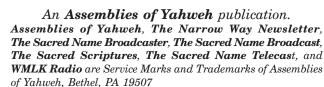
THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

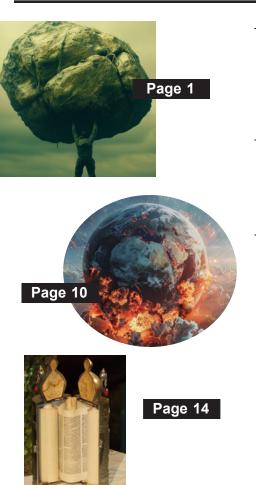
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CONTENTS



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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer

1 The Unpardonable Sin, Part 3

The antithesis of law keeping is lawlessness, sin, iniquity, and wickedness. We are required to observe Yahweh's Covenant Law, and should we discover that we have violated any portion of Covenant Law, then we must repent before our Heavenly Father. Yahweh has promised to forgive sin—if we repent!

10 Prophetic Trends: War Is Imminent

The judgment day of Yahweh will come suddenly upon us. Just a spark is all it will take to bring sudden destruction upon this generation. Come out of Babylon before Yahweh's judgment is poured out!

14 The Law of Yahweh

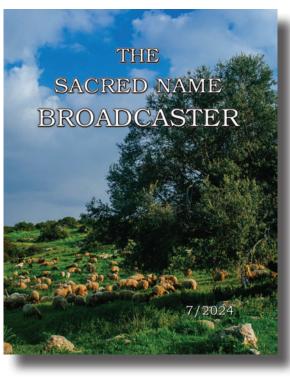
The Fourth Commandment—The Sabbath

The decalogue comprises a codification of Yahweh's Law and builds the spiritual character of everyone who bases his, or her, life on this solid foundation.

-Our Cover:-

How sheep-like are you? We are supposed to be the sheep of His pasture. "Know that Yahweh, he is Elohim: It is he that has made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture." (Psalm 100:3).

Yet, Yahshua assured us that His sheep hear His voice and follow Him. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give to them eternal life; and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's



hand." (John 10:27-29). The sheep of Yahshua will know the voice of Yahshua and follow Him. "To him the porter opens; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calls his own sheep by name, and leads them out. When he has put forth all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice." (John 10:3-4).

We are comforted by the words of Psalm 23, "Yahweh is my Shepherd." We must remember to thank Yahweh daily for His tender, loving care. 'Behold, the Sovereign Yahweh will come as a mighty one, and his arm will rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and will gently lead those that have their young." Isaiah 40:10-11).

Do you hear the voice of the Good Shepherd speaking from the Sacred Scriptures? Obey what He commands, and Yahweh will grant you entrance into the Kingdom of Yahweh.

THE Unpardonable

"Bless Yahweh, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless Yahweh, O my soul, And forget not all his benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities; Who heals all your diseases; Who redeems your life from destruction; Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfies your desire with good things,

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

So that your youth is renewed like the eagle. Yahweh executes righteous acts, And judgments for all that are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, His doings to the children of Israel. Yahweh is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness. He will not always chide; Neither will he keep his anger forever. He has not dealt with us after our sins, Nor rewarded us after our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is his lovingkindness toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, So far has he removed

our transgressions from us. Like as a father pities his children, So Yahweh pities them that fear him. For he knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. As for man, his days are as grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone; And the place of it shall know it no more. But the lovingkindness of Yahweh is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, And his righteousness to children's children; To such as keep his covenant, And to those that remember his precepts to do them. Yahweh has established his throne in the heavens: And his kingdom rules over all. Bless Yahweh, you his angels, That are mighty in strength, that fulfil his word, listening to the voice of his word. Bless Yahweh, all you his hosts, You ministers of his, that do his pleasure. Bless Yahweh, all you his works, In all places of his dominion: Bless Yahweh, O my soul." (Psalm 103).

From the Scriptures that we have reviewed up to this point in our study of the "Unpardonable Sin," we can determine that the True and Living Mighty One of Israel that we serve is a loving, forgiving, spiritual Father to all mankind. He loves His human creation, and He desires that all people should be saved. He tells us in Ezekiel chapter 18 that He takes no pleasure in punishing mankind for sin. But, rather, Yahweh wishes all to be saved!

Again in Psalm 103, verse 3, we are told that **He forgives** all the iniquities of His people. We also learn later on in verse 8, "Yahweh is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness. HE WILL NOT ALWAYS CHIDE...." The term chide means to be constantly prod*ding someone to do better*, perhaps you could even say harping upon the purpose of doing better. He will not always chide with people: He will not always continue to argue and strongly urge people to do better, because it says, "[He] is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness." But the Sacred Scripture says, "Neither will he keep his anger forever." He will not always restrain Himself, but He will eventually judge and pour out righteous punishment upon all those who defiantly disobey.

"He has not dealt with us after our sins, Nor rewarded us after our iniquities." Think about the passage. You will notice in verse 10: "Not dealt with us after our sins " He has certainly been a loving Mighty One, because our sins have required death as a punishment. "So great is his lovingkindness toward them that fear him." Who can measure the heights of heaven? Impossible, because it is almost endless space. And it says, "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us." Who can measure the distance from east to west? Yahweh explains that His hesed (the word lovingkindness is translated from the Hebrew word *hesed*) is great toward us, as high as the heights of heaven.

"As far as the east is from the west, So far has he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pities his children...." All of us who are fathers know that when a little child comes up with tearful eyes and tear-streaked face, we pity that child. That is a natural affection that Yahweh has placed within the human heart. "So Yahweh pities them that fear him." When we go to Yahweh in prayer, when we confess our sins before Him, Yahweh has promised to pardon our sins. He will totally remove our sins from our account.

As the author pointed out in a previous article of this series, there is no sin that Yahweh cannot—or will not—pardon. He will pardon all sins—*except one*! That is to premeditate disobedience to the terms of His Covenant. He has told us He will punish that sin very severely with eternal death.

So our responsibility is to pay attention to Yahweh's Covenant, to concentrate upon our humble obedience to His Laws. But Almighty Yahweh knows the weakness in the character of man. The Scriptures say, *"For he knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust."* This means that we are really people who are made quite a bit lower than Elohim and without the developed determination of Yahweh who always does right.

We read in verse 17, "But the lovingkindness of Yahweh is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness to children's children; to such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his precepts to do them." That should be our aim, our goal, and our purpose. Our primary interest should be to please Almighty Yahweh.

The prophet Isaiah records something similar in chapter 55, verses 6-7. "Seek Yahweh while he may be found; call upon him while he is near: let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to Yahweh, and he will have mercy upon him...for he will abundantly pardon." There is no sin that Yahweh cannot, or will not, pardon—except premeditated sin. The unpardonable sin, then, is disobedience which is PREMEDI- TATED. That conclusion may be drawn from various passages as we have been showing in the previous articles, but, perhaps, very clearly it is expressed in Psalm 85.

"Yahweh, you have been favorable to your land; [You have expressed grace, mercy, unmerited kindness, and forgiveness to your land.] You have brought back the captivity of Jacob." This has not happened yet, but we look forward to that great time. "You have forgiven the iniquity of your people; You have covered all their sin. You have taken away all your wrath; You have turned yourself from the fierceness of your anger." verse 2.

As we read this passage, it would appear that its meaning

turned yourself from the fierceness of your anger. Turn us, O Elohim of our salvation...." To turn in Hebrew means to repent and be converted. "O Elohim of our salvation, and cause your indignation toward us to cease. Will you be angry with us forever? Will you draw out your anger to all generations?" No, this is the generation that will see the fulfillment of that prophecy. This end-time generation will be the focal point of Yahweh's righteous judgment.

"Will you not quicken us again, That your people may rejoice in you? Show us your lovingkindness, O Yahweh, and grant us your salvation. I will hear what El Yahweh The obvious answer is *judgment*. JUDGMENT! He will speak peace to His obedient people—to His saints, but he will speak **judgment** and **punishment** to them if they turn again to folly, to the wicked who are not obedient.

Contrast here what we learned earlier from Hebrews chapter 10, verse 26. "For if we sin willfully [if we turn again to folly] after we have received the knowledge of the truth [backsliding], there remains no more a sacrifice for sins...." That description is of the unpardonable sin. Then a division had developed between Yahweh and His people that can never be bridged. A division: a blessing on the one side—on Yahweh's side, and judgment on the other side of

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is prophetic, relating, perhaps, to Jeremiah chapters 30 to 34, wherein the return of the captivity of Jacob is described as the time when the Kingdom of Yahweh will be established on this earth. This prophecy is also expressed in Jeremiah 31:34, where it says Yahweh forgives the iniquity of His people and will remember their sin no more.

