

THE
SACRED NAME
BROADCASTER

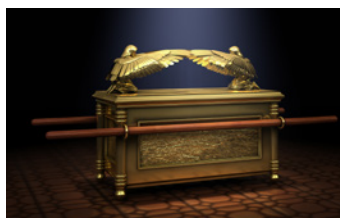
12/2024

THE SACRED NAME BROADCASTER

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December 2024
 Volume LVI, Number 9

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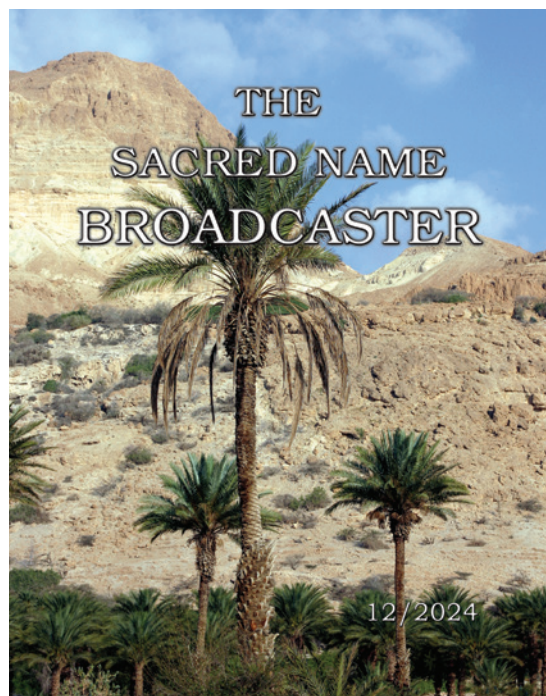
Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Our Cover:

This month's cover reveals palm trees in En Gedi. Water travels great distances, through fissures, or cracks, in the rock until it bursts forth in a beautiful waterfall.

We must always remember how Yahweh cared for Israel for 40 years in the wilderness. Yahweh gave them daily manna and brought forth water out of the rock. We must, therefore, never forget the blessings that Yahweh has poured out upon us with great abundance.

Learning life's lesson teaches us that we must trust in Yahweh at all times. Too often, we rely upon our own solutions rather than trusting in Yahweh.



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"Trust in Yahweh with all your heart, and lean not upon your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear Yahweh, and depart from evil: It will be health to your navel, and marrow to your bones." (Proverbs 3:5-8).

Yahweh is always there for us, like a loving shepherd who cares for His sheep. "Teach us to pray," the disciples of Yahshua the Messiah asked, because Yahshua set an example for us to pray. "And all things, whatever you shall ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive." (Matthew 21:22).

Whenever we are in peril—in need of Yahweh's guidance, His blessings, or His healing—humbly ask Yahweh for help, and He will answer according to His Will. "And this is the boldness which we have toward him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us...." (1 John 5:14).

THE

Messiah

IN THE OLD

TESTAMENT

What so many religious people do not understand is that the Bible comprises the instructions of the Heavenly Father given over a span of many years, and that these 66 separate literary works actually comprise one complete book. The Bible comprises one complete unit—both Old and New Testaments are inseparably joined together into one volume. You must understand that the words of the Heavenly Father, which are found in the Old Testament Scriptures, totally and completely constitute a foundation for the New Testament that the two sections of this inspired volume indeed become inseparable. One cannot divide

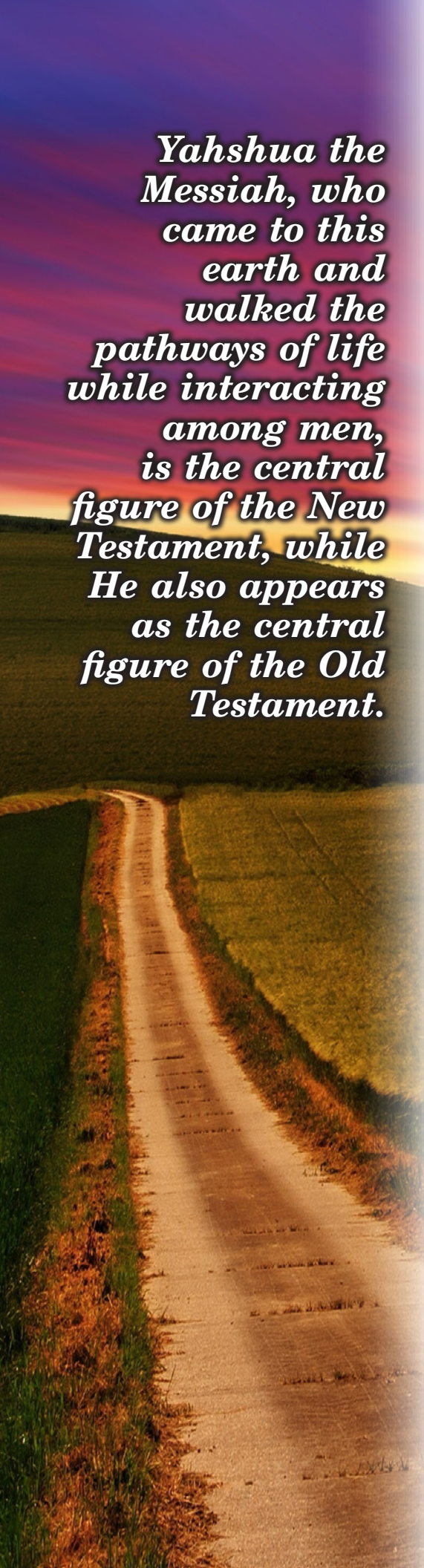
by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

between the Old and the New Testaments, or they will do damage to the entire message of the Bible.

People today who imagine that the New Testament is a completely separate book from the Old Testament are in error. The New Testament comprises the later extension of the message of the so-called Old Testament. Historically, the New Testament Scriptures tells us that the Messiah came to this earth. He lived

a righteous life, and, then, shed His blood for us to atone for our sins. After His death and resurrection, He ascended into the heavens where He awaits the assignment today from Almighty Yahweh Elohim to return to the earth to establish the everlasting Kingdom of Yahweh.

The Bible indeed incorporates these 66 messages into one complete volume. The Scriptures cannot be broken, Yahshua the Messiah comments in John 10:35. The Sacred Scriptures, indeed, cannot be broken—at the Testaments, a book, at a chapter, at a verse, or at a word. Rather, the whole counsel of Yahweh stands

A dirt road winds through a green field at sunset. The sky is a mix of purple, orange, and yellow. The road is in the foreground, leading into the distance.

Yahshua the Messiah, who came to this earth and walked the pathways of life while interacting among men, is the central figure of the New Testament, while He also appears as the central figure of the Old Testament.

in perfect unity as it has down through the ages. It cannot be broken, dissected, or segmented, but it must stand as **one complete unit**. Its 66 books symbolically represent the strings of the harp on which the True Worshipers should make a harmonious melody. See Revelation 15:2.

Now, I wonder whether those readers who believe that the New Testament is a book totally and completely separate from the Old Testament, if you have ever carefully scrutinized the text of the New Testament and noticed the very numerous quotes taken from the Old Testament Scriptures that are found there? According to some statistics, there are 287 different quotations from the Old Testament Scriptures that are found in the New Testament; however, we believe that, undoubtedly, there are many, many more occurring as repeated references, or allusions, to Old Testament quotations.

Let us consider something you may have overlooked in your Bible study. Yahshua the Messiah, who stands in the position of the central figure in the New Testament, is already presented in many of the Old Testament prophecies. Yahshua the Messiah, who came to this earth and walked the pathways of life while interacting among men, is the central figure of the New Testament, while He also appears as the central figure of the Old Testament.

When Yahshua the Messiah was resurrected from the tomb, He appeared several times to His disciples. We read about this in Luke chapter 24, beginning with verse 44 and reading on down to verse 48. In this passage of Scripture, we wish to pay special attention to these words of Yahshua the Messiah. They are quite significant.

“And he said to them, These are my words which I spoke to

you, while I was yet with you, that all things must needs be fulfilled, which are written in the law of Moses, and the prophets, and the psalms, concerning me. Then he opened their mind, that they might understand the Scriptures; and he said to them, In this manner it is written, that the Messiah should suffer, and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.” (Luke 24:44).

When Yahshua the Messiah appeared to His disciples, He Himself brought to their attention, very, very strongly, that His coming to earth was prophesied in the Sacred Scriptures. The Messiah Himself was to be found in the writings of Moses (the Law [Torah] of Moses), the Prophets, and the Psalms. These are the three major sections of the Bible that appear in what is called the Old Testament Scriptures—the Law (Torah); the Prophets (*Nebi'm*); and the Psalms (*Kethubim*). Taking the first letter of each of these Hebrew terms has given us the acronym *Tanak*, which is what the Jews call the Old Testament Scriptures—in other words, the Law of Moses, the prophets of the Bible, and the wisdom literature. **YAHSHUA THE MESSIAH SAID HE WAS TO BE FOUND IN EACH ONE OF THESE SECTIONS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES.** Did you notice this comment by Yahshua the Messiah?

If Yahshua is indeed the central figure of the Old Testament, why are theologians discarding the Old Testament so lightly? Many theologians and scholars believe that the Old Testament Scriptures should be cast upon “the junk heap of

the ages,” along with some of the other literature of the past, but, seemingly and conversely, not the writings of the Greek philosophers. The reason they insist upon doing this is because the Old Testament Scriptures enjoins the people of the Most High to maintain a certain, specific standard of living—a high standard of morality. Too few people today wish to adhere to this high, ethical standard.

Theologians are trying to convey the idea that if one can do away with the Law, then mankind can do just about anything they please. You can live your life just exactly the way you personally wish to live it. There is then no restraint, no restriction whatsoever. Indeed, the Bible, the Old Testament Scriptures, does set the standard of morality. For example, it shows mortal man what is the definition of adultery. It declares that homosexuality is a sin. It states, also, that abortions comprise a sin. The Sacred Scriptures also state, without reservation, that one day in each week has been created and set aside by the Almighty for a special purpose: on this day He wishes His people to observe holy time to honor Him and His creative power with a holy convocation. That one day of the week (the seventh-day Sabbath) is such a thorn in the side for most people that they apparently wish to do away with the entire Old Testament.

