



THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

9/2023

a publication of Assemblies of Yahweh

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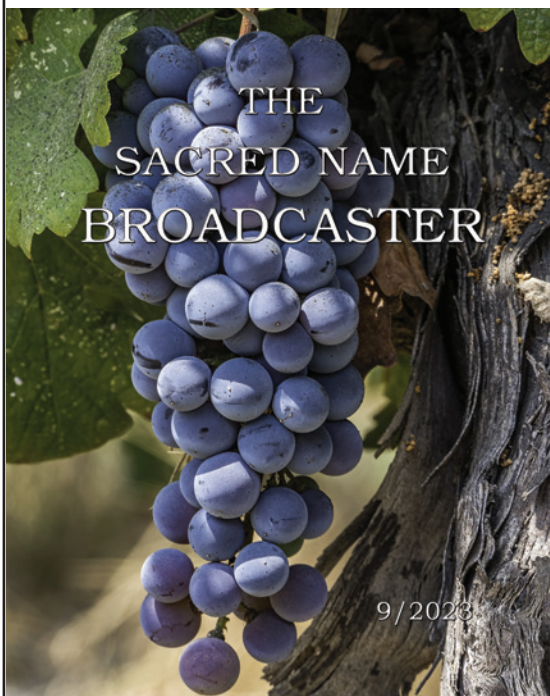
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Our Cover:

This month's cover reveals a cluster of grapes in Israel. One of the blessings for obedience to Yahweh's commandments in Leviticus 26:3-12 is that Yahweh will bless with an abundant harvest. Paul, inspired by Isaiah 65:8, referred to the grape juice symbol of Yahweh's shed blood as a "cup of blessing," 1 Corinthians 10:16



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Do you desire a closer walk with Yahweh and His Son, our Savior Yahshua the Messiah? Bring these promised blessings into your life by walking in the statutes and commandments of Yahweh each day. **"But whoever keeps his word, in him the love of Yahweh has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in him: he that says he remains in him ought himself also to walk even as he walked."** (1 John 2:5-6).

Only those who live an over-coming life will be granted entrance into the Kingdom of Yahweh, Revelation 2:7 and 22:14. All who are faithful to the end will experience the glories of the Kingdom of Yahweh and be granted adoption into the family of Yahweh. **"He that overcomes shall inherit these things; and I will be his El, and he shall be my son."** (Revelation 21:7).

Are you Kingdom bound?



Each of Yahweh's holy days reveals an essential segment of His plan of salvation for man. The prophets and apostles observed them, as did Yahshua the Messiah. And they will be kept in the Millennium. Therefore, why aren't they being observed in the religious world today?

Have you ever wondered where the holidays observed in nominal Christianity originated? If you have never studied the Bible thoroughly, it may surprise you to learn that not one of these popular holidays is named in the inspired Scriptures!

The most popular Christian holidays are Christmas and Easter. Nowhere in the Bible do we find

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

that anyone (including the early apostles) ever observed Christmas. Never in His ministry did Yahshua the Messiah direct His Assembly to observe His birthday. The word **Christmas** is derived from the term *the mass of Christ*

and originated with the practice in the Roman Catholic churches of observing a midnight mass to commemorate the birth of the Messiah. Yahshua the Messiah was not born at Christmas (December 25), but during the Feast of Tabernacles. If you have never read our article, **The Birth of the Messiah**, write immediately to obtain your free copy.

Incidentally, nowhere in the Bible are we instructed to observe birthdays. Birthdays are mentioned only three times in the Sacred Scriptures. At each birthday mentioned in the Bible, violence occurred. Please see Genesis 40:20, Job 1:4, and Matthew 14:6. Consequently, there is absolutely no scriptural precedent to celebrate the birthday of the Messiah. Then, why is it being done?

Someone knowledgeable in the Sacred Scriptures may point out that the word *Easter* appears in Acts 12:4. Consulting the **King James Version**, you find that this is true. In the Greek text, however, the word is *pascha*. This is an Aramaic word, a loan word in the Greek text, similar to the Hebrew term *pesach* (Passover).

Easter, positively, is not a scriptural holy day. Nowhere in the Bible are we commanded to observe Easter as the resurrection of Yahshua the Messiah. The word *easter* is derived from the name of the ancient Babylonian pagan mighty one of spring, *Astarte* or

Oestere. Paul told the Corinthian brethren to remember Messiah's death (1 Corinthians 11:26), NOT HIS BIRTH, OR RESURRECTION.

True Worshipers Keep Yahweh's Annual Holy Days

Throughout the Bible it can be proved that the True Worshipers (both in the Old and New Testaments) observed the feasts of Yahweh. These annual holy days are listed for us in Leviticus 23. They are regulated by the Middle Eastern agricultural season. There is a reason our Heavenly Father used the agrarian cycle in setting the time for His annual observances.

These holy days are called *sacred seasons*. The Hebrew word *moed* means *an appointed time*, or *season*. We must realize that this time is sanctified by Almighty Yahweh. It is not the commandment of men. During the biblical era, sacrifices were made at these sacred seasons. However, more than being exclusively ceremonial observances, they were intended as

gatherings for worship. Throughout Leviticus 23 these special days are always called **holy convocations**. The term in Hebrew is *miqra qodesh*, and it means *a time of calling together*, or *assembly*, for public worship.


In Leviticus 23:2, Almighty Yahweh says, ***“Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, The set feasts of Yahweh, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, EVEN THESE ARE MY SET FEASTS.”*** These holy days are not the feasts of Israel, nor sacred observances originated by man, but they were established by our Creator, Almighty Yahweh, Himself. We must remember this vital point and recognize them as ordained from on High.

Man cannot declare holy any special time that Yahweh the Almighty has not Himself sanctified. Mankind must simply acknowledge the authority attached to these commandments in the sacred Word, and obey them.

Passover Observed by Some

Most religious groups that study the Bible more deeply than others observe the Passover Memorial every year on the anniversary of our Savior's death. They understand the Apostle Paul's admonition that, since the Messiah was sacrificed for us on Passover day, we, therefore, must keep the memorial of His death on the same night (Abib 14) on which He was betrayed, 1 Corinthians 11:23.

But very few of these groups that correctly observe the anniversary of Yahshua's death also keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread, as Paul instructed us. ***“Purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, even as you are unleavened. For our Passover***



Since Yahshua kept all of Yahweh's holy days properly, it is not peculiar that Paul would tell us to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread.



The annual holy days
consecrated by Yahweh in
Leviticus 23 are binding TODAY.
This article shows you why.

Write today for this free, in-depth study.

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also has been sacrificed, even the Messiah: THEREFORE LET US KEEP THE FEAST, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. (1 Corinthians 5:7-8). Clearly, we are obligated by this New Testament Scripture to observe Yahweh's sacred Feast of Unleavened Bread, from ancient times legislated in the Old Testament.

When you attend the communion service in your church haven't you considered it strange to hear New Testament passages read that refer to the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread (relating to the time of Yahshua's death)? Usually John 13 is read at this occasion. ***"Now BEFORE the FEAST of the PASSOVER, Yahshua knowing that his hour had come that he should***

depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own that were in the world, he loved them to the end." (Verse 1).

