

When Israel and Judah get together.

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# Ephod Breast Plate

**Exodus 28:17** - And thou shalt set in it settings of stones, even four rows of stones: the first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this shall be the first row. And the second row shall be an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond. And the third row a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst. And the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper: they shall be set in gold in their inclosings.



1  Sardius	ראובן Reuben	2  Topaz	שמעון Simeon	3  Carbuncle	לוי Levi
4  Emerald	יהודה Judah	5  Sapphire	יששכר Issachar	6  Diamond	זבולון Zebulun
7  Ligure	נפתלי Nephtali	8  Agate	גד Gad	9  Amethyst	אשר Asher
10  Beryl	מנשה Manassah	11  Onyx	אפרים Ephram	12  Jasper	בנימין Benjamin

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**This book is not to be sold. We are told in the second part of Matthew 10: 8 “*freely you received, freely give.*”** The book contains sermons to assist believers in Messiah to better understand Elohim’s purpose for mankind, recorded in His Word, the Scriptures.

Note: All Scriptures used are from the ‘NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE’, unless otherwise indicated. Set-apart Names corrected in quotes used, in accord with this Bible’s ‘Principles of Translation’ under the section:

**“The Proper Name of God in the Old Testament:**

In the Scriptures, the name of God is most significant and understandably so. It is inconceivable to think of spiritual matters without a proper designation for the Supreme Deity. Thus the most common name for the Deity is God, a translation of the original *Elohim*. One of the titles for God is Lord, a translation of *Adonai*. There is yet another name which is particularly assigned to God as His special or proper name, that is, the four letters YHWH (Exodus 3: 14 and Isaiah 42: 8). This name has not been pronounced by the Jews because of reverence for the great sacredness of the divine name. Therefore, it has been consistently translated Lord. The only exception to this translation of YHWH is when it occurs in immediate proximity to the word Lord, that is, Adonai. In that case it is regularly translated God in order to avoid confusion.”

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## Chapter 1: It is time for the house of Israel to be united with the house of Judah.

During the early part of the twentieth century there were religious groups, who started identifying some of the lost ten tribes of Israel. As time went on, the identity of the various nations making up the lost ten tribes became clearer. Today since the late 1990's there are groups and even Jewish Rabbis in Israel who agree with and has in fact provided an even clearer opinion on the identity of the lost ten tribes. One source from Israel tells us that the descendants of the lost ten tribes are to be found throughout the world, but mainly amongst the so-called 'Gentile' peoples of Northwest Europe, North America, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The Jews in Israel and those in the Diaspora are mainly descended from the tribe of Judah. The early Israelites are proven to have migrated to the west and over many years formed the nations of France, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, The USA, Great Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The most prominent tribes were Ephraim and Manasseh, the descendants of Joseph's two sons, and are mainly to be found in the present day English-speaking nations; Reuben became the forefather of the French; Benjamin the forefather of Belgium; Zebulon the forefather of the Dutch; Asher gave rise to the Scots; Issachar the Swiss; Dan contributed to the Welsh and Irish and fathered the Danes and so on.

Now that it is commonly accepted that we have always been attached to the Scriptures, and especially to the original covenant made between YHVH and Abraham, we need to consider to again perform our part of the covenant, as agreed to by our father in the faith, Abraham. We have been beneficiaries of the many blessings of Abraham that he passed on to his son Isaac and then onto Jacob. Prior to discovering our identity, we were literally in a wilderness of confusion for more than 2500 years. Now that we are almost at the end of the period of captivity, lasting (390 times 7 years) 2730 years of aimless wandering as 'Gentiles' in the wilderness, it is time that those who were not circumcised in the wilderness, to consider honoring the contractual obligation of the covenant that YHVH made with Abraham and his descendants, readying ourselves to enter the promised (coming) kingdom of Elohim, at Yahshua's return one day soon on the Feast of Trumpets. But, as members of the lost ten tribes of Israel who are returning to the covenant we made with Elohim, together with the house of Judah at Mount Sinai, some have no idea of Rabbinic laws and are afraid of losing newly found understanding and spiritual joy of Torah, if we should seek to join ourselves to Judah. This is as a result of our belief (be it real or imagined) that Judah would compel us to observe a large number of Rabbinic laws, when we do so. However, most returnees are unaware that Judah is not in the business of prescribing to others what to do. Other than with the Christian faith where most returning members of the lost ten tribes come from, Judaism is a non-proselytizing faith who will only teach those who request them to do so.

The house of Judah has historically been happy with their Gentile neighbors keeping the seven Noahide laws and is at this time getting used to increasing numbers of non-Jews wanting to obey the Torah commands, like most of us have been doing for a number of years. This is exactly the same with what we require of new believers who come out of the churches of the world, as is prescribed by Rav Yaa'cov in Acts 15: 19 – 21, saying: ***"Therefore it is my judgment that we do not trouble those who are turning (or returning) to Elohim from among the Gentiles (those who are called by Elohim's name as we see from verse 17, meaning members of the lost ten tribes), (20) but that we write to them that they abstain from things contaminated by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood. (21) For Moses from ancient generations has in every city those who preach him, since he is read in the synagogues every Sabbath."*** We were scattered into the nations of the world and even though there is still some Israelite blood flowing in our veins, most of us have become partly Gentile or Gentile in the secondary sense. This is in agreement with what YHVH promised Jacob in Genesis 48: 19, where He told him that he would become the fullness (or a multitude) of nations (transliterated in Hebrew as melo-Hagoiim). Nevertheless, some of us have been keeping the annual and weekly Sabbaths specified in Leviticus 23 and have been eating

'kosher' food specified in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 and those males not circumcised as babies, have been circumcised medically during the past forty years, in addition not to eat meat and milk derivative products together. From studying the Scriptures we discovered that we are part of the Israelites whom YHVH scattered into the world, because of idolatry and as spoken about in Daniel 9: 7 and the first chapter of Hosea. As returnees we would like to start a process that will lead to our 'conversion', since we are in no way a new religion or replacement fad and would like to give Judah our assurance that they are dealing with normal sane people who are anti-missionary and have their best interest at heart. We have for instance been keeping both Chanukah and Purim at the times indicated on the Hebrew calendar for the past ten years and will continue to do so until Messiah comes to rule the commonwealth of Israel as the Kingdom of Elohim to be a light to the rest of the World for His Torah.

Even though we believe in a Messiah who came primarily to bring back the lost sheep of the house of Israel who were scattered into the nations of the world because of idolatry, we do not believe in speaking to our Jewish Brothers about our Messiah, but want them to realize that in addition to bringing us back to Elohim and the covenant we made with Him, jointly with them at Mount Sinai, as also prophesied in Isaiah 49: 5 & 6, in this way: ***'And now says YHVH, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, in order that Israel might be gathered to Him (for I am honored in the sight of YHVH, and My Elohim is My strength), (6) He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light to the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."*** We can therefore not be expected to deny our Messiah, who according to the Prophet Isaiah came specifically to reconcile the house of Israel with Elohim, but also with the house of Judah, so that YHVH will remarry us as we read from Jeremiah 31: 31 – 33, as follows: ***"Behold, days are coming," declares YHVH, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, (32) not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares YHVH. (33) "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares YHVH, "I will put My law within them, and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be My people."*** It is clear from this portion of the Scriptures that Judah remained loyal to YHVH ever since He made the covenant with both houses of Israel at Mount Sinai and that he will only have to write His Torah on the hearts of the house of Israel at the time Messiah will usher in the Kingdom of Elohim in the near future.

We read a clear witness what is busy happening to the House of Israel whom Elohim is calling to return from their exile, where He scattered them, from a prophecy by Ezekiel in Ezekiel 36: 16 – 28, in this way: ***'Then the word of YHVH came to me saying, (17) "Son of man, when the house of Israel was living in their own land, they defiled it by their ways and their deeds; their way before me was like the uncleanness of a woman in her impurity. (18) Therefore, I poured out my wrath on them for the blood which they had shed on the land, because they had defiled it with their idols. (19) Also I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed throughout the lands. According to their ways and their deeds I judged them. (20) When they came to the nations where they went, they profaned My holy name, because it was said of them, "These are the people of YHVH; yet they have come out of His land. (21) But I had concern for My holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations where they went. (22) Therefore, say to the house of Israel, "Thus says YHVH Elohim, "It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. (23) And I will vindicate the holiness of My great name which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst. Then the nations will know that I am YHVH," declares Adonai Elohim, "when I prove Myself holy among you in their sight. (24) For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands, and bring you into your own land. (25) Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all***

***your idols. (26) Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. (27) And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. (28) And you will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your Elohim.”*** Many of us who were immersed in Messiah’s name for the forgiveness of our sins have accepted Messiah as our Passover who died in our place for the past sins that we have committed and took the punishment due to us for our Torah breaking on Himself, but also to buy back the piece of land in the Promised Land which we lost because of idolatry, as our kinsman Redeemer.

Once Messiah arrives on Yom Teruah (or Rosh Hashanah as our Jewish Brothers refer to it) He will enter the Temple in Jerusalem, to save the tents of Judah first and they will accept Him as their Messiah, at the time when He comes to fight against the nations that come against Jerusalem, as we read from Zechariah 12: 7 – 10, as follows: ***“YHVH also will save the tents of Judah first in order that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem may not be magnified above Judah. (8) In that day YHVH will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the one who is feeble among them in that day will be like David, and the house of David will be like Elohim, like the angel of YHVH before them. (9) And it will come about in that day that I will set about to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. (10) And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first-born.”*** At that time He will become our shepherd and David will become our King, as witnessed from Ezekiel 37: 15 – 24, as follows: ***‘The word of YHVH came again to me saying, (16) And you, son of man, take for yourself one stick and write on it, ‘For Judah and for the sons of Israel, his companions’; then take another stick and write on it, ‘For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim and all the house of Israel, his companions.’ (17) Then join them for yourself one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand. (18) And when the sons of your people speak to you saying, ‘Will you not declare to us what you mean by these?’ (19) say to them, ‘Thus says YHVH Elohim, “Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will put them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand.” (20) And the sticks on which you write will be in your hand before their eyes. (21) And say to them, ‘Thus says YHVH Elohim, “Behold, I will take the sons of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and I will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; (22) and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king will be king for all of them; and they will no longer be two nations, and they will no longer be divided into two kingdoms. (23) And they will no longer defile themselves with their idols, or with their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. And they will be My people, and I will be their Elohim. (24) And My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd; and they will walk in My ordinances, and keep My statutes, and observe them. (25) And they shall live on the land that I gave to Jacob My servant, in which your fathers lived; and they will live on it, they, and their sons, and their sons’ sons, forever; and David My servant shall be their prince forever. (26) And I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will place them and multiply them, and will set My sanctuary in their midst forever. (27) My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their Elohim, and they will be My people. (28) And the nations will know that I am YHVH who sanctifies Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forever.’***

A second witness comes from Jeremiah 23: 3 – 8, as follows: ***“Then I myself shall gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and shall bring them back to their pasture; and they will be fruitful and multiply. (4) I shall also raise up shepherds over them***

***and they will tend them: and they will not be afraid any longer, nor be terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares YHVH. (5) Behold, the days are coming,” declares YHVH, “when I shall raise up for David a righteous Branch; and He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land. (6) In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely; and this is His name by which He will be called, YHVH our righteousness. (7) Therefore behold, the days are coming,” declares YHVH, “when they will no longer say, ‘As YHVH lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ (8) but, ‘As YHVH lives, who brought up and led back the descendants of the household of Israel from the north land and from all the countries where I had driven them.’ Then they will live on their own soil.”*** Even though many returnees believe that when Messiah comes to rule the world from Jerusalem the Levitical Priesthood will come to an end. However, we read the contrary from Jeremiah 33: 20 – 22:, in this way: ***“Thus says YHVH, ‘If you can break My covenant for the day, and My covenant for the night, so that day and night will not be at their appointed time, (21) then My covenant may also be broken with David My servant that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and with the Levitical priests, My ministers. (22) As the host of heaven cannot be counted, and the sand of the sea cannot be measured, so I will multiply the descendants of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me.”*** We also read from Isaiah 66: 20 & 21 how YHVH is going to make Levites of some of the returnees, as follows: ***“Then they shall bring all your brethren from all the nations as a grain offering to YHVH, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, and on camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem,” says YHVH, “just as the sons of Israel bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of YHVH. (21) “I will also take some of them for priests and for Levites,” says YHVH.’*** This is also in agreement with what Yochanan recorded in Revelation 20: 4 – 6, in this way: ***‘And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Yahshua and because of the word of Elohim, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Messiah for a thousand years. (5) The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. (6) Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of Elohim and of Messiah and will reign with Him for a thousand years.’***

Most of us from the lost ten tribes who are returning to the covenant we made with Elohim at Mount Sinai, have come to the realization that if we truly want to know Elohim, we will have to grab hold of the tzitzit of Jews and that we should ask them to teach us about Elohim and His ways, as prophesied in Zechariah 8: 23, in this way: ***“Thus says YHVH of hosts, ‘In those days ten men from all the nations will grasp the garment of a Jew saying, “Let us go with you, for we have heard that Elohim is with you.””*** The term ten here definitely refers to the lost ten tribes who were scattered into the nations of the world. It is understood that the Talmud in Pesachim says that Elohim only scattered the nation of Israel for the purpose of gathering righteous converts. It needs to be understood, as Yair Davidiy and many other scholars have shown, the lost ten tribes of Israel did not end up as jungle primitives, but as dynamic, vital streams of dominant forces among the nations: ***‘They were to be blessed; many millions would emerge from them; other people would be blessed by contact with them. They were to rule over other nations, become exceedingly prosperous and possess vast natural resources. Monarchs of several nations, ruling at one and the same time, were to emerge from them ... each tribe had its distinctive qualities ...these Israelites were to possess the gates of their enemies’ and the gates of those who hate them as per Genesis 24: 60.’*** Those of us from the lost ten tribes, who have been striving to get to know YHVH and His Torah, are ready to return and seek YHVH our Elohim and serve Him with all our hearts, minds and souls. We are at this time prepared to accept King David as our King when YHVH restores his Tabernacle as before as witnessed in Amos 9: 11, as follows: ***“In that day I will raise up the fallen booth of David, and wall up its breaches; I will also raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old.”*** We are fully

prepared to join our Jewish brothers when the Temple of Elohim has been rebuilt and with Elohim giving us a new Spirit, to serve Him with everything that is in us.

We ask our Jewish Brothers to lead us as we pray from 'The Amidah', saying: O YHVH, open our lips that our mouths may declare Your praise.

**Blessing of the fathers** – Blessed are You, O YHVH our Elohim, Elohim of our forefathers; Elohim of Abraham, Elohim of Isaac, Elohim of Jacob; the great and mighty, awesome Elohim, the supreme Elohim, who bestows beneficial kindness and creates everything. Who recalls the kindness of the patriarchs and has brought a Redeemer to their children's children, for His name's sake with love. King, Deliverer and Protector. Blessed are You, YHVH, the shield of Abraham.

**Blessing of (YHVH)'s might** – You are eternally mighty my Adonai, the resurrector of the dead; You are abundantly able to save. You sustain the living with kindness, resurrect the dead with abundant mercy, support the fallen, heal the sick, releases the confined and maintain the faith of those who sleep in the dust. Who is like You O Adonai of mighty deeds, who is comparable to You O King, who caused death and restores life and makes salvation sprout? And You are faithful to resurrect the dead. Blessed are You, YHVH who resurrects the dead.

**Blessing of Kedushah** – We shall sanctify Your name in this world, just as they sanctify it in heaven above. As it is written by Your prophet, "And one angel shall call another and say: Holy, holy, holy is YHVH of hosts; all the earth is filled with His glory." Those facing them give forth praise saying: "Blessed is the glory of YHVH from His place." As stated by David, Your righteous anointed one: "YHVH shall reign forever, Your Elohim O Zion, from generation to generation. Halleluyah!" From generation to generation we shall relate Your greatness; from everlasting to everlasting we shall proclaim Your holiness. Your praise O YHVH shall not leave our mouth forever and ever. For You, O Elohim, are a great and Holy King. You are holy and Your name is holy, and everyday holy ones will praise You forever. Blessed are You. YHVH the holy Elohim.

**Blessing for Insight** – You graciously endow man with wisdom and teach insight to frail mortal. So endow us graciously from Yourself with wisdom, insight and discernment. Blessed are You, YHVH, gracious giver of wisdom.