When people begin reading the Old Testament, it condemns them, because it shows where they are living in error. Rather than change, repent, and become converted, rather than capitulate before the wishes of the Most High Heavenly Father, they seek the easy way out of their dilemma and find justification for doing away with the Law through the writings of the Apostle Paul in

the New Testament. **THIS IDEA CONSTITUTES GROSS DOCTRINAL ERROR THAT MUST BE REFUTED!**

The Bible, the Old Testament, speaks of Yahshua the Messiah. It shows us the way to everlasting life just as much as does the New Testament. The New Testament does not set forth an entirely different message from that of the Old Testament. The New Testament is a later extension of the Old Testament Sacred Scriptures, because it confirms the Old Testament. The New Testament indeed is built upon the foundation of the so-called Old Testament.

Therefore, Yahshua the Messiah comprises the central figure throughout the Bible, beginning with Genesis 3:15, where it is written that the seed of the woman would crush the head of the serpent. The seed of the woman, indicating the Messiah, would destroy the serpent, who is known as Satan the Devil. The Redeemer Yahshua will destroy sin (lawlessness, see 1 John 3:4), putting it out of existence forever. This is exactly what His mission was to accomplish when He was here on this earth. He came to atone for the sins of mankind at His appearance, and He died to atone for our sins. Yahshua the Messiah is indeed the central figure in the Bible, and we must respect Him for it.

Just remember, friends, when we turn to 1 Corinthians chapter 15, the resurrection chapter, the Apostle Paul declares some rather strange ideas if you do away with the Old Testament. Paul says, **“Now I make known to you, brethren, THE GOOD TIDINGS which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you,**

except you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that the Messiah died for our sins ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES; and that he was buried; and that he has been raised on the third day ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES.” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

The good tidings are, therefore, to be found firmly rooted in the Old Testament. The good news of salvation comprises the core doctrine in the Old Testament, having its roots firmly fixed in the Hebrew-Israelite religion—the Hebrew faith of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—going all the way back to Genesis chapter 3, following the sin of Adam and Eve.

Why did Paul tell his readers that he declared the glad tidings according to the Scriptures? Those Scriptures MUST, OF NECESSITY, be the Old Testament Hebrew Bible, because the New Testament was just then being written. Can it be that we may study the Old Testament and find Yahshua the Messiah there, just as did the Apostolic Assembly? Of course, this is the only conclusion that we can draw when we read passages of Scripture like this. In fact, how can we prove that Yahshua is the true Messiah without the foundational description of Him in the Old Testament?

Paul, the Apostles, and the New Testament Apostolic Assembly all found their roots in the Old Testament, and you and I must also do likewise today.

Consequently, I am beginning a series of messages on the Messiah in the Old Testament. Join us every month for the publication of a new segment in this series.

The Bible must become applicable to each and every individual. We have discovered that Bible prophecy brings the scriptur-

al message right home to us. Yahshua the Messiah in the Old Testament represents a major aspect of this scriptural prophecy.

If you have never studied Bible prophecy to understand the events looming immediately ahead of us, then I urge you to read each issue of **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** magazine carefully and notice how this really makes the Bible message applicable to each one of us today.

Fear of the unknown causes anxiety; nevertheless, when you know what lies ahead, you will confidently know how best to prepare to meet it.

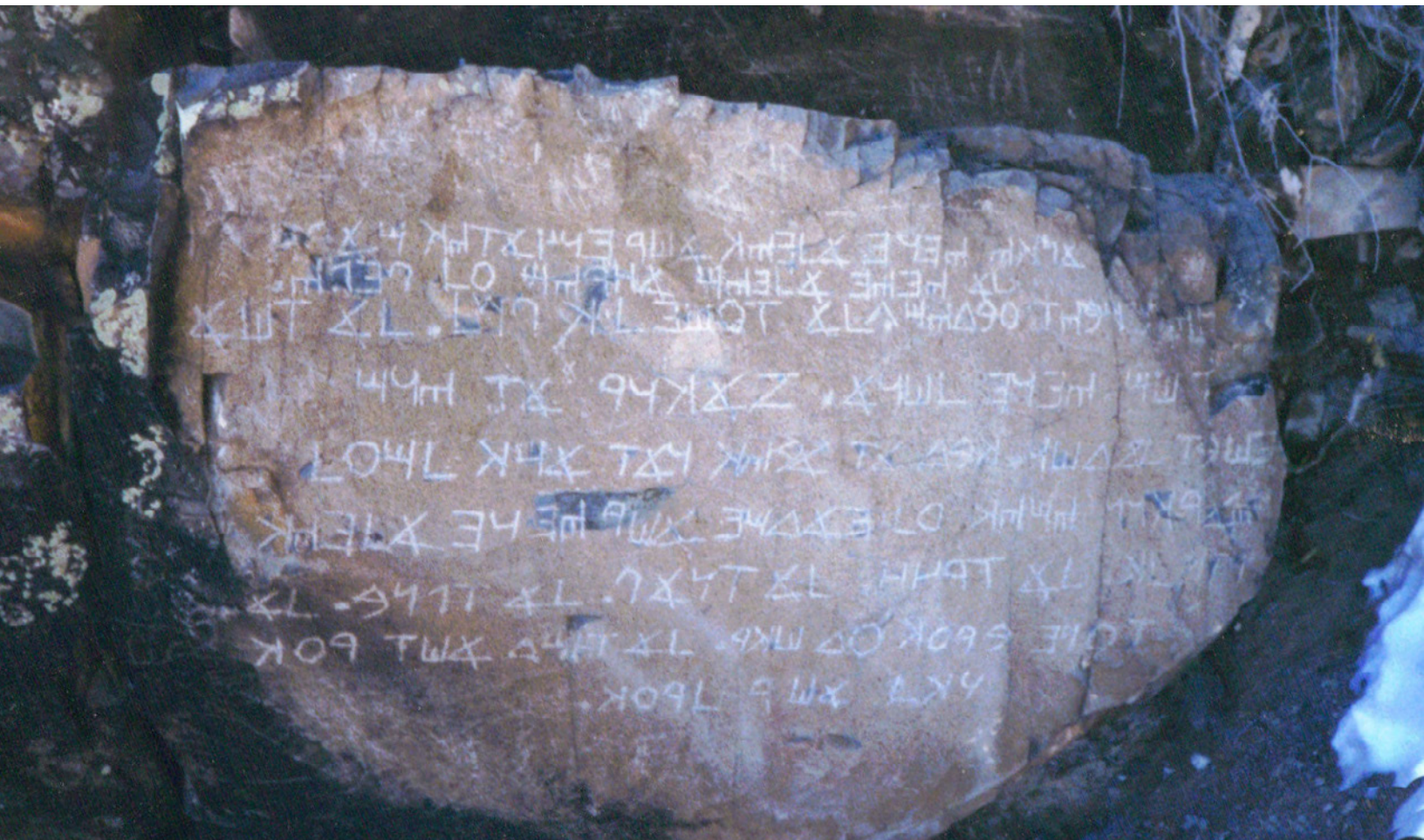
Remember the warning that the Apostle Peter has given to us concerning Paul's writings. **"Therefore, beloved, seeing that you look for these things, give diligence that you may be found**

in peace, without spot and blameless in his sight. And account that the long-suffering of our Master is salvation; EVEN AS OUR BELOVED BROTHER PAUL ALSO, ACCORDING TO THE WISDOM GIVEN TO HIM, WROTE TO YOU; AS ALSO IN ALL HIS LETTERS, SPEAKING IN THEM OF THESE THINGS, IN WHICH ARE SOME THINGS HARD TO BE UNDERSTOOD, WHICH THE IGNORANT AND UNLEARNED WREST, AS THEY DO ALSO THE OTHER SCRIPTURES, TO THEIR OWN DESTRUCTION. You therefore, beloved, knowing these things beforehand, beware lest, being carried away with the error of the wicked, you fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Sovereign and Savior

Yahshua the Messiah...." (2 Peter 3:14-18a).

We must conclude that Paul would not have contrived doctrines that contradict Old Testament commandments, even though his writings may sometimes appear confusing. By knowing the Old Testament, we can explain them CORRECTLY. The Apostle Peter has warned the True Worshipers not to fall victim to a destruction that Paul evidently did not intend to bring upon the people of Yahweh.

Let us hear what he wrote in 1 Corinthians 7:19: **"Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing; BUT THE KEEPING OF THE COMMANDMENTS OF YAHWEH** [is everything]." This message is indeed clear throughout the Bible! Will you accept it? SNB



Found on Hidden Mountain west of Los Lunas, New Mexico, the Decalogue Stone is an engraving on a large boulder of the Ten Commandments using an ancient Hebrew script.

THE

Messiah

IN THE OLD

TESTAMENT

PART 2

Immediately after the resurrection of Yahshua the Messiah, He did a very remarkable thing. As He was instructing His disciples in Luke chapter 24 (beginning to read with verse 44), He made a remarkable and significant statement that should shock the great majority of religious people.

Let us read His own words. ***“And he said to them, These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was yet with you, THAT ALL THINGS MUST NEEDS BE FULFILLED, which are written IN THE LAW OF MOSES, and THE PROPHETS, and THE PSALMS, concerning me. Then he opened their mind, that they might understand the Scriptures; and he said to them, In this manner it is written, that the Messiah should suffer, and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”***

In this unique passage of Scripture, Yahshua the Messiah has very strongly committed Himself to the fact that He was indeed the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecies of the Old Testament

Scriptures. He strongly emphasizes this significant fact: that His earthly life is the fulfillment of all things that were written **in the law of Moses** and in the prophets and in the psalms to be fulfilled by the Messiah. He shows that He was also the central actor—the central figure—of the Old Testament, the Hebrew Bible, just as much as He certainly is the central character of the New Testament.