Notice that this occasion was before the feast (which begins on the 15th of Abib). The Passover (the 14th of Abib) was when Yahshua the Messiah instituted the ordinance of footwashing. It was on the evening before the Feast of Unleavened Bread began.

Yahshua the Messiah died on Passover day, which was the preparation day for the high day (annual Sabbath), John 19:31. Yahshua the Messiah was our Passover lamb, dying on Passover day. "Passover" has come to mean the entire eight-day event, because it opens the observance of the preparation day called Passover day. Since Yahshua kept all of Yahweh's holy days properly, it is not peculiar that Paul would tell us to keep the Feast of

Unleavened Bread.

Yahweh's Perpetual Holy Days

Yahweh's holy time has been sacred throughout the biblical record. At various scriptural times the holy days have held different significance. For example, we might say from Genesis 3:21 that Yahweh Elohim passed over Adam and Eve, exempting them from the penalty of sin (death) for a certain period of time. In Genesis 19, Lot was passed over in judgment during the sacred season. When Israel was released from Egyptian bondage, the day took on totally new significance.

In our time, it commemorates the sacrifice of Yahshua Messiah in shedding His blood for our sins, releasing His people from the bondage of sin through the atonement He accomplished.

Those who have circumcised their hearts to love Yahweh and have been begotten again through the Holy Spirit to keep the commandments of Yahweh sin free, have become the Israel of Yahweh. They are obligated to keep Yahweh's annual holy days.

The Scriptures tell us that when Yahshua returns, the Passover will be given renewed meaning. By trusting in the mercy of Almighty Yahweh, and accepting the shed blood of Yahshua, the Passover lamb, to cleanse us from our sins, thenceforth to live a converted life, we shall be passed over and spared on Yahweh's judgment day.

Yahweh had promised that eventually there will be a greater exodus that will cause modern Israel to forget the departure of their ancestors from Egypt. Jeremiah 23:7-8 explains, ***"Therefore, behold, the days come, says Yahweh, that they shall no more say, As Yahweh lives, who brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; but, As Yahweh lives, who brought up and who led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all the countries where I had driven them. And they shall dwell in their own land."*** The meaning of the feasts of Yahweh is renewed from era to era as Yahweh moves on behalf of His people.

Throughout the 23rd chapter of Leviticus, we clearly perceive how Almighty Yahweh declared that His holy days must be observed forever in all generations of Israel. Some may contend that this injunction was exclusively for ethnic Israelites and was terminated

when the message of salvation passed to the gentiles. However, that is false.

Paul showed that only when one becomes a spiritual Israelite will he or she receive salvation. He says in Romans 11:26-27, ***"And so all Israel shall be saved: even as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer; He shall turn away lawlessness from Jacob: And this is my covenant to them, When I shall take away their sins."***

This passage climaxes the section that begins with what could be the question, "Who are Israelites" (Romans 9:4)? He finally makes the plain statement in verse 8, ***"That is, it is not the children of the flesh that are the children of Yahweh; but the children of the promise are reckoned for a seed."*** Paul does not consider those who are unconverted (children of the flesh) to be true Israelites, because the word *Israel* means *an overcomer*. Those who have circumcised their hearts to love Yahweh and have been begotten again through the Holy Spirit to keep the commandments of Yahweh sin free, have become the Israel of Yahweh. They are obligated to keep Yahweh's annual holy days.

Paul superbly summarizes his contention concerning the character of spiritual Israel in Galatians 6:15-16. ***"For neither***

is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. And as many as shall walk by this rule, peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of Yahweh."

It should be obvious to all who are studying that Paul understood the Israel of Yahweh to be those who had been begotten again through the Holy Spirit and grafted into the trunk of Israel. The branches of the Israelite family tree had been broken off. Only those who manifest the love of Yahweh in their hearts by obedience to His commandments and Laws are accepted as spiritual Israel to be grafted into the Israelite family tree. This includes actual descendants of the twelve tribes of Israel and people of other nations who qualify by living according to the scriptural, Israelite way of life. All who are living by this rule will be worshiping Yahweh on His holy days. They have made the transition to be converted from a sinner to a saint.

Are Yahweh's Feasts Sacrificial Days?

There are those who would have you believe that the feast days were merely established as times of sacrifice. They insist that, since sacrifices are no longer acceptable to Yahweh, the holy days need not be kept. As proof, they usually quote Leviticus 23:37-38. ***"These are the set feasts of Yahweh, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh, a burnt-offering, and a meal-offering, a sacrifice, and drink-offerings, each on its own day; besides the sabbaths of Yahweh, and besides your gifts, and besides all your vows, and besides all your free-will-offerings, which you give***

to Yahweh.”

Almighty Yahweh never did consider His holy days to be exclusively sacrificial days. Rather, He wanted them to be times of special worship. This is what will be instituted in the coming ideal Kingdom. Please turn to Ezekiel 46:3, where we read: **“And the people of the land shall WORSHIP at the door of that gate before Yahweh on the sabbaths and on the new moons.”**

Elkanah worshiped Yahweh, although he also offered sacrifices, 1 Samuel 1:3. The faithful in Israel always appeared to understand the importance of offering worship to Almighty Yahweh when they assembled, but, of necessity, in that era they also were required to offer sacrifices, because blood was then the approved sin offering. Excessive concentration on sacrifice led to the unfeeling, ritual worship condemned by Yahweh in such places as Isaiah 1:10-15.

Worship on Yahweh's Holy Days

Worship was the primary reason for the convocations Yahweh established in Israel. Sacrifices were secondary to the occasion. In our time, when there is no physical temple, animal sacrifices are unacceptable to Almighty Yahweh and spiritual worship takes preeminence. Hebrews 13:13-16 reads, **“Let us therefore go forth to him outside the camp, bearing his reproach. For we have not here an enduring city, but we seek after the city which is to come. Through him then let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to Yahweh continually, that is, the fruit of lips which make confession to his name. But do not forget to do good and communicate: for with such sacrifices Yahweh**

The blood of Yahshua the Messiah is sufficient to cleanse the repentant individual from all past sins, and the Holy Spirit of Almighty Yahweh will lead him in righteous living.

is well pleased.”

Please see also Hosea 14:1-2. **“O Israel, return to Yahweh your Elohim; for you have fallen by your iniquity. TAKE WITH YOU WORDS, AND RETURN TO YAHWEH: say to him, Take away all iniquity, and accept that which is good: SO WILL WE RENDER AS BULLOCKS THE OFFERING OF OUR LIPS.”** Words are compared to sacrifices by the prophet Hosea, descriptive of spiritual worship.

Scripture clearly indicates that King David had realized that worship through prayer was to be the uppermost purpose, although animal sacrifices were offered. Psalm 141:2 reads, **“Let my prayer be set forth as incense before you; The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”**

When the book of Acts was being written, Paul showed very clearly that worship was the purpose of gathering at the feasts. **“Seeing that you can take knowledge that it is not more than twelve days since I went up TO WORSHIP at Jerusalem.”** Acts 24:11.

