleshly, physical manner? This is where the New Covenant is so much more superior to the Old Covenant. There is no legalism—there is no coercion—to keep the Law of Yahweh. It is a pleasure

to do so, because we realize that the Law of Yahweh reveals His Love for us. He has watched over us as a thoughtful parent would wish to protect a beloved child.



Clean Animals

If you have never had the opportunity to read a modern version that lists the animals which Yahweh has approved for human food, we shall utilize the **New English Bible** translation. We shall first quote Leviticus 11:2-3. ***“Speak to the children of Israel, saying, These are the living things which you may eat among all the beasts that are on the earth. Whatever has a split hoof completely divided, and chews the cud, among the beasts, that may you eat.”*** Why, that leaves us an excellent variety of animals to use for food, doesn’t it? The believer is not so restricted in a choice of meat-producing animals that he must have a monotonous diet. These animals are listed in Deuteronomy 14:3-6. ***“You shall not eat any abominable thing. These are the beasts which you may eat: the ox, the sheep, and the goat, the hart, and the gazelle, and the roebuck, and the***

wild goat, and the pygarg, and the antelope, and the chamois. And every beast that has a split hoof divided in two, and chews the cud, among the beasts, that you may eat.”

Consequently, we can see that Almighty Yahweh has given us examples of the four-footed animals that we may use for food. We can use beef, veal, lamb, mutton, and venison. The animals commonly falling into this category are the bovine (cattle) family, sheep, goats, deer, buffalo, mountain

goats and sheep, antelope, moose, caribou, bison, gazelle, and elk. That is quite a selection, and we have not completely exhausted the list. Looking over the list of animals, it is apparent that there should be no difficulty in selecting a variety of meat that is approved by our Heavenly Father. Remember, we have a wide latitude in selecting four-footed animals. We can consume flesh from any animal that has BOTH split hooves and chews the cud.

Why has Almighty Yahweh prohibited the use of such animals as swine, camels, bear, rabbits, woodchucks, armadillos, squirrels, and horses? The reason is that they have only one digestive system which processes the food they eat. This is insufficient refinement of the food to eliminate harmful ingredients that may be ingested by the animal. Clean animals have a multi-faceted stomach that thoroughly refines anything eaten. Some of the unclean animals are predators, and they eat carrion. Eating their flesh is actually very dangerous, since it is possible to

DO NOT TOUCH!

“Of their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch; they are unclean to you.”

(LEVITICUS 11:8)

die from diseases such as trichinosis that you can contract from eating their flesh.

Yahweh has loved His human creation so much that He warned them specifically NOT to eat animals unfit for food. He said, ***“Nevertheless these you shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that have a split hoof completely divided....”*** (Deuteronomy 14:7). Yahweh has not spoken in nebulous, vague, or indecisive language. His commandment is plain and crystal clear. We obey Him, because He has shown His love for us by warning us against eating things that would be harmful to us. Do you perceive how the Scripture in 1 John 4:19 is fulfilled in this Law? ***“We love, because he first loved us.”*** Yahweh has admonished us to avoid contact with these animals and not even to touch their dead carcasses, Deuteronomy 14:8.



Let us move along and examine the marine and fresh water creatures that may be eaten. Our Heavenly Father has not specifically named any of the multitude of fish that can be eaten other than to say, ***“These you may eat***

of all that are in the waters: whatever has fins and scales you may eat; and whatever does not have fins and scales you shall not eat; it is unclean to you....” (Deuteronomy 14:9-10).

Consequently, we must examine each water creature to see if it meets the two-point criteria established by Yahweh for use as human food. Fish such as bass, trout, salmon, shad, anchovies, bluegills, bluefish, bonito, carp, chubs, cod, crappies, flounder, haddock, halibut, herring, mackerel, muskellunge, perch, pickerel, pike, pollack, porgy, sardine, sole, sea bass, sea perch, sea trout, suckers, and tuna, all bear the biblical characteristics of clean fish. These are the most common fish that are used for food and have both fins and scales. If you have any doubts, be certain to examine the fish before you buy it, or eat it, for food. Usually, when you are in the seafood department of a supermarket, the counter man can tell you something about the fish if it has already been cleaned and prepared for cooking. Catfish is becoming a common sight in grocery stores, but it is not a scripturally clean fish and should be avoided! It is becoming common, because it is being raised in controlled conditions for sale as food. Whitefish is shark meat. It should be avoided also. Swordfish is also a prohibited sea creature.

A word of warning to each True Worshiper: do not eat shellfish.

These water creatures have been proven to be carriers of the dreaded hepatitis virus. These creatures were never created to be eaten as food. They were created by Almighty Yahweh to absorb the pollution that might find its way into tributaries which flow into the ocean. Occasionally, we hear in the news that certain shellfish, clams, oysters, mussels, and scallops have been removed from the market and declared to be contaminated with the hepatitis virus by the Federal government. Don't take a chance with YOUR life! Obey the commandments of Yahweh and develop a strong, healthy body.

Several other forbidden creatures that are considered delicacies are shrimp, crabs, lobsters, and frogs. The author was once fishing from a pier at an ocean inlet, cleaning the fish as they were caught and dropping the offal into the water. Later, an elderly couple arrived and began to fish for crabs using bacon and chicken necks as bait. Striking up a conversation with them, it was learned that they complained about various illnesses they had, including cancer. They left the pier with a bushel of crabs which contained some of the most lethal flesh that could be ingested. The crabs they had caught had just feasted on fish viscera and other refuse that is generally washed into the inlet. Then people catch these creatures and eat them, in effect eating

garbage second hand. Is it puzzling to you why people get sick and fail to live out their allotted three score and ten years? Do you find it baffling why so many people develop cancer and die at a young age?



Clean Fowl

Concerning fowl that have the approval of the Heavenly Father to be used as food, we find the following legislation in Deuteronomy 14:11. ***“Of all clean birds you may eat.”*** In Leviticus 11:13-19, we read a list of the birds that can be eaten. ***“And these you shall have in abomination among the birds; they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination: the eagle, and the gier-eagle, and the black vulture, and the kite, and the falcon after its kind, every raven after its kind, and the ostrich, and the night-hawk, and the sea-mew, and the hawk after its kind, and the little owl, and the cormorant, and the great owl, and the horned owl, and the pelican, and the vulture, and the stork, the heron after its kind, and the hoopoe, and the bat.”*** Deuteronomy 14:11-18 reads similar to the previous passage from Leviticus 11.

It is obvious by scanning these lists that, once again, a pattern emerges. The forbidden birds are those which are predators and carrion eaters. They have a very poor digestive system that is not suitable for refining the food they eat, to the point where it will be

thoroughly cleansed for man's use.

Some of the birds that may be eaten are the chicken, turkey, goose, duck, dove, pigeon, grouse, sage hen, and quail. These birds are not predators, although most fowl will eat carrion if given the opportunity to do so.