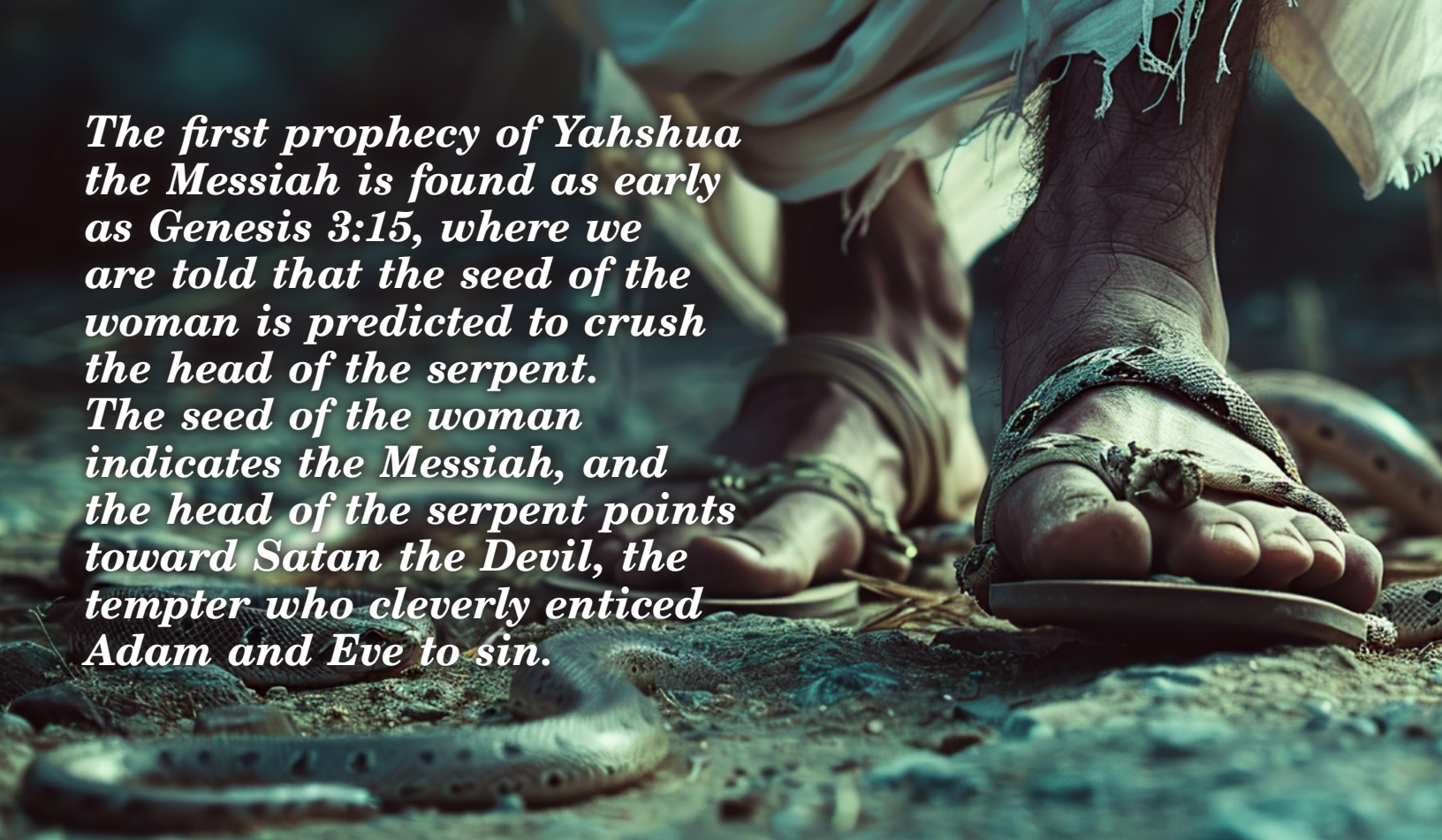
The electrifying fact about this Scripture, when you consider it carefully, confirms that the message of the Bible cannot be broken, segmented, or separated, at the testaments! Most of nominal Christianity today believes and teaches that the New Testament comprises an entirely different volume than that of the Old Testament, but we all know that this conclusion is untruthful. The so-called New Testament, indeed, cannot be separated from the Old Testament.

There are numerous quotes from the Old Testament to be found in the New Testament Scriptures, and many of those quotes relate to the life and ministry of Yahshua the Messiah. The first prophecy of Yahshua the Messiah is found as early as Genesis 3:15, where we are told that the seed of the woman is predicted

to crush the head of the serpent. The seed of the woman indicates the Messiah, and the head of the serpent points toward Satan the Devil, the tempter who cleverly enticed Adam and Eve to sin.

Satan the Adversary exerted his influence upon Adam and Eve, influencing them to sin and to rebel against the commandments of Almighty Yahweh. Therefore, from that moment on, they were placed under the sentence of death by Almighty Yahweh. Adam and Eve were rejected and driven from the paradise of the Garden of Eden by Almighty Yahweh; however, they had the opportunity to look forward to the atonement sacrifice of the Messiah. They could look forward to the time when the Messiah would come to this earth and die for the sins of mankind, to extend His forgiveness for the stigma of sins that was to be passed on as a character weakness to their progeny.

Yahshua the Messiah is indeed the central figure of the Bible, beginning all the way back in Genesis 3:15. He is the promised Seed, the One who was designated to redeem from sin the repentant descendants of the family of Adam and Eve. The human race was given a plan of salvation and a Redeemer in the Son of Yahweh—



The first prophecy of Yahshua the Messiah is found as early as Genesis 3:15, where we are told that the seed of the woman is predicted to crush the head of the serpent. The seed of the woman indicates the Messiah, and the head of the serpent points toward Satan the Devil, the tempter who cleverly enticed Adam and Eve to sin.

Yahshua.

Yahshua the Messiah did indeed fulfill these prophetic Scriptures, but the disciples were unable to understand all of these predictions. Yahshua the Messiah opened up their understanding that they might comprehend these prophecies of the Scriptures. He opened their minds and hearts so that they could understand the prophecies of the Bible that referred to Yahshua the Messiah Himself and described His mission as their Messiah.

Most nominal Christians in our time believe that the Apostle Paul probably began the new religion of Christianity. They believe that when they separate between the Old and New Testament Scriptures, one will discover a different form of religion in the New Testament than what is taught in the Old Testament. They will insist, affirm, and assert that this is what the message of the Bible really contains. But these ideas are in error!

The Apostle Paul was preaching a doctrine in complete harmony with the other disciples. You will undoubtedly recall the passage in Galatians chapter 1, where he states that he was not preaching another, or a different, message, that after his conversion he diligently studied the Bible in Arabia for some time. Three years afterward, he went up to Jerusalem, where he conferred with the Apostle Cepha to determine if his understanding of the Messianic doctrine was the very same as that preached by the Apostles. He found that both he and the other Apostles were indeed preaching exactly the same message, and that there was no disagreement between them on doctrine. What was the reason? The answer is that they were all preaching the Messiah from the Old Testament Scriptures. The disagreements between them developed later.

Nevertheless, Paul still preached, and he continued to teach, exactly the same message

(the glad tidings of salvation) that was being taught by the other Apostles, the identical one as had Yahshua throughout His ministry, even right up to the very end.

Have you ever read 2 Peter 3:15-16? This passage in the New Testament, written by the Apostle Peter, describes Paul as an author who is being grossly misunderstood. Many times when I am writing an article or editorial for publication in **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** magazine, I wonder how the other people, who will be reading this literature, are going to understand it, interpret it, or react to what I write. As I am speaking over the air, seeking to tell the whole world about the Truth of Almighty Yahweh and the Truth of the inspired Scriptures, I wonder who could be in the listening audience and exactly how they are understanding what I am saying.

Perhaps readers or listeners could *misunderstand* what I am saying. Perhaps they could become irritated at the differences in the

teaching that they are accustomed to hearing and soon tune out **The Sacred Name Broadcast**. Nevertheless, I do not plan to say anything that could intentionally offend anyone, but, without fear or reservation, I intend to preach the pure Word of Yahweh. Perhaps, as people are reading some things in **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** magazine, they could take the wrong interpretation out of what our literature teaches, but we plan to publish only Yahweh's sound doctrines. We speak without fear.

Consequently, **The Sacred Name Radio Broadcast** and **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** magazine are sent out with our prayers in the hopes that the people will accept what we are preaching and publishing in a direct, straightforward manner. Do not take our word for anything we teach; but, rather, take your Bible in hand and check for yourself what the Bible says on these scriptural subjects.

Paul was obviously a terribly misunderstood individual. Peter says that he was even being **DELIBERATELY** misunderstood. Let us read 2 Peter 3:15-16, ***“And account that the long-suffering of our Master is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also, according to the wisdom given to him, wrote to you; as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to be under-***

stood, which the ignorant and unlearned wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, to their own destruction.”

Some people, who are unlearned and unstable with regard to the Old Testament Scriptures, are apparently twisting what the Apostle Paul was writing in the messages he was sending out in his epistles, indicates the Apostle Peter.

It is strange that instead of allowing the Old Testament to speak out strongly as the very bedrock and solid foundation of our faith, most people in nominal ch-rchianity have *discarded it!* Most people today believe that the Old Testament Scriptures should be cast upon the “junk heap of the ages,” along with some of the other ancient writings.

What a paradox this is! That is not the case at all. The New Testament is, in fact, merely a later extension of, and completely dependent upon, the Old Testament Scriptures. The Old Testament constitutes the basis of our Faith. It contains the legislation designed by Almighty Yahweh to provide a stable standard of morality to direct the people of the Most High toward His Kingdom. It prophesies of the Messiah and of a future age to come.