"You have covered all their sin." How is the covering for sin accomplished? It occurs with the sprinkling of the blood of Yahshua the Messiah upon the hearts of wayward people. Therefore, when someone confesses and forsakes his sins, past sins are covered by the blood. "You have taken away all your wrath; You have

will speak " Let's all have our ears open that we may listen to the voice of Yahweh speaking to us from the pages of the Sacred Scriptures. What will He say to His people? "He will speak [shalom] peace to his people, and to his saints: BUT LET THEM NOT TURN AGAIN TO FOLLY." What does "turn again to folly" represent? Folly is something totally vain and worthless. Folly is foolishness. Folly is wickedness, or evil. Any one of these synonyms could be used to interpret and define the word folly. Yahweh will speak *shalom* (peace) to His people and to His saints, but let them not turn away from Yahweh again to backslide into sin. What will He speak to them thereafter?

the separation. "There remains no more a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful EXPEC-TATION of JUDGMENT, and a FIERCENESS of FIRE which shall DEVOUR the ADVERSAR-IES." That passage is very, very strong. It tells us that we can never turn away again (described as backsliding), after coming to a knowledge of the True Doctrines.

In Hosea 11:5, we read, "They shall not return into the land of Egypt; but the Assyrian shall be their king, BECAUSE THEY REFUSED TO RETURN TO ME." The word return means to repent and be converted back to Yahweh's ways. "They refused to turn to me. And the sword shall fall upon their cities, Sin is a heavy weight crushing down upon the shoulders of the people, but Yahweh removes that heavy weight (heavy burden of sin) by lifting it off their shoulders.

and shall consume their bars, and devour them, BECAUSE OF THEIR OWN COUNSELS. And my people are BENT ON BACKSLIDING FROM ME: though they call them to him that is on high, none at all will exalt him."

Read the passage again, and look at it closely. Egypt is a type of sin. This time Yahweh says they shall return no more to Egypt, but this time the Assyrian nation shall rule over them. The Assyrians were a much more bitter people, and harsher taskmasters than even the Egyptians had been. Israel refused to return to Yahweh even though He had rescued them from bondage in Egypt. Israel is bent on backsliding-they are inclined to backsliding from Yahweh-so although they call "to him that is on high, none at all will exalt him." The prophets called Israel back to Yahweh constantly, but sinful Israel constantly rejected the voice of Yahweh and would not hear. Although the Israelites who entered the Promised Land were a nation in Yahweh's Truth, the book of Judges explains how succeeding generations assimilated the worship of the nations around them.

In Hebrew, several words are translated pardon. We want to examine a few of them at this point. Number 5375 in Strong's **Exhaustive Concordance** is nasa'; it means to lift up in a great variety of applications, and one of them is translated *pardon*. The etymology would show that sin is a heavy weight crushing down upon the shoulders of the people, but Yahweh removes that heavy weight (heavy burden of sin) by lifting it off their shoulders. Number 5545, calach; meaning to forgive, and it has been translated forgive, pardon or spare. Number 5547, celiychah; based upon the root #5545, translated pardon, serves as a substantive, a noun. Finally, #7521, ratsah; meaning, to be pleased with, or satisfy a debt. Now all debts have to be satisfied in some way. Yahweh forgives the debt of sin that we owe to Him. Yahweh forgives that debt (that sin), because it is a debt to Yahweh if we reject His Word by disobeying the everlasting Covenant.

In this article, we want to scrutinize several examples of the unpardonable sin in the Sacred Scriptures. Probably one of the best examples of Almighty Yahweh's mercy is seen in His dealing with Pharaoh of Egypt in the Exodus. In the Exodus. Yahweh sent Moses and Aaron to confront Pharaoh, to announce to him that Yahweh planned to release the Israelites. Pharaoh would not accept Yahweh's plans, and so the Almighty poured out one plague after the other upon Pharaoh and the land of Egypt.

In Exodus 10:16 we read, "Then Pharaoh quickly called for Moses and Aaron: and he said, I HAVE SINNED AGAINST YAHWEH YOUR ELOHIM, AND AGAINST YOU. Now therefore FORGIVE, I pray you, my sin only this once, and pray to Yahweh your Elohim, that he may take away from me this death only." The eighth plague, the locusts, were over the land, and Pharaoh recognized that he had not been honest, or forthright, with Yahweh. He had been for-

given, but constantly reverted back to evil again. This time he recognized his sin, he implored Yahweh to forgive that sin, and Yahweh removed the plague. Yahweh turned a very strong west wind that took the locusts and drove them into the Red Sea. "There remained not one locust in all the borders of Egypt. But Yahweh hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the children of Israel go." Then, immediately on the heels of the eighth plague, the ninth plague of darkness fell upon Egypt, to be followed soon thereafter by the tenth plague—the slaying of the firstborn.

In Exodus 14:4 we learn, "And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he shall follow after them; and I will get honor upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; and the Egyptians shall know that I am Yahweh...." We cannot blame Yahweh for hardening Pharaoh's heart. Why? Because it was a test from Yahweh to see how hard Pharaoh's heart was. Was he really submissive to Yahweh's Will? Evidently, time and time again, Pharaoh hardened his own heart.

Verse 26 of the same 14th chapter reads. "And Yahweh said to Moses, Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen. And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it: and Yahweh overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of the sea." Finally, death came to Pharaoh and his army for their disobedience. The final pronouncement of judgment is made by Yahweh, and He carried it out immediately so that Egypt would know that Yahweh is the True and Living Elohim and Judge and that He has a purpose in His actions. His purpose is to bring Israel out of their bondage to sin.

"And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, even all the host of Pharaoh that went in after them into the sea; there remained not as much as one of them. But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the middle of the sea; and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand, and on their left. In this manner Yahweh saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians...."

The Egyptians had committed the final ultimate sin. The eleventh sin was trying to follow after Yahweh's people and overcome them again. This act was directed at trying to place a people back into sin. This act was a type symbolic of Satan at work to recapture the True Worshiper after he has been released (baptized). Israel had gone through the Red Sea. Pharaoh, a type of Satan the Devil, then tried to recapture Israel again. He tried to lure them back and even drive them back into sin. "And Israel saw the great work which Yahweh had done to the Egyptians, and the people feared Yahweh: and they believed in Yahweh, and in his servant Moses." Yahweh's power has released His True Worshipers today, just as He released Israel at the Red Sea.

A very outstanding passage of forgiveness is found in Genesis 50. Joseph and his brothers had returned from the burial of their father in the Promised Land. "And When Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, It may be that Joseph will hate us, and will fully requite us all the evil which we did unto him. And they sent a message to Joseph, saying, Your father did command before he died, saying, So shall you say to Joseph, Forgive, I pray you now, the transgression of your brethren, and their sin, for that they did evil to you. And now, we pray you, forgive the transgression of the servants of the Elohim of your father...."

Joseph's brothers were Egyptian in lifestyle at this time. They were living in Egypt, citizens in the land of Egypt. Joseph was the second ruler in the land of Egypt. They knew that Joseph had influence inside the royal palace. They knew that Joseph could have instigated a reprisal by Pharaoh against his brothers. Joseph had that within his power to do. The Israelites were all living in Egypt at the time. They were all under Pharaoh's rule, and so they became very alarmed by what they anticipated as the possibility of a reprisal by Joseph against those who had sold him into slavery.

"Your father did command before he died, saying, So shall you say to Joseph, Forgive, I pray you now, the transgression of your brethren...." Did Jacob really say that? We have no record of it. Perhaps Jacob said it, but, more likely, they had invented it. Nevertheless, this message went to Joseph, appealing to the memory of their father Jacob.

Had Joseph really forgiven his brothers in his heart at this point? Obviously! He had brought them into Egypt. He had brought them there to be with them. He had helped to situate them in a choice area of the land of Egypt. Yet, they were suspicious of Joseph, because they knew of all the horrors that they had brought upon their brother, wrongly. They had thrown him in the dry well, sold him into slavery, and he had been wrongly incarcerated for years under the false accusation of his master's wife. They would have done none of those things had they truly loved their brother, but it was Yahweh's Will for Joseph to help save his brethren, the nation of Egypt, and other Middle Eastern people in the famine. Joseph knew that.

"And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we are your servants. And Joseph said to them, Fear not: for am I in the place of Elohim? And as for you, YOU **MEANT EVIL AGAINST ME;** but Elohim meant it [used even your treachery against me] for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save many people alive [not only the Israelites were saved alive, but the Egyptians and others also]. Now therefore fear not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spoke kindly unto them."