Occasionally, we are questioned about this fact. Chickens will sometimes be given to cannibalism, and some people find this obnoxious. This usually occurs when they are confined in cramped quarters, so it is possible that the reason for this aberration in behavior is to make more room for themselves. Occasionally, a chicken will eat carrion if given the opportunity, and this is also objectionable to some people. The only solution here would be to make any such things inaccessible to their habitat. One must realize that although the bovine (cow) family has been declared by Almighty Yahweh to be approved for human food, a calving cow will often eat her own placenta after giving birth. A goat will eat many things that are not good for food, as you must be well aware, yet Yahweh has legislated goats to be clean creatures for food. Cattle will eat chicken manure if it is force fed to them, and some steer feeders have used this kind of obnoxious feed to save money. However, Almighty Yahweh has given His approval for the use of cattle flesh for human food. Animals should be cared for properly and given proper feed as Yahweh intended. We should do our best to discover from where the meat that we eat is obtained. This is difficult in our day and age, but it can be done. We should obtain meat from creatures that have been fed only the best possible feed so that their flesh will be just as pure as possible. It is best to seek out a supply of organically

produced food.

Admittedly, there are some reservations about eating ducks and geese. The Jews have declared them to be clean, because they bear the characteristics of clean fowl (to perch with three toes forward and one backward, while the predators which Yahweh has declared unclean perch with two toes forward and two backward). However, their flesh is overlaid with a generous layer of fat, and this alone is reason enough for rejecting them. Consequently, every man should be convinced in his own mind before eating them.



Clean Insects

Almighty Yahweh has also ruled regarding permission to use some insects as food, if someone has this kind of inclination. ***“You may eat every clean insect,”*** Yahweh says in Deuteronomy 14:19. Leviticus 11:20-23 amplifies this commandment by specifying certain of them by name. ***“All winged creeping things that go upon all fours are an abomination to you. Yet these may you eat of all winged creeping things that go on all fours, which have legs above their feet, with which to leap upon the earth; even these of them you may eat: the locust after its kind, the bald locust after its kind, the cricket after its kind, and the grasshopper after its kind. But all winged creeping things, which have four feet, are an abomination to you.”***

Therefore, some kinds of grasshoppers can be considered as clean

for food. (No, chocolate-covered ants are not clean!) Since there is presently an abundance of other food available for human consumption, it would hardly be necessary for us to eat insects, but one day the information could be useful in times of tribulation or persecution when living off the land; therefore, we should acquaint ourselves with the clean and unclean creatures that Yahweh has approved for our use. Most flying insects are unclean for use, such as flies, gnats, etc. These are often disease carriers and should be avoided. However, John ate locusts (Matthew 3:4), and we may also find it necessary to do so in times of trouble.

Reptiles

Just a word about reptiles: today, various kinds of reptile flesh is packaged and sold as delicacies. Almighty Yahweh has legislated against the use of such flesh, and we should heed His warning. Please see Leviticus 11:29-30 for the creatures that are prohibited. Just because people of the world eat turtle soup, rattlesnake meat, alligator meat, or some other such

flesh, Yahweh has not approved of their use, and we heed His Word as obedient children.

Should We Eat Flesh At All?

Occasionally, someone will take a strong stand against eating flesh as food. Especially in recent years, vegetarianism has become popular among the people of the world. When one views the way meat is handled in some instances, individuals have determined to avoid meat as food. However, we should pause and think for just a moment before making a rash decision to avoid eating all meat. The Israelites ate meat, as we can note from many passages in the Word of Yahweh, for instance Luke 15:23. The One called Yahweh, who became our Savior when manifested in human flesh, also ate meat. Please notice Genesis 18 and Luke 24:42-43. Yahshua the Messiah blessed the fishes on two occasions and gave them to the multitudes to eat, Matthew 14:19 and Matthew 15:36. In these last two passages, we find that Yahshua commanded

His disciples to give the flesh to the multitudes, and they ate. In the book of Exodus, ALMIGHTY YAHWEH COMMANDED ALL OF THE ISRAELITES TO EAT THE SLAIN BODY OF THE PASSOVER LAMB, Exodus 12:3-11. Had Israel disobeyed and not killed their individual lambs for each family, they would have died. Each family killed their own Passover lamb and sprinkled the blood on the doorposts of their houses. They were spared from death after they had eaten the flesh. Let us never forget that Almighty Yahweh gave the Law of clean and unclean meats. Had He desired His people to be vegetarians, there would have been no need to include in His Word this thorough explanation of which creatures are clean and which are unclean, and even going so far as to give us two witnesses in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14. Eating flesh was a doctrine from the beginning, since Yahweh killed beasts and clothed Adam and Eve in the skins, Genesis 3:21. Certainly the meat was not wasted, just as it was not wasted when Abel offered the best of his flock

Chazer Fissel (pig's feet)

Though the pig has split hooves, it does not chew the cud. When the pig lays down with its split hooves on display, as if to say, 'Look at me, I'm kosher!' while it is unclean and unfit for human consumption. (In Judaism, chazer fissel is also synonymous with hypocrisy and ostentatious piety, which does not reflect inner sincerity.)



to Yahweh, Genesis 4:4. The sin offering was eaten at the time of sacrifice, Leviticus 10:16-20 and Leviticus 6:24. Notice Genesis 9:3-4. ***“Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you; as the green herb have I given you all. But flesh with the life of it, which is the blood of it, shall you not eat.”*** Consequently, it is easy to observe that Yahweh has given man the right to eat flesh when he distinguished between clean and unclean creatures (as with herbs also, Genesis 1:29). These are only a few reasons for declaring ourselves against vegetarianism, because it is not a Bible-centered doctrine. Paul called vegetarianism a doctrine of demons in I Timothy 4:1-3. He meant that it is unscriptural.

Here we must come down again on the side of balance as the scriptural doctrine. While Almighty Yahweh has allowed the eating of meat and even commanded that

the Passover lamb was to be eaten, it is a recognized historical fact that Israelites ate meat sparingly. Perhaps the misunderstanding that they ate great quantities of meat came from the **King James Version**, which employs the term “meat” for “food.” The Israelites did eat meat, and they were granted the right to kill and eat meat whenever they chose to do so, Deuteronomy 12:15-16. However, in our time, the people of our country eat entirely too much meat, and this has caused them, in some instances, to develop serious health and character problems that they would otherwise not have if they were temperate in eating meat.

Paul also has made provision for accepting into fellowship any person who has extremely deep convictions against eating meat. Romans 14 shows that if a person has a problem with his health and does not wish to eat meat, or if

he has very deep-rooted feelings on the subject, the Assemblies of Yahweh shall receive him “not for decision of scruples,” however (Romans 14:1). If the individual espousing vegetarianism is a person of good will and accepts sound doctrine where eating flesh is concerned, he is always welcome in our fellowship. He is Yahweh’s servant, and our Father in Heaven will accept him. However, if that person becomes contentious about his beliefs, he has proven that he does not have the Holy Spirit of Yahweh, and we should no longer tolerate him in the group. We must never forget that the Kingdom of Yahweh is NOT eating and drinking, BUT righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, Romans 14:17.