Let us look at what the Apostle Paul had to say in 1 Corinthians 15. ***“Now I make known to you, brethren, the good tidings which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also***

you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, except you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that the Messiah died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried; and that he has been raised on the third day according to the scriptures.” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

Here, the Apostle Paul, as he was writing, was proving the suffering, death, and resurrection of Yahshua the Messiah to the Corinthian Assembly directly out of the Old Testament Scriptures. It had to be the Old Testament Scriptures he employed to do this, because the New Testament was only then being written. Paul indicates that this glad tidings is found in the Old Testament. The term for *glad tidings*, as it appears in the **King James Version**, is *gospel*, but that is not really a good term to translate the Greek word ***euaggelion***. This Greek term (from which comes our English word *evangel*) means *the good news*, or *the glad tidings*. That good news, or glad tidings, is the plan of salvation found in the Old Testament Scriptures, as Paul proves!

We can turn the pages of the Old Testament Scriptures, and we can discover prophecies of the Messiah throughout the volume. The prediction of Yahshua the

We can turn the pages of the Old Testament Scriptures, and we can discover prophecies of the Messiah throughout the volume. The prediction of Yahshua the Messiah and His mission is there from Genesis to Malachi, and this is what makes the Bible so unique and interesting.

Messiah and His mission is there from Genesis to Malachi, and this is what makes the Bible so unique and interesting.

The Bible, furthermore, comprises a cohesive unit from Genesis to Revelation. You cannot separate the Bible into segments—it is **impossible!** You cannot separate it at the testaments, or at a book from the remaining 65. You cannot pull a chapter out of context,

extracting it from the book and build a doctrinal case upon it, nor can anyone even draw out a verse or a word, thereby separating a doctrine from the remaining doctrines of the Bible. The entire Bible—all 66 books—are held firmly together as one complete unit, teaching one, unified sound doctrine.

I trust that you will join me regularly as we study the Word

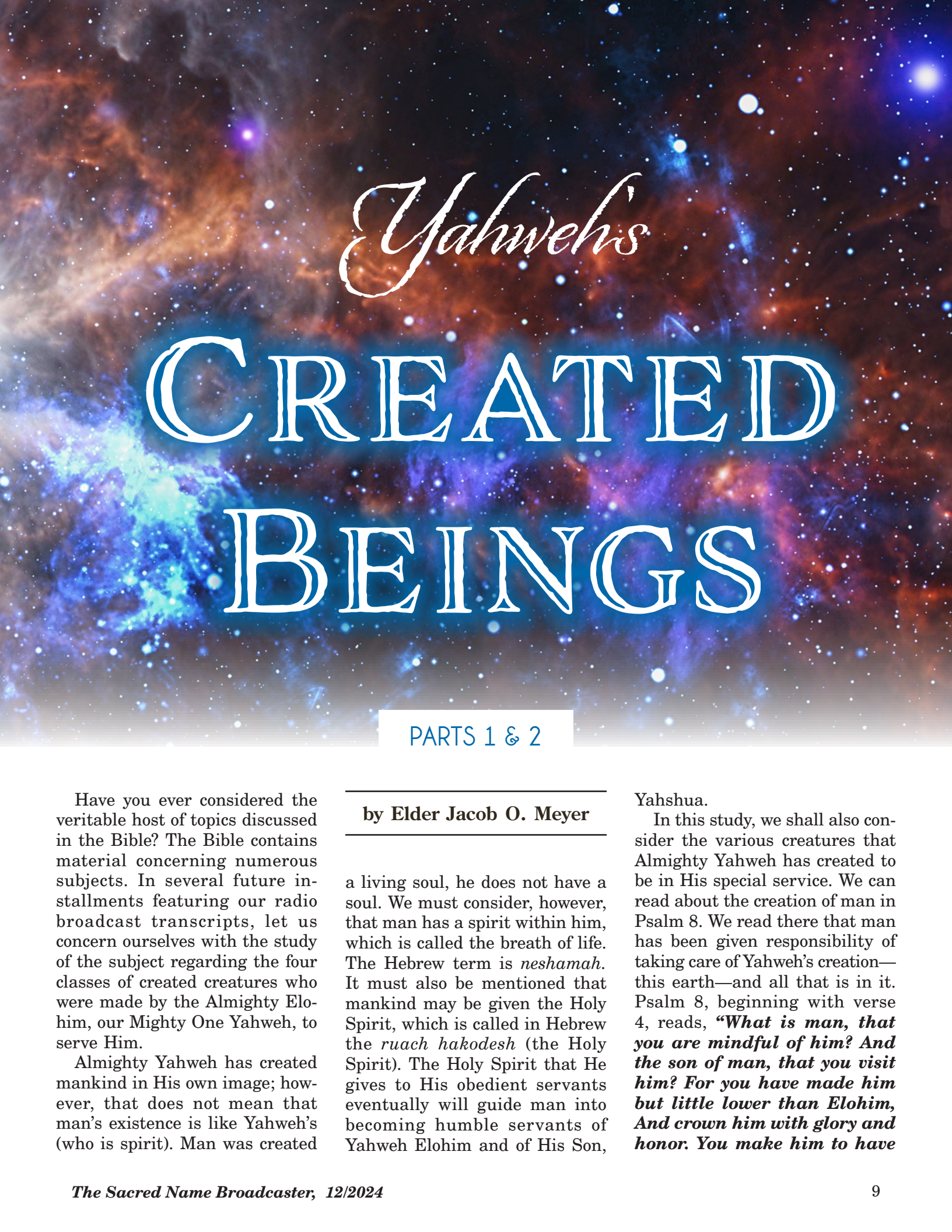
of Yahweh, and we will see in forthcoming segments how the Messiah is to be found in the Old Testament Scriptures. Listen regularly to **The Sacred Name Broadcast** and study the Sacred Scriptures with the help of **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** and our reprint literature. You will never regret it! You will learn more of the Truth each day. ^{SNB}

Assemblies of Yahweh

Statement of Doctrine Point #3

WE AFFIRM:

- That the Messiah has come in human form as the man recognized as the Savior in the New Testament Scriptures.
- That He pre-existed with the Father, John 16:28-30; Psalm 2; Micah 5:2; John 17:5; Philippians 2:5-8.
- That He was born of a virgin, Matthew 1:18, 23; Luke 1:26-38.
- That He lived a sinless life, 1 Peter 2:22.
- That through His death upon the tree of Calvary we may have atonement for our sins, Isaiah 53; Hebrews 9.
- That He rose again the third day, Matthew 12:40; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8.
- To give us a hope of a resurrection also, Romans 5:6-12; 1 John 5:9-13.



Yahweh's
CREATED
BEINGS

PARTS 1 & 2

Have you ever considered the veritable host of topics discussed in the Bible? The Bible contains material concerning numerous subjects. In several future installments featuring our radio broadcast transcripts, let us concern ourselves with the study of the subject regarding the four classes of created creatures who were made by the Almighty Elohim, our Mighty One Yahweh, to serve Him.

Almighty Yahweh has created mankind in His own image; however, that does not mean that man's existence is like Yahweh's (who is spirit). Man was created

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

a living soul, he does not have a soul. We must consider, however, that man has a spirit within him, which is called the breath of life. The Hebrew term is *neshamah*. It must also be mentioned that mankind may be given the Holy Spirit, which is called in Hebrew the *ruach hakodesh* (the Holy Spirit). The Holy Spirit that He gives to His obedient servants eventually will guide man into becoming humble servants of Yahweh Elohim and of His Son,

Yahshua.

In this study, we shall also consider the various creatures that Almighty Yahweh has created to be in His special service. We can read about the creation of man in Psalm 8. We read there that man has been given responsibility of taking care of Yahweh's creation—this earth—and all that is in it. Psalm 8, beginning with verse 4, reads, ***“What is man, that you are mindful of him? And the son of man, that you visit him? For you have made him but little lower than Elohim, And crown him with glory and honor. You make him to have***

dominion over the works of your hands; You have put all things under his feet....”

The author, King David, thereupon goes on to list the “all things” Yahweh placed under man’s feet: the animals, the birds, and the fish of the sea. **“O Yahweh, our Sovereign, How excellent is your name in all the earth!”** is the exclamation of joy in recognizing the Name of Yahweh.

The importance of the Name of Yahweh is again demonstrated here in this Psalm, as the Name of Yahweh appears so many times in the Bible. In fact, the term “the Name,” appears on average about once on every page in our Bible! The Name of the Almighty Yahweh is most significant and important, since it is used frequently, especially in the Psalms, appearing 6,823 times in the Old Testament. There are also additional instances in which it was removed.

Let me consider this question for a moment: **“What is man?”** The term translated man is *enosh* in the Hebrew text, and it means *man in all his frailties*. **“Or the son of man....”** This term in the Hebrew text appears as *ben adam*. Adam is used in Genesis, first as the generic term for humankind (Yahweh created Adam [man or mankind]). Later on, the name Adam is given to the first human male that Yahweh created, and it, therefore, becomes A PROPER NOUN. His wife, who was created for him, was named *Chawah* or, as the English translators rendered it, *Eve*.

There are also, additionally, three classes of created beings that must be taken into consideration besides humankind. These are the spirit beings commonly called angels, cherubim, and seraphim. First, we shall consider the term *cherubim*. The first time that this term appears is found in Genesis

3. When Adam and Eve sinned, Almighty Yahweh drove them out of His beautiful paradise, which is the Garden of Eden, a garden of tremendous pleasure, a perfect garden that He had planted, or as in the Hebrew text, *Gan Eden*.

We are told in Genesis 3:22 why Yahweh Elohim had to drive them out. **“And Yahweh Elohim said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil, and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: therefore Yahweh Elohim sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from where he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden the CHERUBIM, and the flame of a sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”**

The term *Cherubim* that appears in the text is from a Hebrew term that is of uncertain derivative. It appears it is the masculine plural form of *Cheruw*, which is #3742 in the **Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance Hebrew Dictionary**. These Cherubim (masculine plural ending) are placed as guards at the entrance to the Garden of Eden, ensuring that mankind could not return. In addition, Yahweh put there the flame of a sword that turned every way (we might even translate this as a double-edged sword). I do not believe that these cherubim are imaginary figures, as some Bible dictionaries define the word. They are actual, literal beings that Almighty Yahweh created for a special purpose.