**Blessing of Repentance** – Bring us back, our Father, to Your Torah, and draw us near our King to your service, and influence us to return in perfect repentance before You. Blessed are You. YHVH, who desires repentance.

**Blessing of Forgiveness** – Forgive us, our Father, for we have sinned; pardon us our sins our King, for we have willfully sinned; for You pardon and forgive. Blessed are You, YHVH, the gracious one who pardons abundantly.

**Blessing of Redemption** – Behold our affliction, take up our grievance and redeem us speedily for Your name's sake with love. For You are a powerful Redeemer. Blessed are You, YHVH the Redeemer of Israel.

**Blessing of Health and Healing** – Heal us, YHVH and we will be healed, save us and we will be saved, for You are our praise. Bring complete recovery for all our ailments, and may it be Your will, YHVH, my Elohim, and Elohim of my forefathers, that You quickly send a complete recovery from heaven above, spiritual and physical healing to the ten lost tribes for they are among the patients of Israel. For You are Elohim, the faithful and compassionate Healer. Blessed are You, YHVH, who heals the sick of His people Israel.

**Blessing for a Year of Prosperity** – Bless on our behalf, O YHVH our Elohim, this year and all its kinds of crops for the best, and give dew and rain for a blessing on the face of the earth. Satisfy us from Your bounty and bless our year like the best of years. Blessed are You, YHVH, who blesses the years.

**Blessing of the Ingathering of Exiles** – Sound the shofar for our freedom, raise the banner to gather our exiles and gather us together from the four corners of the earth. Blessed are You, YHVH, who gathers in the dispersed of His people of Israel.

**Blessing of the Restoration of Justice** – Restore our judges as in earliest times and our counselors as at first, and remove from us sorrow and groan. Reign over us, You, YHVH alone with kindness and



compassion. Justify us through judgment. Blessed are You, YHVH, the King who loves righteousness and judgment.

**Blessing of Spiritual Warfare** – And for slanderers let there be no hope and may all wickedness perish in an instant. And may all Your enemies be speedily cut down. May You speedily uproot, smash, cast down and humble the sinners speedily in our days. Blessed are You, YHVH, who breaks enemies and humbles sinners.

**Blessing of the Righteous** – On the righteous and on the devout, on the elders of Your people the Family of Israel, on the remnant of their scholars, on the righteous converts and on ourselves, may Your compassion be aroused, YHVH our Elohim, and give goodly reward to all who sincerely believe in Your Name. Put our lot with them forever, and we will not feel ashamed for we trust in You. Blessed are You, YHVH, mainstay and assurance of the righteous.

**Blessing of the Rebuilding of Jerusalem** - And to Jerusalem, Your city, may You return in compassion, and may You rest within it, as You have spoken. May You rebuild it soon in our days as an eternal structure, and may You speedily establish the throne of David within it. Blessed are You, YHVH, the builder of Jerusalem.

**Blessing of the Davidic Reign** – And the offspring of Your servant David, may You speedily cause to flourish, and enhance His pride through Your salvation. For we hope in Your salvation all day long. Blessed are You, YHVH, who causes the pride of salvation to flourish.

**Blessing of the Acceptance of Prayer** – Hear our voice, YHVH our Elohim, pity and be compassionate to us, and accept with compassion and favor our prayer. For an Elohim, who hears prayers and supplications are You. From before Yourself, our King, turn us not away empty-handed, for You hear the prayer of Your people Israel with compassion. Blessed are You, YHVH, who hears prayers.

**Blessing for Temple Service** – Be favorable, YHVH our Elohim, toward Your people Israel and their prayer and restore the service to the Holy of Holies of Your Temple. The fire offerings of Israel and their prayers accept with love and favor, and may the service of Your people Israel always be favorable to You. May our eyes behold Your return to Zion on compassion. Blessed are You YHVH, who restores His presence to Zion.

**Blessing of Modim** – We gratefully thank You, for it is You who are YHVH, our Elohim and the Elohim of our forefathers for all eternity. You are the Rock of our lives, the shield of our salvation are You from generation to generation. We shall thank You and relate Your praise – for our lives, which are committed to Your power and for our souls that are entrusted to You. For Your miracles that are with us every day and for Your wonders and favors in every season – evening, morning and afternoon. The Blessed One, for Your compassion's never ceases and Your kindness never ends. Always will we put our trust in You. For all these, may Your Name be blessed and exalted, our King continually forever and ever. Everything alive will gratefully acknowledge You, Selah! And everyone will praise Your Name sincerely, O Elohim of our salvation and help, Selah! Blessed are You, YHVH, Your name is the Beneficent One and to You it is fitting to give praise.

**Blessing for Shalom** – Establish shalom, goodness, blessing, graciousness, kindness and compassion upon us and upon all of Your people Israel. Bless us, Our Father, all of us as one, with the light of Your countenance, for with the light of Your Torah of life and a love of kindness, righteousness, blessing, compassion, life and peace. May it be good in Your eyes to bless Your people Israel, in every hour with Your shalom. Blessed are You, YHVH, who blesses His people with shalom. Amein.

Psalm 80 was specifically written for returnees from the lost ten tribes as a prayer request for YHVH to come and save us from our present exile, as follows: *'Oh, give ear, Shepherd of Israel, Thou who dost lead Joseph like a flock: Thou who art enthroned above the cherubim, shine forth! (2) Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up Thy power, and come to save us! (3) O Elohim, restore us, and cause Thy face to shine upon us, and we will be saved. (4) O YHVH Elohim of hosts, how long wilt Thou be angry with the prayer of Thy people? (5) Thou hast fed them with the bread of tears, and Thou hast made them to drink tears in large measure. (6) Thou dost make us an object of contention to our neighbors; and our enemies laugh among themselves. (7) O Elohim of*

*hosts, restore us, and cause Thy face to shine upon us, and we will be saved. (8) Thou didst remove a vine from Egypt; Thou didst drive out the nations, and didst plant it. (9) Thou didst clear the ground before it, and it took deep root and filled the land. (10) The mountains were covered with its shadow; and the cedars of Elohim with its boughs. (11) It was sending out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the River. (12) Why hast Thou broken down its hedges, so that all who pass that way pick its fruit? (13) A boar from the forest eats it away, and whatever moves in the field feeds on it. (14) O Elohim of hosts, turn again now, we beseech Thee; look down from heaven and see, and take care of this vine. (15) Even the shoot which Thy right hand has planted, and on the son whom Thou hast strengthened for Thyself. (16) It is burned with fire, it is cut down; they perish at the rebuke of Thy countenance. (17) Let Thy hand be upon the man of Thy right hand, upon the son of man whom Thou didst make strong for Thyself. (18) Then we shall not turn back from Thee; revive us, and we will call upon Thy name. (19) O YHVH Elohim of hosts, restore us; cause Thy face to shine upon us, and we will be saved.'*

We also pray Almighty heavenly Father that you will ensure that our Jewish Brothers will retain possession of the land of Israel also known as the Promised Land, but also that they will remain Torah observant until Messiah comes one day in the near future. We also pledge our support in the effort to wake members of both tribes up to the necessity to rebuild the Temple of Elohim, in preparation for Messiah's imminent arrival. We pray that You will make Jerusalem a place of praise in the earth, and that you will give us the peace of Jerusalem. We also recite Psalm 126 in joy for the harvest of the sons of Israel from the nations where they were scattered, saying: ***'When YHVH brought back the captive ones of Zion, we were like those who dream. (2) Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with joyful shouting; then they said among the nations, "YHVH has done great things for them." (3) YHVH has done great things for us; we are glad. (4) Restore our captivity, O YHVH, as the streams in the South. (5) Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting. (6) He who goes to and fro weeping, carrying his bag of seed, shall indeed come again with a shout of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.'*** Baruch HaShem YHVH. Amein and Amein!

## Chapter 2: Do you ever feel rejected?

Human beings are made in the image of Elohim and were created to need interaction with other people as well as with YHVH our Elohim. Elohim created us to have a loving and caring relationship with Him; similar to that of a parent and his/her children. But, how do we show our loved ones and our children that we love them? What does the word love mean to us? Does saying to someone that you love him/her involves more than a warm feeling towards those at whom your affection is aimed? Love towards Elohim and our neighbor should be more than a feeling; it should be accompanied by action, such as for example doing what is pleasing in His sight. If we love somebody, won't we spend time with him/her to get to know him/her better?

Few people in the world are aware that there are three different types of love. These types of love are best described in the Greek language, as follows: At the highest level is 'Agape' love: this is love for Elohim, it is a total giving love; it means total commitment to YHVH – no matter what. We are not born with Agape love; it is acquired by maturity as we read from Romans 5: 5, in this way: ***'And hope does not disappoint, because the love of Elohim has been poured out within our hearts through the Set-apart Spirit who was given to us.'*** We truly show agape love towards our brethren, if we are doing everything in our power to teach them the truths that lead to salvation. Next we have 'Phyla' love: this is simply brotherly love, friendship and companionship. An example of brotherly love is given in John 15: 13, as follows ***'Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.'*** Finally we have 'Eros' love, which is romantic love for someone of the opposite gender and needs no explanation. As human beings we need to be in loving relationships with fellow human beings as well as with our Creator. When people reject us for whatever reason, we feel unloved, separated and without purpose. However, Yahshua warned His disciples and by extension also us His modern day disciples, right at the beginning when He instructed them to proclaim the good news about the coming kingdom of Elohim, that they will be persecuted for doing so. We read accordingly from Matthew 10: 5 – 8, in this way: ***'These twelve Yahshua sent out after instructing them, saying, "Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans; (6) but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. (7) And as you go, preach, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." (8) Heal the sick, raise the (spiritually) dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons; freely you received, freely give.'"*** Here Yahshua commissioned His disciples to proclaim the good news of the coming kingdom of Elohim to the lost house of Israel; and not to try and convert Jews to Christianity, like some believe He said. In addition it should also be done as a free educational service.

In sending out His disciples, Yahshua warned them as we see from verses 16 – 22 of Matthew 10, saying: ***"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; therefore be shrewd (or perceptive) as serpents, and innocent as doves. (17) But beware of men; for they will deliver you up to the courts, and scourge you in their synagogues (or churches); (18) and you shall even be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. (19) But when they deliver you up, do not become anxious about how or what you will speak; for it shall be given you in that hour what you are to speak. (20) For it is not you who speak, but it is the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you. (21) And brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents, and cause them to be put to death. (22) And you will be hated by all on account of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved."*** When we decide to follow the way of Elohim, it is as if we draw an invisible line on the ground. The message that we are required to preach is contrary to what people in the world want to hear. Our friends and family immediately realize that they are not first in our lives any longer; we are not available to their every beck and call, as we now require time to get to know and follow YHVH our Elohim. YHVH wants us to get away from the false ways of the world and if we obey, we are required to do the opposite of what people in the world busy themselves with. This will eventually cause those who are in the world either to hate us, or reject us as their friends. The reason for this

being as Yahshua explained to Rav Shaul in Acts 26: 15 - 18 that for returning Israelites from the lost sheep of the house of Israel, there is only one of two ways, saying: ***“I am Yahshua whom you are persecuting. (16) But arise, and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; (17) delivering you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, (18) to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to Elohim, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance (to live in the Promised Land eternally as returning children of Abraham) among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.”***

Because Satan has lost the position of leadership that we as returning Israelites together with our Jewish Brothers are promised, and who as the body of Messiah (as per Ephesians 2: 14 – 16) will remarry Him as His bride at His return (as witnessed in Jeremiah 31: 31 & 32), he is doing everything in his power to ensure our demise. If we therefore consider the tremendous benefits to be had by obeying Torah, it should be easy for us to see the sinister motive behind the idea that Torah is abolished. Satan wants us to stop keeping Elohim’s commandments and thereby remove the wall of protection that Elohim places around His people. He has a vested interest in keeping the majority of the people in the world defenseless against his onslaughts. We know that he is cunning and desires to destroy the souls of all human beings. Not only is our protective wall removed, but when we reject the Torah of Moses, which is a transcript of Elohim’s glory, Satan has caused his prey, to offend their Heavenly Protector, so that they may step out of the realm of Elohim’s blessings. Brethren, we need to realize that we are engaged in a spiritual battle, the outcome of which can only be determined by ourselves, with the help of Elohim. It is time we heed the warning by Rav Kepha in first Peter 5: 8, in this way: ***“Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”*** YHVH warns us about false prophets in Deuteronomy 13: 1 – 4, saying: ***“If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, (2) and the sign or the wonder comes true, concerning which he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods (whom you have not known) and let us serve them,’ (3) you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams; for YHVH your Elohim is testing you to find out if you love YHVH your Elohim with all your heart and with all your soul. (4) You shall follow YHVH your Elohim and fear Him; and you shall keep His commandments, listen to His voice, serve Him, and cling to Him.”***

YHVH is a great teacher, teaching all of mankind two vital lessons: One of which is that His kingdom is coming, whether we believe it, or not. After His Kingdom has been established on earth, He is going to teach those who did not repent and believe in the coming Kingdom of Elohim, that they cannot live without Him in their lives, as explained in Deuteronomy 8: 3, as follows: ***“And He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of YHVH.”*** In addition to teaching us these vitally important lessons, YHVH also expects that once we have learnt what Yahshua and those who went before us taught us, that we should teach new believers, as we read from Matthew 28: 18 – 20, in this way: ***‘And Yahshua came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. (19) Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, immersing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Set-apart Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”’*** We are told here, that eventually, after we have been suitably trained, it is incumbent upon us to also immerse new believers and to teach them the things that we have learnt from Yahshua, through His servants. In addition we are told in Isaiah 58:1 that as Nazarene Israelites we are watchmen and should declare to the people of Elohim, their transgressions and to Jacob their sins.

According to Hebrews 2 YHVH is in the process of bringing many sons to glory, so that eventually we can be of the same 'family' as we read from verses 10 & 11, in this way: ***'For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings. (11) For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren.'*** But, the majority of people think about this close relationship between Elohim and humankind to be wholly a 'New Testament' concept. The main reason for such thinking is that the world views love and obedience as two mutually exclusive ideas. However, we know that from the beginning YHVH our Elohim was only concerned with giving us what is good for us, as per Yahshua's answer to the lawyer in Luke 10: 25 - 28, as follows: ***'And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (26) And He said to Him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?" (27) And he answered and said, "YOU SHALL LOVE YHVH YOUR ELOHIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." (28) And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; DO THIS, AND YOU WILL LIVE."***

We see from the question asked by this lawyer, that eternal life was the issue or concern here. Presently mankind is busy learning a vital lesson that should become the foundation of his/her education. After the millennium rule of Messiah, when all who ever lived are resurrected to life again, in the Great White Throne Judgment, they will get to know that what they were doing; learning that their wisdom resulting in great technological advancement; resulted only in social upheaval, misery and ultimately failure; and realize what it was like to live without Elohim. Our Creator knows that we cannot live happily forever, unless we first learn that our own ways do not work. It is for this reason that He has called us out of the world to become followers of His way, the only way to eternal life and happiness. Because, each one of us is so self-willed that we are only interested in our own way of doing things, we must learn this lesson on our own. The point is, even though YHVH loves each one of us greatly, it does not mean we can continue for all eternity without learning the inevitable rejection that we have brought upon ourselves. In addition, whether we believe Elohim's plan of salvation for all mankind, or not; we cannot circumvent it either, as it is happening despite of us. Like it or not, each and every one of us must find our own way every day and are required to make our own decisions every day, until we die or when Yahshua returns one day. As a result we will suffer because of the mistakes and sins of ourselves and others, the same way the other seven billion inhabitants of our planet will have to. In this way YHVH is teaching us one all-encompassing lesson; what it is to live without Him. However, those who have come to know Him are learning just the opposite lesson; specifically what it is like to live with Him in their lives. It is as we read from 1 John 4: 4, in this way: ***'You are from Elohim, little children, and have overcome them (the spirits that are not from Elohim); because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.'***

Yahshua further advised those of us called by the Father to follow Him in John 15: 16 – 19, saying: ***"You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you. (17) This I command you, that you love one another. (18) If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. (19) If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."*** It is important therefore, that we as brothers and sisters in the congregation heed Yahshua's command and show love and concern for one another. We need to show empathy for fellow believers who live on their own without likeminded believers to fellowship with on Elohim's Sabbaths. Empathy or compassion is very helpful to sustain fellow believers on what we all know to be a very lonely road. Make sure that you encourage those lonely people who follow YHVH all on their own; cheer them up when they feel sad and lonely, as we read from Proverbs 15: 13, as

follows: ***'A joyful heart makes a cheerful face, but when the heart is sad, the spirit is broken.'*** We read further from Proverbs 18: 14, ***'The spirit of a man can endure his sickness, but a broken spirit who can bear?'*** The greatest consolation when we feel sad and rejected is to know that there are like-minded believers who care for us. Brethren we need to be ever mindful that in following Yahshua our Master, we are following one who experienced the ultimate rejection, as we read from John 1: 11, as follows: ***'He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.'*** In fact Isaiah prophesied about Yahshua in chapter 53: 3, saying: ***'He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face, He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.'*** It is in realizing that Yahshua our Messiah suffered the worst kind of rejection and finally conquered it, that we find comfort and healing. Ever since the creation of mankind, YHVH requires a relationship with us. But since the fall of man our sins caused a separation between Elohim and His creation, as we read from Isaiah 59: 2 – 4, in this way: ***'But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your Elohim, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear. (3) For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken falsehood, your tongue mutters wickedness. (4) No one sues righteously and no one pleads honestly. They trust in (religious) confusion, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.'*** Yahshua came specifically to reconcile us, the remnant of the lost ten tribes of Israel to the commonwealth of Israel and then to Elohim. In order to fulfill this great purpose and to ultimately reconcile us to Elohim, He had to pay our penalty for breaking Elohim's commandments, by dying in our place. Yahshua being the word of Elohim, was part of Elohim for all eternity, as we read from the prophecy about Him in Micah 5: 2, as follows: ***"But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity."*** The words *'from the days of eternity'* speaks about the eternal Elohim's manifestation in the body specifically prepared for Yahshua, as Rav Shaul explained in Hebrews 10: 5, saying: ***'Therefore, when He (Yahshua) comes into the world, He says, "SACRIFICE AND OFFERING THOU HAST NOT DESIRED, BUT A BODY THOU HAST PREPARED FOR ME."*** So, Yahshua as the Word of Elohim made flesh was the being chosen to bring about this amazing reconciliation and had to experience the ultimate rejection.