In the coming Kingdom of Yahweh, worship will supersede animal sacrifice. Zechariah 8:20-22 reads, **“In this manner says Yahweh of hosts: It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come peoples, and the inhabitants of many cities; and the**

inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to entreat the favor of Yahweh, and to seek Yahweh of hosts: I will go also. Yes, many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek Yahweh of hosts in Jerusalem, and to entreat the favor of Yahweh.” Worship through prayer is the most vital part of paying our respects to the Most High.

Obedience Preferred Over Sacrifice

Almighty Yahweh desires **obedience** rather than **sacrifices**, which Micah 6:6-8 makes plain.

“With what shall I come before Yahweh, and bow myself before the high Elohim? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will Yahweh be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my first-born for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does Yahweh require of you, but to do justly, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your Elohim?”

When someone receives the grace or mercy of Almighty Yahweh and becomes obedient to His commandments, when he or she accepts the shed blood of



Yahshua the Messiah to cleanse his or her heart from past sins, there is no further need for sacrificing animals as long as the individual continues faithful. The blood of Yahshua the Messiah is sufficient to cleanse the repentant individual from all past sins, and the Holy Spirit of Almighty Yahweh will lead him in righteous living. David said in Psalm 51:16-17, ***"For you delight not in sacrifice; else I would give it: You have no pleasure in burnt-offering. The sacrifices of Elohim are a broken spirit: A broken and a contrite heart, O Elohim, you will not despise."***

The holy days of Yahweh are sacred times of worship, but, before Messiah's first appearance, animal sacrifices had to be offered in anticipation of Yahshua's shed blood. Today, we are to continue observing Yahweh's holy days with a spiritual sacrifice, having our hearts cleansed from sin, drawing close to Yahweh, our beloved Father in Heaven, through prayer

and spiritual worship.

Yahshua Kept Yahweh's Holy Days

We must remember that Yahshua Himself faithfully observed the annual feast days of Yahweh. His intention was not to fulfill them and then to abolish them, but to keep them as an example for His True Worshipers.

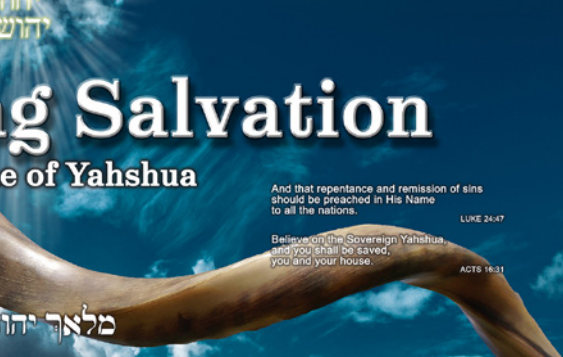
You may remember that it was Yahshua's custom to go into the synagogue on the seventh-day Sabbath, Luke 4:16. At every holy day during His ministry, He attended the worship services at the Temple in Jerusalem in obedience to the commandment of Almighty Yahweh that requires all males to appear before Him three times in the year, Exodus 23:14-17. You will note that no scriptural record can be found to show that Yahshua the Messiah ever sacrificed an animal, because He was free from sin. He needed no animal sacrifices to be offered.

Peter appropriately summarized

the perfect life of Yahshua the Messiah when He said, ***"For to this were you called: because the Messiah also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow his steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth...."*** (1 Peter 2:21-22). Yahshua lived a perfect life so that Yahweh's human creation would have an example of how a True Worshiper should conduct himself. Yahshua is our example. We must follow in His footsteps. If Yahshua kept Yahweh's holy days, then we should be observing them also!

The Apostolic Assembly Kept Them

After the Messiah's death, there is no record that the Apostolic Assembly made a change from observing Yahweh's holy days to keeping the holidays observed today in ch-rchianity. On the contrary, the Apostolic Assembly continued to observe the weekly, scriptural, seventh-day Sabbath,



Acts 13:14, 43-44. It is implied that the Days of Unleavened Bread were observed by the Messianic Assembly in Philippi and Troas, Acts 20:6.

Paul was determined to be in Jerusalem to worship on the Feast of Pentecost, Acts 20:16. He plainly tells his readers to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread, 1 Corinthians 5:8. In Acts 27:9, reference is made to the Day of Atonement, the great fast day in the fall of each year. We know from John 7 that Yahshua the Messiah observed the Feast of Tabernacles, and, without a doubt, the Apostolic Assembly followed in His footsteps.

To reiterate, there is no biblical evidence that the Apostolic Assembly ever changed Yahweh's holy days, nor is there any indication that they substituted other holidays for them. The Apostolic Assembly continued faithfully keeping Yahweh's commandments, which included the holy days, showing their love to Him by their obedience.

Yahweh's Sacred Appointments To Be Kept in the Millennium

The Scriptures clearly tell us that the holy days will be observed in the Millennium. For example, Yahweh shows us that the scriptural Sabbath will then be observed by all people. We have already read the passage from Ezekiel 46 where the Sabbaths (this includes the weekly Sabbath and the annual holy days) and the new moons will be observed in the Millennium.

The prophet Isaiah also predict-

ed the same, in Isaiah 66:22-23. ***"For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, says Yahweh, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, says Yahweh."***

If Yahweh's holy days will be kept in the Millennium, they must be kept in our time. We must learn how they are to be observed so that we can have the knowledge to teach others in the Kingdom of Yahweh the correct way to observe them. This adds great impetus to the observance of the holy days during the time in which we are now living.

We might also remember Exodus 31:12-18, where the scriptural Sabbath has been predicted to be kept forever.

Zechariah 14:16-19 teaches us that the Feast of Tabernacles will be observed during the Millennium.

"And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations that came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, Yahweh of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoever of all the families of the earth goes not up to Jerusalem to worship the King, Yahweh of hosts, upon them there shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt goes not up, and comes not, neither shall it be upon them; there shall be the plague

with which Yahweh will strike the nations that go not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all the nations that go not up to keep the feast of tabernacles."

Here Almighty Yahweh predicts that those who do not come up to worship Him and keep the Feast of Tabernacles will receive no rain. Drought will result, which can also be interpreted in a spiritual sense, if this rain symbolizes the sound doctrine teaching through the Holy Spirit. Should rebellion persist, a plague will be poured out. Bodies weakened through lack of proper nourishment are susceptible to disease. The term "family of Egypt" could actually refer to those who are committing sin by rebelling against Almighty Yahweh's Laws. In Hebrews 11:25, Egypt appears as a type of sin.

You cannot help sensing the great importance Almighty Yahweh attaches to the keeping of His holy days. If their observance is to be so vital during the Millennium that Yahweh promises to pour out severe plagues upon the disobedient, how could they be any less important today?

Notice also Hosea 12:9. ***"But I am Yahweh your Elohim from the land of Egypt; I will yet again make you to dwell in tents, as in the days of the solemn feast."*** This prophecy apparently means that each year we must keep Yahweh's Feast of Tabernacles to offer thanksgiving for the harvest. It is a time of great rejoicing and depicts the Kingdom

of Yahweh. The Last Great Day depicts eternity, following the six days of the age of man and the one day of Yahweh (seven prophetic one-thousand-year time periods) are fulfilled.