The stand of the Assemblies of Yahweh today is to teach that eating flesh food is sound Bible

Continued on page 20.

***The Law of Yahweh is good, Psalm 19:7-14.
Let us use it lawfully, realizing that the
purpose of the Law of Clean and
Unclean meats was
given to us through
the magnificent
love of Yahweh.***





WHO *are the Gentiles?*

The religious world is filled with vague definitions and half truths. This situation is never more obvious than when one seeks to answer the question posed by the title of this article. If you were to ask the average church member just who it is to whom he is referring when he uses the word *gentile*, he would inform you that he meant someone who is not a Jew, or, more definitely, anyone who is not physically related to the family of Israel. By extension, he would explain that this means that he is in a separate group of people from the Jews where salvation is concerned and, consequently, does not have to keep the Law of Yahweh, since the Messiah died for our sins.

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Perhaps you have contemplated this question in the past as you encountered some obviously contradictory Scriptures in the Bible. However, if you have used a **King James Version** of the Scriptures exclusively in your Bible study, you have missed more than just a few of the vital doctrines of the Scriptures, and the subject of who is a gentile is one of them! The Sacred Name is another doctrine which has been hidden through faulty translation. If you are not in the least bit afraid of seeking Bible Truth, and, then, accepting it when it is presented to you,

keep reading this article and, then, prove what it says from the Word of Yahweh—the fountain of all inspired Truth—with the use of different translations and Bible study aids such as a **Strong's** or **Young's Concordance**.

Astonishingly (and we use such a term to shock the complacent church member out of his indifference), the word *gentile* in the Bible does not mean what you have always been led to believe. It is obvious that the **King James** translators were eager to foster contemporary doctrine in their translation, and so they made misleading choices of words in the process. First of all, the word *gentile* is derived from the French *gentil* and the Latin *gentilis*,

meaning of *the same gens or clan*. So already we may discern that many of the Scriptures which use this word as defined by popular theology, would not be in harmony with the context, and, therefore, we should now feel compelled to seek diligently and arrive at the scriptural answer to the question. Could we say that the term *gentile*, as used in the **King James Bible**, was political, or radical, in nature? The only way we can ever hope to establish a firm foundation under our Faith then would be to return to the exclusive source of Truth, which is the inspired Scriptures—the Bible. If we allow ourselves to become entangled with “second-hand” terms and definitions, we could hardly deserve to be known as students of the Scriptures, so it is imperative that we return to the source as closely as we can get to it.

In the Old Testament, the word which was translated *gentile* was גוי (goy or goyim) in the Hebrew. It is defined in the Lexicons as *a foreign nation*. The **Tregelles Gesenius’s Hebrew Lexicon** says, “*The word is general, and used of the nations at large, and also [which should not be doubted by some interpreters] of the Israelites, e.g. Isaiah 1:4; 9:2; 26:2; 49:7; Gen. 35:11; 12:2; Psalm 33:12.*” The foregoing is an actual quote, and you can verify it in your local library should you doubt its authenticity. But I hope that you will now realize that this word has been a source of just another false doctrine which has crept into christianity, and, essentially, it was the religious leaders who were responsible for

making its origin.

Let us check a few of the Scriptures which were given in the reference above so that we may note their importance. First of all, we shall turn to Genesis

**Now
we have determined
that even Israel is called
gentile, but we have also seen that
the word merely means *nation*,
which has indeed happened
to the descendants of
Abraham.**

12:2. Here we find a very puzzling Scripture if we are to accept only the common theological definition of the word. “***And I will make of thee a great nation*** (Hebrew is גוֹי לְךָ לְגוֹי לְךָ l’gôy gādōl)....” Would you have believed that Abraham would be promised the blessing (?) of becoming a great *gentile*? This would have to be the translation to be consistent with the teachings of nominal religion, both Jew and Christian, but this is ridiculous. The translation in the **King James Version** is correct in this instance, and it means that Abraham was promised the blessing of his descendants becoming a great nation. This promise is expanded further, in Genesis 17:4-6, where we see the same Hebrew word גוֹיִם (goyim, plural this time) used three times in three verses. It merely means that the progeny of Abraham would be blessed and increase dramatically, so that they would become nations. Now we have determined that even Israel is called *gentile*, but we have also seen that the word merely means *nation*, which has indeed happened to the descendants of

Abraham.

When we turn back to Genesis 35:11, we learn that the promise is expanded on a wider scope. Here we find Jacob receiving the blessing of becoming a nation and a company of nations (גוֹי וְקָהָל גוֹיִם, Hebrew is *goy uqahal goyim*). Interestingly, the word for company here is the same word which has been translated *congregation* or *assembly* at other places and is comparable to the Greek word *ecclesia* which has been translated *church* in the **King James Version** of the New Testament. So we come upon just one more inconsistency which has led to the promulgation of erroneous ideas among the members of nominal Christianity.

We could continue and check each one of the Scriptures in which Israel is called *goy*, but we shall pause and consider the three most striking passages which appear in Isaiah. You are urged to check each one for yourself however, so that you may note the context in which they appear. In Isaiah 1:4, we find the following translation in the A.V. 1611 (K.J.V.). “***Ah sinful nation (goy), a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken Yahweh, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.***” When you begin to read verse 1 of Isaiah chapter 1, it is obvious that this passage is directed toward Judah and Israel in the days of Hezekiah the king. It is not directed toward nations of parentage other than the Jews such as the theological definition of the word would require. Notice

**"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...."**



~ REVELATION 14:6

that Almighty Yahweh declares those people of that era to be a sinful nation, so this is, in reality, the meaning of the word *goy*. Let us now turn back to Isaiah 26:2. In this passage, we may detect that a change has occurred in the deplorable situation which we met in the first chapter. **"Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in."** Here Judah is described as being **גֵּוִי צְדִיק** (righteous *goy*), and this verse is devastating to the argument that the word *gentile* or *goy* means a *heathen nation*. Let us remember that often definitions which have been attached to many religious terms have no basis in the Scriptures, and when we learn the Truth, we may have to reorient our thinking. Again we wish to underscore the fact that the term *goy* means merely a *nation*, and the word is always so used in the Old Testament. When we learn this Truth we have gained new knowledge which will change the configuration of many doctrines in the final analysis.

The final Scripture in Isaiah which we wish to consider is found in Isaiah 49:7. This verse

is again directed toward Israel, and they are called *goy*. **"Thus saith Yahweh, the Redeemer of Israel, and His Holy One, to Him whom man despiseth, to Him Whom the nation (goy) abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, and the Holy One of Israel, and He shall choose Thee."** As we can see from the context, this passage is directed toward Israel and is referring to the Messiah. But again, it is obvious that Israel is called *goy*, which is correctly translated nation.