Obviously, Joseph continued to watch out for good for their lives so that they would not be harmed by the Egyptian royal family. It is a tremendous passage of Scripture, but Joseph here is doing a symbolic act as Yahweh would. Joseph is a type of Yahweh as he forgives his brethren for their wrong, just as Yahweh has forgiven our sins against Him. Again, you have to understand that Joseph's brothers recognized their precarious situation. What did they do? They sent the message to Joseph, and they came and asked forgiveness from him. So Joseph forgave them.

What would have happened had they not sent that message to Joseph? Let's look at it in the view of a sinner appealing to Yahweh for forgiveness. He sends a message in prayer to Yahweh, in Yahshua the Messiah's Name, when he finally recognizes his sinful state. He comes and falls down on his face before Yahweh and implores the Most High through the Sovereign Yahshua the Messiah to forgive him of his sins. Here is a perfect type of Yahweh's loving, forgiving attitude as we already learn from Isaiah chapters 53, 55, and many other places.

In 2 Kings 24, appears another type of the unpardonable sin. Here Almighty Yahweh pronounces judgment upon a nation. "In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his servant three years: then he turned and rebelled against him. And Yahweh sent against him bands of the Chaldeans, and bands of the Syrians, and the bands of the Moabites, and the bands of the children of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of Yahweh, which he spoke by his servants the prophets. Surely at the commandment of Yahweh this came upon Judah, to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh according to all that he did, and also for the innocent blood that he shed; for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood: and Yahweh would not pardon."

They recognized the punishment that Yahweh poured out upon the Jewish people. The punishment resulted from what? Rebellion against Yahweh's constituted authority, which at that time was Nebuchadnezzar. Had the people repented in the days of Nebuchadnezzar, Yahweh would have undoubtedly removed the threat of the Babylonian army, and there wouldn't have been a captivity in store for the Jewish people. But Judah wouldn't repent. Then Yahweh weakened the Jews, even though they rebelled against the Babylonians. He used the neighboring Syrians, the Moabites, and the Ammonites to destroy Judah. At the commandment of Yahweh, this trouble came upon Judah to remove them out of His sight because of the sins of Manasseh.

Something similar will also happen in our day. Can we not see what the prophet Joel has described in the third chapter of Joel? We will read starting with verse 9, "Proclaim this among the nations; prepare war; stir up the mighty men; let all the men of war draw near, let them come up. Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong. Hurry, and come, all you nations all around, and gather yourselves together: there cause your mighty ones to come down, O Yahweh. Let the nations bestir themselves, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat; for there will I sit to judge all the nations all around."

As I have said in previous instances, the Valley of Jehoshaphat, if we locate it in the upper end of the Kidron Valley, will not be sufficient space to contain all of the soldiers (all of the armies) of the nations of the world that are described in various places like Revelation 9 and 16. The Jezreel valley to the north, however, can provide sufficient space to fulfill the prophecies of the valley of Jehoshaphat, the Valley of Yahweh's judgment. The valley where Yahweh judges will be at Har-Magedon, Revelation 16:15-16. He calls the nations of the world together to that battle of the great day of Yahweh the Almighty. Why? "THERE WILL I SIT TO JUDGE ALL THE NATIONS ALL AROUND." Almighty Yahweh will arrange the time and place in this end-time judgment.

"Multitudes, multitudes in the vallev of decision! For the day of Yahweh is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. And Yahweh will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake...." That time of trouble and judgment will terrify all of the sinful people of this world. When Yahweh judges, it will be because the people of the world will not yield and repent during the preaching of His truthful, end-time message.

Turn to Revelation chapter 15, starting with verse 5. "And after these things I saw, and the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened: and there came out from the temple the seven angels that had the seven plagues, arrayed with precious stone, pure and bright, and girded about their breasts with golden girdles. And one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of Yahweh, who lives forever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of Yahweh, and from his power; and none was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels should be finished."

When Yahweh judges, it will be because the people of the world will not yield and repent during the preaching of His truthful, end-time message.

> This series of plagues, of course, is Yahweh's final judgment upon a sinful world. Verse 1 of Revelation chapter 15 reads, "And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels [another sign in heaven] having seven plagues, which are the last, for in them is finished the wrath of Elohim." In this series of plagues, millions upon millions of unrepentant people will perish.

> In 2 Peter 2:4, we find a series of examples designed to urge sinful people to keep Yahweh's Covenant Law. This applies strongly to people in our time, who also need to obey Yahweh's commandments, to repent and turn to Yahweh. "For if Yahweh spared not the angels when they sinned, but cast them down to Tartarus, and committed them to pits of darkness, to be reserved to judgment; and spared not the ancient world, but preserved Noah with seven others, a preacher of righteousness, when he brought a flood upon

the world of the lawless...."

Recently, as instructor of the Bible class in Obadiah School of the Bible, the author was discussing the sin of Adam. One of the things that I pointed out quite strongly is found in Hosea 6:7. "But they like Adam have transgressed the covenant "Genesis 3:17 contains a description of Adam being punished for his sin. The assertion by Dr. Bullinger and other commentators is that there are various dispensations. SUCH A DESIGNATION IS ABSOLUTELY WRONG! The Covenant has always been the commandments of Yahweh.

Here is the context. **"O** Ephraim, what shall I do to vou? O Judah, what shall I do to you? For your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the dew that goes early away. Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have killed them by the words of my mouth: and your judgments are as the light that goes forth. For I desire goodness, and not sacrifice: and the knowledge of Elohim more than burnt-offerings. **But THEY LIKE ADAM have** transgressed the covenant...."

Now according to the Jewish commentators, there is one Law to the nations, the Noachian Law, or Covenant, which doesn't require non-Jews to keep all of Yahweh's Laws. They assert that it is only to Judah that the entire Law was given. "But they like Adam have transgressed the covenant," says the Sacred Scriptures. Adam already had the Covenant. It just hadn't been codified until it was placed in written form when Israel

LAW COVENANT TORAH

There Is No Middle Ground

LAWLESSNESS INIQUITY WICKEDNESS

We are required to keep Yahweh's Covenant Law. Yahweh will not pardon premeditated sin.

received it written down by the hand of Yahweh on Mount Sinai.

Adam also transgressed the Covenant. In 2 Peter 2:5, we are told, "spared not the ancient world, but preserved Noah with seven others, a preacher of righteousness, when he brought a flood upon the world of the LAWLESS." Contrast lawless with law keeping in the sense of keeping Yahweh's Covenant. Compare the lawlessness of Noah's time with the lawlessness of Adam, and then you can understand that Yahweh's Covenant Law is eternal. Adam had the Law; Yahweh had commanded him (laid commandments upon him), Genesis 2:16. Adam had the Covenant. The Canaanite people had been given the Law and the Covenant too, but they had rejected it. "And turning the

cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, HAVING MADE THEM AN EXAMPLE TO THOSE THAT SHOULD LIVE WICKEDLY." (2 Peter 2:6). In 2 Peter 3, we read, "The heavens that now are, and the earth by the same word have been stored up for fire, being reserved against the day of judgment and destruction of LAWLESS MEN."

So we are living in the same type of an age. Lawlessness, disobedience to Yahweh's Covenant, breaking Yahweh's commandments, violating His Torah; all of these wicked acts are described in the Scriptures to provide a type to warn unrepentant people that Yahweh will finally run out of patience. Fire fell from heaven upon the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah

turning them into ashes, and we have sufficient archeological evidence of the fulfillment of the judgment of the Most High even to this very day. They were made an *example* to those that should live wickedly afterwards (in the latter days). Yahweh runs out of patience and then He judges. "And delivered just Lot, greatly distressed by the lascivious life of the wicked (for that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their lawless deeds)." (2 Peter 2:7-8). Here we encounter the term *lawless* again! Obviously the term holds significant meaning for our time. All wicked, lawless people will be judged for disobedience to the Covenant-not only wicked Jews!

Now remember, the antithesis

of Law, Covenant, and Torah is lawlessness, sin, iniquity, and wickedness. There is no middle ground. We are required to keep Yahweh's Covenant Law. Yahweh will not pardon premeditated sin. If we sin because of wickedness of character, because we are carnal. fleshly, Yahweh knows that we are weak, still made of dust, and He will forgive us. To deliberately defy Yahweh, to sin and violate His Covenant Law, brings upon those wicked sinners a just reward of punishment and death. When the Truth of Yahweh is preached, all people should be like the noble Bereans and prove the veracity of His Word.