King David's Psalm 22 predicting Yahshua's death and resurrection begins with Yahshua's final words on His impalement stake and explains why He was hanging there. When Yahshua said the words: ***"My El, my El, why (transliterated in Hebrew as 'mah' meaning how long and for what reason) hast Thou forsaken (transliterated as 'azab' meaning abandoning) me?"*** By reading the remainder of Psalm 22, we discover the reason for Yahshua's impalement and death. We read accordingly from verses 26 – 31: ***'The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him will praise YHVH. Let your heart live forever! (27) All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to YHVH, and all the families of the nations will worship before Thee. (28) For the kingdom is (YHVH)'s, and He rules over the nations. (29) All the prosperous of the earth will eat and worship, all those who go down to the dust will bow before Him (even after the second resurrection), even he who cannot (or did not) keep his soul alive. (30) Posterity will serve Him; it will be told of YHVH to the coming generation. (31) They will come and will declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, that He has performed it.'*** So here we have the reason for Yahshua's death – Yes His death will even save the unsaved dead after the second resurrection. This was Elohim's plan of salvation for all mankind all along – Yes it is as we read from John 3: 16 & 17, as follows: ***"For Elohim so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten (or brought forth) Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. (17) For Elohim did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him."*** What a marvelous and merciful Elohim do we serve? The purpose of Yahshua's sacrifice was to prepare the way to resurrect dead souls, as King David wrote in Psalm 88: 10, asking: ***"Wilt thou perform wonders for the dead? Will the departed spirits rise and praise Thee? Selah (think about it!)."*** Like Yahshua was resurrected three

days and three nights after His impalement and death on the stake, so those of us called at this time will if we make it, be resurrected at Messiah's return to rule the earth for a thousand years. But so will He also resurrect the wicked and unsaved dead after His thousand year reign, and will give those who never had a chance to repent and accept Yahshua as their Passover, their first chance to make an informed decision, after opening their understanding to the Scriptures. After Immersion, they will be given a portion of Elohim's spirit and be changed into spiritual children of Elohim, after which the wicked and everything physical will be burnt up in the lake of fire.

Rav Shaul explained further in Romans 8: 3 & 4, saying: ***'For what the Law (Torah) could not do, weak as it was through the flesh (it was not the Torah that was weak, but the people were too weak to obey it), Elohim did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, (4) in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.'*** We also read from 2 Corinthians 5: 21, ***'He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of Elohim in Him.'*** So we see that because of what Yahshua represented for those brief few moments, YHVH had to turn His back on Him when He died. Even though Yahshua was familiar with the rejection of men, to that point He was always fully at one with the Father. Even so, we know that after His resurrection and ascension to heaven, He was totally reconciled and restored to the Father. So the rejection that Messiah faced as a 'human being' helped Him understand the rejection that we experience from time to time. Sin separates us from Elohim and our neighbor and is a major obstacle to building a relationship with Elohim. As a result Elohim Himself suffered because of our sins – Yes the Creator of the universe paid the penalty for mankind's sin, as only He can absolve our sin and take away our guilt and suffering, as Rav Shaul explained in 2 Corinthians 5: 18 & 19, saying: ***'Now all these things are from Elohim, who reconciled us to Himself through Messiah, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, (19) namely, that Elohim was in Messiah reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.'*** Yahshua became the sacrifice for our sins and by offering His own blood we may receive eternal life, as explained in Hebrews 9: 15, in this way: ***'And for this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, in order that since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.'***

Let's backtrack a bit – we read Yahshua's response to the scribe in Mark 12: 29 – 31, ***'Yahshua answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! YHVH OUR ELOHIM IS ONE YHVH; (30) AND YOU SHALL LOVE YHVH YOUR ELOHIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.'*** (31) ***The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'*** ***There is no other commandment greater than these."*** If we want to be reconciled to Elohim, we also need to be reconciled with our neighbor. It is as we are told in Matthew 6: 14 & 15: ***"For if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. (15) But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions."*** Ever since the creation of mankind, Elohim experienced rejection. YHVH created Adam and Eve in His own image, planning to have a successful relationship with them; He wanted them to make the right decisions that would lead to Eternal Life with Him. But they chose to disobey Elohim and do what He has specifically forbidden them to do. As a result they and all mankind became subject to death. After YHVH drove mankind from the Garden of Eden they continued to disappoint Him. Immediately after leaving the Garden of Eden, we read how Cain, Adam and Eve's first son, killed his brother Abel. Later before destroying most of mankind in a flood, we are told in Genesis 6: 6, ***'And YHVH was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.'*** YHVH knew what it was like to experience rejection by His creation, but He continued to work with mankind. He started over with Abraham, whose descendants later grew to become the nation of Israel. YHVH later saved the nation from their cruel taskmasters in Egypt, through His

servant Moses. Moses through many trials and tribulations lead the nation who wandered in the wilderness for forty years, until all those over the age of twenty years old, who left Egypt died, because of rebellion and unbelief. After wandering in the wilderness for forty years, Joshua led the nation of Israel into the Promised Land.

After five hundred years in the Promised Land, the nation of Israel once again rejected Elohim as their King, when they asked Samuel to give them a human king. We read Elohim's reaction to their request in 1 Samuel 8: 7, as follows: ***'And YHVH said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them."*** This is basically the story of mankind; we have throughout history rejected Elohim's blessings because we did not want to follow His will and way for our own good. Instead, we like Eve, want to decide for ourselves who we listen to and follow. As a result we like our first forebears were doomed to death. We need to overcome our resentment of Elohim's way and stop rejecting what is for our own good. The only way in which we are able to reconcile with both Elohim and Judah our neighbor is through Yahshua our Messiah. This is why the curtain giving access to the Holy of Holies tore at the very moment of Messiah's death. So we need to come to Elohim in the blood of Yahshua Messiah, if we want to be reconciled to Him as well as to our Jewish Brothers. We who are called by YHVH at this time, are required to remain in a healthy relationship with Him and where possible with all mankind, as Rav Shaul wrote in Romans 12: 18, in this way: ***'If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.'*** Up to this time in history only a few people have been reconciled to Elohim. Most are even now rejecting Elohim and His way. Today, only a few truly understand Elohim's plan of Salvation for all mankind. We who are called at this time, together with our Torah observant Jewish Brothers and our fathers in the faith are known as the congregation of called out believers. We are at this time only a remnant, who will if we make it into the first resurrection, be the first-fruits or first born children of Elohim, who like Yahshua our Messiah will be born again as spiritual sons and daughters of Elohim. Even so, ultimately most people will find the path of reconciliation to YHVH, as we read previously in Psalm 22. Rav Shaul understood that Elohim is working out His plan step by step. Ultimately all of Elohim's creation; people and all things will be reconciled to him, as Rav Shaul explained in Colossians 1: 19 - 20, as follows: ***'For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him (Yahshua), (20) and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.'*** Continuing in verses 21 - 23 of Colossians 1, we read: ***'And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, (22) yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy (set-apart) and blameless and beyond reproach— (23) if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Shaul, was made a minister.'***

In Ephesians 2, we are further told that Yahshua's whole purpose was to reconcile us with brother Judah, and ultimately to YHVH, as explained in verses 14 – 18, in this way: ***'For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one, and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, (15) by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, (16) and might reconcile them both in one body to Elohim through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. (17) AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO WERE FAR AWAY, AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO WERE NEAR; (18) for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.'*** If we follow Yahshua in this life we will have to make certain sacrifices, which will of necessity result in loss of friends and family members near and dear to us. It is as we read from Matthew 10: 37 – 39: ***"He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. (38) And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. (39) He who has found his life shall lose it, and he who has lost his life for My***



**sake shall find it.'** It is for this reason that Yahshua commanded us to love one another and be reconciled to one another, but also to our brother Judah. As a result YHVH will forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us.

We conclude by reading Yahshua's words to Kepha (Simon Peter), prior to His ascension to heaven in John 21: 15 – 17, in this way: **'So when they had finished breakfast, Yahshua said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these? (Meaning the other disciples) He said to Him, "Yes, Master; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs." (16) He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Master; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." (17) He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Master, You know all things; You know that I love You." Yahshua said to him, "Tend My sheep."'** In asking Kepha if he loved Him three times, Yahshua wanted him to understand that He requires an unswerving devotion from him. The message to each one of us is that Yahshua demands total commitment from His followers. The reference to feeding and tending His sheep, serves as a reminder that the primary duty of a disciple of Yahshua the Messiah is to become like his teacher, after a reasonable period of training. Each one of us who have gone through at least three and a half years of theoretical training by a teacher who have gone through the same discipleship program ordained by Messiah Himself, should after having practiced Torah (attending weekly and annual Sabbath services, eating only kosher foods, wearing tzitzit, etc.) for the same amount of time, be able to assist in proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom of Elohim into the world and to make Judah jealous by obeying Torah to the standard given us by Yahshua our Master and Savior, knowing that we will also be rejected by our own, for doing so. Think about it!

### Chapter 3: What are the Mysteries of our Nazarene Israelite faith?

The doctrine of the two houses of Israel is a mystery to most and as a result the majority of Messianic and Christian believers deny or are unaware of the existence of the two houses of Israel and are for that reason blinded to the reality that the events playing out in the major nations of the world today, have been prophesied in the Scriptures and are about the latter day people of the house of Israel and the house of Judah. Furthermore, very few people are familiar with the two-fold promise that YHVH made with Abraham through Isaac and Jacob, namely that he and his descendants will inherit the Promised Land eternally, on condition that they remain loyal to Elohim and His Torah, including to circumcise their sons at eight days old, as a sign of the everlasting covenant. The promise further entailed that YHVH would bring a remnant of Abraham's children known as the lost ten tribes of Israel, who lost their inheritance to the Promised Land because of idolatry, back to the covenant they made with Him, together with the house of Judah at Mount Sinai, through Abraham's One seed, Yahshua, through whom He will also save the rest of mankind after the second resurrection during the great white throne judgment period. This is also why Yahshua stated His main purpose for coming to earth the first time, when asked by the Canaanite woman to heal her demon-possessed daughter in Matthew 15: 24, saying: ***"I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."***

The events taking place in especially the English speaking nations of the world have been prophesied to happen in the Scriptures by Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, as well as the minor prophets, many years before the birth of Messiah. But, without knowing who the two houses of Israel are this vital key necessary to unlock the doors of Scriptural prophecy has been lost to society in general. Nevertheless, most Nazarene Israelites are aware that Elohim brought the people of Israel out of Egypt by the hand of Moses and took them into the wilderness, where they became the nation of Israel, when He entered into an everlasting covenant with them at Mount Sinai. The question at this point is, why are there so many different opinions regarding the basic doctrines of our Nazarene Jewish/Israelite faith? Why can't we agree on basic doctrines such as the timing on Elohim's annual Sabbaths given in Leviticus 23 and Deuteronomy 16; the Oneness of Elohim; and many other topics, which cause us to split into smaller and smaller groups, as the time of Messiah's return draws near? The reason is also two-fold; the main reason being that those who are teaching the congregation, who should be stewards of the mysteries of Elohim, do not believe or understand these mysteries given throughout the Scriptures. The second reason is the age old problem of selfish ambition and jealousy which in some cases includes anti-Semitism. Rav Shaul talking about selfish ambition wrote in Philippians 1: 15 – 17 concerning such teachers, in this way: ***'Some, to be sure, are preaching Messiah even from envy and strife, but some also from good will; (16) the latter do it out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; (17) the former proclaim Messiah out of selfish ambition, rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment.'***

Those who always find fault with the writings of Rav Shaul are totally unaware of all the mysteries that he disclosed for us in the Scriptures. Rav Kepha in discussing Rav Shaul's writings in 2 Peter 3: 14 – 16 wrote: ***'Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, (15) and regard the patience of our Master to be salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul (Shaul), according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, (16) as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.'*** Since there are many called out believers who were deceived to mistrust the writings of Rav Shaul, they also do not believe or understand the mysteries of our faith, as a large percentage of these mysteries are discussed in his various teachings. Because of anti-Semitism, a large number of called out believers do not understand Yahshua's main purpose and the fact that it is (YHVH)'s doing, that the Jews do not know the identity of the true Messiah at this time. A major

part of the mysteries of our faith are in fact linked to the stumbling stone spoken about in both the Tanach and the Renewed Covenant. Rav Shaul links the stumbling stone to the mystery of our faith in 1 Corinthians 1: 21 – 25, in this way: ***‘For since in the wisdom of Elohim the world through its wisdom did not come to know Elohim, Elohim was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. (22) For indeed Jews ask for signs, and Greeks search for wisdom; (23) but we preach Messiah crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness, (24) but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Messiah the power of Elohim and the wisdom of Elohim. (25) Because the foolishness of Elohim is wiser than men, and the weakness of Elohim is stronger than men.’*** The Greek term σκάνδαλον (*skandalon*) refers to a *trap* or a *snare*. The term *skandalon* comes from the Greek translation of the Tanach known as the Septuagint. A *skandalon* as a snare or a trap causes people to fall, because they are not able to believe the same and would as a result be offended or disappointed by it.

Continuing in 1 Corinthians 2: 1 – 11, we have further confirmation from Rav Shaul that Elohim has hidden the identity of Yahshua from the Jewish leaders of His day, as follows; ***‘And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony (or mystery) of Elohim. (2) For I determined to know nothing among you except Yahshua Messiah, and Him crucified. (3) And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. (4) And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, (5) that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of Elohim (namely Yahshua, as we are told in verse 24 of 1 Corinthians 1.) (6) Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature, a wisdom, however, not of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away; (7) but we speak Elohim’s wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom, which Elohim predestined before the ages to our glory; (8) the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it, they would not have crucified the Master of glory (If the leaders of Yahshua’s day, understood who He was, they would not have had Him killed, and if that happened, we would still be in our sins); (9) but just as it is written, “THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT ELOHIM HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.” (10) For to us Elohim revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of Elohim. (11) For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of Elohim no one knows except the Spirit of Elohim.’*** Most of us understand that we receive the Set-apart Spirit of Elohim when we are immersed into Yahshua’s saving name (as per Acts 2: 38) and the laying on of hands by the elders, as is confirmed in Acts 8: 14 – 17.