He created them for the specific purpose to be His servants, just as He created mankind for a special purpose. Remember that man originally enjoyed a very close relationship with Yahweh until

their first act of sin. Eve followed Satan the Adversary and believed everything he told her. Thereupon, she disobeyed Yahweh and took (stole) of the fruit of the tree of knowing the good and knowing the evil. The ellipsis must be repeated here, not merely the tree of good and evil, but the tree of knowing the good and knowing the evil. Yahweh instructed mankind in the correct way to conduct himself. He taught Adam, since, upon His creation, Adam knew nothing about human life. Yahweh evidently taught him, because it says in Genesis 2:13 *“wayesaw Elohim,”* meaning Elohim laid commandments (the word *mitzwah* means a commandment) upon the man. Consequently, Yahweh taught mankind rules and regulations with which to live.

Today, Ch-rstianity has literally discarded all the commandments of Yahweh. It is taught that when the Messiah died, the Law of Yahweh was done away with, or annulled. They do not consider what Yahshua Himself said in Matthew 5: 17, **“Think not that I came to destroy....”** The word *destroy* here in the Greek text is *Luo*. One of the definitions of this Greek term is *annul*. When Ch-rstian ministers customarily insist that scriptural Law has been annulled, they are teaching false doctrine. **“Think not that I came to destroy the law or the prophets: I came not to destroy, but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, Till heaven and earth pass away, one yothe or one tittle shall in no wise pass away from the law, till all things be accomplished.”** (Matthew 5:17-18).

The Law of Yahweh was not annulled when the Messiah died. Yahshua did not come to do away with the Law, He came to magnify the Law and make it honorable

(Isaiah 42:21), and to offer Himself as the atonement sacrifice for sin. When He was here on this earth, He taught that His people must keep the spiritual rules (Yahweh's Laws), if we hope to be blessed. Sin is the transgression, the violation of, or the breaking of, the Law of Yahweh (1 John 3:4). Read this definition of sin for yourself. ***“Everyone that commits sin also transgresses the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”***

In further consideration of the term *cherubim*, let us turn to the book of Ezekiel. In Ezekiel 1:4, we read a candid description of these Cherubim: ***“And I looked, and, behold, a stormy wind came out of the north, a great cloud, with a fire infolding itself, and a brightness all around it, and out of the middle of it as it were glowing metal, out of the middle of the fire. And out of the middle of it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man.***

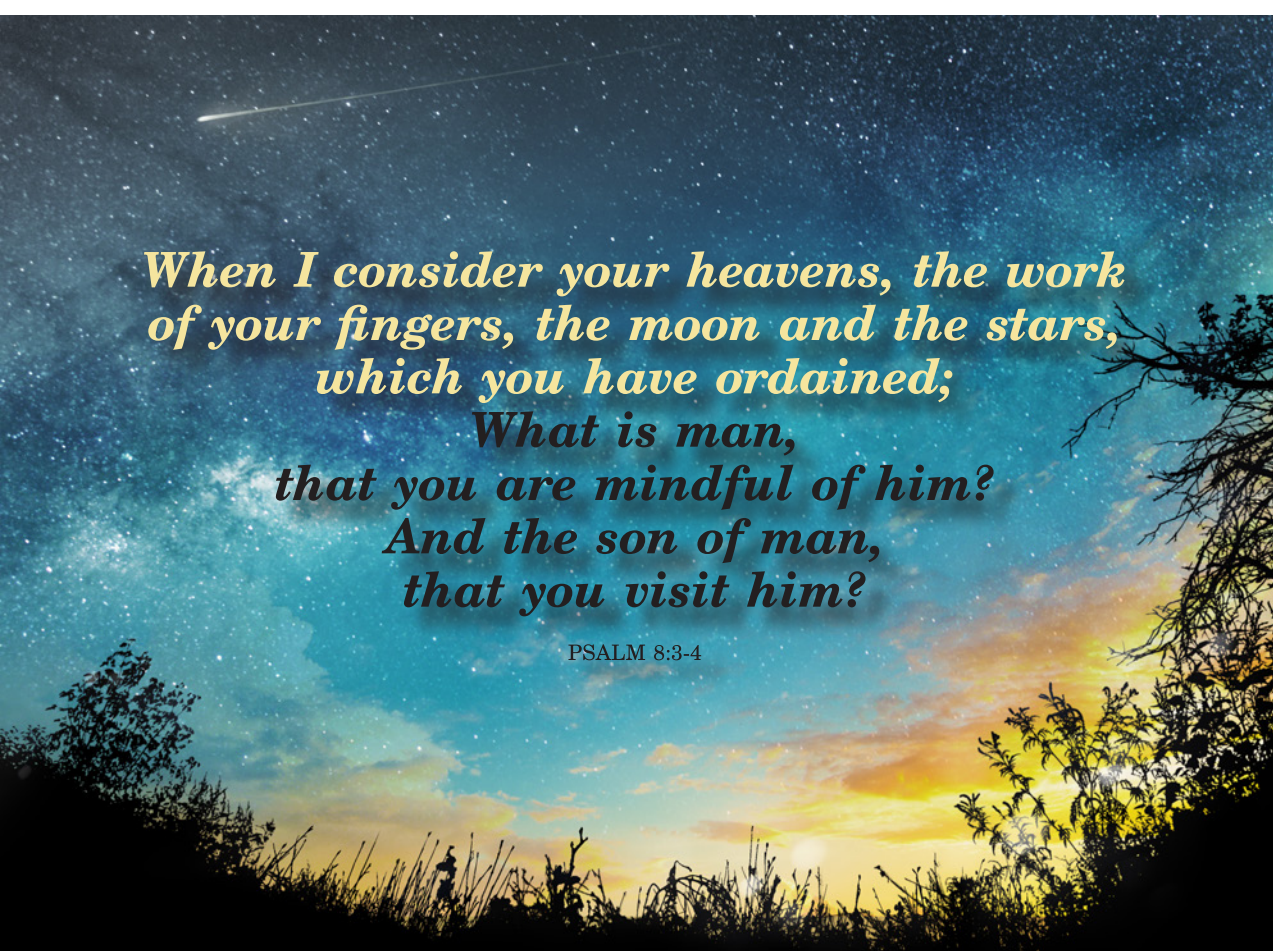
And every one had four faces....” (Ezekiel 1:4-6a). Theologians try to insist that the Bible reader cannot rely too heavily on this description, that this is merely a figure of speech, an anthropomorphism, something that appears in form, like a man. However, I don't read that. I take the Bible as literally as possible. Yahweh is not trying to confuse us in His Word, but to instruct us. Any other interpretation is false doctrine—dangerous false teaching that will confuse people, leading them astray. We must interpret the Bible just as literally as we can.

The author would like to remind the readers that there are many conservative Bible scholars (among them Dr. Bernard Ramm, for example), who will instruct you to read the Bible as literally as possible. There is some figurative language to be found in the Bible, but here appears a literal description of the vision that Ezekiel the prophet saw of the Almighty and His heavenly throne.

The first thing that Ezekiel sees coming out of this fiery turbulence are the four living creatures that have the appearance, or likeness of a man. Continuing to read in verse 6, ***“And every one had four faces, and every one of them had four wings. And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like burnished copper. And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and the four of them had their faces and their wings thus: their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward. As for the likeness of their faces, they had the face of a man; and the four of them had the face of a lion on the right side; and the four of them had the face of an ox on the left side; the four of them had also the face of an eagle.”*** (Ezekiel 1:6-10). This description indicates that they could look

every which way, and they have the figure of a man with wings covering their hands.

Continuing in verse 11, we read, ***“And their faces and their wings were separate above; two wings of every one were joined one to another [they were holding each other's hands], and two covered their bodies.”*** In front and in back were two wings with hands underneath, which (it would seem) they used for modesty.



***When I consider your heavens, the work
of your fingers, the moon and the stars,
which you have ordained;
What is man,
that you are mindful of him?
And the son of man,
that you visit him?***

PSALM 8:3-4

“And they went every one straight forward: where the spirit was to go, they went; they turned not when they went. As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches: the fire went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning.” (Ezekiel 1:12-14). Their pace was with extreme speed!

Thereafter is described the wheel within a wheel, something like a gyroscope, that also accompanies this vision. However, we shall not discuss that subject here.

In verse 22, we continue, **“And over the head of the living creature there was the likeness of a firmament, like the terrible crystal to look upon** [something that produced the refraction of light, making a rainbow effect of the light], **stretched forth over their heads above. And under the firmament were their wings straight** [they are supporting this firmament], **the one toward the other: every one had two which covered on this side, and every one had two which covered on that side, their bodies. And when they went, I heard the noise of their wings like the noise of great waters, like the voice of the Almighty, a noise of tumult like the noise of a host: when they stood, they let down their wings. And there was a voice above the firmament that was over their heads: when they stood, they let down their wings.”** (Ezekiel 1:22-25). The voice that was above the firmament instructed them regarding which direction to take and what to do. When they heard, they re-

sponded immediately and carried out the voice’s orders.

“And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was a likeness as the appearance of a man upon it above.” (Ezekiel 1:26). Here is a description of a vision depicting the Almighty Elohim. The Almighty indeed has the physical appearance of a man, but He is not composed of flesh and blood. He is composed of spirit. This is the same as the cherubim, a living creature composed of spirit.

“And I saw as it were glowing metal, as the appearance of fire within it all around, from the appearance of his loins and upward; and from the appearance of his loins downward I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was brightness all around him. As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around....” (Ezekiel 1:27-28a). Described here is the terrible crystal that would refract the light, giving it the appearance of a rainbow. The cloud under the Almighty has the likeness of sapphire (a deep-blue color). We see then that, **“This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory** [the *kavod* in Hebrew] **of Yahweh. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spoke.”** (Ezekiel 1:28b). The vision that Ezekiel describes is a powerful one and depicts for us the awesome, majestic power of Yahweh and of His created beings, the cherubim.

