A full-page photograph of a waterfall in a dense forest. The waterfall is the central focus, with water cascading over mossy rocks into a pool of vibrant turquoise water. The surrounding forest is thick with green foliage and trees, with some branches framing the top and sides of the image. The title text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

# THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

3/2024

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An *Assemblies of Yahweh* publication.  
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## CONTENTS



Page 1

### 1 *The Blood of the Covenant, Part 3*

*The third segment of this informative series will show clearly how the sacrifices of the Old Testament were fulfilled by Yahshua the Messiah.*

### 10 *The First Fruits Assembly*

*The first fruits of every harvest is the best, first ripe fruit, and is holy to Yahweh. Will you be a part of this end-time Assembly that is elect and holy to our Heavenly Father Yahweh?*



Page 10

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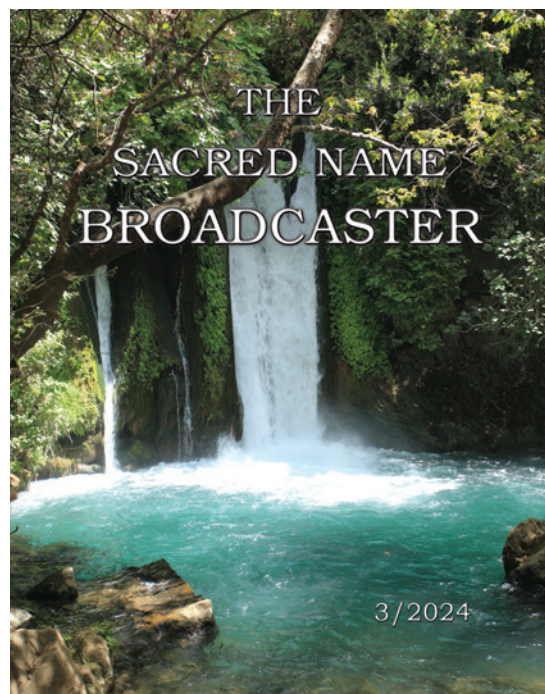
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**Founder and Author:** Elder Jacob O. Meyer

### Our Cover:

*The Baniyas Waterfall is our cover this month. Flowing from Mt. Hermon snow melt, these waters flow south to Chinnereth, the Sea of Galilee, and, eventually, into the Dead Sea.*



3/2024

*The headwaters of the Jordan, the Baniyas, Hasbani, and Dan flow out of the bottom of Mt. Hermon near the Herodian town of Panias, later named Caesarea Philippi by his son, Philip the Tetrarch.*

*When Yahshua came to Caesarea Philippi in Matthew 16:13, He asked His disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" Peter answered forthrightly, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living Elohim."*

*Do you believe that Yahshua the Messiah is the only-begotten Son of Yahweh? "And we have beheld and bear witness that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever shall confess that Yahshua is the son of Yahweh, Elohim lives in him, and he in Elohim." (1 John 4:14-15).*

*"And now, why do you wait? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on his name." (Acts 22:16).*



# The Blood of the Covenant

***“And the blood shall be to you for a token on the houses where you are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and there shall no plague be on you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.” (Exodus 12:13).***

What is considered to be the most dangerous and damaging human plague? The Bubonic Plague, which wiped out two-thirds of the population of Europe during the Dark Ages, is reputed to be one of the most feared plagues of mankind. We might also be reminded of the influenza

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by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

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epidemic that swept across the world following World War I during 1918, 1919, and 1920. Corpses awaiting burial were stacked in heaps in such cities as Chicago, because they could not be buried fast enough. Truly, influenza is also a plague that must be feared. We might recall cholera epidemics that claimed multiple thousands of lives in Asia, or of malaria and yellow fever epidemics that decimated many thousands of people

in various tropical areas.

We might recall the epidemics of typhoid, polio, or measles which claimed many victims, even in the United States. All of these plagues have taken an incredible number of human lives throughout the world. However, they bear no spiritual significance, as do the plagues described in the book of Exodus.

Let us consider the tenth plague unleashed upon Egypt at the time of the Exodus. It was so severe that the Egyptian Pharaoh forthwith freed the nation of Israel from slavery. This plague from Yahweh

fell as a judgment from heaven, because the land of Egypt was a land of sin. Sin means the breaking of Yahweh's Laws, 1 John 3:4. Judgment from Almighty Yahweh is His punishment for disobedience to His commandments.

The blood of the Passover lamb was smeared on the lintel and the side posts of the houses of the Israelites, as Yahweh directed. This plague did not come near to the dwelling places of Israel. It protected them from Yahweh's judgment. They had an accepted sacrifice, whereas the Egyptians did not.

This plague upon Egypt (the tenth plague), the physical killing of the first born, actually portrays a spiritual type for our time in Romans 6:23—***“For the wages of sin is death; but the free gift of Yahweh is eternal life in the Messiah Yahshua our Master.”***

***“On the houses where you are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you [the Hebrew term *pesach*], and there shall no plague be on you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.”*** (Exodus 12:13).

The wages (reward for) of sin is death. The Egyptians were guilty of idolatry. Each of the plagues was intended by Yahweh to demonstrate His judgment against their idols. Consequently, because they did not place their faith in Almighty Yahweh by humbling themselves to obedience, the Egyptians died. The firstborn of each family, every household, whether man or animal, died by the stroke of Yahweh's judgment in the most violent plague, the 10th one.

What does the Sacred Scriptures tell us could be the greatest plague that will ever strike humankind? Let us turn for the answer to 1 Corinthians 15:54-55. ***“But when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption,***

***and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then the saying shall come to pass that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. Oh death, where is your victory? Oh death, where is your sting?”***

The worst human plague is death itself, or, by extension, a death that means eternal separation from Almighty Yahweh and the absence of His life from within you for all eternity.

Sin separates us from Almighty Yahweh, as Isaiah 59:1-2 tells us. ***“Behold, Yahweh's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your Elohim, and your sins have hid his face from you, so that he will not hear.”*** This separation, through sin, between righteous Yahweh and His sinful human creation demands His judgment. The only alternative to receiving the righteous judgment from heaven is to accept His prescribed method of reconciliation. Otherwise, we can anticipate nothing other than eternal death at the hands of a righteous Mighty One. Of ourselves, we have no life. Only Yahweh Himself is the source of life, because He is the Creator.

In part two of this series, we studied 2 Chronicles chapter 29, which describes the sacrifice made by Hezekiah; we saw clearly how the animal sacrifices were conducted in the Temple. Remember that the priests caught the blood of the slaughtered animals in basins, as you read in Leviticus 1:5, etc. This blood was then sprinkled around the base of the sacrificial altar.

Additionally, blood was shed when Israel concluded their unequivocal agreement to Yahweh's Covenant, Exodus 24:5-8. The Word says, ***“He took the book of the covenant, and read in the***

***audience of the people....”*** All of the Israelites accepted the terms of Yahweh's Covenant they had heard. The congregation of Israel responded by acknowledging, ***“All that Yahweh has spoken we will do, and be obedient.”***

Moses, therefore, took of this sacrificial blood and sprinkled it on the people. The blood of the Covenant stands as a barrier between Yahweh's judgment and His people, because all have sinned (Romans 3:23). Romans 6:23 tells us, ***“The wages of sin is death....”*** As a consequence, some sort of substitute blood sacrifice must reunite Yahweh and His people.

Each of us must, individually, agree to be bound by Yahweh's Covenant, agreeing to obey His Laws faithfully, with all our hearts. After that agreement is made, we still do not achieve salvation, however, for we have sinned beforehand. Our death must occur at some time to pay the ultimate penalty for our sins. ***One who sins must receive the wages (reward) of death.*** It has been so decreed by the righteous Judge. There can be no avoiding the final sentence for disobedience to the way of life prescribed by Yahweh, the Most High. Notice carefully how the Apostle Paul explains this conclusion in the resurrection chapter of 1 Corinthians 15:21-26. ***“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***



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***put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be abolished is death."***

In the era of ancient Israel, animals (oxen, sheep, or goats) were sacrificed as a substitute for the sinful human being. From all of these sacrificed animals one could expect to extract tubs of blood. Each Israelite who stood there on the plain before Sinai that day had to receive a drop of blood sprinkled upon him to seal the Covenant with Yahweh. Moses sprinkled the people with the blood of the Covenant, and the Israelites, thereby, accepted the Covenant, willingly accepting the substitute sacrifice which would bind the terms of a reunion, Exodus 24:1-8.