We ought to be thankful that YHVH has blinded our Jewish brothers, allowing those whom He has called from the lost ten tribes, to share a place in the olive tree. We are warned in Romans 11: 20 – 22, not to be conceited about it, but to fear, lest YHVH break us off as well. If we persevere and do what we are called to do, all Israel shall be saved, when the full number of those that YHVH wants, from the lost ten tribes have come in, as we read in Romans 11: 25 - 27, as follows: ***‘For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery, (which we only understand when we have the Set-apart Spirit indwelling us) lest you be wise in your own estimation (talking about those who believe that they have been given the authority of the Sanhedrin, to determine the Set-apart Days of Elohim, because they believe that our Jewish brothers have ‘lost it’), that a partial hardening has happened to Israel (Jewish Israel) until the fullness of the Gentiles (the lost ten tribes who have forgotten that they are Israel, as well as some actual Gentiles) has come in; (26) and thus all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, “THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB.” (Talking about Yahshua being Jewish, who paid the indebtedness for breaking the Torah, for both houses of Israel.) (27) “AND THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS.”*** When Yahshua returns one day on the Feast of Trumpets, the Jews (those who remain righteous and attend Synagogue services) will see His hands and accept Him as

their Messiah and Savior, as may be read in Zechariah 12: 10 – 14, and as Thomas did, when He saw Yahshua's hands, in John 20: 28.

Most of those called at this time are from Christianity and are 'Gentiles' only in a secondary sense. Christianity is a counterfeit of Nazarene Judaism started by Simon Magus, the person mentioned in Acts 8: 9 – 13 & 18 – 21, in this way: ***'Now there was a certain man named Simon, who formerly was practicing magic in the city, and astonishing the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great; (10) and they all, from smallest to greatest, were giving attention to him, saying, "This man is what is called the Great Power of Elohim."*** (11) ***And they were giving him attention because he had for a long time astonished them with his magic arts. (12) But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of Elohim and the name of Yahshua Messiah they were being immersed, men and women alike. (13) And even Simon himself believed; and after being immersed he continued on with Philip; and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed. (18) Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, (19) saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Set-apart Spirit."*** (20) ***But Kepha said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of Elohim with money! (21) You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before Elohim."*** Christianity being a counterfeit of the real thing is a dangerous religion used by Satan to deceive the whole world.

Even though Yahshua redeemed us from our past sins and the curses of the Law, as we are told in Galatians 3: 13, if we continue to break the Torah laws of YHVH our Elohim, we again curse ourselves and our children, as we read from Deuteronomy 28: 15, as follows: ***"But it shall come about, if you will not obey YHVH your Elohim, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today, that all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you."*** We are all aware that Christianity teaches that Yahshua (they refer to our Messiah as Jesus) has abolished the strict Laws of His Father, but we know that Yahshua said just the opposite in Matthew 5: 17 – 20, in this way: ***"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill (or make it more binding, as may be understood from reading the rest of Matthew 5). (18) For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished. (19) Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and so teaches others, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. (20) For I say to you, that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven."***

How many people have in ignorance tattooed their bodies, without ever reading Leviticus 19: 28, thinking that the Torah does not apply to Christians any longer? How many Westerners, who do not know that they are Israelites have given their children to Moloch, by having abortions done, because of their immoral lifestyles? Most parents teach their children not to touch a hot stove, and not to run with scissors, but do we teach them about the shame and punishment that incest brings? The scripture that Satan uses to get Christianity to believe this lie, is found in Colossians 2: 14 as follows: ***"having cancelled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross."*** However, one thing is certain; it does not say that the Law is nailed to the cross, but that the certificate of debt – the document of our indebtedness was nailed to the cross. It is similar to when we receive a traffic ticket for speeding in a build-up area; after paying the traffic ticket for the offense that we committed, we are not allowed to continue breaking the traffic laws, are we? In a similar way, after Yahshua paid the death penalty due to each and every one of us, because of our disobedience to Torah, we cannot go on sinning; else we are crucifying Messiah over and over again. Even though we know that no amount of Law keeping can bring us salvation, since it is a free gift of Elohim, who

loves us; we keep Elohim's commandments to show Him that we love and obey Him as our Creator. It is literally as Rav Yaa'cov wrote in James 2: 24, saying: **'You see that a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone.'** However, as I mentioned before, even some of those called out by YHVH at this time (have for reasons already mentioned), in trying to usurp the authority of the Levites among the Jews are beginning to lose the keys given the apostles by Yahshua in Matthew 16: 19. The first key being the key to the Kingdom of Elohim, as explained by Rav Kepha and Rav Shaul as they described it for us in the following Scriptures:

Acts 2: 38, **'And Kepha said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be immersed in the name of Yahshua Messiah for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Set-apart Spirit."'** In Acts 4: 11 & 12 talking about Yahshua Rav Kepha said: **"He is the STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED by you, THE BUILDERS, but WHICH BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone. (12) And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."** Rav Shaul wrote in Romans 8: 11, **'But if the Spirit of Him who raised Yahshua from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Messiah Yahshua from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.'**

The second key given to Rav Kepha and the apostles is; understanding Elohim's plan of salvation for all mankind, as depicted by the Feast Days of Elohim, given in Leviticus 23 and Deuteronomy 16, and as preserved for us by those who sit in Moses' seat today, namely the Rabbinical Jews. Some who left us, again came to believe the Christian lie, that all people must come to repentance during this age, quoting Acts 17: 30, as follows: **"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, Elohim is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent,"** However Rav Shaul was here specifically talking to the men of Athens (Greeks who always search for new wisdom) who believed in an unknown G-D, telling them that they should seek YHVH who made all things and does not dwell in temples made by human hands. He also told them that Elohim's Divine Nature is not like an image formed by the thoughts of man. However, we also read the second part of what he told them in the above quote from verse 31 (being part of the point being discussed in verse 30), **"because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."** It is true, there is awaiting each one of us a day of judgment, as explained in 1 Corinthians 15: 23 & 24, as follows: **'But each in his own order: Messiah the first fruit(s) after that those who are Messiah's at His coming, (24) then comes the end (ones) when He delivers up the kingdom to the Elohim and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.'** Many have lost the understanding that they had regarding being born again, as Yahshua explained in John 3, and Rav Shaul discussed in 1 Corinthians 15: 20 – 55.

It is important for us to understand why and how Satan is deceiving the whole world to believe in religious confusion, where they say that they believe in Yahshua and what He taught whilst He was on earth, but contradict most of what He taught anyway. Yes, this is also known as a mystery, as we read from Revelation 17: 4 to the first part of verse 6, in this way: **'And the woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality, (5) and upon her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." (6) And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints (true believers), and with the blood of the witnesses of Yahshua.'** Having discussed the reasons for not believing or understanding the mysteries revealed by Rav Shaul, let's consider some of the mysteries mentioned in his letters. In Rav Shaul's epistle to the Romans he quotes from Isaiah 28: 16, applying the same to Yahshua our Messiah and the reason for our Jewish brothers not believing in Him, in Romans 9: 30 – 33, as follows: **'What shall we say then? That Gentiles (those of the lost ten tribes who believe they are Gentiles), who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness, even the righteousness which is by faith; (31) but Israel (the Jews in this case),**

**pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at that law. (32) Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as though it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone, (33) just as it is written, "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."** This is the same reference used by Rav Kepha in 1 Peter 2: 6 – 10, where he acknowledges a second time, that Yahshua is the rock upon which He is building His congregation, in this way: **'For this is contained in Scripture: "BEHOLD I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."** (7) **This precious value, then, is for you who believe. But for those who disbelieve, "THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone (8) and, "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE"; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word** (Yes this is talking about the Jews of Messiah's day, but it is also talking about those who reject Him as the only foundation upon which the congregation is built), **and to this doom they were also appointed. (9) But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR Elohim's OWN POSSESSION, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; (10) for you once WERE NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF ELOHIM; you had not RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY."**

Yes, Yahshua is the foundation upon which His congregation is built and not the Pope or any of Yahshua's apostles as some believe, as is confirmed by Rav Shaul in 1 Corinthians 3: 11, as follows: **'For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Yahshua Messiah.'** We who have come to believe that Yahshua is the visible image of the invisible Elohim, as explained in Colossians 1: 15 have no difficulty to recognize that He is the One spoken about in Isaiah 7 & 8. In a prophecy about Miriam, we read from Isaiah 7: 14, **"Therefore YHVH Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel** (meaning Elohim with us)." **Continuing in Isaiah 8: 8 – 10, 14 – 16, we read: "Then it will sweep on into Judah, it will overflow and pass through, it will reach even to the neck; and the spread of its wings will fill the breath of your land, O Immanuel. (9) Be broken, O peoples, and be shattered; and give ear all remote places of the earth. Gird yourselves, yet be shattered. Gird yourselves, yet be shattered. (10) Devise a plan but it will be thwarted; state a proposal but it will not stand, for Elohim is with us."(14) "Then He shall become a sanctuary; but to both the houses of Israel, a stone to strike and a rock to stumble over, and a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of Jerusalem. (15) And many will stumble over them, then they will fall and be broken; they will even be snared and caught. (16) Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. (17) And I will wait for YHVH who is hiding His face from the house of Jacob; I will even look eagerly for Him."**

We see the reason for YHVH hiding His face from His people in Micah 3: 4, as follows: **'Then they will cry out to YHVH, but He will not answer them. Instead, He will hide His face from them at that time, because they have practiced evil deeds.'** But in Isaiah 45: 15, we get a hint to the true identity of Yahshua our Messiah, in this way: **'Truly, Thou art an Elohim who hides Himself, O Elohim of Israel, Savior!'** We see further from Isaiah 30: 19 - 21 that during the millennium, when the inhabitants of Jerusalem will weep no more, YHVH will no longer hide Himself, as follows: **'O people in Zion, inhabitant in Jerusalem, you will weep no longer. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears it, He will answer you. (20) Although YHVH has given you bread of privation and water of oppression, He, your Teacher will no longer hide Himself, but your eyes will behold your Teacher. (21) And your ears will hear a word behind you, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right or to the left.'** Rav Shaul recognizes the Identity of Yahshua as the Messiah whom Elohim has sent, to rescue all of mankind and to reconcile them to Elohim, as being the stumbling block to both Jews and Greeks (non-Jews) in 1 Corinthians 1: 23, but also informs the reader that Yahshua is both the power and wisdom of Elohim in verse 24. Even though YHVH created mankind in His image, the relationship between mankind and our Creator changed

drastically, when Adam and Eve sinned. Because of their sin, man was no longer a perfect image of Elohim, and Elohim Himself became a 'man' in the form of Yahshua Messiah, because only Elohim the Creator could redeem the returning lost sheep from the house of Israel, but eventually also for the sins of all mankind – as only His life is worth more than all the lives of those whom He has created. This is why Rav Shaul wrote in Romans 8:29, ***'For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren.'***

This major stumbling block (or *skandalon*) originated in the way Elohim revealed Himself in the Torah. YHVH revealed Himself as the Creator and sustainer of mankind: informing them that; He is YHVH their One and Only Elohim; to honor His Name; and not to make any idols or likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. But, in order to accomplish His redemptive work YHVH had to become a man in Yahshua the Messiah. Rav Kepha explained in Acts 4: 11 & 12, that not only may we be saved through the scandal of YHVH incarnate, but the scandal of His crucifixion is the only way for mankind to be reconciled to Elohim. It is in His incarnation as Yahshua our Messiah, the Lamb of Elohim that we worship YHVH our Creator and Redeemer. Rav Shaul's speech in Acts 17 was an attempt to define Elohim in terms of what He has done for mankind. Rav Shaul understood that the so-called unknown god had to be made known. The Scriptural revelation requires that the name of Elohim be made known to mankind and when He revealed Himself in Exodus 3: 14, He said to Moses: ***"I AM WHO I AM."*** The footnote against 'I AM' in this verse in the New American Standard Bible reads: *'Related to the Name of G-d, YHWH rendered LORD, which is derived from the verb HAYAH, to be.'* This essentially means that YHVH can be whatever we need Him to be, as may be understood from His many names given in the Tanach, for example; YHVH-YIRAH meaning YHVH our Provider in Genesis 22: 14; YHVH-NISSI meaning YHVH is My Banner in Exodus 17: 15; and YHVH-TSIDIKENU meaning YHVH Our Righteousness in Jeremiah 23: 6, which in essence referred to Yahshua the righteous Branch, through whom we His creation attains righteousness and who will reign as king over Judah and Israel during the millennium. We also know that the meaning of Yahshua's name is that He will save His people from their sins, or the Salvation of YHVH.

Through these facts and the commandments given in Exodus 20: 3 – 11, YHVH ensured that His people understood the importance of His name in worshipping Him. If our proclamation that Yahshua is YHVH in the flesh is an offense to Jews and non-Jews, then it will have to be the scandal that Yahshua said it would be in Matthew 21: 42 – 44, as follows: ***"Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM YHVH, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?" (43) Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of Elohim will be taken away from you, and be given to a nation producing the fruit of it. (44) And he who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."*** Elohim has truly gone to extremes to make His name and deeds known to us. Even the Psalms attest to the fact the YHVH became our salvation, as in Psalm 118: 21 – 26 in this way: ***'I shall give thanks to Thee, for thou hast answered me; and Thou hast become my salvation. (22) The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone. (23) This is (YHVH)'s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. (24) This is the day which YHVH has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (25) O YHVH, do save, we beseech Thee; O YHVH, we beseech Thee, do send prosperity! (26) Blessed is the one who comes in the name of YHVH; we have blessed you from the house of YHVH.'***

We are told in 1 Timothy 3: 8 & 9 that a major qualification of those who serve as deacons in the congregation, is to believe or hold to the mystery of the (our) faith with a clear conscience. So what is the mystery of our faith (or godliness)? We conclude by reading the answer from 1 Timothy 3: 16 (KJV); ***'And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: G-d (Elohim) was manifest in the***

*flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.*’ Continuing in 1 Timothy 4: 1, 2 & 10 (NASB), Rav Shaul writes: *‘But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, (2) by means of hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron. (10) For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living Elohim, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.’* We also read fittingly from Deuteronomy 32: 15, *“But Jeshurun (Israel) grew fat and kicked—you are grown fat, thick and sleek—then he forsook Elohim who made him, and scorned the Rock of his salvation.”* Yahshua is not another YHVH: He was only a small portion of the One YHVH that was manifested in the flesh, the purpose of which was that He the Creator of Mankind could be their kinsman redeemer – He died for the sins of mankind and to be able to remarry His bride Israel, whom He divorced because of her adultery with the pagan gods of this world. Only the life of YHVH is worth more than the lives of all mankind together – so only He could redeem us from the second death. Those parts of the Infinite Elohim that YHVH desired to "border" in order to make it understandable to our finite minds, He did so in the form of parts of Himself becoming "visible" to man in the personage of Yahshua. He did not put all of Himself within the borders of Yahshua, as that is impossible to place infinity within something finite. We know that all Jews are Israelites, but not all Israelites are Jews. Also all green beans are vegetables, but not all vegetables are green beans. YHVH "became" a man in Yahshua, but Yahshua did not "contain" all of what YHVH is.... Because YHVH cannot be contained within definable borders, as He is infinite.

Those of us from the lost ten tribes, called at this time by YHVH to return to Him, should not let the P’shat (or literal meaning) of the Scriptures get in our way of understanding the Oneness of Elohim, which YHVH our Elohim commanded Moses to teach in Deuteronomy 6: 4, in this way: ***“Hear, O Israel! YHVH is our Elohim, YHVH is one!”***



#### Chapter 4: What is in it for me?

Human beings are born selfish and will even from before birth do everything in their power to survive. We are born with a tremendous will to live; a characteristic essential to our survival during the first few months of our lives. However, our selfish natures have to be tempered early in life; else we become what are known as spoiled brats. From a very young age and because of our inborn selfish natures we do nothing without knowing that there is something in it for us, personally.