"Yahweh knows how to deliver the holy out of temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment to the day of judgment." (2 Peter 2:9). This is precisely what He did with the angels. He committed them to chains of darkness [Tartaroo (pits of darkness)] reserved to the final judgment. As we read in 1 Corinthians chapter 6, the saints will judge angels.

"Yahweh knows how to deliver the holy out of temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment to the day of judgment; but chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of defilement, and despise government. Daring, stubborn, they tremble not to rail at dignities: whereas angels, though greater in might and power, bring not a railing accusation against them before Yahweh. But these, as creatures without reason, born mere animals to be taken and destroyed, railing in matters in which they are in ignorance, shall in their destroying surely be destroyed, suffering wrong as the hire of wrongdoing men that count it pleasure to revel in the daytime,

spots and blemishes, reveling in their deceivings while they feast with you; having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; enticing unsteadfast souls: having a heart exercised in covetousness; children of cursing; forsaking the right way, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the hire of wrongdoing; but he was rebuked for his own transgression: a dumb ass spoke with man's voice and restrained the madness of the prophet. These are springs without water, and mists driven by storm; for whom the blackness of darkness has been reserved. For, uttering great swelling words of vanity, they entice in the lusts of the flesh, by lasciviousness, those who are just escaping from them that live in error; promising them liberty, while they themselves are servants of corruption; for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he also brought into bondage. For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of the Master and Savior Yahshua the Messiah, they are again entangled in it and overcome, the last state has become worse with them than the first. For it were better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them." (2 Peter 2:9-21). These are the people who will be judged and punished by Yahshua in the day of judgment. Peter is telling us that these are the types of sinners who will be punished. Those who walk after the flesh and not after the spirit are fulfilling the works of the flesh of Galatians 5. They are not fulfilling, or bringing forth, the fruits of the Holy Spirit. "In the lust of defilement...." The description of types of wickedness is found in Romans chapter 1. The lust of defilement is evident, seemingly, in all regions of the world today. People appear to have no shame. They defy the Word of Yahweh, "and despise government...." The government specified here is Yahweh's constituted authority.

"Daring, stubborn, they tremble not to rail at dignities: whereas angels, though greater in might and power, bring not a railing accusation against them before Yahweh. But these, as creatures without reason, born mere animals...." Yahweh explains to us through the words of Solomon, in Ecclesiastes chapter 3, that men are created like animals. He says in verse 21, "Who knows the spirit of man, whether it goes up, and the spirit of the beast, whether it goes down to the earth?" He said in verse 18, "I said in my heart. It is because of the sons of men, that Elohim may prove them, and that THEY MAY SEE THAT THEY THEMSELVES ARE BUT AS BEASTS."

Peter, of course, is just repeating what Solomon said in Ecclesiastes chapter 3, and what is said in other places such as Psalm 37. He says in verse 20, "But the wicked shall perish, And the enemies of Yahweh shall be as the fat of lambs: They shall consume; in smoke shall they consume away." We must recognize, ourselves, that we have no preeminence above animals. Unless we have been begotten again by Yahweh's Holy Spirit, and obey His Covenant Law, we will be destroyed forever because of sin. If we reject Yahweh's Law,

PROPHETIC TRENDS today's news in prophecy

War Is Imminghi A Little Spark & All /t Wa

For decades, Elder Jacob O. Meyer (OBM), has been warning of a coming "Limited nuclear war in the Middle East." Since Hamas attacked Israel (along with Hezbollah) on October 7, 2023, a state of war has existed between Israel and its terrorist enemies in Gaza and Lebanon. In recent weeks, we have noticed the saber-rattling rhetoric of Iran and its proxies, threatening the use of a nuclear weapon, to which Israel has responded that it will respond with nuclear force if they are pressured with annihilation. NEVER BEFORE IN HISTORY HAVE WE BEEN

SO CLOSE TO NUCLEAR WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

"Imagine Hitler with nuclear bombs; now imagine Iran's mullahs with nuclear bombs," one pundit opined recently, demanding immediate action to prevent Iran from using nuclear weapons. However, Iran has drastically sped up their nuclear program while the US administration sits idly by. Our government has paved the way for a nuclear-armed Iran, even though they have promised to destroy Israel—calling them the *Little Satan*—and have threatened the United States of America, referring to us as the *Great Satan*. The United States has not only green-lighted Iran's nuclear program in the Obama Administration, but we have financed Iran's terror programs with the billions of dollars that we have given to Iran during the Biden Administration.

Middle East Tinderbox

"But in mount Zion there shall be those that escape, and it shall be holy; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. And the house of Jacob shall be a FIRE, and the



house of Joseph a FLAME, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall burn among them, and devour them; and there shall not be any remaining to the house of Esau; for Yahweh has spoken it." (Obadiah 17-18). A little spark is all it will take to ignite this terrible war.

"For the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever. In the day that you stood on the other side, in the day that strangers carried away his substance, and FOR-

EIGNERS ENTERED INTO HIS GATES, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even you were as one of them. But do not look on the day of your brother in the day of his disaster, and rejoice not over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction: NEITHER SPEAK PROUDLY IN THE DAY OF DISTRESS. Enter not into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity: yes, do not look on their affliction in the day of their calamity, neither lay hands on their substance in the day of their calamity. And stand not in the crossways to cut off those of his that escape; and deliver not up those of his that remain in the day of distress. For the day of Yahweh is near upon all the nations: as you have done, it shall be done to vou; YOUR DEALING SHALL **RETURN UPON YOUR OWN** HEAD." (Obadiah 10-15).

Yahweh Will Judge

'Moreover the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, Son of man, set your face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it, and say to it, thus says the Sovereign Yahweh: Behold, I am against you, O mount Seir, and I will stretch out my hand against you, and I will make you a desolation and an astonishment. I will lay your cities waste, and you shall be desolate; and you shall know that I am Yahweh. BECAUSE YOU HAVE HAD A PERPETUAL ENMITY, AND HAVE GIVEN **OVER THE CHILDREN OF IS-RAEL TO THE POWER OF THE** SWORD in the time of their calamity, in the time of the iniquity of the end; therefore, as I live, says the Sovereign Yahweh, I will prepare you to blood, and blood shall pursue you: since you have not hated blood, therefore blood shall pursue you. In this manner will I make mount Seir an astonishment and a desolation: and I will cut off from it him that passes through and him that returns. And I will fill its mountains with its slain: in your hills and in your valleys and in all your watercourses shall they fall that are killed with the sword. I WILL MAKE YOU A PERPETUAL DESOLA-TION, and your cities shall not be inhabited; and you shall know that I am Yahweh.

"Because you have said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas Yahweh was there: therefore, as I live, says the Sovereign Yahweh, I will do according to vour ANGER, and according to your ENVY which you have showed out of your HATRED against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I SHALL JUDGE YOU. And you shall know that I, Yahweh, have heard all your **REVILINGS** which you have spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to devour. And you have magnified vourselves against me with your mouth, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard it. In this manner says the Sovereign Yahweh: When the whole earth rejoices, I will make you desolate. As you rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do to you: you shall be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Edom, even all of it; and they shall know that I am Yahweh." (Ezekiel 35).

"O Elohim, keep not silence: Hold not your peace, and be not The he-goats are those who SHOULD BE LEADING THE FLOCK TOWARD YAHWEH, yet he-goats are going in the wrong direction, leading the flock of Yahweh in the WRONG DIRECTION.

still, O El. For, lo, your enemies make a tumult; and THEY THAT HATE YOU HAVE LIFT-ED UP THE HEAD. They take crafty counsel against your people, and consult together against your hidden ones. They have said, Come, and LET US **CUT THEM OFF FROM BEING** A NATION: THAT THE NAME **OF ISRAEL MAY BE NO MORE IN REMEMBRANCE.** For they have consulted together with one consent; against you they make a covenant... Who said, Let us take to ourselves in possession the habitations of Elohim. O my Elohim, make them like the whirling dust; as stubble before the wind. As the FIRE that burns the forest, and as the FLAME that sets the mountains on fire... AND THEY SHALL KNOW THAT YOUR NAME IS YAHWEH ALONE, MOST HIGH OVER ALL THE EARTH." (Psalm 83:1-5, 12-14, 18).

Apathy or Zeal?

The culmination of the fulfillment of end-time Bible prophecy is clearly evident in the obvious trends that continue to manifest themselves as we draw ever closer to the Second Coming of the Messiah. Many things that are happening today are simply not coincidence, but they are the intervention of Almighty Yahweh, our Father in Heaven, and Yahshua the Messiah, His Son, our Redeemer and Savior, in the affairs of mankind. The eyes of our understanding must be opened and their vision sharpened so that we can understand the prophetic word, seeing clearly how Yahweh's Word is being fulfilled right before our eyes.

