



THE
SACRED NAME
BROADCASTER

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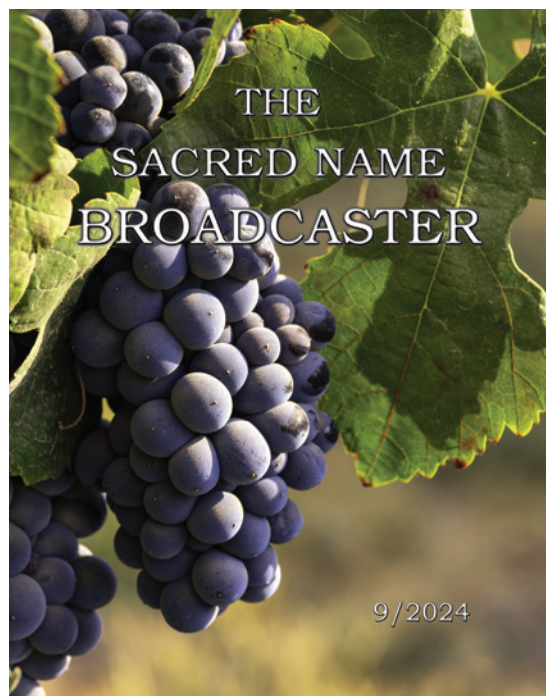
A beautiful cluster of grapes is our cover photo this month. The blessing of Yahweh is abundantly obvious this year as the earth bursts forth with plentiful harvest.

Yahweh has promised a special blessing for all those who are faithful in observing His commandments. **"And your threshing shall reach to the vintage, and the vintage shall reach to the sowing time; and you shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely."** (Leviticus 26:5).

When Caleb and Yahshua discovered a huge cluster of grapes in the Valley of Eshkol, they followed Moses' command to bring back evidence of the fruitfulness of the land of Canaan. This cluster of grapes was so large that they carried it on a staff on their shoulders.

The Feast of Tabernacles is "the feast of ingathering," when we gather together to give thanks to Yahweh for our copious harvest. Have you remembered to give thanks to Yahweh for His bounteous harvest? Faithfulness in keeping all of Yahweh's commandments will ensure that **"your threshing shall reach to the vintage, and the vintage shall reach to the sowing time..."** (Leviticus 26:3-5).

"So shall your barns be filled with plenty, and your vats shall overflow with new wine." (Proverbs 3:10).



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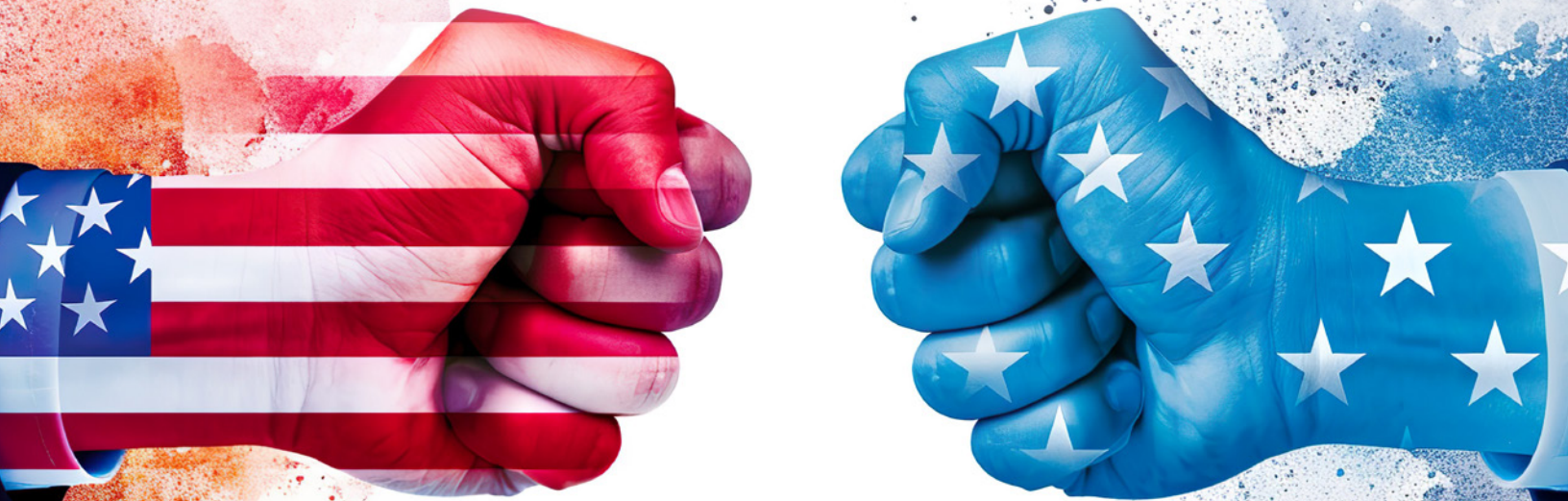
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How Would Yahshua

VOTE

For President?



by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

In the United States of America, a very dramatic event takes place every four years. The citizens file into designated polling places to cast their ballots to elect someone to fill the office of President, the top office over the entire nation of 50 states. This honored position of President, the Chief Executive Officer of our country, has been called, by some commentators, the most powerful elective office in the modern world.

The President of the United States serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the federal government. He approves all congressional legislation before it becomes law; he may veto any measure he deems inappropriate.

He enforces the laws that have been enacted, and he is generally responsible for the federal government's conduct of everyday business.

Each presidential election year, special announcements are regularly made to the public in an effort to urge voters to go to the polls and cast their personal vote. Radio and television commercials are directed toward motivating indifferent citizens to vote. Posters appear on the walls of factories and businesses, while newspapers carry advertisements designed to persuade all of the citizens to exercise their franchise and

vote. Frequently, the pastors of the various denominations are known to preach sermons urging their members to vote for the candidate of their choice, and, finally, the climax of the political campaign is reached on election day (the second Tuesday after the first Monday in November) in the United States of America, when the ballots are cast and counted.

One of the greatest attractions of the political campaign is the widespread intense excitement. More than a year before the election (some political candidates never actually stop campaigning), candidates will announce their intention to run for the nation's highest office—while the newsreel

*During the excitement of the political campaigns
this year, one wonders
what Yahshua the Messiah would do
if He were walking this earth today.*

and television cameras record the press conferences designed to attract the most advantageous free media exposure. Madly the candidates dash around the country attempting to secure sufficient votes in the primaries to assure their nomination be approved at the national conventions. Most likely, today, the election is media driven and, in many ways, the media (radio, television, Internet, and print) influences the masses to swing the vote behind a candidate that they hope will win at the polls.

The extravaganza of a national political convention must be seen to be fully appreciated. Hard-hitting, partisan speeches filled with venomous accusations are directed against opposition parties and candidates.

However, the conventions are hardly spontaneous! To the trained eye it appears obvious that they are thoroughly orchestrated and directed from behind the scenes to ensure their party prime media exposure on radio and television. Actually, since the United States has gone to a primary election process to select convention delegates, political conventions have, of late, become merely a formality. Political rhetoric of the most incisive type continues, however.

Millions of dollars are spent by the declared candidates just to bring their candidacy for the nomination before the electorate. The people comprising the retinue each political candidate engages will, furthermore, demand some sort of compensation and rewards

afterward if their candidate wins. Surely, these are big stakes as the “spoils system” yields its fruits (to the victor go the spoils) following the election victory.

The individuals who are finally nominated to stand in the general election in the fall have spent multiple millions of dollars on advertising. One wonders where all this money originates. Who would be foolish enough to contribute a hundred thousand dollars (or even a thousand dollars) of their personal wealth to a presidential political campaign—**unless he hoped to realize some significant return from that expenditure?** Furthermore, who ultimately pays for the accumulated wealth of the big industrialists and their corporations, so they can contribute such lion-sized contributions—except **the consumers?** Those who purchase the products are asked to pay some extra price above costs so that business can, in effect, purchase a favorable climate in which to operate. Consequently, the effects of the political campaigns are more far-reaching than most people perceive, or would care to admit. Taxpayer money from the federal government also assists the candidates in the campaigns.

Let us not forget that the big labor unions also finance a large share of the cost of the elections with their Political Action Committee contributions (PACs). News reporters publish articles revealing that big labor literally spends millions of dollars on each election, funds which are derived from the

monthly dues collected from their membership, in an effort to elect candidates who will favor their cause. They also expect some kind of return from the government and solicit government sympathy during contract negotiations, along with labor legislation favorable to their cause.

It should, therefore, be obvious that SPECIAL-INTEREST GROUPS are responsible for a GREAT PORTION OF THE MONEY spent on presidential campaigns (and most other political campaigns for government offices also, for that matter). Could this be called “buying votes?” Undoubtedly!

During the excitement of the political campaigns this year, one wonders what Yahshua the Messiah would do if He were walking this earth today. Would He take an active part in partisan politics? Would He campaign for one or another of the candidates? Could He support either or both of the platforms of the major political parties? Would He work to register more people and get out the voters, help stuff envelopes with campaign literature, and arrange for political meetings? For which candidate would Yahshua vote? Which political philosophy would He support? **WOULD HE FAVOR UNRESTRICTED, OR PARTIAL-BIRTH, ABORTIONS, AS DO SOME OF THE CANDIDATES?** All of these are legitimate questions that we must answer as we strive to live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of Yahweh (Matthew 4:4). Remember, we must

follow the example of Yahshua in our manner of life each day (1 Peter 2:21).