Having proved thus far that the word *goy* is used in the sense of nationality—in fact as a nation politically—let us turn our attention toward the New Testament. In the New Testament two words have been employed in the Greek, and the first which has been translated *gentile* is *ethnos*. The **Strong's Concordance Greek Dictionary** gives the following definition: *a race (as of the same habit), i.e. a tribe, spec. a foreign (non-Jewish) one (usually by implication pagan)*. Once again, when we eliminate the parenthetical insertions, the

basic definition of the word *ethnos* then is a race or tribe or nation. The **Greek English Lexicon**, by Thomas Green, shows that the word *ethnos* is exactly identical to the Hebrew word *goy*, meaning *nation or people*. It was during the time of the writing of the Talmud that the word *goy* began to be used in terms of indicating a heathen nation, or pagan people other than the Jews, who had by that time lost their sovereignty, and their use of the term would designate the nations in which they were residing. Consequently, this is then the reason why the New Testament writers differentiate their people from all other nations.

The second word which has been translated *gentile* in the New Testament Greek is *Hellen*. The word is defined in the lexicons as a Grecian, or an inhabitant of Hellas (Greece, a country of Europe), by extension a Greek-speaking person, especially a non-Jew. Let us remember that the basic definition means a Grecian, or inhabitant of Greece. As Dr. Solomon Zeitlin has shown in his article in the

Continued on page 21.

THE LAW BEFORE SINAI

PART 2

by Teaching Elder Jonathan S. Meyer

The Sabbath Before Sinai

Many groups today, in rejecting the Law of Yahweh, attempt desperately to prove that the Sabbath day was not observed, kept, or even so much as mentioned in the Scriptures before Sinai. However, a close investigation of Yahweh's unchangeable Word reveals quite the *opposite* to be true.

At the beginning of the inspired Scriptures, in Genesis chapter 2, we learn that Elohim rested on the seventh day. ***“And the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day Elohim finished his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which***

he had made. And Elohim blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it: because that in it he rested from all his work which Elohim had created and made.” Genesis 2:1-3.

We immediately note in verse 3 that **Elohim blessed the SEVENTH DAY and HALLOWED it**. Did you know that in Hebrew the word *hallow* in Genesis 2 is the same word found in Exodus 20:11? The reason why Yahweh told Moses to instruct Israel to keep the Sabbath day is because Yahweh made the heavens and the earth in six days and rested and hallowed (sanctified) this sacred day. The Hebrew word is *qadash*, which means *to set apart and make holy*.

One nominal Christian group,

for example, makes a fatal error by not going back to Genesis chapter 2 to harmonize every text into the doctrinal study on the Sabbath. Many religious organizations give lip-service to harmonizing the text of the Scriptures, but, in actual practice, only the Assemblies of Yahweh consistently does so. The Sabbath commandment presents a clear case in point.

We have already seen and understood that Noah knew and discerned the scriptural reckoning of time. The reason why Yahweh instituted the sun and the moon in the heavens (Genesis 1:14-19) was to distinguish, or separate, time. A review of the Sabbath commandment proves that this passage in Genesis 1:14-19 cannot be discarded, since it precedes



the giving of the Law at Sinai. However, we know that this Law was also observed and faithfully kept by our spiritual forefathers, the patriarchs.

In Genesis chapter 9, we see Yahweh blessing Noah and entering into a Covenant with him.

“And Elohim spoke to Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; of all that go out of the ark, even every beast of the earth. And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters

of the flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.” (Genesis 9:8-11).

In this Covenant Yahweh made with Noah, nothing is explained concerning clean or unclean animals, neither is anything found regarding instructions for keeping the Sabbath. Yet, we know Noah could discern between clean and unclean animals, Genesis 7:2-3. The statement by Elohim in Genesis 9:3-4 presupposes a knowledge by Noah of the difference between clean and unclean animals. You recall that two chapters earlier (Genesis 7:2-3), Yahweh told Noah to bring the UNCLEAN animals into the ark by twos, and the CLEAN animals by sevens. Notice carefully Genesis 9:3-4.

“Every moving thing that

lives shall be food for you; as the green herb have I given you all. But flesh with the life of it, which is the blood of it, shall you not eat.” How candidly plain! We remember that Yahweh also set restrictions upon the green herb (Genesis 1:29), just as He did with the animals! The above-quoted passage, taken from Genesis 9, relates quite well with the restatement of Yahweh’s Law in Deuteronomy 12:15-16.

“However, you may kill and eat flesh within all your gates, after all the desire of your soul, according to the blessing of Yahweh your Elohim which he has given you...as of the gazelle, and as of the hart. Only you shall not eat the blood; you shall pour it out on the earth



Yahweh has expressed His love for us by giving us the commandments, statutes, and ordinances. We must follow them like a path Yahweh has established, recognizing His Laws as an expression and reciprocation of our love to our Heavenly Father.

as water.”

We can apply with justification the same principle regarding the keeping of the Sabbath day, which was hallowed (sanctified and set apart as holy), with the dietary Laws of clean and unclean, as well as the marking of time according to Yahweh's Law. The Scriptures, therefore, presume the validity of the Law of Yahweh to be in existence from Creation. The Sabbath commandment is one of the first commandments we find in the Bible, Genesis 2:2-3.

Overruling Yahweh's Love

Various groups state that the Egyptians did not allow the Israelites, while they were living in Egypt, to keep the Sabbath, and this is indeed true. However, we ask the question: “Does man, if he IMPERFECTLY keeps Yahweh's Law, or breaks that Law, nullify it?” We know that Yahweh designated Abraham as a righteous man. ***“And he believed in Yahweh; and he reckoned it to him for righteousness....”*** (Gen-

esis 15:6). ***“And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, Yahweh appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am El Shaddai; walk before me, and be you perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.”*** (Genesis 17:1-2). This instruction appeared before the ultimate Covenant of circumcision. How could Abram be a righteous and **perfect** individual if he had no Laws through which to regulate his life? **The concept of no law before Sinai is simply ludicrous!**

Have you ever realized that Yahweh's manner of expressing His love for us was by giving us His Laws, His commandments, and His judgments for His people to obey? This is found clearly expressed in Deuteronomy 7:6-13.

“For you are a holy people to Yahweh your Elohim: Yahweh your Elohim has chosen you to be a people for his own possession, above all nations that are on the face of the earth. Yahweh did not set his love upon you, or choose

you, because you were more in number than any people; for you were the fewest of all peoples: but because Yahweh loved you, and because he desired to keep the oath which he swore to your fathers, has Yahweh brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Therefore know that Yahweh your Elohim, he is Elohim, the faithful El, who keeps covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations, and repays them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hates him, he will repay him to his face. You shall therefore keep the commandment, and the statutes, and the ordinances, which I command you this day, to do them.

“And it shall come to pass, because you listen to these ordinances, and keep and do them, that Yahweh your Elohim will keep with you the

covenant and the mercy which he swore to your fathers: And he will love you, and bless you, and multiply you; he will also bless the fruit of your body and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the young of your flock, in the land which he swore to your fathers to give you.” (Deuteronomy 7:6-13).