Yet, a great deal of apathy exists in the world today in regard to religion. Could we be witnessing the death of religion, or is it a famine of hearing the Word of Yahweh? "Behold, the days come, says the Sovereign Yahweh, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of HEARING THE WORDS OF YAHWEH. And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east; they shall run to and fro to seek the word of Yahweh, and shall not find it." (Amos 8:11-12).

Are we not living in an age of Laodiceanism? Since the Assemblies of Yahweh ministry began, it has been apparent that the world has fallen into ever greater apathy where religion is concerned. However, this was predicted in many places in the Sacred Scriptures. For example, see 2 Timothy 3:1-5. "For know this, that in the last days GRIEVOUS TIMES SHALL COME. For men shall be SELF-LOVERS, LOVERS OF MONEY, BOASTFUL, HAUGH-TY, RAILERS, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, no lovers of good, traitors, headstrong, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of Yahweh; holding a FORM of righteousness, but having DENIED THE POWER OF IT: from these also turn away."

Turn Around

Yet another example may be seen by turning to Zechariah 10:2. "For the teraphim have spoken VANITY, and the diviners have seen a LIE; and they have told FALSE DREAMS, they comfort in VAIN: therefore they go their way like sheep, they are afflicted, BECAUSE THERE IS NO SHEPHERD."

You will notice that the term *teraphim* represents *idols*. Some of the commentators defined the term as *family idols*, and we are informed that these idols have spoken vanity. The diviners have seen a lie and have told false dreams. They comfort in vain; therefore, they go their way like sheep.

Now, let us notice that the people were listening to these idolatrous sermons and false teachings will be going in the wrong direction. The *teraphim* are speaking things that are worthless. The diviners (prophets) have seen a lie, and it told false dreams. They comfort in vain.

For a cross reference, let us turn to Jeremiah 23. "Am I an Elohim at hand, says Yahweh, and not an Elohim afar off? Can any hide himself in secret places so that I shall not see him? says Yahweh. Do not I fill heaven and earth? says Yahweh. I have heard what the prophets have said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed. How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies, even the prophets of the **DECEIT** of their own heart? That think to cause my people to FORGET MY NAME BY THEIR DREAMS which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers FORGOT MY NAME FOR BAAL. The prophet that has a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that has my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the straw to the wheat? says Yahweh. Is not my word like FIRE? says Yahweh; and like a HAMMER that breaks the rock in pieces? Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, says Yahweh, that steal my words every one from his neighbor. Behold, I am against the prophets, says Yahweh, that use their tongues, and say, He says. Behold, I am against them that PROPHESY LYING DREAMS, savs Yahweh, and do tell them, and cause my people to ERR by their lies, and by their vain boasting: yet I SENT THEM NOT, NOR **COMMANDED THEM; neither** do they profit this people at all, says Yahweh." (Jeremiah 23:23-32).

Those people who are listening to the false dreams and lives of false teachers seem to act like sheep. They meekly go their own way, FOLLOWING ERROR. They are afflicted, because Yahweh's judgment will be falling, and they have not accepted guidance of the Good Shepherd, Yahshua the Messiah, to lead them by rivers of living water. (Please see Psalm 23.)

Furthermore, Yahweh indicates that he will punish the he-goats. The he-goats are those who SHOULD BE LEADING THE FLOCK TOWARD YAHWEH, yet he-goats are going in the wrong direction, leading the flock of

Yahweh in the WRONG DIREC-TION. Notice Jeremiah 50:8. where the prophet says, "Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and go forth out of the land of the Chaldeans, and be as the he-goats before the flocks." The he-goats should be leading the flock of Yahweh back to Him. The prophecy of Isaiah 50 (a prophecy for the last days) indicates that the people have reached the point where they will be seeking Yahweh, Isaiah 50:4. Nevertheless, in Zechariah 10:2-3, the he-goats (leaders) are not providing guidance. At the present time, the reader should be asking the question, "Am I returning to Almighty Yahweh in sincere and genuine repentance?" If not, MAKE A CHANGE.

The call goes out today, as it did when Yahshua the Messiah and John the Baptist were preaching, "REPENT, BELIEVE THE GOOD TIDINGS, AND PREPARE FOR THE COMING OF THE KING-DOM OF YAHWEH." See Mark 1:14-15.

Urgent Call to Repentance

Today, there is only one organization on the face of the earth that is preaching the complete true doctrines of the Sacred Scriptures, striving to the best of our ability to live in harmony with every Word, and that organization is the Assemblies of Yahweh. Begun from a little mustard seed nearly 60 years ago, we continue to move forward and reach out to the lost and dying people of this world. Our message is the same as that of John the Baptist and Yahshua the Messiah, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Yahweh is at hand." It is certainly evident to those who are watching, that, indeed, this is the time when ALL THE PROPHECIES OF THE SACRED SCRIPTURES CAN BE

FULFILLED. Therefore, the Assemblies of Yahweh ministry tries very diligently to fulfill the Great Commission and call people to REPENTANCE in anticipation of the Second Coming of Yahshua the Messiah to reign in the Kingdom of Yahweh on this earth.

What are you doing to make your preparations to enter into Yahweh's Kingdom? You need to open your heart and harmonize the Sacred Scriptures, from Genesis to Revelation. You should come to understand the importance of using the Sacred Name of Yahweh in worship. You should come to understand the connection between the name of the Messiah Yahshua and salvation. Acts 4:12: "And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, in which we must be saved."

"I am Yahweh, that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to carved images." (Isaiah 42:8). Why not connect with the Assemblies of Yahweh? Why not attend services with the brethren, if there is a congregation in your area? Why not to tune to the streaming system on the Internet, or obtain the sermons on CD? Why not continue to read and study the Bible daily?

Someday, when Yahshua returns, you will be rewarded for your diligence. We have much to offer the sincere Truth seeker!

Don't forget that the end of the age will suddenly come upon this world, at a time when they will be unaware.

Wake up! Behold, the Bridegroom comes. Let us go out to meet Him! Repent, and believe in the good news, the Evangel of Salvation through faith in Yahshua the Messiah. It may be later than you think! s_{NB}

LAW OF YAHWEH

The Fourth Commandment The Sabbath

"Now it came to pass on a sabbath, that he was going through the grainfields; and his disciples plucked the ears, and ate rubbing them in their hands. But certain of the Pharisees said, Why do you that which it is not lawful to do on the sabbath day? And Yahshua answering them said, Have you not read even this, what David did, when he was hungry, he, and they that were with him; how he entered into the house of Yahweh, and took and ate the showbread, and gave also to them that were with him; which it is not lawful to eat save for the priests alone? And he said to them, The Son of man is Master of the sabbath.

"And it came to pass on another sabbath, that he entered into the synagogue and taught: and there was a man there, and his right hand was withered. And the scribes and

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

the Pharisees watched him. whether he would heal on the sabbath: that they might find how to accuse him. But he knew their thoughts; and he said to the man that had his hand withered, Rise up, and stand forth in the middle. And he arose and stood forth. And Yahshua said to them, I ask you, Is it lawful on the sabbath to do good, or to do harm? To save a life, or to destroy it? And he looked all around on them all, and said to him, Stretch forth your hand. And he did so: and his hand was restored. But they were filled with madness; and communed one with another what they might do to Yahshua." (Luke 6:1-11).

As we ponder this introductory passage of Sacred Scripture, let us

also turn to the fourth commandment passage, found in Exodus 20:8-11, and consider Yahweh's Will. Yahweh the Almighty is speaking, and He instructs His people, the nation of Israelites, "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shall you labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath of Yahweh your Elohim: in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the stranger that is within your gates: for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth. the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day: Therefore Yahweh blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."

As Yahweh has codified His Laws, this commandment does not comprise a new Law for the Israelites who had just recently been released from bondage in Egypt. You will recollect the incident recorded in Exodus chapter 16. The people of Israel had come into the wilderness of Sin and found no food; therefore, Yahweh came to their rescue with a miracle. He promised to send them flesh (meat) in the evening and bread in the morning. This bread was called manna (English translation would be, "What is it, please?"). Described as angels' food in Psalm 78:25, Yahweh rained down upon them this blessing from heaven when His people had no food.

