## Yahweh's Divine Scriptures

Insights and Observations 2

By Jeff Van Hatten



Yahweh's Divine Scriptures: Insights and Observations 2 Book Two of the Delightful Diatribes Series By Jeff Van Hatten, BA: Biblical Studies © Copyright 2018 by Jeff Van Hatten 1st Edition Not Available in Paperback as of this posting in November 2018 Jeff is a student of End Times Prophecies and The Rapture Yahweh blesses you and keeps you; Yahweh makes his face to shine upon you, and is gracious to you; Yahweh lifts up his countenance upon you, and makes you whole.

Permission to quote, share, copy, or appropriate bits, pieces, or large junks of this book freely granted. I firmly assert that all who write about The scriptures should be saying the same things, albeit perhaps using just a few different words here and there. You are welcome to be just as synoptic with me as Matthew, Mark, Luke, and I

have been with others.

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#### Preface

Just as many have taken in hand to write down and declare those things which are most surely believed about Yahweh's Divine Scriptures, it seemed good to me also to write about The Scriptures to you, dear reader.

Perhaps this introduction sounds familiar. And well it should, for this is a blatant restatement of Luke 1:1-4 in my own words! I do this to warn you that some of what you will read may sound familiar.

#### The Source Materials . . .

Just as Luke and Matthew copied Mark, who may have copied an unknown source, "Q", I firmly assert that all who write about the Divine Scriptures should be saying the same things, albeit perhaps using just a few different words here and there. I mirror Matthew, Mark, and Luke in this regard and this book may inadvertently contain material that may sound like another author's copyrighted material, but I, too, am simply being synoptic.

I have read, heard, and/or watched multiple sources for the material in this book. I have also read and analyzed a minimum of six translations, one or more paraphrases, and then look up the Hebrew or Greek words. Once I have a clear image of the sense of a source, verse, or paragraph I put my analysis into modern American-English on the page. Peter uses this same method in Acts 2:16-21 when he "quotes" Joel 2:28-30. On those rare occasions when a direct quote is used I have made every attempt to provide a link or footnote to my source, but when the material has been compiled from numerous sources, I do this in the same manner as the writer of Hebrews 4:4, who says: "He has said somewhere concerning the seventh day" with no attempt to quote the source. Likewise, there is no reference to a particular version of the Bible; just the book, chapter, and verse.

#### The Style of Writing ...

My teaching (and writing) style began forming as I became involved in twenty (plus) years of youth work, primarily with Middle-School (Junior High) youth. Youth talks and lessons quickly progressed to teaching confirmation, and a few years ago I "graduated" to teaching adults and found that it wasn't much different! Both groups have short attention spans. Both groups tend to be Biblically illiterate. Both groups listen and learn at about a sixth grade level of understanding. Both groups show as much comprehension of the material being taught as did the apostles to Yeshua's (Jesus's) teaching. Both groups need lots of preparation, buckets of explaining, and as many visual and auditory aids as humanly possible (slides, photos, movies, charts, hand-outs, music, songs, speeches, taped recordings, news clips, etc). Just as Glenn Holland used any and all material that helped get the point across, so do I (Mr. Holland's Opus, 1995).

#### The Structure ...

I am an analyst and a teacher, not a novelist, therefore the information in this book is in the form of an **overview** that takes the teachings of many of today's scholars and puts them in one place. Think of it as a **study guide**, and then do your homework. My job as a teacher is to point you in the right direction to find the answers you seek, not to just give you those answers outright!

A list of Other Sites is provided in the Appendixes to point you in the direction of other students and/or authors by giving you information regarding how to access their work. You may find that their books and writings are simply synoptic with mine, as mine is with theirs. We may all be using the same original source or sources!

#### The Goals ...

I believe that Biblical and historical parallels, patterns, pictures, and types have much to teach us about the world as we experience it today. My primary goal in writing this book is to encourage you to read scripture and notice the many parallels, patterns, pictures, and types that inundate the Biblical narrative regarding Yahweh's Divine Scriptures.

My secondary goal is to encourage you to discuss your findings with others, to encourage you to read other views, to listen to audio studies about the Divine Scriptures, and to heartily study and become knowledgeable about Yahweh's instructions and requirements.

My ultimate goal is to bring you to a closer relationship with the one that Hebrew names: Yeshua Ha'Mashiach, and to make your understanding of The Scriptures a blessed, joyous, heartwarming, more intimate study.

#### Acknowledgments

Bible verses referenced in this book are compiled from the following translations or paraphrases:

Complete Jewish Bible, New American Standard Bible, New Revised Standard Version, New Century Version,

King James Version, New International Version, Contemporary English Version, English Standard Version,

New Living Translation, and The Message.

Word definitions are compiled from the following concordances and/or dictionaries:

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries, New American

Standard Exhaustive Concordance, New American Standard Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries, and Brown-

Driver-Briggs Hebrew Definitions.

I could spend pages thanking all those whose works, books, videos, and teachings have influenced this book,

but simply thank Yahweh, Yeshua, and the Ruach Ha'Kodesh for providing all that was needed for me to write

this down.

All information in this book is a compilation from many sources in my own words.

May Yahweh and Yeshua continue to richly bless each and every one.

# Part One Loving Yahweh and Yeshua

#### A Heart After Yahweh

In Book One of Yahweh's Divine Scriptures we looked at a Hardened Heart. Now we will examine the softened heart, the heart that is in line with the heart of Yahweh.

#### **A Heart After Self**

- **1 Kings 11:4** "For when Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to Yahweh his God, as the heart of David his father had been."
- **1 Kings 14:8** "You have not been like my servant David, who kept my commandments and who followed me with all his heart, to do only that which was right in my sight."
- 1 Kings 15:3 "He walked in all the sins of his father and his heart was not wholly devoted to Yahweh."

Solomon, along with many of the kings of northern Israel, embodies the person whose heart is not after the heart of Yahweh. He does not follow Yahweh's commandments, he does not do that which is right. He worships other gods, he makes graven images. In short, the man with a heart after self does that which is evil in the sight of Yahweh.

#### A Heart After Yahweh

- **1 Kings 3:6** "Then Solomon said, 'You have shown great loving kindness to Your servant David my father."
- **1 Kings 9:4** "As for you, if you will walk before Me as your father David walked . . ."
- Acts 13:22 "I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after my heart, who will do all my will."

King David is the one human being who is consistently praised for being a man whose heart is a heart after Yahweh. Many ask, "How can this be? Was he not an adulterer and a murderer?" Yes, he was both. But he was also a man of repentance. David always did this, every time he sinned. And that heart which he was willing to humble and seek Yahweh's forgiveness, is part of what gives David the title: A Man After Yahweh's Own Heart. Let's look at the heart that is a heart after Yahweh.

#### **Patterns Of A Heart After Yahweh**

- **1 Kings 3:6** "walk before me in truth and righteousness and uprightness of heart. . . ." (paraphrased)
- **1 Kings 9:4** "walk before me in integrity and uprightness, keeping my statutes and ordinances . . ."
- **Jeremiah 3:15** "shepherds will feed you with knowledge and understanding . . ." (paraphrased)

Having a heart after the heart of Yahweh is not so difficult to engender. And how interesting that in the same passages that tell us of David, we are told part of what that heart looks like – it is a heart that walks uprightly and feeds on knowledge and understanding. The heart after Yahweh shows the following attributes listed below:

### First, and foremost, it must be a heart that walks in truth, uprightness, and righteousness: (1 Kings 3:6, 9:4, Jeremiah 3:15)

- It must be a heart that walks in integrity.
- It must be heart that keeps Yahweh's commands, statutes, and ordinances.
- It must be a heart that yearns for knowledge and understanding.

#### It must also be a heart that gives praise to Yahweh: (Psalms 9:1, 108:1, 138:1; 1 Chronicles 29:9)

- It is a heart that will give thanks to Yahweh.
- It is a heart that will tell of all Yahweh's wonders.
- It is a heart that will sing, that will sing praises.
- It is a heart that will sing praises to Yahweh before the gods.
- It is a heart that will rejoice greatly.

#### It is a humble heart: (Psalm 131:1)

- It is a heart that is not proud, nor haughty.
- It is a heart that does not involve itself in great matters.
- It is a heart that does not involve itself in things too difficult.

#### It is a whole heart: (Psalms 9:1, 131:1; 1 Chronicles 12:33; Acts 13:22)

- It is a heart that gives thanks wholeheartedly.
- It is a heart that gives undivided attention.
- It is a heart that follows Yahweh completely.

#### It must be a heart that fears Yahweh: (Psalms 14:1, 36:1, 53:1; Isaiah 7:2)

- It is a fool who says Yahweh is not.
- It is a fool who has no fear of Yahweh.
- It is a fool who is corrupt.
- It is a fool who is commits abominable injustice.
- It is a heart that shakes as the trees of the forest shake with the wind.

## Furthermore, it must be a heart that seeks restoration: (2 Samuel 12:13, 24:10, 24:17; 1 Chronicles 21:8, 21:17)

- It is a repentant heart
- It is a heart willing to admit to sins committed
- It is heart willing to seek forgiveness.

#### **Conclusions**

The heart after Yahweh is a humble, contrite, upright, praise giving, commandment following heart, that loves Yahweh and his ways. It is a heart that admits its sins and seeks forgiveness. It is a heart that Yahweh desires to find in all of his children.

#### Daily Bread

**Matthew 6:11** – "Give us this day our daily bread."

**Luke 11:3** – "Give us day by day our daily bread."

In other words, we ask Yahweh to provide those needs that are essential to maintaining life, health, and physical needs on a daily basis. In all things, we are to be dependent upon Yahweh and not upon ourselves. And how easy it is to forget this imperative. On the day I graduated from Bible College – I owed the Feds \$300 a month for student loan payments, rent took up another \$400, and then there was the cost of food, etc, and I only earned \$800 each month. By the end of the month I was flat broke – if the wallet had \$2 bucks in it, I figured I'd forgotten to pay something – but my happiest days were the years just after graduation. Looking back, I can now see it was because I was basically unable to fend for myself, though at the time I didn't realize it. **Yahweh had indeed provided for every need.** 

#### **Storing Goods For Self**

**Luke 12:18-19** – "He said, 'This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns, and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods'. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry'."

Much to do these days is made of prepping for the entire period of the tribulation. Dozens of advertisements advise us to buy a supply of this or that, claiming that this or that item has a shelf life of twenty-five years, or it can feed a family of five for ten months! And, of course, the food that is advertised has been taste tested and is oh so wonderful to the palate. Yeah, right. Bank accounts, Savings accounts, IRAs, Retirement Funds, Stocks and Bonds – one is supposed to be investing in all of these things to fend off some future disaster. And many succumb to these schemes, take their ease, eat, drink, and be merry – **rather than depend on Yahweh for their daily needs**.

#### **Storing Goods For Others**

**Genesis 41:48**– "And he [Joseph] gathered up all the food of the seven years, which were in the land of Egypt . . "

Does this scripture contradict the above scripture? One might think so, but one would be wrong. In this case, Yahweh had sent the dreams to Pharaoh which prophesied seven years of abundance followed by seven years of famine. Joseph properly interpreted these dreams and acted accordingly – not to provide for himself a work free retirement, but to provide for an entire nation, its neighbors, and his family. **Yahweh had indeed provided for every need.** 

#### **End Results**

**Luke 12:20-21** – "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?' So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

The assessment of the rich farmer as a "fool" is for hording all those treasures for himself. The rich farmer acted inappropriately. Joseph, however, acted appropriately and was commended. The rich farmer did not depend upon Yahweh to provide his daily needs, Joseph did. **Yahweh will indeed provide for every need.** 

#### **Conclusions**

**Matthew 6:19-20** – "Do not accumulate for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven."

Storing goods can be either appropriate, as in Joseph's case, or inappropriate, as in the case of the rich farmer. True happiness, as I found out, comes from trusting in Yahweh to provide all ones daily needs — even if one isn't aware one is doing so at the time. Storing up a few things for the future is not a bad thing — we all do this each time we shop for a week's groceries. What matters most is why one is storing the goods. Be rich toward heaven. Yahweh will indeed provide for every need.

#### The Foremost Command

**Deuteronomy 6:4** – "Shema Yisra'el, Yahweh Eloheynu, Yahweh echad!"

"Hear O Israel, the LORD our God, is one" is how this verse is traditionally translated. The words translated "the LORD" in Hebrew, however, are actually the proper name of God, i.e. Yahweh. It is Yahweh who is our God, who is one.

Shema [H8085]; to hear, to listen to, to obey or yield to, to perceive by hearing, to pay attention to.

I wonder, do people still place this admonition to listen, first or foremost? Or do they get the cart before the horse and erroneously think that to love Yahweh with all your heart, soul, and mind comes first? Let's dig deeper and see which command actually comes first:

#### **Older Covenant**

Moshe begins by teaching the Hebrews the commandments, statutes, and judgments that Yahweh has given him. And these teachings were to be accomplished in the land to which he was leading them. First, and foremost, was the admonition to listen (shema), to be careful to do so!

#### **Newer Covenant**

Mark 12:29 – "The foremost command is, 'Shema Yisra'el, Yahweh Eloheynu, Yahweh echad'."

Both Matthew 22:35-40 and Mark 12:28-34 record a conversation between Yeshua and one of the scribes in which the scribe asks Yeshua, "Which commandment is the foremost of all?" The Mark passage is the more descriptive account, giving Yeshua's full response.

Note that Yeshua begins his response with the Shema of **Deuteronomy 6:4**! Yeshua, like Moshe, begins by saying, "the foremost command is to listen!" And if one listens, hears, pays attention to, and obeys, then the result will be that "you shall love Yahweh your god with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

#### **Conclusions**

If you want to fulfill the requirements of the first and foremost commandment, then: *Shut up and listen*! I repeat, "*shut up and listen*"! In order to learn who Yahweh is, one has to close the mouth and open the eyes and ears! Both Older and Newer Covenant scriptures agree.

If one is yakking away, one is not listening, and listening is essential to hearing Yahweh's voice. I wonder, do people still place this admonition first? Apparently not! People still tend to rush around disregarding Yahweh's command to "Shema", to stop, be quiet, and listen. This is step one. Before one can do great things for Yahweh, one has to listen to hear what it is he wants one to do! Only then can one truly love him and love others.

#### Hearing From Yahweh

**Deuteronomy 6:4** – "Shema Yisra'el, Yahweh Eloheynu, Yahweh echad!"

Previously we looked at The Foremost Command and concluded that if you want to fulfill the requirements of the first and foremost commandment, then: *Shut up and listen*! Today, we will continue this topic and determine how to and hear from, enter into his presence, and experience Yahweh.

#### **Experiencing Yahweh**

Hearing from Yahweh does not come naturally to most human beings. It takes patience and practice. It takes a conscious decision to put aside one's own agenda and wait on for Yahweh to speak. One can employ the methods listed below:

#### **Shut Up And Listen**

**Psalm 37:7** – "Rest in Yahweh, and wait patiently for him . . ."

**Psalm 37:34** – "Wait on Yahweh, and keep his way . . ."

**Psalm 46:10** – "Be still, and know that I am God . . ."

**Psalm 130:5** – "I wait for Yahweh, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope."

**Micah 7:7** – "I will look unto Yahweh; I will wait for the God of my salvation . . ."

Again, we see the first step to hearing from Yahweh is to *Shut Up And Listen*. Find a quiet place, enter your prayer closet, calm your thoughts and emotions, then wait for him to speak.

#### **Enter Into His Presence**

**Psalm 45:15** – "They will enter into the King's palace."

**Psalm 95:2** – "Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving . . ."

**Psalm 96:8** – "Ascribe to Yahweh the glory of His name; Bring an offering and come into His courts."

**Psalm 100:4** – "Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise."

Enter through the gates of the heavenly throne room with thanksgiving and come into Yahweh's presence. Many of the prophets were taken into the presence of Yahweh, and so can you. Isaiah says he saw "Yahweh sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted" (Isaiah 6:1). Micah states: "I saw Yahweh sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him" (1 Kings 22:19). Ezekiel, Daniel, John, and others have also seen Yahweh upon his throne (see Ezekiel 1:1-26, Daniel 7:9, Revelation 4:2-4). Scripture tells us very plainly that we have been "raised with Yeshua and seated in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 2:4-6).

#### **Experience His Presence**

**Ezekiel 43:2** – "And, behold . . his voice was like a noise of many waters . . ."

Acts 22:7 – "I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue . . ."

Revelation 14:2 – "I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, as the voice of a great thunder.." Yahweh speaks to many in many different ways. Both Job (Job 4:16) and Elijah (1 Kings 19:12) describe Yahweh's voice as being a gentle voice in the midst of silence. Peter describes it as the pouring out of the spirit (Acts 2:1-18). Paul describes it as a voice from heaven speaking in Hebrew (Acts 9:4; 22:7; and 26:14). Both Ezekiel and John describe it as a voice of many waters (Ezekiel 43:2; Revelation 4:1; 1:15; and 14:2). John also describes it as a trumpet (Revelation 1:10 and 4:1), and as a great thunder (Revelation 14:2). Yahweh's voice has many different qualities and may sound similar to those descriptions above, or may have a completely different sound to you.

**Genesis 15:1** – "After these things the word of Yahweh came unto Abram in a vision."

**Acts 11:5** – "I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision."

**Luke 1:22** – "And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision . . ."

Yahweh frequently uses dreams and visions as well as speaking. Jacob and Laban both had dreams in which Yahweh spoke to them (Genesis31:11-24). Joseph had numerous dreams in which his family bowed down to him (Genesis 37:5-10). Pharaoh's chief baker and his chief butler both had dreams the same night (Genesis 40:5). Pharaoh also had dreams, as did Nebuchadnezzar, and many others including Joseph (Yeshua's earthly dad), Peter, Saul (Paul), and Zechariah (John the Baptizer's dad). Perhaps Yahweh will give you a dream or vision as well.

#### Is It Really Yahweh

Malachi 3:6 – "For I, Yahweh, do not change."

**Hebrews 13:8** – "Yeshua is the same yesterday and today and forever."

**1 John 4:1** – "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God."

Is the voice you are hearing really Yahweh? Are the dreams and visions really from Yahweh? True messages from Yahweh will conform to what is written. True messages will always be in harmony with Yahweh's unchanging, eternal nature. Test the messages you receive to see from which spirit they originate. If they are from Yahweh, then what you hear or see will not contradict Yahweh's word – the holy scriptures. If they are from Yahweh, then others with whom you share your insights will confirm their holy origin. Once confirmed, write them down in a journal if this helps you remember – record the vision or message as Yahweh commanded Habakkuk to do, then wait for it to be fulfilled (**Habakkuk. 2:2**).

#### **Benefits Of Waiting Upon Yahweh**

**Isaiah 30:18** – "... blessed are all they that wait for him."

**Isaiah 40:31** – "But they that wait upon Yahweh shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Waiting upon Yahweh brings blessings. Hearing from Yahweh will only increase your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:23). Hearing from Yahweh allows you to soar to greater heights, walk and run without becoming weary or fainting!

#### **Conclusions**

Hearing from Yahweh is possible. Many have heard from him throughout history, and since he does not change, it is still possible today. He may speak to you in a small, still voice. Or, he may speak in a loud, thunderous voice! He may come to you in a dream, or in a vision. When he does, nothing you hear or see will contradict his word – the holy scriptures. Your message, dream, or vision will be confirmed by others. Your message will bring you all the fruits of the spirit in abundance and give you increased stamina to endure the hardships of this mortal life.

#### Yahweh is Holy, Holy, Holy

**Isaiah 6:2-3** – "Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is Yahweh, Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory."

So, are the Seraphim just repeating themselves by exclaiming "Holy, holy, holy" to provide emphasis on how set apart or holy [qadowsh H6918] Yahweh is from his creation, or to simply fully worship him? Is there, perhaps a more suitable explanation? Let's examine scripture for clues as to why the word holy is repeated three times:

#### First Two Clues – Yahweh Is Our Elohim; Elohim Is One

**Deuteronomy 6:4**—"Hear, O Israel! Yahweh is our Elohim, Yahweh is one!"

Indeed, there is a more suitable explanation, and Scripture tells us that Yahweh [H3068], our Elohim [God H430] is one [echad H529]. Yahweh is our Elohim – and Elohim is one. Elohim is a plural word in Hebrew, and tells us that Yahweh is a Trinity, or in other words, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is confirmed by many other scriptures, including Mark 8:38, Luke 9:26, and especially Matthew 28:19.

The threefold Holy points to this attribute of Yahweh – He is a Trinity. He is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

#### **Third Clue** – Yahweh Is Eternal

**Revelation 4:8** – "And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come."

We find another clue in **Revelation 4:8**. Here, a trinity of adjectives is used: **was, is, & is to come**, which takes us back to **Exodus 3:15**.

The memorial-name of God, Yahweh, is commonly called the Tetragrammaton, and is composed of four Hebrew letters: *YHVH* [H3068]. The four letter representation of God's name and can be rearranged to spell the words:

```
היה He Was hayâh H1961
הוה He Is howeh H1934
יהיה He Will Be w'yihiye From H3068
```

The threefold Holy points to this attribute of Yahweh – He is eternal – He was, he is, he will be.

#### **Conclusions**

Combining these clues together, we find that the Seraphim exclaim "Holy, Holy, Holy" not to repeat themselves for emphasis of Yahweh's holiness, but to proclaim that Yahweh is our God, Elohim, who is one, who is a trinity, and who is eternal. Each Holy honors one of these attributes.

#### The Three Gifts

The tradition of giving birthday gifts is one that many cultures share and dates back to antiquity. The Bible speaks of no celebrations in honor of a Jewish person's birth, not even the birth of Yeshua. Perhaps birthdays are not to be celebrated at all! So where did this tradition get its beginning? And is it okay to give gifts at that time?

#### Pharaoh's Gift Giving

Genesis 40:20-22 – "On the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, he gave a banquet for his servants . . ."

Three days after Joseph interpreted the dreams of the chief cupbearer and the chief baker, Pharaoh holds a party for himself and for his servants. And what a party it is. The cupbearer is restored to service, and the baker is hanged. So don't belittle those who hold their own parties and do all the cooking, so did Pharaoh – now you know where they get it from! Note that the party gifts are given by the birthday boy, not the guests, eh?

#### **Herod's Gift Giving**

**Matthew 14:6-12** – "On Herod's birthday the daughter of Herodias danced for the guests . . ."

Herod throws a party for himself and his guests, and John the Baptizer gets beheaded. Again, the party gift handed out by the birthday boy, and the gift isn't that great.

#### Yahweh's Commands

**Leviticus 18:3** – "You must not do as they do in Egypt . . . Do not follow their practices"

Yahweh commands his people not to copy the practices of the pagans. And no wonder why –pagan birthday celebrations generally end in murder. Not only do Yahweh's people neglect to mark the day of their birth with festivity, some even curse this day. Job and Jeremiah both cursed the day! (**Job 3:1-3**, **Jeremiah 20:14-18**).

#### The Magi's Gift Giving

In opposition to these examples of Pharaoh's and Herod's birthday gift giving, we have the example of the Magi and their gift giving. Note the differences:

- Pagan Gift Giving the birthday boy holds the party and gives the gifts
- Magi Gift Giving the Magi come from afar and present the gifts

#### **The Three Gifts**

**Matthew 2:11** – "The Magi opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

The Magi travel from the East to present Yeshua with three gifts – Yeshua doesn't hold his own party and give his guests gifts. Each of the three gifts represents a component of Yeshua's life, authority, and ministry.

#### The Gold

**1 Kings 9:14** – "And Hiram sent to the king 120 talents of gold."

**1 Kings 9:28** – "Hiram's servants brought 400 talents of gold to the king from Ophir."

**1 Kings 10:10** – "And The Queen of Sheba gave the king 120 talents of gold."

Gold symbolizes Yeshua's kingly office. It symbolizes kingship, monarchy, and the wealth that such a station obtains. Hiram sent and his servants sent over 500 talents of gold to the king. The Queen of Sheba sent 120 talents of gold along with spices and precious stones. The Magi didn't just bring a small bag of gold coins. The Magi were the king makers of that period. When they crowned a king, they did so by presenting a fortune worthy of that king. The gold may have contributed to the costs of moving to Egypt and back, as well as the cost of raising Yeshua to adulthood.

**Exodus 25:11** – "You shall overlay it with pure gold. Inside and outside shall you overlay it."

Gold also symbolizes Yeshua's divine nature. The Ark of the Covenant and other Tabernacle implements were either made of gold or were overlaid with gold. The gift of gold to Yeshua was symbolic of His divinity—God in flesh.

#### The Frankincense

Leviticus 2:1 – "When anyone offers an offering of a meal offering to Yahweh. He shall put frankincense on it." Exodus 40:13 – "You shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister as priests to me."

Frankincense symbolizes Yeshua's priestly office. Frankincense was one of the primary ingredients used to cover the meal offerings as well as to anoint Aaron and his sons into the priesthood. The pleasant odor of the incense recalls the pleasing aroma of the prayers that would rise before the high priest. Yeshua is our High Priest who intercedes with Yahweh on our behalf.

The gift of frankincense to Yeshua also symbolizes his willingness to become a sacrifice, comparable to a burnt offering. It symbolizes Yeshua's willingness to give himself up wholly to Yahweh's will and purposes.

#### The Myrrh

**Exodus 30:23-31** – "Take also for yourself the finest of spices: of flowing myrrh five hundred shekels . . ."

Myrrh, like frankincense, also symbolizes Yeshua's priestly office. It was one of the primary ingredients in the spice that was used to anoint the Tabernacle, the Ark of the Covenant, and all of the utensils, lampstands, and altars used inside the Tabernacle, as well as Aaron and his sons.

**Matthew 26:7** – "A woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment."

Matthew 26:12 – "For in pouring this ointment on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial."

But just as importantly myrrh was used as a burial spice and symbolizes Yeshua's death and burial. Yeshua recognized this and commended the woman for preparing his body for burial. The word translated "ointment" in the two verses above is the Greek word myron [G3464], i.e. the English word Myrrh. It was also used in potions given to those who were being crucified, sometimes referred to as gall (Mark 15:23, Matthew 27:34).

Myrrh also symbolizes bitterness, suffering, and affliction. Yeshua would suffer greatly during the trials and crucifixion as he paid the ultimate price of forgiveness for all who would believe in him.

#### **Conclusions**

Pagans hold their own birthday parties and hand out gifts, many of which are not great gifts. Yeshua did not hold his own birthday party, nor did he give out gifts to those present. Just the opposite – others came to him and presented the gifts. Gold – the symbol of kingship. Frankincense – the symbol of priesthood. Myrrh – the symbol of priesthood, death, burial, suffering, and affliction. Fitting gifts for Yeshua as a baby child that pointed towards the roles he would perform as an adult.

#### Maintain an Attitude of Gratitude

**Colossians 4:2** – "Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving."

Scripture continuously admonishes us to maintain an attitude of gratitude, an attitude of thankfulness and to do so with plenty of rejoicing and noise. Below are some of the ways to do so.

#### Offer Yahweh Praise And Thanksgiving

**Psalm 100:4** – "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise . . ."

Psalm 107:22 – "And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing."

**Psalm 116:17** – "I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanks giving . . ."

**Hebrews 13:15** – "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to Yahweh..."

How many times have you begun to enter the sanctuary of a church only to find a sign that reads something like this: "Enter in Silence". Or, like this: "Please maintain a respectful silence". Or perhaps like this: "Upon entering the Nave, please be thoughtful, be silent, and be reverent." Entering into Yahweh's presence quietly is not how scripture tells us to enter into his presence, is it! We are to enter declaring his name, his works, and to do so with rejoicing and thanksgiving!

#### **Play An Instrument**

**Psalm 33:2** – "Give thanks to Yahweh with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!"

**Psalm 147:7** – "Sing unto Yahweh with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto him."

**Psalm 149:3** – "Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!"

**Psalm 150:5** – "Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals."

How many times have you heard a congregation discuss whether or not which musical instruments are appropriate? I find nothing in scripture that limits what kind of instruments can be used to praise Yahweh. Just the opposite, in fact. Here is just a small sampling of the instruments mentioned in scripture: castanet, cymbals, flute, harp, lyre, organ, pipe, reed, shofar, tambourine, timbrel, and trumpet. Entering into Yahweh's presence quietly is not how scripture tells us to enter into his presence! We are to enter into Yahweh's presence with cymbals, and lyres, and other loud, noisy instruments!

#### Sing A Song Unto Yahweh

**Psalm 28:7** – "Yahweh is my strength and my shield; . . . and with my song I give thanks to him."

**Psalm 40:3**—"He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to Yahweh."

**Psalm 69:30** – "I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving."

**Psalm 81:2** – "Raise a song, strike the timbrel. The sweet sounding lyre with the harp."

**Psalm 95:2** – "Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms."

Singing a song, or many songs, is one of the breathtaking and awesome ways to enter into worship. Entering into Yahweh's presence quietly is not how scripture tells us to enter into his presence! We are to enter into Yahweh's presence singing songs, psalms, hymns, even with a new song!

#### **Fulfill A Vow**

**Psalm 22:25** – "From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him."

**Psalm 50:14** – "Offer unto Yahweh thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High."

**Jonah 2:9** – "But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanks giving. That which I have vowed I will pay."

Ecclesiastes 5:4 – "When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it . . . Pay what you vow."

Paying vows is a very serious matter according to scripture. Ecclesiastes 5:5 finishes with the words: "It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay." Failing to pay a vow, in fact, is acting sinfully. Deuteronomy 23:21 puts is this way: "When you make a vow to Yahweh your God, you shall not delay to pay it, for it would be sin in you." Paying vows is another way to enter into Yahweh's presence to praise and thank him for all he has done and continues to do.

#### **Maintain A Heart Of Gratitude**

**Colossians 2:6-7** – "Therefore as you have received Yeshua Ha'Mashiach, walk . . overflowing with gratitude."

1 Thessalonians 5:18 – "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of Yahweh in Yeshua Ha'Mashiach for you."

**Hebrews 12:28** – "Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to Yahweh an acceptable service with reverence and awe."

A thankful heart filled with gratitude is a joy, delight, and blessing to Yahweh. We are to be thankful and give praise no matter what our circumstances. Maintaining a heart of gratitude is another way to enter into Yahweh's presence to praise and thank him for all he has done and continues to do.

#### **Conclusions**

Scripture continuously admonishes us to *Maintain An Attitude Of Gratitude*, an attitude of thankfulness, an attitude of praise, and to do so with plenty of rejoicing and noise no matter what our circumstances. Next time you enter the nave of a church and see one of those "noise" limiting signs, choose instead to praise Yahweh rightly. Demonstrate that attitude of gratitude by offering Yahweh praise and thanksgiving, by singing a song, by playing an instrument, or by paying a vow.

#### A Day of Thanksgiving

**Psalm 69:30** – "I will praise the name of God with song and magnify Him with thanksgiving."

We celebrate Thanksgiving in the United States this year on Thursday, November 26, 2015, and it may be tempting to be less than thankful due to the wars and rumors of wars and the bleak outlook over happenings in Israel, Palestine, and the Middle East, and due to the many natural disasters happening world-wide. But is any of this a surprise? It shouldn't be! Prophecy continues to unfold as foretold by the Hebrew prophets. The stage is being set. All these things have been foretold and will come to pass.

#### **Historical Patterns**

**Psalm 107:22** – "Let them also offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of His works with joyful singing."

The first thanksgiving in the Americas was celebrated by Spanish explorers after their first harvest in the 16th century. This celebration became common throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia as early as 1607, and the settlers of Jamestown held their first thanksgiving feast in 1610. On December 4, 1619, 38 English settlers arrived at Berkeley Hundred and, as required by their charter, observed a day of thanksgiving to God which was to be celebrated on the same day on a yearly basis. In 1621, the holiday that is now referred to as the "First Thanksgiving" was celebrated by the Pilgrims and Native Americans. The feast lasted three days. It included 50 Pilgrims and 90 Native Americans, and the food was cooked by four of the surviving Pilgrim women.

George Washington again proclaimed a Thanksgiving in 1795. The first National Proclamation of Thanksgiving was printed by the Continental Congress in 1777 based on a draft by Samuel Adams. President John Adams declared Thanksgivings in 1798 and 1799. James Madison renewed the tradition in 1814 after the close of the War of 1812. In 1816, Governor Plumer of New Hampshire appointed Thursday, November 14th to be the day of observance and Governor Brooks of Massachusetts appointed Thursday, November 28th. By 1858 proclamations appointing a day of thanksgiving had been issued by the governors of twenty-five states and two territories.

In 1863, in the middle of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day, to be celebrated on the final Thursday in November that year and in each year following. The actual day varied each year depending upon whether there were only four Thursdays or five each November. In December of 1941 Congress finalized the day requiring that Thanksgiving be observed annually on the fourth Thursday of November.

#### **Giving Thanks**

**Psalm 69:30** – "I will praise the name of God with song and magnify Him with thanksgiving."

Thanksgiving was founded as a religious observance for all the members of the community to give thanks to God for a common purpose. Common to these purposes were thanks for civil and religious liberty, for useful knowledge, and for God's kind care and providence. Several presidents cited the Judeo-Christian tradition as a basis for giving thanks to God.

The tradition of giving thanks continues today on the fourth Thursday of November. Many attend worship services at their local church, and most include a meal as well. At home, families say a prayer of thanksgiving listing all the things for which each member is grateful, and then a sumptuous meal ensues!

#### The Foods

Most United States homes celebrate Thanksgiving Day with a meal centered around a baked or roasted turkey with buckets of turkey gravy, although a baked or roasted ham is also popular. When turkey is the main ingredient, stuffing is a must. Other foods include mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, corn on the cob, homemade breads, and cranberry sauce. The meal is indubitably followed by a pumpkin pie with whipped cream topping. Brownies, cookies, salads, chips and dips, casseroles, scalloped potatoes, peas and carrots, green beans, cheesecakes, and apple pies topped with vanilla ice cream are also favorites at this meal.

#### **Conclusions**

**Psalm 50:14** – "Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and pay your vows to the Most High."

Thanking God for his blessings is universal. Thanksgiving day melds both the custom of rejoicing after a successful harvest and a solemn religious observance combining prayer and feasting. Giving thanks to Yahweh for a Christian is right and essential – he is the only source of the blessings that one enjoys year round. Giving thanks to God is also consistent with many other faiths, even if their "gods" are naught but figments of the imagination.