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Origin of Political Parties Not Recent

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During the time of Yahshua the Messiah, there were several religious parties active in Palestine. We have historical record of at least four of them: Sadducees, Pharisees, Essenes, and Zealots.

The Sadducees constituted the party of the priestly class, deriving their name from Zadok the high priest, and were known as scholars.

The Pharisees were the party of the common people, strict Law-keepers, who derived their name from the word by which they were known—*parushim* (separatists).

The Essenes stressed purity of mind and body in an effort to achieve a more personal relationship with the Heavenly Father, and their name is derived from the root term **Hasidim**—*the saints* (whether in derision, or seriousness, is speculative).

The Zealots were a party bent upon restoring their own ethnic government to the Jewish nation and evicting the Roman army of occupation with its burdensome taxation; therefore, their motives were primarily political. Yahshua the Messiah even selected a man called Simon (perhaps his own brother), a member of the Zealot party, to be one of His disciples (Matthew 10:4). (The title **Canaanite** should have been translated as *zealot*.) Perhaps to them politics was indeed a religion!

However, nowhere within the pages of our Bibles do we learn that Yahshua the Messiah ever **JOINED** one of these parties. Apparently, He felt that His *earthly mission transcended the objectives of these religious-political parties*.

He was the **earthly representative** of Yahweh, the True and Living Father in heaven, a citizen of the Kingdom of heaven, appointed to be the King to rule over this earth with a righteous government.

Yahshua represented the spiritual family of Yahweh and, thereby, He placed Himself above the petty party controversies that are usually associated with power politics. His allegiance was exclusively to the Kingdom of Yahweh! **He was its foremost citizen.**

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The Party Spirit

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There is a definite spirit that seems to capture those who are involved in a political campaign, and it holds them firmly in its grip. An acquaintance once told me that he had joined a crowd that was gathering to hear a speech by a Democratic presidential candidate. Before the campaign train entered the confines of the railroad station, advance men distributed slogan-bearing signs and pennants for use by the people to cheer the candidate. Although he was a registered Republican, he stated that he became caught up in the sudden, thrilling fever of the party spirit of the moment—so that he began waving the signs and joined in cheering the candidate along with the rest of the partisan crowd. Afterwards, he expressed surprise that he should have conducted himself in such a manner, since he later voted for the Republican candidate.

Call this *mob psychology*, or *partisan party spirit*, or designate it merely as the thrill of seeing a famous person who is the candidate for national office; nevertheless, there is a captivating spirit of some kind connected to politics. We might describe it

like the fanaticism of fans at a sporting event. (Did you know the word *fan* is the abbreviation of the term *fanatic*?) That spirit sometimes impels people to do strange things. One can hardly imagine Yahshua the Messiah cheering for one individual and then voting for another, or waving a sign at a street meeting in support of a candidate for public office who does not live by every word of Scripture.

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Political Expediency

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While looking over the current crop of political candidates that have sought the presidential nomination this year, it became apparent that they evidently projected a great deal of inconsistency between their expressed ideologies and their actual records.

Some of the candidates declare themselves to be opposed to the war in Iraq, to lapses in national security, to the present high rate of government involvement in the private lives of the citizens, enormously escalating debts, and higher taxes. Yet, a scrutiny of their records reveals that they, themselves, had usually supported legislation imposing exactly the opposite action of their professed politics during their previous terms of elective office.

Some of the candidates emphasize a need to elevate the morals of the country, when, in fact, they may have been guilty of doing some of the identical things they claim to be trying to correct. Other candidates predicate their proposed programs upon dismantling certain branches of big business, when they were undoubtedly receiving campaign funds from that very source. Others stress the need for more consumer protection, while they, in some

respects, hardly seemed sincere about protecting the rights of the individual. Candidates are urging legislation to establish more and better daycare for children of working mothers, or for a cleaner environment. Some candidates are considered to be indecisive on the issues, taking conflicting positions at various times just to gain the most popularity (and votes) for themselves in any special situation. Others associate with angry people, who threaten to implement violence, but find it necessary to camouflage their friendship.

Surely, Yahshua the Messiah would NEVER be guilty of political expediency. He would NOT be inconsistent. Isaiah declared that Yahshua will not judge according to the sight of His eyes, nor reprove according to the hearing of His ears, but with **righteousness** and **equity** He will rule (Isaiah 11:1–5). He will magnify Yahweh’s Laws and make them honorable (Isaiah 42:21). Consequently, how could Yahshua support candidates who will not take a stand on correct and ethical principles?

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The Party Platforms

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Partisan power politics is a precarious attempt to unite under one tent multitudes of peoples, each with divergent viewpoints and backgrounds regarding what the government should, or should not, do for its citizens. The candidate bearing the party banner hopes to be elected, so he must appeal to the broadest spectrum of the voting public. The conventions of both Democratic and Republican parties will customarily experience difficulties over their party’s platform. The party platform comprises a statement of policy on which the candidates will purportedly be running.

The proposed program of the party is **supposed** to be explained in the platform. Inasmuch as a great deal of time and effort is usually spent accumulating evidence about the needs of the country, from many sections and from many witnesses during the platform hearings, one would assume that policies, as set forth in the party platforms, adopted by the conventions, would be binding on the candidates. However, this is obviously not the case!

If we were to read the party platforms of the major political parties that were approved during conventions over the past century, or more, and then compare them to the legislation that was finally enacted in Congress, we would discover that to devise THE PARTY PLATFORM IS A VIRTUALLY MEANINGLESS FUNCTION. Few candidates view the platform as binding, or anything more than merely a statement designed and worded to attract as many people as possible to vote for their candidates. One individual might accept a specific section (or plank) of the platform and work diligently in support of that segment to be approved, while, simultaneously, objecting to a great portion of the remaining party beliefs.

However, the voters swallow the “bitter with the sweet,” and no one is ever completely satisfied. Politicians often ignore the platform the very day after the election (or sometimes the day after the convention!), and the public soon forgets about it.

Rarely do politicians keep their promises after they are elected. What particularly bothers the author is that both major United States political parties no longer adhere to the principles on which they were founded years ago. How could the sincere believer in the Sacred Scriptures support them?

This would hardly be possible!

Could Yahshua the Messiah approve of a plank such as was placed in the Democratic Party platform advocating **no restrictions on abortions** (they call it by the euphemism—pro-choice)? Although this stand has caused quite a display of emotion among the opposition, such a plank was, nevertheless, **adopted** at the convention and, still today, remains its expressed policy. How about a plank calling for free choice in sexual preference—regardless of what the Bible says about homosexuality and sexual perversion? Could a True Worshiper support that? Hardly! Could a True Worshiper support same-sex marriages? Would Yahshua the Messiah support such a practice? Obviously not!

If Yahshua was to select any political party and join it, He would, of necessity, attach His Name to their expressed policies and ideas. In so doing, He would **associate** Himself with some form of evil, since neither party’s platform is faultless. One would have to conclude that Yahshua would hardly be able to vote for the candidate of a party favoring the enactment of laws that are contrary to biblical principles. **He would never compromise the Word of Yahweh!**

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Special-Interest Groups

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The United States has adopted a policy of campaign financing in which a part of the expenses for the campaigns of the major candidates are paid by the government from taxpayer’s funds. The “matching-funds” legislation was an outgrowth of the Watergate incident of several decades ago, when rich industrialists were contributing huge sums of money to finance their favorite candidates—with the hope of later receiving

some remuneration from the government. Now, all campaign contributions over \$100 must be reported, and they must be limited to \$5,000.

Corporations may not contribute if they have interests in legislation.

Cooperatives may not contribute to political campaigns. Furthermore, the so-called soft money comes from huge contributions that go toward the parties or foundations, but find their way into the coffers of candidates for office. Even the so-called campaign contribution reform legislation has not succeeded in cleaning up the abuses in the contribution system. Would Yahshua the Messiah approve of spending multiple millions of dollars on campaign financing while there is so much poverty, and even hunger, in the world?

To declare forthrightly that the campaign contributions from industrial and labor sources are buying influence would be considered a vulgar and indecorous way of expressing what our system is doing. However, it has only been during the past few decades that such huge amounts of money are being devoted to national political campaigns; therefore, the need for the public to speak uncritically and euphemistically. Special-interest groups, political-action committees, and individuals have been contributing huge sums of money in the hope of obtaining some special privilege, or they certainly wouldn't give so generously! Even then, some candidates carry along huge debt-loads from their campaigns, or they receive large honorariums for speaking



come due. Many times, candidates promise things they cannot deliver just to get themselves elected. However, who remembers, or worries, about broken promises? Even

the escalating national debt does not seem to affect most citizens, since the obligation is rolled back to future generations to satisfy the debt.

Yahshua the Messiah has promised the people of this world the most equitable and just government program that could be conceived. He has taught us that the yoke of His program (His Law) is easy, and His burden will be light (Matthew 11:28–30). He has declared Himself to stand firmly behind the righteous program as set forth by Almighty Yahweh—the promises contained within His Torah (Covenant Law). That program calls for the people to give something to make the agreement work (obedience), while Almighty Yahweh agrees to bless and protect those who place themselves within the bounds of His contract (Exodus 23:24–27).