Had Israel maintained their resolution to keep the commandments of Yahweh, that one sacrifice (the Passover lamb) would have served as their only necessary sacrifice. Turn to Jeremiah 7:21-24 for proof. ***"In this manner says Yahweh of hosts, the Elohim of Israel: Add your burnt-offerings to your sacrifices,***

***and eat flesh. FOR I SPOKE NOT TO YOUR FATHERS, NOR COMMANDED THEM IN THE DAY THAT I BROUGHT THEM OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT, CONCERNING BURNT-OFFERINGS OR SACRIFICES: but THIS THING I COMMANDED THEM, saying, LISTEN TO MY VOICE, AND I WILL BE YOUR ELOHIM, AND YOU SHALL BE MY PEOPLE; AND WALK IN ALL THE WAY THAT I COMMAND YOU, THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU. But THEY LISTENED NOT, nor inclined their ear, but WALKED IN THEIR OWN COUNSELS and in the STUBBORNNESS of their EVIL HEART, and went BACKWARD and NOT FORWARD."***

What does Yahweh say here? The initial Covenant sacrifice, along with the Passover, should have been sufficient to bind the terms of the Covenant. Had Israel maintained their dedication to Almighty Yahweh and His Covenant, no further sacrifices would have

been necessary.

However, almost immediately after Yahweh entered into the Covenant with Israel, they failed to obey its terms. Yahweh allowed them to experience a test to prove them. By removing the authority figure from over them to determine how they would react, Yahweh would prove whether they would continue to maintain their dedication to His Covenant. He removed Moses for 40 days while Yahweh had a conference with him upon the Mount. Israel miserably failed this test by sinning immediately. They made an idol image to worship and, thereupon, engaged in a pagan feast.

Psalm 111:5-8 states, ***"He has given food to them that fear him: He will ever be mindful of his covenant. He has showed his people the power of his works, In giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of his hands are truth and justice; All his precepts are sure. They are established for ever and ever; They are done in***

*The Azazel goat was sent out into the wilderness. This goat represents Satan and all who follow him.*



*truth and uprightness.”* Among His people Yahweh expects to find the same type of perfect character that He has. He expects His people to live sin-free.

Yahweh has sent redemption to His people, because all human beings have sinned and fallen short of the glory of Yahweh. We must be redeemed again from this separation, for **HE HAS COMMANDED HIS COVENANT FOREVER. The Covenant of Yahweh stands forever**; therefore, the people of Yahweh must repent of their past sins, obey the Covenant, and endure in these promised terms to the end. Those who insist that the Law of Yahweh is done away with after the Messiah's death have not taken into account every Scripture on the subject. Psalm 119 dramatically hammers home that incontrovertible fact.

### **The Atonement Service Portrays Yahshua**

The sacrifice that Almighty Yahweh requires is outlined in the

Atonement day sacrifice, described in Leviticus 16:8. Let us examine the passage carefully to determine its meaning.

**“And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats...”** Two goats were taken for a sin offering from the flocks of Israel. These two goats were supposed to be identical twins, or close look-alikes. Aaron had no way to determine the goat Yahweh Himself was selecting for which purpose, except for Yahweh to reveal His wishes to him through the lot. (Remember, the Holy Spirit of discernment was not yet universally given.) Yahweh had His personal reasons for selecting one goat, or the other, for a special purpose.

**“And Aaron shall present the goat on which the lot fell for Yahweh, and offer him for a sin-offering.”** (verse 9). The sin offering is the one Yahweh selects for Himself. Mankind can only agree with what Yahweh Elohim has approved.

Yahweh looks upon the heart. He is able to look into our hearts

and discern our attitude and character. One lot fell upon the goat of the sin offering for Yahweh. The other lot fell to Azazel. The Azazel goat would serve a different purpose than a sin offering.

Consequently, the goat on which the lot fell for Azazel would be able to experience the atoning blood of the goat for Yahweh. The Azazel goat was sent away from the people of Israel. Those who follow Satan (represented by Azazel) in rejecting Yahweh's own sacrifice must also be sent away from Israel. Satan the devil himself rejected Yahweh's plan of salvation, yet he knew it to be true.

The Azazel goat was sent out into the wilderness. This goat represents Satan and all who follow him. Jacob (James) stated that the devils believe and tremble, but they do not obey. Had they obeyed, Yahshua's atonement would have covered them also. But they persisted in rejecting Yahweh's Word and His Covenant, flagrantly disobeying the commandments of Yahweh, which they knew to

be true.

First, the High Priest had to kill his own animal (a bull) to make a sacrifice for himself so he would be clean. Then he would be qualified to offer the sacrifice for the congregation. Next, he killed the goat of the sin offering for the people, bringing the blood inside the veil. The atonement blood was then sprinkled on and before the mercy seat. ***“Then he shall kill the goat of the sin-offering, that is for the people, and bring his blood inside the veil, and do with his blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it on the mercy-seat, and before the mercy-seat: and he shall make atonement for the holy place, because of the uncleannesses of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions, even all their sins: and so shall he do for the tent of meeting, that dwells with them in the middle of their uncleannesses.”*** (Leviticus 16:15-16).

Yahweh didn't do away with His Law by this ceremonial blood sacrifice, did He? He covered over the sin of His people with a blood sacrifice. The sacrifice of the goat of the sin offering was made to atone for (or cover) the sins of the children of Israel. He covered over Israel's uncleannesses and forgave their transgressions, which He identifies as “all their sins.”

***“And there shall be no man in the tent of meeting when he goes in to make atonement in the holy place, until he comes out, and has made atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the assembly of Israel. And he shall go out to the altar that is before Yahweh, and make atonement for it, and shall take of the blood of the bullock, and of the blood of the goat, and put it all around on***

***the horns of the altar.”*** (Leviticus 16:17-18).

The altar described here was the golden altar of incense. The priest was required to take the blood of the bullock and the blood of the goat and put it all around on the horns of the altar. He shall sprinkle the blood on it with his finger seven times, to cleanse and hallow it from all the uncleannesses of the children of Israel.

The altar of burnt offering was actually receiving blood sacrifices on a daily basis. This consisted of at least the minimum offering of two lambs each day, one at morning and one at evening. The altar of incense stood inside the Tabernacle and was placed immediately before the curtain of the Holy of Holies. When that curtain was drawn back once a year, the golden altar of incense was considered a part of the Holy of Holies, united as one. For proof, turn to Hebrews 9:3-4 and, then, compare 1 Kings 6:22.

When an end was made of offering for the holy place, the tent of meeting, and the golden incense altar, the high priest presented the live goat before Yahweh. Aaron laid both his hands on the head of the live goat and confessed over it all the iniquities of the children of Israel. All their transgressions and sins were put on the head of that animal. The goat then bears the responsibility, or receives the load of the sins of the people of this world, obviously pointing toward Satan as their author and originator.

This significant ceremony was regularly performed every year on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), Tishri 10, to remind Israel that Yahweh's people are not a part of the system of this world bent on transgression and sin. Rather, we, the people of Yahweh, have Yahweh's blood

covering of His Covenant. In the Old Testament, that blood covering consisted of slain animals. In the New Testament era (in which we are now living), it is represented by the suffering and death of Yahshua the Messiah. Actually, the Messiah's sacrifice is prophesied for us in such scriptural texts as Genesis 3:15 and Isaiah 53.

### Vain Sacrifice

Yom Kippur was a day for covering the sins of Israel, but it required sincere observance to benefit the worshiper. In Isaiah chapter 1, Yahweh tells us what He thinks of *insincere sacrifice*. We have already read in the seventh chapter of Jeremiah that Yahweh made **one sacrifice** for Israel. ***“What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?”*** (You people of Sodom and Gomorrah, what does this benefit me?) (Isaiah 1:11).

What meaning, or significance, can we find in those sacrifices mentioned by Isaiah? How many sacrifices were offered during the Temple rituals near the time he prophesied? Some years later the number was quite huge! ***“And Josiah gave to the children of the people, of the flock, lambs and kids, all of them for the passover-offerings, to all that were present, to the number of thirty thousand, and three thousand bullocks: these were of the king's substance. And his princes gave for a freewill-offering to the people, to the priests, and to the Levites. Hilkiah and Zechariah and Jehiel, the rulers of the house of Elohim, gave to the priests for the passover-offerings two thousand six hundred small cattle, and three hundred oxen. Conaniah also, and Shemaiah and Nethanel, his brethren, and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad, the chiefs of***

*the Levites, gave to the Levites for the passover-offerings five thousand small cattle, and five hundred oxen.” (2 Chronicles 35:7-9).*

Thirty-three thousand were given by the king, in addition to twenty-nine hundred other animals offered by the elders of Israel! That is over thirty-five thousand sheep and goats. If you consider the additional offerings probably given by the people, the number is staggering. When you sacrifice that many animals you will, literally, have pools of blood running around the altar in the Temple in Jerusalem. It should show us plainly that thousands of animals were brought through the Temple area constantly to be slaughtered as sacrifices by the nation of Israel. We should remember that it was the death of Yahshua the Messiah upon the tree of Calvary that removed the necessity of all these animals to die each year to atone for sins.