Islamic peoples celebrate by thanking "God" for his blessings, Sikhs celebrate by giving thanks to "Almighty", and Native Americans celebrate by thanking the "Great Creator". Pray that these peoples will accept Yeshua as their Lord and Savior and give thanks to the true God of gods, Yahweh / Yeshua / Ruach Ha'Kodesh.

#### Yahweh / Yeshua Takes a Bride

In Hebrew culture, a woman is a "bride" from the moment that the marriage proposal is accepted, whether that be days, months, or years before the actual wedding ceremony. In the case of an arranged marriage, often when both boy and girl are just children, they are considered groom and bride from the moment the parents agree to the terms of the marriage proposal or offer.

So, since Yeshua has already proposed, paid the dowry price, and is preparing our home, once we accept His offer, we become the "Bride of Yeshua". In Yeshua's eyes once the offer is accepted, we are, in fact, already married (the Bride of Yeshua) from that moment on. He sees us as His bride, and we are to be faithful to him until the marriage ceremony takes place. We do not need to wait for the rapture for the title "Bride of Yeshua" to be given.

Admittedly, this is Hebrew thinking, not American thinking, so depending upon which school of thought you choose, both you and anyone that believes we will only become the bride after the rapture could be seen as correct. As for me, I prefer to think like a Hebrew -- it may not be politically correct or the American way to think, but certainly is more eternally correct!

#### "Taking" a Wife

The expression, "took . . . to be his wife", is used throughout scripture to describe a marriage and the attendant ceremony and taking of vows. A few samples are listed below:

Genesis 11:29 – Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. Abram's wife was Sarah, and Nahor's wife Milcah.

**Genesis 21:21** – Ishmael took a woman from Egypt to be his wife.

**Genesis 24:67** – Isaac took Rebekah as his wife, and he loved her.

Genesis 26:34 and 28:9 – Esau took women as wives from the Hittites and from the Ishmaelites.

**Genesis 29:21-28** – Jacob took both Leah and Rachel to be his wives.

2 Samuel 11:27 – David took Bathsheba to be his wife.

The same expression, "took . . . to be his wife", is used to describe Yahweh taking the Hebrews as his wife:

**Exodus 19:5-6** – "If you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then I shall take you to be My Cĕgullah among all the peoples." Yahweh will take as his wife (his cĕgullah – his peculiar treasure) those who obey their wedding vows. They become a kingdom of priests, exactly the same expression used in **Revelation 1:6** to describe the Bride of Yeshua!

#### The Bridegroom and The Bride

#### **Commandment One**

**Isaiah 54:5** – "For your creator is your husband - His name is: Yahweh Tzva'ot; the Redeemer; the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth."

Yahweh is clearly described as the Hebrew's true husband. In the same way, Yeshua is the true husband of the Bride of Yeshua.

**Jeremiah 2:2** – "I remember the devotion of your youth, the love of your betrothal, your following me in the wilderness."

The Hebrews are clearly described as taking Yahweh as her husband at Mount Sinai.

**Hosea** – Hosea, Chapter Two, is an unhappy comment on the Hebrew's harlotry at Mount Sinai and afterward. She has chased other lovers of whom she says have given her "my bread and my water" (2:5), but it is only Yahweh who really gives her the bread and water.

#### **Commandment Three**

"When you take my name as your name, don't do it lightly or in vain."

In a Jewish wedding ceremony, once the groom had established and paid the purchase price for the bride he would then offer the Cup Of Covenant to his prospective bride, thereby pledging his life to and for his bride. If the bride accepted this promise, she would then drink of the cup confirming that she, too, would pledge her life to and for her betrothed. This was never done lightly or frivolously – from this point on the bridegroom and bride-to-be were considered married, and all the covenants, privileges, and duties of a fully married couple applied.

#### **The Sinless Bride**

Yahweh / Yeshua will marry a righteous bride. Newer Covenant scriptures state that the Bride of Yahweh will have had their sin taken away (**Romans 11:26-27**). Newer Covenant scriptures also state that the Bride of Yeshua (or Church) has already been declared without sin, so cannot be included in those who will be subject to the Tribulation and its judgments. The Bride of Yeshua is not an enemy of Yahweh, but are in fact called "friends" (**John 15:15**). The Brides are judged righteous by the shed blood of the Lamb, Yeshua Ha'Mashiach.

#### The Bride Sits in Judgment

- **1 Corinthians 2:15** "The spiritual man judges all things . . . ."
- **1 Corinthians 6:2-4**—"Do you not know that Yeshua's Bride will judge the world... and the angels?"

Scripture tells us that those who have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, in other words, the Bride of Yeshua, are to judge all things, up to and including angels and the world. The Bride is instructed to judge all things – are they good, or are they evil. *Things*, *not people*; *Actions*, *not people*; *Fruits*, *not people*.

#### The Bride Does Not Experience Yahweh / Yeshua's Wrath

1 Thessalonians 5:9 – "For Yahweh has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Yeshua Ha'Mashiach." Yahweh has not appointed those who have placed their trust in Yeshua to wrath.

**Zephaniah 2:1-2** – "Gather yourselves together, yes, gather, O nation without shame, before the decree takes effect, . . . before the burning anger of Yahweh comes upon you, before the day of Yahweh's anger comes upon you." The decree spoken of in this verse is the tribulation and the nation without shame is the Bride of Yeshua. Zephaniah clearly states that the Bride of Yeshua will be gathered together before the tribulation starts, before the decree takes effect.

**Revelation 3:10** – Yahweh will save the Bride of Yeshua from the hour of testing that will come upon all the Earth. The Hebrew word often translated saved or delivered is malat [H4422] which means: to escape, to slip away; specifically to deliver, release or rescue. In the Greek, it is often the word ekpheugo [G1628], or soteria [G4991].

#### The Bride is Gathered Together and Hidden

**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17** – We are gathered up in the clouds to meet Yeshua and will be with Him forever.

Likewise, the image of being hidden behind closed doors for the righteous during Yahweh's wrath is a reality clearly stated in scripture: Yahweh's beloved is arraigned in festal clothing and has entered her chamber (**Psalm 45**); Yahweh's people hide in their rooms for a short time until his anger is finished (**Isaiah 26: 20**); Yahweh's people are concealed in his tabernacle, in the secret place (**Psalm 27:5**); those who are ready go in with him to the wedding feast; and the door is shut (**Matthew 25:1-13**). My favorite is in the Song of Songs: "My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away. Hide in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the cliff'!" (**Song of Songs 2:10-14**).

#### The Bride of Yeshua and Her White Horses

**1 Thessalonians 4:17** – "Then we who are alive, will be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet Yeshua in the air. So we will be with him forever."

**Revelation 19:14** – "The armies which are in heaven followed Yeshua on white horses . . ."

Scripture tells us that there is an army of people that follows Yeshua, all of whom are riding on white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, at his return. Amongst these people are the previously raptured Bride of Yeshua.

#### Love Costs Everything

Persecution of followers of Yeshua has been going on since the very earliest days of the church, beginning with the stoning of Stephen which is recorded in **Acts 7:59**. According to history and tradition, other apostles suffered as follows:

- Saint Matthew suffered martyrdom by being slain with a sword at a distant city of Ethiopia.
- Saint Mark expired at Alexandria, after having been cruelly dragged through the streets of that city.
- Saint Luke was hanged upon an olive tree in the classic land of Greece.
- Saint John was put into a cauldron of boiling oil, but escaped death in a miraculous manner.
- Saint John was later banished to Patmos (**Revelation 1:9**).
- Saint Peter was crucified at Rome with his head downward.
- Saint James the Greater was beheaded at Jerusalem.
- Saint James the Less was thrown from a lofty pinnacle of the temple, and then beaten to death with a club.
- Saint Philip was hanged up against a pillar at Hierapolis in Phrygia.
- Saint Bartholomew was flayed alive.
- Saint Andrew was bound to a cross, where he preached to his persecutors until he died.
- Saint Thomas was run through the body with a lance at Coromandel in the East Indies.
- Saint Jude was shot to death with arrows.
- Saint Matthias was first stoned, and then beheaded.
- Saint Barnabas of the Gentiles was stoned to death by the Jews at Salonika.
- Saint Paul after various tortures and persecutions, was at length beheaded at Rome by the Emperor Nero.

## Part Two Mistaken Perceptions

#### Seek First

The Mistaken Perception: I get stuff if I am seeking the Kingdom first

**Matthew 6:31** – "Don't be anxious, asking, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? how will we be clothed?'."

**Matthew 6:33** – "Seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness, all these things will be given to you as well."

**Matthew 7:7** – "Everyone who keeps asking receives; he who keeps seeking finds; and to him who keeps knocking, the door will be opened."

#### Misinterpretation

Many interpret these verses as follows:

If I seek the Kingdom of Yahweh first, then I will get food, wine, clothing, possessions, money, a spouse, children and grand-children. I will get all the material toys and things my heart desires. Yahweh will refuse me no earthly pleasures. If I'm sick, I'll be instantly healed. And the list of wants and gets goes on and on.

#### **Proper Interpretation**

A more proper interpretation looks toward eternity and Yahweh's restoration of the entire cosmos. Only when Yahweh has restored the Earth and the Universe to its initial sinless, uncorrupted state as it was in the beginning, will "all these things" be added to each person.

At that time, everyone will eat from his own vine and fig tree, and will drink water from his own well (**Isaiah 36:16**). Yahweh will clothe us with salvation (**Isaiah 61:10**). Each person will have an especially prepared residence (**John 14:2**). The wolf and the lamb will be at peace, as will all the animals and humans (**Isaiah 66:25**).

#### **Making it Happen**

**Isaiah 62:6-7** – "You who call on Yahweh, give yourselves no rest; and give him no rest till he restores Yerushalayim and makes it a praise on earth."

The verse above is key to the restoration of all things. If you want "all those things" to be added to you, give yourself no rest and absolutely **give Yahweh NO REST** until he restores Yerushalayim, restores the Earth, and restores the Universe! Pray, Pray, Pray, Pray, . . . unceasingly. That is his command!

#### **Conclusions**

Food, clothing, and possessions will be given to each person by Yahweh in full measure – but only after the full restoration of all things. Want to see it happen? Get busy praying – give yourself and Yahweh no rest. Pray unceasingly.

#### **Blood Moon Tetrads**

The Mistaken Perception: The blood moon tetrads predict future events

**Genesis 1:14** – "And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years."

**Joel 2:31** – "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of Yahweh comes."

It has been said that a solar eclipse denotes the judgment of Yahweh upon the nations, blood moons denote the judgment of Yahweh upon the nation of Israel, and that a solar eclipse occurring in the midst of four blood moons denotes the judgment of Yahweh upon the world. Given that the sun and moon are Yahweh's signs that signal important events, something eventful must be in the offing. Scripture, however, gives us no definitive answer to why these tetrad eclipses are occurring at this time, so all we can do is speculate based on past happenings around previous tetrads.

#### What We Know

Mark Biltz of El Shaddai Ministries has studied this phenomenon and has noted that a series of four total lunar eclipses in a row over a two year period of time, especially when they also include total solar eclipses, is extremely rare. Eighty seven tetrads have occurred since the resurrection and rapture of Yeshua, but only seven have fallen on Jewish feast days. This year and next year will be the eighth time this has happened.

#### Biltz notes:

- A Tetrad with a total solar eclipse within its series is very rare.
- A Tetrad with a total solar eclipse that is significant to Israel's history and Jewish Feast days is very, very rare.
- A Tetrad with a total solar eclipse historically significant to Israel and Jewish Feast days that includes a Shemittah year is very, very, very rare.
- But a Tetrad with a total solar eclipse, historically significant to Israel, falling on Jewish Feast days, and including a Shemittah year that corresponds with Yom Teruah (the Feast of Trumpets / Rosh Hashanah) is astronomically rare!

2014 was the sixth year of a seven year Shemittah [H8059] cycle (**Exodus 19:13 and Leviticus 25:3-10**). Yom Teruah 2014 started off the seventh year. In 2014 the blood moon was primarily viewable from the American continents and nation, whereas in 2015, the last blood moon of the series was a super moon that was viewable from Jerusalem and Israel. The dates were as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Blood Moon: April 15, 2014 Pesach (Passover)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Blood Moon: October 08, 2014 Sukkoth (Tabernacles / Booths)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Solar Eclipse: March 20, 2015 Nisan 1 (first day of year)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Blood Moon: April 04, 2015 Pesach (Passover)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Solar Eclipse: September 13, 2015 Yom Teruah (Feast of Trumpets / Rosh Hashanah)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Blood Moon: September 28, 2015 Sukkoth (Tabernacles / Booths) A super moon!

#### **Historical Patterns**

The last three tetrads that fell on Jewish feast days occurred at times when significant events were happening among the Jewish people:

- 1493-1494 This tetrad followed the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492 and the (re-)discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. America became a safe haven for the Jews and remains so to this day.
- 1949-1950 This tetrad followed the re-establishment of the state of Israel in 1948 and corresponds to the time of the institution of its government.
- 1967-1968 The beginning of this tetrad occurred right before the beginning of the Six Day war in 1967.
- The other four tetrads occurred in: 162-163, 795-796, 842-843, and 860-861.

#### What We Also Know

We know that we are in the season of Yeshua's return:

- The fig tree, and all the trees, have budded.
- The Jews are back in the land of Canaan and Israel is once again a nation.
- Israel, and especially Jerusalem, have become a burdensome stone to all nations.
- The nations of the world are doing their best to divide the land.
- War will come and Israel will be protected by Yahweh, not by its allies.

#### Why We Are Still Here

**James 5:7** – "Be patient therefore, brothers, until the coming of Yeshua."

Matthew 24:42 – "Watch therefore: for you know not in what hour Yeshua will come."

The Fall Feasts (Moedim of Yahweh) have come and gone and we're **all** still here! Weren't the Blood Moon Tetrads a sign of impending doom? Didn't the major prophecy teachers say all signs were pointing to that year being the year of the Rapture and the global collapse? How did they get it so wrong? Are these questions that you are asking? Has the lack of the Rapture shaken your faith in Yahweh? I pray not.

I have stated many times, "I do NOT set dates. Yes, the season of Yeshua's return is upon us, and the final fulfillments of prophecies are about to be brought to fruition. Yeshua's return may be this fall, next, fall, or some other period of time. We are to be prepared to meet him when he calls, but are also to be patient, watchful, alert, and continuing our labors of faith until he does."

#### Yahweh Keeps His Promises

**Genesis 1:14** – "And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for **signs**, and for appointed times of meeting, and for days, and years."

The common descriptive saying is that a solar eclipse denotes the judgment of Yahweh upon the nations, blood moons denote the judgment of Yahweh upon the nation of Israel, and that a solar eclipse occurring in the midst of four blood moons denotes the judgment of Yahweh upon the world. This may be false thinking . . .!!!

What if the blood moon tetrads simply **confirm that Yahweh's divine appointments and promises will be kept**? Below are some of the promises I believe Yahweh has already kept:

• Matthew 24:2 – "And Yeshua said to them, 'Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down'." The blood moons (not a tetrad) in AD 70 may have simply confirmed Yeshua's prophecy that the Jerusalem Temple would be destroyed. Yahweh keeps his promises.

#### I will scatter my people to all lands

**Ezekiel 36:19** – "And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed throughout all the nations." The blood moons in AD 70 and the tetrad in AD 1493-1494 may have simply confirmed Yeshua's prophecy that the Israelites would be scattered to all the nations. While they were scattered to the European, Asian, and Middle Eastern nations in AD 70, it was not until the America's were discovered that final fulfillment of this prophecy could take place and be fully confirmed by a tetrad. **Yahweh keeps his promises.** 

#### I will reestablish Israel in one day

**Isaiah 66:8** – "Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children."

Ezekiel 36:24 – "For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land." (see also Isaiah 11:10-12)

The tetrads in 1949-50 may simply confirm that Yahweh has indeed, returned his people to their promised land. *Yahweh keeps his promises*.

#### My chosen people will return

**Luke 21:24** – "Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."

**Micah 4:2** – "For out of Zion will go forth Torah, the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem."

The tetrads in 1967-68 may simply confirm that Yahweh has indeed, returned Jerusalem to his people. *Yahweh keeps his promises*.

#### Jerusalem will be a burdensome stone

**Zechariah 12:3** – "It will happen in that day, that I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all the peoples. All who burden themselves with it will be severely wounded, and all the nations of the world will be gathered together against it."

The tetrads in 2014-2015 may simply confirm that Israel has, indeed, become that burdensome stone, and that all nations are now aligned against it. *Yahweh keeps his promises*.

#### Yahweh Expects Obedience

**1 Samuel 15:22** – "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen better than the fat of rams."

Yahweh is not pleased with any person, church, or church body that brings in pagan practices and calls them "Christian Celebrations". Remember his reaction to the Golden Calf at Mount Sinai? The tetrads in 2014-2015 may simply have been Yahweh's pronouncement of his disgust with those abominations. The tetrads in 2014-2015 may also have been Yahweh's call to get back on his calendar and celebrate the divine appointments (moedim) that he commanded his people to celebrate. *Yahweh expects obedience*.

#### Other heavenly signs

#### 2008

**Revelation 14:14-16** – "And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. ... And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped."

The constellation known as Bootes, or "The Coming One", shows a man with a sickle coming to reap a harvest, and, according to some, is a heavenly sign predicting the return of Yeshua to Earth.

- NASA says the afterglow of a March 19, 2008 gamma ray burst in the Bootes constellation is the most intrinsically bright object ever observed by humans in the universe.
- It shattered the record for the most distant object that could be seen with the naked eye. "It was a whopper," said Neil Gehrels of the Goddard Space Flight Center. "This blows away every gamma ray burst we've seen so far."
- NASA said the afterglow "was 2.5 million times more luminous than the most luminous supernova ever recorded, making it the most intrinsically bright object ever observed by humans in the universe."
- The sheer brilliance of the event led some Christian analysts to suggest it was an indicator that Yeshua would come back soon.

#### 2010

On April 02, 2010 NASA's Hubble Space Telescope observed an X-shaped debris pattern, officially known as "P/2010 A2," which may concern a possible end-time biblical message. It may or not be a comet, but it is described as a flying X-pattern with trailing streamers, a flying cross, or perhaps a Star of David.

#### 2013

2013 was a banner year for comets, asteroids and meteorites.

#### **The Three Comets**

March of 2013 saw two comets sailing nearby planet Earth – Comet Lemmon, officially known as comet C/2012 F6, and Comet Pan-Starrs, officially known as comet C/2011 L4. But these are only two of the three comets that graced our skies this year. Comet Ison, officially known as comet C/2012 S1, arrived in November.

Both Pan-Starrs and Ison were believed to be headed this way from the Oort Cloud which orbits our sun at a distance of about 93 trillion miles.

Comet Pan-Starrs made its closest pass near the Earth on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 as it came within about 102 million miles from the planet. On March 10th it made its closest approach to the sun, and was visible to the naked eye up to the end of the month.

Comet Lemmon passed closest to our sun on March 24, 2013 in an orbit that is just a tad closer than the orbit of planet Earth, around the distance of Venus. In February, it was seen sporting a stunning lime green coma and faint divided tail. It was most visible in late March.

Comet Ison, promised to be the brightest of the three. However, as events transpired, it never became bright enough to be visible to the naked eye and then broke apart as it passed close to the Sun. It did, however, reach the edge of the sun on November 28th, which also happened to be first day of Chanukah 2013!

#### The Asteroids and Meteorites

February was a busy month for meteorites and asteroids. On February 15th about 1,000 people were injured mostly by falling glass that was broken by the meteorite that hit Russia with the force of an atomic bomb. Fragments from the meteor fell in a reservoir outside the town of Cherbakul, in the Chelyabinsk region. Another meteor was seen about the same day over the San Francisco Bay Area. Cuban residents reported seeing a fireball "bigger than the sun" before it exploded over central Cuba on the 16th. On the 18th, Miami, Florida residents reported seeing a flashing light falling off the state's eastern coast.

March was also busy. On March 4th an asteroid about the size of the Russian meteor passed planet earth just inside the orbit of the Moon. On the 5th a beam of light reportedly fell from the sky and formed a circle of fire in a Hobart suburb which had Tasmanian police and firefighters baffled. No source for the fire circle could be found. On March 7th, another asteroid the size of a football field passed by earth even closer than the Russian meteor on the 4th. Another meteor fireball was seen near Cape Town, South Africa on the 13th.

#### 2014

#### **Comets**

Comet Holmes appeared in the skies over earth on March 27, 2014. Holmes was one of the more prominent comets this year. In all approximately seventy-five comets are expected to arrive this year. However, only a minority of them will be bright enough to see with the naked eye. Comet Siding Spring passed was expected to

impact Mars but only passed extremely close on October 19th. This year has been relatively quiet for comets and asteroids, and cannot match 2013 for intensity.

#### **UFOs**

As L.A. Marzulli would say, "UFOs are burgeoning and not going away!" 2014 has been a banner year for UFO activity. The National UFO Reporting Center receives between 200 to 800 new reports each month. That is a lot of UFO activity. Even the Vatican has on several occasions acknowledged that "aliens" exist. In March there were reports of many UFOs Near Saturn and in July a glowing disk was seen outside the International Space Station. In August there was a mass sighting of a UFO over Houston, Texas and a UFO came out of a volcano in Iceland, as well as sightings in New Mexico and Sao Paulo, Brazil. September and October saw dozens of reports from Breckenridge; Colorado, Bridgeport; West Virginia, Salt Lake City; Utah, Clovis; California, Joplin; Missouri, Gulf Shores; Alabama, Fortaleza; Brazil, Liverpool; England, and Paris; France, just to name a few.

#### **Conclusions**

**Luke 21:25** – "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations . . ." **Luke 21:11** – " . . . and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven."

The Blood Moons and Tetrads are Yahweh's primary confirmation that he is still in charge, that he keeps his promises, and he expects obedience. Though they also often denote judgment upon the people, upon the nations, and upon the world is merely a secondary effect of these phenomenon! Yahweh is not slow in fulfilling his promises.

Blood moons are not the only signs in the heavens for us to be aware of. Bootes and the X-shaped "Star of David" are just two of those signs. Comets Pan- Starrs, Ison, Lemmon, and Holmes are a few more. Asteroids, meteors, and even UFOs are others signs in the heavens for us to be aware of.

It is my hope that you will place your trust in Yeshua and continue to look forward to an eternity with Yahweh, Yeshua, and the Ruach Ha'Kodesh. However, those who fail to place their faith in Yeshua will not have that joy.

# Yahweh - A Swing Shifter

The Mistaken Perception: The day starts at midnight, or worse, at sunrise

Did you know that Yahweh is a swing shifter? Are you aware that the day does not start at sunrise? If not, you are living in deception. The perception that the day starts at sunrise is a mistaken perception!

# **Day Begins**

**Genesis 1** – "There was evening, then there was morning . . ."

Six times in Genesis Chapter 1 we see the expression: There was evening, then there was morning; followed by: the first day, the second day, the third day, the fourth day, the fifth day, and finally the sixth day. The day clearly starts in the evening. But is this enough to call Yahweh a swing shifter? Perhaps so, perhaps not! Let's take a closer look.

#### **Cool Of The Day**

Genesis 3:8 – "And they heard the voice of Yahweh Elohim walking in the garden in the cool of the day . . ."

In Chapter Three of Genesis the fall of Adam and Eve is described, and Yahweh's voice is heard in the Garden in the "cool of the day". Note that Yahweh did not require Adam to arise at 5am, nor at whatever time sunrise was that day and inconvenience himself. Instead, Yahweh chose to bring forgiveness and cover their sin at the start the day, at its beginning, in the evening!

Literally, the Hebrew would be translated: in the "wind of the day". When, exactly is this? Kalisch and Macdonald state that the cool of the day is "the evening breeze". The Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary puts it similarly: "in the cool of the day – the breeze of the day, the evening." Gill puts it this way: "In the evening, at sun setting; for very often when the sun sets a wind rises, at least a gentle breeze; and this might bring the sound of the voice, and of the steps of this glorious Person, the sooner to the ears of Adam and his wife."

Every fisherman knows that the lakes are generally like glass as the sun rises, but in the evening, as the sun goes down, a gentle breeze develops that gives the water a diamond patch appearance. In the cool of the day is simply a Hebrew idiom for in the evening. But is this enough to call Yahweh a swing shifter?

# The Sacrifices

It is true that preparation for many of the sacrifices starts early in the morning around 9am – but according to Yahweh's day, this is late in the day on the day before the sacrifice is actually made! The sacrifice is actually made in the evening – at the start of the new day!

This pattern was first seen in **Genesis 3:8**, as mentioned above. **Leviticus 23:5**, **Numbers 9:5** and other scriptures confirm that Pesach is to be celebrated in the evening: "In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening, is Yahweh's Passover." Yeshua, our Pesach Lamb, gave up His spirit in the evening. Elijah and the Baal worshippers spent the latter part of the day before preparing for each of their sacrifices to be made in the evening – at the start of the new day (**1 Kings 18**). But is this yet enough to call Yahweh a swing shifter?

# **Impact**

**Ezekiel 8:9** – "And he said unto me, Go in, and behold the wicked abominations that they do here."

Why would Yahweh begin His day in the evening? Better yet, why should we? Before the foundations of the earth were laid, Yahweh knew that Satan would deceive the peoples of the world, and many would become sun worshippers. His people, those called by His name, are to be Holy – set apart, as He is. His people are not even to convey the possibility that they conform to the image of a pagan god or ritual. Nor are these rituals to be brought into His temple in any way, shape, or form. But, sadly, they have.

The "church" has ceased celebrating at the start real of the day – in the evening, and for the most part now celebrates late in the day – at the time of the rising sun, a practice which is thoroughly condemned by the scriptures in Ezekiel Chapter 8. It is, in fact, the "greatest" sin listed in that chapter, after creepy, crawly things, after carved images, even after weeping for Tammuz. Today, we make a great fanfare of sunrise Easter services – a sun worshipping celebration of the pagan fertility goddess Eastre, the "Queen of Heaven". What a stench in the nostrils of a Holy Lord. Now this is enough to call Yahweh a swing shifter!

#### Warning

**Ephesians 6:18** – "With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit . . ."

In no way am I stating that it is wrong to worship Yahweh at any time of the day - I am not. We are to be in prayer at all times, and in all places. However, we are also to be aware that many pagan rituals and traditions of mankind have been incorporated into our daily lives and into our churches.

Are you expected to conform to the image of a day shifter – to "inconvenience yourself" and adjust your timetable to rise with the sun? Are you denigrated for being a swing shifter? Do not submit. Those who insist that you change may simply be unaware that Yahweh has formed you in His likeness. Those who insist that you change may not understand that they may be unwittingly conformed to the image of a sun worshipper. Ignore their demands to conform to *their* image – continue to be conformed to the image of your Father in Heaven, Yahweh.

# **Conclusions**

Despite not yet accepting that their Messiah is Yeshua Ha'Mashiach, even the Jews know that Yahweh is a swing shifter – he starts his day in the evening and he begins the day with forgiveness and restoration.

Every day clearly starts in the evening. Yahweh called to Adam and Eve in the evening. Many of the major sacrifices are evening sacrifices, especially Pesach.

Yahweh sets himself apart from all who either are pagan sun worshippers or act in ways that could be interpreted to mimic those pagan ways.

Therefore we should follow in His footsteps and also be swing shifters, standing apart from the masses.

# Rock My World

The Mistaken Perception: Peter is the rock

Matthew 16:13-18 – "When Yeshua and his disciples arrived at Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the prophets'. 'But who do you say that I am?' he asked. Simon Peter replied, 'You are Ha'Mashiach, the Son of the Living God.' And Yeshua said to Peter, 'Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter [Petros G4074] and on this rock [Petra G4073] I will build my church, and the Gates of Hades will not prevail against it'."

**G4074** Petros [masculine]; a piece of rock; a pebble, a grain of sand, a detached stone or boulder, a stone that might be thrown or easily moved.

**G4073** petra [femine]; a mass of rock, boulder, literally a living rock, a bedrock, – a picture of the Bride of Christ, or the church.

Many prophecies have dual or multiple fulfillments. This statement of Yeshua's, or prophecy if you will, is one of them. Let's examine the possibilities:

# **The Three Common Expositions**

#### 1. Peter Is The Rock

This is the position upon which the Catholic Church has established its authority. But this position is not supported by the Greek text. Simon is called Peter: petros [G4074] in the Greek. The masculine word Petros means: a piece of rock; a pebble, a grain of sand, a detached stone or boulder, a stone that might be thrown or easily moved. And this is exactly what we see with Peter who doubted when he walked on water (Matthew 14:27-31), who denied Yeshua (Matthew 16:23, Mark 8:33 and Luke 4:8, Luke 22:55-60), and who Paul rebuked when Peter acted hypocritically by eating differently when Jews from Jerusalem were present (Galatians 2:11-14).

# 2. Yeshua Himself Is The Rock

1 Corinthians 3:11 – "For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Yeshua Ha'Mashiach."

Another common position taken by many is that Yeshua, himself, is the rock and this has warrant and can be easily supported. Yeshua referred to himself as the "stone upon which many would fall and be broken" (Matthew 21:44, Luke 20:18). Isaiah 28:16 calls Yeshua a stone: "Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation," and Daniel 2:35 also calls Yeshua "the stone"

that smote the image, became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. However, those stones are not the same Greek or Hebrew words as Petra, although the metaphors are appropriate. Other scriptures call Yeshua the spiritual **petra**, the **petra** that is Yeshua (**1 Corintians 10:4**); and a **petra** of offense (**Romans 9:33, 1 Peter 2:8**).

#### 3. The Confession Is The Rock

**Luke 8:13** – "But the ones on the rock [petra] are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy . . ."

This position also has warrant. For the feminine word rock, or petra [G4073] means: a mass of rock, a boulder, literally a living rock, a bedrock! The feminine petra occurs several other times in the Newer Covenant scriptures: the petra of soil upon which belief grows or withers (**Romans 8:5-8**); the petra of rock upon which a house is built (**Matthew 7:24-25, Luke 6:46-49**). In essence, Yeshua may have been saying: "Blessed are you Simon, son of Jonah, also called Petros [rocky easily swayed pebble that thou art], for the confession you have made is the Petra, [the bedrock] upon which I will build my church."

# **The Fourth Exposition**

Ray Vanderlaan and Rob Skiba have both expounded upon the following position:

#### 4. The Ground At Caesarea Is The Rock

Matthew 16:18 – "I will build my church, and the Gates of Hades will not prevail against it."

The Gates of Hades is the term describing the entrance to the underworld. According to Jewish tradition, it is a gloomy desolate place situated in the centre of the earth, the place where the dead reside. Gates are also the place of deliberation and counsel. Kings sat in the gate to pronounce edicts and make judicial rulings. Lot was sitting at the city gates when the angels arrived. Boaz sat in the gate when he purchased Ruth.

Caesarea Philippi, which stood at the base of Mount Hermon, was perhaps one of the most evil cities of the day. Historically it is the place where Jeroboam built the golden calf. By the time of Yeshua it had become the religious center for worship of the Greek god, Pan, and was know to the Greeks as the city Panias. The cliff walls above the city, called by scripture the "high place", had been carved out and dotted with many shrines and temples to Pan, and the cave entrance formed what many considered the gate to the underworld where Pan and the fertility gods lived during the winter. At that time, water flowed out of the cave to form one of the main tributaries to the Jordan River.

For Yeshua to bring his disciples into this arena must have been appalling to their minds. But a lesson was in play – when Yeshua asks them who people said he was, Peter must have been taking in the sights of dozens of statues of Pan, who was thought to be the "god of the shepherds, the son of the living god" and the altar to Pan

that stood in front of the cave. Off to the right of this cave was the Fortress of Nimrod. Just to the left was the location called The Gates of Hades!

Peter, perhaps for the first time in history, gets it! He boldly declares, "You, Yeshua, are the Son of the Living God!" To which Yeshua replies, "I will build my church on this petra, and the Gates of Hades will not prevail against it."

Yeshua's church would be built on the petra of Caesarea Philippi, facing the gates of Hades! At that time, gates were the main defensive structure for a city. The gates were meant to keep attackers out. So, when Yeshua tells his disciples he is going to build his church right in front of the literal Gate of Hades he is declaring that they are to attack evil, to build his church as an offensive agency against the moral and evil corruption of the world – to keep it penned in and on the defense.

He also declares that the underworld will not be able to prevail against it. Ray Vanderlaan puts it this way: "He didn't want his followers hiding from evil: He wanted them to storm the gates of hell." Water flowing out of the Gates of Hell may appear to increase the farther down the Jordon River one travels, and the evil that flows with it may also seem to increase, but it is the true water that flows out from under the throne that increases, bringing life to all it touches (Ezekiel 47:1-10, Revelation 22:1-2).

# The Challenge

**Matthew 28:19** – "Go therefore and make disciples of all . . . for I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Today Yeshua asks you and I the same question he posed to the disciples, "Are you willing to confront the evils and corruption of your time?" If so, stop hiding in homes, stop hiding in fancy mansions that you call churches, stop hiding in plain sight. Stop being politically correct, stop cringing at truth. For crying out loud, STOP acting as if you are on the defense – it is hell and Hades that are on the defense – you and I are on the offense!

#### **Conclusions**

Many prophecies have dual or multiple fulfillments. Yeshua's prophecies of the rock is one of them. Peter is not that rock, but Yeshua is the rock indeed, the foundation upon which all else stands. The confession that Yeshua is the rock is made by many. But the rock soil of Caesarea is also a foundation upon which Yeshua would build his church that would prevail against any attack that Satan could bring against it. We are on the assault, on the offense, and hell's gates will not stand before us. Not the other way around, as many suppose. Hell's defenses are unable to withstand the power of Yeshua's blood, Yeshua's name, Yeshua's word of testimony.

# The Ascension

The Mistaken Perception: Yeshua ascended in his own power

Acts 1:9 – "And while they watched, Yeshua was taken up into a cloud which hid him out of their sight." Many have asked, "How did Yeshua ascend?". This question will be answered unequivocally.