Depicting the Plan of Salvation

The feast days of Yahweh are important, because they outline the plan of salvation. The Passover comprises a preparation time. It is the memorial of Yahshua's death, when He shed His blood to atone for our sins. It is the preparation to keep the feast. The seven Days of Unleavened Bread signify the elimination of all that is wicked from our lives. It depicts the implanting of sound doctrine to direct every facet of the activities of our lives. Therefore, when we eliminate the sin that is caused by false doctrine, we shall become dedicated servants of the Most High and, eventually, children of Yahweh through obedience, which is exclusively directed by sound doctrine.

Obedience to Yahweh's commandments brings us Yahweh's Holy Spirit as the gift from the Almighty (Acts 5:32). That Holy

Spirit is Yahweh's life and mind coming to live within us, leading us into paths of righteousness. It is the guide to our spiritual growth, so that eventually we can be adopted into the Elohim family at the resurrection. This is depicted in the events that occurred at Pentecost—the ratification of Yahweh's Covenant at Mt. Sinai (Exodus 24:1-11)—and the outpouring of His Holy Spirit (Acts 2).

After these preparations are made, we approach the feasts of the latter part of the year. The first day (new moon day) of the seventh month is the Feast of Trumpets. From a comparison and harmony of various Scriptures, it becomes obvious that the Feast of Trumpets signifies a separation point. When the trumpets are blown, the righteous assemble, Numbers 10:2-3.

In ancient times, following the Feast of Trumpets, the people of Israel began their journey to Jerusalem to worship Yahweh during the Feast of Tabernacles. But the wicked will be marching toward the age-ending battle of Armageddon—the climactic battle of that great judgment day of


Yahweh the Almighty when He is victorious over the wicked nations, Revelation 11:15-18.

Additionally, the sounding of the great trumpet will herald the Second Coming of Yahshua the Messiah (Matthew 24:30 and 1 Thessalonians 4:16). Those who qualify, through faithfulness during their lives, receive their adoption into the family of the Most High. The Feast of Trumpets begins a nine-day period of introspection leading to the Day of Atonement, when Yahweh's people should have reached a point of spiritual perfection.

The Day of Atonement is more correctly translated "Day of Covering." It signifies a sacred time when we remember the blood covering Almighty Yahweh has provided for our sins. Sin separates between Yahweh and humankind, Isaiah 59:20. When Yahshua's blood is applied to the hearts of the repentant people, once again an **at-one-ment** between Yahweh and humankind can occur. Atonement was when Israel made a special effort to repent of all their sins and to be in as near as possible a state of spiritual perfection before our

***Barley comprised the first grain harvest of the year.
It symbolizes the first large spiritual harvest, the
Apostolic Assembly of the book of Acts.***





Finally, the grape harvest is reaped, and this represents the judgment of the wicked then alive.

Heavenly Father.

The Feast of Tabernacles portrays the day of Yahweh—the one-thousand-year-millennial reign of Yahshua the Messiah on this earth. Mortal mankind has been allotted six prophetic days of one thousand years each to achieve its goals and aims, 2 Peter 3:8-13. Man has fallen far short of perfection. Now Yahweh implements His program for this earth. The Last Great Day, or the eighth day of the feast, points toward eternity, when from the inside of each individual “living waters” will flow, John 7:37-38.

Earth's Harvest Pictured in the Feasts

In 1 Corinthians 15:20-26 we find outlined three separate resurrections. ***“But now has the Messiah been raised from the dead, the first fruits of them that are asleep. For since by***

man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in the Messiah shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: The Messiah the first fruits; then they that are the Messiah's, at his coming. Then comes the end, when he shall deliver up the kingdom to Yahweh, even the Father; when he shall have abolished all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be abolished is death.”

Yahshua the Messiah was the first human to be resurrected. Obediently He allowed Himself to be sacrificed for the sins of the world, and the Heavenly Father blessed Him with a resurrection to everlasting life. Yahshua is depicted in the firstfruits offering of the wave sheaf, Leviticus 23:9-15.

Barley comprised the first grain harvest of the year. It symbolizes the first large spiritual harvest, the Apostolic Assembly of the book of Acts. Joining these are the firstfruits of the wheat harvest, the greater grain harvest coming later in the agricultural year of Israel. This second resurrection is portrayed in the two wave loaves offered at Pentecost, Exodus 34:22. These people will live again at Messiah's Second Coming in the “out-from-the-dead” resurrection described in Philippians 3:11.

Finally, the grape harvest is reaped, and this represents the judgment of the wicked then alive, Revelation 14:17-20. At the end of the Millennium, all remaining dead will be resurrected and judged before Yahshua's great white throne, Revelation 20:11-15. Please compare this with Mat-

Continued on page 21.



Is HALLOWEEN a Pagan festival?

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

“You hypocrites, well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, This people honors me with their lips; But their heart is far from me. But in vain they worship me, Teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men.” (Matthew 15:7-9).

“When you have come into the land which Yahweh your Elohim gives you, you shall not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found with you anyone that makes his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, one that uses divina-

tion, one that practices augury, or an enchanter, or a sorcerer, or a charmer, or a consulter with a familiar spirit, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For whoever does these things is an abomination to Yahweh: and because of these abominations Yahweh your Elohim does drive them out from before you. You shall be perfect with Yahweh your Elohim. For these nations, that you shall dispossess, listen to them that practice augury, and to diviners; but as for you, Yahweh your Elohim has not permitted you to do so.” (Deuteronomy 18:9-14).

“And if any one ask you, Why

do you loose him? thus shall you say, The Teacher has need of him....But if we shall say, From men; all the people will stone us: for they are persuaded that John was a prophet.” (Luke 19:31 and 20:6).

“You shall not suffer a sorceress to live.” (Exodus 22:18).

Through the misguided religious leaders who were not called and ordained by Almighty Yahweh, the Creator of all mankind, the world today is being completely deceived into following customs and traditions that are not sanctioned by the Word of Almighty Yahweh. Satan has successfully persuaded the majority of people



to ignore the sound doctrines of the Bible so that they may observe the pagan customs and mythological traditions of men.

“For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, fashioning themselves into apostles of the Messiah. And no marvel; for even Satan fashions himself into an angel of light. It is no great thing therefore if his ministers also fashion themselves as ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.” (2 Corinthians 11:13-15).

One of the foremost festivals observed by today’s modern society is Halloween. Before blindly

following these deceptive customs, sincere people should ask the question, “Is it biblical or pagan?” ***“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh.”*** (Matthew 4:4). If we can prove that this popular festival actually was derived from paganism, and not from the Sacred Scriptures, we must zealously avoid its observance. Remember, we must live by every Word that has proceeded from Yahweh’s mouth.

Since the Bible comprises the only authority that mankind must follow for spiritual teaching, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness, to make the man of Yahweh complete, furnished completely to every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17), it is imperative that we peruse it to determine whether, indeed, our customs and practices are in harmony with its teachings.