The Covenant Law that Yahshua advocates is not a medium that can be **used** (or abused) by special-interest groups. None of the various classes of people in society will benefit above another. In the millennial reign of the Messiah, **true equality** will finally be achieved. Since the Covenant agreement is established for all people, its rate of taxation is totally fair and just—an across-the-board (flat) 10 percent income tax for everyone. **No** special tax shelters will be put in place for the privileged few. A welfare pro-

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest to your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

MATTHEW 11:29-30

that they devote to retiring the debt, which, again, conceals some of the unvarnished truth.

On the other hand, when candidates advocate government-sponsored programs, someone will surely benefit. If the candidate is not buying votes, then he (or she) is certainly making a covert offer in the hope of attracting enough people who might have an interest in profiting through the programs, or legislation, they advocate, so that the voters will vote for and support him or her. In this way, the candidates stake all their hopes on the next election, while never considering the future generations of people and how their lives will be affected when the bills



If Yahshua our Messiah wouldn't engage in such corrupt politics, why should His obedient followers do so?

gram for the needy has already been outlined, to be financed by the third-year tithe contributed by everyone. However, those welfare recipients are also required to **work** and harvest some of their **own food supply** (Leviticus 19:9–10). Yahweh's way is to pay as you go, not to postpone the obligation for decades, or even for centuries.

If you would like to read over the program that was approved by Almighty Yahweh and His Son, Yahshua the Messiah, read the first five books of the Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Known as the Pentateuch, or the Torah, it is an excellent platform and an outstanding policy document that will truly produce equality for all people everywhere on earth when it is implemented. It will already begin working for the True Worshiper today, in our daily lives, whenever we start to obey its precepts. We may already enjoy the benefits of the Kingdom way of life.

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The Smoke-Filled Room

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Successful worldly politics, many times, consists of making deals with the opposition (enemy).

The artful politician is, of necessity, a compromiser. For example, whatever is outwardly presented in the media of the national party conventions is only the tip of the “political iceberg.” What happens on the convention floor constitutes merely a public charade of what has previously been decided **behind closed doors**.

The illustration of the smoke-filled room becomes all too real to those who are actively involved in politics. One candidate may exchange his block of committed delegates for the promise of a major post in the new president's cabinet, or for some other future consideration. What the public is shown on the media news reports merely comprises a staging of what has already happened behind closed doors. Although less tobacco is being smoked today by politicians, the “back-room deals” continue to be made.

Politics makes **strange** bedfellows! As the people of the United States frequently discover, supposedly conservative political candidates tend to choose as their vice-presidential running mates people who have a background of liberalism, or internationalism, and, frequently, those who had earlier been their opponents. Apparently, the candidate's staff

concluded that their man would have a better chance to win the election if his running mate came from the more liberal element of the party.

Such horse trading in politics is not new. It has been tolerated ever since the first political party was formed. It will continue to set the tone as long as there are elections to place people in governmental positions.

During the time when the big political machines were holding the major influence in several of the larger cities in our country, candidates for office were not elected by popular vote. Although it outwardly appeared as though it were a fair, honest, open election, the machine in power presented its own candidate to the public. Elections were decided in the back rooms of the party headquarters, long before the polls opened. Nevertheless, most of the voters assumed that they were electing their own representatives in government, which they later learned was fallacious. In this way, the big city governments were tightly controlled for personal advantage by the small group which held power. Votes were bought and sold like so much simple merchandise. Some individuals even were paid to vote numerous times, frequently using the names of dead people.

Would Yahshua the Messiah intimately associate Himself with a group of manipulative people in a smoke-filled room and lend His prestige to select a candidate via the “power broker” system? Obviously, if you know anything about the Bible, you might think that even considering such a possibility appears ridiculously humorous and facetious.

If Yahshua our Messiah wouldn't engage in such corrupt politics, why should His obedient followers do so? The thinking person would

hardly be amused to imagine that Yahshua and Satan would sit down together at a table in a smoke-filled room and trade candidates and power, or discuss who gets a certain delegate for his camp, or even uniting with the Adversary for some significant vote. Certainly this would be a clear violation of Psalm 2.

Yahshua the Messiah is declared to be the supreme King of the earth, as He distinctly proved to Satan in Matthew chapter 4. He does not need to dabble in worldly politics and neither should His followers do so. We will never be able to pressure anyone into loving Yahshua the Messiah and His Word any more than they themselves develop a desire to do. Read also Luke 4.

Yahshua told His disciples, “**Go you into all the world, and preach the good tidings to the whole creation.**” (Mark 16:15). HE NEVER INSTRUCTED HIS FOLLOWERS TO CONVERT THE WORLD. The world will not be saved through the exercise of worldly political power, but it will be saved by the intervention of the righteous Messiah who will establish the eternal Kingdom rule of Yahweh on this earth through the supernatural power given to Him by Almighty Yahweh Elohim, our Father in heaven. Yet, we cannot neglect to speak out against the evils of this present worldly system that are sinful and wrong, as the Sacred Scriptures declares them.

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Political Infighting

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The presidential campaign usually features several head-on confrontations in debates between the candidates. Ostensibly sponsored by nonpartisan groups, these exchanges of opinions relating to what the candidates personally

believe on the issues are designed as information for the electorate. Those watching the debates will agree that the verbal blasts launched between the candidates are not light “rabbit punches.” They comprise vicious verbal blows similar to that of heavy-weight fighters who firmly intend to knock each other out! Both of the candidates know that, if they intend to win the election, they must appear strong and decisive under the close scrutiny of the television cameras. However, many times, it is the most photogenic person who wins—regardless of his political views or convictions.

Many political candidates relish such infighting. To score a telling blow on an opponent seems somehow psychologically satisfying. Name calling and character assassination comprise a vital part of the political scene.

Dirty-tricks strategies launched against an opponent have frequently won elections. If a candidate has a thin skin, he shouldn't be in the political arena. The idea is to pull the opponent down and destroy his character in public so that people will dislike him intensely, regardless of what the truth really is.

Would Yahshua the Messiah engage in power politics, or a debate with a political opponent? Paul, in Romans 1:29, designates “debate” (the Greek word *eris* means *to quarrel, or a wrangling, bickering*) as one of the characteristics of a reprobate mind. Would Yahshua see fit to engage in political rhetoric?

When Yahshua was confronted by the Pharisees, He did not debate with them. They were doing wrong, and all of the people knew it. Yahshua answered a question with a question when He knew that the Pharisees were laying a trap to catch Him in His words. In this way, there was no debate

and no wrangling between them. By adroit answers, guided by the Holy Spirit, Yahshua always **silenced** His shrewd opponents.

Yahshua said, “**My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from here.**” (John 18:36).

Yahshua never argued (debated) with His disciples in an attempt to convince them to accept Him as Messiah, or His message as Truth. He was a man of peace, **the world's foremost peacemaker!** See Isaiah 9:6–7. “**Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you: not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful.**” (John 14:27). He does not expect His disciples to debate or engage in a verbal confrontation with those of a different political persuasion.

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Religion in Politics

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During a political campaign, the presidential candidates will make a special effort to display a facade that they have embraced a personal religious faith. They are photographed entering their chosen house of worship, sitting in worship services, or exiting from services. They make a point of projecting tolerance and an ecumenical spirit by attending services with various religious groups—Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish. Each candidate is especially eager to have people of all religions believe that he is sympathetic to their personal aims and goals, that he has an ecumenical, or tolerant, attitude. Some of the candidates make a show of prayer at political meetings, which is designed to convince the religious

people that he is a sincere person and will make a good president. Obviously, they seek to exploit religion to their best personal and political advantage.

Later, the picture changes entirely! After the candidate is elected to office, he no longer seems to be so highly motivated by the religious ethics he has espoused. As the history of the term of office is written, the record becomes clear. For example, religious leaders in the past have expressed dismay that President Reagan attended worship services only a few times during his term of office. Nevertheless, did that make him a less religious person? Even President Lincoln (as did some of our most prominent leaders) never joined a church.

Too frequently, presidents are known to project a Jekyll-and-Hyde personality where religion is concerned. If the tradition calls for religious devotions, then they will join in prayer, or worship. If the situation calls for "being one of the boys," or for engaging in activities that are in violation of Yahweh's commandments and not an example of biblical morality, they will set aside their religion for the moment. That's what is known as **situation ethics**. Testifying to this conclusion is the frequent use of strong words of profanity by some of our past presidents.

If Yahshua the Messiah were here, walking this earth today, and was asked to **vote** for one of the candidates, which one would He choose on the basis of their religion? Which one of the political parties would He bless with victory, since all of the parties have had priests, ministers, and rabbis offering prayers at their conventions? We are reminded of the fervent prayers offered by the people of nations engaged in combat. Each side prays for vic-

tory during wartime, believing that the Almighty is on its side; and the one that wins is regarded as being in the right, since it was evidently blessed from on High. Can we view politics from the same perspective?

Would Yahshua the Messiah be influenced by a candidate's outward religious profession? Yahshua the Messiah came to establish True Worship on this earth. He did not engage in political activities when He was here on this earth. He did not support anyone who held false doctrine, or who was an obvious hypocrite. Conversely, He condemned sin and error very strongly! Read Matthew 23.