#### **Pictures Of Ascension**

What picture do you have of Yeshua's ascension that day into the cloud?

- Did Yeshua climb the ladder that Jacob saw? (Genesis 28:12).
- Did Yeshua ride the chariot or horses of fire as did Elijah? (2 Kings 2:11).
- Did Yahweh's personal throne-chair, the Merkabah, pick Yeshua up? (Ezekiel chapters 1 and 10).
- Did Yeshua ride upon a cherub, or perhaps fly upon the wings of the wind? (Psalm 18:10; 2 Samuel 22:11).
- Did angels carry Yeshua aloft as they did Lazarus? (Luke 16:19-31)
- Or, did Yeshua simply float upward like a helium balloon?

So, what picture comes to your mind as you read these scriptures? One of the above, or perhaps another?

# The Rebuke

Acts 1:10-11a – "And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel who said, You men of Galilee, why are you gazing up into heaven?"

It is well attested to that Yeshua's talmidim (disciples) could at times be as dense as a London fog, as dumb as driftwood, as bright as a burned out light bulb, as thick as a brick. Once again, they show their inability to respond immediately to what Yeshua is doing. They continue to gaze off into the sky so long, in fact, that two angels have to break their concentration by saying: "Hey, youse guys, whatcha lookin' at?

# The Ascension

Acts 1:11b – "Yeshua will return in exactly the same way as you have watched him ascend into heaven."

The question, if one can call it that, of exactly how Yeshua ascended, has just been answered. But to answer this question, we must study scripture to see if it tells us how he will return!

Scripture has a lot to say about his return. Proverbs 21:31 tells us that "The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But victory belongs to Yahweh." Revelation 19:11 tells us very plainly that heaven is opened and Yeshua is astride a white horse, coming to judge and wage war. Revelation 19:14 tells us that there is an army of people that follows Yeshua, all of whom are riding on white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

Therefore, since Yeshua returns on a white horse, and Acts 1:11b tells us he ascended the same way, there can be absolutely no doubt that Yeshua ascended on the back of a white horse.

# **Conclusions**

Without a doubt, Yeshua ascended into heaven on his white horse. He will return the same way, and his Bride will return with him, also astride white horses!

I like to picture Yeshua, as he stands nearby his talmidim, either whistling, or perhaps, just calling out. Not only do his sheep know his voice, so apparently do his horses!

And this particular horse, is special – he is the King Of Horses.

Peter Jackson, in *The Lord of The Rings: The Two Towers*, employed this imagery well – Gandalf whistled, and Shadowfax, the King of the Mearas, answered, also bringing with him other horses for the man, the elf, and the dwarf to ride.

No doubt, the same will happen when Yeshua shouts commanding his Bride to come up. Get ready to meet your white horse.

# Deception to Salvation

# The Mistaken Perception: Yahweh Does Not Allow Deception

Recently I was asked by a former Atheist if I thought Yahweh would have used deception to bring said individual to salvation in Yeshua, boldly stating that this would never have happened to them! In fact, this person was greatly incensed that they could be deceived in any way, shape, or manner.

#### **Getting the Job Done** (Without Salvation)

1 Kings 22:22, 2 Chronicles 18:21 – "I will go and be a deceiving spirit in the mouths of all his prophets."

In 1st Kings and 2nd Chronicles we get a glimpse into the divine council. Yahweh wanted King Ahab to go up to his death at Ramoth-Gilead, and asked those present, "Who will entice him to do so?" Several answers as to how to do this were given, and finally a spirit stood up and said "I will go and be a deceiving spirit in the mouths of all his prophets." Hmmm. Ahab refuses to listen to a true prophet, Micaiah, but would rather believe the deceptions of his own prophets, and goes to his death. No salvation here!

**Numbers 22:12** – "Yahweh said to Balaam, 'You must not go with them nor curse the people, for they are blessed'."

Balak, King of the Moabites, was thoroughly deceived into believing that money would convince Balaam to come and curse the Israelites, despite Yahweh's objections. And guess what – Balaam was finally bribed with enough money to go, with, he thought, Yahweh's blessing. But this angered Yahweh and so he stood in front of Balaam's donkey. Balaam thought (again falsely) that the donkey was playing games with him. Not so. Balaam is eventually released to go to Moab, but three times Balak is deceived into believing that sacrifices would change Yahweh's blessings to curses. The deceived simply will not listen. Not much salvation here, either.

# Getting the Job Done (With Salvation)

**2 Samuel 12:1** – "Yahweh sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, 'There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor'."

The prophet Nathan is sent to King David with a message about a two men – a rich man and a poor man. His message: the rich man takes the poor man's lamb and feeds it to a traveler, rather than feeding the traveler one of his own. David is enraged and declares that the rich man deserved to die! Nathan then reveals the deception – telling David that he is that rich man. David repents and his sins are forgiven. Those who belong to Yahweh listen, repent, and are saved.

# **Conclusions**

**Deuteronomy 13:3** – "You are not to listen to what [a deceiving] prophet or dreamer says. For Yahweh your God is testing you, in order to find out whether you really do love Yahweh your God with all your heart and being."

Yahweh has, can, and does use deception to accomplish his goals. There are many living among us that cannot hear the truth no matter how plain the truth may be stated. But they will and do listen to deceptions and lies. Those deceptions rarely result in repentance and salvation, but Yahweh can indeed use such methods to bring someone to a closer relationship with himself, Yeshua, and the Ruach Ha'Kodesh. The former Atheist is just one example. I am another.

Ahab refused to listen and Yahweh's plan to send him to his death was accomplished. Balak also refused to listen and Yahweh's plan to bless the Children of Israel was realized. David, however, did listen, did repent, and was forgiven. Scripture fully attests that he has salvation. Which person will you be?

# The Temple and The Tabernacle

The Mistaken Perception: Yahweh wants a temple built

**Ezekiel 11:19** – "And I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh."

**Ezekiel 36:26** – "I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."

Are the Israelis and the world looking for a Tabernacle to be built, or are they looking for a Temple?

# **What The World Wants**

Revelation Chapter 11 tells us that at that time Jerusalem will spiritually be called Sodom and Egypt, Jerusalem will be the place where the two witnesses will be killed, and Jerusalem will also be the home of the third temple, in which the antichrist will declare himself to be god. Further conjecture predicts that it will be the antichrist who will actually build the third temple. This "temple" that is to be built is Solomon's Temple rebuilt – it is not David's Tabernacle.

#### Why The World Wants It

**2 Samuel 7:4-7** – "Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar'?"

The Tabernacle fully represents Yeshua. It is made of flesh and linen: supple, tender materials, just as Yeshua's heart is tender. This is the type of building that Yahweh wants – the type of heart that he wants to give to his people. Never did he command his people to build a house [bayith H1004] of wood or stone.

**1Kings 8:13-20** – Solomon brags: "I have surely built You a lofty house, a place for Your dwelling forever . . . for I have risen in place of my father David and I sit on the throne of Israel . . . I and have built the house for the name of Yahweh, the God of Israel."

The world, its humans, and its god Lucifer, however, are all looking for a temple made of wood and stone, a temple that closely represents who they think Yahweh / Yeshua is: a god whose heart is hard, immovable, harsh! This is their wish because their hearts are also made of stone – they are unwilling to allow Yahweh to give them a heart of flesh.

#### What The World Will Get

**Amos 9:11** – "In that day I will restore David's fallen tent. I will repair its broken places, restore its ruins, and build it as it used to be."

Just as the Tabernacle of David was first erected, and then the Temple of Solomon, so also today the world may get first a Tabernacle and then a Temple. Many of the current discussions regarding the Third Temple center

around a temporary tent style building being established - a tabernacle of flesh and linen, followed by a rebuilt Solomonic Temple - a temple of wood and stone.

Scripture tells us that history repeats itself, so once again, after a tabernacle is built, Yahweh will allow the new Solomon, the Antichrist, to build a temple that mirrors that satanic heart of stone.

Jews are calling for this temple to be built. Christians applaud this effort. Even Muslims are in agreement that this third temple should be constructed. And once again, that temple of wood and stone will be allowed to be built, then desecrated and desolated.

# **Pointing to Yeshua Again**

**Isaiah 16:5:** "And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging, and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness."

**Amos 9:11:** "In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old . . . "

**Acts 15:16:** "After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up . . . "

**Revelation 21:3:** "I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of Yahweh is with men, he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people; Yahweh himself shall be with them and be their God'."

During the tribulation period, a new "temple" will be built and the sacrifices will once again be offered. But is it a temple, or the rebuilt tabernacle? The scriptures above indicate that it will, indeed, be a tabernacle, booth, or tent like that of David, not a temple like that of Solomon or Herod.

**Daniel 11:31** agrees, using the same Hebrew word, miqdash, for sanctuary as does Exodus [miqdash H4720]! Both Revelation and Acts use the Greek word, skēnē [G4633] which also indicates a booth, tent, or tabernacle, not a stone, granite, or marble temple!

The tabernacle can be seen throughout scriptures. It is the "temple" in which Moses and the Hebrew slaves worshipped Yahweh, and it appears once again as the "temple" in which the Jews will once again worship Yahweh during the tribulation period.

It even appears to be the "temple" that exists during the Millennial reign of Yeshua.

# **Conclusions**

The Tabernacle represents a heart of flesh.

The Temple represents a heart of stone.

Yahweh never asked Moses or David to build a worship center of stone – that has always been man's (and Lucifer's) desire. But Yahweh has given man free will, and will allow man to do as he pleases, and then suffer the consequences.

The original Tabernacle of flesh and linen is reported to still be in existence, never having been destroyed, but given proper storage in order to preserve it for future generations.

Amos 9:11 hints that this may indeed come to pass. The Temple of wood and stone, however, built by those who are a type of false messiah (Solomon, Herod, the Antichrist) will also once again be allowed to be built, then desecrated and desolated.

**Books Mentioned In The Bible** 

The Mistaken Perception: The Bible gives us all of the history of Israel and Yahweh's people

The Bible is filled with interesting signposts to other books that were known to those who are mentioned in

scripture, but many of which remain unknown to modern mankind. The most important book, of course, is the

Book of Law, or Torah. Other books are the books of the prophets, lists of patriarchs and their families,

records of the doings of kings and courtiers, and even books of curses and bitter tasting things. Lets look at

some of the categories mentioned:

The Book of Law

The Book of Law, referred to throughout scripture as the Book Of Law, the Book Of Moses, the Book of the

Law of Moses, the Book Of The Prophets, or simply The Book is otherwise known as the Torah. It is perhaps

the most mentioned and most well known book listed in scripture. In **Exodus 24:7** it is called the *Book of the* 

Covenant [that Moses read in the hearing of the people].

This book is also mentioned in Exodus 17:14, 32:32-33; Deuteronomy 28:58, 28:61, 29:20, 30:10, etc.;

Joshua 1:8, 8:31, etc.; and Galatians 3:10, just to mention a few. According to tradition, it was the

responsibility of each King of Israel to make his own copy of the Torah. This is confirmed in **Deuteronomy** 

17:18 which speaks of the *Book Of The King* that was to be a copy of the law written by all kings in their own

handwriting, and in **Joshua 8:31** which speaks of a copy of the law being written on stones by Joshua in the

presence of the children of Israel.

The Books of The Prophets

The second most recognized books listed in scripture are the books of the prophets. They include the following:

1 Chronicles 29:29 – the Book of Samuel the seer, the Book of Nathan the prophet, and the Book of Gad the

seer

2 Chronicles 9:29 – the Book of Nathan the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the

visions of Iddo the seer

2 Chronicles 12:15 – the Book of Shemaiah the prophet, and of the Book of Iddo the seer concerning

genealogies

**Nahum 1:1** – the *Book Of The Vision Of Nahum* 

**Luke 3:4** and **Luke 4:17** – the *Book Of The Words Of Isaiah* the prophet

**Luke 20:42** and **Acts 1:20**) – the *Book of Psalms* 

Acts 7:42 – the Book Of The Prophets

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Perhaps the two most interesting mentions are the two following:

Genesis 6 – The <u>Book of Enoch</u>. This book is also quoted in Leviticus 16:8-10, 10:1-16:4; Jude 1:6 and 2

Peter 2:4

Joshua 10:13 – the Book Of Jasher. Also in 2 Samuel 1:18

#### **Generations and Genealogies**

The word "book" is generally not used in conjunction with listings of genealogies, but nevertheless is implied:

**Genesis 2:4** – "This is the history of generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created."

**Genesis 5:1** – This is the *Book Of The Genealogy Of Adam*.

**Genesis 6:9** – "This is the history of the generations of Noah."

**Genesis 10:1** – "This is the history of the generations of the sons of Noah and of Shem, Ham, and Japheth."

**Genesis 11:10** – "This is the history of the generations of Shem."

**Genesis 11:27** – "This is the history of the generations of Terah."

**Genesis 25:12** – "This is the history of the generations of Ishmael."

**Genesis 25:19** – "This is the history of the generations of Isaac."

**Genesis 36:1 & 9** – "This is the history of the generations of Esau."

**Genesis 37:2** – "This is the history of the generations of Jacob."

**Numbers 3:1** – "This is the history of the generations of Aaron and Moses."

**Ruth 4:8** – "This is the history of the generations of Perez."

Ezra 4:15 – the Book Of The Records (Also known as the Book Of The Records Of Thy Fathers)

**Matthew 1:1** – the *Book Of The Genealogy Of Yeshua* 

#### **Kingly Pursuits**

The pursuits, chronicles, and behavior of kings and their subjects is recorded in numerous locations, often by name:

Numbers 21:14 – the *Book Of The Wars Of The Lord* which describes Moses actions during the exodus

**Joshua 18:9** – the *Book Of The Survey* describing the dividing of the territory into seven sections, listing the towns in each section

**1 Samuel 10:25** – the *Book Of The Behavior Of Royalty* 

**1 Kings 11:41** – the *Book Of The Acts Of Solomon* 

**1 Kings 14:19** – the *Book of the Chronicles Of The Kings Of Israel*. (stated throughout Kings, Chronicles and Esther)

**1 Kings 14:29** – the *Book of the Chronicles Of The Kings Of Judah*. ((throughout Kings, Chronicles and Esther)

2 Chronicles 20:34 – the *Book of Jehu* the son of Hanani, which is mentioned in the *Book Of The Kings Of Israel*.

- 2 Chronicles 25:26 the Book Of The Kings Of Judah And Israel. Also in 2 Chronicles 27:7, 28:26, etc.
- **Nehemiah 12:23** the *Book Of The Chronicles*
- **Esther 2:23** and **6:1** the *Book Of The Chronicles* (Also known as the *Book Of Records Of The Chronicles*)
- Esther 10:2 the Book Of The Chronicles Of The Kings Of Media And Persia

#### **Odds and Ends**

There are five more books mentioned that do not readily fit any of the above categories. They are:

- **Exodus 17:14** A *Memorial In A Book*! Yahweh promised to utterly wipe out the memory of Amalek. This was to be written down by Moses and rehearsed in the hearing of Joshua.
- Numbers 5:23 the *Book Of Curses* A book written when a woman was accused of adultery
- **Jeremiah 32:12** the *Book Of The Purchase* describing the purchase of land made by Jeremiah through Baruch
- **Revelation 5:1-9** the *Book Sealed With Seven Seals* which describes the first set of seven judgments to come upon the earth during the great day of Yahweh's wrath
- **Revelation 10:2-10** the *Little Book* which is sweet as honey in the mouth but bitter in the stomach

#### The Book of Life

The *Book of Life*, also known as the *Book of the Living* and as the *Book Of Life Of The Lamb* is mentioned in only three places – the Psalms, Philippians, and Revelation. The *Book of Life* contains the name of every single human being who has been or ever will be born on this earth. Those who fail to worship Yahweh will have their name removed from the book and will spend eternity in the lake of fire.

- **Psalm 69:28** the first mention of the *Book of Life*. David laments the behavior of his persecutors and concludes: "Let them be blotted out of the Book Of Life, And not be written with the righteous."
- **Philippians 4:3** second mention of the *Book of Life*. Paul praises fellow workers and asks Yahweh to help those "whose names are in the Book Of Life."
- **Revelation 3:5** "He who overcomes will be arrayed in white garments, and I will in no way blot his name out of the Book Of Life . . ."
- **Revelation 13:8** "Everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the Book Of Life Of The Lamb who has been killed" will worship Satan.
- **Revelation 17:8** "Everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the Book Of Life will marvel at the Beast.
- **Revelation 20:12** "Another book was opened, which is the Book Of Life."
- **Revelation 20:15** "If anyone was not found written in the Book Of Life, he was cast into the lake of fire."
- **Revelation 21:27** "Only those who are written in the Lamb's Book Of Life" will enter into the New Jerusalem.

# The Books Of Judgments And Of Life

According to Jewish tradition, on Yom Teruah the destiny of the righteous, the *tsaddikim*, are written in the *Book Of Life*, and the destiny of the wicked, the *resha'im*, are written in the *Book Of Death*. However, many people, perhaps most people, will not be inscribed in either Book, but will have ten days (until Yom Kippur) to repent before sealing their fate. Hence the term *Aseret Yemei Teshuvah* (the Ten Days of Repentance). It is traditional at this time to greet one another with *L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu*! which means "May you be inscribed in the *Book of Life* for a good year!" One responds with "*gam lekha*", or "Same to you".

**Daniel 7:9-10** – "I saw until thrones were placed, and one who was ancient of days sat: his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and the wheels of it burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousands of thousands ministered to him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated and the Books were opened."

Revelation 20:11-15 – "Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and Books were opened. And another Book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the Books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

#### The Book of Remembrance

The *Book of Remembrance* is mentioned in only four places – Exodus, the Psalms, Daniel, and Malachi. Only once, in Malachi, is it mentioned by name. In all other places, it is implied. The *Book of Remembrance* I believe will be the book opened at the judgment of the redeemed at the Bema Seat of Yeshua, right after the Rapture.

**Exodus 32:32-33** – Moses said to Yahweh: "Yet now, if you will, forgive their sin – and if not, please blot me out of your book which you have written'. Yahweh said to Moshe, 'Whoever has sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book'."

**Psalm 40:7** – "Then said I, 'Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me'.",

**Psalm 56:8** – "You number my wanderings. You put my tears into your bottle. Aren't they written in your book?"

**Psalm 139:16** – "Your eyes saw my body. In your book they were all written, The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there were none of them."

**Daniel 12:1** – "At that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince who stands for the children of your people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

**Malachi 3:16-17** – "Then they that feared Yahweh spoke often one to another: and Yahweh hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared Yahweh, and that thought upon his name. 'They shall be mine,' says Yahweh, 'my own possession in the day that I make, and I will spare them, as a man spares his own son who serves him'."

#### **Memorials**

Although not stated in scripture, I believe that memorials are an integrated part of the *Book of Remembrance*, and are part of the judgment of the redeemed at the Bema Seat of Yeshua.

**Zechariah 6:14** – "The crowns shall be to Helem, Tobijah, Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of Zephaniah Yahweh.

**Matthew 26:13** – "Most assuredly I tell you, wherever this Good News is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken of as a memorial of her."

Mark 14:9 – "Most assuredly I tell you, wherever this Good News may be preached throughout the whole world, that which this woman has done will also be spoken of for a memorial of her."

Acts 10:4 – The Angel of God said to Cornelius, "Your prayers and your gifts to the needy have gone up for a memorial before God."

#### The Bema Seat of Yeshua

**2 Corinthians 5:10** – "For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Yeshua, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil."

This judgment does not determine whether or not a person is cast into hell—the person who has placed their trust in Yeshua is not condemned but has already received eternal life. **1st Corinthians 4:5** states that Yahweh brings to light what is hidden in darkness and exposes the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God, and will either receive rewards for faithfulness and service, or will lose rewards due to unfaithfulness, also referred to as receiving crowns to lay at Yeshua' feet. I believe that both those things written in the *Book of Remembrance* and the *Memorials* will be amongst the books used to determine rewards.

#### **Conclusions**

The Bible mentions many books for which we have no copies, such as the books of Genealogies and the books of the Kingly Pursuits. We do, however, have copies of the books of *Enoch* and of Jasher. Being found in the Book of Life is essential to eternal life in the presence of Yahweh, Yeshua, and the Ruach Ha'Kodesh. All others who are not found in this book are thrown into the Lake of Fire. The Bema Seat of Yeshua is where rewards will be meted out for those who are faithful. Daniel and John both speak of books of judgment and life – I believe that both the *Book of Remembrance* and *Memorials* are part of those books.

# Why Study Prophecy

The Mistaken Perception: It is not necessary to study prophecy.

You may be asking: "Why should we study end times prophecies?" My answer: Nearly one third of scripture is prophetical in nature. If Yahweh thinks it is important enough to spend that much time on prophecy, shouldn't we? But even more importantly, Yeshua commands us to do so! You say: "WHAT in the world are you talking about, Yeshua commands us to know? Huh? —

Turn to **Luke 19:41-44** – "As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, 'If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup>Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the **time** of your visitation from God'." Because the people did not recognize the "season", 40 years later the Temple was destroyed and the Jews scattered to the ends of the earth. The word time, kairos [G2540], means: an occasion, a set or proper time, opportunity, or season. It always designates a fixed or special occasion.

**Matthew 24:32-33** – "Learn a lesson from the fig tree: When its branches become green and soft and new leaves appear, you know summer is near. In the same way, when you see all these things happening, you will know that the time is near, ready to come."

The word know, ginōskō [G1097], a prolonged form of a primary verb; to "know" (absolutely), means to — allow, be aware (of), feel, (have) known (-ledge), perceive, be resolved, can speak, be sure, understand.

Again, in **Matthew 24:42-44**, Yeshua says – "Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The word translated keep awake, gregoreō[G1127]; is an active verb meaning to be awake, to watch, to be alert, to keep watch, to keep watching, to be keeping alert, to stay on the alert, and to stay awake. It expects active and concentrated behavior, to be continuously seeking. This is repeated in the phrase "Therefore. . . .must be ready": houtos [G3778] hetoimos [G2092]; which means: to be especially prepared, ready.

Twice in one paragraph Yeshua commands us to be on the alert and ready, to know when the time is near.

Mark 13:33-36 puts it this way – "Take heed, keep on the alert; for you do not know when the appointed time

will come. It is like a man away on a journey, who upon leaving his house and putting his slaves in charge, assigning to each one his task, also commanded the doorkeeper to stay on the alert. Therefore, be on the alert—for you do not know when the master of the house is coming, whether in the evening, at midnight, or when the rooster crows in the morning — in case he should come suddenly and find you asleep. What I say to you I say to all, 'Be on the alert'!"

Three times in one paragraph Yeshua commands us to be on the alert and ready, to know when the time is near.

Luke 21:29-36 affirms — "Then He told them a parable: 'Behold the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they put forth leaves, you see it and know for yourselves that summer is now near. So you also, when you see these things happening, recognize that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. Be on guard, so that your hearts will not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap; for it will come upon all those who dwell on the face of all the earth. But keep on the alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man'."

Again, three warnings.

# **Prophecy Is Very Important**

**1 Thessalonians 5:20** says – "Do not treat prophecy as if it were unimportant."

**2 Peter 1:19** says – "You do well to be attentive to the prophetic messages."

# Warnings to listen

Numbers 12:6, Deuteronomy 18:15 & 19, 2 Chronicles 20:20, John 6:45, Acts 3:22

# Warnings for not listening

2 Chronicles 24:19 & 25:16 & 36:16, Jeremiah 25 3-6, Jeremiah 29:19-23, Jeremiah 35:15, Jeremiah 37:2, Zechariah 1:4, Zechariah 7:12, Acts 3:23

#### **Conclusions**

So, why study end times prophecies, why be alert to the season, why be able to recognize the nearness of the kingdom of God?

Because . . . . . . <u>Yeshua commands us to do so!</u>

# Part Three Insights

# Bride and Bridegroom

**Leviticus 23:17** – "You will bring from your dwelling places two loaves of bread, baked with leaven, to be waved."

The Book of Ruth tells the story of four people: Naomi, Ruth, Orpah, and Boaz who lived during the time of the Judges, a time of severe famine in Israel, during which Naomi, her husband Elimelech, and their two sons Machlon and Kilyon, went into the country of Moab and remained there for ten years. During their stay in Moab Elimelech died, both sons got married (one to Orpah, one to Ruth), and both sons also died. Naomi and Ruth then return to Israel.

# **Orpah:** The Uncommitted.

**Joshua 24:15** – "But if serving Yahweh seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living."

Orpah initially wanted to accompany Naomi and return with her to her land; but, unlike Ruth, she kisses Naomi and then returns to Moab, thus reverting to being a Moabitess, estranged from all that is Israelite. She is a type of Judas Iscariot, who also initially follows Yeshua, but takes leave of him by kissing him. Orpah represents those who are attracted by the spiritual but never seem to fully commit to it. Orpah represents the ambivalent, the fence sitter, the hesitant, the lukewarm, the undecided.

#### **Naomi: The Returning Israelite**

**Ruth 1:6** – "Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that Yahweh had visited his people and given them food."

Naomi represents the faithful Jews who for two thousand years proclaimed "Next year in Jerusalem." She represents the faithful Jews who wanted to return to a covenant relationship with Yahweh, the faithful Jew who has heard that Yahweh is once again working in the land of promise, providing bread and sustenance (**Ruth 1:6**). And so she returns to Israel, to Bethlehem (**Ruth 1:19**), to Beit-Lechem [H1035], to the *House of Bread!* To get to Bethlehem from Moab, Naomi and Ruth must cross the Jordan River – a symbol of water baptism. Naomi's life is changed from tragedy to restoration and hope. Yeshua is our hope of restoration, the agent who changes our life from tragedy to fullness. Naomi represents the Jew who encourages the Gentile to join in worship of the true God, Yahweh. Naomi is a forerunner of the disciples and apostles of Yeshua.

# **Boaz: The Ga'al** [H1350]

**Song of Songs 2:4** – "He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love."

Naomi and Ruth arrive in Bethlehem at harvest time. Boaz asks Ruth to break bread with him (Ruth 2:14). Boaz covers Ruth with his "wings" (Ruth 3:7-10), purchases her to be his wife, and then proceeds to redeem Naomi's land and give her an heir through Ruth (Ruth 4:1-22). That heir is none other than Yeshua, a son of David, Ruth's great-grandson (Ruth 4:21-22)! Boaz represents the Kinsman-Redeemer, the Ga'al, Yeshua. Like Yeshua, Boaz falls in love with a gentile woman, marries her, redeems her, and gives her heirs according to the law (Leviticus 25:25; Deuteronomy 25:5-6). He is both Because Boaz was willing to take this step, to become ga'al-redeemer to Naomi and both ga'al-redeemer and bridegroom to Ruth. Yeshua is both Israel's and our kinsman redeemer (Hebrews 2:17), has paid the redemption price in full (John 19:30), and both Jews and gentiles are his heirs (Romans 8:17; Titus 3:7; Galatians 4:4-7; Ephesians 3:6).

#### **Ruth: The Gentile Bride**

**Ruth 1:16** – "Wherever you go I will go, and wherever you live I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God."

Upon returning to Bethlehem, Naomi sends Ruth to Boaz's threshing floor where he promises to take care of her. His first move is to invite her to break bread with him (**Ruth 2:14**). Yahweh invites us into a relationship through His Son, Yeshua (the Bread of Life). Ruth and Boaz get married and raise a family. Ruth represents those gentiles who are redeemed by the Jewish Kinsman Redeemer, Yeshua, and then become his bride, forming the family of Yeshua, the church! Just as Ruth's family was composed of both Jew and Gentile, so too is the Bride of Yeshua.

# **Conclusions**

**Matthew 11:28-30** – "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Ruth, then, is both the story of Yahweh's providence and the story of a shadow of Yeshua. In Boaz is the ga'al who redeems the family land, plus the bridegroom who provides a son and who reunites the Jewish and Gentile families of the Older Covenant. In Boaz we have the ga'al who blends the kinsman-redeemer role to the bridegroom, a shadow of Yeshua Ha'Mashiach who reunites the Jew and Gentile families in the Newer Covenant.

# **Temporary Tents**

When Summer is almost here many begin looking forward, no doubt, to a time of camping out in tents, in other words, in a sukkah!

**Leviticus 23:43** – "You will dwell in booths seven days; all native-born Israelites will live in sukkot so that generation after generation will know that Yahweh made the children of Israel live in sukkot when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am Yahweh your God."

The word, Sukkot [H5523] means a booth – a basic, crude, or temporary shelter, a tent. Did the Hebrew slaves coming out of Egypt simply decide to erect temporary tents to sleep in every night? Not according to the Leviticus scriptures! They dwelt in sukkot (booths) because Yahweh made them do so. So, we must ask, "Is the Sukkot moed just about sleeping in booths during the Exodus?" And to this we must reply, "Perhaps not. Perhaps Sukkot commemorates where they camped, not what they slept in. Perhaps Sukkot honors what Yahweh did, not so much what the Hebrews did!"

# Why Call it Sukkot

**Exodus 12:37** – "The Israelites journeyed from Ra'amses to **Sukkot**."

Numbers 33:5 – "The Israelites left Ra'amses and camped at Sukkot."

Note the key words, "camped at sukkot" The Hebrews left Ra'amses and then camped at a place called Sukkot the very first night! Perhaps this town got called "shanty town" because of the many booths they built. If so, this would not be the first time that a place or town got called Sukkot.

Genesis 33:17 tells us that Jacob also built a booth and called the place Sukkot: "Jacob journeyed to Sukkot, built himself a house, and made booths for his cattle: therefore the name of the place is called Sukkot". Jonah 4:5 tells us that Jonah also built a booth to sleep in: "So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a sukkot, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city". 2 Samuel 11:11 tells us that the soldiers on campaign slept in sukkot: "Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah dwell in sukkot." And a day is coming when Yahweh will once again raise the sukkah of David (Amos 9:11).

#### **Provision**

**Exodus 13:21-22** – "Yahweh went before them by day in a pillar of cloud, to lead them on their way, and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light, that they might go by day and by night: the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night, didn't depart from before the people."

The Hebrew people had spent 430 years in Egypt. In Egypt they had real houses, real roofs, reliable shelters. They had fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic! They had bread made with leaven. But then, in an

instant, they were taken out of their security and placed in booths out in the desert at a place called Sukkot, and all they had to eat was unleavened bread, matzo!

The Hebrews were only able to provide sukkot, tents, or booths, to sleep in. They had no protection from enemies. So Yahweh provided protection for them. The cloud by day, and the fire by night. The choice to leave Egypt was a huge leap of faith. Now, the Hebrews had to rely on Yahweh to provide all of their needs of food and shelter. This is the earth shattering event that Sukkot celebrates – faith in Yahweh.

# **Comparisons**

The Pesach and Sukkot moedim are six months apart. The 15<sup>th</sup> of Tishri is exactly six months after the 15<sup>th</sup> of Nisan, the start of the Chag Ha'Matzoh moed. The seven days of Sukkot is as far away from the seven days of Pesach as one can get. The difference: Pesach celebrates what the Hebrews ate whereas Sukkot celebrates where the Hebrews slept. Both honor Yahweh's provision.

Pesach represents being as close, experientially, to Yahweh's protection and provision as one can get. Spring is when the seeds are planted. It is at this time that one must place complete trust in Yahweh to bring the seeds to a harvest. Sukkot, however, represents being as far away, experientially, from security and provision as one can get. Fall is when the harvest has been gathered, and the barns are full of grains, etc. It is at this time that one feels the most self-sufficient, but Sukkot reminds us that we are not self-sufficient, that all of our provision truly comes from Yahweh. And Yahweh remembers this event, saying: "I remember for you the kindness of your youth, the love of your weddings; how you went after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown" (Jeremiah 2:2).

# **Conclusions**

Sukkot represents our need, Pesach represents Yahweh's care. Sukkot calls for us to leave our home and trust Yahweh when we least feel we need to. Pesach calls for us to wholly accept that provision, even when our homes are well stocked, safe, and secure. Real security always comes from Yahweh. Sukkot is about the gift of faith and love that we give Yahweh, and the gift of love and care that he gives us in return.

# **Permanent Tents**

# **Preparing a Place – Older Covenant**

Exodus 23:20 – "I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you and bring you to the place I have prepared."

1 Chronicles 15:1-12 – "David assembled all Israel in Yerushalayim to bring the ark of Yahweh up to its place, which he had prepared for it . . . and said to the Levite clan leaders 'Consecrate yourselves, both you and your kinsmen, to bring the ark of Yahweh the God of Israel up to the place I have prepared for it'."

**2 Chronicles 1:4** – "David had set up a tent for the Ark of Yahweh in Yerushalayim."

In the Older Covenant a *place* generally denotes a geographical location, but can also refer to the specific building (tent) in which a person or an item is to dwell. This place is supposed to be a permanent dwelling residence for the person or item, but often ends up being temporary. **Exodus 23** is speaking of the land of Israel which Yahweh had prepared for the former Egyptian Hebrew slaves to be their permanent dwelling place. History thus far has shown this place to be mostly temporary, but in the future this land will become the permanent residence place of the Jews. Likewise for the Tabernacle or Tent of Meeting. Today David's tent is not available, but Yahweh proclaims that he will re-establish it (**Acts 15:16-18**).

# **Preparing a Place – Newer Covenant**

**John 14:2** – "In my Father's house are many places to live. I am going there to prepare a place for you."

1 John 3:2 – "We do know when Yeshua appears, we will be like him; because we will see him as he really is." Yeshua states that there are many *places* in his father's house in which to live. In Greek, this is the word mone [G3438] which means an abode, dwelling place, mansion, or house. This place is meant to be a permanent residence, not so much a movable tent. Mone comes from the root word, meno [G3306], which means to remain or exist permanently. However, the second use of *place* in this verse is an entirely different Greek word, topos [G5117], which denotes a room, or a living quarters. These quarters can be small, or very extensive.

#### **Conclusions**

Is Yeshua only preparing a home, a physical dwelling for his bride? Certainly so. He is preparing the physical home, a dwelling in which the bride will eat meals, sleep, bathe, entertain guests, and live in forever. However, this verse hints at so much more. Yeshua is also preparing for his bride a spiritual body that is immortal and incorruptible (1 Corinthians 15:52-54). This body will be a spiritual body that is like his own resurrected, immortal, spiritual body (1 John 3:2), the spiritual body into which the soul will dwell for all eternity! How amazing is that?