When someone tells us to do something, we naturally want to know: What is in it for me? Will I benefit by doing what you ask me to do? A pertinent question at this time is: How does this apply to our spiritual lives? If you have young children, you will remember how often they repeat the phrase; *'life is not fair'*. But, even if you think your child is unique in saying this, let me assure you that you and most people have been using this exact same phrase more than once in a lifetime. Similarly, most non-believers who have perchance read the first five books of the Scriptures, or realized that Yahshua confirmed and even made the Torah more binding in Matthew 5: 17 – 48, think that *'the way of YHVH is not fair'*. This is in fact an age old drawback with especially those of us from the lost sheep of Israel, as recorded in Ezekiel 33: 17 – 20, as follows: ***"Yet your fellow citizens say, 'The way of YHVH is not right', when it is their own way that is not right. (18) When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, then he shall die in it. (19) But when the wicked turns from his wickedness and practices justice and righteousness, he will live by them. (20) Yet you say, 'The way of YHVH is not right.' O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways."*** So we see that like today, people never liked to be told what to do, even by our Creator.

Because of our inborn selfishness, most human beings would rather choose to live their lives their own way. It is part of who and what we are; it is because of our survival instinct. But it is also because of what happened in the Garden of Eden. After YHVH created Adam He took him and put him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate and keep it, as we read from Genesis 2: 16 & 17, in this way: ***'And YHVH Elohim commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; (17) but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."*** We know that despite this commandment, Adam and Eve induced by the lies and temptation of Satan eventually ate of the forbidden tree and was driven from the Garden of Eden. Since then all humankind have sinned (disobeyed YHVH) and fall short of Elohim's glory. YHVH removed the light or glory {אור} - transliterated as 'ohr' in Hebrew} with which mankind was clothed in the beginning and dressed them in skin {עור} – which strangely enough, is also transliterated as 'ohr' in Hebrew}, thus dooming us to death, as we read from Genesis 3: 17 - 19, as follows: ***'Then to Adam He (YHVH) said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. (18) Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field; (19) By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."***

Satan introduced the doctrine that man has an immortal soul to Eve, when he said to her in Genesis 3: 4, ***"You surely shall not die!"*** He did this despite of (YHVH)'s warning to Adam, saying: ***'in the day that you eat from it you shall die.'*** Most people believe that because Adam and Eve did not die during the first day after eating of the forbidden fruit that YHVH lied to them. Even so, we should not forget the words in the prayer of Moses recorded in Psalm 90: 4 that a thousand years is like one day to YHVH. A second witness comes from 2 Peter 3: 8, in this way: ***"But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with YHVH one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."*** We read accordingly from Genesis 5: 5 ***"So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years, and he died."*** So we see that YHVH did not lie to Adam and Eve, but Satan was responsible for their fall from grace. Despite being aware of this, most people see Elohim's

instructions to avoid adultery, fornication (pre-marital sex) and divorce in Exodus 20: 14 and Matthew 5: 27 – 32, as hopelessly outdated. Most believe that sex is permissible, as long as it is between consenting adults and as long as they take precautions to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. In addition, because of the lies that many churches teach today, most Christians believe that you may do whatever you like, as long as you *'believe in the name of J\*e\*s\*u\*s C\*h\*r\*i\*s\*t'*. Without knowing what it means to believe in the real Messiah, these people are totally blinded to the good news of the Kingdom of Elohim. Believing in Yahshua, means that we believe in His name, namely that He is the salvation of YHVH, which is also the meaning of His name; but it also means that we believe in what He taught whilst He was on earth. For example we read Yahshua's answer to the lawyer who questioned Him in Luke 10: 25 - 28, as follows: ***'And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? (26) And He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?" (27) And he answered and said, "YOU SHALL LOVE YHVH YOUR ELOHIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," (28) And He (Yahshua) said to him, "You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE."***

Apart from eternal life, which because of the life experiences of most who do things their own way do not care about, what other benefits are there in obeying YHVH? What is in it for me? Is it really worth it to obey Elohim? You may think that this line of thinking is ridiculous, but ask yourself; why don't all people obey the commandments given by YHVH our Elohim? Broken marriages are the cause of a great deal of stress, which result in a number of ailments, including weight changes, fatigue, sleeping disorders and tension. It is no wonder that divorced people are more likely to suffer from chronic and acute diseases which are very costly to human society. However, children are often most affected by the divorce of their parents. The majority of economically disadvantaged people are from broken homes. Homes headed by single parents are a leading factor in subsequent criminal activity. To this must be added the cost of legal fees, the reduction in productivity and income of divorced parents. It also results in the frequent loss of homes and other belongings. Divorce often results in long custody battles with devastating effects on the children. Society suffers because we have neglected to treat our partners the way YHVH intended from the beginning. A happy marriage by far outweighs the benefits that people think they will get by getting divorced. Most human beings desire and need the benefits that come from a stable marriage. We need to return to the way that Elohim intended and give marriage the respect that it deserves. Children whose parents are happily married are blessed with the ideal environment to grow up in and produce emotionally stable leaders for future generations.

It is so sad to see that not everyone is willing to follow Scriptural principles promoting happy marriages and how to avoid divorce. There are many warnings against adultery in the Scriptures. One such warning appears in Proverbs 6: 32, as follows: ***'The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense; he who would destroy himself does it.'*** We should also be mindful of what Rav Shaul said about immoral sexual relationships in 1 Corinthians 6: 9 – 18, as follows: ***'Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of Elohim? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, (10) nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of Elohim. (11) And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Master Yahshua Messiah, and in the Spirit of our Elohim. (12) All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything. (We may drink wine and even whiskey, but we should never get drunk) (13) Food is for the stomach, and the stomach is for food; but Elohim will do away with both of them. (We should also not be gluttons). Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Master; and the Master is for the body. (14) Now Elohim has not only raised the Master, but will also raise us***

**up through His power. (15) Do you not know that your bodies are members of Messiah? Shall I then take away the members of Messiah and make them members of a harlot? May it never be! (16) Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a harlot is one body with her? For He says, "THE TWO WILL BECOME ONE FLESH." (17) But the one who joins himself to the Master is one spirit with Him. (18) Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.'**

To understand what further benefits there are to be had by obeying Elohim's Torah, we need to consider the blessings and the curses recorded for us in Deuteronomy 28. The first 14 verses specify the blessings we will receive by obeying all the commandments Elohim gave us through Moses, in this way: **"Now it shall be, if you will diligently obey YHVH your Elohim, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, YHVH your Elohim will set you high above all the nations of the earth. (2) "And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you will obey YHVH your Elohim. (3) Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. (4) Blessed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock. (5) Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. (6) Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. (7) YHVH will cause your enemies who rise up against you to be defeated before you; they shall come against you one way and shall flee before you seven ways. (8) YHVH will command the blessing upon you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you in the land which YHVH your Elohim gives you. (9) YHVH will establish you as a holy people to Himself, as He swore to you, if you will keep the commandments of YHVH your Elohim, and walk in His ways. (10) So all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of YHVH; and they shall be afraid of you. (11) And YHVH will make you abound in prosperity, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your beast and in the produce of your ground, in the land which YHVH swore to your fathers to give you. (12) YHVH will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand; and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. (13) And YHVH shall make you the head and not the tail, and you only shall be above, and you shall not be underneath (meaning you shall be in control, and not be controlled), if you will listen to the commandments of YHVH your Elohim, which I charge you today, to observe them carefully, (14) and do not turn aside from any of the words which I command you today, to the right or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.'** These blessings should be enough to get most human beings to obey Elohim, but because Christianity teach that the harsh commandments of YHVH have been done away with by the false Messiah called J\*e\*s\*u\*s, most wouldn't even consider reading the Torah, let alone obey it.

Continuing in Deuteronomy 28 from verse 15 onward, we see that there are 54 verses in which the curses are given that will befall us if we do not obey the commandments of Elohim. The curses in Deuteronomy 28 are like a nightmare, but because most of the people in the world are disobedient to the teachings of Elohim, we see how most of these diseases are occurring amongst our people, some of which are listed in verse 27 (KJV), in this way: **'YHVH will smite thee with the botch (boils) of Egypt, and with the emerods (hemorrhoids), and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst be healed.'** From reading the blessings and the curses in Deuteronomy 28, we see that when those who are blessed, they are blessed everywhere they go and in everything they do. The curses likewise, imply that those who are cursed are cursed everywhere they go and in everything they do. That it is why we should keep away from religious leaders and others who teach that their savior did away with the Torah. This is confirmed in verse 58 & 59 of Deuteronomy 28, as follows: **'If you are not careful to observe all the words of this law which are written in this book, to fear this honored and awesome name, YHVH your Elohim, (59) then YHVH will bring extraordinary plagues on you and your descendants, even severe and lasting plagues, and miserable and chronic sicknesses.'** YHVH has given us the pattern or way in which He wants us to serve Him in His word. We read accordingly in Deuteronomy 4: 1 & 2, **"And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments**

*which I am teaching you to perform, in order that you may live and go in and take possession of the land which YHVH, the Elohim of your fathers, is giving you. (2) You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of YHVH your Elohim which I command you.*" These blessings and curses should be motivation enough to get the worst sinner to start obeying Elohim's commandments, but because most believe in a false Messiah, they curse their children and themselves, by their disobedience.

We see the end result of these curses being, that Israel will be scattered among the nations. We read about this unbearable situation in verse 65 & 66 of Deuteronomy 28, as follows: ***"And among those nations you shall find no rest, and there shall be no resting place for the sole of your foot; but there YHVH will give you a trembling heart, failing of eyes, and despair of soul. (66) So your life shall hang in doubt before you; and you shall be in dread night and day, and shall have no assurance of your life."*** There are not many holocaust survivors alive today, but I am sure, if it is possible for us to ask one of them who are still alive, about their experiences, it will sound a lot like the two verses quoted here. However, we read a prophecy about the coming trouble in verse 14 of Ezekiel 21, as follows: ***"You therefore, son of man, prophesy, and clap your hands together; and let the sword be doubled the third time, the sword for the slain. It is the sword for the great one slain, which surrounds them."*** This is clearly talking about World War 3, and it is saying that the armaments to be used during it will be double as much as that used during World War II. People from Judah as well as many of us from the Israelite nations will again be put in concentration camps, but what happened during World War 2 will look like a Sunday school picnic compared to what is coming. Jeremiah puts it like this in Jeremiah 12: 5, ***"If you have run with footmen and they have tired you out, then how can you compete with horses? If you fall down in a land of peace, how will you do in the thicket of the Jordan?"***

The fact that Yahshua has redeemed us from the curses of the Law (as per Galatians 3: 13), has been taken out of context and have caused many ignorant and weak believers to stumble, by thinking that Rav Shaul was contradicting both Torah and what Yahshua taught in Matthew 5: 17 – 20. Yes, Yahshua has wiped our slate clean of past sins, but, if we continue to sin after being immersed into His saving name, we will reap what we sow. If you look at the world around us, you will notice that most people suffer from one or even a number of health problems. If Yahshua is continuing to remove the curses of the Law from His followers, as some believe, why are so many people sick and dying from incurable diseases? The reason is contained in the portion of the Scriptures which most falsely believe to have been abolished by Messiah. But, since YHVH is busy calling people from the churches of the world to come into the truth and His way of life, it is necessary to explain these laws contained in Torah. The reason being that Gentiles do not as a norm believe or study the Torah and Christianity where most returnees come from, insists that their Messiah abolish His Father's Law for His followers. We know that in His own words Yahshua our Messiah and savior said that He did not come to abolish the Law or the prophets, but to make it more binding (in Matthew 5: 17 – 48). In addition Rav Shaul tells believers in 2 Corinthians 6: 14 – 18, saying: ***'Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? (15) Or what harmony has Messiah with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? (16) Or what agreement has the temple of Elohim with idols? For we are the temple of the living Elohim; just as Elohim said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR ELOHIM, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. (17) Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says YHVH. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; and I will welcome you. (18) "And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me." Says YHVH Almighty.'*** We should not touch what is unclean; a leper, discharges from a human body, idols, unclean meats, dead bodies and if perchance we do, we are considered unclean until the evening and should wash our clothes and bodies with (soap and) water. But, to ensure that we remain in good health, let's examine the things that renders a person unclean in more detail:

1. **Eating unclean foods:** We read from Leviticus 11: 7 – 8: ***“and the pig, for though it divides the hoof, thus making a split hoof, it does not chew cud, it is unclean to you. (8) You shall not eat of their flesh nor touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you.”*** Did you know that pork parasites can be contracted by simply handling fresh pork? When ingesting pork man is often infected with the Trichinella larvae; the capsule that surrounds each larva is dissolved by the digestive juices and the larva attaches itself to the intestines, from where they enter the bloodstream. Pork tape-worm is another parasite that grows to almost two meters in length in its human host. Influenza (flu) is one of the illnesses which pigs share with humans. This illness is harbored in the lungs of pigs during summer months and tends to affect pigs and humans in the cooler months. Sausage containing bits of pigs’ lungs and those who consume pork sausage tend to suffer more during flu epidemics. Pig meat can also lead to itching and inflammation and sulfur contained in deposits of its mucus in tendons and cartilage causes Arthritis and Rheumatism. The reason why YHVH tells us what to eat and what not, is because He created certain things for the benefit of His covenant people, and He also knows what would be harmful to us. The reason we can eat cattle, sheep and goats is because they have a lot lower incidence of communicable diseases. Hooves protect clean animals from cuts and injury, which are entry points for germs, parasites and prevent diseases entering the body. These animals are ruminating animals, meaning they chew the cud – their stomachs have more than one compartment. Their food is thoroughly digested as it moves from one compartment to the next, before it passes on to the intestines where the nutrients are extracted and absorbed into the bloodstream for nourishment. They eliminate toxins much more effectively than they would, if they had shorter digestive processes like other animals and humans. In addition ruminating animals do not by nature eat flesh, and are not predatory, but are vegetarians and eat food less complicated to digest, than meat. Consequently meat from ruminating animals is ideal for human nourishment.

Like ruminating animals, birds that are suitable for human consumption have stomachs or gizzards with a double skin which can be easily separated, such as chicken, turkey, and certain species of duck and geese. They have digestive systems much like the ruminating animals, more capable of eliminating impurities from their food than the digestive systems of unclean animals; leaf eating birds like ducks, geese, pigeons and swans have bacteria in their intestines that break down roughage. This form of rumination, also render these birds suitable for human consumption. The only clean insects that are considered fit for human consumption are the variants of grasshoppers that has a crop, gizzard, intestines and a stomach, in that order, from front to back. Like clean animals grasshoppers chew their food with jaws and have long digestive processes like ruminating animals or clean birds. These facts could not have been discovered by mankind through mere observation, and it was for this reason that YHVH, the Creator of these animals revealed these to His people through His Torah. It is not only pork that makes us detestable, but shell fish, like lobsters, crabs, shrimp; rodents like mice, rats, rabbits, squirrel, raccoon, kangaroo and wallaby; scavengers like eagles, buzzards, catfish and sharks, even though they each have a purpose their meats are detestable and not fit for human consumption.

We read further from Leviticus 11: 10 – 11: ***“But whatever is in the seas and the rivers, that do not have fins and scales among all the teeming life of the water, and among all the living creatures that are in the water, they are detestable things to you, (11) and they shall be abhorrent to you; you may not eat of their flesh, and their carcasses you shall detest.”*** Shellfish such as shrimps, lobsters, oysters, mussels, clams and crabs are considered scavengers and consume foods that are harmful to human beings. They are contaminated with parasites, viruses and enteric organisms that cannot be killed even with high heat. These could cause Typhoid, Dysentery, Hepatitis B or paralysis of the muscles of the arms, legs or lungs, depending upon the degree of pollution of the water, in which they live. In addition meat and milk products should not be cooked and/or eaten at the same time. Now perhaps when YHVH gave this law

initially it did not make sense to the Israelites, but today we know that violating this rule results in high cholesterol that causes heart attacks and strokes.