Yahweh asks in Isaiah 1:11-14, *“What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says Yahweh: I have had enough of the burnt-offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he-goats. When you come to appear before me, who has required this at your hand, to trample my courts? Bring no more VAIN oblations; incense is an abomination to me; new moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies, I cannot endure iniquity along with the solemn meeting. YOUR new moons and YOUR appointed feasts my soul hates; they are a trouble to me; I am weary of bearing them.”*

Notice carefully that He does not say **MY** new moons, nor **MY** feast days, or **MY** sacrifices. Yahweh hates the insincere worship of His people, since they have become

**What is true  
circumcision?  
What does it  
represent? True  
circumcision  
means to change  
our attitude  
from insincerity,  
to convert our  
attitude to an  
upright heart,  
to love Yahweh  
and keep His  
commandments,  
to love Him with  
all our hearts  
and obey Him at  
all times. This  
would comprise  
circumcision of  
the heart.**

hypocrites by bringing insincere sacrifices. The feasts of Israel are no longer the feasts of Yahweh!

*“Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they are a trouble to me; I am weary of bearing them. And when you spread forth your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; yes, when you make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do well; seek justice, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.*

*“Come now, and let us reason together, says Yahweh: though your sins are as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land: but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured with the sword; for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken it.” (Isaiah 1:14-20).*

Amos the prophet speaks similar words to these in his prophecy in Amos 5:21: *“I hate, I despise your feasts, and I will take no delight in your solemn assemblies.”* However, when cross referencing Leviticus 23:2, you find this written: *“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 are the set feasts OF YAHWEH.* Yahweh’s feasts must, therefore, be different from the feasts of Israel. Yahweh wants His holy days kept sincerely. Israel had desecrated them. They were no longer the feasts of Yahweh because of the hypocrisy of Israel.

Suppose everyone today in the United States of America was required by national law to attend the Feast of Tabernacles as they were in ancient Israel. Not all who attended then were sincere. Surely today it would be the same! Even some of the priests that came were very hard-hearted and wicked men.

Examples of this are Phinehas and Hophni, the sons of Eli (1 Samuel 2:12, 22). Although Eli was an upright man, his sons were wicked. However, it was these sons who were actually in charge of offering the sacrifices! They were probably big, strong, husky fellows. They could correctly

handle the sacrificial animals according to the prescribed ritual. When the animals were led in and killed, these priests could stand there and hold the basins to catch the blood. They knew how to skin out the animals properly, and they could direct the Levites accurately concerning how to cut up the carcasses and, then, how to place the pieces upon the altar to burn them.

Inside their hearts, however, Phinehas and Hophni were wicked men. They lay with prostitutes. They seized sacrificial meat that was not intended for them. They were intent upon violating the Law of Yahweh, rather than living obediently by it. By Yahweh's instructions, the Israelites had their designated portion of meat, and the priest received specific portions of the animal for doing the sacrificial work. But the sons of Eli were selfish and wanted more than their allotted share.

If the people of the United States today would be required by national legislation to attend the Feast of Tabernacles, what kind of a Feast of Tabernacles would that be? Wouldn't it be similar to the days of Eli? Could we mix together sincere, obedient people and wicked, unconverted ones? Would not the feast of worldly people no longer be the feast of Yahweh?

It wouldn't benefit the average person of the United States who is unconverted to attend Yahweh's feast days, because they would come with an evil heart and engage in evil conduct. Perhaps they would say to themselves, "How can I get on Yahweh's good side? I am required to be here, but yet I've been guilty of sinning throughout the past year—stealing, committing adultery, and all other kinds of breaking of Yahweh's commandments. I'll go back to such a life

in another week. How can I get on Yahweh's good side now? I know! I'll bring THREE sacrifices instead of just ONE. Instead of one bull, I'll bring five. Rather than offering one jar of oil for the priest, or one bottle of wine to pour out at the base of the altar, I'll bring ten. Then everyone will imagine I'm really a righteous person. They won't know that inside I'm nothing but a **hypocrite** and a **sinner**!"

This is precisely what Yahweh had to deal with in ancient Israel. ***"Yes, you have borne the tabernacle of your king (Moloch) and the shrine of your images, the star of your mighty one (Kiyun), which you made to yourselves. Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, has said Yahweh, the Elohim of Hosts, which is his name."*** (Amos 5:26-27).

Who are you worshiping when you come before Almighty Yahweh every Sabbath morning in services, and every day of the week, also at all of the holy days? We should be worshiping Yahweh and Yahweh only. Who do you worship? Are you worshiping in the names of pagan mighty ones today, or are you worshiping Yahweh? But do you worship Him sincerely with an honest heart, or do you act as you please when you are not in the presence of the brethren or the elders? Let us remember: if we are worshiping Yahweh, we must honestly be obedient to Him and keep His Covenant Law.

What does Yahweh require of His people? Turn to Hosea chapter 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."*** Israel, in the times of the prophets, often lapsed into a form of worship which didn't change the heart of those who were sinners. Yahweh used His servants the prophets to call Israel to sincere repentance.

Likewise, we can perceive this same application in yet another Old Testament ceremony. Yahweh's intention concerning circumcision was not to have a **vain circumcision**. We must remember also what the prophets stated about that subject.

What is true circumcision? What does it represent? True circumcision means to change our attitude from insincerity, to convert our attitude to an upright heart, to love Yahweh and keep His commandments, to love Him with all our hearts and *obey Him at all times*. This would comprise circumcision of the heart.

***"And Yahweh your Elohim will circumcise your heart, and the heart of your seed, to love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, that you may live."*** (Deuteronomy 30:6).

Returning, in humility, to the pure worship of Yahweh is the definition of conversion. When one has fallen away from His righteousness by his sins, the individual must repent. Iniquities have caused a separation between the Most High and His people. Yahweh promises in Hosea 14:4-5. ***"I will heal their backsliding, I WILL LOVE THEM FREELY; for my anger is turned away from him. I will be as the dew to Israel; he shall blossom as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon."***

Almighty Yahweh is a very strict, austere, and rigidly proper Mighty One. What is the Name of the Elohim of Jacob? His Name is Yahweh. Will you magnify (exalt)

Him correctly? We should glorify Him with thanksgiving. That will please Yahweh better than an ox, or a bullock, that has horns and hooves, Psalm 69:30-31.

You can find exactly the same thought in Hebrews 13:15-16. ***“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 is well pleased.”***

Yahweh first wants us to obey His Laws. He tells us this in Hosea 14:9. ***“Who is wise, that he may understand these things? Prudent, that he may know them? For the ways of Yahweh are right, and THE JUST SHALL WALK IN THEM; but transgressors shall fall in it.”***

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 says, ***“I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse: therefore choose life, that you may live, you and your seed; to love Yahweh your Elohim....”***

*What does it mean to love Yahweh? To obey His voice, to hold fast to Him, because He is your life must be the result of love.* He is the only One through whom eternal life may come. This concept of eternal life is the intrinsic meaning of His Name. His Name is derived from the **Hebrew verb of existence** in its imperfect (future, unpunctuated time element) form. To exist forever means *eternal life*.

Yahweh intends that our hearts shall be circumcised, and we must honestly accept the sacrifice that He Himself has made for His people. The sacrifice that the Assemblies of Yahweh believes in, and strongly teaches, is the sacrifice made by the Servant of

Yahweh as prophesied in Isaiah 53.

Turn with me to what Yahshua said, as we review passages in the synoptic evangels describing the last Passover. ***“And as they were eating, Yahshua took bread, and blessed, and broke it; and he gave to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave to them saying, Drink, all of you, out of it; for THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW COVENANT, WHICH IS POURED OUT FOR MANY TO REMISSION OF SINS.”*** (Matthew 26:26-28).

This passage clarifies the fact that we do not need to sacrifice an animal every day, on every new moon, or feast day. We are obligated to keep Yahweh’s Covenant obediently every day, because Yahshua the Messiah has died for our sins. We must remember to raise a song of sincere thanksgiving to Yahweh on these holy days and on every day of our lives. Think of what Yahweh has done for us by lovingly giving His Son as the offering for sins! Remember what we read previously in Isaiah 1:11-17. We must completely avoid insincere worship.