# The Priestly Blessing

**Numbers 6:24-26** – "Yahweh blesses you and keeps you. Yahweh makes his face shine upon you and is gracious to you. Yahweh lifts his countenance upon you and makes you whole." (Professor Jeff Translation)

#### **A Little Iffy**

Traditional English translations often infuse a sense of *if* Yahweh or Adonai is willing, that the blessing might have already happened, or maybe might happen in the future. For instance:

**NLT**: "May the LORD bless you and protect you. May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you. May the LORD show you his favor and give you his peace."

NCV: "May the LORD bless you and keep you. May the LORD show you his kindness and have mercy on you.

May the LORD watch over you and give you peace."

**HCSB**: "May Yahweh bless you and keep you. May Yahweh make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May Yahweh Yahweh look with favor on you and give you peace."

**CEV**: "I pray that the Lord will bless and protect you, and that he will show you mercy and kindness. May the Lord be good to you and give you peace."

In other words, if Yahweh is willing then he might or might not take action, but no guarantees either way.

# A Little Less Iffy

Others are more direct in their translations. For instance:

**KJV, NKJV, NSRV, RSV, NASB, ESV, WEB, HNV**: "The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace."

**NIV**: "The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."

**ASV, YLT, DBY**: "Jehovah bless you and keep you; Jehovah make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; Jehovah lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace."

Better, but still a sense of it might happen immediately, or it might happen in the future, or it might not happen at all, or it might just be a blessing only for those in attendance at that moment. And it almost sounds as if the person giving the blessing is making demands. None of the above translations convey the direct Hebrew declaration that Yahweh is the cause of the fulfillment of what is declared.

#### **The Hebrew Words**

"Y'varekhe'kha Yahweh v'yishmerekha. Ya'er Yahweh panav eleikha vichunekka. Yisa Yahweh panav eleikha v'yasem l'kha shalom."

#### **Definitions**

- Yahweh [H3068]; Yahweh the proper name of the one true God.
- Y'varekhe'kha: taken from the root word, barak [H1288]; meaning: to bless, to be blessed.
- V'yishmerekha: taken from the root word, shamar [H8104]; meaning: to keep, guard, keep, watch and ward, protect.
- Ya'er: and Yisa: taken from the root word, owr [H215]; meaning: to shine, to light up.
- Panav: taken from the root words, paniym [H6440]; meaning: face, and panah [H6437]; meaning: to turn toward, or to lift up toward.
- Eleikha, L'kha: meaning: to you.
- Vichunekka: taken from the root word, chanan [H2603]; meaning: to be gracious, to show favour, to pity.
- V'yasem: taken from the root word, suwm [H7760]; meaning: to ordain, appoint, or determine.
- Shalom: [H7965]; meaning: completeness and soundness of health, welfare, peacefulness, relationships.

# **Definition Of The Name Yahweh:** [H3068]

**Exodus 3:15** – "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, Yahweh, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and this is my name to all generations."

**Exodus 9:16**—"For this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show my power in you, and that my name may be declared in all the earth."

**Numbers 6:27** – "Put my name upon the children of Israel, and I will bless them."

**Ezekiel 39:7** – "My holy name I will make known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not let my holy name be profaned anymore. And the nations will know that I am Yahweh, the Holy One in Israel."

In Exodus, when Yahweh met Moses at the burning bush, he commanded Moses to make known His name to the people in Egypt and to all peoples of the earth. In Numbers, he commands Moses to pronounce his name upon the Israelites. In Ezekiel, he further clarified that His name, Yahweh (יהוה), is to be made known to all nations.

The four letter representation God's name, commonly called the Tetragrammaton, is composed of four Hebrew letters: Yod Hey Vav Hey (YHVH), meaning the self-existent one; also the proper name of the God of Israel. It is variously translated as: Yehovah / Jehovah, or Yahveh / Yahweh.

The letters in the Tetragrammaton can be rearranged to spell the words:

- hayah: He Was [H1961] Hayah is the past tense, meaning "was."
- havah: He Is Now [H1934] Havah, or Hoveh is the present tense, meaning "is"
- yihiyeh: He Will Be [From H3068] Yod before a verb changes tense from past to future. Was becomes "will be"

**Malachi 3:6** – "I Am Yahweh, I do not change . . ."

**Hebrews 13:8** – "Yeshua Ha'Mashiach is the same yesterday and today and forever."

(Jesus [H3091] the Messiah [H4899] is the same yesterday and today and forever)

God's name, Yahweh, firmly establishes His eternal nature and that He is the same yesterday, today, and for all eternity. He is loving, merciful, gracious, and desires that not one will perish. Place your faith in Him and His promises and receive eternal life.

# The Professor Jeff Translation (PJT)

**Numbers 6:24-26** – "Yahweh blesses you and keeps you. Yahweh makes his face shine upon you and is gracious to you. Yahweh lifts his countenance upon you and makes you whole."

The translation above firmly declares that it is Yahweh who is the direct cause of the blessings declared by the prayer. Each verb (blesses, keeps, lifts, makes, is) has a timelessness property and leaves no impression that it may or may not happen depending upon the mood of Yahweh; that it may or may not happen depending upon the hour, day, or time; or that it may or may not happen depending upon earthly or heavenly circumstances. This translation indicates that the blessings of Yahweh are already in effect, are immediately experienced at this moment, and will be experienced continually for all eternity.

My prayer is that when you hear or pray the Priestly Blessing that you will remember that the blessings of Yahweh declared in this blessing are past, present, future, immediate, and continual, that the blessings reflect his eternal nature just as fully as does his name.

# The Newer Covenant Priestly Blessing

Yahweh said to Moses, "Speak to Aaron and his sons, and tell them that this is how you are to bless the people of Israel: you are to say to them . . ."

# The Priestly (or Aaronic) Prayer

Numbers 6:24-26 – "Y'varekh'kha Yahweh v'yishmerekha. Ya'er Yahweh panav eleikha vichunekka.Yissa Yahweh panav eleikha v'yasem l'kha shalom." Translated into English, it reads: "Yahweh blesses you and keeps you. Yahweh makes his face shine on you and shows you his favor. Yahweh lifts up his face toward you and makes you whole."

# **Older Covenant History**

**Leviticus 9:22** – "Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings."

It was the province of the High Priest, Aaron, to say (or sing) the priestly prayer over the people according to the Older Covenant. When doing so, the High Priest would raise his hands in the double Hebrew letter shin, which mirrors the shape of the Cherubim on the Ark of the Covenant, and put the name of Yahweh on the people. In other words, the High Priest would lift his hands and make a b'rakhah!

All fine and wonderful. But that's just Older Covenant stuff, right? Hasn't that been fulfilled?

#### **Newer Covenant Parallel**

So, what about the Newer Covenant? There is no longer a High Priest, according to the Rabbis, so speaking this prayer is no longer possible. Hold on, there pardner. We have the ultimate, eternal High Priest in Heaven, who stands before Yahweh to make intercession. And what did our High Priest do just before being carried into heaven at his rapture? "Yeshua led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them" (Luke 24:50). In other words, our High Priest, Yeshua, lifted his hands and made a b'rakhah! Without doubt, he lifted them in form of the double Hebrew letter shin, and said or sang the Priestly Prayer.

Wait, are you saying that just prior to his rapture, our High Priest, Yeshua, spoke the priestly prayer over his followers? Amen, that is exactly what I am saying.

# **Conclusions**

Yahweh is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. His High Priest, whom he commanded to bless his people with the Priestly Prayer, did so in the Older Covenant, did so in the Newer Covenant, and continues to do so in Heaven, and will always continue to do so for all eternity. Amen and Hallelujah!

# The Prodigal Father

#### Luke 15:11-24

This parable, commonly labeled the Parable of the Prodigal Son, parallels the story of mankind, with a few differences. In this parable, there is a father who has two sons; one – the younger son – who takes his inheritance and squanders it; and the second – the older son – who remains behind and complains when the younger son returns. True, the younger son lives a life of wild living and debauchery – a prodigal lifestyle in every way, which is not to be celebrated. However, what about his return? Should not both older son and father celebrate that?

And what about the father? As I continue to reflect on this parable, it is not the prodigal lifestyle of the son that impresses me, but the prodigal behaviors of the father. Does he not also live a lifestyle that is prodigal in its own right? Let's examine the parable and find out.

#### The Dramatis Personae

In this parable, the father represents Yahweh as the father of all mankind. The younger son represents all mankind after the fall of Adam. The older son represents the individual who doesn't even know he already has everything he needs, and becomes a whining, unloving individual who refuses to celebrate when the younger son is redeemed – the unbeliever.

#### **The Inheritance Given**

**Luke 15:11-12** – "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So the man divided his property between them."

The parable begins with the father giving the younger son his inheritance. This parallels Yahweh giving Adam dominion over the earth, though Adam neither requested it nor demanded it, as did the younger son.

#### The Inheritance Squandered

**Luke 15:13-16** – "A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything."

Adam, and mankind, in essence has squandered the inheritance. Instead of living rightly, he chose to disobey and so does all of mankind. Paul tells us there is not one righteous person, no not one (**Romans 3:23, 5:12**). Mankind continues to squander all that Yahweh has given, lusting after money, drugs, sex, and a billion other worldly desires that seem so wonderful to our senses. Mankind will "eat" anything, even the food of pigs to satisfy those inner needs and wants!

#### The Act Of Repentance

**Luke 15:17-19** – "But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands".'

At some point in each individual's life, many will see their situation for what it really is, understand that they have squandered their inheritance, and have nothing whatsoever to offer Yahweh in return for simply being able to live in his home – even as just the lowliest of servants. How sad that many must come literally to the end of themselves before they reach this point and turn back in penitence. How utterly sad that many others, even recognizing their destitute situation, will not turn back but will choose to spend eternity without the love and provision of their heavenly father!

# **Seeking The Father**

**Luke 15:20-21** – "So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son'."

The father in this parable runs to his son – not one iota of hesitance. In like manner, Yeshua came to mankind with open arms, willing to take us back, without hesitation (**Philippians 2:6-8**). Mankind not only refused his offer, but crucified him. And yet, he still waits for us to seek him – all an person has to do is search for him and knock on the door (**Matthew 7:7**, **Luke 11:9**). Even Yeshua stands at the door and knocks – he is seeking us, too – and will come to anyone if they simply open the door to their heart (**Revelation 3:20**)!

# **The Restoration**

**Luke 15:22-14** – "But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate."

Not only does the father in this parable run to his son, he completely restores him.

- The robe represents the covering of Yeshua's blood that imputes righteousness to the redeemed individual (Isaiah 61:10). It also signifies the new immortal, incorruptible body one is given at the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:42-54).
- The ring signifies authority. A signet-ring, with the arms of the family, represents the person wearing it as being the ambassador of the father. The individual has been given the authority of the father. Redeemed individuals are the ambassadors of Yahweh / Yeshua (Colossians 3:17).
- The sandals symbolizes the adoption back into Yahweh's family as a son or daughter. Once redeemed, an individual is no longer a slave, but becomes a son or daughter (**Romans 8:15-23, Galatians 4:5, Ephesians 1:5**). And the restoration of the inheritance once squandered is fully restored (**Galatians 3:29**).
- The celebration represents the awesome celebration that occurs every time an individual is restored (**Luke 15:10**).

# **Conclusions**

The father is prodigal in his blessings, both before and after restoration. Yahweh gave mankind everything he made – they squandered it. He waits with anticipation for the day when each individual repents and returns – then he runs to meet them without any hesitation whatsoever. He restores them fully, not in part. He gave mankind Yeshua, his best, to make the way for this restoration. His grace and provision are prodigious! Truly a prodigal father.

One repentance has been made, the individual then has only one desire – to return to Yahweh. Thus begins the journey to salvation and restoration. The restoration won't be meager, it will be full, and the celebration will be prodigious, too.

Will you accept his offer, or will you refuse. Accept – eternal life. Refuse – eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire. The choice is yours. Choose wisely!

# Parallels and Patterns

#### Ecclesiastes 1:9

• What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun.

#### Ecclesiastes 3:15

• Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before; and God will call the past to account.

In this essay we will be looking at scripture through the lens of parallels and patterns, for scripture tells us that prophetic patterns are cyclical what has happened in the past is bound to happen in the future!

# Isaac, A Parallel To Yeshua, The Messiah.

#### Isaac

- Isaac was the son of Abraham (The father of nations)
- Isaac was sent to Mount Moriah, the present site of the Temple Mount
- Isaac carried the wood upon which he would be sacrificed as an offering to God
- A lamb replaced Isaac as the sacrifice

#### Yeshua

☐ Yeshua is also the son of the father
☐ Yeshua also goes to Mount Mariah
☐ Yeshua also carries the cross (wood) upon which he was sacrificed as an offering to Good
□ Yeshua is the lamb that is sacrificed

#### Cain And Able, A Parallel To The True And False Church.

Cain and Able point to the true church and the false church. The true church knows that salvation comes by the Father and that a blood sacrifice is necessary to atone for sin. The false church believes that a person can obtain salvation according to his works.

# Cain and the False Church

- Cain brought an offering of the works of his hands a grain offering
- Cain refused to accept the offering for sin (הטאת chattath H2403b) that lay at his feet

#### Able and the True Church

☐ Able brought an off	tering of the works of his	hands – a grain offering
□ Able also brought t	o Yahweh a blood offerin	g – a slain lamb, the chattath

#### The First And Second Adam

# The First Adam (Adam)

- Adam was created by God without the seed of man
- Adam was called the son of God
- Adam was given dominion over the earth
- Adam sinned in a garden
- Satan came in the form of a serpent to Adam and destroyed fellowship with God
- Adam was made a living soul
- In Adam all die

# The Second Adam (Christ) ☐ Christ was also created – born of a virgin ☐ Christ was also called the Son of God ☐ Christ was given dominion over Satan's kingdom ☐ Christ had sin placed on him in a garden (became sin) □ Christ became the image of the Serpent on the pole and restored fellowship with God ☐ Christ is a quickening spirit □ In Christ all live **Eve And The Church** Eve • Eve is Adam's wife • Eve Came forth from Adam (i.e. Adam gave life to Eve) • Eve's sin was accounted to Adam • Eve Was taken from Adam's side • Adam calls her the mother of all the living • Adam shows the love of a husband for his wife The Church ☐ The church is the bride of Christ ☐ Christ gave life to the church ☐ Our sin was placed on Christ □ Christ bled from His side □ Christ is the head of the church □ Christ shows his love of and for the church The Patterns of 40 Moses and the Law Moses' life can be separated into 3 periods of 40 years. • The 1st period of 40 years began with Moses being placed in the water of the Nile. • The 2nd period of 40 years is spent in the wilderness in the land of Midian (strife) after Moses attempts to make peace between the two Hebrew brothers who were fighting. (figurative of Israel and Judah; the two "sticks" of Ezekiel 37:15-22) They reject him and the deliverance that he offered. Note that the prince of Midian had 7 daughters. (Possibly symbolic of the 7 churches?) • The 3rd period of 40 years begins after the burning bush when Moses returns to deliver the children of Israel from their bondage to the power of Pharaoh. (symbolic of the Adversary and/or gentile power?) • This time he was successful and they agree to follow him. Yeshua (Jesus), Salvation, Christ our King Now fast forward about 1500 years from Moses.

# $\ \square$ At the end of this 40 days he came and preached Deliverance. (Luke 4:17-21) Most of the Children of Israel

□ Immediately he went and spent 40 days in the "wilderness" to be tempted by Satan.

☐ Yeshua the Messiah, of whom Moses was just a shadow, is baptized in the water of the Jordan river by John.

□ After Yeshua "crossed over" from death unto life he was seen of them 40 days and then He ascended into heaven. This time he is successful and many agree to follow him.

#### Joshua and Yeshua

# Joshua (Jehoshua) Salvation of YA., the LORD is salvation

- Hosea's name is changed to Joshua by Moses, thus denoting that the LORD is salvation
- Israel did not enter the Promised Land under the leadership of Moses, who represents the Law
- Israel enters the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua
- Israel enters the Promised Land on the third day after being instructed how to cross the River Jordan
- Israel enters the Promised Land about 2000 cubits behind the Ark of the Covenant
- When the Priests entered the Jordan, the water backed up all the way to the city of Zaretan (their distress) and to the city of Adam.
- After crossing, Joshua circumcised them

# Yeshua (Jesus), Salvation, Christ our King

□ Yeshua is the Savior
☐ The promises cannot be obtained under the Law: the Law cannot bring salvation
□ Believers enter THE Promised Land through Yeshua, THE Savior
□ We are now at the start of the third day since Yeshua rose into Heaven
□ We are now about 2000 cubits behind our Ark, Yeshua!
□ Yeshua's blood washed away the sin and distress of mankind all the way to Adam
□ Yeshua circumcises our hearts

#### **Conclusions**

What an amazing picture Joshua's walk is of the Messiah's work at Calvary with possible implications for Israel's and true believer's restoration to the Promised Land 2000 years after Yeshua's "crossing over

# Great Escapes and Entrances

**Exodus 14:14** – "Yahweh will fight for you while you keep silent."

Scripture tells us of many battles, escapes, entrances, and other doings of Yahweh / Yeshua on behalf of his people. Today I want to highlight two escapes and one entrance that vividly portray his working on their and our behalf.

## **Great Escape 1 – The Sea of Suf**

**Exodus 14:19** – "The Angel of God, who had been going before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the Pillar Of Cloud moved from before them and stood behind them."

As the Jews made their escape from Egypt after four hundred years of slavery, Yahweh lead the way until Pharaoh's army caught up, at which time Yahweh placed himself between his people and their enemies. The Jews were hemmed in by mountains to the north and south, the Sea of Suf to the East, and Pharoah's army to the west.

All seemed lost, but Yahweh had other plans for his people – the Sea of Suf parted to the north and to the south, walls of water forming a corridor through which the Jews were able to escape, while Yahweh destroyed their enemies.

### **Great Entrance 1 – The Jordan River**

**Joshua 3:16** – "The waters which were flowing down from above stood and rose up in one heap, a great distance away at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those which were flowing down toward the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off.

Joshua 3:13-17 tells of the entry of the Jews into the promised land. To do this, the Jews must cross the Jordan River into Jericho, but the river is at flood stage. Yahweh's solution – once again the waters part forming a corridor through which the Jews were able to walk. But this time, Yahweh has no need to stand behind them to protect them from enemies. Instead, he moves out in front – the waters part when the feet of the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant, his presence amongst them, first touch the edge of the water.

# **Great Escape 2 – The Mount of Olives**

**Zechariah 14:4** – "In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. You will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel . . ."

Once again, we see Yahweh's people hemmed in – this time with Jerusalem and Mount Moriah to the west, the Mount of Olives to the east, and the armies of Satan to the north and south in a pincer movement determined to destroy Yahweh's people, just as Pharaoh had determined to do at the Sea of Suf.

And once again, Yahweh, in the person of Yeshua, forms a corridor through which the Jews are able to escape. The Mount of Olives parts to the north and to the south, walls of stone and dirt forming a corridor through which the Jews are able to escape, while Yeshua stands in the gap between them and their enemies, whom he destroys (Revelation 14-20). It's a repeat of the Sea of Suf!

### **Conclusions**

Yahweh / Yeshua always stands between his people and their adversaries.

The Sea of Suf and Mount of Olives vividly portray this reality. Yahweh / Yeshua always goes before his people to lead them into the promised land. The entry into the promised land through the Jordan River vividly portrays this reality.

Yeshua has also gone before us and has crossed the river of death into life. The entry into life through the resurrection vividly portrays this reality.

Will you let Yahweh / Yeshua be your guide and protector, will you let him resurrect you to eternal life?

# The Days of Teshuvah – Days of Awe

**2 Peter 3:9** – "Yahweh is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance."

Yom Teruah, the Dress Rehearsal for the Raising of the Dead and the Rapture of the Bride of Yeshua has come and gone, and Yahweh has given the unbelieving more time to repent and call on his name before he raptures his bride and the Tribulation Period begins. Yom Kippurim quickly approaches.

## Yom Teruah

**Joel 2:1** – "Blow you the shofar in Zion, And sound an alarm in my holy mountain!"

On Yom Teruah, also known as Yom Ha'Din the trumpets declared the solemn warning that the gates of heaven are open and that the Court in Heaven is in session. It is the day when all must pass before Yahweh to be judged for their actions of the last year, when the books are opened and he determines their fate for the next year. At that time, all people will be put into one of three classifications:

- The totally righteous are sealed and separated for life with Yahweh, Yeshua, and the Ruach Ha'Kodesh.
- The totally wicked are sealed to face the wrath of Yahweh during the tribulation period and then will be separated from him throughout all eternity.
- The fate of the people that are neither totally righteous nor totally wicked is not yet sealed at this point.

### The Days of Teshuvah

**Joel 2:13** – "Tear your heart . . . and **turn** to Yahweh, your God; for he is gracious and merciful."

Ezekiel 14:6 – "Thus says Yahweh, 'Repent, turn away from your idols and turn away from all your abominations'."

The words translated "turn" and "turn away" are the Hebrew word, shuv [H7725]. Teshuvah comes from the word shuvah, [H7729], which in itself comes from the root word, shuv. It means: to turn back, to return. Teshuvah means going back to one's roots in Yahweh/Yeshua, returning to the true Adam before sin came into the world. It consists of several steps in the Jewish tradition including recognition and admission of the wrong doing and past shortcomings, followed by a renunciation of the action and a firm resolution to change in the future. Teshuvah requires restitution to the wronged party and a promise not to repeat the offense. It also expresses a sincere desire to return to an un-fallen or sinless state.

The forty days of Teshuvah represent the second forty days that Moses spent on Mount Sinai after the Golden Calf incident. The first thirty days ending on Yom Teruah is generally known as the Time of Repentance.

Aseres Yemei Teshuvah, or the Ten Days of Repentance are the last ten days starting on Yom Teruah (beginning at sunset on Sunday, October 2nd) and leading up to the day of Yom Kippurim. The first two days of Aseres Yemei Teshuvah are the two days of Yom Teruah, and the third day is the Fast of Gedalia. Beginning on the second day, the shofar is blown every day as a warning to return to Yahweh in repentance. The tenth day is the last day of Teshuvah, the day of Yom Kippurim. Those who are neither totally righteous nor totally wicked will have until Yom Kippurim to repent.

The last ten days are also known as the Days of Awe, a term that is more commonly known as the Days of Jacob's Trouble and represent the tribulation period that will purge the Earth of evil. If you only count the days between Yom Teruah and Yom Kippur the number of days is seven, the same as the number of years in the tribulation period!

## Yom Kippurim

**Joel 2:1** – "Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of Yahweh comes, it is close at hand."

The tenth day is the last day of Teshuvah, the day of Yom Kippurim. The Feast of Yom Kippurim symbolizes the final writing of the verdict that each person listed in the Book of Life is a righteous one, a tzaddik, or is forever separated from Yahweh. There are but a few days left to repent and return, to teshuvah. May full use of this time lest you be separated forever and consigned to the Lake of Fire for all eternity.

#### **Conclusions**

**1 John 1:9** – "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

The Days of Awe, also known as the Aseres Yemei Teshuvah, or the Ten Days of Repentance, are in full swing. There are but a few days left to repent and return, to teshuvah. My prayer for you is that you will make full use of this time lest you be separated forever and consigned to the Lake of Fire for all eternity.

## Teshuvah and Jonah

**Exodus 34:28** – "Moshe was there with Yahweh 40 days and 40 nights; he neither ate bread, nor drank water." **Jonah 3:4** – "Jonah cried out and said: 'Yet forty days and Nineveh shall be overthrown'."

**Matthew 4:1, Luke 4:1-2** – "Yeshua was led into the wilderness and tempted by Satan for 40 days and nights."

## The Forty Days!

For forty days the rain came down upon the earth, and flooded the entire planet (**Genesis 7:4-17**). After the rains stopped, it was forty days before Noah exited the Ark (**Genesis 8:6**). Moshe was on the mountain twice for forty days, (**Exodus 24:18 & 34:28**). Yeshua was in the Wilderness fasting and praying for forty days (**Matthew 4:1**, **Luke 4:1**). The Days of Teshuvah are forty days long. The forty days of Teshuvah represent the second forty days that Moses spent on Mount Sinai after the Golden Calf incident (**Exodus 34:28**).

## Jonah's Forty Days!

Jonah was in Nineveh for forty days calling out for repentance, warning the city of its impending destruction! Those forty days were during the same time frame as Moses second trek up the mountain seeking atonement for the nation of Israel after their building of the Golden Calf, Yeshua's trek in the wilderness being tested, and the Days of Teshuvah – the time frame of the fall feasts – the days of Yom Teruah, Yom Kippurim, and Sukkoth!!!! Elul 1 to Tishri 10!

Moses came down from the mountain on the day of Yom Kippurim. Yeshua exited the wilderness on the day of Yom Kippurim. Likewise, Jonah left Nineveh on the day of Yom Kippurim!

### The Sleeper

**Jonah 1: 5-6** – "But Jonah had gone down to the lowest part of the ship, laid down and had fallen fast asleep. So the captain came and said to him, 'What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise and call out to your god! . . . . Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us'."

**Matthew 8:24** – "And a great storm developed on the sea so that the waves began to swamp the boat. But Yeshua was fast asleep."

Mark 4:37-38 – "And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was filling up. But Yeshua was in the stern of the boat fast asleep on a cushion."

Notice the parallels: A great storm arises, and both Yeshua and Jonah are fast asleep. Both crews attribute this storm to an evil influence (the sea was considered to be a synonym for the abyss [G12]; a place of evil and abode of demons – see **Luke 8:31**). Jonah is told to cry out to his god. Yeshua simply speaks. The storms dissipate and the water becomes calm.

**Ephesians 5:14** – "Awake, you who sleep, and arise from the dead, and Messiah will shine on you."

Paul is speaking to the people of the church, telling them to wake up – to confront the evil that is impacting them and stop doing their "own thing". Jonah is asleep, doing his own thing, running away from Yahweh. He represents the sleeping church doing their own will!! He represents those who try to force Yahweh to do it their way, in their time, according to their own theology.

### The Sukkah

**Jonah 4:5** – "So Jonah went out of the city, and sat on the east side of the city, and there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow, till he might see what would become of the city."

Jonah heads out of the city on the eastern side and builds a booth – a sukkah [H5521]. Why to the east? Because scripture teaches that Mashiach will come from the East when he returns to bring judgment. Yom Kippur has passed, the books are closed, and judgment is about to be meted out! Jonah has built a sukkah and is waiting to see Yahweh arrive from the East and destroy Nineveh.

### The Gourd

**Jonah 4:6** – "And Yahweh prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his evil."

Jonah already had shade from the sukkah. Yahweh brings a gourd to deliver Jonah from his evil – not from his discomfort, grief, or misery as some translations put it! The word being translated is the Hebrew word: ra` [H7451]; which means: evil – not discomfort, grief, or misery!

**Jonah 4:8-9** – "Death is better to me than life . . . . I have good reason to be angry, even to death."

Unlike Abraham desiring Sodom be spared and unlike Moses desiring the Hebrews at Mount Sinai to be spared, Jonah does not want Yahweh to pardon Nineveh's evil, but to bring his wrath upon them. Yahweh not only shows Nineveh mercy because of their repentance, he also shows mercy to Jonah by delivering Jonah from his own evil. Jonah is having none of it, however. He never repents or even apologizes. Just the opposite, he begs for death.

#### **Conclusions**

Jonah is in Nineveh during the same forty day time frame as the forty days Moses was seeking forgiveness for the golden calf, the very same forty day time frame of Yeshua's forty days in the wilderness. And it is the same forty day time frame as the forty Days of Teshuvah – the time frame of the fall feasts – the days of Yom Teruah, Yom Kippurim, and Sukkoth!!!! Elul 1 to Tishri 10!

# The Signs of Jonah-Hosea-Joshua-Zephaniah

Scripture talks of many signs that will begin to appear before Yeshua Ha'Mashiach returns. Below are some of the signs of the prophets:

#### Jonah

When Yeshua was asked by the religious leaders to show them a sign, he said that the only sign that would be shown would be the sign of Jonah! And what was the sign of Jonah? You've got it: a whale that swallowed Jonah, from Joppa, and then spat Jonah up three days later!

This sign of the whale was given during what is called the second redemption cycle for the Jews. Today we are in what they call the third redemption cycle. A number of articles in 2011 detailed the sighting of a gray whale off the coast of Israel, near Joppa, for the first time in 300 years. This is unusual because gray whales are normally only found in the Pacific ocean!

If the sign of Jonah was a sign of redemption when Yeshua was alive, could this be yet another sign that Yeshua is near, even at the door?

#### Hosea / Joshua

**Hosea 6:2**: "After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight." Joshua's story, more so than Moses' story, is one of the best patterns of Yeshua in the Old Testament. Not only does Joshua's name reflect the name of Yeshua, but so also does his ministry to the Hebrews reflect the ministry of Yeshua to all.

His name, originally Hosea (**Numbers 13:16**) [H1954] Son of Nun [H5125] meant: salvation, son of the shoots [seed, or root]. Yeshua is both our salvation and also the branch, root, shoot, or seed of Jesse! Furthermore, when Moses changed Hosea's name to Joshua [Yehoshua H3091], the name then meant: the Lord is salvation, or salvation of Yahweh.

Upon reaching the eastern bank of the Jordon, Joshua commanded the people saying, "Prepare you victuals; for within three days you shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which Yahweh your God gives you to possess it." (Joshua 1:11). In Joshua 3:4, scripture tells us that after the three days, the Ark went before the children of Israel into the Jordon River and the people were commanded to follow behind the Ark of the Covenant by about 2000 cubits while the Ark remained in the river. At the same time, the waters of the Jordon River backed up all the way to the city of Zaretan (their distress) and the city of Adam (Joshua 3:16). Once all the people were on the other side of the Jordan, Joshua circumcised them (Joshua 5:1-3).

### **Notice The Parallels:**

Moses, who represents the Law, was unable to bring the people into the promised land, but Joshua, who became the salvation of Yahweh, was able to do so. The Law cannot save, only Yeshua Ha'Mashiach can bring salvation.

Yeshua rose on the third day, and then ascended into heaven about forty days later. He is our ark of safety. When Yeshua died, or crossed over, his blood washed away our distress and every sin committed throughout history was washed away all the way back to Adam, the first man! He circumcises our hearts, once we accept his free gift of salvation.

We are now about 2000 cubits (years) behind Yeshua entering our promised land (heaven).

# Hosea / Zephaniah

**Hosea 4:3**: "By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood. Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away."

**Zephaniah 1:1-3:** "The word of Yahweh which came unto Zephaniah the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hizkiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah. I will utterly consume all things from off the land, says Yahweh. I will consume man and beast; I will consume the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumbling blocks with the wicked: and I will cut off man from off the land, says Yahweh."

In both of these verses, we see that Yahweh will remove animals, birds, and fish from the earth because of continual lying, thieving, murdering, and adultery. But, when does this happen? According to **Zephaniah 2:2,** this happens just "before the decree brings forth, before the day passes as the chaff, before the fierce anger of Yahweh comes upon you, before the day of Yahweh's anger comes upon you." Makes one wonder if the recent animal, bird, and fish deaths worldwide are letting us know that Yahweh's judgment upon the earth is coming soon.

### **Conclusions**

Scripture talks of many signs that will begin to appear before Yeshua Ha'Mashiach returns. Could the signs above be some of them?

# Witnesses Required, The Pattern of Two or More

**Leviticus 19:15b** – "A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses."

All truth must be witnessed by two or more witnesses. All of Yeshua's miracles were witnessed by two or more witnesses except his resurrection which took place inside the burial tomb whose opening was sealed by the large stone.

## Miracles Seen By Two Or More Witnesses

Numerous people were witnesses to Yeshua's miracles.

- Matthew 14:17-21, Mark 6:38-43, Luke 9:13-14 Five thousand are fed with five loaves and two fish.
- Matthew 15:34-38, Mark 8:5-9, Four thousand are fed with seven loaves.
- Mark 10:46-52, Luke 18:35-43 The crowd witnesses Yeshua give sight to a blind man.
- Mark 9:17-26 The crowd witnesses Yeshua cast out a mute spirit.
- John 2:1-10 The wedding guests and apostles witness Yeshua turn water into wine.
- Acts 1:1-11 The apostles witness Yeshua taken up into the clouds.

### The Three Witnesses To Yeshua's Resurrection

But were there any witnesses to Yeshua's miracles. Russ Breault says yes, there were three, but none of those witnesses were human. The three witnesses are:

- The Empty Tomb: Matthew 28:1-6; Mark 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-12 "They have taken away Yeshua out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."
- The Empty Burial Cloth: **John 20:4-6** "John and Peter ran together, and John ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first; John stooped to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there; but he did not go in. Peter, however, entered the tomb and also saw the linen wrappings lying there."
- The Cover Cloth: **John 20:7** "And the cloth, that had covered Yeshua's head, was not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself."

### **The Empty Tomb**

The empty tomb verifies fulfillment of many prophecies regarding the resurrection of the dead, and specifically the resurrection of Ha'Mashiach (the Messiah). It means salvation for all who believe, it means there was no corpse waiting to decay, it means that Yeshua died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, it means that just as Yeshua received an immortal, incorruptible body, so will we at our resurrection.

## **The Empty Burial Cloth**

The Shroud of Turin is believe by many to be the empty burial cloth. The Shroud is a long linen cloth made of out flax and measures 14 feet long and 3.5 feet wide. It bears the faint image of a bearded, crucified man with

bloodstains that match the wounds of crucifixion suffered by Yeshua of Nazareth as recorded in all four Gospel narratives. It shows:

- Blood on head (from a crown of thorns?)
- Abrasions and bruises on face
- Over 120 scourge (whip) marks
- Blood on the arms
- Nail wound in the wrists
- Nail wound in the feet
- Legs not broken
- Wound in the side
- Post mortem blood flow from side wound and on the back
- Legs are pulled up due to rigor mortis
- Blood is from actual wounds and show evidence of gravity from a vertical position
- No stains of body decomposition

### **The Cover Cloth**

Whether or not the folded cloth [soudarion σουδάριον H4676] is called a napkin or a handkerchief, or whether or not it covered the entire head or just the face makes little difference to its significance. Two possibilities of why the cloth covering Yeshua's face/head was folded and set aside are:

- Tradition indicates that a napkin would be folded and set beside the plate if the person intended to return to the table, or crumpled if not. The folded cloth meant, "I'm coming back!"
- **John 11:44** describes the face covering of Lazarus, who had just been resurrected by Yeshua. If grave robbers had been the cause of the empty tomb, they would not have taken time to fold the cloth but would simply have tossed it aside. Again, the folded cloth declares "I'm coming back!"