This is not the only place where we encounter a description of cherubim. The cherubim are also described in Ezekiel 10. **“Then**

I looked, and behold, in the firmament that was over the head of the cherubim there appeared above them as it were a sapphire stone, as the appearance of the likeness of a throne.” Here is described a glow that emanates from this majestic spiritual being and from His throne that is above this platform. Ezekiel 10:4 continues, **“And the glory of Yahweh mounted up from the cherub, and stood over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of Yahweh’s glory.”** This cloud of glory is generally given the term the *shekinah* glory. The word *shekinah* is from the word *shakan*, which in Hebrew means to dwell. However, the word *shekinah* is not ever used in the Bible in this sense of relating it to the Almighty. Consequently, here appears a description of the Almighty and the description is of His entourage, His transportation, and His protection.

We have now established a description of this first class of created beings (the cherubim) which directly serve Almighty Yahweh. We shall continue to develop this subject in the future, as we will note more descriptions of Yahweh and His created beings. The implications will indicate that they directly affect the salvation of mankind.

This truly is a magnificent subject. We hope that you never miss joining us for the **Sacred Name** programs, either on radio or television, and that you will write in for free literature on this and many other pertinent biblical subjects. Write to: Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, Pennsylvania 19507. Connect with this ministry, because you undoubtedly will greatly benefit from the things you learn.

Yahweh's CREATED BEINGS

PART 2

The Sacred Scriptures comprises the magnum opus of all literature. It is the greatest work of literature that has ever been produced, because it is written by an Intelligence who dwells in eternity. He inspired the authors of the Bible to write down what He wants mankind to know and understand about life. This magnum opus should be the primary instruction book for our lives. Its popularity over the centuries has been unparalleled.

The Sacred Scriptures is not simply a book of inspiration, although many religious people in times of crisis in their lives concentrate upon the Psalms. The book of Psalms provides a great inspiration during these trying times. When I was a little boy, my family encouraged the reading of Psalm 91 as a great faith-builder. I remember when I was a boy, if someone was injured and the bleeding did not quickly stop, they would say, "Now, is the time to have faith. We are going to read Psalm 91." Usually, by the time that we reached the end of the Psalm, the bleeding had been staunched. Almighty Yahweh had worked a miracle and thankfully so.

It is with examples like this and through careful study that I have become a great believer in the Bible. I love it! I teach it here in Obadiah School of the Bible. There is no book quite like it. Sadly, its complete message has been misunderstood, misquoted, misapplied, and even rejected by

some for so many centuries. Now, in these last days, as knowledge is being increased, I am awed at the things Yahweh is revealing even after my more than 40 years of concentrated Bible study. The method to a better understanding of the scriptural message is to harmonize the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and to allow it to speak for itself.

I have been discussing the subject of the four classes of created beings that Almighty Yahweh created to be His companions and His servants. On the last program, the subject of discussion was mankind. The Adamic race is human beings. In Psalm 8, the question is asked, "**What is man, that you are mindful of him? And the son of man, that you visit him? For you have made him but little lower than Elohim** [the **King James Version** translates this word *angels*, but the **Hebrew Bible** contains Elohim]...."

Elohim comprises the class of immortal beings whose name is Yahweh. This Elohim family comprises Yahweh the Father and Yahshua the Son, in the Old Testament. Please notice Psalm 68:4. Yahshua the Son was known as the *Word of Yahweh*—Yahweh's Spokesman—His representative to humankind. Yahweh created mankind to care for, and keep in good condition, the Garden of Eden that He had planted on the earth.

Later, Yahweh laid upon mankind's shoulders the responsibility of taking care of the entire earth. He had placed man in this beautiful garden (the Garden of Eden, called *Gan Eden* in Hebrew). This

beautiful garden was designated as man's home, until mankind sinned, and they ate of the tree of knowing the good and knowing the evil. Adam bore his guilt, because Almighty Yahweh had instructed him in Genesis 2:16, saying, "way^esaw Yahweh Elohim alhã'ãdam," or translated: "**And Yahweh Elohim laid commands upon the man....**"

Yahweh had told Adam: "You shall," or, "You shall not," do certain things. When man rejected the authority of Yahweh through disobedience and followed the instruction of Satan the Devil to do as he pleased, then, Yahweh had to act. The result of man's sin was that he was driven out of the glorious Garden of Eden. Thereupon, Yahweh placed, at the entrance of the garden, guards which are called *cherubim*. These guards maintained a flaming sword which turned "every which way" to keep man from returning to the Garden of Eden. Man could not return to the Garden of Eden because of their sin. We long for the Garden of Eden to be restored during the time when the Kingdom of Yahweh rules over this earth. Then will be established an atmosphere of peace and tranquility that will envelop this entire planet. I study the Bible, because I desire to be there, and I know that you have the same inclination.

We briefly discussed the term *cherubim* in the previous installment of this series. We analyzed the description appearing in Ezekiel 1, and, then, we also turned to Ezekiel 10, where the subject is covered. The end of this chapter



says, ***“I knew that they were cherubim.”*** The term *cherubim* in Hebrew is pronounced with an initial k-sound, not as is generally represented in English, with a ch-sound. We should recall this more proper and correct biblical pronunciation that appears in the Hebrew text, even though we shall continue with the customary English spelling.

In this segment, we shall consider the passage of Exodus 25. Contained in this passage appears a description of Moses building Israel’s tabernacle in the wilderness and, also, being given the design for all the tabernacle furniture, some of which was then incorporated into the Temple of Solomon.

“And they shall make an ark of acacia wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length of it, and a cubit and a half the width of it, and a cubit and a half the height of it. And

you shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and outside shall you overlay it, and shall make around it a crown of gold. And you shall cast four rings of gold for it, and put them in the four feet of it; and two rings shall be on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it. And you shall make poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. And you shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, with which to bear the ark. The poles shall be in the rings of the ark: they shall not be taken from it, And you shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you [those are the two tablets of stone]. And you shall make a mercy-seat of pure gold [The word is *cappareth* in the Hebrew, the covering or mercy seat of pure gold. It is a covering that will fit over this box.]: two cubits and

a half shall be the length of it, and a cubit and a half the width of it.” (Exodus 25:10-17).

Being described here is a wooden box, two and one-half cubits long, and one and one-half cubits wide, and one and one-half cubits in height. Twenty-two inches is the usually accepted length of the biblical cubit; so this box will be something in the range of nearly five feet long and, approximately, two and three-quarters feet wide, and high. Described here are actually three boxes. A wooden box is overlaid outside and inside with gold. This description portrays a very protected repository for the Ten Commandments, the tablets of stone on which Yahweh’s commandments were inscribed.

As we continue reading here in Exodus 25, we encounter the term *cherubim* in verse 18. ***“And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of beaten work shall you***

make them, at the two ends of the mercy-seat. And make one cherub at the one end, and one cherub at the other end: of one piece with the mercy-seat [with the *cappareth*, the covering] shall you make the cherubim on the two ends of it. And the cherubim shall spread out their wings on high, covering the mercy-seat with their wings, with their faces to one another; toward the mercy-seat shall the faces of the cherubim be. And you shall put the mercy-seat above the ark; and in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you. And there I will meet with you...."

This passage describes a reproduction of the throne of Yahweh. Yahweh sits between the *cherubim* (Psalm 99:1) on the throne of His ark in which is the testimony that is close to him, the testimony, or Covenant agreement that was made between Yahweh and mankind. **"And I will commune with you from above the mercy-seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel."**

Described here is one cherub kneeling on the one side of the lid on the ark with his two wings outstretched toward the other cherub kneeling on the other end of the *cappareth* (covering) with his wings outstretched. Appearing between the cherubim was the glory of Yahweh. What a magnificent picture has been given us here!

Let's go back again and read the brief description that we find in Ezekiel 10:20. **"This is the living creature that I saw under the Elohim of Israel by the river Chebar; and I knew that they were cherubim. Every one had four faces, and every one four wings; and the likeness of the**

hands of a man was under their wings. And as for the likeness of their faces, they were the faces which I saw by the river Chebar, their appearances and themselves; they went every one straight forward."

If we turn again to the first chapter of Ezekiel, the description of these four living creatures appears. **"And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man. And every one had four faces, and every one of them had four wings. And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like burnished copper [they were bright in color]. And they had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and the four of them had their faces and their wings thus: their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward. As for the likeness of their faces, they had the face of a man; and the four of them had the face of a lion on the right side; and the four of them had the face of an ox on the left side; the four of them had also the face of an eagle [it would imply that it was on the back of their heads]. And their faces and their wings were separate above; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies."** (Ezekiel 1:5b-11). What appears here is a clear description of Yahweh's covering cherubim reflected in their representation on the Tabernacle ark.

Let us turn to Ezekiel 28. This chapter is addressed to the king of Tyre. Remember that Tyre was a Phoenician city (a Canaanite city) on the Mediterranean shore in what is now Lebanon, to the north of Israel. We must ask, "Why

is this passage directed toward the King of Tyre?" The answer is because the Phoenicians (the Canaanites) were Baal worshippers. They were not worshipers of Yahweh. Located in the area to the north of Israel, we find the location of Ras Shamra (Ugarit), which was a center of ancient Baal worship. The library at Ras Shamra, which was discovered approximately 100 years ago, reveals that this location comprised the center of this pagan worship.

It appears that this passage is directed against a Baal-worshipping nation, and the king of that nation (the nation of Phoenicia, or Lebanon at that time) was called Ethbaal. Jezebel was the daughter of King Ethbaal, 1 Kings 16:31. Hiram was evidently a predecessor of this Canaanite King Ethbaal. The name *Ethbaal* can be interpreted as the Semitic preposition *eth* (with) and *Baal* (the worship of the l-rds of the region), that is, with Baal. Clearly the king of Tyre was a Baal worshiper. He was also the priest of Baal in what was Phoenicia. As a consequence, this prophecy is not merely directed toward the high priest of Baal, but, also, toward the power behind the throne, Satan, the adversary of Almighty Yahweh.