Yahshua tells all of his disciples to drink out of the cup He offered. The fluid in the cup (the fruit of the vine) represented the blood of the New Covenant, which was poured out. Poured out where? Poured out of Yahshua’s body. It is poured out for all the people, sprinkled on the hearts of His people who are sincere in their obedience. He said, “This is My blood of the New Covenant which is poured out for many.” What happens if people do evil, if they sin by breaking the Law of Yahweh? They then do exactly the same as Israel did in Old Testament times. They tread down the blood that

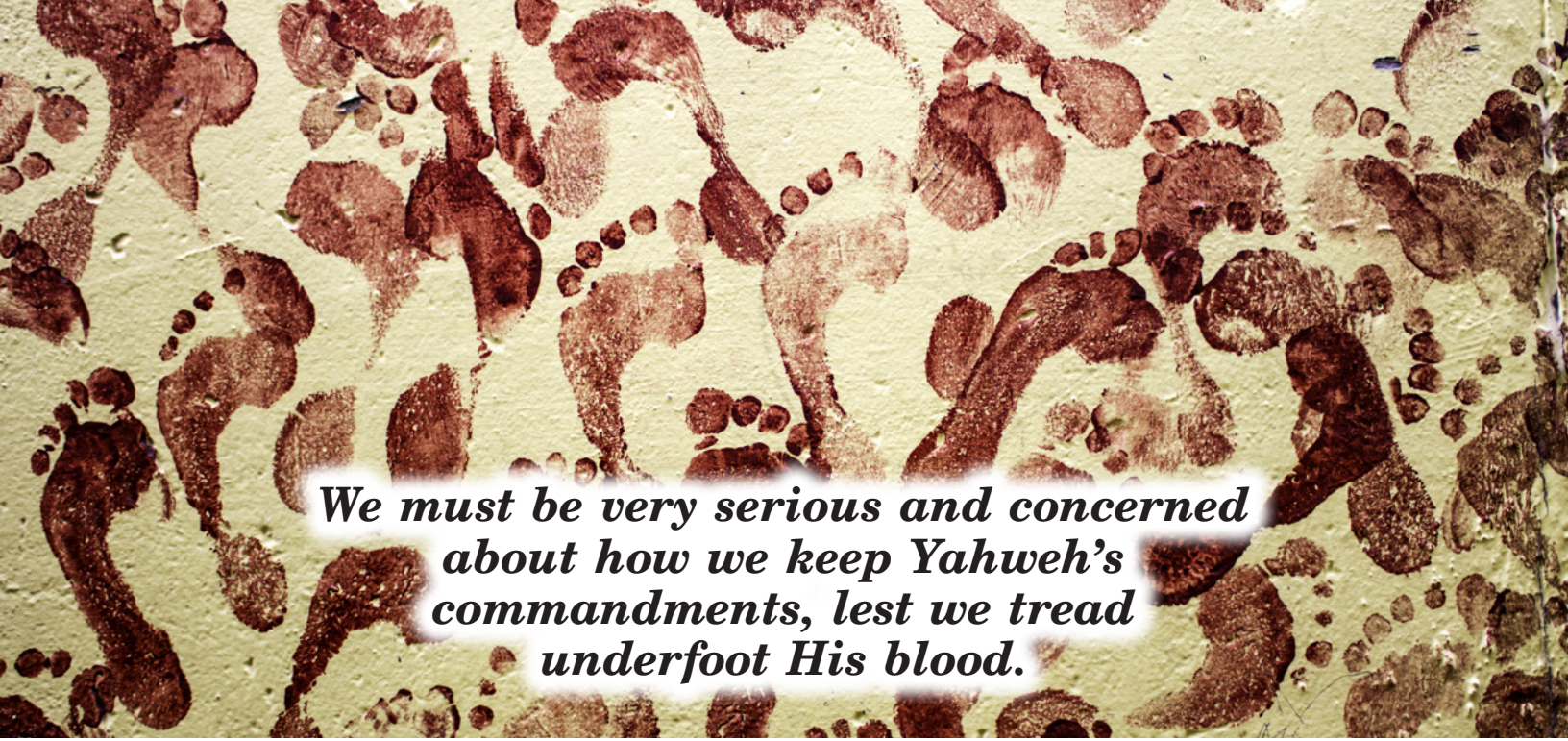
flowed from His sacrifice: treading it down, despising it, simply because the people persist in doing wickedly.

Every True Worshiper must drink out of that cup, for it represents the blood of the New Covenant.

Mark records: ***“And as they were eating, he took bread, and when he had blessed, he broke it, and gave to them, and said, Take: this is my body. And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave to them: and they all drank of it. And he said to them, This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I say to you, I shall no more drink of the fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of Yahweh.”*** (Mark 14:22-25). Yahshua is now up in heaven, sitting at Yahweh’s right hand. Presently, He is not drinking the fruit of the vine with His people. He has not yet returned to drink it new. For this present time, the blood of the Covenant is His blood which is symbolized by the fruit of the vine.

Luke records: ***“And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: for I say to you, I shall not eat it, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of Yahweh.”*** (Luke 11:14-16).

Now relate that back to Exodus 12:13. ***“When I see the blood, I will pass over you....”*** Yahshua died and shed His blood on Passover day. He states here, ***“With desire I have desired to eat THIS PASSOVER with you before I suffer: for I say to you, I shall not eat it, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of***



***We must be very serious and concerned  
about how we keep Yahweh's  
commandments, lest we tread  
underfoot His blood.***

***Yahweh.***" (Luke 22:14).

**The New Testament Pass-over is not yet fulfilled.** It will be fulfilled when Yahshua returns and gives us eternal life. This is why He says, "It will be fulfilled in the Kingdom of Yahweh." ***That*** is the time of fulfillment. Otherwise, we will come to an end just as did the Egyptians who rejected the covering sacrifice, dead for all eternity. Let us not forget that Yahweh's Kingdom government will be established on this earth when the Messiah returns.

It is awesome for us to take Yahshua's blood sacrifice today. We must be very serious and concerned about how we keep Yahweh's commandments, lest we tread underfoot His blood.

The New Covenant has a blood sacrifice, just as did the Old. That sacrifice is in the death of Yahshua and the blood He personally shed. Liberal theology has tried to brush aside the importance of Messiah's blood, virtually rejecting all of these things. However, we in the Assemblies of Yahweh stand by, confess, teach, and obey the

sound doctrines that we find in the Sacred Scriptures.

Notice what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11:25-26. ***"In like manner also the cup, after supper, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood: do this, as often as you drink, in remembrance of me. For as often as you eat this bread, and drink the cup, you proclaim the Master's death until he comes."***

How often should we commemorate this event? It occurs on Passover day every year. We eat of the memorial of unleavened bread, and we drink of the grape juice—the symbol of Yahshua's blood. It serves as an annual reminder of Yahshua's sacrifice. (If you are interested in proving this to yourself, write for our article, **Wine or Grape Juice**. It is free by writing to: **Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA 19507.**)

Paul makes this statement in 1 Corinthians 10:16. ***"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a communion*** [the word *communion* in Greek is *koinonia*] ***of the body of the Messiah?"*** What does *koinonia*

mean? It means a ***fellowship in partnership***. We are now partners in the Covenant with Almighty Yahweh. We have made our agreement with Almighty Yahweh; therefore, we drink from the cup. We are all in His Body. We walk together, because we are agreed, Amos 3:3. We are, therefore, in close fellowship and communion. Have we faithfully continued in the agreement we made at baptism to obey Yahweh's commandments?

The bread which we break represents Yahshua's Body. It represents the fellowship and partnership among Yahweh's people as co-participants in His Covenant agreement. Christianity does not accurately understand the correct meaning and significance of the communion service. Paul tells us plainly the cup of blessing which we bless is the *koinonia* of the blood of the Messiah. Now if Yahshua the Messiah has shed His blood for us, what are we supposed to do? ***"Therefore, whoever shall***

*Continued on page 21.*



# THE

# First

## **Will You Receive Praise and Salvation, or Condemnation and Rejection?**

In the day of trouble, which appears to be looming upon the horizon in our time, the True Worshipers shall again experience a mighty Passover release. This Passover and exodus—which will be celebrated in the not too distant future—will again show the world the protection which can be found through trusting the Almighty. Just as in the scriptural exodus which released the nation of Israel from Egypt, you will see righteous people spared as the wicked re-

ceive their just punishment from the righteous Almighty Yahweh, our Heavenly Father.

In Exodus 12:12, Almighty Yahweh warns, ***“For I will go through the land of Egypt in that night, and will kill all the first-born in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the elohim of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am Yahweh.”*** Once more, the elohim of this modern worldly system of sin, designated as Egypt, will feel the destructive power of Almighty Yahweh—for He lives, and He is to be worshiped. The elohim, or

mighty ones, who are currently worshiped by the people of this world, will fall just as Dagon fell before the ark bearing the Covenant of Yahweh in 1 Samuel 5.

Because the people of this world have failed to observe the annual holy days of Yahweh, they have failed to understand the overall requirements of the plan of salvation. Because they have (almost without exception) become Old Testament illiterates, few people today adequately understand the plan of salvation which Almighty Yahweh has laid down in His Word, since the Old Testament



# Fruits ASSEMBLY

*by Elder Jacob O. Meyer*

is the basis of our Faith. When we fail to observe the memorial of our Savior's death in the night of the day on which He died (for example), we lose the relationship which would build an understanding of the deep things Almighty Yahweh has in store for His people regarding the annual feasts of Yahweh. His holy days are centered around the harvest season of the land of Israel, which typifies the great spiritual harvest of souls.

We are commanded in Deuteronomy 16:1 to observe the Passover at its correct time in the month of Abib. The verse

reads, ***"Observe the month of Abib, and keep the passover to Yahweh your Elohim; for in the month of Abib Yahweh your Elohim brought you forth out of Egypt by night."*** If we take a literal translation of the Hebrew words which are employed here, we find this verse means literally, ***"Watch for the new moon of green ears and observe the Passover of Yahweh."*** We notice the time when the seventh plague occurred in Exodus 9:31-32: ***"And the flax and the barley were destroyed, for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was in bloom. But***

***the wheat and the spelt were not destroyed: for they had not grown up."***

The term *Abib* means *green ears*, which you see on the barley stalks when they come into heads. The month answers roughly to the latter part of March and the beginning of April on our Roman calendar. The barley harvest, which begins immediately afterward, is called "first fruits." This harvest provides us with a spiritual lesson, which should point us toward the Messiah.