## The Receipt

When one goes to the store and purchases items, and then pays the cashier, one receives a printed receipt that lists the items and their cost. The Shroud of Turin is that detailed receipt of the items Yeshua endured in order to purchase our redemption from Satan, sin, and eternal death.

### **Conclusions**

Scripture demands two or more witnesses to establish a matter. Normally the witnesses are humans. Yahweh, however is not dependent upon human witnesses. Just as the miracles establish the fact that Yeshua is Ha'Mashiach, that he is God, that he is the truth, the way, and the life, so also do the three witnesses of the empty tomb, the empty burial cloth, and the folded cover cloth establish that he has been resurrected, he is coming back, and those who believe will also be resurrected.

# The Pattern of Three

**1 John 5:7** – "For there are three who testify . . ."

Scripture is filled with the patterns and images of three and multiples of three. The length of the ark Noah built was 300 cubits (Genesis 6:15). Noah had three sons from whom all the families of the earth were spread (Genesis 9:19). Yahweh walked through the carcasses of a heifer, she goat, and a ram, all of which were three years old (Genesis 15:9). All males are required to attend three moedim (Exodus 23:14). The special happenings of the third day is mentioned numerous times. Jonah was in the belly of the great fish three days and three nights (Jonah 1:17, Matthew 12:40). Yeshua was in the belly of the earth three days and three nights (Matthew 12:40; Mark 14:30, 72).

One of the most important triune patterns is the pattern of the three witnesses. Three witnesses are the optimum number to give testimony according to **Deuteronomy 17:6**, **19:15**; **Matthew 18:16**; **1 Corinthians 14:27-29**; **2 Corinthians 13:1**; **1 Timothy 5:19**; **Hebrews 10:28**; and **1 John 5:7**. Peter witnessed three times that he did not know Yeshua according to **Matthew 26:37,75**; **Mark 14:30**, **72**; **Luke 22:34**, **61**. Yeshua witnessed that he would rise from the dead on the third day according to **Matthew 27:63**; **Mark 8:31**; **John 2:19**). Wherever three are gathered, there Yeshua is present (**Matthew 18:20**).

So, why do scholars only speak of two comings of Yeshua? Don't the triune patterns indicate that there should be three? Let's take a look at the triune patterns and then see if perhaps there are three comings, not two!

### **The Trinity**

**Genesis 1:1** – "For the sake of the Son, Elohim, through and by the Son, created the heavens and the earth, and his Spirit moved over the surface . . ."

**Matthew 28:19** – "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Galatians 4:6 – "Yahweh has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!'."

There are three who are the one God, Elohim אַלהָים] in the Hebrew:

- Elohim, Son, and Spirit.
- The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- Yahweh, Yeshua, and Ruach.

Clearly there is A Pattern Of Three, A Triune Pattern, A Trinity.

**1 John 5:7 -8** – "There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement."

All of the translations except the King James translate the Greek this way. King James states That there are three that witness in heaven – the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost (v 7), and then states that there are three that witness in the earth – the Spirit, the water, and the blood (v8). Perhaps an extrapolation, but still, clearly A Pattern Of Three, A Triune Pattern, A Trinity.

## **Three Raptures**

**1 Thessalonians 4:17** – "Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up."

- Enoch was raptured into heaven: **Genesis 5:24** *Yahweh took him*, **Hebrews 11:5** *Yahweh translated him*.
- Elijah was also raptured into heaven: 2 Kings 2:11– Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven."
- Yeshua was raptured into heaven: Acts 1:9-11– Yeshua was lifted up and a cloud received Him.

Three raptures. In each case, the person involved is taken by Yahweh into heaven. Again, we clearly see A Pattern Of Three, A Triune Pattern, A Trinity.

### **Three Resurrections**

Acts 24:15 – "There shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked."

- The daughter of the synagogue ruler is claimed to be dead: Mark 5:35-41 "Girl, I tell you, get up."
- The only son of a woman is being carried to the burial place: **Luke 7:12-1**5 "Young man, I say unto thee, Arise."
- Lazarus, one whom Yeshua loved: **John 12:17** "*Yeshua called Lazarus . . . and raised him from the dead.*" Three resurrections. In each case, the person involved is raised by Yeshua back to life. Again, we clearly see A Pattern Of Three, A Triune Pattern, A Trinity.

#### **Three Rescues From Wrath**

Acts 4:12 – "And there is salvation in no one else."

- Yeshua rescues us: **1 Thessalonians 1:10** "Wait for Yahweh's Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Yeshua, who rescues us from the wrath to come."
- Yeshua obtains salvation for us: **1 Thessalonians 5:9** "For Yahweh has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Yeshua Ha'Mashiach."
- Yeshua keeps us: **Revelation 3:10** "I, Yeshua, will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

Three rescues from the wrath to come, from the hour of trial. The Greek uses three different words: rescues [rhyomai ῥύομαι G4506], salvation [sōtēria σωτηρία G4991], and keep [tēreō τηρέω G5083]. Three rescues, three different words! In each case, the people involved are not subject to Yahweh's wrath, but are saved from it by Yeshua. Again, we clearly see A Pattern Of Three, A Triune Pattern, A Trinity.

## **Three Judgments**

- The Seal Judgments (**Revelation Chapters 4:1 thru 8:1**)
- The Trumpet Judgments (Revelation Chapters 8:2 thru 14:20)
- The Bowl Judgments (**Revelation Chapters 15:1 thru 20:3**)

During the Day of Yahweh, the tribulation period, there are three sets of judgments. In each case judgment comes upon those who are living upon the earth. Again, we clearly see A Pattern Of Three, A Triune Pattern, A Trinity.

## **Third Day Patterns**

Patterns of threes occur throughout scripture. These often represent the way in which future events will unfold. A third day pattern is when an action taken in one part of scripture is repeated in a parallel fashion in another scripture – on the third day. The first two days set the stage, and the Conclusions to the action falls on the third day. These parallels or patterns generally portray a Biblical truth.

## The Captivity Pattern

**Hosea 6:2** – "Yahweh will revive us after two days; he will raise us up on the third day."

The Jews have been taken into captivity three times, and returned to the land of Israel twice. The first captivity lasted 430 years after Joseph's family moved to Egypt during a time of drought and starvation. The second captivity lasted only 70 years after Nebuchadnezzar deported them to Babylon. The third, and final captivity began after the destruction of Jerusalem in 70AD by the Romans when the Jews were scattered worldwide, and lasted almost 2000 years. They were revived on the third day (2 Peter 3:8 – "But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with Yahweh one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.")

## The Jonah Pattern

**Matthew 12:40** – "For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

Jonah spent three days in the belly of a great fish. He was spit out alive on the third day, and headed to Nineveh to preach repentance for forty days. Yeshua spent three days in the belly of the earth. He was raised on the third day and spent forty days preaching before rising into the clouds (**Acts 10:40** – "Yahweh raised Him up on the third day").

## The Decay Pattern

**Psalm 16:10** – "You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay." Flesh did not begin decaying until the third or fourth day according to Jewish tradition which is why Yeshua was raised early on the third day (**Acts 13:37** – "He whom Yahweh raised did not undergo decay").

## **The Imprisonment Pattern**

Genesis 40:20 – "Thus it came about on the third day, which was Pharaoh's birthday, that he made a feast for all his servants; and he lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants."

Both of Pharaoh's servants were released from prison on the third day. Today, we approach the "third day" after Yeshua's resurrection, and many will be released from Sheol in the resurrection and rapture (1Thessalonians 4:16 – "For Yehsua Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of Yahweh, and the dead in Christ will rise first").

### **The Mount Sinai Pattern**

**Exodus 19:11-16** – "On the third day Yahweh will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people." The Hebrews camped at the base of Mount Sinai after their Exodus from Egypt. After they agree to abide by the covenant relationship described by Yahweh, they prepare for His appearance on the third day.

## **The Healing Pattern**

**2 Kings 20:5** – "Return and say to Hezekiah the leader of My people, 'Thus says Yahweh, the God of your father David, I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; behold, I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the Temple'."

Hezekiah was King of the Southern Tribes of Israel. When he was informed that his life was about to end he prayed to Yahweh and was given a fifteen year extension, and was commanded to appear in the Temple – most likely to give thanks and testimony.

#### The Salvation Model

**Joshua 1:11; 3:2** – Israel enters the Promised Land on the third day after being instructed how to cross the River Jordan by Joshua, whose name means: Yahweh is salvation.

Esther 4:16; 5:1 – After fasting, on the third day Esther puts on royal apparel and enters into the presence of Ahasuerus in order to thwart Haman's murderous plot against the Jews.

We are now about 2000 years (2000 cubits) away from Yeshua crossing over. We are entering that third day, as Yahweh counts time.

## **Other Third Day References**

### On The Third Day:

**Genesis 1:12** – "The earth brought forth vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees of every kind, bearing fruit."

**Genesis 22:4-5** – "Abraham looked up and saw Mount Moriah."

Genesis 31:22 – Laban was told on the third day that Jacob had fled.

Genesis 42:17-18 – Joseph releases all but one of his brothers from prison in Egypt.

**Numbers 19:12-20** – "One shall purify himself from uncleanness with water, and also sacrifice bulls, rams, and lambs on the third day . . ."

**Joshua 2:16-22** – The spies emerge from hiding at Rahab's and return to Joshua to report about Jericho.

**Joshua 9:17** – "Then the sons of Israel set out and came to their cities on the third day."

Luke 13:32 -" I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I reach My goal."

**John 2:1-2** – "On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee . . ."

**Acts 27:19** – "On the third day they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands."

Matthew 16:21; 17:23; 20:19, Luke 9:22; 18:33; 24:7; 24:46 Yeshua is raised from the dead on the third day

### **More Patterns of Threes**

The following are included if one wishes to explore more patterns of threes:

#### **Third Year Patterns**

**Leviticus 19:23** – "When you enter the land and plant any kind of fruit tree, regards its fruit as forbidden. For three years you are to consider it forbidden; it must not be eaten."

**Leviticus 25:21** – "I will send you such a blessing in the sixth year that the land will yield enough for three years."

**2 Samuel 21:1** – "Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years."

1 Kings 2:36-38 – "But it came about at the end of three years, that two of the servants of Shimei ran away to Achish son of Maacah, king of Gath."

**1 Kings 10:22** – "For the king had at sea the ships of Tarshish with the ships of Hiram; once every three years the ships of Tarshish came bringing gold and silver, ivory and apes and peacocks."

**1 Kings 18:1** – "Now it happened after many days that the word of Yahweh came to Elijah in the third year.."

**Isaiah 16:14** – "Within three years, as a hired man would count them, the glory of Moab will be degraded along with all his great population, and his remnant will be very small and impotent."

**Isaiah 20:3** – "My servant Isaiah has gone naked and barefoot three years as a sign and token against Egypt and Cush."

**Daniel 1:3-5** – Daniel and his three friends were given "a daily ration from the king's choice food and from the wine which he drank, and appointed that they should be educated three years."

**Luke 13:7** – "Behold, for three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree without finding any. Cut it down!"

**Galatians 1:18** – "Then three years later I [Paul] went up to Jerusalem to become acquainted with Cephas . . ."

It is in the third year that men become Kings or get removed from kingship, teach, give banquets, or receive tithes (1 Kings 15:28; 15:33, 2 Kings 18:1, 2Chronicles 17:7; 27:5, Esther 1:3, Daniel 1:1; 8:1; 10:1)

#### The Number Three

- Genesis 6:10 Noah had three sons
- Exodus 23:14 Three times a year all your males shall appear before Yahweh.
- Exodus 23:17 Three times a year all your males shall appear before Yahweh.
- Exodus 34:23 "Three times a year all your males are to appear before Yahweh, the God of Israel.
- Numbers 22:28-33 Balaam's donkey turned aside three times
- Deuteronomy 16:16 All men were required to appear before Yahweh three times in a year.
- 1 Kings 7:4-5 All the doorways of Solomon's Palace were in sets of three, facing each other.
- 1 Samuel 20:41 David "bowed down before Jonathan three times, with his face to the ground"
- 1 Kings 17:21 Elijah stretched himself upon the child three times, and called to Yahweh for healing.
- **Job 1:2; 42:13** Job had three daughters
- Daniel 6:10, 13 Daniel regularly prayed three times a day giving thanks to God.
- Matthew 4:1-11 Yeshua answered Satan's threefold temptation by citing three scriptural passages
- Matthew 26:34-75, Mark 14:30-72, Luke 22:34-61, John 13:38 Peter denies Yeshua three times.
- 2 Corinthians 11:25 Three times Paul was beaten with rods and shipwrecked.
- 2 Corinthians 11:28 Paul experienced three shipwrecks.
- 2 Corinthians 12:7-8 Paul prayed three times to Yahweh for the removal of his "thorn in the flesh".
- Acts 10:16 Three times a sheet was let down, and immediately taken up into the sky.
- Acts 11:10 Three times a sheet was let down, and everything was drawn back up into the sky.
- Hebrews 9:4 The Ark of the Covenant held three objects: The jar of manna, Aaron's staff, the stone tablets.
- **Revelation 21:13** In John's vision all four sides of the city of the New Jerusalem have three gates.

### **Conclusions**

Throughout scripture we clearly see patterns of three, triune patterns, trinities. Parallels, patterns, pictures, and types are the backbone of scripture, are cyclical and give us many ways to understand current history and what the future holds. We are now about 2000 years (2000 cubits) away from Yeshua crossing over. We are entering that third day, as God counts time. Just as the Hebrews entered into the Promised Land, Israel, about 2000 cubits behind the Ark of the Covenant, so now are the true believers expecting restoration to Heaven, their Promised Land, about 2000 years after Yeshua's "crossing over".

Many scholars talk about only two comings of Yeshua – the first coming to save and the second coming in two phases, once to rapture, once to judge. But given the patterns of three that inundate scripture, the triune nature of things, why don't we simply speak of the three comings of Yeshua? If we follow the triune pattern, the three comings are:

- 1st Coming Yeshua arrives to seek the lost, to be crucified, resurrected, and raptured.
- 2nd Coming Yeshua arrives to rapture his bride.
- 3rd Coming Yeshua arrives to judge the world and set up his millennial reign.

This tri-fold pattern allows us to clearly see A Pattern Of Three, A Triune Pattern, A Trinity, a pattern consistent with other scriptural patterns of three.

# The Amazing Vav

Genesis 1:1 – "In the beginning Elohim created the heavens and the earth. (B'reshiyth bara Elohim et ha'shamayim v'et ha'erets)

The vav is the sixth letter of the Hebrew alphabet, and it is used in scripture for the first time in the sixth word. The meaning of the word is – hook, as a connecting hook used when the tabernacle was assembled. It can also mean – nail. In ancient times, it was pronounced as a "w", but has become to be pronounced today as a "v", and has the numerical equivalent of six.

#### The Connections

### Heaven and Earth:

The vav joins the heavens and the earth together, suggesting the connection between the spiritual and earthly matters. Its connection to the word, v'et, it alludes to the connection between all letters, the connection to the Aleph-Tav who is Yeshua, and is therefore the connecting force of God, the divine "hook" that binds together heaven and earth. And who does scripture say Yeshua is? **1 Timothy 2:5** tells us that the mediator between Yahweh and humankind, between heaven and earth, is "the man Yeshua Ha'Mashiach"!

#### The Man:

The vav is a picture of man who was: Created on the sixth day, works for six days, and who rules earth for six days (6000 years) before Messiah returns.

## The Tabernacle and the Scroll:

The vav is the word used to depict the hooks that held the curtains of the Tabernacle together.

The tabernacle was the habitation of God in the wilderness and the Torah is the habitation of His Word so a Torah scroll is patterned after the Tabernacle.

The Hebrew word for curtain, *yĕriy'ah* [H3407], is the same word for a sheet of parchment.

The Hebrew word for pillar or a post, ammuwd [H5982], is the same word for a column in a Torah scroll.

Each curtain of the tabernacle was fastened by a hook, And on every Torah Scroll we find that:

- The vav starts each column of the text in a Torah scroll, thereby hooking the text to the parchment or scroll.
- There are 304,805 letters in 248 columns on roughly 50 "curtains" per scroll.
- There are 42 lines (6x7) in every column of a torah scroll with the first word in every column beginning with a word that begins with the letter vav hooking each column of print to a sheet of parchment!

## The Belly of Torah:

**Leviticus 11:42** – "Whatever crawls on its **belly**, and whatever walks on all fours, whatever has many feet, in respect to every swarming thing that swarms on the earth, you shall not eat them, for they are detestable."

An oversized vav, the only one in scripture, marks the center of the Torah in **Leviticus 11:42**.

The word, belly, in which this oversized vav occurs, is *gachown* [H1512]!

The beast is identified as a man whose number is 666, or triple vav.

#### The Messiah:

The first use of the vav in connection to Yeshua is in **Genesis 1:1**, where it is connected to the second aleph-tav in the sixth word. Its connection to the word, v'et, alludes to the connection between all letters, the connection to the Aleph-Tav who is Yeshua, and is therefore the connecting force of God, the divine "hook" that binds together heaven and earth. **1 Timothy 2:5** tells us that the mediator between Yahweh and humankind, between heaven and earth, is "the man Yeshua Ha'Mashiach"!

In **Genesis 2:4**, the word *towlědah* [H8435] is used to describe the generations of the heavens and the earth.

**In Genesis 5:1**, this word is also used to describe the generations of Adam, but is spelled with a missing vav.

It continues to be spelled with this missing vav until **Ruth 4:18**, when the "lost" or missing vav is restored. The restored vav in the word *towlĕdah* is a picture of the Messiah who would descend from the "generations" of Perez. The vav was lost when the first man, Adam, sinned and restored through the second man, Yeshua Ha'Mashiach. The Vav is portrayed by the symbol of a nail, peg or hook.

The four letters that make up the name of Yeshua are: Yod, Shin, Vav, Ayin [H3442]. The letter vav means hook. It can also mean nail. Yeshua was hung on the cross using three nails. In other words, three vavs! The vav signifies the nailed hands and feet of Yeshua on the cross.

### Yahweh's Name:

The four letters that make up the name of Yahweh are: Yod, Hey, Vav, Hey [H3068], can be translated to mean:

- The Man With The Outstretched Arms and Nailed Hands Shall Be Revealed Twice.
- Behold the Nail, Behold the Hand.
- Behold the Nailed Hand.

The overall meaning of the word, YHWH is: salvation! Therefore, the four letters can also be translated to mean:

• Behold – The Nailed Hand Is Salvation

## The Completion:

Vav is the symbol for: Completion, redemption and transformation. It has the numeric value of six, a number that denotes physical completion.

### The Broken Vav in Shalom

All letters in the Torah must be written without error and must be well formed. However, the amazing thing about the word peace which in Hebrew is the word shalom [H7965] in **Numbers 25:12** is that it has an anomaly in its spelling that is not found in any other place in scripture! The word shalom, is spelled with a broken vav!

### **The Connections**

#### Phinehas:

Numbers 25:10-12 – "And Yahweh spoke unto Moses, saying, Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy. Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace."

The vav in the word shalom [H7965] however, is broken. This broken vav represents a man that has been broken in order to bring peace for the sake of the covenant of peace that brought atonement to Israel. The sages say since the vav has been broken, the top half looks like a yod and the bottom half is now a vav and they say it represents Phinehas hand holding the spear that pierced through Zimri and Cozbi.

### Yeshua:

Colossians 1:20 – "Yahweh made peace through the blood of Yeshua to reconcile all things unto himself." The broken vav represents the pierced hand of Messiah nailed to the cross to achieve our peace! The broken vav is also a perfect picture of Yeshua Ha'Mashiach, whose body is broken for us: "When he had given thanks, he broke the bread, and said, 'Take, eat. This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in memory of me'." (1 Corinthians 11:24).

## The Missing Vav in Towlědah

**Genesis 2:4** – "This is the history of the **generations** of the heavens and of the earth when they were created."

The vav was lost when the first man, Adam, sinned and was restored through the second man, Yeshua Ha'Mashiach. The restored vav is a picture of the Messiah who would descend from the "generations" of Perez. In **Genesis 2:4**, the word towlĕdah [H8435] is used to describe the generations of the heavens and the earth. In **Genesis 5:1**, this word is also used to describe the generations of Adam, but is spelled with a missing vav. It continues to be spelled with this missing vav until the Book of Ruth. In **Ruth 4:18**, the "lost" or missing vav is restored.

### **Conclusions**

The letter vav plays a very important role in scripture, which cannot be seen in the non-Hebrew translations. It is the hook, the nail, that joins the heavens and the earth together, suggesting the connection between the spiritual and earthly matters. It even points to deeper meanings when it is enlarged, broken, or missing – it is the belly of Torah, the broken man or messiah, the missing man or messiah of the generations. It is one of the most amazing letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

# **Coincidences Interesting**

This is a special report on some interesting connections being made by many who are watching the signs.

## The Length of a Generation

**Genesis 6:3** – "And Yahweh said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

**Genesis 15:16** – "Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there... In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here..." (100\*4=400)

**Psalm 90:10** – "The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years."

**Leviticus 23 to 25** – Fifty symbolizes deliverance or freedom from a burden. Yahweh commanded ancient Israel that every 50th year, on the Day of Atonement, that a Jubilee was to be declared with the sound of a trumpet During the Jubilee year all debts were settled in favor of the debtor and inheritances were returned to their rightful owners. Fifty days are counted between Passover and Shavuot.

## **Biblical Coincidences -- or Warnings**

### 120 Years from the First Zionist Congress

**Joel 2:1** – "Blow the shofar in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the Day of Yahweh comes, for it is close at hand:"

**Genesis 6:3** – "Yahweh said, 'My Spirit will not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; yet will his days be one hundred twenty years'."

The first Zionist Congress was held in the concert hall of the Basel Municipal Casino on August 29, 1897. This date, August 29, 1897, is 120 years from Elul 1, 2017. Just coincidence, I'm sure!

## 100 Years from the Balfour Declaration

Genesis 7:11 – "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep were burst open, and the sky's windows were opened."

Noah's flood began on the 17th of Chesvan. The Balfour Declaration was written by Lord Balfour to Lord Rothschild, and represented the first political recognition of Zionist aims by a Great Power. It was written on November 2, 1917 – on Chesvan 17!, 100 years ago. Just another coincidence, I'm sure!

### **70 Years from the United Nations Resolution 181**

Matthew 24:31-34 – "He will send out his angels with a great sound of a shofar, and they will gather together his chosen ones from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other. "Now from the fig tree learn this parable. When its branch has now become tender, and puts forth its leaves, you know that the summer is near. Even so you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Most certainly I tell you, this generation will not pass away, until all these things are accomplished."

The United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution 181 on September 3, 1947 outlining the partition plans for the land of Israel and called for two independent states to be formed after the end of the British Mandate, one Jewish and one Arab. We are now 70 years past that date. Yet another coincidence, I'm sure!

## 50 Years from the Capture of Jerusalem

**Zechariah 12:6** – "In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a fire pan in the woodpile, and like a fiery torch in the sheaves; they shall devour all the surrounding peoples on the right hand and on the left, but Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place—Jerusalem."

In 1967 control of Jerusalem was once again taken back into Israeli hands. We are now 50 years past that date. Just one more coincidence, I'm sure!

### 3 Years from the Blood Moon Tetrad

**Hosea 6:2** – "After two days he will revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we will live in his sight." It has been said that a solar eclipse denotes the judgment of Yahweh upon the nations, blood moons denote the judgment of Yahweh upon the nation of Israel, and that a solar eclipse occurring in the midst of four blood moons denotes the judgment of Yahweh upon the world. It has been two "days" since the last Blood Moons tetrad. We are approaching the third day. Just a final coincidence, I'm sure!

## Really - Are You Kidding Me?

**1Thessalonians 5:1-4** – "But concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need that anything be written to you. For you yourselves know well that the day of Yahweh comes like a thief in the night. For when they are saying, "Peace and Safety," then sudden destruction will come on them, like birth pains on a pregnant woman; and they will in no way escape. But you, brothers, aren't in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief."

Every year on September 21st the International Day of Peace is celebrated. The theme for 2017 is: "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for all. September 21st this year is <u>Yom Teruah</u>, the celebration of the blowing of the shofar and the resurrection of the dead! How many coincidences can one dismiss before one gets a hint?

## **American Coincidences – or Warnings**

There are numerous Biblical connections to the numbers 12, 33, 40, and 70. Do any of these numbers pop up in relation to the coming total Solar eclipse over the United States on August 21, 2017? Are there other connections?

### **Twelve**

According to the Bible there are 12 disciples, and 12 months in a year. 12 is considered a perfect number in that it symbolizes Yahweh's power and authority, as well as serving as a perfect governmental foundation.

On August 21, 2017, parts of the United States will experience a total Solar Eclipse. The eclipse will pass directly over **twelve** states – Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Just fluke, I'm sure!

## **Thirty Three**

- The first contact in the USA is in Oregon, the 33rd State of the Union.
- The last contact in the USA is in South Carolina, which is on the 33rd parallel.
- It happens on the 233rd day of the year, and it comes **33** days before the sign of the Virgin depicted in Revelation 12, which happens on September 23rd.
- It is 99 years since the last total solar eclipse that went shore to shore in the US, and September 23rd is 99 days from the end of the year. (33\*3=99). Just another stroke of luck, I'm sure!

### **Forty**

- Yeshua was tempted for **40** days in the wilderness, and there were **40** days between His resurrection and His ascension.
- The prophet Jonah gave the people of Nineveh **40** days to repent before judgment would strike. There is a town known as "Nineveh" in the United States as well. On Monday, 93 percent of the sun will be blotted out by the moon in that little town, and 7 years later the eclipse of 2024 will blot out 100 percent of the sun in that same town.
- Moses spent **40** days on Mt. Sinai. The first of Elul was when Moses began a period of **40** days of fasting and prayer on behalf of the people of Israel after they worshipped the golden calf, and descended on the 10th of Tishri, at the end of Yom Kippur, when repentance was complete.
- The eclipse, which starts on Av 29th is also exactly **40** days from Yom Kippur. Yom Kippur begins at sunset, and it concludes on September 30th, which will be the end of a **40** day period that began back on the day of the Total American Solar Eclipse on August 21st. Just another happenstance, I'm sure!

## Seventy

70 has a sacred meaning in the Bible that has two perfect numbers -7 represents perfection and 10 represents completeness and Yahweh's law. 70 symbolizes perfect spiritual order and a period of judgment. 70 is especially connected with Jerusalem. (7\*10=70)

- The Solar Eclipse will begin on the Oregon coast as a partial eclipse at 9:06 a.m. PDT on August 21, and will end later that day as a partial eclipse along the South Carolina coast at about 4:06 p.m. EDT.
- The path of the eclipse is 70 miles wide. Just another coincidence, I'm sure!

## Really - Are You Kidding Me?

The first big city in the Solar Eclipse hits is Salem, OR. Salem is named after Jerusalem. The eclipse also begins in Oregon exactly at sunset time in Jerusalem. So as the sun darkens in America it will be darkening in Jerusalem at the same time. How many coincidences can one dismiss before one gets a hint?

### **Conclusions**

**Joel 3:14** – "Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of Yahweh is near in the valley of decision."

**Zephaniah 1:14** – "The great day of Yahweh is near, it is near, and hastens greatly."

We do NOT set dates. The four Blood Moons of 2014–2015 warned us that Yahweh was getting ready to change the course of human history once again. Yahweh was clearly giving us signs but had not yet revealed the exact timing, but we are now at the third "day" since their arrival.

Are we watching and listening? Are we about to see the rapture of the Bride of Christ, the Psalm 83 war, the War of Gog of Magog, and the beginning of the seven year Tribulation period? Will this Yom Teruah see the raising of the dead? Has the United States been singled out for a special warning?

Matthew 24:33 – "So, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door."

Mark 13:29 – "Even so, you too, when you see these things happening, recognize that He is near, right at the door."

Are these many events just mere coincidences, or are they perhaps dire warnings that time is up and the judgments described in scripture are about to unfold? Again, we do NOT set dates – Time will tell if these are just coincidences or dire warnings. Stay alert. The season of Yeshua's return is near.

# Coincidence and Trump

## **Coinkydink 1: Trump Compared to Cyrus**

**Isaiah 45:1** – Yahweh calls Cyrus his appointed one.

Several prophecies by Mark Taylor and Torah Code expert, Rabbi Matityahu Glazerson, predicted that Donald Trump would be the man appointed to be president. Donald Trump has also been compared to King Cyrus of Persia by several people and news outlets. It has even been conjectured that Yahweh might use Trump to be a modern day Cyrus for the good of America. But is this at all scriptural?

It is said that Cyrus died at the age of 70, and on the first day of his presidency, January 21, 2016, Donald Trump turned 70 years, 7 months, and 7 days old. It would appear that if Trump is the "new Cyrus" then he has taken up the mantle that the Biblical Cyrus departed. In **Isaiah 45:1** Yahweh says of Cyrus: "I have taken hold of your right hand to help you capture nations and remove kings from power." Not only is Trump the 45th President, he seems bound and determined to remove at least one king, Kim Jung-un, from power.

Ezra 1:2 – "Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, 'Yahweh Elohim of heaven has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah'."

**Isaiah 44:28** – Yahweh says to Cyrus: "My shepherd, he will fulfill all my pleasure and say to Jerusalem: 'She will be rebuilt, and of the temple: Its foundation will be laid'."

Cyrus had already told them to build the temple. Darius agreed, but the people questioned whether or not it was time. The Sanhedrin declares that Trump is advancing a prophetic process that will usher in, when the time comes, the rebuilding of the Third Temple. Rabbis believe that Trump is guided by Ha'Shem [Yahweh] and that he has been anointed to rebuild the Third Temple. Just coincidence, I'm sure!

## **Coinkydink 2: Trump Compared to Darius**

**Haggai 1:1-4**—"In the second year of Darius the king, . . . the Word of Yahweh came by Haggai, the prophet, saying, 'Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies waste'?"

Again, in 2018 we were in the 2nd year of Trump's presidency. Cyrus allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem after 70 years of captivity in Babylon and told them to rebuild their temple. Darius agreed, but the people questioned whether or not it was time. The Israeli Sanhedrin has been making plans for the rebuilt third Temple, and in 2016 called upon Trump and Vladamir Putin to "join forces and fulfill their Biblically mandated roles by rebuilding the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem." Isaiah 44:28 declares that his shepherd, or appointed person, will say to Jerusalem: "She will be rebuilt, and of the temple: Its foundation will be laid." Trump compared to Darius as well as to Cyrus On May 14, 2018, Israel celebrated the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish nation, and in the second year of his presidency Donald Trump made an historic declaration that

Jerusalem is the "One and Only Capital of the Jewish State of Israel." On March 21, 2019, on Purim, Trump declared that "the Golan Heights belongs to Israel."

The Copper Scroll, found along with many other scrolls in the caves around the Dead Sea, has been translated by Jim Barfield. Jim has discovered that Qumran is a mirror image of Jerusalem, and that the locations of treasures of Solomon's Temple described by the Copper Scroll have now been identified. As prophesied, the treasures hoarded in the dark and the secret riches hidden away are being revealed! Just a final coincidence, I'm sure!

# **Coinkydink 2: Eternal Jerusalem**

**2 Chronicles 33:4** – "And Yahweh said, 'In Jerusalem shall my name be forever'."

**Zechariah 1:11-17** – An angel asks Yahweh "How long will you not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which you have had indignation these seventy years?" Yahweh replies: "I have returned to Jerusalem with mercy. My house shall be built in it."

On May 14, 2018, President Donald Trump declared that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel. Trump has clearly stated his love for Israel and the Israeli people by declaring: "We will move the American Embassy to the eternal capital of the Jewish people, Jerusalem!" He has been heralded as the president who will bring Israel peace and security and has himself said he has "laid a pathway to peace and security in our world."

Israel has now been a nation for seventy years. This is when Yahweh says his house will be built and he will begin to judge the nations, at the end of the 70 years, in the second year of an administration. As of 2018, we are in the 2nd year of Trump's presidency. As of 2018, the foundations of the dwelling place (house) for the High Priest and the foundations of a museum are being laid next to Western Wall at the back of the wall according to Pastor Paul Begley. Just coincidence, I'm sure!

## Coinkydink 3: Fake News

**Isaiah 44:24-25** – "I am Yahweh who . . . who destroys the omens of the false prophets and makes fools of diviners; who confounds the wise and makes their knowledge foolishness; who confirms the message of His servant, and who says to the depths of the sea: 'Be dry'."

The false information disseminated by numerous news agencies has time and time again forced those same agencies to disavow their false prophets! They sound like fools, totally confounded by what Trump and his administration is accomplishing. "This became apparent after multiple stories from a variety of some of the biggest networks, NYT, CNN, Washington Post, ABC News, CBS News, and MSNBC, have had to be corrected, edited, changed, re-headlined and in some cases completely retracted, and in other cases employees were forced to resign or were suspended, once the truth was revealed", according to All News Pipeline.

Despite the continuing anti-Trump sentiment and vitriol, Trump's message is going out and his agenda to clean up the swamp, or to dry up the sea as scripture puts it, is slowly picking up steam – Yahweh seems to be affirming the message of his appointed servant. Yah, Yah, I know, just another coincidence!

## Coinkydink 4: Trump and the Rabbis

In 2014 Rabbi Kaduri began telling Jewish people worldwide to return to Israel, saying "things are shaking, so that we can rebuild the Third Temple." As of today, some of his disciples have declared that Messiah is already here, and when the time is right, he will make himself known. This comes from the two messiah teaching about Mashiach ben Joseph and Mashiach ben David. In their thinking, a man, Mashiach ben Joseph, will be the precursor making the way for Mashiach ben David. Some Orthodox Rabbis have even stated that Trump is Mashiach ben Joseph. Yikes!