Friendship with the world is enmity against Yahweh (Jacob 4:4). Yahshua would be engaged in doing His Father's business (Luke 2:49), rather than trying to win a popularity contest in a corrupt world of politics.

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Did Yahshua Vote?

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Nowhere in the pages of your Bible can you find that Yahshua the Messiah ever urged His followers to take an active part in the affairs of this world, or its governments. Should we not follow Yahshua's example, 1 Peter 2:21-22? Yahshua Himself preached the good news of the coming Kingdom of Yahweh (Mark 1:16). He instructed His followers to preach the Kingdom of Yahweh (Luke 9:60). His followers were told to obey Almighty Yahweh in their daily lives and to **seek first the Kingdom of Yahweh and His righteousness** (Matthew 6:33). If this last injunction were heeded, there would be precious little time for worldly pursuits, such as engaging in the modern, seemingly perpetual, political campaigns.

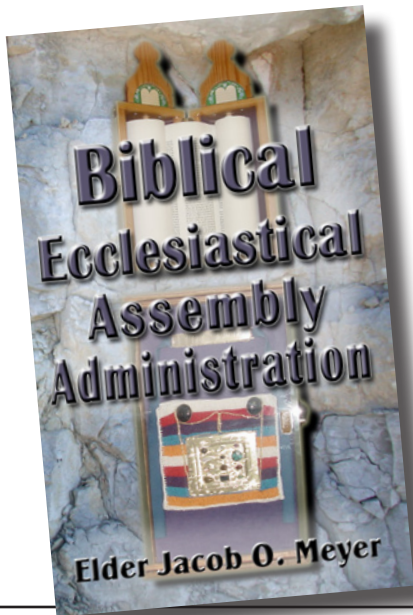
Political campaigns appear to be directed toward doing the things of the world and pushing aside the opponent rather than seeking a constructive way to achieve the spiritual life in Yahweh, or teaching a high standard of morality.

Yahshua did not vote when He was here on this earth, nor did He participate in partisan politics. We must remember that He was the representative of the Great King of the universe, Almighty Yahweh. Yahshua was the only begotten Son of this Creator Elohim, the Ruler of the universe. See Psalm 2.

His mission on earth was to **call people to REPENTANCE**, instructing them to submit their lives to the government of the Most High and encouraging them to enter into His Covenant. He was the **ambassador** of the Kingdom of Yahweh, which will eventually rule throughout the entire world in the affairs of men. Too frequently, people assume that they have been placed on this earth to govern themselves under their own personal dictates and beliefs until the world ends. They fail to realize that the governments of this world today are not representatives of Yahweh, but, in fact, Satan has seized control of this system. See Revelation chapter 11.

"In whom the mighty one of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that the light of the good tidings of the glory of the Messiah, who is the image of Elohim, should not dawn upon them." (2 Corinthians 4:4).

Yahshua declared, *"My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from here."* (John 18:36).



Biblical Ecclesiastical Assembly Administration

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

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Just as the book of Daniel explains, the head of gold (materialism, wealth) of the metallic image today continues to furnish the thinking capacity for the nations of the world (Daniel 2). Babylon dominates this world today.

Yahweh, the Heavenly Father, has allowed the people of this world to attempt to rule themselves for a brief period of time. The people of this world have failed to achieve an era of peace and happiness during man's age. Through disobedience, the human family eventually will get itself into a serious situation from which it cannot extricate itself. Then Yahweh will intervene in the affairs of men to establish His Kingdom under the rulership of Yahshua the Messiah. Inasmuch as Yahshua the Messiah is to be the King of this earth, how could He vote for (select) anyone to be in authority over Him in a worldly government?

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**Representatives of Yahweh,
Ambassadors of
Yahweh's Kingdom**

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Repeatedly, in the instructions that the Apostles left to the members of True Worship who trusted

in our Messiah, we find that we are to view our sojourn here on this earth as REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM to come. Let us turn to 2 Corinthians 5:20, where we read, ***"We are ambassadors therefore on behalf of the Messiah, as though Yahweh were entreating by us: we beseech you on behalf of the Messiah, be reconciled to Yahweh."*** Please see also Ephesians 6:20. The members of the Assemblies of Yahweh earnestly strive to fulfill the assignment.

Paul recognized himself to be in the position of an ambassador, representing the heavenly Kingdom of Yahweh. In so doing, he had placed himself under the dominion and protection of that Kingdom. He later appealed to Rome, since he was a Roman citizen, but there is no record anywhere in the Bible that he ever took an active part in Roman government. We, also, who comprise the membership of the Assemblies of Yahweh today, are born as citizens of our native lands. We obey the laws of the state and pay taxes, as the Scriptures instructs us. However, when we turn to Yahweh and receive Yahshua's Spirit through enter-

ing into Yahweh's Covenant, we register our citizenship in heaven, in the Kingdom of Yahweh, and its Laws always supersede those of earthly governments.

Paul makes this very clear and emphatic in Philippians 3:20. ***"For our citizenship is in heaven; from where we also wait for a Savior, the Sovereign Yahshua the Messiah."***

Contrasted with those who are desperately trying to make this world a better place in which to live by the imposition of **human achievements**, the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh have come out of the world and separated themselves from this wicked system of things with its erroneous Babylonish ideas. We have registered our citizenship in heaven, and we labor earnestly to be accepted of Yahweh and Yahshua the Messiah. We realize that if we vote for a man to be President, we must approve of all that he does. He has been placed in a high position by our support. The **ONLY** Being in this universe who has the right to rule us, and in whom we have our **full confidence** to lead, is Yahshua the Messiah, the anointed King of Almighty Yahweh. We know that

Continued on page 18.

Man Rejects His Ma

A time of trouble—monumental in scope—is currently developing on the world horizon. The average individual only sees what occurs from day to day. But those with their vision sharpened by the Holy Spirit of Almighty Yahweh through communicating with the heavens by reading the sacred book which Almighty Yahweh gave to mankind, can clearly perceive both the past and the future.

The past history of man is etched in acts of rebellion against the authority of the Most High Father Yahweh. The history of man has been shaped in eras of persecution and blood. At various times, things have gotten so bad that Almighty Yahweh had to pour out judgment from on High upon a wicked age. For example, we can turn to the time of the flood were the exodus when Israel was released from Egyptian bondage.

Almighty Yahweh says, ***“But from there you shall seek***

Yahweh your Elohim, and you shall find him, when you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul. When you are in tribulation, and all these things have come upon you, in the latter days you shall return to Yahweh your Elohim, and listen to his voice: for Yahweh your Elohim is a merciful El; he will not fail you, neither destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which he swore to them.” (Deuteronomy 4:29-31).

Yahweh also describes the tribulation time yet to come in Jeremiah 30:4-11. ***“And these are the words that Yahweh spoke concerning Israel and concerning Judah. For thus says Yahweh: We have heard a voice of TREMBLING; of FEAR, and not of peace. Ask now, and see whether a man does travail with child: why do I see every man with his***

hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even THE TIME OF JACOB’S TROUBLE; but he shall be saved out of it. And it shall come to pass in that day, says Yahweh of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off your neck, and will burst your bonds; and strangers shall no more make him their bondman; but they shall serve Yahweh their Elohim, and David their king, whom I will raise up to them. Therefore fear not, O Jacob my servant, says Yahweh; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I WILL SAVE YOU FROM AFAR, and your seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be quiet and at ease, and no one shall make him afraid. For I am with you, says Yahweh, to SAVE you: for I



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WILL MAKE A FULL END OF ALL THE NATIONS WHERE I HAVE SCATTERED YOU, BUT I WILL NOT MAKE A FULL END OF YOU; but I will correct you in measure, and will in no wise leave you unpunished.” (Jeremiah 30:4-11).

Yahshua the Messiah prophesied a great tribulation to strike the world at the very end of the age, a time of great, worldwide trouble which will immediately precede His Second Coming. **“And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not troubled; for these things must come to pass; but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines and earthquakes in various places. But all these things are the beginning of travail. Then shall they deliver you up to tribulation, and shall kill**

you: and you shall be hated of all the nations for my name’s sake. And then shall many stumble, and shall deliver up one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall arise, and shall lead many astray. And because lawlessness shall be multiplied, the love of the many shall grow cold. But he that endures to the end, the same shall be saved. And these good tidings of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all the nations; and then shall the end come....for then shall be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days had been shortened, no flesh would have been saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened.” (Matthew 24:6-14, 21-22).

The news reports, which we are now seeing in the media, project the trends which clearly point toward the tribulation times lying just ahead of us. Almighty Yahweh has prophesied these things to come to pass just before the Messiah’s return. In His love and kindness toward His people, He has warned of His judgment which He intends to pour out upon the people of this sinful age. Almighty Yahweh has forewarned us, so that we can take personal evasive action. All should now make their necessary preparations. We shall then be able to avoid becoming ensnared in the end-time trouble. That is prophesied to characterize the Great Tribulation times.

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince who stands over the children of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation

even to the same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that are wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” (Daniel 12:1-4).