Yahweh has expressed His love for us by giving us the commandments, statutes, and ordinances. We must follow them like a path Yahweh has established, recognizing His Laws as an expression and reciprocation of our love to our Heavenly Father. This concept is supported in 1 John 5:3-4. ***“For this is the love of Yahweh, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatever is begotten of Yahweh overcomes the world: and this is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.”***

When He appeared to Isaac in Genesis 26, Yahweh expressed a very interesting statement regarding His Laws. Notice that this passage greatly predates the giving of the Law at Sinai. ***“And Yahweh appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell you of: Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you, and will bless you; for unto you, and unto your seed, I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore unto Abraham your father; And I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and will give unto your seed all these lands; and in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; BECAUSE ABRAHAM OBEYED MY VOICE,***

AND KEPT MY CHARGE, MY COMMANDMENTS, MY STATUTES, AND MY LAWS. And Isaac dwelt in Gerar....” (Genesis 26:2-6).

Here we discover that Yahweh reminded Isaac, the son of Abraham, that Yahweh would establish the oath with him, because Abraham obeyed the commandments, laws, statutes, and kept Yahweh's charge (commission). Should we not, as the spiritual children of Abraham today, do as did Abraham, so that we also can enter into Yahweh's Covenant? Notice again Deuteronomy 7:6-13. Before his Maker, Abraham was called righteous and perfect, because he obeyed Yahweh's commandments. Was this before Sinai? Surely!

Paul also was an obedient commandment keeper and kept the seventh-day Sabbath. But do Christian groups accept this witness, or do they twist Paul's writings?

“And Paul, as was his custom, went in to them, and for three sabbath days reasoned with them from the scriptures....” (Acts 17:2). People wrongly contend that the word **custom** means that it was just something he did personally, without any direction from the Law of Yahweh. However, they ignore Acts 15, verses 1 and 5. If Christians equate the custom of Moses in Acts 15:1 with the Law of Yahweh, then they must equate the same word (*custom*) in Acts 17:2 with the word Law as well.

We cannot be inconsistent in our interpretation of the sacred text. We must harmonize all passages, and when we do, it becomes obvious that the reason for the Apostle Paul's habitual attendance at the synagogue on the Sabbath day was to search the Scriptures and teach Yahweh's Truth to whom-ever would listen. His life was

an example of a new Covenant believer's converted attitude. He had integrated Yahweh's Law into his mind and soul to the point where it was a custom, a habit (a natural part of himself) to obey, because he was expressing affection and reciprocating his love for his Heavenly Father.

The Relationship of the Biblical Law to the Ancient Codes

One must face the fact that the commandments of Yahweh are totally adequate to govern any nation. Historians allow their beliefs in evolution to influence their attempts to prove that the Ur-nammu, Lipit-Ishtar, and Hammurabi law codes evolved with man and were later adopted by the Israelites when they became a nation. When compared to the Laws of Yahweh, these law codes many times show that the strictness and judgment of punishment was lessened, rather than strengthened. We find written in the Hammurabi Code: ***“If a man has struck his father, one shall cut off his hands.”*** In Exodus 21:15 we read, ***“And he that attacks his father, or his mother, shall be surely put to death.”*** In the book, **Old Testament History** by Charles Pfeiffer, the author makes the following statement: ***“The Hammurabi law code was purely civil in application. Although mention is made of religious function... the code itself pertains entirely to the regulation of human conduct on the ethical plane. Conversely, the Mosaic law has both moral and religious aspects as well as of those of a strictly civil nature. Comparison between the biblical and Hammurabi code can be made on the level of the regulations which both impress on society. ONLY THE ISRAELITE CODE HAS A SPECIAL RELIGIOUS***

It is our responsibility to study and harmonize the entire Bible rather than sectionalizing, splitting, splintering, rationalizing, and forcing our personal interpretations upon the inspired text.

MOTIVATION.”

Surely, entropy is evident in the ethical law codes of the ancient nations. Humanly speaking, man wants to **liberalize** doctrine rather than strengthen it. (Remember, the tendency of Adam’s descendants was to drift away from True Worship.) If the Israelites had indeed borrowed these laws, the laws would not have become more explicit and strict, but rather would be more diluted, weak, and liberal. In Ezekiel 18:29 we read, ***“Yet says the house of Israel, The way of Yahweh is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? Are not your ways unequal?”***

Interestingly, the ancient secular law codes are unfair, as the following quote demonstrates clearly. It is Yahweh’s Laws that are righteous. The Ur-nammu law

code reads: *“A woman accused of immorality is cast into the river which acts as her judge. If the river receives her (i.e., she drowns), her guilt is considered self-evident. On the other hand, if she swims to shore, she is deemed innocent.”* Therefore, any good swimmer could conceivably commit adultery and get away with it.

These secular law codes also have concessions for the rich, while the poor must pay more dearly. Yahweh instructs that the judge must never respect persons, but must judge fairly, whether the case in question regards rich or poor, young or old. Yahweh is a consistent Judge. His Son, Yahshua the Messiah, judges according to the heart, not by the outward appearance, or material wealth. Yahweh’s true ministers follow this directive.

Conclusion

If you wish to find consistency in the interpretation of the sacred text, your ultimate destination today in finding True Worship will bring you to the Assemblies of Yahweh. The Law of Yahweh was given to Adam and passed down from generation to generation. ***“And you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.”*** (Deuteronomy 6:7). Israel was given Yahweh’s Laws to witness them to the nations, Psalm 147:19-20. Yahweh, therefore, wants His Law to be obeyed by all mankind.

It is our responsibility to study and harmonize the entire Bible rather than sectionalizing, splitting, splintering, rationalizing, and forcing our personal inter-

pretations upon the inspired text. Many of the Laws found in the Covenant of Exodus are obeyed from the time of Adam. Yahweh, when He conveyed the Law to Israel at Mt. Sinai, was explaining the specific conditions of that Covenant which had already been passed down by our forefathers. In no way was it a new Law, but a restatement to Israel so they could enter into the Covenant with Yahweh and qualify to enter the Promised Land. Israel was forgetful. Israel had to hear the conditions of that Covenant before they would vow to live by it. A good example of the disobedience of ancient Israel is found in Exodus chapter 16, before the Law was ever given at Mt. Sinai.

“This is the thing which Yahweh has commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating; an omer a head, according to the number of your persons, shall you take it, every man for them that are in his tent. And the children of Israel did so, and gathered some more, some less. And when they measured it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating. And Moses said to them, Let no man leave of it until the morning. However they listened not to Moses; but some of them kept part of it until the morning and it bred worms, and became foul: and Moses was angry with them.