We read in Leviticus 23:9-14, ***"And Yahweh spoke to Moses,***

*saying, Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, When you have come into the land which I will give to you, and shall reap the harvest of it, then you shall bring the sheaf of the first-fruits of your harvest to the priest: and he shall wave the sheaf before Yahweh, to be accepted for you: on the day after the sabbath the priest shall wave it. And in the day when you wave the sheaf, you shall offer a he-lamb without blemish a year old for a burnt-offering to Yahweh. And the meal-offering of it shall be two tenth parts of an ephah of fine flour mingled with oil, an offering made by fire to Yahweh for a sweet savor; and the drink-offering of it shall be of wine, the fourth part of a hin. And you shall eat neither bread, nor parched grain, nor fresh ears, until this very day, until you have brought the oblation of your Elohim: it is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings."*

The cutting of the wave-sheaf offering after Passover day was usually done by the priest. Almighty Yahweh commands that it be done on the day following the weekly Sabbath after the Passover. The word *Sabbath* employed here in the Hebrew text is the word which means, and has been translated as, *the weekly Sabbath*.

In Israel, a ceremony went with this cutting of the first ripe sheaf, as described by Dr. Edersheim in his book, **The Temple, Its Ministry and Service**. The source material for the book is derived from the description found in the **Mishna**. A small field of barley was planted early near Jerusalem so that it would be the first ripe grain. The priests would then cut a few sheafs of the first ripe barley, wave it before Yahweh, thrash it

out, and grind the grain into flour. The Temple offering required about five pints of the fresh new flour as the first-fruit offering. It was described as fine flour, the grain having been parched and, then, successively passed through 13 sieves (from coarse to very fine).

In 1 Corinthians 15:20-23, we read of the fulfillment of this ceremony. ***"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."***

A new harvest was the purpose of our Savior's coming to this earth. Man had fallen into a hopeless state through sin. Man had followed the wrong pathway, by the influence of Satan the Devil. Yahshua our Messiah, as a human being, came to this earth to redeem mankind from judgment and death. He lived a sinless life as a man among men. He died as the Passover Lamb to atone for our sins, so that when we accept His blood sacrifice, we may receive total forgiveness for our sins. We may, thereby, again be reconciled to our Father Yahweh through the sacrificial blood of Yahshua the Messiah, His Son, to be justified freely by His grace, or unmerited kindness (mercy), toward us as His people. The blood is symbolically sprinkled on our hearts and cleanses us.

However, this is not the ending of the Work of Yahshua. He died! He was dead, not, as some erroneously believe, merely in suspended animation, or simply hiding in the tomb for 3 1/2 days.

He was physically dead, and the Pharisees assumed that this was the end of any Messianic claims where Yahshua ben Yawseph (son of Joseph) was concerned.

It wasn't, however. In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn (the Greek term *epiphosko* also means—*draw on*) toward the first day of the week, a mighty earthquake occurred. The garden tomb burst open, and Yahshua walked out in newness of life as a resurrected new creation of our Heavenly Father YAHWEH. He was the first fruit, the first born from the dead, to precede many brethren in the Faith.

Since Yahshua was resurrected at the end of the Sabbath, He became the first-fruits offering on the first day of the week, the time that the Law directs that the first ripe barley should be cut. Since so few people know about this ceremony, they cannot accurately comprehend the significance of the episode recorded in John 20: 14-18. ***"When she had thus said, she turned herself back, and beholds Yahshua standing, and knew not that it was Yahshua. Yahshua says to her, Woman, why do you weep? whom do you seek? She, supposing him to be the gardener, says to him, Sir, if you have borne him from here, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away. Yahshua says to her, Miriam. She turns herself, and says to him in Hebrew, Rabboni; which is to say, Teacher. Yahshua says to her, Touch me not; for I have not yet ascended to the Father: but go to my brethren, and say to them, I ascend to my Father and your Father, and my Elohim and your Elohim. Miriam Magdalene comes and tells the disciples, I have seen the Rabbi; and that he had said these things to her."***

Why do you suppose that Miriam would mistake our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, for the gardener? It was simply because He was carrying the wave-sheaf offering, which He had cut for the last time before it was discontinued after its fulfillment. He was then on His way to ascend to the heavens to present Himself as the first-fruit offering to our Heavenly Father Yahweh. We read that later in the day the disciples came and held Him by the feet (Matthew 28:9), which would indicate that Yahshua had been accepted at the throne of the Heavenly Father.

If I were to ask you today to prove that there will indeed be a life hereafter, a resurrection from the dead, how would you do this? In this age of scientific achievement (but rife with doubt!), it should be our foremost motivation to prove all things, and hold fast to that which is good, as the Apostle Paul urges in 1 Thessalonians 5:21. Since the world has not studied the Old Testament and seen the importance of obeying our Heavenly Father's words, its people have not been able to recognize how their salvation is to take place. Nor have they proven conclusively to themselves that our Savior was the Messiah of Israel, that He lived a sinless life, that He died upon the tree of Calvary, and that He was resurrected again on the third day.

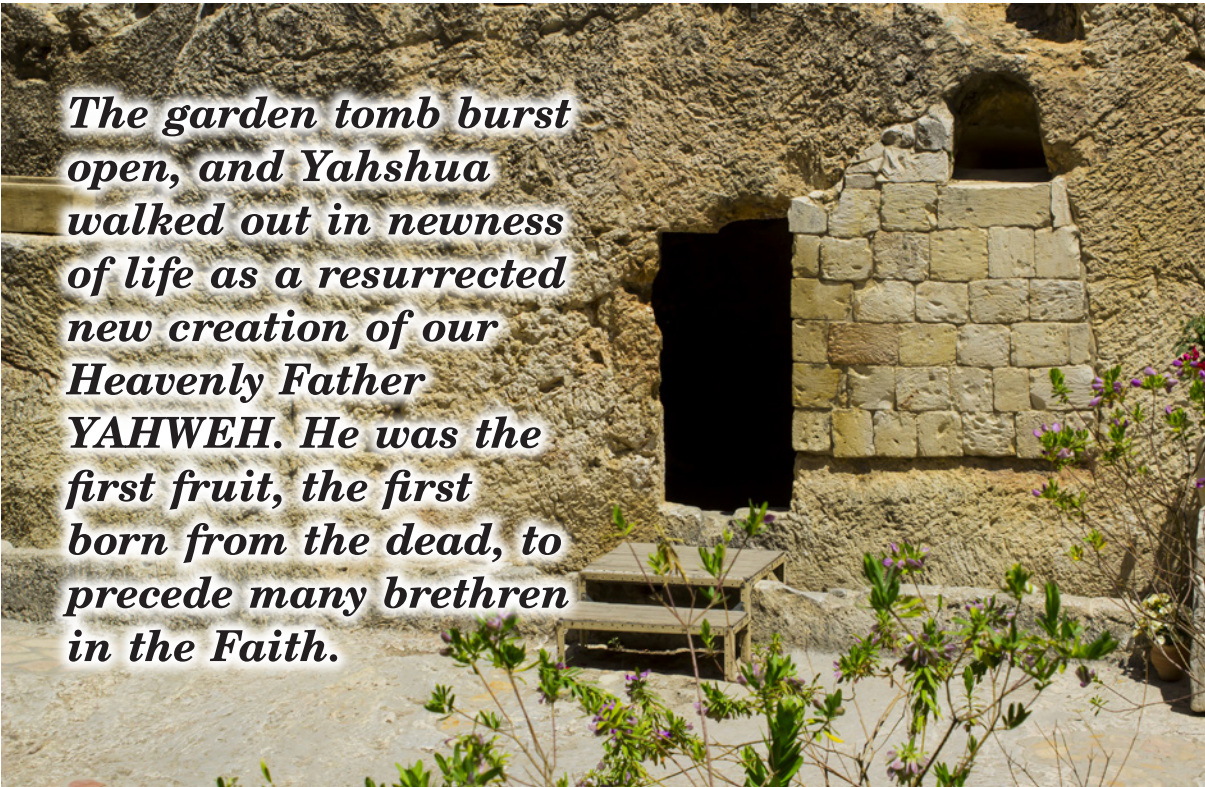
In Matthew 12:40, we read that our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, gave as His sign that He was indeed the True Messiah that He would die and be resurrected again after three days and nights in the tomb. This was the sign of

Jonah, which we find recorded in Jonah 1:17. Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for three days and three nights. Our Savior's first mission on this earth was that of the suffering Messiah, the Messiah ben Joseph. The sign of His ruling Messiahship would be His resurrection from the dead. He would have to fulfill the wave-sheaf offering and be resurrected on the correct day. Such a phenomenon would be quite difficult, unless He was indeed the True Messiah!