The mounting problems within society today, as well as in the earth’s atmosphere, portends the fulfillment of end-time prophecy. In each of these foregoing Scriptures to which we referred, there is a clear prophecy of a coming tribulation. Daniel the prophet predicts that it will be **A TIME OF TROUBLE SUCH AS NEVER WAS SINCE THERE WAS A NATION.** Yahshua the Messiah repeats this prediction in His Olivet Prophecy.

But coming forth from this worldly system before this time of universal trouble will be a people who will be refined with the power of the Holy Spirit and the cleansing action of the teaching of sound doctrine of the Word of Almighty Yahweh. These people will gain the experience necessary to enter the Kingdom through diligent preparation.

A Creator-Rejecting World

A debate has churned in scientific circles regarding the discovery of an "Eve gene" in our human DNA that shows that the human race has descended from one woman. Though this began nearly 40 years ago, **IT IS STILL BEING**

HOTLY DEBATED TODAY!

The news media is flooded with the numerous attempts to prove the theory of evolution, while mildly poking fun at the belief of creation as the Bible teaches it. *“When scientists announced their ‘discovery’ of Eve [in 1987], they re-kindled perhaps the oldest human debate: where did we come from? They also, in some sense, confirmed a belief that existed long before the Bible. Versions of the Adam and Eve story date back 5,000 years and have been told and cultures from the Mediterranean, to the South Pacific, to the Americas. The mythmakers spin their tales on the same assumption as a scientist: that at some point we all share an ancestor....”* This quote comes from a January 1988 **Newsweek** magazine article.

As you can see, scientists continue to ridicule (mildly or generally) the account of human existence as set forth in the Bible. The Apostle Peter makes the firm statement, **“For we did not follow cunningly devised fables, when we made known to you the power and coming of our Master Yahshua the Messiah, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.”** (2 Peter 1:16). Scientists still consider the Bible to be a mythological work, and they make no apologies for their contentions.

It is not **we** who have followed myths, but the academic professionals who cannot prove their theories. Paul appropriately projects this conclusion in 2 Timothy 4:3-4. **“For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and turn aside to fables [myths].”**

The news reports to which I refer are quite in harmony with

that of the Scriptures except for the dating that the scientists attach to the event. Scientists have sought to discover a common link among human beings while also linking us to the animal primates. Their inquiry led those in the field of molecular biology to scrutinize an international assortment of genes, where they supposedly picked up a trail of identity within DNA that led them to a single woman from whom all the human race is descended (they tell us). Most evidence [scientists claim] indicates that “Eve” lived in sub-Saharan Africa. Some researchers, however, believe that she lived in southern China. They believe that all human beings can be traced to a common woman ancestor who lived 200,000 years ago.

Of course, they somewhat gleefully make the following statement: *“This date not only upsets fundamentalists [the Bible’s Eve was calculated to have lived 5,992 years ago], it challenges many evolutionists’ conviction that the human family tree began much earlier.”*

Here is how they explain their theories, *“The most controversial implication of the geneticists’ work is that modern humans didn’t slowly and inexorably evolve in different parts of the world, as many anthropologists believed. The evolution from archaic to modern Homo sapiens seems to have occurred in only one place, Eve’s family. Then, somewhere between 90,000 and 180,000 years ago, a group of her progeny left their homeland endowed apparently with some special advantage over every tribe of early humans they encountered. As they fanned out, Eve’s descendants replaced the locals, eventually settling the entire world. Some ‘stones and bones’ anthropologists accept this view of evolution, but others refuse*

to accept this interpretation of the genetic evidence. They think our common ancestor must have lived much further in the past, at least 1 million years ago, because that was when humans first left Africa and began spreading out over the world, presumably evolving separately into the modern races. As a veteran excavator Richard Leakey declared in 1977: ‘There is no single center where modern man was born.’ But now geneticists are inclined to believe otherwise, even if they can’t agree where the center was...”

Here we have an indication of the guesswork that currently dominates the academic community. Someone has a far-fetched idea, and it seems that the others jump on the bandwagon to escalate the sensationalism they suggest as the argument continues. Comments the author of the **Newsweek** article, *“This brotherhood was not always obvious in Chicago. Two months ago, when the Eve hypothesis was debated by the American Anthropological Association, geneticists flashed diagrams of DNA, paleoanthropologist showed slides of skulls, and everyone argued with everyone else. ‘What bothers many of paleoanthropologists,’ said Fred Smith of the University of Tennessee, ‘is the perception that this new data from DNA is so precise and scientific that we paleoanthropologists are just a bunch of bumbling old fool’s. But if you listen to geneticists, you realize there is divided about their data as we are about the bones. We may be bumbling fools, but we are not any more bumbling than they are.”*

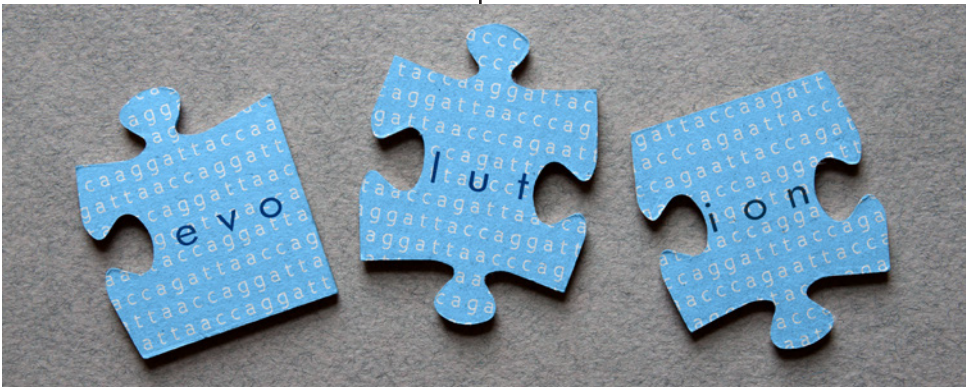
Doesn’t this attempt to trace the ancestry of the human races of the world to one origin prove several points made by the Sacred Scriptures? First of all, scientists have proven to themselves (even

with their arguments) that all people of the world are descended from at least one maternal parent. Some even believe that there is one pair somewhere in history, which became the parents of all humans. Secondly, they are looking in directions other than creationism to support their views, whereas their conclusions—although divided and fragmented—**actually do prove creationism!**

The Apostle Paul foresaw that such a situation, as we see reported in the media currently, would develop. Denial of creation, Paul said, would take the human

became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible Elohim for the likeness of an image of corruptible man, and of birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things.... And even as they refused to have Elohim in their knowledge, Elohim gave them up to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, hateful to Elohim, insolent,

the Bible, the theologian responded: *“There are too many books in circulation now which depend heavily for their arguments upon the Wellhausen hypothesis. Let us get some use out of them and continue the discussion on this method of Bible development. When the books become outdated, we’ll take another approach, perhaps even the one you suggest, and then a new series of books containing these discussions can be placed in the libraries.”* When one hears comments like this (and we have heard others), we become quite disturbed, because scholars apparently DO KNOW there is a Creator. They had proven His existence both from the Bible and through science. But they do not wish to allow the inclusion of a creator in their knowledge, and therefore, they have become quite divided in their approach to the Bible and to the origins of this worldly system of things.



WMLK Heralds Our Creator

species into depths of immorality. ***“For the wrath of Yahweh is revealed from heaven against all lawlessness and unrighteousness of men, who hinder the truth in unrighteousness; because that which is known of Yahweh is manifest in them; for Yahweh manifested it to them. For the invisible things of him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even his everlasting power and majesty; that they may be without excuse: because that, knowing Yahweh, they did not glorify him as Elohim, neither gave thanks; but became vain in their reasonings, and their senseless heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they***

haughty, boastful, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, unmerciful: who, knowing the ordinances of Yahweh, that they that practice such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but also consent with them that practice them.” (Romans 1:18-23, 28-32).

The author is reminded of an illustration employed by one of his professors a number of years ago. A noted scholar (whose name you would probably recognize if the author would mention it) was in a discussion with a theologian of some note. After the scholar had argued for several minutes, proving the fallacies of the Wellhausen hypothesis of the development of

It is a sad time in the history of mankind that the creation story has not only been neglected to be taught to this generation, but it has been rejected by parents, teachers, and professors. The fact that evolution is so widely accepted, and anyone who questions evolution is rejected and humiliated, it is no surprise then that many people today reject Yahweh as our Maker and Creator. ***“For Yahweh is a great El, and a great King above all elohim. In his hand are the deep places of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, and HE MADE IT; and his hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before YAHWEH OUR MAKER: for he is our Elohim, and we***

Continued on page 20.