Who is the power of apostate worship in the world today? Turn to Ezekiel 28:11-13a, **"Moreover the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him, In this manner says the Sovereign Yahweh: You sealed up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of Elohim [the king of Tyre was never in Eden, the garden of Elohim]; every precious stone was your covering...."** We find here the listing of nine stones, the stones similar to

"You were in Eden, the garden of Elohim; every precious stone was your covering, the sardius, the topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold...."

EZEKIEL 28:13A



We find here the listing of nine stones, the stones similar to those appearing in Yahweh's High Priest's breastplate of judgment; however, three of the stones were omitted....

It is clear that Satan had access to quite a bit of knowledge, but not to the entire knowledge of the plan of salvation that Yahweh then conferred upon His people Israel. Consider also that the number 9 symbolizes finality of judgment, while the number 12 (the number of stones in the High Priest's breast plate) symbolized good government.

those appearing in Yahweh's High Priest's breastplate of judgment; however, three of the stones were omitted. Compare Exodus 28:17-20 and Ezekiel 28:13. It is clear that Satan had access to quite a bit of knowledge, but not to the entire knowledge of the plan of salvation that Yahweh then conferred upon His people Israel. Consider also that the number 9 symbolizes finality of judgment, while the number 12 (the number of stones in the High Priest's breast plate) symbolized good government.

Ezekiel 28:13 then continues, ***"In the day that you were created they were prepared. You***

were the anointed cherub that covers....” The word anointed here—*mimshach* in the Hebrew text—is the same as the root of the word *meshiach* or *messiah*. Please see the **Hebrew Dictionary of Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance**, numbers 4473, 4886, and 4899. Now read it with that knowledge in mind, **“You were the Messiah cherub that covers: and I set you [I created you for that purpose], so that you were upon the holy mountain of Elohim; you have walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire, You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you. By the abundance of your trade they filled the middle of you with violence...,”** and he goes on to say, **“I have destroyed you, O covering cherub [the word *cassah* is used here, rendered *covering*], from the middle of the stones of fire.”**

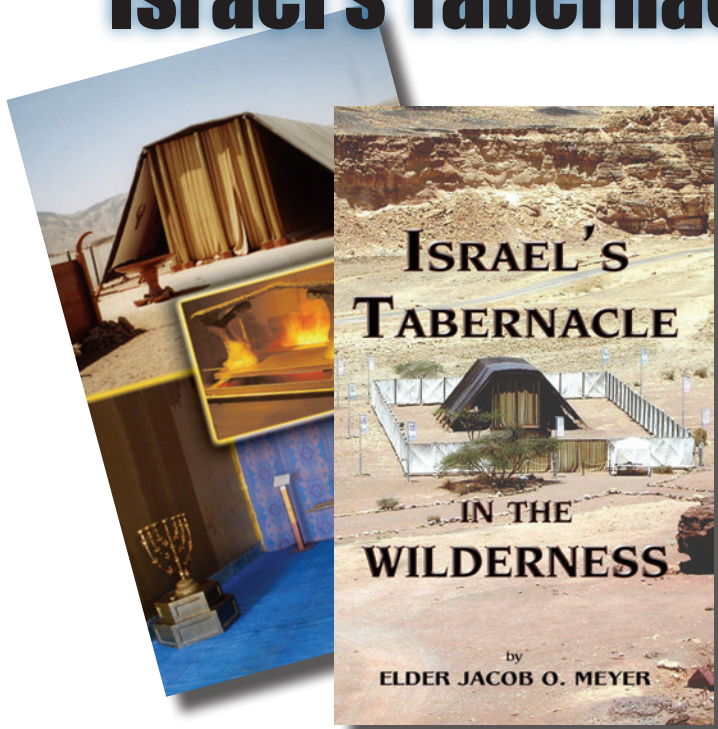
Described here as one cherub would be Satan the Adversary. Satan the Adversary is the power behind the throne of all false doctrine and apostate religion on the face of the earth. He is always trying to divert people away from Yahweh’s plan of salvation. Remember, there were two cherubim depicted on the lid of the ark. One was the anointed cherub that covers, the one who rejected Yahweh and became Satan the Adversary, the enemy to Almighty Yahweh. Who could we say was the other one? That was the faithful created being, who became the Messiah (Meshiach), our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah. He is described in Psalm 2:2 as Yahweh’s anointed, His Messiah. He was the faithful Son who, through His righteousness, will receive the rulership of the Kingdom of Yahweh. **“Yet I have set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will tell of the decree: Yahweh said to me, You are my son; This day have**

I begotten you. Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance, And the utmost parts of the earth for your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.” (Psalm 2:69).

We will be continuing this study as we further consider all four of the classes of Yahweh’s created beings. As the Word of Yahweh becomes clear on the tablets, we can candidly perceive a larger vision of Yahweh’s perfect plan for His people and how we fit into it.

As we learn more of these deep biblical topics, we grow in Yahweh’s grace and knowledge and become His faithful, obedient servants. Why not contact this ministry today and learn more of these deep biblical truths? Write to: Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, Pennsylvania 19507, for our additional Bible study materials. SNB

Israel's Tabernacle in the Wilderness



The land of the Bible is a fascinating country—the place where lived Yahshua the Messiah, the prophets, and the Apostles.

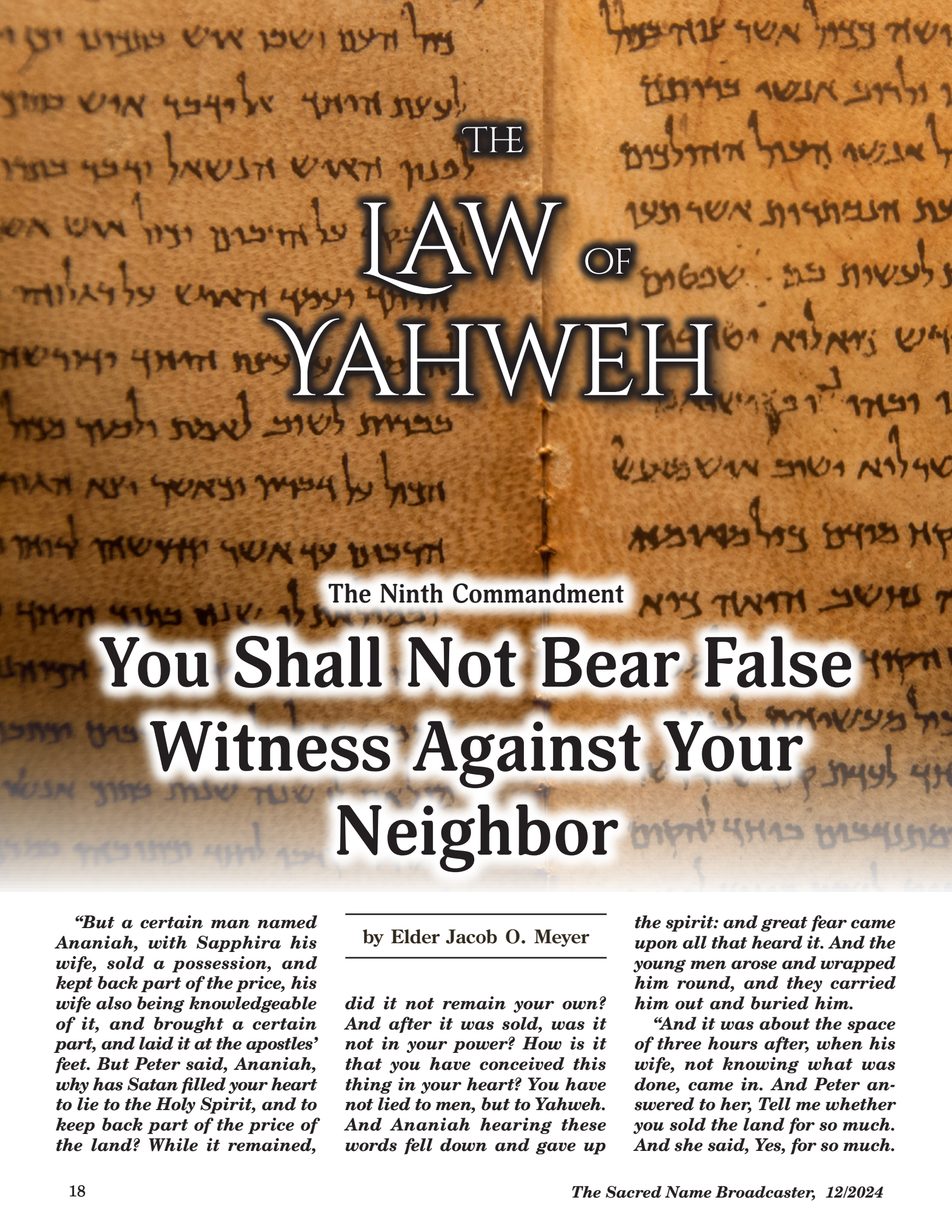
After a visit to Timna Nature Preserve near Eilat, Israel, the author, Elder Jacob O. Meyer, encountered a replica of Israel's Tabernacle erected in the desert in front of what is known as the Pillars of Solomon. The site offered an excellent opportunity to take photographs that are used to illustrate this volume that examines the spiritual symbolism suggested by this significant structure and its furnishings.

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THE LAW OF YAHWEH

The Ninth Commandment

You Shall Not Bear False Witness Against Your Neighbor

“But a certain man named Ananiah, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, and kept back part of the price, his wife also being knowledgeable of it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles’ feet. But Peter said, Ananiah, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back part of the price of the land? While it remained,

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your power? How is it that you have conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to Yahweh. And Ananiah hearing these words fell down and gave up

the spirit: and great fear came upon all that heard it. And the young men arose and wrapped him round, and they carried him out and buried him.

“And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. And Peter answered to her, Tell me whether you sold the land for so much. And she said, Yes, for so much.