## Coinkydink 5: Trump and the Messiah

**Psalm 140:4** – "They have sharpened their tongue like a serpent; vipers' venom is under their lips."

Many Rabbis use Gematria, or Hebrew numerology, for revealing hidden meaning in the Bible. Gematria is not an exact science but is widely used and generally accepted. It is studied and taught by major rabbis and Jewish thinkers. It has been a part of Biblical interpretation, with examples in the Mishna (the oral law) dating from the first century, and in later times in the Kabbalah.

When applied to the name Donald Trump (פֿמארט דלנוד), it is the same as that of "Messiah for the House of David (דוד וְב חִישׁמ)", 424 or 212 x 2. The Gematria of Trump's name also points to one of his traits that has been especially problematic: 424 is the equivalent of "like a snake" (בְּמוֹ-נָהָשׁ) which is referred to in **Psalm 140:4**. This application of Gematria does not mean that Trump is the Messiah, but that his presidency will usher in the Messianic era. Ben Ish Chai, an authority on Jewish law and master Kabbalist, interpreted the number 212 as a difficult time for Israel before the Final Redemption. Yeranen Yaakov interprets this to mean that a Donald Trump presidency will be doubly bad for the Jewish people. In either case, the dark period is the anticipated necessary step immediately preceding the Messiah. Double Yikes!

## **Coinkydink 6: Trump and the Temple Coins**

Trump has proved to the world that he not only makes declarations, but also acts upon his beliefs: He transferred the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. And following this historic event, the *Trump Temple Coins* were minted. The concept was conceived by Professor Hillel Weiss and the coins were produced

by the Mikdash Educational Center in Jerusalem. The Trump Temple Coins are not just medallions or souvenirs. The coins are called a half-shekel, and are nine and one-half grams (one fifth of an ounce – **Exodus 30:13**) of silver. According to the Mikdash Temple Educational Center, this meets the Torah specifications for actual coins that can be used in the temple services. These coins are also now made in gold.

## **Psalm 147:2** – "Yahweh builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel."

The coins are precious coins that have an entire story to tell. They call for the continuation of the in-gathering of the Jewish exiles from all corners of the globe. They will come to the Land of Israel, to Jerusalem and the Temple, and to the fulfillment of peace in the world, through the establishment of the Third Temple and the realization of the prophetic vision. The message on the coin is addressed to all the "Seventy Nations" who are called upon to accompany the Jewish People on their journey to establish the Holy Temple as a place of peace. The Menorah, the symbol of the State of Israel, stands in the center of the coin, together with the ancient Persian emblem and the seal of the United States of America. It represents the light of the Temple spreading out to the world.

On Monday, March 5, 2018, in Washington D.C., shortly after the Trump Temple Coins were produced, Prime Minister Netanyahu addressed President Trump and also compared the President to King Cyrus, saying "I want to tell you that the Jewish people have a long memory; so we remember the proclamation of the great king, Cyrus the Great, the Persian king, 2,500 years ago. He proclaimed that the Jewish exiles in Babylon could come back and rebuild our Temple in Jerusalem . . . . And we remember how a few weeks ago, President Donald J. Trump recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Mr. President, this will be remembered by our people through the ages."

## **Significance of the Third Temple**

**Zechariah 13:**8 –"In the whole land, declares Yahweh, two thirds shall be cut off and perish, and one third shall be left alive."

Many Jews look forward to the Third Temple as being a condition for the arrival of Mashiach Ben David. Unfortunately, this temple will not be a temple for their messiah, Yeshua, but will be the temple in which the antichrist will erect the abomination of desolation and thereafter murder two thirds of all living Jews. Triple Yikes!

## **Conclusions**

The "coincidences" are interesting to say the least.

Donald Trump may be Yahweh's instrument to fund and/or empower the Israeli's to defeat their surrounding enemies and to make it possible for the Temple's foundation to be rebuilt, both conditions that must be accomplished according to scripture?

What if all the "coincidences" above are more than just wishful thinking?

Could 2019 be the year that Yahweh uses Trump to begin or even fully achieve the restoration of Israel's Third Temple before the coming seven years of the tribulation period?

Time will tell – we do NOT set dates.

# Coincidence and the Temple Mount

### The Mist That Rose

On September 30th, 2018 in the Hebrew Year 5779, the last day of Sukkot that year, a thick mist began to rise up from out of the ground on the northeastern corner of the Temple Mount, enshrouding the holy site and obscuring the base of the Dome of the Rock.

The mist remained for approximately half an hour, remaining close to the ground and confined to the Temple Mount Compound. This happened during the Hoshana Rabbah service, and was recorded by Josh Wander, a Mount of Olives resident.

### Hoshana Rabbah

Hoshana Rabbah is a very significant worship service in Israel. The prayer service includes a special service in which seven circuits are made by the worshippers with their lulav and etrog while singing praises of Yahweh. According to the Midrash Talpiot, this service represents the day when redemption is at hand!

The Talpiot says "that the War of Gog and Magog will begin three hours before the dawn on Hoshana Rabbah, the battle will last three hours, and then the Messiah will begin to appear."

## The Mists of Scripture

When Yahweh appears, scripture frequently mentions clouds, or mists. During the Exodus, at Mount Sinai, the entire mountain was covered in clouds, which **Deuteronomy 4:11** and **5:22** call "darkness, clouds and thick mist. A mist and darkness enveloped the sorcerer Elymas when Paul rebuked him (**Acts 13:11**). Peter calls the followers of Bil'am Ben-B'or "Waterless springs . . . mists driven by a gust of wind; for them has been reserved the blackest darkness" (**2 Peter 2:15-17**).

#### The Reaction

**Isaiah 44:22** – "I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud and your sins like a heavy mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you."

Identifying clouds is an essential part of aviation training. Joseph Wander is a trained pilot, and said of the phenomenon: "There was very little wind and the smoke just seemed to crawl across the mount toward the Dome of the Rock. It seemed to come out of a specific spot but after several minutes, it seemed to be rising up from multiple sources in the same general area . . . It looked supernatural."

When Rabbi Yosef Berger heard of the sighting, he calmly commented; "It very well could be that a major battle was being waged on the Temple Mount on the spiritual plane and the only part of it that we could see was the smoke . . . It has been clear all year that a war is being waged for the Temple Mount."

### The Stone That Fell

**Psalm 118:22** *The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.*"

On Monday, July 23rd, 2018 in the Hebrew Year 5778, a massive stone fell out of the Kotel section of the Western Wall onto the Robinson's Arch used for egalitarian prayers. The stone fell from the ninth level of stones and happened the day after the fast of Tish'a B'Av (9th of Av). Israel Radio reported that the stone weighed about 220 pounds.

### **The Reaction**

Habakkuk 2:11 – "A stone shall cry out from the wall, and a rafter shall answer it from the woodwork."

Rabbi Shmuel Rabinovitch, the Chief Rabbi of the Western Wall, assigned spiritual significance to the event. "This is an unusual and most rare incident that has not occurred for decades," he said. "The fact that this powerful incident happened a day after the 9th of Av fast, in which we mourned the destruction of our temples, raises doubts and questions which the human soul is too small to contain, and requires soul-searching."

One follower of the Kabbalah teachings believes that the event signaled a permanent end to the Jewish exile and the beginning of the supernatural regeneration of the Third Temple.

Rabbi Yekutiel Fish noted that the term "kotel ma'aravi" (Western Wall) in Gematria is equal to the Hebrew year, 5778, and agreed that the time for the true end of the exile has arrived. Rabbi Fish also noted that the chief cornerstone, the ha'even ha'shtiya also equals 778 in Gematria, which corresponds to the Psalm 118 verse.

## The Slithering Snake

**Micah 7:17** – "They will come trembling out of their hiding places like snakes slithering on the ground. They will tremble in the presence of Yahweh our God; they will stand in awe of You."

On October 31, 2018 a Coin Snake was witnessed wriggling out from between the stones of the Western Wall, most likely in search of a meal of pigeons or eggs. In a video, Sod1820, a pigeon is seen fleeing the snake as it emerges.

The snake made its appearance at the same time as a hotly contested mayoral election, whose main debate was about which candidate would allow the Third Temple to be built! A blogger quoted by Ynet News mused: "The snake appeared during this time of dispute and divisiveness at the site of the Temple which was destroyed

because of widespread hatred and divisiveness." The snake also appeared around the same time as a head-on automobile accident near the Dead Sea that killed a family of eight and the horrific murder of eleven Jews in a Pittsburgh synagogue.

### Reaction

**Genesis 3:1** – "The serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that Yahweh Elohim had made."

The commentator who connected the dots of the automobile accident and the synagogue murders stated: "How symbolic that this snake should appear at the place that is the heart of the Jewish people, where so many Jews were killed, at a time when Jews are still being killed. We have received a symbolic warning from these holy stones."

A Kabbalah site cited a Midrash which compares Israel (who is faithful to one God, Yahweh) to a pigeon or dove (which is faithful to a single partner in its lifetime). They commented: "Just as the pigeon is safe so long as it seeks shelter among the stones of the Temple Mount, the Jews are protected by the Torah commandments. We are truly in the dangerous times that directly precede Mashiach." The Kabbalah site also claimed that the Gematira of snake, nachash [נַקְּשֶׁיָק H5175] equals 358, the same as Mashiach [נַקְשֶׁיִק H4899]. s.

The Sod1820 video noted that the "snake appeared in the women's prayer section, emphasizing its relevance to women. In Genesis, it is described how Eve was tempted into sin by the snake." The Zohar teaches that the snake will make a reappearance in the days before Messiah's appearance at the end of the age and that the fixing [tikkun from the H3559] of the snake will be accomplished in the Third Temple.

### The Snake and the Third Temple

The snake made its appearance at the same time as a hotly contested mayoral election, whose main debate was about which candidate would allow the Third Temple to be built! The Sanhedrin wrote letters to both candidates demanding they address this issue and build the new Temple. They had already written letters to Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin demanding the same thing. Is the rebuilding of the Third Temple a part of the yet unrevealed Trump Peace Plan? Time will tell.

### The Stone Altar

**Isaiah 9:1** – "The people that walked in darkness have seen a brilliant light; On those who dwelt in a land of gloom Light has dawned."

The Sanhedrin produced a declaration to the 70 nations that was read in Jerusalem on the last day of the Chanukah holiday in December. The Chanukah ceremony included the consecration of a stone altar formed of easily transported loose stone blocks that has been prepared for use in the Third Temple. Kohenim (Priests)

wearing Biblically mandated apparel lead the ceremony and reenacted the Korban Olah Tamid (the daily offering).

The declaration states "We are very close to the time about which the prophets of Israel prophesied that the God of the world who created everything will be called by the world in the name of the God of Israel, for only the people of Israel remained attached to Him."

#### The Kohenim

The priests, called Kohenim, are Jewish men who have been declared to be genetic descendants of Aaron. The Kohenim wore clothing as mandated by the Biblical scriptures, identical in fashion to those worn by Aaron and other Older Covenant priests.

### The Altar

The stone altar is formed of lightweight manufactured stones of aerated concrete that can be stored, easily transported, and assembled at a moment's notice. When set up, the altar is nine feet on each side, five feet tall, and includes a ramp on which the priests can go up to the top of the altar to make the sacrifices. The aerated concrete stones are acceptable for use in the Temple, says the Sanhedrin, because they have been formed without the use of metal tools. Eventually, the plan is to replace this altar with one made of actual untouched stones.

### The Sacrifice

The sacrifice was not allowed to be sacrificed on the altar, so was done so before the ceremony and carried to the event. The Israeli Government did, however, allow them to roast the lamb on the newly consecrated altar. A grain offering, the Korban Olah Tamid, was also allowed to be made.

## The Reaction

**Isaiah 49:6** – "Yahweh has said: 'It is not enough that you are my servant to raise up the tribes of Yaakov and restore the survivors of Yisrael; I will also make you a light of nations, that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth'."

The ceremony was held on the last day of Chanukah. Rabbi Hillel Weiss explained the significance to Breaking Israel News: "According to Jewish tradition, the tabernacle and Aaron the Priest were consecrated for service on the last day of Hanukkah. It is fitting that we should invite the nations to the ceremony since Hanukkah is about bringing light to the darkness. The Jews were meant to do this for the entire world."

## The Significance

**Genesis 11:8** – "From Bavel Yahweh scattered them all over the earth, and they stopped building the city."

**Exodus 24:1** – "Then Yahweh said to Moses, "Come up to me, you and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar."

**Deuteronomy 32:8** – "When Elyon divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of Israel."

**Micah 4:1-4** "In the acharit-hayamim Zion will be established as the highest mountain and all nations will gather there to worship Yahweh" [synopsis]

The ceremony was stringently called "a dress rehearsal" because the temple is NOT YET established. Only then can the actual ceremony be done. However, the veil is being lifted from the minds of the Jewish people and they are beginning to understand that Prayer and Charity do not atone for sin, it takes a blood sacrifice -- i.e. a perfect lamb! This may open the doors to believers to present the Gospel of Yeshua. Pray for Israel, support Israel, encourage them to accept Yeshua as their Mashiach.

Highly significant is the invitation that went out to seventy (70) nations. Yahweh separated the people into seventy (70) nations at Babel (Genesis 11). There were seventy (70) elders who were invited to the meal with Yahweh at Mt. Sinai (Exodus 24). The borders of the nations were fixed at seventy (70) (Deuteronomy 32). Micah 4 tells us that the nations will be gathered in the end times to worship Yahweh at Mt. Zion, at the Temple Mount.

The state of Israel is a fact and Jewish authorities are preparing to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem. The appearance of the red heifer, the falling stone, the mist, and the slithering snake all are seen as prophetic implications that the time is ripe for the return of Yeshua. All of the gold and silver utensils and the garments needed for Temple worship have either been recovered or remanufactured. The Kohenim have been trained and the Stone Altar has been dedicated. Only the Ark of the Covenant awaits recovery.

The invitation for regathering the seventy (70) nations has been issued. It is just a matter of time before Yahweh regathers the nations to Zion to worship him. Now that is significant.

### **Conclusions**

The northern most portion of the Dead Sea has been slowly drying up and with the result that new sinkholes in the area are changing from salt water to fresh water. Many see this as a precursor to the fulfillment of prophecies in **Ezekiel 47:8-9**, which tell us that the waters of the Dead Sea will be healed and will swarm with multitudes of fish when Yeshua sets up his kingdom during his millennial reign.

Earthquakes, famines, and pestilences world-wide are on the rise.

Wars and rumors of wars assault us on a daily basis in the news.

Perhaps the mist seen on the Temple Mount is yet another warning sign that the return of Yeshua is at the door, is imminent, is not far off, is just moments away from happening. What do you say?

Perhaps the stone seen falling from the Kotel Wall of the Temple Mount is yet another warning sign that the return of Yeshua is at the door, is imminent, is not far off, is just moments away from happening. What do you say?

Perhaps the snake seen exiting from the Kotel Wall of the Temple Mount is yet another warning sign that the return of Yeshua is at the door, is imminent, is not far off, is just moments away from happening. What do you say?

Perhaps the dedication of the Stone Altar is yet another warning sign that the return of Yeshua is at the door, is imminent, is not far off, is just moments away from happening. What do you say?

# **Red Heifers**

Prophecy continues to be fulfilled at an alarming pace. The state of Israel is a fact. Jerusalem is controlled by the Jews and belongs to Israel. The Hebrew language has been revived and all Israeli citizens are required to learn it. The desert is blooming. And Jewish authorities are preparing to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem.

On October 13, 2004 the Sanhedrin was reestablished for the first time since 425 A.D. and reconvened on February 9, 2005 to discuss the topic of the Third Temple. Since that time all of the gold and silver utensils and the garments needed for Temple worship have either been recovered or remanufactured. Only the Ark of the Covenant awaits recovery. The Temple building itself has been prefabricated and can be rebuilt as soon as permission is given to do so. Two hundred Kohen priests have been identified through DNA testing and are being trained to reinstitute animal sacrifices according to scriptural requirements outlined in the Scroll of Leviticus. The breeding program for the red heifer has been established by the Temple Institute.

### Heifers

Heifers in scripture are very important. **Deuteronomy Chapter 21:1-9** recounts the process for forgiving a town which is nearby a murder victim when the perpetrator of the murder is not known. The elders of the city nearest to the victim are to take a heifer that has never been put to work or yoked for use as a draft animal.

**Jeremiah 48:34** recounts the wailing of the cities of Heshbon and Elealah that could be heard as far away as Jahaz sounding like the cries of a three year old heifer. A red heifer is necessary for purification from sin, according to **Numbers Chapter 19**. Today, once again, the headlines are ablaze with the news that a pure red heifer has been found.

### **The Perfect Heifer Requirements**

**Numbers 19:2** – "Tell the people of Israel to bring you a young red female cow without fault or defect and which has never borne a yoke."

There are several main requirements:

- 1. It must be a female cow.
- 2. It must be a red heifer that has no blemish. In other words, if it has more than only two other color hairs, it is disqualified. Additionally, it must not have any physical blemishes or spots.
- 3. It must have never been used for labor. In other words, never harnessed, or yoked. It must have never been pregnant, nor have even been allowed to mate with a male cow.
- 4. It must be within its third year. In other words, at least one day older than two years old.
- 5. It must be slaughtered outside the holy city of Jerusalem but within sight of the Temple.

The first requirement, that the heifer be female, is exactly in opposition to the Egyptian superstition that only male cows were suitable for sacrifice and worship of their goddess Isis. Herodotus states that it is, in fact, not lawful for the Egyptians to offer females.

The second requirement, that the heifer was unblemished applies to all animals that may be sacrificed – it must be unblemished and without defect in order to be accepted – it cannot have one limb too long, bruised, crushed, torn or cut genitals (Leviticus 22:21-24), as it points to Yeshua, whom Ephesians 5:27 affirms was without spot, wrinkle, or blemish, but who is holy and blameless.

Additionally, the heifer must also be red in color, maybe because the Egyptians only sacrificed red bulls to the evil demon Typhon. Those males were selected with great care. Plutarch states that the Egyptians "sacrifice red bulls, and select them with such scrupulous attention, that if the animal has a single black or white hair, they reckon it unfit to be sacrificed."

Thirdly, an animal which had been used for a common purpose was deemed improper for sacrifice. An animal that had been yoked and used to plow the ground would be disqualified. An animal that had become pregnant would also be considered disqualified due to its use for a common purpose – bearing fruit.

# **The Priestly Requirements**

The two hundred Kohen priests that have been identified through DNA testing must now be consecrated for service. The anointing oil was found in an Archeological dig in April 1988. The Mediterranean Sea Snail, which disappeared in 70 A.D., has returned in great numbers and now makes it possible for the precious blue and the purple dye required for the High Priestly garments to be manufactured.

Only one requirement is still missing – the red heifer. None of the current priests are ceremonially clean. They cannot be cleansed until the water of separation is recreated. And that requires the ashes of a perfect red heifer!

### **The Breeding Program**

Israeli law does not allow the importation of live cattle into Israel, so the Temple Institute imported frozen embryos of red angus cows from the United States and implanted them into the wombs of Israeli domestic cows. This summer several calves have been born to those domestic cows.

Three years ago the Temple Institute in Jerusalem established a breeding program called "Raise a Red Heifer in Israel" to raise the necessary item needed for purification of the temple and its priests. The Jerusalem Post commented about the red heifer program saying "an ancient commandment meets modern technology."

# Tradition, History, and Red Heifer Mania

According to Jewish tradition the perfect heifer must be over two years old but under four years old, and perfect red heifers are extremely rare. Scripture says Moses prepared the first one during the Exodus. Ezra sacrificed the second red heifer during the days of the First Temple. The Mishna records the names of those who performed the sacrifice during the time of the Second Temple. They are: Simon the Just and Yochanan the High Priest each sacrificed two red heifers, El'yhoeini ben Hakof, Hanameel the Egyptian and Yishmael ben Pi'avi sacrificed one each (Mishna Parah 3:5). Scripture and other documents say that from the time of the Exodus until the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D. only nine perfect red heifers have been sacrificed. Jewish tradition also informs us that there are to be only ten red heifers, and according to Maimonides, the tenth heifer will usher in the messianic age! He states: ". . . and the tenth red heifer will be accomplished by the king, the Messiah; may he be revealed speedily, Amen, May it be God's will."

The Temple Institute had identified two candidates, one in 1997 and another in 2002, both initially thought to have met the requirements, but later found each to be unsuitable. The headlines read: "Apocalypse Cow" in the New York Times (1997) and News Flash: Red Heifer Born In Israel in a Temple Institute web posting (2002). In 2014 the headlines read Torah-Condition-For-3rd-Temple-Now-Met, and articles reported that the Temple Institute had posted a video showing what appeared to be a perfect red heifer that was being raised at an unidentified location in the United States.

A report from Right Side News said a "qualified" red heifer has not been seen in Israel for nearly 2,000 years. Other headlines said there really is a red heifer today that could move the progress on the Third Temple forward! Hot news at the time, but how could this heifer be used since it wasn't born in Israel?

### **Seeing Red**

In 2018, the headlines were once again ablaze with red heifer hysteria. *Bible-Prophecy-Heifer-Apocalypse; A Red Heifer!*; *Prophecy fulfilled after red cow is born at Temple of Israel*; and *Apocalyptic cow: Does the first ref heifer born in Israel portend bad news for us all?* the headlines proclaimed.

According to The Temple Institute on the 17th day of Elul, 5778, (August 28th, 2018 on the Gregorian calendar), a red [adom H122] heifer [parah H6510] (Parah Aduma)was born in the land of Israel, foreshadowing the rebuilding of the Third Temple and the arrival of their long awaited Mashiach (Messiah). At one week of age, the heifer underwent an extensive examination by rabbinical experts and has been certified by the Rabbis as meeting all of the scriptural requirements. The now certified red heifer will be examined again in three months' time to determine whether it continues to possess the necessary requirements, according to Numbers 19:1-22 and the Mishna Tractate Parah.

### **However**

Current global events appear to be lining up with the prophecies written in the Bible. However, other red heifers have initially been found to be qualified, but later became disqualified as they began to age. Will this red heifer be **The** tenth, or will it too become disqualified as time goes on.

If, . . . . and I say, if . . . . this red heifer turns out to be **The** tenth Parah Aduma, then the building of the Third Temple may be close at hand, even at the door. However, this will not usher in the arrival of the Jew's long awaited Mashiach (Messiah). Instead, it will usher in an unprecedented time of agony, bloodshed, disaster, pandemics, wars, and death the likes of which this world has never seen.

Yeshua says of this time: "For there will be great tribulation worse than there has ever been from the beginning of the world until now, and there will be nothing like it again!" (Matthew 24:21). The Third Temple will allow the false messiah, the antichrist, to enter into the holy of holies and declare himself to be God.

# Why Enoch

# Importance of Enoch and The Book of Enoch

Enoch [H2585] is an interesting person to study given that his name is only mentioned a few times in scripture. He is only mentioned in **Genesis 5**, **Luke 3**, **Hebrews 11**, **and Jude 1**. What then, makes him so important?

### **Facts We Know About Enoch**

- Enoch is the seventh descendent of Adam and is mentioned in the list of the ten patriarchs in Genesis 5.
- Enoch is the first person to be translated [raptured]:

Genesis 5:22-24 – "And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters: And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him."

This makes Enoch fairly unique in Biblical circles – only one other has been raptured up to heaven without first experiencing death – Elijah. Enoch, having lived sixty five years already, walked with Yahweh three hundred more years after Methuselah was born, then was taken. Enoch walked in faith the 365 years of his life. No matter what happened, he trusted and obeyed Yahweh. Yahweh loved Enoch so much he spared him the experience of an early death. In the Sefer Hekalot, Rabbi Ishmael states that Enoch, just like Elijah, was taken up in sight of a vast crowd begging him to stay, ascending to Heaven on a horse. The Book of Jasher also tells us that "Enoch ascended into Heaven in a whirlwind with horses and chariots of fire." (Jasher 3:36).

• Enoch did not keep silent about the sin around him:

**Jude 1:14-15** – "Enoch, who lived in the seventh generation after Adam, prophesied about these people. He said, "Listen! Yahweh is coming with countless thousands of his holy ones. See, Yahweh is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone, and to convict all of them of all the ungodly acts they have committed in their ungodliness, and of all the defiant words ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

• Enoch's faith pleased God:

**Hebrews 11:5-6** – "For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

• Enoch is listed as one of the sons of Adam:

**Luke 3:37-38** – "Methuselah, who was the son of Enoch, who was the son of Jared, who was the son of Mahalaleel, who was the son of Cainan, who was the son of Enosh, who was the son of Seth, who was the son of Adam, who was the son of God."

### **Inferences We Can Make About Enoch**

- According to tradition, Shavuot is the day that Enoch was born and the day that he was also translated [raptured] to be with Yahweh. His rapture parallels Elijah's rapture Several books confirm this. His rapture also parallels the ascension of Yeshua all three involve horses. (See The Ascension above, pg xxx)
- Enoch is credited with the invention of the art of writing according to the Book of Jubilees, another book mentioned in Biblical scripture. He is also credited with teaching astronomy and arithmetic according to the Sefer Yuhasin.
- Enoch is seen by many as an example of the church being translated prior to the beginning of the tribulation period, especially since Yahweh said that the day of His coming would be like the days of Noah. Enoch's name means: to teach, to train up; two primary purposes of the believing disciple. In Noah's days the unbelieving world was destroyed in the judgment, a believing remnant was protected, and Enoch disappeared before the judgment. At the end of days, the unbelieving world will again be destroyed in the judgment, a believing remnant of Israel will be preserved through the judgment, and the church will be translated just like Enoch before the judgment!
- Enoch was the seventh generation from Adam. Seven is the perfect number of completeness in Hebrew, and his being of the seventh generation emphasizes his perfect standing in the eyes of Yahweh.
- Because Enoch has not yet experienced death, he may be the second of the two witnesses during the Tribulation Period, though some believe the second person will be Moses. **Malachi 4:5** says of one witness: "Behold, I will send Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day Of The Lord." Moses, however, has already experienced death and it is appointed to man only once to experience this event (**Hebrews 9:27**).

### **Facts We Know About The Book of Enoch**

Many object to any mention or use of the Book of Enoch due to its exclusion from the Bible, but is this a valid reason to ignore what is says? I think not!

- The Book of Enoch was well known to Yeshua, the apostles, and the first century churches, but book later fell into disfavor with powerful because of its controversial statements on the nature and deeds of the fallen angels.
- The Book of Enoch was thought to have been lost, but in 1773, rumors of a surviving copy of the book drew Scottish explorer James Bruce to Ethiopia and he found that the book had been preserved by the Ethiopic church which considered it to be on par with the other books of the Bible. Enoch is still revered in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church along with the Book of Jubilees. Together they are regarded as the 13th and 14th books, respectively, of their Old Testament scriptures.
- The Ethiopian text became known to modern students through a translation from this into English by Archbishop Lawrence, in 1821. One of the most accurate translations of The Book of Enoch is the one translated by R.H. Charles, Doctor of Letters, in 1917.
- In 1956, during the excavation of the Dead Sea Scrolls, a scroll called *1 Enoch* was discovered. This scroll is what is commonly referred to as *The Book of Enoch*. The Scrolls found at Qumran prove that the book was in existence before the time of Yeshua Ha'Mashiach, as far back as at least the second century B.C, perhaps even older.
- The Book of Enoch tells us about Enoch's activities and the timing of his rapture:

**Enoch 81:5-6** – "And those seven holy ones brought me and placed me on the earth before the door of my house, and said to me: 'Declare everything to your son Methuselah, and show to all thy children that no flesh is righteous in the sight of Yahweh, for He is their Creator. One year we will leave thee with thy son, till you give Your (last) commands, that you may teach thy children and record (it) for them, and testify to all thy children; and in the second year they shall take you from their midst."

Scripture appears to agree. Enoch taught his son, Methuselah, whose name can mean: "his death brings." Enoch was taken before this death. Upon Methuselah's death, Noah boarded the Ark and the rains and flooding started seven days later.

• Numerous quotations and references from *The Book of Enoch* can be found throughout scripture:

The name, Azazel, appears in **Leviticus 16:8–10**: "And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for Yahweh, and the other lot for Azazel. And Aaron shall present the goat upon which the lot fell for Yahweh, and offer him for a sin-offering. But the goat, on which the lot fell for Azazel, shall be set alive before Yahweh, to make atonement over him, to send him away for Azazel into the wilderness." But nowhere in scripture do we find who Azazel is! Only by reading The Book of Enoch can we find the history and activities of Azazel!

The Book of Enoch Chapters 8-10, informs us that Azazel is one of the leaders of the angels who desired the daughters of men, and it was he who taught "men to make swords, and knives, and shields, and breastplates, and made known to them the metals of the earth and the art of working them, and bracelets, and ornaments, and the use of antimony, and the beautifying of the eyelids, and all kinds of costly stones, and all coloring tinctures" (8:1–2). Azazel taught "all unrighteousness on earth and revealed the eternal secrets which were (preserved) in heaven, which men were striving to learn." (9:6-7). Chapter ten then goes into many of the reasons why Yahweh had to flood the earth. These events appear to be retold in Genesis 6. Further more, Enoch informs us that it is commanded that an angel, Raphael, was to "bind the hands and feet of Azazel and cast him into the darkness." The other angels (watchers) that were involved were also bound and cast into the darkness (10:1-16:4). Both Jude 1:6 and 2 Peter 2:4 clearly appear to be referencing these events describe by the Book of Enoch.

**Jude 1:14-15** is virtually a direct quote of Enoch 1:9, which says: "And behold! He cometh with ten thousands of His holy ones to execute judgment upon all, and to destroy all the ungodly: And to convict all flesh of all the works of their ungodliness which they have ungodly committed, and of all the hard things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him." This theme is repeated in Deuteronomy 33:2-3; Job 5:1; Psalms 16:3 & 34:9; and in Zechariah 14:5.

The phrase, "And to these also Enoch, the seventh from Adam," which begins Jude's verses, is found in Enoch 60:8, which says it this way: "my grandfather was taken up, the seventh from Adam." Seven is the perfect number in Hebrew, and it emphasizes the perfect standing of Enoch in the eyes of Yahweh.

**Luke 9:35** – "Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, 'This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him'!" The words translated "chosen one" is the Greek word eklegō [ἐκλέγω G1586]. It can be literally translated selected or elect one. The phrase "Elect One" is found throughout the Book of Enoch. According to book, the Elect One would "sit upon the throne of glory" and would "dwell in the midst of them." These phrases are also used throughout scripture in reference to Yeshua. So, when Luke tells us that Yeshua is the chosen, or **elect** one, Luke may simply be affirming that the prophecies given in the Book of Enoch have now been fulfilled.

- The Book of Enoch was written to inform those who would be living in the end times.
- **Enoch 1:1-2** "The words of the blessing of Enoch, wherewith he blessed the elect and righteous, who will be living in the day of tribulation, when all the wicked and godless are to be removed."
- The Book of Enoch can be divided into several sections, each of which has a particular theme. The first section tells about the time of Noah and Yahweh's judgments on the earth and the fallen angels. The next section deals with Enoch's rapture. Section three deals with astronomy and portals on the earth. The fourth

section deals with sin and with Israel's history from the time of Noah until the final judgment, including portions regarding the conversion of the Gentiles (i.e. the Bride of Christ), the resurrection, and the second coming of Yeshua. The final section deals with suffering, the denouncing of all evils, and the woes that will come upon the sinner.

### **Inferences We Can Make About The Book Of Enoch**

- The Book of Enoch is old. It may even precede the Book of Job. It is clearly referenced in Genesis and Leviticus.
- The Book of Enoch was considered as authentic scripture, especially the part about the fallen angels and their prophesied judgment.
- Many of the key words and themes used by scripture may be connected to the Book of Enoch, as over one hundred phrases and terms in the Newer Covenant find parallels in the Book of Enoch. The similarities in terminology and teaching are striking. Many of the phrases used by Peter, Jude, and others are virtually direct quotes from the Book of Enoch.

### **Conclusions**

Both Enoch and the Book of Enoch are worthy of study. Both have much to teach us about the time we live in. Enoch looked forward to see much of history up to the day of judgment and Messiah's return. Several prophecies in the Book of Enoch have been fulfilled as noted by writers of the Biblical scriptures. Now, we can be sure that Yeshua will come and that he will do exactly as Enoch has also prophesied!

Enoch is an important person despite the minimal references to him in the Bible. He is the first to be raptured, and that event set the pattern for all future raptures in scripture – all involve horses. The just are taken out before Yahweh punishes the unbelieving and corrupt. Seven is the perfect number in Hebrew, and Enoch being the seventh generation from Adam emphasizes the perfect standing of Enoch in the eyes of Yahweh. Revelation 10:7 tells us that the mystery of God would be finished when the seventh Angel sounds his trumpet.

Enoch is the only prophet from the centuries before the Flood whose words have been preserved for us. The Book of Enoch, though well known to those at the time of Yeshua's first coming, was written for those who will live in the season of tribulation, and how amazing that they have come fully to light once again at about the same time that Israel became a nation, mere decades before the rapture of the Bride of Yeshua and the tribulation period of seven years. While not considered scripture by many, the Biblical scriptures make liberal use of themes, phrases, and terms first coined by this book. It is not by accident or coincidence that this book is referenced and quoted by the Bible. Scripture confirms that this book is authentic and worthy of study.

# The Meaning Of Biblical Names

**Matthew 1:23** – "They shall call his name Immanuel, which translated means, 'God with us'."

Scripture regularly uses names to convey a much deeper meaning. The name, Yeshua, means "Salvation of Yahweh". Immanuel means "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). Yeshua gave James and John, the sons of Zebedee, the name Boanerges which means, "Sons of Thunder" due to their wishing to call down fire from heaven (Luke 9:54). Isaac means "Laughter", given because his mother, Sarah, laughed when told she would bear a child at her old age of ninety (Genesis chapters 17-18). Even Simon was given the name Cephas (Petros) which can playfully mean "Rocky" – perhaps a commentary on his tendency to put his foot in his mouth time and time again – but which literally means a small, easily movable pebble or rock (as opposed to Petra which denotes a huge, unmovable boulder or mass of rock (Matthew 16:18).