וְשָׂרַר הַכֹּהֵן אֶת הַנֶּנֶעַ שְׂהוּר הוּא
וּבִשְׂרָ כִי יִהְיֶה בּוֹ בְעֵרֹו עֲוֹנוֹת
הַשָּׂרָר שְׂאֵת לְבִנָּה אֹו כְּהֻרָת לְבִנָּה אֲדֻמְדֻמֹּת
וּנְרָאָה אֶל הַכֹּהֵן וְרָאָה הַכֹּהֵן וְהָיָה מִרְאָה וְיִתְלַח
הָעוֹר וְשַׁעֲרָה הַפֶּה לֵךְ וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר
הוּא בְשָׂרֹו וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר
וְהַסְגִּירוֹ הַכֹּהֵן שְׁבַעַת יָמִים וְאִם פִּשְׁעָה תַּפְשֶׁר
וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן

THE LAW OF YAHWEH

בִּשְׂרָ כִי יִהְיֶה בּוֹ בְעֵרֹו מִזְכֹּוֹת אֲשֶׁר וְהִיתֵרָה מִזְכֹּוֹת
הַמִּזְכֹּוֹת כְּהֻרָת לְבִנָּה אֲדֻמְדֻמֹּת אֹו לְבִנָּה וְרָאָה
אֶתְהָ הַכֹּהֵן וְהָיָה נִהַפֵּךְ שַׁעֲרָ לְבָן כְּבִהְרָת וּנְרָאָה
עֵמֶק מִן הָעוֹר צִרְעֵת הוּא בְּמִזְכֹּוֹת פְּרֻזָּה וְשִׁמְאָה
אֶתְהוֹ הַכֹּהֵן נִנְעֵ צִרְעֵת הוּא וְאִם יִרְאֵנָה הַכֹּהֵן וְהָיָה
אִין כְּבִהְרָת שַׁעֲרָ לְבָן וְשִׁפְלָה אִינְנָה מִן הָעוֹר
וְהוּא כִרָה וְהַסְגִּירוֹ הַכֹּהֵן שְׁבַעַת יָמִים וְרָאָרוֹ
הַכֹּהֵן בְּיוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי אִם פִּשְׁעָה תַּפְשֶׁר בְּעוֹר
וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן
שְׂאֵת הַמִּזְכֹּוֹת הוּא וְשָׂרַר הוּא וְשָׂרַר הוּא כִי צִרְבַת הַמִּזְכֹּוֹת
וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן
צִרְעֵת הַכֹּהֵן אֹו הַזֶּקֶן הוּא וְכִי יִרְאֵה הַכֹּהֵן אֶת
נִנְעֵ הַנֶּנֶעַ וְהָיָה אֹו וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן וְיִשְׂעַר לְבָן
לֹא פִשְׁעָה הַנֶּנֶעַ וְרָאָה הוּא בּוֹ שַׁעֲרָ אֲרֵב וּמִרְאָה
הַנֶּנֶעַ אִין עֵמֶק מִן הָעוֹר וְהִתְלַח וְאֶת הַנֶּנֶעַ לֹא
יִלָּח וְהַסְגִּירוֹ הַכֹּהֵן אֶת הַנֶּנֶעַ שְׁבַעַת יָמִים שְׁנִיזָת
וְרָאָה הַכֹּהֵן אֶת הַנֶּנֶעַ בְּיוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי וְהָיָה לֹא
פִשְׁעָה הַנֶּנֶעַ בְּעוֹר וּמִרְאָרוֹ אִינְנָה עֵמֶק מִן הָעוֹר
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The Sixth Commandment You Shall Not Commit Murder

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

“From where come wars and from where come fightings among you? Come they not from here, even from your pleasures that war in your members? You lust, and have not: you kill, and covet, and cannot obtain: you fight and war; you have not, because you ask not. You ask, and receive not, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it in your pleasures.

You adulteresses, do you not know that the friendship of the world is enmity with Yahweh? Whoever therefore would be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of Yahweh. Or do you think that the scripture speaks in vain? Does the spirit which he made to dwell in us long to envy? But he gives more

grace. Therefore the scripture says, Yahweh resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore be subject to Yahweh; but resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to Yahweh, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned

to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of Yahweh, and he shall exalt you.

“Speak not one against another, brethren. He that speaks against a brother, or judges his brother, speaks against the law, and judges the law: but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law, but a judge. Only one is the lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy: but who are you who judges your neighbor?” (Jacob 4:1-12).

In this message, we shall consider the sixth commandment, recorded for us in Exodus 20:13. This is a very short, clear, and concise point of Yahweh’s Law that cannot in any way cause any confusion. It says, **“You shall not commit murder.”**

With the crime rate of America (and, for that matter, of the whole world) rising sharply in such a continual, dramatic fashion, this commandment should concern every one of us. We must educate all people that to murder violates Yahweh’s Law, whether it be the stabbing to death of another human being in a dark alley in one of our major cities, or the international murder wherein one like Adolf Hitler, the dictator of Nazi Germany in the days of World War II, perpetrated his so-called quest for Lebensraum for the Third Reich through devising the Holocaust. Such acts of barbarity amount to committing the sin of murder. When someone takes the life of another human being, it becomes the theft from another person of what is most precious to him and what can never be replaced, returned, or restored to him—his life.

When the **King James** translation speaks of killing, the term in the Hebrew Bible is *ratzach*,

and it should be translated *murder*. It means *the deliberate and premeditated destruction of another person’s life*. (A completely different term in the Hebrew text—*shachat*—means *to slaughter an animal for food*.)

Nevertheless, let us ask ourselves the question: What is the root cause for this current escalation in the wanton taking of human life that saturates our world today?

In the passage from Jacob chapter 4 that we read at the start of this article, you will notice that the Apostle Jacob tells us that the root cause is lust. Jacob advances the analysis that sinners are caught up in the trap of trying to get what is not theirs, and so they end up in wars, fightings, envyings, and, perhaps, committing murder. Consequently, all of this hatred launched against their fellow men results from lust, because individuals will not ask Yahweh for their necessities of life and believe that they will receive them. Rather than ask for these necessities, some people resort to theft. However, Jacob, in his epistle, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, insists that people ask for things wrongly, that they waste those things they were given, squandering them on their own lusts or passions.

How often in this world today do we see this sin being acted out? How often do we see someone become very successful almost overnight? Soon, however, success will go to the person’s head, and he goes on an ego trip. Perhaps he will gamble away his hard-earned money, or he will turn to alcoholic beverages and squander his substance, or he might throw away his money on a quest for pleasure. He, then, becomes so angry at the situation and at those who he feels have wronged him, that

he will become a murderer and retaliate against them, when, in fact, it was his problem all along. People are very adept at “blame shifting,” it seems.

In making a spiritual application of the commandment, we find a lesson taught us by Yahshua the Messiah, our Savior. He came to earth to reveal to the people the true meaning of the Law of Yahweh. Just as the prophet foretold, in Isaiah 42:21, Yahshua came to strengthen and broaden the principles underlying biblical law. **“It pleased Yahweh, for his righteousness’ sake, to magnify the law, and make it honorable.”**

Today, you, or I, can, in effect, become murderers without actually killing someone. We can hate a person so much in our heart that we can no longer control our emotions, and soon, thoughts will turn into evil actions. Let us read this thought from 1 John 3:15. **“Whoever hates his brother is a murderer: and you know that no murderer has eternal life living in him.”** We should be following the concept of the previous verse, verse 14, **“We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He that loves not lives in death.”**

Yahshua taught these noble principles in the Sermon on the Mount. **“You have heard that it was said to them of old time, You shall not kill; and whoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: but I say to you, that every one who is angry with his brother without cause shall be in danger of the judgment; and whoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council; and whoever shall say, You fool, shall be in danger of the Gehenna fire.”** (Matthew 5:21-22).

1 John 4:3 states forthrightly that sin is the transgression of the Law, and the Apostle Paul explains, in Romans 6:23, that the wages of sin is DEATH. This is the reason for this analogy made by the Apostle John.

Turning now to Galatians 5:21, we clearly see that MURDER IS INCLUDED IN THE WORKS OF THE FLESH. The Apostle exhorts his readers to flee from these sins because one who practices them will never inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh. ***“Envyings, drunkenness, revelings, and such like; of which I forewarn you, even as I did forewarn you, that they who practice such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh.”*** (Galatians 5:21).

Each one of the serious character flaws described in Galatians 5:19-21 comprise the results of sin.

Character assassination can also be described as murder. Slander and maligning someone can have a similar effect. It will savage and destroy an individual's reputation. This truth emerges clearly in the book of Proverbs. Notice carefully the following passages of Scripture. ***“Hatred stirs up strifes; but love covers all transgressions.”*** (Proverbs 10:12). ***“A man that bears false witness against his neighbor is a maul, and a sword, and a sharp arrow.”*** (Proverbs 25:18). ***“The words of the wicked are of lying in wait for blood: but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them.”*** (Proverbs 12:6).

Here, most people, as usual, will think to raise the subject of serving in the armed forces of the country in wartime. Many

times I am confronted with this question: what about killing in wartime? Should we go to war or not? Does the Bible teach conscientious objection against the use of arms in an international conflict? Many people will say, “Well, if we don't fight our enemies, we will

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True Worshipers
will certainly fulfill Hebrews
12:14. “Follow after peace with
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be overrun and then we will no longer be able to have freedom or a democratic government.” What is the biblical answer? What does the Bible teach the world today on this subject?

If we are to consult the Sacred Scriptures to discover what the Bible says about war, we are confronted with the question, “How far do we trust Yahweh? Do we trust Him enough to protect us, or must we always take the initiative to fight for our rights?” I know that this may appear naive, or you may even imagine that I am slightly off the track to suggest it, but Yahweh's people shall live by faith. See Habakkuk 2:4. Are we still unconverted people who would take matters into their own hands?