“And they gathered it morning by morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun grew hot, it melted. And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each

one: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. And he said unto them, This is what Yahweh has spoken, tomorrow is a solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to Yahweh: bake what you will bake, and boil what you will boil; and all that remains over save it to be kept until the morning. And they saved it until the morning, as Moses commanded: and it did not become foul, neither was there any worm in it. And Moses said, Eat that today; for today is a Sabbath to Yahweh: today you shall not find it in the field. Six days you shall gather it; but on the seventh day is the Sabbath, in it there shall be none. And it came to pass on the seventh day, that there went out some of the people to gather, and they found none. And Yahweh said to Moses, How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and my laws? See, because Yahweh has given you the Sabbath, therefore he gives you on the sixth day the bread of two days; remain you every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day. So the people rested on the seventh day."

Moses gave the commandment to Israel to gather the manna six days and abstain from gathering on the seventh. However, just as some did in verse 20, others rebelled against him again in not making adequate preparations for the seventh-day Sabbath. Notice especially what Yahweh tells Moses concerning the children of Israel. **"And Yahweh said to Moses, HOW LONG WILL YOU REFUSE TO KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS AND MY LAWS?"** Exodus 16:28. We must

realize that this verse was spoken by Yahweh before He gave the Law at Sinai! What laws and commandments is Almighty Yahweh referring to? Obviously, the Law of Yahweh far predated Sinai. In Exodus 16, the Sabbath commandment provided a test to determine who would obey Yahweh's commandments. It is only through the stubbornness and stiff-neckedness of unrepentant people that this "idea" that the Law was manufactured at Sinai is propagated. These misled individuals proclaim themselves to be servants of the Most High, yet teach this false doctrine that Yahweh's Law only applied from Sinai to the time of the Messiah. Actually, the error of dispensationalism had much to do with the wrong division of the Word.

Yahweh has never allowed mankind, His people, to be ungoverned by Laws. In these New Covenant times, it remains just as important to observe the Laws of the Torah as during the time when Israel was preparing to enter the Promised Land.

The commandments of Yahweh were never done away with. **"For I, Yahweh, change not..."** (Malachi 3:6). We, as True Believers, must firmly adhere to the Law Yahweh has instituted, the Law our forefathers vowed to obey, and which their physical children willfully rejected. We must always live by this Law, because in it remains a test of obedience to see who will be saved through Yahshua the Messiah. Notice Hebrews 13:8 in relation to the Scripture above.

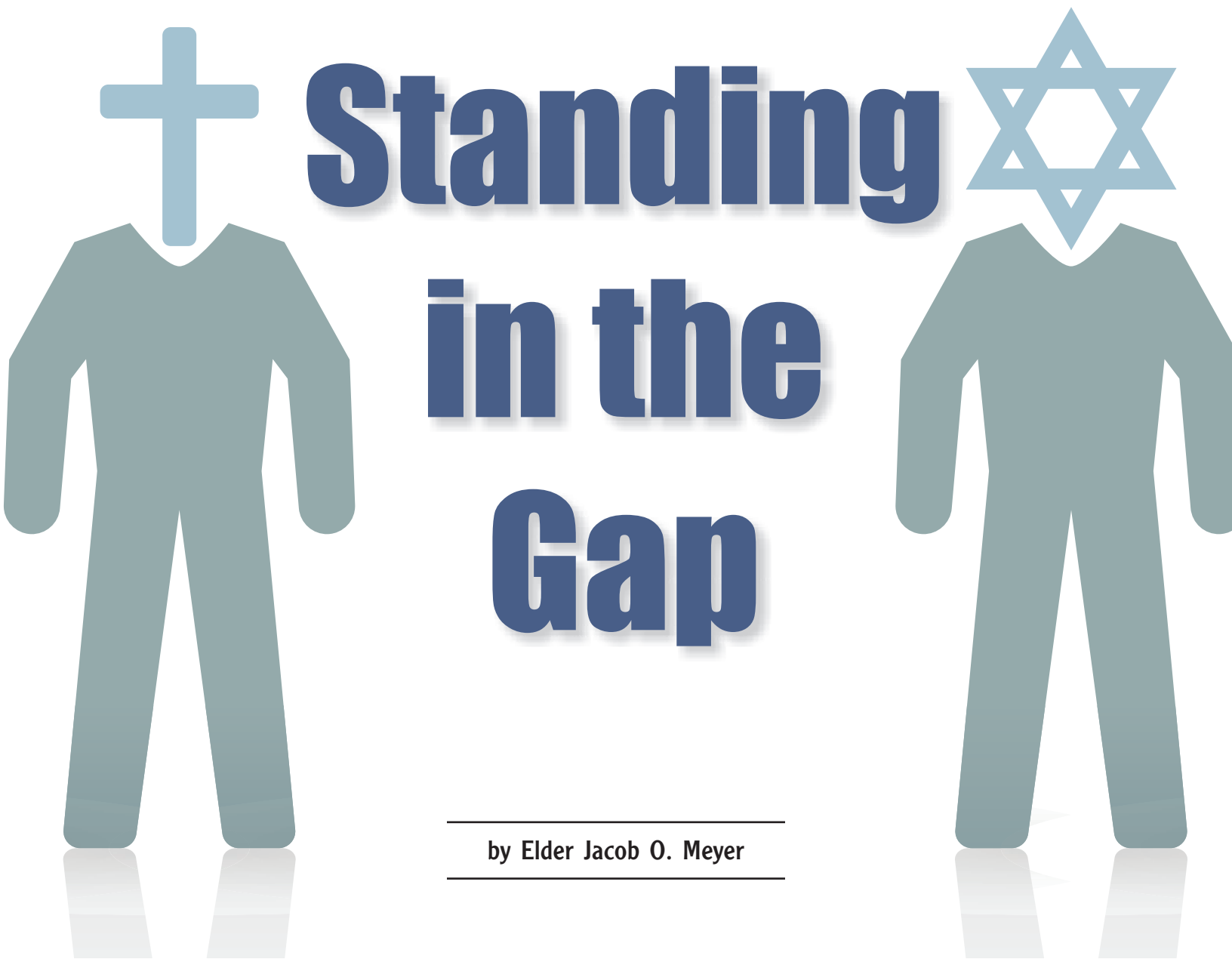
"What shall we say then? Is the law sin? By no means—however, I had not known sin, except through the law: for I had not known coveting, except the law had said, You shall

not covet: but sin, finding occasion, worked in me through the commandment all manner of coveting: for apart from the law sin is dead...So that the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and righteous, and good." (Romans 7:7-8, 12).

Remember, the above words were written by the so-called "no-Law Apostle," the Apostle Paul. Truly, Paul taught Yahweh's Law. He strongly taught against breaking the Law, Romans 3:31. He taught against the Law of sin, Romans 7:25. **"I thank Yahweh through Yahshua the Messiah our Master. So then I of myself with the mind, indeed, serve the law of Yahweh; but with the flesh the law of sin."** Then, He tells us that we must mortify our sins, or deeds of the flesh, or we shall eternally die. Paul mentions frequently in his ministry how he constantly sought to be more spiritual and reject the fleshly carnal nature. When harmonizing those texts with the above-quoted passage, it becomes plain that Paul was telling us that he was trying to become **MORE OBEDIENT to Yahweh's** spiritual Law!