While in Egyptian bondage, the Israelites had apparently forgotten to rest on the Sabbath day. Due to the oppression of the Egyptian slave drivers who allowed them no rest (Sabbath), the Israelites were forced to work long, hard hours, seven days a week. When they were given their freedom, Yahweh had revealed to them which day was His designated Sabbath. Yahweh commanded Moses to direct the people to gather their food, given to them supernaturally, to last them only for one day. Some of the people imagined that they knew better than Yahweh, or Moses. They imagined in their hearts they would show the leadership how much they knew, and so they gathered much more manna for themselves than they could possibly consume in one day. However, Yahweh caused this extra manna to breed worms and stink. When the sixth day of the week arrived, Yahweh directed them to gather enough to supply their needs for two days (to include the seventhday Sabbath), and, also, to cook and bake any amount that they would consume on both the preparation day (the sixth day) and the Sabbath (the seventh day of the week). This the people did, and, yet, it miraculously did not spoil.

Again, however, some of the

people believed that they knew better than Moses; consequently, on the sixth day they gathered only a sufficient amount for the sixth day (or preparation day). When they went out to gather manna on the seventh-day Sabbath, they found none on the ground, and so they had no food on that Sabbath. "And Yahweh said to Moses, How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and my laws? See, because Yahweh has given you the Sabbath, therefore he gives you on the sixth day the bread of two days; remain you every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day."

This identical question confronts all the people of the world today, just as it did in ancient biblical times. *"How long will you refuse to obey My commandments and My laws?"* What will your personal answer be?

Allow me to present a personal illustration at this point. I was born and raised in a strict Sunday-keeping family. Soon after my marriage, my wife started to study the Bible seriously and encountered the Sabbath question. I, however, refused to consider the subject seriously, to learn what the Bible had to say about it, until several years later. When I did decide to make a study of the subject in the Sacred Scriptures, I diligently sought out ALL THE SCRIPTURES IN THE BIBLE DEALING WITH THE SABBATH, and I studied them carefully. I soon discovered that the very Scriptures which I had formerly used to support my Sunday worship were quite problematical. I could find absolutely no Scripture in the New Testament that would support my continuing to keep Sunday. In fact, I learned that the passages used in worldly ch-rchianity to prove Sundaykeeping merely proof-texted their doctrine, rather than proving it conclusively. I could find no Scripture to show that the Sabbath was ever changed from the seventh day to the first day (Sunday). Since I am a proponent of the inductive, rather than the deductive, method of study, this knowledge I had learned meant that I had to change my way of life if I wanted to obey the Scriptures and inherit eternal life.

Let us take a careful look at some of the so-called "Sunday Scriptures" in the New Testament. These Scriptures are frequently used by the majority of Chr-stians to support their observance of Sunday, which they recognize as the first day of the week.

Turn with me first to John 20:19, where Yahshua's disciples were gathered in the upper room. Most people try to assert that this was a Sunday worship service to honor Yahshua's resurrection. Was this indeed the case? Undoubtedly not! "When therefore it was EVENING, on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Yahshua came and stood in the middle, and says to them, **Peace be unto you** [the Hebrew] here would be the customary Jewish greeting, "Shalom aleichem!"]."

The disciples were assembled in one place, not for a worship service, but for a business meeting. They feared that if the Jews found them, all might be put to death just as Yahshua had been martyred. Since the Pharisees had reported to the public that the disciples had stolen the Messiah's body to fabricate the idea of a resurrection, they were surely wanted men; consequently, they were hiding from the authorities behind locked doors. Also, please notice that this event occurred in the evening. Mark 1:32 indicates that a new day begins in the evening when the sun sets. In this, he clearly supports the Old Testament teachings. See Leviticus 23:32. If you are as honest with yourself as Yahweh demands, you will have to admit forthrightly that no basis or commandment exists here to change the seventh-day Sabbath to a Sunday observance.

Additionally, John 20:26 explains that after eight days they were once more gathered together. This time element you can decipher for yourself to mean not an observance of Sunday, but actually a meeting of the disciples on Monday night, the beginning of Tuesday, the third scriptural day.

The next passage that I would like for us to consider in particular is found in Acts 20:7-12. "And upon the first day of the week, when we had gathered together to break bread, Paul discoursed with them, intending to depart on the next day; and prolonged his speech until midnight. And there were many lights in the upper chamber where we were gathered together. And there sat in the window a certain young man named Eutychus, borne down with deep sleep; and as Paul spoke vet longer, being slumped down by his sleep he fell down from the third story, and was taken up dead. And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Make no tumult; for his life is in him. And when he had gone up, and had broken the bread, and eaten, and had talked with them a long while, even till the break of day, he departed. And they brought the lad alive, and were not a little comforted."

Notice that here is confirmed the fact that Paul gathered with the Apostles and people of Yahweh every Sabbath. See Acts 17:2.

Also, we found in Mark 1:32 and Leviticus 23:32 that the scriptural day begins and ends at sundown. Here, Paul was preaching until midnight, and, apparently, they still had not eaten their evening meal. Also, Paul had not wanted to begin his journey on the Sabbath, since he steadfastly obeyed Yahweh's Law, and, therefore, had scheduled his departure for the following day, on the first day of the week. If we study this passage with an open mind, and consider other Scriptures, we will have to admit that there is certainly no commandment or precedent here to specify Sunday as a holy day!

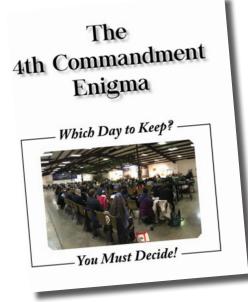
As a matter of fact, here the Greek text reads, "In the first of the Sabbaths..." meaning that Paul continued his sermon well into the first day of the week, which is an obvious reference and relationship to the Feast of Unleavened Bread, because it marks the beginning of the count toward the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost). The first of the Sabbaths here means the first of the seven Sabbaths we count toward the Feast of Weeks, Shavuoth, Pentecost. See Leviticus 23:15-16. His sermon subject would then have been on the resurrection-and this explains the significance of the raising of the sleeping Eutychus.

The next scriptural reference usually set forth by Sunday keepers is 1 Corinthians 16:2. Follow carefully as I read. "Upon the first day of the week let each one of you lay by him in store, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come." Many people here will read this verse and drop the last phrase, which sets forth the actual meaning to this verse. Here, in this passage, Paul was commanding the Assembly of Yahweh at Corinth to collect material things for the poor of Jerusalem. Please

also consult Romans 15:20. He was not advocating the observance of Sunday worship, but, rather, Paul directed that the work (LABOR) of collecting the assistance offering for the poor was to be done on the first day of the week. This passage has no relationship whatsoever to any type of Sunday keeping. With this Scripture we have, as yet, found NO COMMANDMENT for changing the commanded day of rest and worship from the seventh day of the week, the correct day on which Yahweh Elohim commanded His people to observe the Sabbath (the seventh day), to the worldly keeping of Sunday, the first day of the week (the venerable day of the sun, sun-worship).

Now let us turn to another passage found in Revelation 1:10. "I was in the Spirit on Yahweh's day, and I heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet." People frequently fall back on this verse to prove that John kept Sunday. The Apostle John was, at this time, in exile on the island of Patmos. Commonly, it is taught he was in the spirit of worship on Sunday. This is a very glaring error! John was seeing a vision of the day of Yahweh that is described repeatedly by the Old Testament prophets. You can cross reference this text with Joel 1:15 and 2:28-32. This day of Yahweh (Yahweh's day), spoken of in some 30 places in the Old Testament, constitutes a prophecy of the last days at the end of the age when Yahweh Himself takes control of the governments of the worldly nations.

By consulting ecclesiastical history, you will also discover that the ancient pagans worshiped their sun idols on the day of the sun, Sunday, the first day of the week. This was the day on which the errant, sinful Israelites worshiped Baal, who was a solar idol.



The weekly day of rest and worship is carefully scrutinized in this 14-page article. An extremely important subject!

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Hosea 2:16-17 (along with the center-column references) tells us that the English translation of the name *Baal* is the *L*-*rd*.

Yahshua the Messiah, our Savior, informs us in the introductory scripture that I read, that He Himself is the master of the Sabbath day. Yahshua the Messiah always worshiped on the seventh-day Sabbath. This is clearly supported in many Scriptures, in particular Luke 4:16, which tells us that it was His custom to go to the synagogue (the Jewish house of worship) on the Sabbath. The Savior tells His people in the prophecy of Matthew 24:20 that they should pray that their flight be NOT ON THE SABBATH DAY. This flight (to avoid the end-time tribulation persecution) was to occur 40 years after His resurrection, following the destruction of the Temple, as well as just prior to His Second Coming. You would think that He would not have misled His people, but would have instructed them to pray that their flight would not be on SUNDAY, IF Yahweh's constituted day of rest would be changed!