Let us turn to Deuteronomy 32:35. ***“Vengeance is mine, and recompense....”*** This is quoted again in Romans 12:19 with the familiar words, ***“Avenge not yourselves, beloved, but give place to the wrath of Elohim: for it is written, vengeance belongs to***

me; I will repay, says Yahweh.” Do we have the enduring faith that will bring us salvation, faith that will defend us in our hour of trial, both nationally or personally? Or shall we continue to depend strictly on ourselves, while shutting Yahweh completely out of the picture?

You will surely remember the account of how Peter, in the garden of Gethsemane when the Roman soldiers came to arrest Yahshua on the night prior to His impalement, took his sword (or long knife) in hand to put up resistance to the constituted authority. In so doing, he cut off the ear of the servant of the High Priest, whose name was Malchus. Yahshua our Savior tells him to put up his sword, for, ***“They that take the sword shall perish with the sword”*** (Matthew 25:52). This comment should serve as a lesson for the whole world to follow.

At the trial of Yahshua the Messiah, when Pilate asked Him what He had done to merit such a severe charge and sentence which the Jews of that day had leveled against Him for His supposed blasphemy, Yahshua replied to Pilate, ***“My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from here.”*** (John 18:36). This Scripture would surely declare void the so-called holy wars, or crusades, of the Middle Ages.

In Exodus 21:13, the Law of Yahweh relates how sometimes a man killed another person ACCIDENTALLY and was not guilty

of premeditated murder. In such a case, he could flee to a city of refuge, as instructed in Numbers 35:6, and be safe from retribution.

In the Old Testament Scriptures, when a nation rebelled against Him, when they did not repent and turn from their evil ways after they were warned by His prophets, Yahweh had, at certain times, no recourse but to punish the errant people with death. **“Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sins, it shall die.”** (Ezekiel 18:4). Yahweh warns that He will purge out the rebels from among His people in Ezekiel 20:38. Perhaps this is the most merciful death that could have happened to sinful people, rather than to allow them to continue disobeying Yahweh’s Laws and kill themselves eventually by their lawlessness. Additionally, Yahweh did not want them to demoralize His people Israel and lead them into the sins of the wicked.

The nations that were commissioned to render Yahweh’s judgment were specifically told to do so by Yahweh and were commanded not to go farther than He had commanded, nor were they to stop until they had carried out His directions. See Deuteronomy 25:17-19 (compare 1 Samuel 15:3, 17-33) and Isaiah 10.

The True Worshipers of Yahweh are to be a peaceful group. This is why the Assemblies of Yahweh **Statement of Doctrine** reads, *“We affirm that the Scriptures teach a doctrine of nonviolence toward our fellow men. We are commanded to live at peace with all men and to follow the “golden rule” set forth in Matthew 7:12, Leviticus 19:17-18, and Matthew 22:39. The example that our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah set for us, in which He left His vengeance in the hands*

of Almighty Yahweh, the Heavenly Father, should be followed by all the brethren of the Assemblies of Yahweh. Our attitude toward all men should be that love will win our enemies, 1 Peter 2:21-23, 1 Corinthians 6:1-11, and Matthew 5:33-48.”

While the scriptural ideal instructs us to seek peace and pursue it (1 Peter 3:11), the Law of Yahweh clearly gives us opportunity for self-protection. **“If the thief is found breaking in, and is struck so that he dies, the defender is not guilty of bloodshed. If the sun has risen upon him, he shall be guilty of bloodshed; he shall make restitution: if he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.”** (Exodus 22:2-3).

Yahweh’s True Worshipers will certainly fulfill Hebrews 12:14. **“Follow after peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no man shall see Yahweh.”**

There can be forgiveness for the sin of murder, just as for all sins. The blood of Yahshua cleanses us from all sin (1 John 1:7), but we must walk in the light as He is in the light. We must confess our sins to Almighty Yahweh and forsake them. He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (interpreted as *unright-use-ness*). Today, the Lamb of Yahweh still takes away the sins of the world, if we will obey the scriptural commandments and allow His cleansing blood to wash us clean.

The Messiah’s Name is *Yahshua*, which means *Yahweh is salvation*, and, today, He remains strong to save. Have you trusted in Him for salvation? Have you taken a firm stand for righteousness? Have you come to the Savior and been washed clean in the blood of the Lamb?

Today, Yahshua the Messiah is still standing at the door and knocking as He calls you. Notice His words in Revelation 3:20, **“Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will have supper with him, and he with me.”** You must open the door. Will you accept Him today?

I leave you with this thought found in Revelation 21:8. **“But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and MURDERERS, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone; which is the second death.”**

Yahweh says in Isaiah 1:18, **“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.”**

“Also the foreigners that join themselves to Yahweh, to minister to him, and to love the name of Yahweh, to be his servants, every one that keeps the sabbath from profaning it, and holds fast my covenant; even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. The Sovereign Yahweh, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, Yet will I gather others to him, besides his own that are gathered.” (Isaiah 56:6-8).

Do not delay! Obey Yahweh’s commandments, forsake sin, and live in harmony with the Kingdom way of life—to LIFE ETERNAL. S^NB

How Would Yahshua VOTE For President?

Continued from page 9.

He will rule in righteousness, and we can trust His decisions.

Since most of us today are living in the native lands in which we were born, we submit to the laws of the land as long as they do not conflict with those of Yahweh's Covenant Law. See Acts 5:29. In Romans chapter 13, Paul shows that the governments of this world were instituted to **keep the peace**. They police the land and defend its borders from outside attack from any aggressors, so there may be peace. Yahweh's people are obligated to obey its laws, as far as they do not conflict with those of Yahweh. Yahweh allows these governments to exist until His Kingdom is established. We are obligated to pay our taxes also, so that the government over us may function. Please read the entire seventh chapter of the prophet Daniel also.

In the event that laws are made which are in direct conflict with those Yahweh has given in His Word, then we must faithfully obey the Laws of Yahweh, the Covenant into which we have entered. Notice again Acts 5:29. Peter and the Apostles said, "**We must obey Yahweh rather than men.**" The Apostolic Assembly was persecuted because of their determination to continue to obey Almighty Yahweh and serve Him rather than to submit to any unscriptural ordinances of men. Can we do the same today?

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A High Standard in Yahweh's Law

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The Law of Almighty Yahweh actually prohibits anyone who has entered into His Covenant from voting to set another person over us who is not a saint of the Most High. We read this instruction in Deuteronomy 17:14–15. "**When you come to the land which Yahweh your Elohim gives you, and shall possess it, and shall dwell in it, and shall say, I will set a king over me, like all the nations around me; you shall surely set him king over you, whom Yahweh your Elohim shall choose: ONE FROM AMONG YOUR BRETHREN SHALL YOU SET KING OVER YOURSELVES; YOU MAY NOT PUT A FOREIGNER OVER YOURSELVES, WHO IS NOT YOUR BROTHER.**"

As we can plainly see from this text, Almighty Yahweh desires that His people be ruled in **righteousness** according to the intentions of His Covenant Law. An individual who is **unconverted CANNOT** comprehend the deep-rooted principles underlying the Covenant which Almighty Yahweh has delineated in the Sacred Scriptures for His people. Consequently, this passage of Scripture **prohibits** anyone who intends to be a True Worshiper from voting for any other presidential candidate **except for** Yahshua the Messiah! Otherwise, we are in violation of the commandments of Yahweh!

The members of the Assemblies of Yahweh forthrightly express our vote for the Messiah by vocally heralding the soon-coming Kingdom of Yahweh over which He will rule. "**I saw in the night-visions, and, behold,**

there came with the clouds of heaven one like a son of man, and he came even to the ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations, and languages should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. . . . But the judgment shall be set, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it to the end. And the kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heavens, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High: his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him." (Daniel 7:13–14, 26–27).

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Summary

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The world today has reached the point where it reflects badly confused values in its conduct. Such is the sad commentary on these times in which we live. When our nation was founded, it was based upon the premise of liberty, freedom, and representative government—not special-interest rule. Today, presidents frequently rule and speak only after they consider the opinion polls (which are frequently slanted and distorted). Have you ever checked the definitions of the terms *liberty* and *freedom* in a good dictionary? If not, do so immediately and be astonished at how far the United States has departed from the principles of our founding fathers.

During recent decades, special-interest groups have become even

more heavily involved in politics in an effort to secure government-legislated privileges for themselves. The original principle, on which the American system of government was founded, called for the selection of representatives to be sent to the state and federal capitols only for the purpose of implementing legislation so that the government could function. Those legislative sessions lasted from a few weeks to several months out of the year. Today, the legislative bodies of our land are usually in session throughout the entire year. Manned by professional politicians, they pass legislation **far beyond anything that was ever envisioned by the founding fathers!** Today, various citizen groups are again calling for the reestablishment of citizen legislatures, but the current system is so well entrenched that reform is virtually impossible.

As we have clearly seen from the Sacred Scriptures previously quoted, the Kingdom of Yahweh is far superior to any government on this earth. The governments today rule because Almighty Yahweh has allowed mankind to guide his own affairs for a limited period of time (Daniel 4:17).

During that time, the Holy Spirit calls various individuals into a spiritual relationship to become the family of Yahweh Elohim. Converted people voluntarily decide to enter into His Covenant, and they place themselves under His protection. Although they continue to abide by the laws of the countries in which they reside, these people no longer participate in the governments of worldly nations because they can discern the wickedness that exists there. Still, True Worshipers pay their taxes to their respective governments to support the services they provide, such as police protection (Romans

chapter 13).