Knowing the importance of the day of first fruits will cause people to recognize their True Messiah and to see the purpose of His life, ministry, and death. We must know for ourselves and prove to ourselves the Apostle's reasoning in 1 Corinthians 15:14-19. Please notice the reasoning behind the passage as we read, ***"And if the Messiah has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, and your faith is also vain. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of Yahweh; because we witnessed of Yahweh that he raised up the Messiah: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead are not raised. For if the dead***

***are not raised, neither has the Messiah been raised: and if the Messiah has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are yet in your sins. Then they also that have fallen asleep in the Messiah have perished. If we have only hoped in the Messiah in this life, we are of all men most pitiable."***

If in this life only we had hope, we would be of all men most miserable. Look around you, and see that those who preach the social "g-spel," those who preach the liberal doctrinal error insisting there are no absolutes and that nothing from the Bible can be proven, are out of step with the scriptural message. Remove from the people a faith in a life hereafter, a resurrection from the dead, and such false doctrines will cast the multitudes of this world into a deep, dark whirlpool of chaos from which there is no escape, except through much suffering and tribulation. Look around you and see the hardship and distress, which has already been caused by false worldly education in the schools and religious institutions, causing the young people to panic



***The garden tomb burst open, and Yahshua walked out in newness of life as a resurrected new creation of our Heavenly Father YAHWEH. He was the first fruit, the first born from the dead, to precede many brethren in the Faith.***

through fear of impending nuclear war, because they have been given no viable vision to look into the future to anticipate a brilliant eternal life hereafter.

How do you prove the Savior rose again from the dead to become our first-fruit offering, opening the way for us to follow Him? You can do so by many different methods, but I wish to present only a few at this time.

In 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, the Apostle Paul gave us one method to prove our Savior's resurrection by using our native capabilities of reason. He says that Yahshua rose from the dead the third day and was seen by Cepha, then His disciples, then over 500 brethren at once, and, lastly, by the Apostle Paul also. Do you know that these witnesses preached this Messianic message over the known world immediately after the Savior's death and resurrection? After this, it was their lot to give their lives as an enduring witness that their message was true. They sealed their testimony in their own blood, as thousands became human torches, lighting the Appian Way, or became food for hungry lions in the Colosseum. Would these people have given their lives for something which they knew to be an error? All they would have had to do to avoid martyrdom was to throw a little incense on the altar in worship of the emperor.

No! Rather, they chose to die for what they knew was right.

How about you? Would you have this kind of conviction and zeal today? May Almighty Yahweh cause all of us to prove Him and His Word, so that, as the evil days at the end of the age approach, we may stand by faith and, having done all, stand firm in the forthcoming confrontation against the errors of the world.



### Philadelphia— A Dedicated Assembly Worthy of Praise

Scrutinizing the broad spectrum of religious organizations, we have learned that many groups claim to be the literal, end-time fulfillment of the Philadelphia Assembly, which is described in Revelation 3:7-13. A close scrutiny of the characteristics of this scriptural Assembly would prohibit such a conclusion. When we compare the characteristics of the Philadelphia Assembly to the conduct of the various religious organizations of our day who assert that they should be identified with it, such a conclusion would be prohibited.

The Philadelphia Assembly of Revelation 3:7-12, one of the seven Assemblies of Asia, received the greatest commendation from our Savior. With the exception of Smyrna, each of the other groups (although several of them did receive some encouraging compliments) were criticized severely by Yahshua our Messiah. The Philadelphia Assembly received the greatest praise for their convictions without receiving any

criticism. From the description that has been recorded for us of this Philadelphia Assembly, we may learn the reason very quickly.

The Philadelphia Assembly was unique, because it demonstrated the correct attitude and character relative to spiritual things. The members had sought to learn Truth diligently, and they were clearly motivated by the desire to please their leader, Yahshua the Messiah, the head of the spiritual Body. Frequently, we encounter people who imagine that the Body of the Messiah, the group who will meet the Savior in the air when He returns, could be the product of the Reformation begun by Martin Luther when he broke free from Roman Catholicism. They do not appear to realize that our Savior declared to the Apostle Peter (Cepha) in Matthew 16:18, ***“And I also say to you, that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my assembly; and the gates of the grave shall not prevail against it.”*** Down through the annals of history, there have always been sincere believers who have known



the true way of salvation which Yahshua taught while here on this earth. No one had to restore true doctrine to Roman Catholicism. The remnants of the Apostolic Assembly lived in relative seclusion so that the mainstream of society passed them by; consequently, many people never heard of them. In the library of the author are books which we wish that listeners could read. These historical books show that the True Worshipers can be traced as existing parallel

fringes of civilization, only rarely being mentioned by historians. These True Worshipers were a **small group** which endured great persecutions. But they refused to yield their Faith as they held tenaciously to what is proclaimed by the Sacred Scriptures. Some of these faithful believers finally migrated to the United States where they have continued to proclaim the Truth of the Scriptures and live in obedience to every Word which has proceeded from the mouth of Yahweh (Deuteronomy 8:3 and Matthew 4:4).

The Philadelphia Assembly of the end times, fulfilling the description found in Revelation chapter 3, is predicted to come from the remnants of this group. They are not going to be a Body totaling millions of people. For some reason, everyone assumes that the majority is always correct in their thinking. As a consequence, when a small group appears, the conclusion immediately follows that it cannot be correct in the doctrines it teaches. Our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, tells us in Revelation 3:7-13 that He personally will lead, guide, and bless His people—those who acknowledge Him as their Sovereign. The reason for this

before them!

Do you know the True Name of our Savior, the Redeemer who is described in the New Testament? If you do, you are indeed a rare and diligent student of the Scriptures. The writer of the 30th chapter of Proverbs asks these questions in verse 4, ***“Who has ascended up into heaven, and descended? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has bound the waters in his garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son’s name, if you know?”***

The first time the author encountered this verse in his reading, it certainly seemed strange that the writer should ask such questions. Surely everyone knows the Name of the Almighty Heavenly Father and the Savior, don’t they? It was somewhat later that I learned that very few people actually do know the Name of our Heavenly Father, fewer still know our Savior’s True Name; furthermore, the people who are teaching these Truths are, indeed, quite rare.

However, every major religious denomination which sponsors a theological seminary to educate

***Our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, tells us in Revelation 3:7-13 that He personally will lead, guide, and bless His people—those who acknowledge Him as their Sovereign.***

to the entrenched Roman Catholic Church.

It was a small group of people, endowed by the Holy Spirit and living in obedience to the commandments of our Savior, who left the Holy Land just prior to its destruction by the Roman armies under General Titus in the year 70 C.E. These people migrated into Europe, remaining on the dim

blessing is that these people are keeping His Words and have not denied His NAME! Although they will be few in number—scattered and poor—and they have only just a little strength, but with this little strength multiplied many times over by the Holy Spirit, this insignificantly small group will go on to great things through the open door which has been placed

their ministers knows the Sacred Name of our Heavenly Father, or, indeed, has access to this significant information in their library. But, few people know that our Savior had a definite NAME which was just as Hebrew as His Jewish ancestry. The people of the Messiah’s Body in these last days—the people who will comprise the Philadelphia As-

*"The name of  
Yahweh is a  
strong tower;*



*The righteous  
runs into it,  
and is safe."*

PROVERBS 18:10

**The righteous, those who keep the Savior's commandments, will run to the Name of our Heavenly Father and His Son for their protection. They will know these Names; they will trust in the Names; they will use them, call upon them, and witness them to the world.**

sembly—will know, use, revere, and proclaim His True given Name which was **Yahshua** and means **Yahweh is salvation**. Because of this dedication in seeking knowledge, they will be following in the very footsteps of the early Apostles.

This Philadelphia Assembly will receive protection in the tribulation prophesied to sweep across this globe in the last days. We find this protection promised at numerous places in the Bible, especially in such passages as Proverbs 18:10. ***"The name of Yahweh is a strong tower; The righteous runs into it, and is safe."*** A good sermon could be preached on this verse. Those who are trying to live righteously will run to the NAME of Yahweh and find refuge and protection there.

In our day, there is much neglect when it comes to recognizing the importance of the Sacred Name. Instead of running toward the Sacred Scriptures and, especially, the Name of our Heavenly Father for the protection which people desire in these last days, modern man is trying to establish his own escape route via miracle drugs, atomic shelters, and many other artificial devices which promise

long life merely in a physical sense. The righteous, those who keep the Savior's commandments, will run to the Name of our Heavenly Father and His Son for their protection. They will know these Names; they will trust in the Names; they will use them, call upon them, and witness them to the world.

One of the stumbling blocks which has kept some people from using the Sacred Name in worship is an erroneous interpretation of verse 12 of Revelation chapter 3. ***"He that overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my Elohim, and he shall go out from there no more: and I will write upon him the name of my Elohim, and the name of the city of my Elohim, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my Elohim, and my own new name."***

First, let us notice that the Name of our Father in Heaven never changes! His Name is YAHWEH, Isaiah 42:8. It is the Savior who will receive a new Name, and this Name will be written upon His people at the time of the resurrection of the dead. Some people assume that this Name is to be used and written

upon the Savior's bride right now. They assume that this Name is the word *Christian*; however, that idea cannot be proven by the Bible. The brethren of the Assemblies of Yahweh prove their doctrines from both Old and New Testament Scriptures without humanly devised interpretations.