In the scriptural account of creation, in Genesis chapter 1, we learn that Yahweh re-created the earth from its chaotic state in six days. He then rested on the seventh day as a sign that He had completed His work. By resting on the Sabbath, we declare to the world that we are His people, because we voluntarily submit to His authority, recognizing Him as the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. This fact emerges clearly in Exodus 31:12-17.

"And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saving Speak also to the children of Israel, saying, You must keep my sabbaths: for IT IS A SIGN BETWEEN ME AND YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR **GENERATIONS:** that you may know that I am Yahweh who sanctifies you. Therefore you shall keep the sabbath: for it is holy to you: every one who desecrates it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work in it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days shall work be done; but on the seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, HOLY TO YAHWEH: whoever does any work on the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, FOR A

PERPETUAL COVENANT. It is a SIGN BETWEEN ME and the CHILDREN of ISRAEL forever: for in six days Yahweh made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed."

Many people will tell you that keeping the seventh day as the Sabbath day of rest was merely to be a Jewish practice. Let me prove to you that the Sabbath was in existence long before a Jew ever existed. Genesis 2:1-3 should be conclusive proof. Notice also Isaiah 56:1-8, which proves that, just as in the original Sabbath commandment in Exodus 20:8-11, the stranger must also keep the Sabbath, along with the Israelites.

Yahshua the Messiah tells His audience of Pharisees that the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath; therefore, the Son of Man is master of the Sabbath (Mark 2:27-28). He could have just as easily stated that the Sabbath was made for the Jews, but He did not. Also, in Leviticus chapter 23, where the holy days that Yahweh commands us to keep are listed, the Sabbath heads the entire list and is included with the annual holy days to be strictly observed. Don't forget that Paul

Continued on page 21.



Continued from page 9.

we will be in the same category as 2 Peter 2:12. "But these, as creatures without reason...." Where do we get our reason from? Where do we get our intelligence from, but from Yahweh? The Holy Spirit leads us to keep Yahweh's commandments, Acts 5:32. "Born mere animals to be taken and destroyed [Yahweh will destroy the wicked], railing in matters in which they are in ignorance, SHALL IN THEIR **DESTROYING SURELY BE DESTROYED.**" This is a type of the unpardonable sin and the destruction that will accompany it when Yahweh finally loses His patience. Yahweh holds our lives in His power. He can grant us eternal life as His children when we obey Him, or He can destroy us forever for sin.

Now notice verse 3, "And in covetousness they shall with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose sentence now from of old lingers not, and their destruction slumbers not." You can plainly observe that the sentence for wickedness has previously been pronounced upon all the wicked. When? In Genesis 2:16-17 we read. "And Yahweh Elohim commanded the man, saving, Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of knowing the good and [knowing the] evil, you shall not eat of it: for in

the day that you eat of it YOU SHALL SURELY DIE." Dying, you will absolutely perish, is the meaning of the last phrase.

Let us continue on for several more verses in 2 Peter 2. "Suffering wrong as the hire of wrongdoing men that count it pleasure to revel in the daytime, spots and blemishes, reveling in their deceivings while they feast with you; having EYES FULL OF ADULTERY, and that CANNOT CEASE FROM SIN: ENTICING UNSTEAD-FAST SOULS; having a heart exercised in covetousness; children of cursing; FORSAKING THE RIGHT WAY, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the hire of wrongdoing." (2 Peter 2:13-15). Whatever happened to Balaam, the son of Beor? In Numbers chapter 24 it says, "And Balaam rose up, and went and returned to his place; and Balak also went his way," but, he didn't remain in his place, evidently, because we find that, in the Israelite-Midianite war, Yahweh commanded that the children of Israel be avenged upon the Midianites. In Numbers 31:8, "Balaam also the son of Beor they killed with the sword." In the Midianite war, Balaam lost his life. He lost his life justly, because he tried to entice Israel to follow a life of idolatry, to spurn the True Worship of Yahweh for an idolatrous religion. Yahweh judged Balaam, and he was killed among the idolaters who opposed Israel.

Back in 2 Peter 2:16 we read, "But he was rebuked for his own transgression: a dumb ass spoke with man's voice and restrained the madness of the prophet." Balaam was blind to spiritual obedience to Yahweh's Covenant, blinded by materialism.

Then you continue down to

the latter part of the passage in verse 20, "For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of the Master and Savior Yahshua the Messiah, they are again ENTANGLED in it and OVERCOME...."

At what point is someone overcome? Yahweh will forgive all sin. He has faithfully promised to do that. But, sometimes a person takes the turn toward defiance against Yahweh. Even knowing that he is disobeying Yahweh's Word, knowing he is disobeying Yahweh's Law, still he has hardened his heart and conscience. Then, "the last state has become worse with them than the first [because there is then no hope at all, forever]. For it were better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them." In other words, if they had never known the way of righteousness, Yahweh could have dealt with them as a heathen. He will extend grace to the people who had never learned the Truth when Yahshua judges the resurrected millions at the Great White Throne Judgment. People who knew the holy commandment, and had lived and obeyed it at one time, who had once obeyed the commandments, but then they had turned back in defiance of Yahweh. They backslid, they went back into the world, and they resumed a wicked life. Then there is no more hope of ever again reviving them spiritually.

"It has happened to them according to the true proverb...." The author (like Peter) has seen people enlightened by the Holy Spirit of Yahweh come into the Truth, obey His Covenant, and then turn away like a dog turns to its own vomit, or like a sow goes back to wallowing in the mire. I have seen those people becoming worse in attitude and lifestyle than they were before they learned the holy commandment.

The prayer of Solomon at the dedication of the Temple, as recorded in 2 Chronicles and 1 Kings, is of great importance at this point. It would be helpful for everyone to read it occasionally. We read in 1 Kings 8:27, "But will Elohim in truth dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain you: how much less this house that I have built! Yet you have respect to the prayer of your servant, and to his supplication, O Yahweh my Elohim, to listen to the cry and to the prayer which your servant prays before you this day; that your eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which you have said, my name shall be there; to listen to the prayer which your servant shall pray toward this place. And you shall listen to the supplication of your servant, and of your people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: yes, hear you in heaven your dwelling-place; and WHEN YOU HEAR FORGIVE." Such a petition all of us should have, that when we pray to Almighty Yahweh that He will hear and forgive.

"When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against you; if they pray toward this place, and confess your name, and turn from their sin, when you afflicted them: then you shall hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of your servants, and of your people Israel, when you teach them the good way in which they should walk; and send rain upon your land, which you have given to your people for an inheritance," (1 Kings 8:35-36).

"Then hear you in heaven your dwelling-place, and forgive, and do, and RENDER TO EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO ALL HIS WAYS, WHOSE HEART YOU KNOW; (for you, even you only, know the hearts of all the children of men;) that they may fear you all the days that they live in the land which you gave to our fathers." (1 Kings 8:39-40).

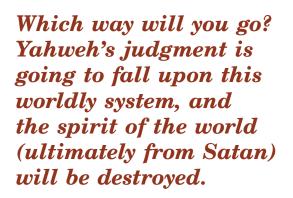
The petition of Solomon desires the forgiveness of Yahweh, but he also knows that Yahweh knows the hearts of all the children of men. He knows our hearts better than we know them. Solomon also knows that Yahweh will render a recompense to each one **according to his ways** (according to how he obeys Yahweh's Laws).

"In this manner says Yahweh: Behold, I will raise up against Babylon and against them that dwell in Lebkamai, a destroying wind. And I win send to Babylon strangers, that shall winnow her; and they shall empty her land: for in the day of trouble [tribulation, a pronouncement of punishment upon this modern system] **they shall be** against her all around. Against him that bends let the archer bend his bow [against him that bends away from the Covenant of Yahweh let the archer bend his bow], and against him that lifts himself up in his coat of mail: and spare not her young men; utterly destroy all her host. And they shall fall down killed in the land of the Chaldeans, and thrust through in her streets.

"For Israel is not forsaken, nor Judah, of his Elohim, of Yahweh of hosts; though their land is full of guilt against the Holy One of Israel. Flee out of the middle of Babylon...." (Jeremiah 51:1-6).

How do we do this? How can one flee from Babylon? The head of Babylon actually thinks for this entire worldly system. We must flee from the thinking of this system of things economically, spiritually, religiously, sociologically. All of us should be able to scrutinize and determine what this system is all about. It is corrupt—built upon idolatry and upon disobedience to Yahweh's Covenant and defiance of His authority. "Flee out of the middle of Babylon, and save every man his life; be not cut off in her iniquity: for it is the time of Yahweh's vengeance; he will render to her a recompense. Babylon has been a golden cup in Yahweh's hand "Why should Babylon be represented as a golden cup? Gold is precious metal used here to serve idolatry. "You are this head of gold," we read in Daniel 2:38.