As representatives of the Kingdom of Yahweh, which is to come to this earth at the return of Yahshua the Messiah, the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh do not take part in the political activities of the nations in which they live. We cannot compromise the **high moral principles** laid down in the Word of Yahweh that we must follow. We proclaim these principles to the world and urge all people to submit to them. History records that in the past ages the governments of the world have severely persecuted the True Worshipers who have sought to live in faithful accord with what the Bible teaches.

Too frequently, elected officials become corrupted by political power and betray their trust. Continually, reports of political corruption in high places illustrate what can occur in the government of our country. Subsequent to the founding of our nation, elected officials generally held much higher moral and ethical values than do politicians currently, but history reveals that even some of them lived hypocritical lives. Annual scandals prove, repeatedly, that the only way for this earth ever to achieve righteous government is for Yahshua the Messiah to return and implement it. Then, all government will be conducted under the authority of the Word of Yahweh and the scrutiny of a righteous ruler.

It was true that, at the founding of our country, those who served in high elected positions held a clear sense of responsibility to their constituents they represented and to their country. When anyone votes for elected officials, we are supporting them in the stand they take on the legislation they enact, and, thereby, we subscribe to their leadership.

Scrutinizing all of the reasons presented in this article, one would have to conclude that **Yahshua the Messiah would never participate in political affairs.** As representatives who Yahshua has chosen to present a picture of His coming, righteous Kingdom reign to the people of the world, we must follow Him in avoiding participation in the affairs of this present world.

Since the governments of **this** world are modeled after the system of **Babylon**, we must turn our attention toward the government of Almighty Yahweh that comprises His righteous Covenant commandments.

We have been commissioned by Yahshua the Messiah to proclaim His coming Kingdom to all nations of the world and to seek first His Kingdom (Matthew 28:19–20 and 6:33). If we faithfully fulfill this lofty calling, we will have very little time remaining to become involved in the political affairs of this worldly system.

Therefore, by proclaiming and living these scriptural truths, the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh acknowledge Yahshua the Messiah to be our leader. We voluntarily obey His rule in our lives because the governments of this world are not motivated to maintain the righteous principles set forth in the Sacred Scriptures. While eagerly looking for and awaiting the establishment of the Kingdom of Yahweh on this earth, we obey the laws of the land inasmuch as they do not conflict with biblical Law.

Will you join with us in practicing these lofty ideals? We hope that you will seek first the Kingdom of Yahweh and prepare for the day when the Messiah returns to establish Yahweh's eternal Kingdom on this earth. ^{SNB}

Man Rejects His Maker

Continued from page 13.

are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.” (Psalm 95:3-7a).

“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.” (Exodus 31:16-17). Whenever we keep the seventh-day Sabbath holy, we are voluntarily and obediently showing our Heavenly Father Yahweh that we believe that He is our Maker and Creator and that He created the heavens and the earth and all that is in it—including our foreparents Adam and Eve—in six days, and that He rested on the seventh day of the week, commonly called Saturday.

WMLK, the shortwave radio voice of the Assemblies of Yahweh, is sending forth the call to return back to Yahweh again in worship. The good news, or glad tidings, of the coming Kingdom of Yahweh are being sent forth to every nation and tribe and tongue and people with the remission of sins in the Name of Yahshua the Messiah being heralded to the ends of the earth. Those who believe and are baptized into the Name of Yahshua the Messiah will be granted salvation when He returns to set up the Kingdom of Yahweh in just a few short years. The world must know the Name of our Heavenly Father and Creator is Yahweh, and His

only Begotten Son, Yahshua the Messiah, died for our sins, that through Him we might receive salvation in His Name.

“And I saw another angel flying in mid heaven, having eternal good tidings to proclaim to them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people; and he says with a great voice, FEAR YAHWEH, AND GIVE HIM GLORY; for the hour of his judgment has come: and WORSHIP HIM THAT MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND SEA AND FOUNTAINS OF WATERS.” (Revelation 14:6-7).

Violence and Murder

Every day, it seems glaringly obvious that we are living in violent times. The sorry state of American justice has become glaringly evident in the news media reporting of widespread violence and murders. It seems as though Isaiah 59 were again being relived. Additionally, we must remember the words of Yahweh through the prophet Hosea: *“Hear the word of Yahweh, you children of Israel; for Yahweh has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because THERE IS NO TRUTH, nor GOODNESS, nor KNOWLEDGE OF ELOHIM in the land. There is nothing but swearing and breaking faith, and KILLING, and STEALING, and COMMITTING ADULTERY; they break out, and BLOOD TOUCHES BLOOD. Therefore shall the land MOURN, and every one that dwells in it shall languish,*

with the beasts of the field and the birds of the heavens; yes, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.” (Hosea 4:1-3).

The problem we confront is that today, it seems, people pity the criminal while forgetting about the victim. Too many people try to explain away, or shift the blame, from the one who committed the crime. These many devious methods, like pleading insanity, or blaming a “bad childhood,” or “some other pressure,” for the perpetrator of the crime. But who will stand up and plead for the victims? We plead for the ones who were killed and whose blood is crying out from the ground to be avenged. We exhort the government to do its job that Yahweh assigned, as explained by Paul in Romans 13. Justice for those who have fallen to the murderer’s bullets must be initiated. Or Yahweh will avenge the innocent.

“And Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it grieved Yahweh that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And Yahweh said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the ground; both man, and beast, and creeping thing, and the birds of the heavens; for it grieves me that I have made them. But Noah found favor in the eyes of Yahweh.... And Elohim said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and,

behold, I will destroy them with the earth.” (Genesis 6:5-8, 13).

“And surely your blood, the blood of your lives, will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; even at the hand of every man’s brother will I require the life of man. Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of Elohim he made man.” (Genesis 9:5-6).

Have you considered that some of the violence and rage of today might possibly be the result of pharmaceutical drugs that are given to people with mental issues? Some of the side effects of pharmaceutical drugs include depression and suicide as well as homicidal tendencies! Yet, big Pharma, it seems, is never questioned as the source of a shooter’s rampage. Case in point is the Covenant School shooter, who had been diagnosed with various psychological disorders. Yet no disclosure is made as to what drugs were prescribed for her disorders. The shooting rampage in Lewiston, Maine, last fall also was committed by someone with mental health issues. Was Thomas Matthew Crooks, who attempted to assassinate former President Donald J. Trump, on any pharmaceutical drugs for his reported “major depressive disorder,” or other mental health issues? As yet, no toxicology reports have been released which reveal “prescribed medications.”

Too many people in the world today are fulfilling what Amos 5:10, 14-15 predicts. **“They hate him that reproves in the gate, and they hate him that speaks uprightly....Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so Yahweh, the Elohim of hosts, will be with you, as you say. HATE THE EVIL, and LOVE**

THE GOOD, and ESTABLISH JUSTICE IN THE GATE: it may be that Yahweh, the Elohim of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.”

Better Times to Come!

Throughout the Sacred Scriptures, the True Worshiper finds encouragement to confront the world’s worsening conditions and to anticipate with joy the Kingdom of Yahweh. That Kingdom shines forth brightly just over the horizon. Already we can sense its shining light.

The encouragement for the True Worshiper appears so plain in the second part of the prophet Isaiah (chapters 40-66). This extensive passage describes a new exodus. A modern exodus from a Babylonish system will supplant the memory of the exodus from Egypt.

How we long for the time that is described by Isaiah the Prophet in chapter 25. **“And in this mountain will Yahweh of hosts make to all peoples a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined. And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering that covers all peoples, and the veil that is spread over all nations. He has SWALLOWED UP DEATH FOR EVER; and the Sovereign Yahweh will WIPE AWAY TEARS FROM OFF ALL FACES; and the reproach of his people will he take away from off all the earth: for Yahweh has spoken it. And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our Elohim; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is Yahweh; we have WAITED FOR HIM, we will be glad and REJOICE IN HIS SALVATION.”** (Isaiah 25:6-9).

Such a similar prophecy is

found in Isaiah 49:8-13. **“In this manner says Yahweh, In an acceptable time have I answered you, and in a DAY OF SALVATION have I helped you; and I will preserve you, and give you for a covenant of the people, to raise up the land, to make them inherit the desolate heritages; saying to them that are bound, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Show yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and on all bare heights shall be their pasture. They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun strike them: for he that has mercy on them will lead them, even by springs of water will he guide them. And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted. Lo, these shall come from far; and, to, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim. Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for YAHWEH HAS COMFORTED HIS PEOPLE, and will have COMPASSION UPON HIS AFFLICTED.”**

Have you followed the exhortation in Isaiah 52:11-12? **“Depart, depart, go you out from there, TOUCH NO UNCLEAN THING; go out of the middle of her; CLEANSE YOURSELVES, you that bear the vessels of Yahweh. For you shall not go out in haste, neither shall you go by flight: for Yahweh will go before you; and the Elohim of Israel will be your rear guard.”**

Cleansing yourself means to remove sin from your life. We must purify ourselves from the lifestyle of this Babylonish system by implementing Yahweh’s Covenant Law.

Don’t forget, Yahshua is coming soon!

^{SNB}

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