In Jeremiah 23:1-8, we read of a prophecy of the coming Messiah. ***"In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is his name by which he shall be called: Yahweh our righteousness."*** (Jeremiah 23:6). When our Savior came at His first appearance as the suffering Messiah, He came to save. Again—the Name YAHSHUA means YAHWEH IS SALVATION. After Judah **has been saved** and Israel **is dwelling safely**, there is no more need for a Savior. His Name will then cause us to live in His Torah Laws, remembering that it was His righteousness which brought us out from a life of sin. **Yahweh Zidkenu** (Hebrew: *Yahweh our righteousness*) will be the source of our blessings in the Kingdom.

The name of the city of the New Jerusalem will also be named **Yahweh Zidkenu**, since the King

of the earth who is known by this Name will be dwelling here and ruling from this one-world capital. In Ezekiel 48:35, we read that the name of the city will also be called **Yahweh Shammah**, meaning *Yahweh is there*.

In Isaiah 62:2-4, we discover the new names for Yahweh's people and the land of Palestine. ***"And the nations shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name, which the mouth of Yahweh shall name. You shall also be a crown of beauty in the hand of Yahweh, and a royal diadem in the hand of your Elohim. You shall no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall your land any more be termed Desolate: but you shall be called Hephzi-bah, and your land Beulah; for Yahweh delights in you, and your land shall be married."*** Did you notice this passage carefully?

Here is a prime example of the difference which is made when we read things in context. They are always clearly explained for us, and we do not have to guess about them. The new name which Yahweh's people will receive is **Hephzibah**, meaning in the English *My delight is in her*. The Holy Land will be called **Beulah**, meaning *married*. Nowhere, therefore, can we find that our Heavenly Father's Name is changed from one era to another, or from one generation to another. It will remain the same for all time in the Millennium and for eternity, as we read in Exodus 3:15. ***"For this cause I bow my knees to the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named...."*** (Ephesians 3:14-15). This prophecy is consistent with all the other Scriptures which declare

that, while TITLES associated with the Name of our Heavenly Father change, the eternal Sacred Name will always be the one owned by the spiritual family in both heaven and earth, and that Name is **Yahweh**.

As each day passes swiftly into eternity, are you one of those people drifting aimlessly along with the crowd—down the broad highway which leads to destruction?

Right now you may imagine that you are doing yourself a favor by not advancing toward more Truth. As is sometimes said in proverbial jest, *"Ignorance is bliss."* One day soon you may wish that you had, indeed, devoted more time to deep study, so that you would understand the meaning of the events which are then transpiring. Right now, you may feel that it is wise to shun deep spiritual knowledge, but one day you may wish fervently that you had joined the select group of people who are marching down the narrow way which lead to life eternal.

In Luke 12:32, our Savior encourages us, ***"Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."*** Why not give this challenge some serious thought and consideration today?

### **Laodiceans are Rejected for Lacking Zeal —This Assembly is Rejected and Condemned!**

Living beside the crossroads of the world as I am, it is becoming increasingly obvious that we are living in an era of history as at few times previously, when spiritual slumber and complacency grips our modern world. Contemporary religion offers few workable solutions as the nominal churches slowly yield what little influence they have over the people. A

radical false doctrine of liberalism masquerades under the guise of relevancy. When sound doctrines and the Truth of the Sacred Scriptures are preached, even when irrefutable proof of the authenticity of the Bible is offered alongside proof that it must be accorded its rightful place at the center of our lives, only castigation and ridicule await those preaching Truth. This is certainly the "do it now" and "pay the piper" later generation. Materialism has become the exalted mighty one whose shrine is enhanced daily in the marketplace of our industrialized society.


As an introduction to this message, I would like to bring forth several Scriptures which are so relevant for our time. If you have not done much Bible study recently, you may be shocked to remember a few of these ringing indictments from our Heavenly Father.

Please turn with me to Isaiah 30:8-11. ***"Now go, write it before them on a tablet, and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come forever and ever. For it is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of Yahweh: that say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not to us right things, speak to us smooth things, prophecy deceits, get out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us."***

So you see, the conclusion terminates at the ultimate fact that **the people THEMSELVES** are responsible for this downward slide away from sound teaching. They insist on having their ears tickled with platitudes (the smooth things about which Isaiah speaks) rather than to hear the Law of Yahweh, which would

cut and convict them of their sins and cause them to feel uneasy in their conscience. They seem to have formed the opinion that if the scriptural Law is not proclaimed and preached from the pulpit, perhaps it will not be too relevant to them personally, and they can be left to their own devices. However, the Scriptures will just not disappear that easily! Even though the voice in the Word is silenced in the pulpits, the penalty for sin remains the same. Almighty Yahweh does not accept the concept that ignorance of the Law is an excuse to sin.

The next Scripture I would like to call to your attention is found in Jeremiah 5:31. ***“The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will you do in the end of it?”*** This seems to be the strangest defect in the character of man which is exhibited by the human family. Rather than being anxious to obey and serve our Heavenly Father, the people love to be told this, or that, is not necessary. The people actually desire to be told untruths, or prevarications, rather than the Truth of the Bible. But we may ask, “What will be the end of this attitude?” The answer, of course, is found in Revelation 20:11-15. ***“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat upon it, from whose face the earth and heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw***



***A great darkness covering the people of this earth is a most appropriate description of the spiritual climate in our world today. However, in spite of the feverish attempt of contemporary society to choose their own direction in life, the glory of the light of Almighty Yahweh will shine upon the people and enlighten them in these last days—or it will mean their demise in the lake of fire.***

***the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of the things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead that were in it; and death and the grave gave up the dead that were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and the grave were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, even the lake of fire. And if any was not found in the book of life, he was cast into the lake of fire.”***

In Isaiah 60:2 we read, ***“For,***

***behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the peoples; but Yahweh will arise upon you, and his glory shall be seen upon you.”*** A great darkness covering the people of this earth is a most appropriate description of the spiritual climate in our world today. If ever this world has seen an era of history when the spiritual life is minimized, or rejected, it is today. However, in spite of the feverish attempt of contemporary society to choose their own direction in life, the glory of the light of Almighty Yahweh will shine upon the people and enlighten them in these last days—or it will mean their demise in the lake of fire.

For the past several weeks, I have been speaking on the subject of the Philadelphia Assembly of Revelation 3:7-12. This week, I would like to turn to the last Assembly recorded in these messages to the seven Assemblies of Asia. This was the Laodicean Assembly, which was the recipient of such scathing rebuke and criticism from our Savior.

***“And to the angel of the assembly in Laodicea write: These things says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of El: 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 3:14-16). It is a sorry state to be in when believers become complacent.

These Laodiceans seem to have developed an “I-don’t-care” attitude. Somehow their consciences were seared with a hot iron, as the Apostle Paul indicates in 1 Timothy 4:2. When someone has built a shell around himself, it is virtually impossible to break through with the Truth of the Scriptures. Perhaps it is a smug “know-it-all” attitude which has seized these Laodicean people. Whichever it may be, these people have been given Truth, but are content to sit back and keep it to themselves.

Here we see one of the pitfalls into which our world has stumbled today. This world appears to be over-educated in one sense, while under-educated in another. In the first instance, we see more highly educated people than ever in history—educated in the technical aspects of worldly knowledge. In the latter instance, we see that many people are actually unable to properly utilize the knowledge which they have absorbed. They have failed to get “wisdom,” as King Solomon urges in the first few chapters of Proverbs. The term *wisdom* is translated from the Hebrew word *hochmah*, which means *a wisdom that comes from experience*.

**“The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge....”** (Proverbs 1:7). In this regard, the people of our day are woefully deficient, having spiritual malnutrition and terminal anemia. Their minds have been inflated with a lot of scientific knowledge and theories in a worldly sense. But without spiritual light and guidance, they are unable to assimilate it properly and put it to correct use. In our day, people seem to feel that scientific knowledge is all that is necessary to live a happy life. Because they possess so much technical

knowledge, they have come to depend upon it for everything. They believe that all else can be relegated to the secondary, causing them to become very narrow-minded in many respects.

Our Savior deplores this state of affairs! He states that He wishes fervently that the people would be either hot or cold, so that there would be a chance of reawakening them and imparting knowledge to them. The most difficult state of mind is when a person thinks that he knows it all; he has a little knowledge but thinks he knows a lot. This can sometimes be a very dangerous thing. Additionally, the ideal climate for leaven to perform optimally is in a lukewarm environment. Thereby, a little leaven leavens the whole lump, Galatians 5:9. We should be hot for Truth and cold toward sin.