2. **Leprosy and other contagious diseases:** Examples of leprosy and similar contagious diseases are Hanson's disease or leprosy, Chickenpox, Smallpox, Typhoid, Polio and Scarlet fever. In today's society the Aids virus is very resourceful and escapes new medicines and the body's own defenses. People with these diseases should be isolated or quarantined (as per Leviticus 13: 4 & 5). Anything a person with these diseases touch must be washed (Leviticus 15: 11) and whoever touches such a person's bed or skin must wash his clothes and himself (Leviticus 15: 1 – 7).
3. **Excrement:** The biggest health problem is that flies spread germs because they feed off decaying food and feces. Every time an Israelite 'goes to the bathroom,' he must dig a hole and cover his dung with earth (Deuteronomy 23: 12 – 14). This should be done when we are camping outside, where there are perhaps no 'bathroom' facilities available. In the modern sense, we must flush the toilet and ensure that it is clean when we are done. Also be sure to wash your hands after you've been to the 'bathroom'.
4. **Seminal emissions and menstrual blood:** A woman beginning with menstrual flow must not have marital relations with her husband (Leviticus 18: 19) and after the cessation of menstrual flow, she must count seven days (Leviticus 15: 19 & 28) and then immerse her entire body in water. Then, after a couple have had marital relations, both husband and wife should bathe and are unclean until the evening (Leviticus 15: 18). By the way the uncircumcised are also considered unclean (see both Isaiah 52: 1 & Ezekiel 44: 9), since it is more difficult to wash germs of under the skin.
5. **Contact with dead bodies:** All dead animals are unclean (Leviticus 11: 8, 24, 29 – 31), including those permitted as food for mankind (Leviticus 11: 31 – 39). If a man touches it, he becomes unclean until the evening and should wash his clothes and his body. Touching a grave, a human corpse or a bone renders a person unclean (Numbers 19: 11 – 18; Leviticus 22: 4). This applies to funerals, autopsies and soldiers in war. The forbidding of defiling oneself with the dead has a required 7 days of purification should this occur. If one's home is constantly in the environment of the 'dead', one will have a continual defiled atmosphere. For example, those people who insist to keep the ashes of their deceased within their homes are defiling their atmosphere in their ignorance of the laws of the Set-apart Scriptures.
6. **Idols:** We read in Genesis 35: 2: ***'So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away foreign gods (idols) which are among you, and purify yourselves, and change your garments."*** We also read in Isaiah 30: 22 ***'And you will defile your graven images, overlaid with silver, and your molten images plated with gold. You will scatter them as an impure thing; and say to them, "Be gone!"*** And we further read in Ezekiel 36: 17 & 25: ***"Son of man, when the house of Israel was living in their own land, they defiled it by their ways and their deeds (eating pig and unclean foods, keeping pagan feasts and bringing Christmas trees into their homes, keeping pictures and statutes of Mary, J\*e\*s\*u\*s and even B\*u\*d\*d\*h\*a\*, as well as attending church in buildings with steeples); (25) "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols"*** The Scriptures do not specify how idols make us unclean, but tell us not to learn the way of the pagan nations and worship idols, for example Xmas-trees (see Jeremiah 10: 1- 5).
7. **Childbirth:** After the birth of a baby boy, a woman must count seven days and wash in a mikveh. After the birth of a baby girl she must count fourteen days and wash in a mikveh as per Leviticus 12: 1-5.
8. **Clothing made from manmade materials:** During periods of recuperation from sickness patients should avoid wearing bedclothes and sleep on bedding made from manmade fabrics, such as polyester, rayon, nylon and blended fabrics, since these materials dramatically reduce the human body's ability to heal itself. Since the earliest times, flax has been known to have healing properties. Recent studies done in Japan, confirmed that linen garments and bed sheets contain health benefits and scientists have identified that linen is an inhibitor of toxic electrostatic

energy and stimulates a human's immunity system. We read further about clothing from the last part of Leviticus 19: 19, as follows: **'You shall not sow your field with two kinds of seed, nor wear a garment upon you of two kinds of material mixed together.'**

9. **Household pets:** Household pets spread their parasites throughout the carpets, bedding and floors. In addition commercial pet foods are also a source of massive contamination of organisms that hinder health. People who desire to remain healthy should keep pets outside and wash their hands regularly after contact with pets.

Besides the health and hygiene benefits to be had by refraining, as far as is possible from coming into contact with the above mentioned, we read from Deuteronomy 23: 14, **"Since YHVH your Elohim walks in the midst of your camp to deliver you and to defeat your enemies before you, therefore your camp must be holy; and He must not see anything indecent among you lest He turn away from you."** If we do not clean up our lives, then we cannot expect YHVH to be amongst us, or to protect us. The point is who or what makes YHVH angry? We read from Isaiah 65: 3 – 4: **'A people who continually provoke Me to My face, offering sacrifices in gardens and burning incense on bricks; (4) Who sit among graves, and spend the night in secret places; Who eat swine's flesh, and the broth of unclean meat is in their pots.'** Moses knew how to avoid contagious sexual diseases. In addition to capital punishment for homosexuals and adulterers as set out in Leviticus 20: 13, quarantine laws for victims infected with communicable diseases are given in Leviticus 13: 45 & 46. In Leviticus 13: 4 we read about Hyssop. Hyssop oil is an antiseptic which kills fungi and bacteria. Branches of hyssop were used in water on an unclean person. We should be careful to touch unclean things and wash daily (Numbers 19; Leviticus 11: 15) using soap (Numbers 19: 18). We should also avoid sitting on public benches or public toilets. We should wash our hands and the food we eat (Leviticus 22: 6). We should wash after going to the bathroom (Deuteronomy 23: 12 – 14) and after touching dead bodies (Numbers 19: 16) insects and spiders (Leviticus 22: 5 – 6).

Willful violation of any Scriptural law is sin, but impurity is not always associated with sin. For example marital relations, giving birth, burying the dead, menstruating or becoming leprous all causes impurity, but none are sinful acts as such. So even though we cannot always avoid contact with things that defile us, we need to make sure that we follow the Scriptural rules to become pure after such incidences. We may for example not partake of the Passover, if we have been in touch with dead bodies – when attending a funeral and assist as a pallbearer. In Numbers 9 : 9 - 12 we read what to do in such a situation, as follows: **'Then YHVH spoke to Moses, saying, (10) "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'If any one of you or of your generations becomes unclean because of a dead person, or is on a distant journey, he may, however, observe the Passover to YHVH (11) 'In the second month on the fourteenth day at twilight, they shall observe it; they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. (12) 'They shall leave none of it until morning, nor break a bone of it; according to all the statute of the Passover they shall observe it.'** This tells us that if we could not partake of the normal Passover, because we were considered unclean at the time, i.e. on the evening of the fourteenth of Aviv, then we should partake of it a month later. We must never neglect to partake of the Passover, since such an action could result in us being cut off from our people (Israel), according to verse 13 of Numbers 9. However, we should also remember that we need to be circumcised in both the heart and the flesh to partake of the Passover.

The regulations and rules that medical doctors know and use today are all to be found in the Scriptures. Rules regarding scrubbing with (soap and) water after contact with a disease are found in Leviticus 14: 9; 15: 7, 13 -19; 17: 16; 22: 6; Numbers 19: 7 – 8 and Jeremiah 2: 22. Clothes washers, sinks, bathtubs and showers are all Scriptural as per Numbers 31: 20 – 24. We use Hyssop as an antiseptic (Numbers 19: 18) and fuller's soap (Malachi 3: 2) to clean ourselves. The law concerning quarantine is mentioned in Leviticus 12: 1 - 4 and 13: 46. Using a face mask like dentists and doctors do is used in Leviticus 13: 45. It is common practice in hospitals to shave off body hair for better

hygiene as mentioned in Leviticus 13: 33, 45 – 46; 14: 8 – 9. We see in Leviticus 15: 8 that spit is regarded as an infective discharge. Gonorrhoea and Herpes can both be contracted from towels, clothing and bedding as per Leviticus 11: 32. Unglazed pottery must be broken and cannot be easily cleaned of germs (Leviticus 11: 33), which means that chipped drinking cups and cracked ceramic dinnerware, should be discarded. Containers of food and drink must be covered to prevent bugs or flies and gnats from sitting or falling on it (Numbers 19: 15). When it comes to obeying most of these health laws and keeping pagan festivals like Xmas, people often ask: How can most of Christianity be deceived about these very important issues to Elohim? The answer is contained in the following Scriptural witnesses:

- Revelation 12: 9, ***'And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.'***
- 1 John 5: 19, ***'We know that we are of Elohim, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.'***
- Ephesians 2: 1 & 2: ***'And you (insert your name here) were dead in your trespasses and sins, (2) in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.'***
- 2 Corinthians 4: 3 & 4: ***'And even if our gospel (the gospel of the coming kingdom of Elohim preached by Messiah in amongst other Mark 1: 14 & 15) is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, (4) in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Messiah (who is coming to rule the world for a thousand years and beyond), who is the image of Elohim.'***

We read further from 1 John 2: 15 – 17, as follows; ***'Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (16) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. (17) And the world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of Elohim abides forever.'*** Nevertheless, we also read Rav Shaul's exhortation to those of us who already know Elohim's truths from Hebrews 6: 4 – 8, saying: ***'For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, (5) and have tasted the good word of Elohim and the powers of the age to come, (6) and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of Elohim, and put Him to open shame. (7) For ground that drinks the rain which often falls upon it and brings forth vegetation useful to those for whose sake it is also tilled, receives a blessing from Elohim; (8) but if it yields thorns and thistles, it is worthless and close to being cursed, and it ends up being burned.'***

We know that many Christian believers obey some of the Scriptural rules without ever reading the Tanach, since they have been taught these rules by their parents. Some of these rules are common sense, but I am certain that some of these we have learnt from our parents by word of mouth, because they learnt it from their forefathers, who were in the very distant past, part of the twelve tribes of Israel. This was the way Torah upon the lips used to be passed on from one generation to the next, in Scriptural times. There might also be many of these rules, which we transgressed, because those amongst us, who come from a Christian background, were taught incorrectly by deceived parents and their deceived ministers of religion. In that case brethren, it has become time for us to say as we read in Jeremiah 16 verse 19, in this way: ***'O YHVH, my strength and my stronghold, and my refuge in the day of distress, to thee the nations (Goiim) will come from the ends of the earth and say, "Our fathers have inherited nothing but falsehood, futility and things of no profit."*** My fellow believers in Yahshua, it is time for us to repent and return to full Torah observance – if we truly want Elohim to come and tabernacle with us again. Think about it!



## Chapter 5: Father please deliver us from our exile.

Father when our forefathers were in exile in Egypt and cried to You for help, You heed their cry and brought them out from the land of Egypt, delivering them from the power of the Egyptians. We are totally aware that You scattered us, the lost sheep of the house of Israel, into the nations of the world because of idolatry. We absolutely deserve the punishment you are meeting out against us, but beg that you be merciful to us. In addition, we know that because we as 'so-called' Christians have been in captivity by Esau under the guise of the Roman Catholic Church for the past 1800 years, since we lost our original culture, language, religion and even our identity as the house of Israel.

Some of us became aware of Messiah's main purpose as prophesied by the prophets in the Tanach to bring the lost sheep of the house of Israel back to the covenant that we made with Elohim (as witnessed among other in Jeremiah 31: 10 & 11<sup>1</sup>), together with the house of Judah at Mount Sinai, during the past ten to fifteen years. We also came to the understanding that this is in fact one of the two main identifying signs or functions the house of Judah expects the true Messiah to perform at His coming, the second being to establish the Kingdom of Elohim over the commonwealth of Israel in the world to come (transliterated as the '*Olam Haba*' in Hebrew). This understanding brought about a paradigm shift in what we used to believe, and what others such as Christianity and the Messianic Jews still hold to be true. As a result we came to the realization that as Yahshua explained in the parable of the prodigal son, we the remnant of the lost sheep of the house of Israel are in fact the prodigal son, who left the Father and lost our identity, language and faith and that the eldest son who remained with the Father throughout the past 3000 years is the house of Judah. Whereas groups like the World-wide Church of G-d and the Assemblies of YHVH believe that everybody including the house of Judah have to accept Yahshua Messiah as their personal Passover to be saved, we came to understand that because Jews always knew Elohim's Torah and only need to repent and return to full Torah observance to inherit eternal life, as witnessed in Ezekiel 18: 23, as follows: ***"Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked," declares YHVH Elohim, "rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?"*** Yahshua our Messiah also confirmed this when a Pharisee asked Him in Matthew 19: 16, saying: ***"Teacher (Rabbi in Hebrew) what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?"*** Yahshua answered him in verse 17, saying: ***"Why are you asking Me about what is good? There is only One who is good; but if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments."***

However, a different principle or rule applies to those of us from the lost ten tribes who have even forgotten what sin is, since we were taught the falsehood that Messiah came to abolish the Torah, which as He confirmed in Matthew 5: 17 – 19<sup>2</sup>, He did not do, but instead magnified the law in Matthew 5, 6 & 7 as was prophesied about Him in Isaiah 42: 21<sup>3</sup>. Because Jews obtain the Set-apart Spirit because of obedience as confirmed in Acts 5: 32, as follows: ***"And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Set-apart Spirit, whom Elohim has given to those who obey Him."*** We see later when some members of the lost sheep of the house of Israel ask Rav Kepha what they should do to likewise receive the Set-apart Spirit, Rav Kepha explained to them in Acts 2: 36 – 39, saying: ***"Therefore let all the house of Israel (all ten tribes) know for certain that Elohim has made Him both Master and Messiah—this Yahshua whom you crucified."*** (37) ***Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Kepha and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what***

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<sup>1</sup> Jeremiah 31: 10 & 11: *'Hear the word of YHVH, O nations, and declare in the coastlands afar off, and say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock." For YHVH has ransomed Jacob, and redeemed him from the hand of him who was stronger than he (meaning Esau or the Roman Church who took Jacob captive for the past 1800 years).'*

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 5: 17 – 19: *"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished. Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and so teaches others, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."*

<sup>3</sup> Isaiah 42: 21, *'YHVH was pleased for His righteousness' sake to make the law great and glorious.'*

**shall we do (to receive the Set-apart Spirit)?” (38) And Kepha said to them, “Repent, and let each of you be immersed in the name of Yahshua Messiah for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Set-apart Spirit. (39) For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are Far off<sup>4</sup>, as many as Adonai our Elohim shall call to Himself (and not those from our friends and family that we want to be saved).”** So it is clear, whereas Jews obtain the Set-apart Spirit by being obedient to Elohim and His Torah, we from the lost ten tribes who have forgotten what sin was, because we were taught that the Torah was not binding on us, since either Yahshua kept it for us, or abolished it, have to return to YHVH through the blood of Yahshua our Messiah and Savior and be immersed into His set apart name to obtain the Set-apart Spirit to eventually at Messiah’s return be resurrected to eternal life as He was, as Rav Shaul testified in Romans 8: 11, saying: **‘But if the Spirit of Him who raised Yahshua from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Messiah Yahshua from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.’**

In fact Rav Shaul confirms that the commonwealth of Israel consisting of the house of Israel and the house of Judah are reconciled through Yahshua as the congregation of YHVH or body of Messiah and together are growing into a holy temple as a dwelling place for Elohim, in Ephesians 2: 11 – 22, saying: **‘Therefore remember, that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “Uncircumcision” by the so-called “Circumcision,” which is performed in the flesh by human hands— (12) remember that you were at that time separate from Messiah, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants (made with Abraham and David) of promise, having no hope and without Elohim in the world. (13) But now in Messiah Yahshua you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Messiah. (14) For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one, and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, (15) by abolishing in His flesh the enmity (punishment of the Law due to us for breaking Elohim’s commandments), which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances (or judgments payable for transgressing the commandments and statutes), that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, (16) and might reconcile them both in one body (the congregation of YHWH) to Elohim through the cross, by having put to death the enmity. (17) AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO WERE FAR AWAY, AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO WERE NEAR; (18) For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. (19) So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of Elohim’s household, (20) having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Messiah Yahshua Himself being the corner stone, (21) in whom the whole building being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Master; (22) in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of Elohim in the Spirit.’** As more and more members of the house of Israel are returning to Elohim through Yahshua our Messiah and more are being taught about the final coming together with the house of Judah at Messiah’s return, we pray and asked our heavenly Father, that He will bring about what has been prophesied in our day.