In Leviticus 23, Yahweh has commanded that His people observe His weekly Sabbath and the seven annual festivals which are as follows: the Sabbath day on the sanctified seventh day of the week; Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread; the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost); the Feast of Trumpets; the Day of Atonement; the Feast of Tabernacles; and the Last Great Day. The reason for keeping Yahweh’s festivals is explained in Ezekiel 20:12-13. ***“Moreover also I gave them MY SABBATHS, TO BE A SIGN BETWEEN ME AND THEM, that they might know that I am Yahweh that sanctifies them. But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness: they walked not in my statutes, and they rejected my ordinances, WHICH IF A MAN KEEPS, HE SHALL LIVE IN THEM; AND MY SABBATHS***

THEY GREATLY PROFANED. Then I said I would pour out my wrath upon them in the wilderness, to consume them.”

Notice carefully the subordinate clause, ***“which if a man keeps, he shall live in them,”*** showing that not only the Israelites would benefit from obedience to these Sabbaths, but anyone who obeys them. See also Isaiah 56, where foreigners must keep Yahweh’s Sabbaths.

When we recognize that Yahweh has presented His Word only to the Israelites, then we must become very cautious concerning what we accept as truth. Listen to the Bible telling us where to look for His Truth. ***“He shows his word to Jacob, His statutes and his ordinances to Israel. HE HAS NOT DEALT SO WITH ANY NATION: AND AS FOR HIS ORDINANCES, THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN THEM. HALLELUYAH!”*** (Psalm 147:19-20). Read also Acts 7:35 and Romans 3:1-2. Yet, all the world is being called to repent of their sins so that they may be saved, Revelation 7:9-17 and 14:6-7.

Since Yahweh only gave **His** festivals to the Israelites who would remain faithful to Him and, in turn, teach the meaning of these holy days to all the nations around them, we note immediately that Halloween is NOT ONCE mentioned in the book of Leviticus, or **any other passage** in the Sacred Scriptures. The question then arises, “Who is responsible for the origination of Halloween?” Evidently, it was Satan, who, through his human instruments’ ingenuity, is successful in deceiving the majority of mankind into accepting a life of disobedience to the commandments of Almighty Yahweh. Satan deceived the whole world of mankind (Revelation 12:9) into



A Medieval Druid

Yahweh is not the author of Halloween, but probably the Druids were. The Druids were a pagan religious order in ancient England, Ireland, and France. Halloween is never found described, named, or commanded to be observed, anywhere in the Sacred Scriptures.

rejecting Yahweh's scripturally ordained festivals. Satan, in turn, established his own holidays, which Yahweh has not sanctified.

Because the world is so steeped in religious paganism, anytime we depart from the instructions found within the pages of the Sacred Scriptures, and we turn elsewhere to obtain information concerning the origin of our customs and festivals, we note the close similarity between ancient paganism and modern practices. It is, therefore, important that we scrutinize our sources very carefully to make certain our beliefs indeed harmonize with Yahweh's Will.

Now, let us take a closer look at Halloween. From library resource material, we find the following statements. The **Universal Standard Encyclopedia** has this to say: "HALLOWEEN OR ALL

the ancient Druids (q.v.), who believed that on that evening Saman [could this name stand for Satan?], the l-rd of the dead, called forth hosts of evil spirits. The Druids customarily lit great fires on Halloween, apparently for the purpose of warding off these spirits. Among the ancient Celts [to whom Paul wrote the book of Galatians], Halloween was the last evening of the year, and it was regarded as a propitious time for examining the portents of the future. The Celts also believed that the spirits of the dead revisited their earthly homes on that evening."

The following is a quote from **The Encyclopedia Britannica, Eleventh Edition**, from the article entitled "Halloween." "... Hallowe'en and its formerly attendant ceremonies long antedate Christianity. The two chief characteristics of ancient Hallowe'en

were the lighting of bonfires and the belief that of all nights in the year this is the one during which ghosts and witches are most likely to wander abroad. Now on or about the 1st of November the Druids held their great autumn festival and lighted fires in honour of the Sun-g-d in thanksgiving for the harvest. Further, it was a Druidic belief that on the eve of this festival Saman, l-rd of death, called together the wicked souls that within the past twelve months had been condemned to inhabit the bodies of animals. Thus it is clear that the main celebrations of Hallowe'en were purely Druidical, and this is further proved by the fact that in parts of Ireland the 31st of October was, and even still is, known as Oidche Shamhna, 'Vigil of Saman.'"

The above quotes show clearly that **Yahweh is not the author of Halloween**, but probably the Druids were. The Druids were a pagan religious order in ancient England, Ireland, and France. Halloween is never found described, named, or commanded to be observed, anywhere in the Sacred Scriptures. Why keep a throwback to a pagan festival?

Yahweh's thoughts about the state of death are different than that of unconverted humans, according to Ecclesiastes 9:5-6. **"For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know**

not anything, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. As well their love, as their hatred and their envy, is perished long ago; neither have they any more a portion forever in anything that is done under the sun. When a person dies, his soul does not go to heaven. The human being is dead. Were it not for the promise of the resurrection, mankind would remain permanently dead.

The origin of this doctrine concerning the dead coming back to life can be traced to Satan all the way back to the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:4-5). ***“And the serpent said unto the woman, You shall not surely die: for Elohim knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as Elohim, knowing good and evil.”***

Halloween is believed to refer to the “holy” or “hallowed” evening before a holy day. According to Christianity, this day is called “All Saints Day.” The following is a quote from the book entitled **My Catholic Faith**, by Louis LaRavoire Morrow, where we read from page 417: *“On this day the ch-rch honors all the angels and saints in heaven. It is a holy day obligation. This day is a great family feast. It has its origin in the year 610, when Boniface IV dedicated the Pantheon of Rome to the Blessed Virgin and all the martyrs. It is in special commemoration of the millions of saints in heaven who have not been officially canonized by the church, and thus have not special commemoration during the year.”*

In 835 C.E., Pope Gregory IV established the first day of November on the Christian calendar as All Saints Day. Since Yahweh Elohim is the only one who can sanctify

and make a day holy, as He did with the seventh day of the week and the seven annual festivals of Leviticus 23, who then authorized that a man also can do so?

Notice, additionally, that the observance of this Catholic holy day is rooted in the ancient Pantheon in Rome, a building that housed numerous pagan mighty ones. Pantheon, in Greek, means *all the mighty ones*. Can Yahweh’s holy days be associated with paganism? The answer is a resounding NO! Nevertheless, man-made holy days are rooted in paganism. As we have seen from the above, instead of destroying the Pantheon, as stipulated in Deuteronomy 12:2-3, Boniface turned the building housing statues of ancient pagan elohim into a **ch-rch** to honor all of the Christian saints. What a travesty!

In Ecclesiastes 1:9, the Bible tells us that there is nothing new under the sun. Many of the roots of holiday celebrations favored by the nations of this world can be traced ultimately into the vile bowels of paganism.