**“Because you say, I am rich, and have gotten riches, and have need of nothing; and know not that you are the wretched one and miserable and poor and blind and naked.”** (Revelation 3:17). In this affluent society today, this verse was never more applicable than it is now. I recall my early years which were spent on the farm, when we went to a cold bed every night in winter. We heated that cold bed with bricks warmed in the oven, wrapped in a towel, and placed between the sheets. We had no inside bathroom, no hot and cold running water, and no electricity. Today, we in this country have succeeded in raising the standard of living multiple times over. I often wonder if our children appreciate it as they should.

However, we must again scrutinize the spiritual progress of the ch-rches today. Beautiful sanctuaries and parsonages dot our land. Numerous programs of ministry

are underway everywhere. Many ch-rches are richer today than they ever have been, until most of them have gone out into the business and merchandising fields, perhaps to improve their financial status. One of the major religious organizations of our country is a part of the richest financial empire in the world. Still, it seems they desire more wealth, and they constantly seek various ways to enhance their financial situation. Currently they are getting out of the field of secular education in which they were deeply involved at one time, mainly, they tell us, because it is losing money for them.

If an organization uses the contributions which it is given to construct elaborate buildings which are used mainly to present a materialistic image to the world, such a program is misguided. Definitely, the Assemblies of Yahweh must have vehicles to accomplish the commission which has been given to it, and serviceable buildings are among the most necessary prerequisites. But structures must never be constructed as a gaudy display to gain attention. Our aim and purpose in this life should be to gain **knowledge**, which we are then commissioned to dispense to those who are in desperate need of a new direction in life. It is almost a rule of thumb to say that materialism breeds complacency. The Laodiceans were rich and increased with goods, but not rich in spiritual things.

Yahshua our Messiah continues to instruct the Laodicean Assembly to purchase of Him gold tried in the fire, that they may be rich. This refers to sound doctrines which will last forever. Almighty Yahweh says of His True Assembly in Zechariah 13:9: **“And I will bring the third part into the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will**



# The Blood of the Covenant

Continued from page 9.

***eat the bread or drink the cup of Yahshua IN AN UNWORTHY MANNER, shall be GUILTY of the body and the blood of Yahshua.***” (1 Corinthians 11:27). In other words, by sinning and disobedience, one will put Yahshua to death again in his life. **YOU ARE, IN EFFECT, TREADING DOWN (DESPISING, REJECTING) YAHWEH’S PASSOVER SACRIFICE.**

Therefore, *all* of the **members of the Body of Messiah** must take *great precautions*. But let a man prove HIMSELF (Paul says), **examining his heart and his mind**. We must give obedience to the symbols of Yahshua’s broken body and shed blood through maintaining a righteous life.

It is a most serious thing for someone to have once understood the blood of Yahshua, the meaning of His broken body sacrificed upon the tree of Calvary, and then to backslide from it. Sinning, or returning to animal sacrifices, are very serious offenses, since they deny the Messiah’s death. Someone who does these things has actually **rejected Almighty Yahweh’s sacrifice—Yahshua**—that He made for humankind.

Today, we must be doubly serious about this doctrine. If someone even suggests that we return to the animal sacrifices of the Temple era, we must *rise up in indignation*. Therefore, the same doctrine Yahweh originally taught to Adam and Eve, He also taught to Israel, and it is exactly the doctrine of the modern-day Apostolic Assembly. That doctrine is for mankind to live righteously and obediently in

keeping His commandments. Then no more sacrificing is necessary. But if someone would sacrifice an animal today, he will reject Yahweh’s sacrifice, and it will insult Him. This is exactly what we cannot do, or we will suffer His indignation.

Paul is very inflexible when he states, “Whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup of Yahshua in an unworthy manner shall be **GUILTY**.” They shall be guilty of killing Yahshua the Messiah all over again.

The summary of the meaning of the sacrifice of Yahshua the Messiah and His shed blood is found in the book of Hebrews. The final segment of this series on the Blood of the Covenant will deal with the message recorded in the book of Hebrews.

Yahweh wants us to obey His Laws sincerely, absolutely, without reservation. He desires that we maintain our obedience to His Covenant. If we remain faithful, the blood of Yahshua the Messiah covers our past sins.

Yahshua the Messiah reserves the right to pronounce judgment regarding whether His blood covers future sins. That’s why He serves as our defense attorney, 1 John 2:1. He has the right to seek sincerity and dedication in the life of a person. He is our mediator, our defense attorney.

Let us never premeditate sin, or we will perish for all eternity. ***“For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which shall devour the adversaries. A man***



***that has violated Moses’ law dies without compassion on the word of two or three witnesses: of how more severe punishment, think you, shall he be judged worthy, who has trodden underfoot the Son of Yahweh, and has counted the blood of the covenant with which he was sanctified an unholy thing, and has done despite to the Spirit of grace? For we know him that said, Vengeance belongs to me, I will repay. And again, Yahweh shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living Elohim.”*** (Hebrews 10:26-31).

We will be separated from the life of Almighty Yahweh that is in His Name and in His Holy Spirit if we break Yahweh’s Covenant Law and spurn the sacrifice of His beloved Son, Yahshua the Messiah.

It is the blood of the Messiah in the New Testament era that constitutes the blood required to reunite Yahweh the Almighty and a people who have sinned.

**Editor’s Note:** *This series will be concluded next month. Don’t miss **Part Four**.* <sup>SNB</sup>

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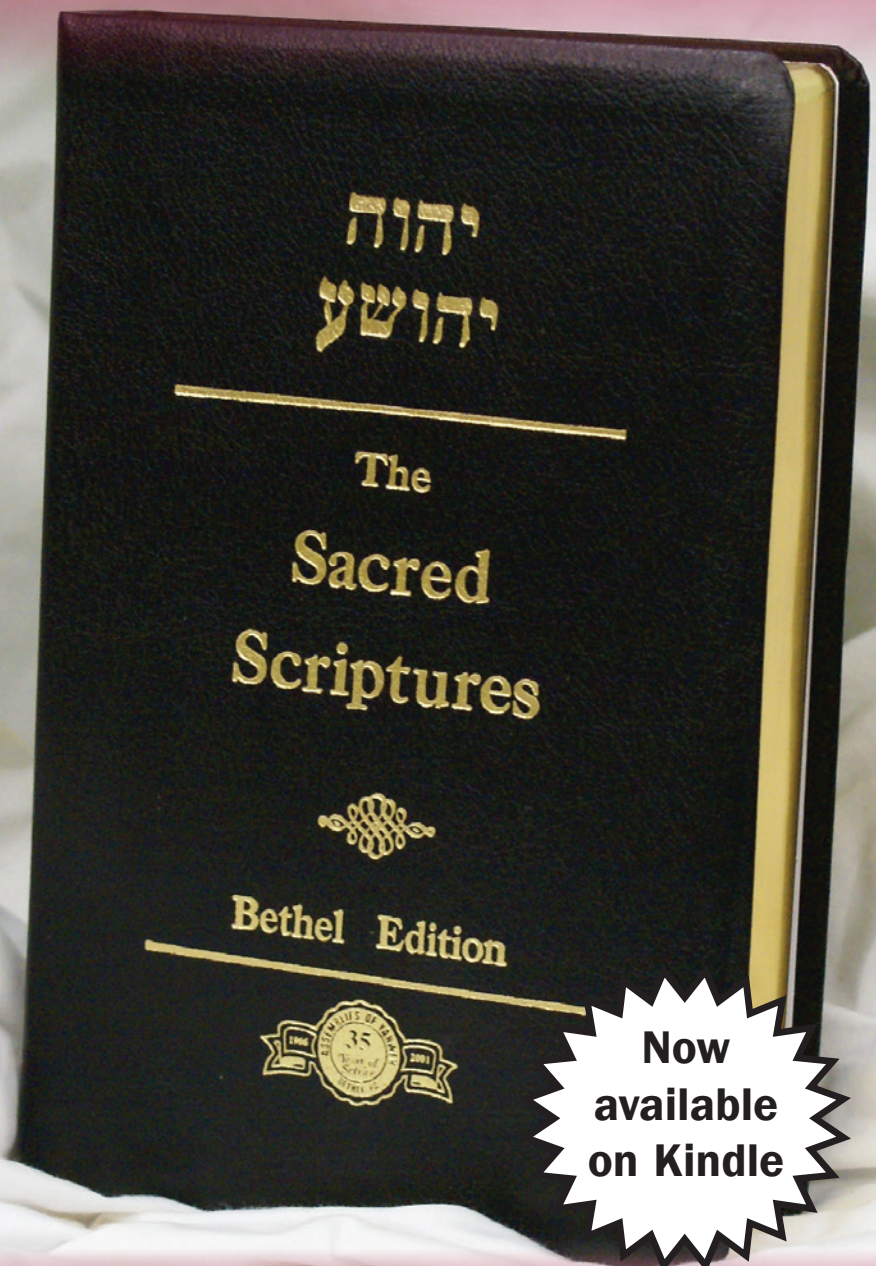
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in the truth:  
your word is  
truth.”***

(JOHN 17:17)

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