# The Jewish Journey

For instance, in Hosea the names of his sons and daughters convey the journey that Israel will take in its relation to Yahweh:

- Hosea's first son is named Jezreel [H3157] meaning Yahweh will sow or plant: as in Yahweh will plant the Jews within the land of Canaan, today called the State of Israel.
- Hosea's second born, a daughter, is named Lo Ruchamah [H3819], meaning without compassion or not pitied: as in Yahweh will not have pity or compassion upon the northern tribe peoples because of their blatant sins against him. They will be attacked by the Assyrians but he would have compassion, at least for a short while, on the peoples of the southern tribes of Judah [H3063], meaning on those who are praised.
- Hosea's third child, a son, is named Lo Ammi [H3818], meaning not my people. For a time, Yahweh will abandon even the southern tribe peoples to Babylonian attack and capture.
- Again, after refusing to acknowledge Yeshua as their Messiah, the Jews additionally would be even both Lo Ruchamah and Lo Ammi, and would be deported throughout the entire world but with the promise that they would eventually be restored to fellowship in the end days.

# The Plan Of Redemption

Genesis 5:2-10 – "When Adam was 130 years old he became the father of Seth. When Seth was 105 years old he became the father of Enosh. When Enosh was 90 years old he became the father of Kenan. When Kenan was 70 years old he became the father of Mahalaleel. When Mahalaleel was 65 years old he became the father of Jared. When Jared was 162 years old he became the father of Enoch. When Enoch was 65 years old he became the father of Methuselah. When Methuselah was 187 years old he became the father of Lamech. When Lamech was 182 years old he became the father of Noah."

The ten generations listed in Genesis Chapter Five give a detailed account of Yahweh's plan of redemption. The ten names are: Adam, Seth, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalaleel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, and Noah.

- ADAM [H121] = ruddy i.e. a human being (an individual or the species, mankind, etc.)
  - 'âdâm (aw-dawm'); From H119 and H120
- SETH [H8352] = Is Appointed To, to place, to appoint
  - shêth (shayth) From H7896 shiyth (sheeth)
- ENOSH [H583] = Feeble, Frail, Mortality
  - 'ĕnôsh (en-oshe') a mortal, From H582 and H605; 'ânash (aw-nash') to be frail, feeble
- KENAN [H7018] = A Fixed Dwelling Place
  - qêynân From H7064 (qên / kane); contracted from H7077 (qânan)
- MAHALALEL [H4111] = God Who Is Praised
  - mahălal'êl (mah-hal-al-ale') From H4110 mahălal; and H410'êl, praise of God
- JARED [H3382] = Comes Down, Descends
  - Yered (yeh'-red) From H3381, to descend, to go or come down
- ENOCH [H2585]= To Instruct, Train Up
  - chănôk (khan-oke') From H2596 chânak (khaw-nak'), to discipline, to train up
- METHUSELAH [H4968]= A Man Sent Forth
  methûshelach (meth-oo-sheh'-lakh) From H4962, a man, and H7973, a missile of attack, a spear, a weapon.
  Methuselah may also come from Muth, [H4191] which means: death; and from shalak [H7993], which means: to throw, fling, cast, bring down. The name Methuselah, therefore, can also mean: his death shall bring.
- LAMECH = To Be Beaten, Smitten, And Tortured [H3929]
  - lemek (leh'-mek) From H4347; makkah
- NOAH = Bringing Rest, A Quiet Peace [H5146]
  - nôach (no'-akh); rest The same as H5118 nôach (no'-akh) or H5117 nûach (noo'-akh)

Together, they compose the statement: (A)Mankind (S)is appointed (E)to feeble, frail, mortality; (K)a fixed dwelling place. (M)God who is praised (J)comes down (E)to instruct (M)as a man sent forth (L)to be beaten, smitten and tortured; (N) bringing rest, a quiet peace.

Another way of stating this is: Man is appointed mortal sorrow. The blessed God shall come down teaching that His death shall bring the despairing comfort and rest.

# The Completion Of The Plan

Revelation 7:4-8 – "And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel: from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand, from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand, from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand, from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand, from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand, from the tribe of Issachar twelve

thousand, from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand were sealed."

Likewise, the Hebrew meanings of the ten generations mentioned in Revelation Chapter Seven tell the completion of the plan. The ten names are: Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manassah, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin.

- JUDAH [G2455] = He Shall Be Praised.
  - Ioudas, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, also the Southern kingdom. From H3063 Yehudah; praised
- REUBEN [G4502] =Behold A Son
  - Rhoubēn, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, the oldest son of Jacob. From H7200 raah.
- GAD [G1045] =An Invader, A Troop
  - Gad, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H1410 Gad: a fortunate one
- ASHER [G768] = Call Him Blessed and Happy
  - Aser, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H836 Asher: the happy one
- NAPHTALI [G3508] =My Wrestling, My Tortuosity
  - Nephthaleim, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H5321 Naphtali: to show oneself cunning or astute
- MANASSAH [G3128] = Causing To Forget
  - Manassēs, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H4519 Menashsheh. also a king of Judah
- SIMEON [G4826] = Hearkening
  - Symeon, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H8085 shama, to announce.
- LEVI [G3017] = Joined
  - Leui, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H3878 Levi
- ISSACHAR [G2466] = He Will Bring Reward, Be Hired
  - Issachar, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H3485 Yissaskar; there is recompense
- ZEBULUN [G2194] = Dwelling, Habitation
  - Zaboulōn, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H2074 Zebulun
- JOSEPH [G2501] = Adding Yahweh, Let Him Add
  - Iōsēph, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H3130 Yoseph; he increases
- BENJAMIN [G958] = Son Of The Right Hand
  - Beniamin, one of the twelve tribes of Israel, from H1144 Binyamin

Together, they compose the statement: (J)Behold, (R)a Son, (G)whose fortune has come. (A)They are happy and blessed (N)after wrestling and striving, (M)forgetting their past troubles, (S)hearing and obeying, (L)united as one. (I)Their recompense for their labor (Z) is to dwell with God, and He will (J)increase and add to them many (B)sons of His right hand.

Another way of stating this is: I will praise Yahweh for He has looked on me and granted good fortune. Happy am I because my wrestling God is making me to forget. God hears me and is joined to me. He has purchased me a dwelling. God will add to me the Son of His right hand.

**The Missing Names** 

Dan and Ephraim are not mentioned.

Dan means "judged". All things are made new! Yeshua is the believer's righteousness, and His righteousness is perfect. Those in Yeshua do not receive judgment. There is no condemnation in Ha'Mashiach.

Ephraim means being "fruitful in the land of my affliction". Those in Yeshua no longer belong to Egypt - the world. They have been transferred to the Kingdom of Yahweh! They are living in a new kingdom, and are under a new government!

### **Conclusions**

Both the Genesis and Revelation accounts of the generations tell a story.

The Genesis account lists each son in birth order. The Revelation account, however, does not, and even leaves two of the twelve sons out!

The Genesis account gives us Yahweh's plan of redemption.

The Revelation account outlines the completion of the plan.

# From Smallest To Greatest

**Isaiah 11:12** – Yahweh "will assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth."

Yahweh promised to re-gather the Jews back into the land of Canaan, and that process is underway today. Once again, Israel is one of the smallest nations in the world today. But will it stay that way? Let's see:

# **From The Smallest**

**Genesis 17:8** – "I will give to you and to your descendants . . . all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession."

**Deuteronomy 7:7** – "Yahweh did not set his love on Israel, nor choose you, because you were more in number than any people; for you were the fewest of all peoples."

The borders given to Moses only comprises the land of Canaan, according to **Numbers 34:1-13**. These borders are basically repeated in **Ezekiel 47:15-20**. It is essentially the same land that today is called the State of Israel. The borders are:

- *Northern:* the Northern Border extends from the Mediterranean Sea to Mount Hor, to Hamath, which stood on the east bank of the Orontes River in Syria between Damascus and Aleppo.
- *Southern:* the Southern Border extends from the River of Egypt, also known as the Brook of Egypt or the Wadi el-Arish (not the Nile) to Kadesh-Barnea which is located just a few miles north of Petra in modern day Jordan.
- *Eastern:* the Eastern Border extends from Kadesh-Barnea (Petra) via Zin, which today is called the Jordan Rift Valley (Arabah or Wilderness), and the salt sea to Zedad (called Sadad today located between Homs and Damascus) and Hamath (Aleppo) in the north.
- Western: the Western Border extends from the Mediterranean Sea.

### To The Largest

**Genesis 15:18** – "I have given this land, from the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates."

**Deuteronomy 11:24** – "Every place on which the sole of your foot shall tread shall be yours; your border shall be from the wilderness to Lebanon, and from the river, the river Euphrates, as far as the western sea."

This land would encompass most of Syria and Iraq, all of Jordan and Lebanon, and some portions of Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Only the southern portions were originally given to the Jews in accordance with the "Mandate for Palestine" based upon the Balfour Declaration. This parcel was immediately divided with the largest parcel (77%), called the Trans-Jordan, going to the Arab nations and the remainder of the land (23%) to the Jews. It is believed that the entire parcel will only be given fully to Israel during the Millennial Reign of Yeshua.

How much larger this parcel will be compared to its current size is unknown. We do know that the Mount of Olives splits in two, and the land moves both to the north and to the south (**Zechariah 14.4**).

### **To The Greatest**

**2 Samuel 7:23** – "Who is like your people Israel . . . whom Yahweh went to redeem to be his people . . ."

**Isaiah 43:6-7** – "Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, every one who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory.

**Isaiah 49:3** – "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

That Israel is called to be the premier servant of Yahweh in scripture is undisputed. That Israel is to begin as the smallest and become the largest in scripture is also undisputed. This is made even more certain by the Hebrew language.

In Hebrew, the word Israel [H3478] starts with the smallest letter of the alphabet: the Yod. The last letter of the word is the largest letter of the alphabet: the Lamed. Mark Biltz states one can interpret this to mean that "Yahweh is going to take Israel from the smallest nation and make it into the most prominent nation."

But wait, there's more! The first three letters, Yod, Shin, and Resh spell the word yashar [H3474] which means: to be right, upright, straight, or righteous. The last two letters, Aleph, Lamed spell the word El [H410] which means: God, the one true God, Yahweh! Mark Biltz puts it this way: "So, the straight way to God is through Israel!"

Israel is the 100th smallest nation of the world, having only 1/1000th of the world's population. Despite this, it has more Nobel Prizes per capita than any other country. Israel leads the world in cyber-technical, biotechnical, scientific, and agricultural inventions and patents, ranking third in scientific research institutions and second in space sciences. Microsoft, Cisco, Intel, Motorola and other tech companies have all moved their research development facilities to Israel. Microsoft-Israel developed the Windows NT software. Intel-Israel designed the Pentium MMX Chip. Instant messenger and voice mail programs were developed by Israeli software companies. Motorola-Israel developed the cell phone.

Givun Imaging-Israel invented the pill sized ingestible video camera. New devices to control the pumping of blood by the heart have been invented by Israeli researchers. It has the largest desalinization and solar industries. Israel is the only nation that has increased its number of trees and turned its deserts into productive farmland. Israel is the leader in minimizing airborne security threats. The list goes on – need I say more. Indeed, Yahweh is blessing the world through the descendants of Abraham, just as he promised in **Genesis 18**.

# **Conclusions**

**Genesis 18:18** – "Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed in him."

**Isaiah 49:3** – "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

Israel began as the smallest of all nations: one family, the family of Abram who became Abraham.

Today, both in geography and population they are still one of the smallest.

However, in cyber-technical, biotechnical, scientific, and agricultural inventions they are one of the greatest.

Indeed, Yahweh is blessing the world through the descendants of Abraham, just as he promised in the scriptures.

Yahweh is glorifying his name through Israel's accomplishments.

# Blinded in Part

**Matthew 15:14** – "When a blind man guides another blind man, both will fall in a pit."

This is a well know proverb or saying that many quote, usually in reference to someone else. But what if the person speaking is the blind man who is guiding others?

### The Partially Blind Jews

Romans 11:25 – "A partial blindness has happened to Israel until the full number of the Gentiles has come in." Paul clearly stated that the Jews are partially blind, and it has been well documented in history that a large percentage of the Jews have not yet recognized Yeshua as their Mashiach, their Messiah. Their blindness came as a result of the Jews of Yeshua's time looking for a King (Melech [H4428]) Mashiach, rather than a Priestly (Kohen [H3548]) Mashiach who is also the Kinsman Redeemer (Ga'al [H1350]). They failed to see that THE Mashiach is both Melech and Kohen, from the order of Melchizedek [H4442] (Hebrews 5:6; 6:20, 7:1)! The percentage of partially blind Jews is growing smaller, however, as many are becoming Messianic Jews, or as some call themselves, Completed Jews.

# **The Partially Blind Christians**

**Revelation 3:7** – "Here is the message of Ha'Kodesh, the True One, the one who has the key of David, who, if he opens something, no one else can shut it, and if he closes something, no one else can open it."

Many Christians have faired no better. They, too, are in partial blindness. They readily accept Yeshua as their savior, redeemer, and Lord, but their blindness comes from a lack of understanding that Yeshua is THE High Priest of Yahweh, THE Heavenly Kohen Ha'Gadol [H3548 H1419]. The Older Covenant Levitical priests, and especially Aaron, were patterned after the Heavenly Kohen Ha'Gadol, who is Yeshua. Yeshua can be seen throughout the Book of Revelation performing the duties of the Kohen Ha'Gadol and wearing the High Priestly garments (Revelation 1:13). Yeshua is the mediator between man and Yahweh (Romans 5:11, Hebrews 5:6; 6:20, 7:1) Compare these with descriptions of Aaron in Exodus 28, Exodus 29, Exodus 39, Leviticus 16, and Numbers 8).

This blindness of many Christians comes as a result of the unwillingness to fully comprehend the Jewishness of the Christian faith, a stance which I call an anti-Semitic stance. Won't they be surprised when Yeshua shows up as THE High Priest (Kohen Ha'Gadol [H3548 H1419]) and Righteous King (Melech Tzaddiyk [H4428 H6662]). Won't they be surprised when the Moedim are again celebrated during Yeshua's millennial reign in memorial for what Yeshua accomplished in history.

# **Conclusions**

Romans 11:25 – "Don't be conceited so you won't imagine you know more than you actually do."

Many Jews are partially blinded when it comes to Yeshua' Priestly role as their Ha'Mashiach. Sadly, many Christians are also partially blinded about Yeshua's true nature as THE Kohen Ha'Gadol as their Ha'Mashiach. Both groups exhibit a deliberate failure to recognize the true Yeshua Ha'Mashiach. Neither group has the right to boast.

# The Torah of Yahweh

It has always been Yahweh's plan that all people would willingly obey his ways and become his cegullah, his peculiar treasure [סגלה H5459]. To accomplish this goal, he gave us his Torah and Mitzvot.

# The Word Spoken To Deaf Ears

In the beginning Yahweh spoke to his people, giving them his Torah and Mitzvot, his commandments, statutes, regulations, and teachings orally. And his people failed to listen and obey.

### The Word Written in Stone

**Deuteronomy 31:9** – "Moshe wrote down this Torah and gave it to the cohanim."

**Deuteronomy 31:24** – "Moshe kept writing the words of this Torah in a book until he was done."

Years went by, and evil behaviors became more and more evident as his people continued to do it their way, instead of his way. So, Yahweh gave them his Torah and Mitzvot in writing. If they would simply follow Torah, then it would go well with them (**Deuteronomy 30:10**). But once again his people failed to listen and obey.

### The Word Written In The Heart

**Hebrews 1:1** -- "Yahweh spoke long ago in various ways to our ancestors through the prophets, but now, in these last days, he has spoken to us through his Son."

**Hebrews 8:10, 10:16** – "This is the covenant that I will make after those days, says Yahweh, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them."

Lastly, Yahweh sent his son and then wrote his Torah and Mitzvot in his people's hearts. Scripture calls this the "New Covenant". Having done so, the Apostle Paul says that the people then became living letters to the world, having the Torah "written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on stone tablets but on human hearts" (2 Corinthians 3:2-3). Further, he also states that Yahweh's people are now without excuse for failing to obey! Even the Gentiles who live rightly, he says, who do not have either the oral or written Torah, "show that the Torah is written in their hearts (Romans 2:14-16).

### **Conclusions**

Yahweh's people failed to listen to his oral Torah, so Yahweh wrote his Torah on tablets of stone for them to read. They still failed to obey! Finally, he wrote his Torah on their hearts so that they couldn't claim "I never heard it, and never read it either!" But even with the Torah written on their hearts, both Jews and Gentiles still find excuses for failing to obey. How sad.

# Work and Worship

Did you know that work and worship are the same thing? Most people do not. The Hebrew word, abad [עַבַּד] H5647] is used over 290 times in scripture. It is translated: to do service, to serve, till, work, or labor. It can mean bondage, a burden, or to produce. However, it is also translated: to worship!

# **Burdens and Bondage**

**Exodus 6:5** tells us that the Hebrews were being "held in bondage" by the Egyptians.

**Isaiah 14:3** and **Ezekial 34:27** tell us that the Hebrews "have been enslaved."

**Joshua 16:10** tells us the Hebrews "became forced laborers."

**Isaiah 43:23-24** tells us that Yahweh has not "burdened us with offerings", but we "have burdened him with our sins"!

Both held and bondage are the Hebrew word abad, as are the words enslaved, laborers, and burdened.

# **Tilling and Cultivating**

Genesis 2:15 – "Then Yahweh God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate and keep it."

**Genesis 4:2** – "Cain was a tiller of the ground."

**Deuteronomy 28:39** – "You shall plant and cultivate vineyards."

**2 Samuel 9:10** – "You and your sons and your servants shall **cultivate** the land."

Ezekiel 36:9 tells us that desolate lands and even people "will be cultivated."

**Proverbs 28:19** tells us that a person who "tills the land will have plenty of food".

Cultivate, cultivated, tiller, and tills are also the Hebrew word abad.

### Work, Work, Work - All We Do Is Abad

Exodus 20:9 and Exodus 34:21 – "You will work six days" and "perform the service of Yahweh" (Joshua 22:27). The Hebrews were to "labor rigorously" with the labors which were "rigorously imposed upon them"! Nebuchadnezzar's army received no wages from Tyre for the labor that they performed against it (Ezekiel 29:18), but instead received the land of Egypt for the labor which he performed (Ezekiel 29:20). Aaron and the Levites were "to do" the service of the Tabernacle (Numbers 3:7-8), and "to do the work of service" (Numbers 4:47). Numbers 8:11 and 8:25 also uses the words perform and work. Deuteronomy 15:19 tells us, however, the we will not "work with the firstborn"!

Work, perform, performed, imposed, and to do are also all the Hebrew word abad.

# Worship

**Isaiah 19:9-23** tells us that the "manufacturers of linen" will be dejected, but that they will "worship with sacrifice and offering" and the "Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians." The "prophets of Baal and all Baal's worshippers" were summoned by Jehu and then killed (2 Kings 10:19-22).

More importantly, throughout the scriptures we are commanded to *worship* Yahweh (Exodus 3:12, Exodus 12:31, Deuteronomy 6:13, Psalm 2:11, etc.)

Worship, worshippers, and manufacturers are also all the Hebrew word abad.

### **Conclusions**

Colossians 3:23-24 – "Whatever work you do, do it with all your heart as one who is serving Yahweh himself, knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from him. Remember, you are a slave of Yeshua Ha'Mashiach."

Many believe that work and worship are separate concepts that have little to nothing in common. We work all week, then worship on a day of rest. The Hebrew mindset, however, sees no disconnect between work and worship – they are the same concept. Paul states it very succinctly in **Colossians 3:23-24**, tying in our work [abad] and serving as part of our enslavement [abad] to Yeshua!

# Angels

Throughout history there has been a fascination with the supernatural, and the role of heavenly or celestial beings. Every religion has it's spirit beings. Heavenly beings are mentioned over 260 times in the Bible. Today, this fascination is on television, in magazines and newspapers, in books, and endemic on the internet. The internet is ripe with articles, blogs, and videos all purporting to give a person full knowledge of who the angels are, and how to connect with them to obtain supernatural powers in an effort to overcome loneliness or disenchantment with their own self abilities or image. Scripture speaks of two types of angels: those who have always been faithful to Yahweh, and those who have declared their allegiance to Lucifer (Satan).

# **Premises and Characteristics of New Age Angelology**

New Age teachings on angels is eclectic: it is taken from the Bible, Koran, Book of Mormon, Pseudepigrapha, Apocrypha, and many other sources; all are used to form an amalgamated image and description. Myths and ancient teachings tell of genies, fairies, hybrids, and other supernatural beings. New Age teachings are fairly extensive regarding the job angels have. Angels, they say, help you make your image as you wish it to be: "Be All You Can Be" is their motto. Angels, they say, help you achieve unconditional self-love. All is love and sweetness: there is no condemnation, hell, or lake of fire. Angels, they say, are channels for entry to the spiritual realm: just get in touch with your spirit guide and all will be well with your soul and you will gain knowledge of the secret teachings. The new age is coming: the spirit is good but the material is bad.

# **Biblical Angelology and Faithful Angels**

Scripture paints a very different picture of angels. Angels are Yahweh's messengers whose role is to minister to Yahweh's people as he commands them to do. There are the elect angels (1 Timothy 5:21), the angels of the churches (Revelation 2:1-3:18), the Cherubim (Genesis 3:22-24; Exodus 25:17- 20; Ezekiel 10:1-19), Seraphim (Isaiah 6:2-7), and Living Creatures (Ezekiel 1: 5-14; Revelation 4:6-11). Scripture also mentions two angels by name: Michael and Gabriel (Daniel 8:15-9:22; Luke 1:18-28).

The items below have been compiled from essays by: Pastor David E. Thompson, pastor/teacher at Texas Corners Bible Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

### **Angelic Areas Of Responsibility**

- #1 angels have a ministry to Yahweh and to worship Yahweh (Revelation 4:8, 5:13-14, 22:9).
- #2 angels have a ministry connected to Yahweh's program, especially in association with the New Testament church (Matthew 18:15-18; I Timothy 5:21-22; Revelation 2:1, 8, 12, 18; 3:1, 7, 14).
- #3 angels have a ministry connected to Yeshua Ha'Mashiach (Matthew 1:20, 4:1, 4:11; Luke 22:43)

- #4 angels have a ministry to those who accept Yeshua as their Lord and Savior (Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:30-38; John 20:12; Acts 12:7).
- #5 angels have a ministry to people who have yet to accept Yeshua as their Lord and Savior (Acts 10:7).

# **Angelic Ministries To The Bride Of Yeshua**

- #1 Angels help enable a follower of Yeshua to do Yahweh's work (Acts 8:26; Acts 10:3).
- #2 Angels may help answer the prayers of a follower of Yeshua (Acts 12:5-7).
- #3 Angels are involved in the life of every follower of Yeshua (Psalm 91:11; Luke 4:10).
- #4 Angels are involved in protecting and giving encouragement to a believers (Acts 27:23-24).
- #5 Angels have a special ministry to a Bride of Yeshua at death (Luke 16:22).
- #6 Angels have a ministry of unannounced and unsuspected inspections (Hebrews 13:2).
- #7 Angels have a ministry of observation and remembrance (1 Timothy 5:21).

### **Angelic Ministries To The Unbeliever**

- #1) Yahweh uses angels to prevent an unbeliever from harming or hurting a believer (Acts 12:6-10; Matthew 26:53).
- #2) Yahweh used an angel to inflict disease resulting in death (Acts 12:19-23).
- #3) Yahweh will use angels to preach the Gospel (Acts 8:26; Revelation 14:6-7).
- #4) Yahweh will use an angel to gather the unrighteous at the final harvest and throw them into the furnace of fire (Matthew 13:39-43; Revelation 14:19).
- #5) Yahweh will use angels to announce the seal judgments, sound the trumpets, and pour out the bowls of wrath (**Revelation chapters 6, 8, 9, 11, and 16**).

### **Conclusions**

Christians and non-Christians today are both confused about angels. The church and its leaders have not preached about angels despite a very concise Biblical understanding and teaching. The current interest in angels and the spiritual realm is a symptom of a search for new spirituality. Our main source for identity and information about spiritual matters should be in Yahweh's Word, rather than in angels.

Below is a chart of those "jobs":

Angel Jobs				
Minimum Requirements	Responsibilities and Duties	Employment Benefits	Special Angels	Who Should NOT Apply
Obedient to Yahweh at All Times	Always Praise and Worship Yahweh	Always With Yahweh / Yeshua	Angel of the Lord	Human Beings
Alert to Needs and Events of World	Be a Messenger or Servant for Yahweh	Attend lots of Celebrations	Archangel	Fallen Angels
Able to Suddenly Appear / Disappear	Be an Agent / Inflict Yahweh's Wrath, Judgments	Full Medical / Dental Plan	Cherubim	Those who can't keep their proper dwelling
Must Have Supernatural Powers	Accompany Yeshua in His Second Coming	Travel Between the Heavens And Earth	Seraphim	Those who wish to be personally worshiped
Humble, Unable to be Worshiped	Protect Yahweh's Choices and Decisions	Exciting Adventures	Living Creatures	Nephilim and other hybrid creatures
Holy / Immortal / Spiritual / Righteous	Fight Demons and Evil Spirits / Evil	Plenty of Team workers	Angel Michael	
Have Genuine Love for God's People	Observe, Strengthen, Guide, Rescue People	Plenty of Job Satisfaction	Angel Gabriel	
Know and Find Joy in Gospel of Yeshua	Serve and Minister to Yahweh's Servants	Scare Folks	Messenger of the Lord	
Able to Work Well with Others	Immediately Say: ADo Not Be Afraid@	Encourage Folks	Guardian Angels	
Must be a Good Communicator	Enable A Believer To Do Yahweh's Work	Retirement Plan is Tops	Guardian of Israel	
Wise, Able to Discern Good / Evil	Help Answer A Believer's Prayers		Destroying Angel	
Shut the Mouths of Lions	Be Involved In The Life Of Every Believer		Angel of the Abyss	
	Protect Believers In Times Of Great Distress		Abaddon, Apollyon	
	Give Encouragement In Times Of Great Distress			
	Minister To A Believer At Death			
	Make Unannounced And Unsuspected Inspections			
	Prevent an Unbeliever From Harming / Hurting Believers			
	Evangelize from Mid-Heaven			
	Harvest the Eternally Damned (Harvest Weeds / Bad Seeds)			

# Hope

**Hebrews 11:1**—"Faith is being confident of what we hope for, convinced about things we do not see."

Hope, according to Daniel Webster, is the "feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out well." The Bible, however, defines hope as being the anticipation with certainty, a trust in or expectation of or in, and centers in Yahweh's promises and fulfillments, not our own. In other words, hope is the anticipation of a favorable outcome under Yahweh's guidance, the confidence that what Yahweh has done for us in the past guarantees our participation in what Yahweh will do in the future. R. V. G. Tasker puts it this way: "Because of what Yahweh has done in the past, particularly in preparing for the coming of Christ, and because of what Yahweh has done and is now doing through Christ, the Christian dares to expect future blessing at present invisible."

Throughout the Bible, there are several words that are used to express or connote "hope". In the Older Covenant, several words are used: yachal [H3176 ½τζ], meaning to be patient, to wait for, to hope; tiqva [H8615 [H7663 [Ψζ]], meaning to look for something with eager expectation; qavah [H6960 [Ψζ]], meaning to expect; shabar [H7663 [Ψζ]], meaning to watch for with hope and patience; and batach [H982 [Ψζ]], meaning to place confidence in something or someone reliable. In the Newer Covenant the primary words used are: elpis [G1680 ἐλπίζ], meaning to anticipate with expectation or confidence the resurrection through Yeshua Ha'Mashiach; and elpizo [G1679 ἐλπίζω], meaning to place one's expectation upon or in another. Three other words used are: proelpizo [G4276 προελπίζω], meaning to hope in advance of other confirmation; apokaradokia [G603 ἀποκαραδοκία], meaning an intense or earnest anticipation; and prosdokao [G4328 προσδοκάω], meaning to expect or to await.

# **Hope in the Older Covenant**

**Psalm 71:5** – "For you are my hope; Adonai Elohim, I have trusted in you since I was young."

Hope in the Older Covenant always centers around Yahweh [Elohim]. **Psalm 131:3; Isaiah 8:17;** and **Lamentations 3:24** all speak of this. It is Yahweh who cares for, teaches, and promises to his people a future in which "every one of you will eat from your own vine and your own fig tree, and drink water from your own cistern" (2 Kings 18:31; Isaiah 36:16).

It is a hope that claims the promise that their "children shall come back to their own country" (**Jeremiah 31:17**). Hope usually looks toward the future, rather than to the immediate present, for complete fulfillment, but almost always centers in Yahweh's steadfast love (**Psalms 33:18, 22, 130:7, 147:11**). It is Yahweh whose steadfast love continues to burn, no matter how recalcitrant his people have become. Yahweh never gives up but never fails to be their "faithful, loving husband" regardless of their infidelity. He says you will call him, "my

husband" (Hosea 2:16), and "he will take you for his wife forever; he will take you for his wife in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy" (Hosea 2:19).

For others hope may center in Yahweh's salvation (**Psalms 119:166, 130:7; Jeremiah 50:7**), which can also be expressed in the hope of a new David or messiah. Isaiah states, "then a throne shall be established in steadfast love in the tent of David, and on it shall sit in faithful-ness a ruler who seeks justice and is swift to do what is right" (**Isaiah 16:5**). Still, for others, hope may center simply in Yahweh's word (**Psalms 130:5**), or in his provision (**Psalms 146:5; Jeremiah 14:22, 17:13, 29:11**).

For others, hope may center in his 'new covenant' expressed tin terms of a 'new heart'. "The days are surely coming, says Yahweh, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel [and Judah] and . . . I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (Jeremiah 31:31-33).

And for yet others, hope may center in the hope of a new Jerusalem, or a new heaven and a new earth, again expressed in terms of steadfast love. Yahweh "has extended to us his steadfast love... to give us new life to set up the house of our God, to repair its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judea and Jerusalem" (Ezra 9:9).

Hope, at least in the Older Testament, centers around Yahweh, and more specifically, around his steadfast love. This steadfast love is shown in his promises of salvation through a new David, of land through a new Jerusalem, of Torah through a new heart, and of commitment through the image of the faithful husband. Praise Yahweh for this picture of Older Testament hope.

# **Hope in the Newer Covenant**

Hope in the Newer Covenant, just as in the Older Covenant centers around Yahweh. 1 Peter 1:21 claims that our "faith and hope are set on Yahweh." 1 Timothy 4:10 agrees, saying, "We have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people." Unlike the Older Covenant, however, hope no longer centers around a 'future' messiah, for the Messiah is already present in the person of Yeshua of Nazareth, who also, with Yahweh the Father, becomes the center of hope for many. As Matthew 12:21 says, "And in his name the Gentiles will hope." Hope still continues to look toward the future, rather than the immediate present for complete fulfillment, but those who hope "wait for it with patience" (Romans 8:25). As mentioned above, much hope centers in the person of Yeshua Ha'Mashiach (Hebrews 10:23). More specifically, this hope manifests itself in the hope of the rapture at the first phase of his second coming (Titus 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 2:19). "He who rescued us from so deadly a peril will continue to rescue us; on him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again" says 2 Corinthians 1:10.

Hope in the resurrection and rapture is a big theme in the Newer Covenant. Paul claims he is arrested and on trial for his hope in the resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous (Acts 23:6, 24:15). A greater hope in resurrection is evidenced due to "the resurrection of Yeshua Ha'Mashiach from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3-4), in which the hope then centers around "an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you" (1 Peter 1:5). Titus 1:2 and 3:7 also reflect this hope of eternal life, and both Colossians 1:27 and Ephesians 1:8 depict the hope of many to share in the glory of Yahweh. Hebrews 6:19-20 shares the same hope, expressed as a "hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain" just as Yeshua has done. Romans 5:2 states that "we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of Yahweh" and Galatians 5:5 says "we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness."

Hope in the Newer Covenant, like that of the Older Covenant, centers around Yahweh, and more specifically, around his son, Yeshua, and still looks toward the future for complete fulfillment of his promises. The hope of a New Jerusalem, from the Older Covenant, has been superseded by the hope of resurrection and sharing the glory of Yahweh in a New Heavens and a New Earth. The hope of a more intimate relationship with Yahweh is symbolized by the opening of the inner shrine, which we hope for with patience. Praise Yahweh for this picture of Newer Covenant hope.

### **Conclusions**

Hope in Genesis and the Older Covenant is found in the blessing of Land (a place or home), Descendants (people, family), Blessings (Yahweh does it), and Being a Blessing to Others. Hope in the Newer Covenant is found in the fulfillment of Older Covenant Hope, and the Kingdom of Yahweh being at hand.

# Part Four The Lighter Side

# Batter Up

Scripture, especially prophecy, in light of history can be both interesting and daunting at the same time. Many people spend hours and hours attempting to link every historical item into the Biblical narrative. I call this method the Spend Hours Eagerly Linking Finds (S.H.E.L.F.) method. Others, like myself, who have finally tired of wracking our little minds and sweating bullets over this process, now subscribe to the K.I.S.S. (Keep it simple, scholar!) method and have placed our former method on the shelf, as it were. (I now have a modicum of free time to enjoy life after switching methods!)

And it doesn't get much simpler than viewing the Biblical narrative much like a baseball game, in which there are <u>only</u> two teams – <u>The Jews and the Gentiles</u>. The first two innings were played within the Jewish family, but the third inning saw a new team begin to play – the Gentiles. And since summer is here and it is time for baseball, let's take a quick look at the Biblical baseball game and see what has transpired in each inning.

# • Inning 1

Abraham's children, Isaac and Ishmael, are the captains of the two teams at bat. Yahweh determines that His chosen team will be Isaac and his descendants.

# • Inning 2

Jacob and Esau step up to bat. Jacob, of course, is Isaac's son, and Yahweh continues to choose Isaac's descendants as His team.

# • Inning 3

Egypt is the first Gentile team to take the field. The inning is a long one, and Egypt appears to be winning. Abraham's descendants are in slavery and bondage. But Yahweh has other plans. After all, Isaac's and Jacob's descendants, now known as the Jews, are His chosen team. Yahweh saves the day, and the Jews head for the Promised Land.