Is it any coincidence that the **very** evening on which the Druids celebrated the last of the old year is designated for celebrating Halloween today? **NO!** Only the names have been changed; the festivities have been hardly altered. The Druids considered October 31 as the last night of the old year, when Saman, the ruler of death, would gather the souls of those who died in the past year, and would designate what form they should take through

the coming year.

The majority of people have turned their backs on the festivals of Almighty Yahweh to revel in man-made holidays, a clear violation of Jeremiah 10:2-3, which admonishes us: ***“Thus says Yahweh, Learn not the way of the nations, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the nations are dismayed at them. For the customs of the peoples are vanity; for one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman with the axe.”***

This is one of the reasons for the judgments of Yahweh being in the earth today, as we read in Ezekiel 11:12. ***“And you shall know that I am Yahweh: for you have not walked in my statutes, neither have you executed my ordinances, but have done after the ordinances of the nations that are all around you.”***

We have seen that the commandments of Yahweh are a sign for those who obey and keep His Word, to become Yahweh’s people. Therefore, since Halloween is not scriptural, those



who celebrate it place themselves outside Yahweh's realm and actually take the side of Satan the Adversary! Some people might respond: "So what if the Druids invented it? We don't worship Saman or Satan! We are merely letting our children have some fun. What harm could that be?"

Let us not forget that the pagan peoples of the land of Canaan, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Hivites, were all involved in this very type of pagan worship. Let us hear what Yahweh instructed the Israelites to do in Deuteronomy 7:2, ***"And when Yahweh your Elohim shall deliver them up before you, and you shall defeat them; then you shall utterly destroy them: you shall make no covenant with them, nor show mercy unto them."***

Why was Yahweh so harsh to these people? Because they were so corrupted and polluted by pagan religious practices that they were useless to Him and constituted a threat to His chosen people. Verse 4 explains why they had to die. ***"For he will turn away your son from following me, that they may serve other elohim: so will the anger of Yahweh be kindled against you, and he will destroy you quickly."***

How much longer will the religious organizations of this world and their adherents tolerate this abominable, pagan custom of

Halloween, in view of the stern admonitions from Yahweh's Word? Could Halloween still be viewed as merely something wonderful for the children to enjoy, an innovation of Almighty Yahweh? Does Almighty Yahweh, our Father in heaven, smile benignly upon these **harmless** traditions? The answer is NO. Yahweh calls them an abomination in His sight.

Who, then, is responsible for this corrupt pagan custom? The Apostle Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, ***"And even if our message of good tidings is veiled, it is veiled in them that perish: in whom the mighty one of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that the light of the good tidings of the glory of the Messiah, who is the image of Elohim, should not dawn upon them."***

Yahshua our Messiah is the example for mankind, and He did not celebrate Halloween nor any of the pagan festivals, only the feasts (holy days) of Yahweh. Satan has blinded the minds of the people of the world and it is he who is responsible for Babylon, this modern system of worldly confusion. Clearly, Satan has invented counterfeit holy days to undermine Yahweh's commandments.

Today, the Assemblies of Yahweh strives to walk in the footsteps of Yahshua the Messiah, keeping the same festivals

He kept (Leviticus 23). We speak out strongly against substitute observances, because they are pagan, idolatrous customs masquerading in biblical garb. For this obedience to the Sacred Scriptures, some people call us a cult, but who, really, are the cults? Is it those who live by **every Word** that proceeds from the mouth of Yahweh, or those who follow man-made pagan holidays? The Halloween celebration cannot even be prooftexted by the Bible; therefore, it must be condemned without reservation.

Like EliYah the prophet, the Assemblies of Yahweh is asking the same question found in 1 Kings 18:21. ***"And EliYah came near to all the people, and said, How long will you go limping [jumping back and forth] between the two sides? If Yahweh is Elohim, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word."***

Is Halloween biblical or pagan? You must decide. The evidence clearly reveals that it is derived from pagan sources and must be rejected by all True Worshipers.

We have proven that it is unscriptural. We should not acknowledge it in any acceptable manner. We should meticulously spurn its customs. ^{SNB}

For this obedience to the Sacred Scriptures, some people call us a cult, but who, really, are the cults? Is it those who live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of Yahweh, or those who follow man-made pagan holidays?

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot: I would rather you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spew you out of my mouth."

REVELATION 3:15-16

Hot, Cold, or Lukewarm?

From a most insignificant and seemingly inconsequential beginning in the mid-1960s, the Assemblies of Yahweh organization has come a long way to the point that we have reached today. From the history of the nominal "Sacred Name Movement," which I have been able to glean from the past, the Assemblies of Yahweh today has achieved the greatest momentum which has ever been evident in any segment of the "Sacred Name Movement." When the Sacred Name began to be proclaimed again in the latter

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1930s, there were a few people who stepped forth in faith to this restored Truth which had been revealed by the Holy Spirit. A most discouraging revelation has been the fact that many who had accepted and believed the Sacred Name at that time never remained faithful, but they turned aside and departed from Bible Truth over

the intervening years.

It is imperative that we, as members of the Body of the Messiah, come to realize that not everyone who uses the Sacred Name can be accepted as one of Yahweh's people. We might point as examples to such established churches as the Roman Catholics, the Lutherans, the Jehovah's Witnesses, and others, who use the Sacred Name occasionally, or, perhaps, somewhat frequently, but who could hardly be called brethren in the Faith.

Over the years which have

spanned the latter-day Sacred Name Movement, insincere individuals have entered the ranks and some people have accepted them merely because they were using the Sacred Name. At some of the feast day assemblies, which I have attended since my first one in 1964, individuals who held a wide spectrum of doctrines were allowed great freedom in the groups simply because they were using the Sacred Name.

By way of illustration, one dear elderly lady (whom we had come to know and love soon after Mrs. Meyer and I had begun our search to find the true Assembly) heard a noted radio evangelist use the Sacred Name over the air. Immediately she dashed off a letter to him, calling him “brother,” encouraging him to continue using the Sacred Name, and she enclosed a \$5 bill as an offering. However, this did not influence him to continue to remain on the pathway of Truth.

Some time later, a similar incident occurred with this same elderly lady again leaping to the same conclusion that another radio minister was one of “us” simply because she had heard him use the Sacred Name a few times over the air. Needless to say, neither of these men ever came into the true reconstituted Assemblies of Yahweh, nor did they ever teach anything remotely resembling sound doctrine. This elderly lady continued to communicate with such people who were teaching false doctrines, but were using the Sacred Name, almost up to the very time of her death, although I had warned her repeatedly about accepting anyone without first testing their dedication to sound doctrine.

We have come to the point in these last days when sound doctrine will comprise a major aspect in our quest for eternal salvation.

As I pointed out previously, not everyone who is using the Sacred Name today can be accepted as a spiritual brother or sister simply because he or she is using the Sacred Name. Some of the most vile and despicable doctrines promulgated today are masquerading behind the Sacred Name. These doctrines are most abhorrent to our Heavenly Father Yahweh, because we find His injunctions against accepting them, or the people who are teaching them, into our midst during the holy convocations.