Father we are fully aware that you are busy punishing the house of Israel through adverse weather conditions and natural disasters and even though many from the house of Israel are not even aware of it, because we have lost our identity and most came to believe that they are Gentiles, we pray that somehow you will wake our people up and ensure that the full number that You require to become your kings and priests under Messiah, will soon be called, so that the cut-off point is reached and the ones from the house of Israel together with our Torah observant Jewish Brothers will be ready as co-workers for the establishment of your coming Kingdom. Father this is a plea similar to that of our ancient forefathers, when they were held captive in Egypt. We ask that You

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<sup>4</sup> The phrase ‘Far off’ means the house of Israel who were scattered into the world because of idolatry, as coined by the Prophet Daniel in his prayer for the commonwealth of Israel to return to Elohim in Daniel 9: 7, saying: **“Righteousness belongs to Thee, O Adonai, but to us open shame, as it is this day—to the men of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, those who are nearby and all Israel who are far away in all the countries to which Thou hast driven them, because of their unfaithful deeds which they have committed against Thee.”**

hear our cry, since some of us are truly suffering under our taskmasters and cannot do anything about it, but call to you for help. We ask that you will supernaturally bring about what the Prophet Hosea recorded for us in Hosea 3: 1 – 5, saying: ***‘Then YHVH said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by her husband, yet an adulteress, even as YHVH loves the sons of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes.” (2) So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a half of barley. (3) Then I said to her, “You shall stay with me for many days. You shall not play the harlot, nor shall you have a man; so I will also be toward you.” (4) For the sons of Israel will remain for many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, and without ephod or household idols. (5) Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek YHVH their Elohim and David their king; and they will come trembling to YHVH and to His goodness in the last days.’***

Father we know from prophecies given us by Yahshua the Messiah through Yochanan that Satan is the driving force of what is happening behind the scenes in our world at present, as Yochanan described in Revelation 13: 1 & 2, saying: ***‘And he stood on the sand of the seashore. And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems (crowns), and on his heads were blasphemous names. (2) And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.’*** Being familiar with the Scriptures we recall that these are the same characteristics that Daniel attributed to the ancient kingdoms of Greece, Persia and Babylon. In fact Yochanan tells us that there is a direct connection between these kingdoms and the kingdoms that Yahshua will destroy at his return. The ancient Babylonians were responsible for the destruction of the temple that King Solomon built, when they invaded and conquered the kingdom of Judah. We see from verse 2 quoted above, that it is Satan who will control the world’s final dictator. Satan’s agenda has always been to have an influence on the policies of those in charge of the governments of the world. Nevertheless, the end-time system described in Revelation represents more than just the political aspects of the control of the world, but also has strong religious support as witnessed in Revelation 13: 11 – 14, as follows: ***‘And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon. (12) And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. (13) And he performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. (14) And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.’*** It is clear that in addition to this system’s socio-political characteristics, it also has strong religious support. These verses describe a great religious deceiver, who is referred to as *‘the false prophet’* in Revelation 19: 20 and is none other than the leader of the present world’s false religious system.

The vision given Yochanan by Yahshua in Revelation 13: 15 – 18 shows that this leader’s influence will be immense, in this way: ***‘And there was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast might even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed. (16) And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand, or on their forehead, (17) and he provides that no one should be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. (18) Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty six.’*** By combining the force of his deceptive religious power with the socio-political influence of the first beast, the false prophet will be the one responsible for convincing humanity to accept and support this major influence in the world’s economic and political structure. All those who consent to this system will be enslaving themselves to this world ruling government. In the end, the merchants will assist in the effective functioning of the system, known as Babylon the

Great, as revealed in Revelation 17: 5, as follows: ***‘And upon her forehead a name was written, a mystery, “BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”*** We see from Revelation 18: 12 & 13, that they will trade in ***‘cargoes of gold and silver and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and every kind of citron wood and every article of ivory and every article made from very costly wood and bronze and iron and marble, (13) and cinnamon and spice and incense and perfume and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and cargoes of horses and chariots and slaves and human lives.’***

But thankfully Yahshua our Messiah will put an end to mankind’s woes at His return, as we read from Revelation 19: 1 & 2, in this way: ***‘After these things I heard, as it were, a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, “Halleluyah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our Elohim; (2) BECAUSE HIS JUDGMENTS ARE TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS; for He has judged the great harlot who was corrupting the earth with her immorality, and HE HAS AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS BOND-SERVANTS ON HER.”*** The economic, political and religious system introduced by ancient Babylon will finally be destroyed. At that time the merchants who profited from these things will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, as witnessed in Revelation 18: 16 – 19 , as follows: ***‘saying, “Woe, woe, the great city, she who was clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls; (17) for in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste!” And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and as many as make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, (18) and were crying out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, ‘What city is like the great city?’ (19) And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!’***

Immediately prior to the resurrection of the first fruits at Messiah’s return, Messiah will similar to the way Moses brought the ancient Israelites from slavery in Egypt, deliver the modern day descendants of Israel from the religious, political and economic confusion (Babylon), by which they were enslaved. We read accordingly from Jeremiah 23: 5 – 8, ***“Behold, the days are coming,” declares YHVH, “When I shall raise up for David a righteous Branch; and He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land. (6) In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely; and this is His name by which He will be called, ‘YHVH our righteousness.’ (7) Therefore behold, the days are coming,” declares YHVH, “when they will no longer say, ‘As YHVH lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ (8) but, ‘as YHVH lives, who brought up and led back the descendants of the household of Israel from the north land and from all the countries where I had driven them.’ Then they will live on their own soil.”*** It is important to understand that this end time prophesy is directed at the *‘daughter’* of Babylon, as witnessed in Isaiah 47: 1, as follows: ***“Come down and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon; Sit on the ground without a throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans. For you shall no longer be called tender and delicate.”*** This is the daughter of Babylon of ancient times living in our day and age. As pictured in Revelation 17, this Babylon is the great whore sitting and ruling over many waters, interpreted in verse 15 as peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.

Earlier in verse 5 of Revelation 17, Babylon was labeled as *‘a mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots’*. Because a woman in prophecy is generally referred to as a religious or church system, this is the religion of ancient Babylon which has since grown to become great and ruling over many nations of different languages and is none other than Rome or Esau, who kept Jacob captive for the past 1800 years. Continuing in Isaiah 47, we read from verses 5 & 6, ***“Sit silently, and go into darkness, o daughter of the Chaldeans; for you will no more be called the queen of kingdoms. (6) I was angry with My people, I profaned My heritage, and gave them into your hand. You did not show mercy to them, on the aged you made your yoke very heavy.”*** The yoke of slavery was laid

upon the lost ten tribes, and at this time it becomes clear that the great tribulation is the sevenfold intensive corrective punishment which Elohim is soon going to unleash on specifically Ephraim and Manasseh, better known as the English speaking nations of the world, but also include those who were previously part of the British commonwealth, such as Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Ezekiel describes this impending great tribulation, in chapter 5: 12 & 13, as follows: ***“One third of you will die by plague or be consumed by famine among you, one third will fall by the sword around you, and one third I will scatter to every wind, and I will unsheathe a sword behind them. (13) Thus My anger will be spent, and I will satisfy My wrath on them, and I shall be appeased; then they will know that I, YHVH, have spoken in My zeal when I have spent My wrath upon them.”*** We read more from Ezekiel 6: 6 about the punishment to be unleashed upon the latter day descendants of Ephraim and Manasseh, in this way: ***“In all your dwellings, cities will become waste and the high places (places of religious worship) will be desolate, that your altars may become waste and desolate, your idols may be broken and brought to an end, your incense altars may be cut down, and your works may be blotted out.”*** Those who saw films about Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan will understand that this is talking about nuclear war. Because our national sin is ever increasing, Elohim is warning us that there will soon be a day of reckoning. World War III will unleash terrible nuclear devastation on mainly the English speaking peoples of the world. This will simply be punishment to correct mainly the modern day descendants of both houses of Israel for our own good.

However, if we as individual believers in Yahshua repent and return to Elohim by obeying His Torah teachings fully, we will be protected during the coming great tribulation, as witnessed in Luke 21: 34 - 36, as follows: ***“Be on guard, that your hearts may not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day come on you suddenly like a trap; (35) for it will come upon all those who dwell on the face of all the earth. (36) But keep on alert at all times, praying in order that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”*** Only after Yahshua’s return will He permanently put an end to the world’s last experiment with this Babylonian political, religious and economic system. The suffering caused by lawlessness and debt will come to an end when Yahshua our Messiah starts ruling for a thousand years. Father YHVH we have come to a point that we believe in your salvation Yahshua. Knowing and trusting in your promises, we as the watchmen that you have appointed to remind you day and night to make Jerusalem a place of praise in the world, as you command us in Isaiah 62: 6 & 7, saying: ***‘On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen; all day and all night they will never keep silent. You who remind YHVH, take no rest for yourselves; (7) and give Him no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.’*** We come before you humbled by the things which occurred in the world during the past few years, knowing that it is not nearly as bad as the coming great tribulation will be, asking that you will bring about the many promises you made to us in numerous prophecies in the Tanach.

We are also aware that the current Israeli government authorities in control of the Jewish nation known as Israel in the Middle East, who serve foreign investment powers and special interest groups, are comparable to the Sadducees of Yahshua’s time. They destroy homes, farms and gardens of their fellow citizens while exchanging parts of the country to terrorist groups and enemies of the land for peace. They do this despite warnings by Rabbi’s who pointed out that the giving away of the Promised Land would only further endanger the lives of Israeli citizens and facilitate yet another terrorist group. It was the same Sadducees who were according to Matthew 27 the ones who ensured the arrest of Yahshua by getting Judas to betray him. They held a court session at night which was strictly forbidden by Pharisaic Law. They are also the ones who had Yahshua’s disciples arrested, as shown in Acts 5. Nazarene Judaism is a sect of the Pharisees or modern day Rabbinical Judaism (as per Acts 15: 5, Acts 24: 5 & 14) and we need to be careful when criticizing them. The only difference between us and the Pharisees is that we believe Yahshua to be the Messiah who

came to bring us back to Elohim and our Jewish Brothers of today, namely Rabbinical Judaism. They are essentially our elder brother who remained near to the Father and we are the ones who are now being called by YHVH to return to the covenant we made with YHVH at Mount Sinai through Yahshua our Messiah, Abraham's one seed, as described in Galatians 3. We know that the ultimate joining together of the house of Israel and the house of Judah will only occur after Messiah's return to come and rule us from Jerusalem, when the city will truly become a praise in the world.

It is important for us to mention some of the main prophecies in which YHVH promised to re-gather a remnant as a reminder to Him to make Jerusalem a place of praise in the earth. We read a warning given by Zephaniah 2: 1 – 11 to the house of Israel, in this way: ***'Gather yourselves together, yes, gather, O nation without shame, (2) before the decree takes effect – the day passes like the chaff - before the burning anger of YHVH comes upon you, before the day of (YHVH)'s anger comes upon you. (3) Seek YHVH, all you humble of the earth who have carried out His ordinances; seek righteousness, seek humility. Perhaps you will be hidden in the day of (YHVH)'s anger. (4) For Gaza will be abandoned, and Ashkelon a desolation; Ashdod will be driven out at noon, and Ekron will be uprooted. (5) Woe to the inhabitants of the seacoast, the nation of the Cherethites! The word of YHVH is against you, O Canaan, land of the Philistines; and I will destroy you, so that there will be no inhabitant. (6) So the seacoast will be pastures, with caves for shepherds and folds for flocks. (7) And the coast will be for the remnant of the house of Judah, they will pasture on it. In the houses of Ashkelon they will lie down at evening; for YHVH their Elohim will care for them and restore their fortune. (8) I have heard the taunting of Moab and the revilings of the sons of Ammon, with which they have taunted My people and become arrogant against their territory. (9) "Therefore, as I live," declares YHVH of Hosts, the Elohim of Israel, "Surely Moab will be like Sodom, and the sons of Ammon like Gomorrah – a place possessed by nettles and salt pits, and a perpetual desolation. The remnant of My people will plunder them, and the remainder of My nation will inherit them."*** (10) ***This they will have in return for their pride, because they have taunted and become arrogant against the people of YHVH of hosts. (11) YHVH will be terrifying to them, for He will starve all the gods of the earth; and all the coastlands of the nations will bow down to Him everyone from his own place.'***

We see further from Zephaniah 3: 9 – 20 that the remnant from the house of Israel in South Africa are also warned, but it is encouraging to see that a humble few of them will be saved with the remnant from the other lost tribes in the world, as follows: ***"For then I will give to the peoples purified lips, that all of them may call on the name of YHVH, to serve Him shoulder to shoulder. (10) From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia My worshipers, My dispersed ones, will bring My offerings. (11) In that day you will feel no shame because of all your deeds by which you have rebelled against Me; for then I will remove from your midst your proud, exulting ones, and you will never be haughty again on My holy mountain. (12) But I will leave among you a humble and lowly people, and they will take refuge in the name of YHVH. (13) The remnant of Israel will do no wrong and tell no lies, nor will a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths; for they shall feed and lie down with no one to make them tremble. (14) Shout for joy, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! (15) YHVH has taken away His judgments against you, He has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, YHVH is in your midst; you will fear disaster no more. (16) In that day it will be said to Jerusalem; do not be afraid, O Zion; do not let your hands fall limp. (17) YHVH your Elohim is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult over you with joy, He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy. (18) I will gather those who grieve about the appointed feasts – they came from you, O Zion; the reproach of exile is a burden on them. (19) Behold, I am going to deal at that time with all your oppressors, I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will turn their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. (20) At that time I will bring you in, even at the time when I gather you***

***together; indeed, I give you renown and praise among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says YHVH.’***

We also have the assurance that our captivity by Esau or Rome will come to an end, when Elohim’s kingdom will finally come, as prophesied by Obadiah in Obadiah 15 – 21, in this way: ***“For the day of YHVH draws near on all the nations. As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head. (16) Because just as you drank on My holy mountain, all the nations will drink continually. They will drink and swallow, and become as if they had never existed. (17) But on Mount Zion there will be those who escape, and it will be holy. And the house of Jacob will possess their possessions. (18) Then the house of Jacob will be a fire and the house of Joseph a flame; but the house of Esau will be as stubble. And they will set them on fire and consume them, so that there will be no survivor of the house of Esau. For YHVH has spoken. (19) Then those of the Negev will possess the mountain of Esau, and those of the Shephelah the Philistine plain; also, they will possess the territory of Ephraim and the territory of Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead. (20) And the exiles of this host of the sons of Israel, who are among the Canaanites as far as Zarephath (France), and the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad (Spain) will possess the cities of the Negev. (21) The deliverers will ascend Mount Zion to judge the mountain of Esau, and the kingdom will be (YHVH)’s.”*** Father we ask that you speed the day when you will bring the two houses of Israel together, to rule them as the Kingdom of Elohim over Israel. Amein and Amein!

## Chapter 6: How the two house doctrine and Messiah's main purpose are linked.

Even though Messianic Judaism fervently denies the two house doctrine and is tacitly supported in their denial by Christianity, the restoration of the two houses of Israel is spoken about in both the Tanach and the Renewed Covenant. Both these groups also have no idea of Messiah's main purpose for coming to earth, since the house of Israel's dispersion into mainly the western nations of the world, after their captivity by the Assyrians during 721 to 718 BCE because of idolatry, when they started referring to themselves as Christians after they lost their original language, identity, culture and religion. Shortly after their captivity by the Assyrians they were taken into Europe via the Caucasus mountain range and for the past 1800 years have been kept under the control of Esau or more specifically Rome after Messiah's original disciples past away during the latter part of the first century CE.

But, the fact of the matter is that Messiah's main purpose for coming to earth is directly related to two house restoration as He clearly stated in Matthew 15: 24, saying: ***"I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*** A second witness to this comes from Luke 19: 10 (and Matthew 18: 11), where Yahshua said: ***"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."*** In addition Yahshua spoke to His disciples after instructing them in Matthew 10: 5 - 7, saying: ***"Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans; (6) but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. (7) And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'"*** As can be seen from Matthew 10, the gospel of the coming Kingdom of Elohim is directly related to the restoration of the two houses of Israel to eventually become the Kingdom of Elohim over Israel at Messiah's return, as it used to be called during King David's reign, as recorded in 1 Chronicles 28: 4 & 5 as follows: ***"Yet, YHVH, the Elohim of Israel, chose me (David) from all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever. For He has chosen Judah to be a leader; and in the house of Judah, my father's house, and among the sons of my father He took pleasure in me to make me King over all Israel. (5) And of all my sons (for YHVH has given me many sons), He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of YHVH over Israel."*** The question is: Where does Messiah talk in more detail about the coming kingdom of Elohim? This truth is like most other important matters of Elohim, hidden in plain sight in the Scriptures and if we want to get the details about what Yahshua taught, we have to search out these hidden matters, as we are instructed in Proverbs 25: 2, in this way: ***'It is the glory of Elohim to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.'*** Now, some might argue, saying: *'But we are only normal everyday people, not kings, so why do we have to search for concealed matters of Elohim?'* For those of us who came to believe in Yahshua as our Passover lamb, the answer to this question is found in Revelation 1: 5 & 6, in this way: ***'And from Yahshua Messiah, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood, (6) and He has made us to be a kingdom, priest to His Elohim and Father; to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.'*** As co-rulers under Yahshua in the coming kingdom of Elohim, we need to make sure that we know what Yahshua taught and did whilst He was on earth, if we truly want to be accepted by Him when He returns one day.