It is a cup of gold to test all nations. "Babylon has been a golden cup in Yahweh's hand [to test all the nations of the world; which spirit do they want?], that made all the earth drunken...." Remember that this cup is in Yahweh's hand, and it is a test to the people of the world. If you want the spirit of the world, He will give you strong delusion to believe a lie, 2 Thessalonians 2:11. "The nations have drunk of her wine; therefore the nations are mad." They are angry against Yahweh. The second Psalm comes sharply into focus here. The kings of the earth have taken counsel together, they have set themselves against Yahweh and His Messiah. "Babylon has suddenly fallen and is destroyed: wail for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed. We would have healed Babylon, but she is not





healed: forsake her, and let us go every one into his own country; for her judgment reaches to heaven, and is lifted up even to the skies. Yahweh has brought forth our righteousness: come, and let us declare in Zion the work of Yahweh our Elohim."

The judgment upon this modern, worldly system is absolutely plain and crystal clear. Why should the nations of the world be judged as they are? Because Babylon and the worldly spirit is contrary to the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh. The spirit of Babylon infiltrates and influences all of the wicked, just as Yahweh's spirit regulates the daily lives of the obedient. Contrast the two spirits. Which way will you go? Yahweh's judgment is going to fall upon this worldly system, and the spirit of the world (ultimately from Satan) will be destroyed.

Turn to Micah chapter 7, where we will begin reading with verse 14. "Feed your people with your rod, the flock of your heritage, which dwell solitarily, in the forest in the middle of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old [feed the people with the rod of authority]. As in the days of your coming forth out of the land of Egypt will I show to them marvelous things [the miracles that were poured out upon the Israelites when they came out of Egypt were certainly marvelous]. The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might; they shall lay their hand upon their mouth; their ears shall be deaf. They shall lick the dust like a serpent; like crawling things of the earth they shall come trembling out of their close places...."

Note also in Genesis 3, where the punishment of the sinful serpent is described. "Because vou have done this, cursed are you above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon your belly shall you go [as a sign of abject humility], and dust shall you eat [your face shall be in the dust] all the days of your life " (Genesis 3:14). "They shall lick the dust like a serpent; like crawling things of the earth they shall come trembling out of their close places; they shall come with fear to Yahweh our Elohim, and shall be afraid because of you."

I have been trying to drive home the message that we are presently living in a pretty stable environment; however, wait until Almighty Yahweh begins to judge. We have already been seeing some of those signs reported in the news media. The earthquakes on the West Coast, the earthquakes in Central America and Mexico, and the earthquake in China years ago that alone killed a half a million people at a single blow, all portend the coming judgment, as Yahshua has prophesied in Matthew 24:7-8.

He says in verse 15, "As in the days of your coming forth out of the land of Egypt will I show to them marvelous things." The plagues that were poured out on Egypt will be somewhat paralleled by the plagues in the end of the age as prophesied in Revelation 16. "The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might...." They might think they are quite powerful. The United States of America and the nations today think that they are very powerful. "We can do anything," they believe, "with arms, we can bring any other nation into subjection with a nuclear bomb." Little do they know that, every time a nuclear device is detonated, it slowly kills us all through the emission of radiation into the atmosphere.

The author was shocked to learn that a study was made on some ancient wood from Egypt which indicated that there is one-third less oxygen in the atmosphere than there was 2,000 years ago, we wonder why the thinking processes of certain men have gone awry!

We don't actually know what is now already loaded into the ecosystem, since when people began

to tamper with it, any kind of a reaction may occur. We are living in the last days. Tampering with Yahweh's created system is very ominous! Yahweh says, "I will show them marvelous things as in the day they came out of the land of Egypt and the nations. the people of the nations (because they are following a satanic spirit) will lick the dust like serpents and crawling things of the earth, and they will come trembling out of their close places because of the fear of Yahweh; because they are afraid of Yahweh." It is a humbling experience to stand before the Living Elohim! Only those who are truly righteous will survive such an encounter.

"Who is an El like to you, that pardons iniquity...." Yahweh can even, at this very moment, still pardon those who have sinned. This is the message preached daily to the world over the Assemblies of Yahweh's own Radio Station WMLK. The coming Kingdom of Yahweh is the continuous message WMLK Radio heralds to the world.

"Who is an El like to you,

that pardons iniquity, and passes over the transgression of the remnant of his heritage?" Yahweh has been kind to us and good to us. He has forgiven our sins. He will forgive the sins of His repentant people and will forgive them and bring them to Him. "He retains not his anger forever, because he delights in [hesed] lovingkindness [the antithesis of anger]. He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot; and you will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea. You will perform the truth to Jacob, and the lovingkindness to Abraham, which you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old." This prophecy applies to the people of Yahweh who are forgiven their sins. Those who enter into Yahweh's Covenant will be blessed, their sins forgiven, and they will receive eternal life.

Remember what we have seen in Jeremiah chapter 31:34, "And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know Yahweh; for they shall all know

me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says Yahweh: for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin will I remember no more."

This is what Yahweh promises to everyone who takes hold of His Covenant, who makes that Covenant a part of himself, in his heart, in his mind, allowing that Covenant by extension to regulate his personal life.

Yahweh will forgive all sin, but the people themselves must repent. When someone commits falsehood, sin, and idolatry, Yahweh then will allow no redemption for that individual. The unpardonable sin means to defy the mercy of Yahweh. The unpardonable sin means to reject the call of Yahweh's Holy Spirit. Let us always remember that Yahweh does forgive sin, but for those who premeditate sin, for those who totally reject Yahweh, there will be no forgiveness, because Yahweh is the True and Living Elohim, and He desires righteousness in this system of things. May Yahweh SNR bless you!

The Fourth Commandment—The Sabbath

Continued from page 17.

emulated Yahshua (Acts 17:2). The author of the book of Hebrews insists that there remains the keeping of the Sabbath (Greek term is *Sabbatismos*) to the people of Yahweh (Hebrews 4:9).

If you have not yet studied into this subject that is so vital to your salvation, why not do so right now? For myself, I desire to be Yahweh's child, and, therefore, I want to obey His Covenant commandments strictly. By looking into this subject with an open mind, you, too, will have to admit that the keeping of the seventhday Sabbath (commonly called Saturday) is imperative. May all of us reverence His majesty and honor Him on the specific day that He personally sanctified and set apart for the purpose of rest and refreshing, both in body and in Spirit. We must live by every Word that Yahweh has spoken (Matthew 4:4). Yahshua said that He did not come to destroy (**Strong's Concordance** #3089, *Luo*, *to dissolve*, *annul, make invalid*), but to fulfill (do) the Law.

I leave you now with this parting thought from the Sacred Scriptures. *"There is a Sabbath*

rest, then, reserved still for the people of Yahweh." (Hebrews 4:9, James Moffatt translation). If it remained a significant part of the Covenant in biblical times, it could not change-because Yahweh does not change (Malachi 3:6). Neither does Yahshua the Messiah change (Hebrews 13:8). It is mortal man, bent upon changing Yahweh's Laws, who changed Yahweh's Laws. Nevertheless, Yahweh's True Worshipers will restore the old, scriptural way. See Jeremiah 6:16, Isaiah 58:13-14 and 66:22-24. Will you join with the True Worshipers to do so? SNB

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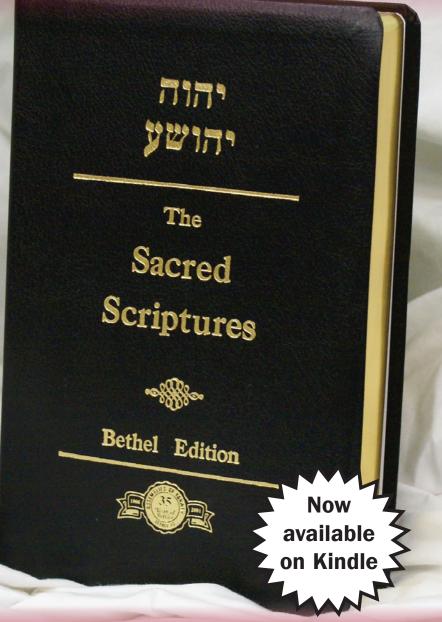
"Sanctify them in the truth: your word is truth."

(JOHN 17:17)

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