“But these rail at whatever things they know not: and what they understand naturally, like the creatures without reason, in these things they are destroyed. Woe to them! for they went in the way of Cain, and ran riotously in the error of Balaam for hire, and perished in the criticism of Korah. These are they who are hidden rocks at your love-feasts when they feast with you, shepherds that without fear feed themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; wild waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the blackness of darkness has been reserved forever. And to these also Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, Behold, Yahweh came with ten thousands of his holy ones, to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the lawless of all their works of lawlessness which they have wickedly worked, and all the hard things which wicked sinners have spoken against him. These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their lusts, (and their mouth speaks great swelling words), showing

If we wish to influence the new people to stay in the Assemblies of Yahweh, we must practice what we preach! We must ever be mindful that someone is watching us. This may not necessarily be the new members, or the ministers, but we must be mindful that our Heavenly Father Yahweh has His eyes upon us at all times.

respect of persons for the sake of advantage.” (Judah 10-16).

One of the most prominent characteristics by which these false teachers may be recognized is that these people will not allow themselves to be corrected when they are in error. They will not accept the Truth which is evident in the Sacred Scriptures, preferring, rather, to retain their false doctrines and continue to divide and scatter the flock of Yahweh. It is now most evident that the people who are supporting The



Sacred Name Broadcast and the Assemblies of Yahweh in a dedicated manner are concerned that we walk together in unity of doctrine just as our Savior has indicated that His true followers will be doing, John 17:20-23.

“Neither for these only do I pray, but for them also that believe on me through their word; that they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us; that the world may believe that you did send

me. And the glory which you have given me I have given to them; that they may be one, even as we are one; I in them, and you in me, that they may be perfected into one; that the world may know that you did send me, and loved them, even as you loved me.”

It is obvious that the brethren who affiliate themselves as members of the Assemblies of Yahweh have studied the Bible diligently. They have allowed it to correct them, instead of approaching

it with a determined attitude wherein they insist on correcting the Scriptures so that they may retain their false doctrines which they have carried over from denominational christianity.

Having seen many people come and go in my years in the ministry, I have often questioned the sincerity and dedication to Bible Truth of these wayward people. Just what motive did they have in mind when they tried to bring their false doctrines into the True Worship? Why did they reject any



Now I beseech you, brethren, through the name of our Sovereign Yahshua the Messiah, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that you be perfected together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10

correction which the elders saw fit to offer? Over the years, all of us have seen that many newcomers have become discouraged, some even falling quickly away because they were disheartened by the apparent lack of dedication which they encountered, lack of dedication to strict Bible Truth, and obvious insincerity or hypocrisy in the lives of various so-called believers. With the great potential which we envision ahead for the Assemblies of Yahweh in the near future, we cannot at all afford to drift aimlessly along in a state of unconcerned complacency! The second coming of our beloved Savior, Yahshua our Messiah, is drawing ever nearer and the goal that each one of us should have as his sole objective is to meet our

Savior in the air when He returns! To achieve this goal, we must bring forth the good fruits of the Holy Spirit which will merit recognition and approval by our Savior.

As I look back and reflect on the complacency which I encountered in our investigation of the Sacred Name Movement years ago, I wonder where the Assemblies of Yahweh would be today if the people who began the exodus from paganism would have been as dedicated as they should have been. The Truth which I am strongly preaching today is so reasonable and simple, so easy to understand and, yet, so very exciting, that it cannot help but make friends and converts. Even allowing for the spiritual coldness which has beset our modern contemporary

society, there are still almost innumerable people who are sincerely interested in their eternal salvation and in learning the Truth of the Scriptures. If this Bible Truth is presented in an educated and straightforward manner, accompanied by an attitude of sincere dedication, it will make just as many converts as it did in Apostolic days. This realization has become most evident to me during the past 40 years of the radio broadcasting ministry. It is the responsibility of all of the brethren of the Assemblies of Yahweh to be examples of what a True Worshiper should be—dedicated, and not hypocritical stumbling blocks which might cause some new inquirer to turn away from the Faith.

During recent Feasts of Tab-

ernacles, I was much encouraged by the remarks of many of the brethren in attendance as they have observed that the people who have assembled appeared to be so different from the members of the nominal churches. The Assemblies of Yahweh brethren appeared "to be trying to live lives which are pleasing to Yahweh, instead of seeking ways in which they could avoid obedience." Here is the only way in which we may ever become the great people which we should be today—a people worthy of being the family of Yahweh! It is no longer acceptable to our Savior to drift along apathetically as do the people of the denominational churches. We are different!

If we wish to influence the new people to stay in the Assemblies

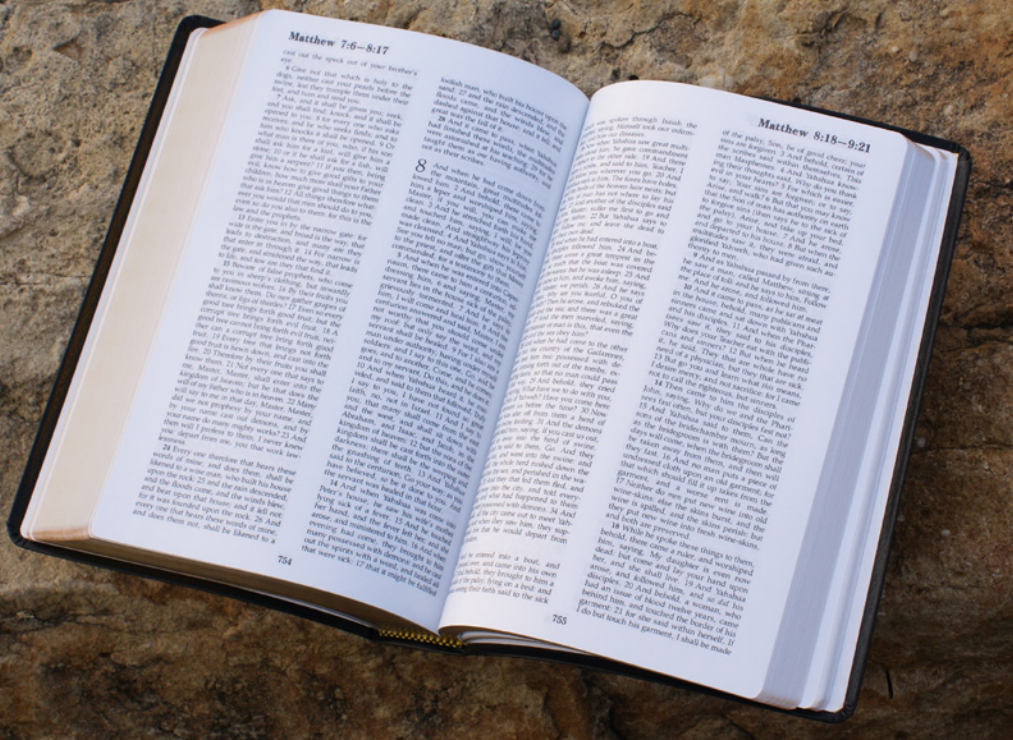
of Yahweh, we must practice what we preach! We must ever be mindful that someone is watching us. This may not necessarily be the new members, or the ministers, but we must be mindful that our Heavenly Father Yahweh has **His eyes** upon us at all times. The angels of Yahweh are always watching how we live. Some people may imagine that they are "pulling a fast one" on their pastor, or on the other brethren, but it is imperative that we, Yahweh's True Worshipers, realize that we are **always** under the scrutiny of our Heavenly Father. We must actually FEAR TO DISPLEASE HIM, or to be disobedient to His commandments!