Long before the Law of Yahweh was codified at Sinai, the Old Testament people knew it was sin to break it. Adam and Eve broke four of the Ten Commandments by taking and eating the fruit of the tree of "knowing good and knowing evil." But, by extension, Jacob (James) tells us they broke every commandment, Jacob 2:10-12. Joseph called adultery sin. Sin is defined in Leviticus 4. That definition has not changed, 1 John 3:4.

Who will you believe Yahweh and His Word, or a man-made doctrinal teaching? Your final conclusion will mean life or death to you. Choose life, Deuteronomy 30:15-20. SNB



Standing in the Gap

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Are you aware of certain developments in the spectrum of religious activity? These developments have set the Assemblies of Yahweh in a potentially prominent position in the religious world. Some well-known religious leaders have published statements which should impel seekers after Truth to search more fervently if they are truly interested in the Bible. I refer specifically to a furor which has arisen in the ranks of Judaism by those who seek to present the doctrine of the Messiah to the Jews and evangelize them.

The history of Christians proselyting among the Jews have proven that conversions among the Jews has been negligible, even to the point of some of the converts reverting to their heritage in Judaism after disappointments by what they found in Christianity. The obvious conclusion remains that Jews are just not comfortable in religious surroundings which teach against the commandments of Almighty Yahweh, such as the observance of the keeping of the scriptural Sabbath and the feasts, eating kosher food, and the other

traditions which accompany Jewish worship. A rather serious reflection upon converted Jewish evangelists reveals that they were mercenary in their endeavors. This is not a new charge, however sincere though he may be. One major point which seems to be omitted is the dual questions, “What is Truth, and will we live by what we can prove?” The doctrine of the Messiah and its provability is the central theme of the New Testament. The early Apostolic Assembly—although Jews—were able to **prove the doctrine of**

the Messiah and do so from the Old Testament Scriptures.

A very extraordinary article appeared in the **Jewish Quarterly Review** of January 1973, written by Dr. Solomon Zeitlin. Apprehensively this elder statesman of the academic world wondered aloud if some of the university professors are not a fifth column guilty of promulgating the catchy new slogan among inquiring Jews," that [Yahshua] is kosher." Allow us to quote a portion of his article here so that you can understand what we mean.

"Lately I encountered two young men, students of a certain university who also attended ecumenical dialogues [sic] and said to me that it is high time for the Jews to seek a rapprochement with the Christians and accept Christianity. They argued that there is no great division between the Christians and the Jews. The Christians believe that [Yahshua] was the Messiah while the Jews believe that the Messiah did not come. According to them as they understood from their professors, 'Yahshua] is kosher'. Why then, they say, should the Jews not accept him and cease their isolation?"

"I tried to explain to them that while it is true that [Yahshua] was a Jew by birth, his twelve apostles were Jews, and the first seventy bishops were Jews. In the first two centuries, Christianity was an offshoot of Judaism. Most of the Christians were Jews. I tried to enlighten them on the Parting of the Ways, the underlying reasons of the break between Judaism and Christianity. At the Nicene Council in 325 C.E., Christianity broke entirely with Judaism. It became a different religion and hostile to Judaism. Now Christianity and Judaism are definitely two religions." [Please note the author's expression "two religions."] This is

quite enlightening that such candid admissions should be made.

It would appear that, at this present time, the Assemblies of Yahweh is standing in the gap. We have progressed back to the place vacated at the council of Nicea by the Messianic Assembly founded by our Savior. We have taken up the fallen banner of the Nazarenes who continued to exist as organized groups for some time after the Council of Nicea. The pathway of return has been rugged and narrow. We have been continually persecuted and maligned by the various sects of Christianity who do not understand that the Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, came to magnify the spiritual application

by the power of the Holy Spirit of Yahweh!

Now we offer an opportunity to all sincere people to seek the Truth of the Scriptures. The Assemblies of Yahweh believes that the Bible can be harmonized and that this is the momentous message which our Messiah preached while here on this earth. The Jew need not give up the commandments to accept a Faith built on the harmony of the Scriptures which culminate in the doctrine of the Messiah. The doctrine of the Messiah can be proved conclusively from the Old Testament. The nominal Christian need not give up the doctrine of the Messiah in their search for the great obedience to

***The Assemblies of Yahweh
believes that the Bible can be
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the momentous message which
our Messiah preached while
here on this earth.***

behind the keeping of the Law of Yahweh, without disturbing the letter of that Law. Nominal Christianity has accepted the Messiah, but they have not accepted His message. Judaism has not accepted the Messiah, although they have clung tenaciously to the commandments of Yahweh which our Redeemer preached. We, of the Assemblies of Yahweh, are standing in the gap between the two great religions. We are seeking to teach the total doctrines of both Old and New Testaments, a harmony to the Bible such as was taught by Yahshua the Messiah. We are in a very precarious position, being assaulted from all sides in a withering cross fire. But stand we must, and stand we will,

the injunctions of the Scriptures. It is obvious that the early Messianic Assembly kept the Law of Yahweh and this can be proved from the New Testament. The Assemblies of Yahweh seeks to fulfill the description of the True Worshiper as found in Revelation 12:17 and 14:12. Remember that this description is directed to the people living in the last days at the close of the age, just before the return of the Messiah. Who can fulfill this description? "Here are they who keep the commandments of Yahweh and who have the Faith of Yahshua the Messiah." It is only the True Worshipers, the modern Israel of Yahweh. Are you seeking a place in this select group? ^{SNB}



Kenya Baptism



Kenya

Yahweh is Moving!



Congo and Burundi



Haiti Assembly

The Assemblies of Yahweh has sent three teams of representatives from Bethel to distant areas and one from Nigeria. We are thankful for the fruits that are being borne.

Deacon Nathaniel Meyer traveled to Haiti, where were 9 baptisms, 6 dedications, and 2 marriages performed. Teaching Elder Jonathan and Deaconess Angela traveled to Kenya, where there were 25 immersions into the Name of Yahshua and 2 weddings. Deacon Peter Polydore traveled to Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, where Yahweh brought 33 individuals forward to make their commitment to Yahweh in Yahshua's Name. Deacon Chindi Daniel Akwarandu traveled from Nigeria to Ghana, where he immersed 9 into Yahshua's Name. ***"Listen, my beloved brethren; did Yahweh not choose them that are poor of the world, rich in faith, and heirs to the kingdom which he promised to them that love him?"*** (Jacob 2:5). Although the people that stepped forward to be immersed are very poor in earthly goods, they are rich in Faith.