But Peter said to her, How is it that you have agreed together to try the Spirit of Yahweh? Behold, the feet of them that have buried your husband are at the door, and they shall carry you out. And she fell down immediately at his feet, and gave up the spirit: and the young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her by her husband. And great fear came upon the whole assembly, and upon all that heard these things.” (Acts 5:1-11).

The scriptural lesson before us today is the ninth commandment, found in Exodus 20:16 and repeated in Deuteronomy 5:20 (among other places). ***“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”*** We must note that in the Hebrew text the term *neighbor* comes from the Hebrew word *rea'* [ray'-ah] (#7453 in the **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible Hebrew Dictionary**), meaning *an associate (more or less close), also brother, companion, friend, neighbor*.

Many people have construed this commandment to mean only that one should not circulate comments about his neighbor that are not true, or, more specifically, that a man should not tell an untruth on a witness stand in a courtroom trial. Always telling the truth is indeed the primary interpretation of the commandment. However, since Yahshua the Messiah, our Savior, came to magnify the Law of Yahweh and make it more honorable, or respectable (Isaiah 42:21), this commandment should be interpreted in this new age of dispensing of grace, as not to enlarge upon the truth in any way, shape, or form, in addition to not telling an untruth of any kind.

Hear what the Law sets forth in the Old Testament Scriptures, in

Leviticus 19:11, ***“You shall not steal; neither shall you deal falsely, nor lie to one another.”*** Telling any kind of falsehood, enlarging upon the truth, lying to one another, even being deceitful or intentionally misleading people, has never been approved by Yahweh the Almighty.

We read in John 17:17, ***“Sanctify them in the truth: your word is truth.”*** We know from this commandment that any deviation from this clear concept of righteousness is from the adversary, Satan the Devil. ***“He that does sin is of the devil; for the devil sins from the beginning. To this end was the Son of Yahweh manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.”*** (1 John 3:8).

We have seen of late that widely known, popular religious leaders have told their eager audiences that anything is perfectly acceptable if it serves the right purpose. Even illicit sex, living in sin and homosexuality, euthanasia (the so-called “mercy killings”), stealing, and untruths, are not condemned by most ministers, simply as long as someone believes that the right purpose is served. Who can make such a decision in a correct manner? Humankind? Certainly not! Almighty Yahweh, in His Word, has allowed no deviation from the truth, not even the so-called “white lies.”

However, worldly people do not seem to realize that there is one universal, impartial standard that Almighty Yahweh has established in the Sacred Scriptures to regulate our moral lives. That standard is Yahweh's royal Law of liberty and love—the core of which is the 10 Commandments. Mankind can never know how to govern themselves, how to achieve happy fruitful lives, without following and implementing the rules

of a righteous life, the Law of life set down for us in Yahweh's rule book for happy living—the inspired Scriptures. We must remember that Yahweh's Law of liberty frees us from the law of sin and death, so that we may receive eternal life in His coming Kingdom age.

The telling of falsehoods (lying, if you please) has been prohibited by Yahweh's commandments as one of the sins that will surely produce ruin if man will not repent and turn from it. Notice how Almighty Yahweh, in Proverbs 6:16-19, has already judged falsehood to be an abomination. ***“There are six things which Yahweh hates; yes, seven which are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a LYING TONGUE, and hands that shed innocent blood; a heart the devises wicked purposes, feet that are swift in running to mischief, A FALSE WITNESS THAT UTTERS LIES; and he that SOWS DISCORD AMONG BRETHREN.”***

Five of these seven characteristics that Yahweh hates are DIRECTLY RELATED TO LYING. A proud look can be construed as lying to yourself, pretending to be something you are not. A lying tongue is hated by the Most High for being deceptive, misleading someone else. Yahweh hates a heart that devises wicked imaginations, for pretending that things and circumstances are not what they appear. He hates a false witness that speaks lies, since someone can do a great deal of damage to another person's life through spreading malicious gossip, slander, and prevarications. We have seen on various occasions how people have been made to suffer severe hardship because of a lying witness in a court case. Some innocent people have even been condemned to death as a result



to a violation of the 10 Commandments, violations which Yahweh has judged worthy of death, and this capital punishment will be the ultimate fate of the offender. The wages (rewards) of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

Notice also verse 6 of Hosea chapter 4, ***“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you, that you shall be no priest to me: seeing you have forgotten the law of your Elohim, I also will forget your children.”*** Surely these

of the perjury resulting from false testimony. One accused individual who was acquitted asked, “Now, who will give me my reputation back?”

Furthermore, when a person sows discord among the brethren, this is hated, because brethren, especially, should love and respect each other in truth—falsehood will separate brethren and friends (Proverbs 16:27-28 and 19:5). ***“Bread of falsehood is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.”*** (Proverbs 20:17). When someone utters anything that will undermine this mutual feeling of respect and love among the brethren, he is making a liar of Yahweh, who Himself is love personified.

“He that hates dissembles with his lips; but he lays up deceit within him: when he speaks fair, believe him not; for there are seven abominations in his heart: though his hatred covers itself with guile, his wickedness shall be openly showed before the assembly.

Whoever digs a pit shall fall into it; and he that rolls a stone, it shall return upon him. A lying tongue hates those whom it has wounded; and a flattering mouth works ruin.” (Proverbs 26:24-28).

In his prophecy, the prophet Hosea has painted a word picture of a terrible time in the history of Israel wherein sin would run rampant. This prophecy could well serve as a picture of the modern-day United States. Let us read from the fourth chapter of 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.”*** (Hosea 4:1-2). Notice that all of these sins that produce a controversy between Yahweh and His human creation relate

as Yahweh has voiced His decisions to the Israelites of that day. Additionally, it is definite that Yahweh does not change (Malachi 3:6); therefore, we may well apply these warnings to our time. Certainly, the evidence proves Yahweh’s Word applicable through the rising tide of immorality today.

The prophet Amos cries out with similar words of doom which Yahweh has commanded him to speak, ***“In this manner says Yahweh: For three transgressions of Moab, and, for four, I will not turn away the punishment of it; because they have rejected the law of Yahweh, and have not kept his statutes, and their lies have caused them to err, after which their fathers did walk.”*** (Amos 2:4). Here again, lying has been closely linked with the violation of Yahweh’s 10 Commandments.

In the scriptural passage that we read to open this radio broadcast, we notice that Ananiah and Sapphira, members of the Apos-

toxic Assembly, had sold some land they owned in order to contribute to the support of the New Testament Assemblies of Yahweh. The land was entirely theirs to do with as they desired. They sold it, but kept back (reserved) part of the price of the land for themselves, while putting the Apostles under the false impression that they were giving the entire value to Yahweh for use in His Work. The sin was not in withholding part of the selling price, but that they lied to the Holy Spirit of Yahweh the Almighty (Acts 5:4-9).

This act was about on the same level as the kiss Judas Ishkerioth gave to our Savior in the garden of Gethsemane when he betrayed Him. The kiss symbolizes brotherly love, when, in fact, this Judas kiss was a lie, a vengeful kiss conveying hatred and betrayal. ***“Though his hatred covers itself with guile, his wickedness shall be openly showed before the assembly.”*** (Proverbs 24:26). Do you recall that Judas was also a thief (John 12:4-6)? Judas stole from the Messiah’s own treasury.

The Holy Spirit through the revelation that was given to John tells us who will be worthy to enter into eternal life, the Kingdom of the heavens, and its ruling city, the New Jerusalem. ***“Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, and the sorcerers, and the fornicators, and the murderers, and the idolaters, and everyone that loves and makes a lie.”*** (Revelation 22:14-15).

Both loving a lie, and making a lie, are considered to be on the same level and are declared by Yahweh to be sin that will keep those who practice such conduct outside of Yahweh’s Kingdom.

“For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, even this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. But if you bite and devour one another, take heed that you be not consumed one of another.” (Galatians 5:14-15).

Today, all of us are striving to reach that promised eternal home, the Kingdom of Yahweh, which will rule with supreme authority in righteousness over this earth for a millennium. The Covenant that has been offered to mankind is very simple—obedience to the Word of our Heavenly Father Yahweh Elohim and acceptance of His loving, sacrificial offering of His only begotten Son for the sins we have committed. Now we must be on our good behavior in faithfully keeping the commandments of Yahweh, Revelation 12:17 and 14:12.

Hebrews 10:26-29 makes this quite plain. ***“For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which shall devour the adversaries. A man that has violated Moses’ law dies without compassion on the word of two or three witnesses: of how much more severe punishment, think you, shall he be judged worthy, who has trodden underfoot the Son of Yahweh, and has counted the blood of the covenant with which he was sanctified an unholy thing, and has done despite to the Spirit of grace?”***

With whom will you cast your lot today? Will you choose the side of Yahweh the Almighty and Yahshua the Messiah, His Son, our Savior, or will you choose the way of the arch-enemy of Law and order, Satan the Devil? He is the one who expressed the first lie

recorded in the Bible (Genesis 3:4), and, therefore, Satan is the father of lies. ***“You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father it is your will to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and stands not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it,”*** says the Messiah Himself in John 8:44. Remember, in the yet future Battle of Armageddon, Almighty Yahweh will be the victor; remain on His side!

I leave you today with this thought, found in Titus 1:2 ***“In hope of eternal life, which Yahweh, who cannot lie, promised before times eternal.”*** The writer of Hebrews confirms this thought. ***“For men swear by the greater: and in every dispute of theirs the oath is final for confirmation. In which Yahweh, being minded to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the immutability of his counsel, interposed with an oath; that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for Yahweh to lie, we may have a strong encouragement, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us: which we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast and entering into that which is within the veil; where as a forerunner Yahshua entered for us, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”*** (Hebrews 6:16-20).

Let us believe the message of the Sacred Scriptures, and live by every word that has proceeded from the mouth of Yahweh (Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4, and Deuteronomy 8:3). Then, we shall be allowed to enter into the coming Kingdom of Yahweh at Yahshua’s return. SNB

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