# • Inning 4

The Jews are finally in the Promised Land, and Assyria now steps up as the main players on the Gentile team. Because the Jews are no longer listening to Yahweh, and bickering amongst themselves over which players are the best, he lets the northern players be deported.

# • Inning 5

Babylon becomes the third nation to lend players to the Gentile team. Because the remaining Jews are still failing to listen to Yahweh, he also lets the southern half of their players be deported.

### • Inning 6

Medo-Persian players run the Babylonians off the field, thinking they can do a better job and score more runs. The Jews return to the Promised Land but do not play an especially amazing inning. It's a short inning.

# • Inning 7

Now the Grecian players take their turn, running the Medo-Persians off the field, also thinking they can do a better job and score more runs. The Jews continue to play poorly. It's another short inning.

# • Inning 8

The Romans now step up to the plate. After many years, the Jews' captain, Yeshua, arrives in person but the Jews refuse to accept him or listen to him. Yahweh calls a time out and benches the Jews.

### **Intermission**

Yahweh benches the Jews in 70AD. For the next 1878 years, the Jews are not in the game. In fact, most of their players aren't even in the stadium, but have been dispersed to the four corners of the globe. The Gentiles, meanwhile, under their same captain, Satan, continue to hone their game, pulling in players from dozens of other nations. This period is generally termed the "Time of the Gentiles" or "Daniel's Gap" between the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> weeks. I call it the "Jewish Time Out". Intermission lasts until 1948.

# • Inning 9

1948. The Jewish Time Out is over, and the Jews return to the game. Both halves are present, and they are no longer bickering amongst themselves as to which half has the better players. At long last, they are a truly united Jewish team. After watching the Gentiles practice for nearly two thousand years, the Jews are hot to play. They've watched the moves and their jealousy has been aroused.

The Gentiles, meanwhile, realizing that none of the other nation's players are worth their salt, once again start to re-form the Roman team. The game resumes, but for the last sixty-four years, both teams have spent the time warming up. Real play is just beginning. It will be an exciting inning, with runs scored by both teams, but at the bottom of the inning, Captain Yeshua will come back to save the day and the Jews will win the game – Scripture guarantees this outcome.

### **Analysis**

Understanding prophecy can be a daunting task, especially prophecy that has not yet been fulfilled. Trying to place Gentile historical events into the Biblical narrative during the Jewish Time Out to see if any prophecies have been fulfilled, simply will not work. Scripture is all about Yeshua and how Yahweh is working with His chosen team – the Jews! If the Jews are not in the game, then whatever the Gentiles are doing is just warm up, is just honing their skills, is just practice. It is not, however, part of the actual game, even though practice can and does impact the game once play resumes. One team literally cannot play the game by itself, both teams must be present. From 70AD until 1948AD, the Jewish team was not in the game. Now that they are back, the game can continue until the ninth inning is finished and the winner declared.

# The Right Side

# **Voting Season**

For the past many years, I have focused on Understanding the Scriptures, with many long and hopefully stimulating posts. In this crazy election season, however, I feel that a little pint-sized scriptures, with just a hint of humor, might be appropriate, so here is a short Bible study for ya'all to enjoy:

# The Lighter Side of Scripture

Remember what Yeshua said about right and left: "And he shall set the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left" (Matthew 25:33).

Yeshua also told Peter that if he wanted to catch fish there is a correct way to do so: "He said, 'Throw your net on the **right** side of the boat and you will find some.' When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish" (John 21:6).

Have you ever wondered why it is that Conservatives are called the "<u>right</u>" and Liberals are called the "<u>left</u>"? Perchance, scripture also has the answer to this question: "A wise man's heart inclines him toward the **right**, but a fool's heart toward the **left**" (**Ecclesiastes 10:2**).

### The Chuckles:

Okay, perhaps you are a bit offended, especially by that last paragraph, and wondering what's so funny about any of this! **Matthew 25** *is about nations, not individual people*. I've spent many an hour with my fishing buddies, and we set our lines on the left, on the right, and directly behind the boat when trolling. Am I failing to obey Yeshua's way to fish? Guess which side of the aisle I usually end up sitting on in a church or auditorium – the left side of the aisle facing the altar or stage! Oi vey. Maybe I should pay more attention to **Luke 14:7-8** and not take one of the sheep seats, eh? And as for a wise heart, Yeshua is still working on me with that . . . .

# The Serious Side -- Do Rightly

Deuteronomy 6:18 - "You will do what is right and good in the sight of Yahweh, that it may be well with you."

1 Kings 14:8 – "My servant David did only that which was right in my sight."

Isaiah 56:1, Jeremiah 22:3 & 23:5 – "Thus says Yahweh, 'Preserve justice and do what is right'."

James 4:17 – "Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin."

### **Conclusions**

Right is right and left is left. It surely can't get any simpler than that. Amen.

# It's Not Global Warming - Now It's called Climate Change

### The Weather of December 2013

December 12 -14 – Three to four feet of snow falls on Jerusalem. The inclement weather worsened the situation for tens of thousands of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Cairo gets snow as well for the first time in 100 years. Heavy snow and travel disruptions will spread from the Midwest into the Northeast US. The snowstorm will span more than 1,000 miles.

December 9 – Killer freezes, floods and heat-waves will devastate Britain during the next 30 years, climate - experts have warned. Many people could die as extreme weather becomes common. Antarctica reached the coldest temperature ever recorded anywhere on earth -94.7C (-135.8F).

December 7 – Records broken statewide in Oregon. Some records go back to 1933. The National Weather Service reported the wind chill reached -37 at Redmond Airport early Sunday and -31 at Bend Airport. Madras also had the same -31 wind chill reading.

# The snow pack

While the Artic and Greenland have seen some reduction in snow pack and glacier melt, the snow pack in Antarctica is actually increasing again. A paper published in the Journal of Climate examines the trend of sea ice extent along the East Antarctic coast finds a significant increase of 1.43% per year, and will continue to grow for the rest of this century! NASA's data confirms this data.

### **Man's Commentary**

Dozens of organizations and publications all clearly depict man as the cause of weather related events. When Hurricane Sandy struck the Northeast in 2012, *BusinessWeek* didn't mince words. "*It's global warming, stupid*" the magazine boldly declared.

"Snowfalls are now just a thing of the past," the headline in Britain's Independent newspaper announced.

"Solving global warming will improve our lives by cleaning up air pollution while investing in clean energy, green jobs and smart energy solutions that get the U.S. economy moving again. We need to drive smarter cars, save money with energy efficient homes and offices, and build better communities and transportation networks. See how we can solve the climate crisis today" says the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Wikipedia agrees, saying, "Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and scientists are 95-100% certain that it is primarily caused by increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases produced by human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation. These findings are recognized by the national science academies of all major industrialized nations."

# Yahweh's Sense of Humor About Global Warming

**December 2011** – The 2011 United Nations Climate Change Conference was held in Durban, South Africa, from November 28 to December 11, 2011. Extreme weather struck hours before the opening of the UN climate change conference in Durban, caused flooding and widespread damage. South Africa's extreme weather disturbances continued through mid-December. December 2011 brought a life-threatening early start to winter for residents of the United States plains states, as well. In the week before Christmas, a paralyzing blizzard also struck the region.

**December 2012** – The 2012 United Nations Climate Change Conference took place from Monday 26 November to Saturday 8 December 2012 in Doha, Qatar. December was notable for major snowstorms in the U.S. and unusually cold conditions in China, Korea, Japan, and Central Asia. The year of 2012 saw 245 days of record snowfall!

**December 2013** – The AGU fall meeting in San Francisco, where the best and brightest global warming scientists were meeting, was surrounded by record (such as 25F in San Jose Dec 9th) and near record setting low temperatures, though the irony was lost on many of them. The Global Warming Task Force met while snow and sleet were shutting down the rest of Washington, D.C.

On December 8, 2013 the Akademic Shokalskiy sailed from Bluff, New Zealand with seventy-four people on board, including twenty-two scientists from the Australasian Antarctic Expedition 2013-2014. The intent of the voyage was two-fold:

- 1) to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the previous expedition under Douglas Mawson and repeat his scientific observations; and
- 2) to find and document evidence of Global warming.

By the time December 25th had arrived, the ship had become trapped in heavy ice that was approaching twelve feet thick. Three ice-breaker ships, the Xue Long, the Aurora Australis, and the L'Astrolabe were sent to the rescue. All three of them also either got stuck or were unable to reach the Akademic Shokalskiy.

All of the passengers had to be rescued by helicopters from the Xue Long and this was accomplished on Thursday, January 2, 2014. However, the Xue Long was still stuck and may need a rescue of its own, according to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority. The Australian icebreaker Aurora Australia, which is now carrying the 52 passengers, waited in open water to see if it had to go back to help the Chinese icebreaker.

### Yahweh's Word About Who Controls The Climate

**Job Chapter 36** – "Yahweh gathers moisture into the clouds and supplies us with rain."

**Job Chapter 37** – "Yahweh directs the snow to fall on the earth and tells the rain to pour down." "It's Yahweh's breath that forms the ice." It's Yahweh who fills clouds with rainwater and hurls lightning from them every which way." "Yahweh makes the skies reflect the heat like a bronze mirror."

Job Chapter 38 – Job wants to know where are the storehouses of snow or of hail? Where is the home of the east wind? Who created the torrents of rain? Who makes the rain fall to satisfy the parched ground and make the tender grass spring up? Who can tilt the water jars of heaven when the parched ground is dry and the soil has hardened into clods?" Yahweh says it is himself who tends to all of these weather phenomenon (Isaiah 29-6, Jeremiah 10-13 and 51:16, Revelation 8:5 and 11:19).

**Revelation 7:1** – "After these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree."

### **Conclusions**

**Psalm 2:4** – "Yahweh sits in the heavens laughs."

Yahweh's sense of humor about global warming just keeps me laughing. According to scripture it is Yahweh who controls the weather, and even the ice, not man or manmade creations!! Yahweh alone is the one who determines where the ice comes and goes. And isn't it fascinating how often those "experts" who are determined to foster a belief in global warming or climate change get frozen out!

One has to wonder how many hints Yahweh has to send them before they repent and give Him the glory. One can only imagine how little scientific data those twenty-two scientists were able to gather to support their misguided global warming theory, eh? Can anyone hear the peals of laughter coming from the Heavenly Throne? I can . . .

Scripture clearly tells us that in the end times natural events will change the climate and the landscape, and we are quickly approaching that period of time. Fasten your seatbelts. Weather patterns are about to change in drastic ways. And Yahweh will continue to laugh at any who would contend with him say the Psalms.

# Part Five Revelation Connections

### Whose Wrath

John 5:22 – "The Father judges no man, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son."

Luke 4:21 – "Today, as you heard it read, this passage of the Tanakh was fulfilled."

The word judges is the Greek word krino [G2919] which means to decide, try, condemn, punish, avenge, or judge. There is NO other judge besides Yeshua according to scripture. Yeshua combines **Isaiah 35:5, 58:6** and **61:1-2a** when he says to the people in his local synagogue that the Isaiah passages has been fulfilled.

But wait, the **Isaiah 61:2b** passage goes on to say: "to proclaim . . . the day of vengeance of Elohim." Elohim is Yahweh, God The Father, Yeshua, God the Son, and the Ruach Ha'Kodesh, God the Holy Spirit. Which brings us to Revelation, chapter five!

### **Scrolls and Judgments**

**Revelation 5:1** – "I saw . . . a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals."

John the apostle has been caught up to Heaven in the spirit and sees Yahweh sitting on his throne, holding a scroll. And no one is found who can open it, so John thinks (5:3). However, the scriptures continue and inform us that the "Lion of Judah, the Root of Jesse, has indeed won the right to open it (5:4-5). This is none other than Yeshua, the one unto whom all judgment has been entrusted. And it is Yeshua who breaks those seven seals:

- Yeshua breaks the first Seal. One of the four living beings speaks in a thundering voice. The white horse departs the antichrist is let loose upon the earth (6:1-2).
- Yeshua breaks the second Seal. One of the four living beings speaks in a thundering voice. The red horse departs peace is removed and mass killing ensues (6:3-4).
- Yeshua breaks the third Seal. One of the four living beings speaks in a thundering voice. The black horse departs famine and pestilence ensues (6:5-6).
- Yeshua breaks the fourth Seal. One of the four living beings speaks in a thundering voice. The pale horse departs Thanatos (death) goes forth and Hades (hell) follows him (6:7-8).
- Yeshua breaks the fifth Seal. The people who were slain for witnessing to Yeshua cry out in a megavoice (6:9-11)!
- Yeshua breaks the sixth Seal. Earthquakes ensue, the sun turns dark, the moon turns blood red, mountains and islands move out of their normal places. The sky (veil between heaven and earth) splits open (6:12-15).

# Who Is Responsible

**Revelation 6:15-17** – "Then . . . everyone hid himself . . . and said to the mountains and rocks, 'Fall on us, and hide us from the face of the One sitting on the throne and from the fury of the Lamb! For the Great Day of their fury has come, and who can stand'?"

The people on earth get it. It is the One sitting on the throne, Yahweh, and the Lamb, Yeshua, who have been and continue to vent **their** fury upon the earth. It is Yeshua who is fulfilling the **Isaiah 61:2b** prophecy, who is delivering the day of vengeance of Elohim. It is Yeshua who is meting out Elohim's wrath, who is exacting his vengeance.

### **Conclusions**

**Isaiah 13:3** – "I have ordered my holy ones, summoned my gibborim, eager and bold, to execute my wrath." Scripture clearly teaches that it is God Almighty, Yahweh and Yeshua who pour out their wrath. Satan and his minions, both fallen angels and human, are merely instruments that Yahweh uses during the Tribulation Period to pour out his wrath. **Isaiah 13:3** even informs us that not only are angels involved, but so are the gibborim, those pesky giants, the Nephilim, the ancient heroes, also known as the men of renown, exactly as stated in **Revelation 6:7-8**.

It is NOT man's wrath, and it is NOT Satan's wrath. Anyone who teaches the falsehood that the wrath comes from man or from Satan is a deceiver, just like Satan. Do not listen to their lies.

## The Four Horses of Revelation 6

Look, coming down the road! Why it's four pretty horses — a white horse, a red horse, a black horse, and a golden-haired horse. How awesome. Oh, wow, now that they are closer, they don't look so pretty. Matter of fact, that last horse looks positively pale green, not golden-haired. Woe, Woe, Woe, Woe. They are not pretty at all . . .

#### The White Horse And Its Rider

**Revelation 6:1-2** – "Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."

The rider on the white horse cannot be Yeshua, as Yeshua is the one sending forth this horse and rider. Therefore, the rider appears to be the antichrist, whom the people of the world are convinced is the messiah. But scripture calls this person a beast: a therion [G234], a venomous or poisonous snake! Not Yeshua at all.

The rider of the white horse will rule with a bow, not a sword. Scripture tells us this person deceives many through peace: "By his shrewdness he will cause deceit to succeed . . . and he will destroy many while they are at ease" (Daniel 8:25). It is not until the middle of the tribulation period that he begins to rule with an iron fist. However, even at the start he has a crown that has been given to him, which he uses to wield dominion over all the peoples of the earth. The antichrist will be a dictator the likes of which humankind has not seen since the rule of Nimrod, whom scripture depicts as a mighty hunter of men, a despot who was in Yahweh's face (Genesis 10:9)! Today's political landscape is certainly ripe for the emergence of such another despot.

All that waits is for Yahweh to allow it in his timing after Yeshua takes his bride from this earth: "And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way." (2 Thessalonians 2:6-7)

#### The Red Horse Brings War And Conflict.

**Revelation 6:3-4** – "When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword."

The rider on the red horse, perhaps the False Prophet, simply takes peace from the earth – yet another judgment from Yahweh against those who live on the earth. It is the next horse that brings war and destruction. Scripture

tells us that this rider may indeed be the one that causes all to take the mark of the beast: "He provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark of the beast" (Revelation 13:17). This rider, too, cannot be blessed of Yahweh, nor one who is called a son of God, for he is no peacemaker (Matthew 5:9).

The rider on the red horse removes peace, picks up a mega-sword, and the people begin to kill one another. At this point, the world is past rumors of wars and is actively engaged in warfare, likely nuclear in nature. Today's political landscape is certainly ripe for the emergence of such a devastating war or wars to take place.

## The Black Horse Brings Famine, Scarcity, And Inequity.

**Revelation 6:5-6** – "When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine."

The rider on the black horse is granted the ability to ration daily needs, such as food, medicines, housing – yet another judgment from Yahweh against those who live on the earth. A quart of wheat, or three quarts of barley are the ingredients needed to bake a single loaf of bread. A denarius is equivalent to a single day's wages. Today, a loaf of bread costs around \$3.00, and a day's wages are around \$40.00. So during this part of the tribulation period a single loaf of bread will cost nearly fourteen times what it does today!

The oil and wine are not to be harmed. Man does not live by bread alone, Vitamins, minerals, and liquids are also necessary. However, even though these items are available, most will be unable to afford these items as their entire daily wage will only buy the flour to make the bread! John Walvoord describes this time as "a time of famine when life will be reduced to the barest necessities; for famine is almost always the aftermath of war." Today's ecological landscape is certainly ripe for such a devastating famine to emerge.

#### The Pale Horse Brings Death.

**Revelation 6:7-8** – "When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death  $^{[G2288]}$ , and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with the dead  $^{[G2288]}$ , and by the beasts  $^{[G234]}$  of the earth."

The rider on the pale horse is granted to bring forth death on a global scale, and the denizens of Hades (Hell / Sheol) are released to help accomplish this goal – yet another judgment from Yahweh against those who live on the earth. This rider, named Thanatos [G2288], is likely also to named Abaddon, or Apollyon – two alternative

names for Nimrod (Revelation 9:1-11), who is believed to be the "Lord of the Underground"! The death toll caused by this rider is simply staggering. No wonder Yeshua said of this time "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be" (Matthew 24:21).

The rider on the pale horse brings death with the sword, with famine, with the dead who are released from Hades, and the thērion [G234] (beasts) of the earth. As noted above, thērion can be a venomous or poisonous snake! Modern scientists are well aware that the ebola virus looks snakelike! Sharon Gilbert puts it this way in her book "Ebola and the Fourth Horseman of the Apocalypse": "Thanatos, the Angel of Death who rides the fourth horse in Revelation 6 is given permission to use a biological weapon or therion when he begins his hellish ride." Today's biological experimentation certainly creates a scenario wherein these weapons could be introduced into the population of the entire globe by the rider of the fourth horse.

#### **Conclusions**

The untying of the four seals is just the beginning of the trauma that is about to come upon the earth. The white horse is followed by the fiery red horse of war, the black horse of famine, and the pale horse of death. What is even more terrifying is that the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse are just "harbingers" of even worse judgments that come later in the tribulation period (**Revelation chapters 8–9 and 16**).

Power is given to the riders of the four horses by Yahweh.

Though all hell is breaking loose on the earth, Yahweh is very much in control. Yeshua still holds the scroll and opens the seals.

## Numbers in Revelation

So, are you still convinced that Yahweh's wrath doesn't start when Yeshua opens the first seal? And do you think that the first half of the Tribulation Period is just a cake walk? And do you really want to stick around to witness the seals being broken, rather than be raptured up to meet Yeshua in the clouds? Then perhaps a little bit of simple math will change your mind.

## The Seals are Broken

**Revelation 6:3-4** — When the second seal is broken, a red horse goes out and its rider is given the power to take peace away from the earth and to make people slaughter each other.

Yeshua breaks the second seal and the people of the earth start slaughtering each other. Did you catch that – *slaughter*. The Greek word translated slaughter sphazo [G4969], indicates a bloodbath, a holocaust of unimaginable proportions. The people of the earth do not just murder, do not just kill each other, but butcher and massacre each other.

**Revelation 6:5-6** — When the third seal is broken, a black horse goes out and it takes a whole day to earn enough money to buy just enough bread for one, perhaps two persons.

Yeshua breaks the third seal and the beginnings of famine start to make its presence known. Short rations almost always leads to the death of many. Starvation is no fun way to die.

**Revelation 6:7-8** – When the fourth seal is broken, a pale horse goes forth and out come Thanatos and Hades. Famine, pestilence, wild animals follow behind. One fourth of the people dwelling on the earth are killed.

Yeshua breaks the fourth seal and famine becomes widespread, leading to pestilence and a whole slew of very hungry animals, who now decide that humans are fit to eat, not just take a small bite out of the leg! One fourth, or twenty-five percent are killed.

## **The Early Numbers**

The estimated population of earth dwellers is a tad over seven and one-half billion, -- let's say that's 7,600,000,000. Divide that by four and one gets a figure of about 1,900,000,000, or 1.9 Billion – billion with a B. That is a lot of dead bodies, just in the first half of the tribulation period.

#### Those numbers are too big for me – I can't compute.

Okay, now let's divide that 1.9 billion by the number of years in the first half of the Tribulation Period – three and one-half. Get ready;

1,900,000,000) 3.5 = 542,857,143.

Almost 5 ½ million deaths on average each year. Even if we reduce the number by 600,000,000 people (who get raptured before the tribulation), that would still amount to five hundred million (500,000,000) deaths on average each year.

#### **The Later Numbers**

**Revelation 9:15** – *The four angels are released to kill one-third of the people.* 

And then the shofars start to blow, and another third of the remaining population is killed. So, let's again do the math:

Remember common denominators? 1/4 + 1/3 = 3/12 + 4/12. Which is 7/12. Seven twelfths of seven and one-half billion is 4,433,000,000 billion people.

#### **Conclusions**

The first three and one-half years of the Tribulation Period are going to be devastating. The death toll alone may exceed five-hundred million people each year just by the breaking of the seals. Add in the shofars, and well over one-half of the current inhabitants of the earth end up dead. Still want to hang around to witness the seals being broken, rather than be raptured up to meet Yeshua in the clouds? Not me . . . . . .

The great day of Yahweh is getting really near, even at the door. It hastens forth and will not delay. We do NOT set dates, but clearly Yahweh is getting ready to change the course of human history once again. The signs are clear for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

## **Final Thought**

The great day of Yahweh is getting really near, even at the door. It hastens forth and will not delay.

We do NOT set dates, but clearly Yahweh is getting ready to change the course of human history once again.

The signs are clear for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

# Appendixes

## Appendix A: Glossary Hebrew, Greek, and Latin Terms Used

Abyss	
Ammuwd	A Pillar or Post
Aseres Yemei Teshuva	
Bayith	
Beit-Lechem	House Of Bread
Cĕgullah	
Echad	One
•	To You
~	
Ginosko	
Gregoreo	To Watch, To Be Alert, To Keep Watch, To Stay Awake
Hallelujah	Praise Yahweh (The Lord)
Ha'Mashiach	
Houtos, or Hetoimos	
Kairos	
	To Decide, Try, Condemn, Punish, Avenge, Or Judge
	Not My People.
Malat	To Escape, To Slip Away; Specifically To Deliver, Release Or Rescue In The Greek, It Is Often The Word Ekpheugo [G1628], Or Soteria [G4991]
Maranatha	
_	
	A Divine Appointment, Fixed Time Or Season; Specifically A Festival

Moedim	
Mone, or Meno	An Abode, Dwelling Place, Mansion, House. To Remain or Exist Permanently
Myrrh	
Natzal	
Oth	
_	
	Taken
-	
Petra	
Petros	
Pesach	
Purim	
Qadowsh	
Qadowsh	
	Set Apart or Holy, Holy, Holy  Evil – Not Discomfort, Grief, or Misery
Ra	
RaReishit Katzir	
RaReishit Katzir	
RaReishit KatzirRuach Ha'Kodesh	
Ra	Evil – Not Discomfort, Grief, or Misery First Fruits Holy Spirit
Ra	Evil – Not Discomfort, Grief, or Misery First Fruits Holy Spirit  A Seven Year Cycle
Ra	Evil – Not Discomfort, Grief, or Misery First Fruits Holy Spirit  A Seven Year Cycle To Hear, Listen To, Obey or Yield To, Perceive by Hearing, Pay Attention To
Ra	Evil – Not Discomfort, Grief, or Misery  First Fruits  Holy Spirit  A Seven Year Cycle  To Hear, Listen To, Obey or Yield To, Perceive by Hearing, Pay Attention To  Completeness and Soundness of Health, Welfare, Peacefulness, Relationships
Ra	
Ra	Evil – Not Discomfort, Grief, or Misery  First Fruits  Holy Spirit  A Seven Year Cycle  To Hear, Listen To, Obey or Yield To, Perceive by Hearing, Pay Attention To  Completeness and Soundness of Health, Welfare, Peacefulness, Relationships  Feast Of Pentecost  Horn, Ram's Horn  Indicates A Booth, Tent, or Tabernacle
Ra	Evil – Not Discomfort, Grief, or Misery  First Fruits  Holy Spirit  A Seven Year Cycle  To Hear, Listen To, Obey or Yield To, Perceive by Hearing, Pay Attention To  Completeness and Soundness of Health, Welfare, Peacefulness, Relationships  Feast Of Pentecost  Horn, Ram's Horn  Indicates A Booth, Tent, or Tabernacle  Indicates A Bloodbath, a Slaughter, a Holocaust of Unimaginable Proportions
Ra	Evil – Not Discomfort, Grief, or Misery  First Fruits  Holy Spirit  A Seven Year Cycle  To Hear, Listen To, Obey or Yield To, Perceive by Hearing, Pay Attention To  Completeness and Soundness of Health, Welfare, Peacefulness, Relationships  Feast Of Pentecost  Horn, Ram's Horn  Indicates A Booth, Tent, or Tabernacle

Talmidim	
Tefillah	Prayer
Teshuvah	To Do, or To Make Repentance
Thanatos	
Therion	Beasts Of The Earth, A Venomous or Poisonous Snake
Topos	
Towledah	
Tzaddik	A Righteous One
Tzedakah	
Vichunekka	To Be Gracious, To Show Favor, To Pity
V'yasem	To Ordain, Appoint, or Determine
V'yishmerekha	To Keep, Protect, Guard, Watch and Ward
Ya'er and Yi'sa	
Yahweh	The LORD, God, The Father, Proper Name Of The One True God
Yeshua	
Yeriy'ah	
Yizre'el	Yahweh Will Sow or Plant
Y'varekhe'kha	To Bless, To Be Blessed
Yom	Day, A 24 Hour Period
Yom Kippurim	
Yom Teruah	Feast Of Rosh Hashanah, Trumpets, New Moon, The Day Of: The Awakening Blast, Sounding Of The Shofar

## Appendix B: Related Links

#### **True Love Costs All**

http://lovecostseverything.com/

#### **Blood Moon Tetrads**

http://www.elshaddaiministries.us/topics/eclipses.html

http://www.chabad.org/parshah/article\_cdo/aid/2908/jewish/The-Fiftieth-Year.htm

http://ipost.christianpost.com/news/the-four-blood-moons-in-history-and-next-12921/

http://professorjt2012.wordpress.com/2013/09/04/rosh-hashanah-2013/

#### **Rock My World**

http://www.followtherabbi.com/journey/israel/gates-of-hell/

http://oneinjesus.info/2009/02/faith-lessons-by-ray-vander-laan-the-gates-of-hell/

http://www.fishingtheabyss.com/archives/44

http://carm.org/is-peter-the-rock

http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/11744a.htm

http://oriflameweb.pp.ua/video.php?v=1YoNKUHBzJg (starts at about 7:40 minutes into the video)

#### The Signs of Jonah-Hosea-Joshua-Zephaniah

http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3888813,00.html

http://www.haaretz.com/news/national/lost-in-search-of-lunch-rare-pacific-whale-spotted-off-israel-s-coast-1.289085

http://www.defenseindustrydaily.com/germany-may-sell-2-more-dolphin-subs-to-israel-for-117b-01528/

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dolphin\_class\_submarine

http://www.zahal.org/218039

http://www.raptureready.com/featured/graham/g161.html

http://www.raptureready.com/soap/taylor26.html

Perry Stone has a very interesting video that I recommend you watch – www.voe.org (Manna-fest video #536).

#### Witnesses Required, The Pattern of Two or More

http://www.shroudencounter.com/russbreault.php

http://www.stlouisshroudconference.com/program/theology-of-the-shroud

http://www.shroud.com/

## The Amazing Vav

Pastor Mark Biltz Archive Videos: http://elshaddaiministries.us/

#### **Coincidence and the Temple Mount**

https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/111405/kabbalist-stone-falling-western-wall/

https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/111227/rabbi-calls-for-soul-searching-after-massive-stone-falls-from-western-wall/

https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/116242/snake-temple/

#### **Red Heifers**

http://www.wnd.com/2014/06/torah-condition-for-3rd-temple-now-met/

http://www.nowtheendbegins.com/blog/?p=22780

http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Articles/Tenth Red Heifer/tenth red heifer.html

https://www.raptureready.com/2018/09/16/iw-17-sep-2018/

http://www.templeinstitute.org/red\_heifer/tenth\_red\_heifer.htm

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red heifer

http://www.jewishpress.com/multimedia/video-picks/a-red-heifer-is-born/2018/09/11/

#### Why Enoch

http://www.hiddenbible.com/enoch/online.html

http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/2203-azazel

http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/5772-enoch

http://www.earlyjewishwritings.com/1enoch.html

http://www.inspiredbooks.com/1Enoch.htm

http://jaymack.net/jude-commentary/At-Enoch-the-Seventh-Generation-from-Adam-also-Prophesied-about-These-People.asp

http://xlbworld.com/enoch3.htm

https://professorjt2012.wordpress.com/2014/04/03/the-ascension/

#### From Smallest to Greatest

http://whataboutisrael.blogspot.com/2012/01/facts-about-100th-smallest-country-with.html

http://cldibillings.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/Facts-About-Israel.pdf

https://www.facebook.com/RabbiYosefMizrachi/posts/10153073314669248

#### **Angels**

http://www.raptureready.com/2017/09/19/angelic-believer-and-unbeliever-ministry/

http://www.raptureready.com/2017/09/12/what-are-some-things-that-unfallen-angels-do/

http://www.raptureready.com/2017/09/05/who-are-the-unfallen-angels/

#### It's Not Global Warming – Now It's Climate Change

http://www.prophecyinthenews.com/daily-update-december-13-2013-let-it-snow/

http://theextinctionprotocol.wordpress.com/2013/12/13/cairo-hit-by-first-snowfall-in-more-than-100-years-jerusalem-covered-in-one-meter-of-snow/

http://professorjt2012.wordpress.com/theextinctionprotocol.wordpress.com/2013/12/09/climate-chaos-killer-winter-storms-predicted-to-impact-uk-for-next-30-years/

http://theextinctionprotocol.wordpress.com/2013/12/07/frozen-nation-at-least-10-dead-as-cold-ice-and-snow-grip-u-s/

http://www.ktvz.com/news/la-pine-sunriver-schools-on-2hr-delay/-/413192/23303136/-/x2et74/-/index.html

http://www.climate-skeptic.com/2007/09/antarctic-sea-i.html

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/dec/10/coldest-temperature-recorded-earth-antarctica-guinness-book

http://www.wnd.com/2013/12/global-warming-iced-by-coldest-days-ever/

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2425775/Climate-scientists-told-cover-fact-Earths-temperature-risen-15-years.html

http://www.thecelestialconvergence.blogspot.com/2011/11/extreme-weather-violent-storm-kills-6.html

http://wattsupwiththat.com/2013/12/13/over-2000-cold-and-snow-records-set-in-the-usa-this-past-week/

http://www.nrdc.org/globalwarming/

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global warming

http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2013/04/10/is global warming a hoax 117894.html

http://americanfreepress.net/?p=13240 - sthash.pw3wk3I4.dpuf

http://www.frontpagemag.com/2013/dgreenfield/obamas-global-warming-task-force-met-as-snowstorm-shut-down-fed-gov/

#### The Four Horses of Revelation

http://www.gotquestions.org/four-horsemen-apocalypse.html

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four\_Horsemen\_of\_the\_Apocalypse

http://www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Topical.show/RTD/cgg/ID/3335/Do-not-harm-oil-and-wine.htm

https://books.google.com/books?id=9feqVX71W\_8C&pg=PA91#v=onepage&q&f=false

## **Appendix C: About The Author**

As I said in the Preface, I am primarily an analyst and a teacher, not a novelist. Whether I was working as a mechanic, maintenance man, customer representative, courier, or manager, the gift of analysis has allowed me to comprehend the job at hand, to be quickly promoted, and to make changes to the operation that bettered the working conditions for all employees.

About eight years ago a Lutheran Pastor challenged me to prove that there really was a rapture, and that the season of Yeshua's return was approaching. Using all of the (minimal) skills that my Bachelor's Degree in Biblical Studies allowed and relying heavily on the Ruach Ha'Kodesh (Holy Spirit), I took the challenge, spent several months studying scripture, then handed a ten page essay to him. His reception to my essay was downright chilly, to say the least. From there, it progressed into emails and letters to friends and family. The family reception was almost as chilly as my pastor's, but my friends and I began a series of meetings, phone calls, and emails.

Upon moving from Colorado to Nevada, these emails and essays became a series of classes entitled: "Understanding the Times: An Overview of End Times Teachings for Study and Discussion", which led to the blog and much more study, eventually becoming my first attempt at a book called The Rapture: A Party Like No Other. It was dryly written, so I took it out of circulation rather quickly. It has taken another five years to compile and replace it with an updated version titled: A Party Called The Rapture: One of Yahweh's Divine Appointments, along with another book titled: Yahweh's Divine Appointments: The Dress Rehearsals Called Moedim.

This new book, Yahweh's Divine Scriptures: Insights and Observations 2, continues the compilation of the many essays from my weblogs, and is the second in the *Delightful Diatribes*.

Today, retirement allows me to concentrate on studying The Rapture and the Season of Yeshua's Return, and to blog, to write, and to teach what I learn.

# **Appendix D: Notes**

Yahweh's Divine Scriptures can be difficult to interpret.

Some scriptures do not translate well into the English language due to their original meaning in Hebrew.

Many of the scriptures, verses, or passages are either Hebrew idioms or Rabbinical sayings that simply have no English equivalent.

The essays in this book will hopefully clarify some of those issues.