Congo



Ghana



Haiti



Kenya Baptism



Naivasha Assembly



Haiti Baptism



Congo



Congo



Haiti



Ghana Assembly



Congo



Flesh fit for Food

Continued from page 6.

doctrine, but we take a balanced view and caution each True Worshiper against eating too much meat. We urge that each member of Yahshua's Body be very selective with their purchases to ensure that the animal has been fed with wholesome feed and that every effort has been made to eliminate the blood at the time of slaughter and before cooking. This can be done by salting the meat and then soaking it in cold water before cooking, or by broiling the meat.

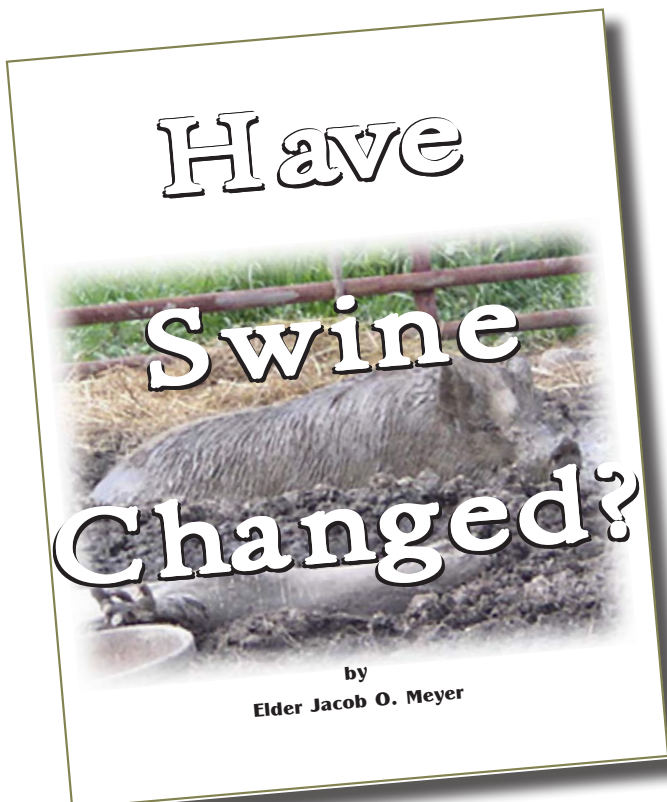
Meat is good for food for human-kind or Almighty Yahweh would

not have given us a law specifying which flesh can be eaten. The Law of Yahweh is good, Psalm 19:7-14. Let us use it lawfully, realizing that the purpose of the Law of Clean and Unclean meats was given to us through the magnificent love of Yahweh. At creation, Yahweh needed to place creatures on earth that would be scavengers, to clean up any pollution that would occur.

However, a loving Heavenly Father also warned us against eating such animals, because their bodies were NOT created to be used for human food. Other animals were created for human consumption,

and they number so manifold that one has a broad selection of flesh that will appeal to his own particular taste, again revealing to us the love of Yahweh and His pre-planning at creation. Our love for His thoughtfulness should be manifold in return by keeping His commandments. They were given for our good (Deuteronomy 6:24), and they will help us develop strong, healthy bodies, with keen minds that come from taking care of ourselves. How great is Yahweh and His ways past finding out! Will you heed His voice and obey? This blessing for obedience is for YOUR good!

SNB



The names used to designate this animal are all epithets for filth, viciousness, and the disgusting. Yet, these omnivorous animals are raised for meat and are sold commercially for human consumption, even though forbidden in Yahweh's Law.

For your free copy of this article explaining the dietary Laws, write:

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Who are the Gentiles?

Continued from page 9.

Jewish Quarterly Review, “Judaism As a Religion,” October, 1943, the term meant specifically *one who followed the mode of the life of the Hellenes*. It could have included Jews who have apostatized and accepted the usage of Greek language and customs of the Greek culture. This is why the **Authorized Version** (A.V.) 1611 translated the term *Hellen* as *Greek* on many occasions, and the revised editions have translated it as Greek exclusively.

When we narrow down these definitions, we can observe that Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, was sent to nations who would fit any one of a number of different descriptions. They could be heathen, or apostatized, Israel of both the ten tribes and the two tribes of Judah. He was called to take his message abroad to all of the nations of the western civilized world and preach the saving doctrine of the Messiah and His rule to all who would hear. You will notice throughout the book of Acts this great Apostle went first to the synagogue, and then, when his message was spurned there, he continued to evangelize among the people who were sympathetic to the message and had possibly been proselytes previously. Let me call your attention again to the fact that the Jews of the Synagogue considered anyone who was not of their number to be a *goy*, or a *heathen*, even to the point of declaring their own people who had accepted the Messiah as heathen, or gentiles.

By way of further explanation of the meaning of the word *ethnos*, let us point out that the word *ethnic*—with which you are probably familiar—is derived from this word, which has been translated *gentile*. *Ethnic* means *of a nation or race*, and has been so used, especially in recent years. It may be well to bear this in mind when reading the New Testament passages. But we must remember here the question of Paul in Romans 3:29. **“Is He the Mighty One of the Jews only? Is He not also of the Gentiles? [ethnos]. Yes, of the Gentiles [nations, *ethnos*] also.”** By reading Romans 1:4, we can see that Paul was indeed sent to the nations to be an apostle to them, and, in the A.V. 1611, the word *nations* is used to translate the Greek word *ethnos*. In the final analysis, Paul says, **“There is neither Jew nor Greek [Hellen], there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for we are all one in Messiah Yahshua....”** (Galatians 3:28). But how often do you find that ministers seek to separate between the Jew and the Gentile (people of the nations), and their responsibilities to the Almighty Heavenly Father, when the Scriptures teach that the middle wall of partition was broken down between them, Ephesians 2:11-22?

Who are the Gentiles? The answer which is derived directly from the Scriptures alone, and not from the opinions of men, is that they are the people of the nations of this earth. These nations have forgotten Almighty Yahweh and His Messiah Yahshua whom He

gave as a sacrifice for the sins of the world. These nations have rejected the government of Almighty Yahweh and His anointed Son, Psalm 2. The message of the Kingdom was preached to all the nations of the civilized world during the Apostolic age. It was rejected, and, subsequently, the world was plunged into the Dark Ages. As men began to grope for the pathway back to Almighty Yahweh, the Dark Ages ended, but, once again in our time, the nations have ceased their search for Yahweh and His Truth and are about to plunge back into the ages of darkness. But Almighty Yahweh will not allow this to happen, and, so, His Truth will be proclaimed on a worldwide scale as a witness that He will soon begin to take action and establish His righteous government on this earth by the return of the Messiah. The nations (Gentiles) will then become subject to the Prince of Peace and the Law of Yahweh, causing the fulfillment of Isaiah 26:2, **“Open the gates, that the righteous nation which keeps faith may enter in.”** Now you have received a vital key to unlock more of the message of the Bible. The Bible is an inspired book and presents one continuous message from cover to cover. It requires of you a certain way of life, and that way of life is in the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh—both for the Jew and for the people of the nations. There is no separation between them, since they are all obligated to serve the Living Mighty One, Yahweh, and His Messiah, Yahshua. SNB

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