Without a doubt, this is one of the basic reasons why we have

all united together now in this dynamic organization, the Assemblies of Yahweh. We have all studied the Bible, and we know what it demands of us. The brethren in Messiah should fear to displease our Heavenly Father; therefore, we have corrected our lives accordingly. In doing this, we have found spiritual brethren who have done likewise, and we stand firmly together as a **united army** under the banner of Yahweh Nissi just as did the new, young Israel anciently when they were about to enter the Promised Land.

I have always concluded that this latter-day exodus from paganism and sin by the Assemblies of Yahweh is comparable to the exodus of ancient Israel from Egypt as recorded in the books





of Exodus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. We have found ourselves in bondage to sin just as Israel was in bondage to the Egyptian Pharaoh. When the old, nominal Sacred Name Believers of the 1930s began to make their exodus, they initially made great strides in the right direction, but most did not have the determination to **go all the way**. Some of those people died along the way, just as did some of our Israelite forefathers in the scriptural wilderness.

Now a new generation has been raised up, and we have taken the place of those people of years ago. These people died both physically and spiritually, because they allowed false doctrine to creep into their ranks. We, today, should be determined to hold fast faithfully to the sound doctrines as we have learned and proved them, rejecting anything false and, above all, striving to keep them out of this organization. We must give false doctrine no voice of any kind, so that it does not adversely influence any of the lambs of the flock. If we are not faithful in doing this, we may die spiritually, just as did others along the way.

In the Sacred Scriptures, we

find many exhortations by the Apostles and prophets that the family of Yahweh must be a dedicated, unified, and a forward-looking people. This is obvious from the Sacred Scriptures, such as 1 Corinthians 1:10; Hebrews chapters 11 and 12; Jacob (James) 4:4; and 2 Peter chapter 2. Yahweh's people are described as those who do not love this world, nor the things of this present world, 1 John 2:15-17. This will be a hard task for us to accomplish, but it will be necessary for everyone who enters the Assemblies of Yahweh to reorient our thinking and goals in life, if we are to be able to overcome the worldliness of Laodiceanism that is devouring various elements of nominal religion like a contagious cancer. Brethren, we have the opportunity to see our labors bear abundant fruit in the near future. Will we drag our feet, or will we march strongly ahead in unity, in complete obedience, and in voluntary subjection to our Heavenly Father Yahweh? Have we forgotten that our Heavenly Father has omnipotent power, or do we diminish from His majesty, as do the members of nominal

Christianity? We do not have the option to take liberties with the inspired Word, or we will fall backward and be overcome just as were our forefathers in the exodus from Egypt.

We, who are the young Israel, the younger generation, members of the Assemblies of Yahweh in sound doctrine, are indeed the mainstream and majority of Yahshua's reconstituted end-time Assembly, converse to the splintered, divided sects of the nominal "Sacred Name Movement." We need not compromise with false doctrine in the future as the Sacred Name Movement has done in past decades. The Body of the Messiah is not an "effeminate weakling," but the time has come for all of us to exhibit righteous indignation over complacency and over false doctrine, just as did our Savior when He cast out the merchandisers from the temple, as described in Mark 11:15-17.

The kind of dedicated, spiritual life in the Assemblies of Yahweh which I am describing will not be easy. It may be difficult to learn to live as Yahweh has directed that His people live in order to gain eternal salvation which He has promised to all those who obey Him. This is indeed a "Narrow Way!"

However, consider the great rewards which we will receive for faithfulness! We have received the Holy Spirit of Yahweh Elohim and of Yahshua our Messiah living within us which will always lead us into paths of righteousness and make a difficult journey easy through Yahweh's mighty spiritual power! On the opposite side, we should always remember the reward of eternal death that we can expect to receive for sin, for unfaithfulness, and for a lack of dedication to Almighty Yahweh

Elohim and to Yahshua, Who is the captain of our salvation. Please refer to Hebrews 10:24-39, 6:4-6 and 2 Peter 2:20-22.

If we, who are the living members of the Assemblies of Yahweh, continue to move ahead from this point, we may achieve the state of becoming the Assembly of Philadelphia fulfilled in these latter days. We will receive supernatural protection during the days of trouble that lie just ahead. If we do not achieve the dedication which characterizes this Assembly (Revelation 3:7-13), we will fall backward and become the direct fulfillment of the Assembly at Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-21). Let each one of us ask ourself the question, as individuals, are we HOT, COLD, or LUKEWARM? If we have become cold or lukewarm, let's get back to the thrill of living zealously for our Savior as we did when we first came into the Assemblies of Yahweh and began to learn this glorious Truth. Let us all maintain our dedication to the **Narrow Way** outlined by Yahshua the Messiah, which will lead us to eternal life in the glorious Kingdom of Yahweh in the years just ahead!

“Enter you in by the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many are they that enter in through it. For narrow is the gate, and straitened the way, that leads to life, and few are they that find it.” (Matthew 7:13-14).

Let us orient our lives to show that we are “hot”—on fire for Yahweh and His Truth! Let us not become as the Laodiceans, who will be cast away because they will not repent, and zealously seek first the Kingdom of Yahweh, as Yahshua the Messiah instructed them. SNB



Observing Yahweh's Feasts

Continued from page 9.

threw 25:31-46 and 1 Corinthians 15:24-28.

Blessings for Obedience

We have seen that the worldly holidays are commanded nowhere in the Scriptures to be kept. The Bible instructs the True Worshipers to keep a different set of holy days—the feast days of Yahweh. What could be wrong with being obedient to Yahweh's commandments? In the Scriptures, we find blessings promised for keeping the commandments. Such spiritual blessings were bestowed upon Israel during the time of King Hezekiah, 2 Chronicles 30. Those blessings will be poured out in abundance upon the people of Yahweh in the Millennium. Already we may savor those blessings in these last days. Don't you want to receive them? All you need to do is obey Yahweh's commandments and you will be blessed.

In our time, the encouragement of Nahum 1:15 still rings true. ***“Behold, upon the mountains the feet of him that brings good tidings, that publishes peace!”***

Keep your feasts, O Judah, perform your vows; for the wicked one shall no more pass through you; he is utterly cut off.” The feasts of Yahweh are and always shall be important.

We can know that we are Yahweh's people through obedience to His Laws and by keeping the holy days which He has outlined for us. Our faith in the Word may be strengthened when we behold the things they depict. Nevertheless, each individual must make the decision personally and voluntarily. Will you obey and be blessed, or continue to disobey and receive the curse (judgment)? The choice is yours. SNB

Editor's Note:

If you would like more information about keeping Yahweh's holy days with the Assemblies of Yahweh, write to: Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA 19507, or telephone (717) 933-4518. www.AssembliesofYahweh.com

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