My question to those who want Jews and everyone alive to accept the Christian faith, is why does YHVH command us in Revelation 18: 4 & 5 saying: ***"Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins (such as Sunday keeping and the eating of unclean foods) and receive of her plagues; (5) for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and Elohim has remembered her iniquities."*** Rav Shaul who was personally trained by Yahshua the true Messiah for three years, actually confirms this in 2 Corinthians 6: 16 – 18, saying: ***'Or what agreement has the temple of Elohim with idols (images of the false messiah on a wooden cross)? For we are the temple of the living Elohim; just as Elohim said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR ELOHIM, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE, (17) Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says Adonai. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; and I will welcome***



**you. (18) "And I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me," says Adonai Almighty.'** The reason why such people do not understand Messiah's main purpose to bring the two houses of Israel together, is as Yahshua told His disciples in Mark 4: 11 & 12, saying: **"To you has been given the mystery of the kingdom of Elohim, but those who are outside get everything in parables, (12) so that WHILE SEEING, THEY MAY SEE AND NOT PERCEIVE, AND WHILE HEARING, THEY MAY HEAR AND NOT UNDERSTAND, OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT RETURN AND BE FORGIVEN."** About 900 years after the house of Israel were dispersed throughout the world because of idolatry, they were purposely taken captive by Esau under the guise of the Roman Catholic Church and were led to believe in a false 'Messiah' who 'freed' them from obeying Elohim and His Torah teachings given for the benefit of His people Israel.

In addition to believe that the Roman Catholic Church is something totally different from Christianity, is a major misconception, because as long as Christians keep Sunday, Xmas and Easter and 'christen' babies, they are simply following the Pope who instituted all these 'rites' or false doctrines, as the prophet Daniel warned was going to happen in what was yet future to him in Daniel 7: 23 – 26, saying: **"Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom (or world-dominating power namely the Roman Empire) on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms, and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it. (24) As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings. (25) He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times and half a time. (26) But the court will sit for judgment, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever.'" One thing that really annoys me, is when someone sends me a video where a so-called Jewish Rabbi shouts the name of the false messiah out loud, showing that he has accepted 'him' as his personal savior. Such people obviously believe that they succeeded in their mission to convert a Jew. To such people I would like to say, that true Jews will only accept Yahshua one day after His return, when He will have succeeded in bringing a remnant of the lost ten tribes back to the commonwealth of Israel, when they see His nail scarred hands as recorded in Zechariah 12: 7 – 10. In the meantime I pray daily that our Jewish Brothers will remain in control of the Promised Land and Torah observant until Messiah's return. The reason being that when that day arrives, the dead in Messiah will be raised as prophesied in Romans 11: 15, in this way: **'For if their (our Jewish Brothers) rejection (of Messiah at this time) be reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?'** My faith in the first resurrection is based partly on this truth, as well as Messiah's promise that He will resurrect those who died in Him, at His return. My advice to Messianic Jews and Christians is as Yahshua said to some of the Pharisees He spoke to in Matthew 23: 15, saying: **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel about on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves."** May I remind you at this point that the Jewish faith is a non-proselyting religion and they will never seek to convert anyone, unless such a person goes to them and ask to be converted. So, it seems Yahshua's teaching changed some of those who like Christians and Moslems always want to force other people to accept their faith, since they do not normally believe in converting anyone, but try to be an example of how to live serving Elohim. Nevertheless, we notice that according to Acts 15: 5, some of them came to believe in Messiah soon after His death. Yes, Christians are Israelites who were scattered into the world because of idolatry, but will have to return to the covenant their forefathers made with YHVH at Mount Sinai, before they can be part of the commonwealth of Israel to ultimately become part of the Kingdom of Elohim.**

Another reason why the two house doctrine and Messiah's main purpose are hidden from those who are controlled by the Roman Empire, is that they are unfamiliar with the covenants of promise explained by Rav Shaul in Ephesians 2: 11 – 16, saying: **Therefore remember, that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "Un-circumcision" by the so-called "Circumcision," which is**

*performed in the flesh by human hands— (12) remember that you were at that time separate from Messiah, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without Elohim in the world. (13) But now in Messiah Yahshua you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Messiah. (14) For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one, and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, (15) by abolishing in His flesh the enmity (punishment due for our sins), which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances (judgments portion of Torah), that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, (16) and might reconcile them both in one body (the congregation of YHVH or body of Messiah) to Elohim through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.’ We also have a sure promise made by YHVH through the Prophet Amos, as confirmed by Rav Yaa’cov in Acts 15: 15 – 18, saying: **“And with this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written, (16) ‘AFTER THESE THINGS I WILL RETURN, AND I WILL REBUILD THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID WHICH HAS FALLEN, AND I WILL REBUILD ITS RUINS, AND I WILL RESTORE IT, (17) IN ORDER THAT THE REST OF MANKIND MAY SEEK YHVH, AND ALL THE GENTILES WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME,’ (18) SAYS YHVH, WHO MAKES THESE THINGS KNOWN FROM OF OLD.”** The Covenants of promise referred to in verse 12 of Ephesians 2 are: (a) that YHVH made a two-fold promise with Abraham that he and His descendants through Isaac and Jacob will live eternally in the Promised Land, provided they remain loyal to Him and His Torah, including circumcising their sons at age eight days old as a sign of the covenant. The second part of the promise was that those descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob, who eventually disobeyed and were scattered into the world, would be able to return to the covenant through Abraham’s one seed, namely Yahshua, through whom the rest of mankind will also be saved after His millennial rule. (b) YHVH also made a covenant with David in 2 Samuel 7: 16, saying: **“And your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.”** The **‘GENTILES WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME’** referred to in verse 17 of Acts 15, are members of the house of Israel who became like the Gentile nations of the world into which they were scattered because of idolatry, as explained in Amos 9: 7 – 10, in this way: **“Are you not as the sons of Ethiopia to Me, O sons of Israel?” declares YHVH. “Have I not brought up Israel from the land of Egypt, and the Philistines from Caphtor and the Arameans from Kir? (8) Behold, the eyes of Adonai Elohim are on the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from the face of the earth; nevertheless, I will not totally destroy the house of Jacob,” declares YHVH. (9) For behold, I am commanding, and I will shake the house of Israel among all nations as grain is shaken in a sieve, but not a kernel will fall to the ground. (10) All the sinners of My people will die by the sword, those who say, ‘The calamity will not overtake or confront us.’”***

If we truly want to determine what Yahshua had to say about the two house restoration in the Scriptures, we need to consider what the prophets had to say about it in the Tanach. Let’s therefore turn to the book of Hosea, where YHVH through Hosea is telling us about the rebellious house of Israel and what He is planning for those of us alive during the time of the end. The name Hosea, like Joshua and Yahshua, simply means salvation in Hebrew. In Hosea 1: 2, the prophet Hosea is commanded by YHVH to marry a whore. In response to (YHVH)’s command Hosea obediently marries Gomer (Hosea 1: 3) and she became his whorish wife just as the house of Israel was a whorish wife to YHVH. YHVH prophetically staged His putting away (or divorcing) the house of Israel through the naming of Hosea’s three children. YHVH tells Hosea to name his first-born son *‘Jezreel’* (Hosea 1: 4); the name Jezreel literally means *‘Elohim sows by scattering’* – YHVH is therefore saying that He took the house of Israel out of the Promised Land and scattered them into the nations of the world, as He also told Abram in Genesis 13: 14 – 16, as follows: **‘And YHVH said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Now lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; (15) for all the land which you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants forever. (16) And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered.”’** In Hosea 1: 6, YHVH told Hosea to name the second child *‘Lo-ruhamah’* – meaning ‘no mercy/no

compassion' in Hebrew. YHVH is basically saying to Hosea that after He scattered the house of Israel into the world, He no longer shows mercy for them. Next YHVH told Hosea to name his third child with Gomer, 'Lo-ammi' – meaning 'not my people' in Hebrew. YHVH therefore also told Hosea that the house of Israel became no longer His people. This final statement is a very strong judgment on the house of Israel and the prophet Jeremiah confirms the same in the first part of Jeremiah 3: 8, saying: ***“And I saw that for all the adulteries of faithless Israel, I had sent her away and given her a writ of divorce.”*** However, when reading further from chapter 1 of Hosea we see that even though YHVH has scattered us, the lost ten tribes of the house of Israel amongst the nations of the world, in the end He will have compassion on both us and Judah, as we read in Hosea 1: 11, in this way: ***‘And the sons of Judah and the sons of Israel will be gathered together, and they will appoint for themselves one leader (Messiah, also known as the son of David), and they will go from the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.’*** YHVH promises to save those of us from the lost ten tribes, whom He calls out of the world and who answers His call to return to Him in obedience, together with the Torah observant Jews.

If we make it, we will with our faithful Torah observant Jewish Brothers become kings and priests under Yahshua. It is for this reason that YHVH is telling Brother Judah in Isaiah 66: 20 & 21, saying: ***“Then they shall bring all your brethren from all the nations as a grain offering to YHVH, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, and on camels, to My set-apart mountain Jerusalem,” says YHVH, “just as the sons of Israel bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of YHVH. (21) I will also take some of them for priests and for Levites,” says YHVH.*** The valley of Jezreel referred to in Hosea 1: 11, is approximately 10 miles from the Jordan and extends north-west toward Mount Carmel near the Mediterranean Sea. Even though YHVH has scattered the lost ten tribes into all the nations of the world, He tells in verse 11 that He will again gather us and the sons of Judah together. This is one of many Scriptural witnesses for those Assemblies of YHVH and Nazarene Israelites who are too anti-Semitic to believe that we will be joined together with Brother Judah in the end. In Hosea 2: 1 YHVH talks to Jezreel, saying: ***‘Say to your brothers, “Ammi,” and to your sisters, “Ruhamah.”*** Here YHVH informs Jezreel through Hosea that they will again become His people and He will again have compassion on them, basically saying the exact opposite of His original pronouncement in Hosea 1. We read further from Hosea 2: 2 to the first part of verse 5, ***“Contend with your mother, contend, for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband; and let her put away her harlotry from her face, and her adultery from between her breasts, (3) lest I strip her naked and expose her as on the day when she was born. I will also make her like a wilderness, make her like desert land, and slay her with thirst. (4) Also, I will have no compassion on her children, because they are children of harlotry. (5) For their mother has played the harlot; she who conceived them has acted shamefully.”*** Although the accusations made here are against Gomer, it is depicted as a courtroom in which YHVH is the Plaintiff, bringing charges against the nation of Israel, where the physical acts of Gomer's immorality is likened to the spiritual idolatry of Israel. Continuing in the second part of verse 5, we read: ***“For she said, ‘I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.’”*** The words 'I will go' indicates Israel's intense desire for the pagan idols of her neighbors, forgetting that YHVH is our provider, and showing that nothing would deter her from chasing after her lovers. This describes the frenzy with which Christians are planning for their upcoming pagan festivities.

Verses 6 – 8 of Hosea 2 informs us about the action that YHVH will take to force us (from the house of Israel) to return to Him, as follows: ***“Therefore, behold, I will hedge up her way with thorns, and I will build a wall against her so that she cannot find her paths. (7) And she will pursue her lovers, but she will not overtake them; and she will seek them, but will not find them. Then she will say, ‘I will go back to my first husband, for it was better for me then than now!’ (8) For she does not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the new wine, and the oil, and lavished on her silver and gold, which they used for Baal.”*** The nation of Israel started worshipping Baal during the time of the Judges and it became firmly established when King Ahab married Jezebel. She did everything in

her power to stop Israel from worshipping YHVH. We understand from verse 8 that the offerings that Israel used in worshipping Baal, actually came from YHVH. We read from verses 9 & 10, YHVH saying through Hosea, ***“Therefore, I will take back My grain at harvest time and my new wine in its season. I will also take away My wool and My flax given to cover her nakedness. (10) And then I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and no one will rescue her out of My hand.”*** YHVH pledges to put an end to the luxurious lifestyles the house of Israel got used to during the past few centuries and to expose her wickedness for all to see, adding that not one of her idols will be able to save her from what is coming upon her. Continuing in similar fashion in verse 11, we read: ***“I will also put an end to all her gaiety, her feasts, her new moons, her sabbaths, and all her festal assemblies.”*** Soon after Israel left Egypt they started mixing idol worship with the worship of Elohim; and continued doing so to this day, by keeping Xmas and the like, saying they do it for Him. This is confirmed about the house of Israel in 2 Kings 17: 33, as follows: ***‘They feared YHVH and served their own gods according to the custom of the nations from among whom they had been carried away into exile.’***

In fact Hosea 2: 11 talks about the house of Israel’s feasts, new moons and sabbaths, not those ordained by YHVH through Moses. This could only mean worshipping on Sundays, Xmas and Easter, but could also mean the annual feast days that some keep at different times to when Judah keeps them. YHVH is not pleased with these feast days and informs us the latter day descendants of Israel, how He will punish us to force us to return to Him, as recorded in verses 12 – 15, in this way: ***“And I will destroy her vines and fig trees, of which she said, ‘These are my wages which my lovers have given me.’ And I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field will devour them. (13) And I will punish her for the days of the Baals (Xmas, Easter, Valentines and Halloween) when she used to offer sacrifices to them and adorn herself with her earrings and jewelry, and follow her lovers, so that she forgot Me’ declares YHVH. (14) Therefore, behold, I will allure her, bring her into the wilderness, and speak kindly to her. (15) Then I will give her her vineyards from there, and the valley of Achor (valley of trouble) as a door of hope. And she will sing there as in the days of her youth, as in the day when she came up from the land of Egypt.”*** However, we are assured here that YHVH will again speak kindly to Israel, and restore her to Himself. Praise YHVH for He tells us that our punishment will not last forever. What a merciful Elohim do we serve? We read appropriately from verse 16, ***“And it will come about in that day,” declares YHVH, “That you will call Me Ishi (meaning my husband) and will no longer call Me Baali (meaning my master).”*** Ishi denotes affection, whereas Baali denotes rulership. We are told in verse 17 that YHVH is going to remove the names of the Baals (pagan gods) from our mouths, so that we do not mention them any longer. YHVH is not pleased with the false names that the people in the lost ten tribes use in worshipping Him. Continuing in verse 18, we read: ***‘In that day I will also make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, the birds of the sky, and the creeping things of the ground. And I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and will make them lie down in safety.’*** This gives us a preview into the time after Messiah’s return, when He will have restored everything to what it was like in paradise, when all nations will be subject to Him.

These are very encouraging Scriptures, but we still need to find out where Yahshua spoke about two house restoration in the Scriptures? Let’s look at the first few verses in Yahshua’s Sermon on the Mount with eyes of discernment. It is here where Yahshua reveals His systematic plan for the restoration of the house of Israel. To see the two house restoration teaching in these verses, we need to focus on the promises made in each verse. Starting in verse 3 of Matthew 5, we read: ***“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*** (It is in heaven at this time, but we know that Yahshua proclaimed its coming to earth in the near future). We read further from verses 4 – 8: ***“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. (5) Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth. (6) Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. (7) Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. (8) Blessed are the***

***pure in heart, for they shall see Elohim.***” Now let’s consider each promise in turn to see how verses 3 – 5 reveal a three-step plan for reversing the distressing message that Hosea prophesied to happen; with the next three verses giving a three-step witness to the same: The words ***“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven”*** inform us that we who were called ‘*not my people*’, will again, one day soon, become Elohim’s people in His coming Kingdom. We are referred to here as ‘*the poor in spirit*’ because our rebellious spirits are broken and even though we have discovered that we are part of the lost ten tribes, we are remorsefully longing to be fully reconciled to our heavenly Father. We are promised to be ‘*Elohim’s people*’ once again, which is a reversal of Hosea’s ‘*Lo-ammi*’ proclamation.

The words ***“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted”*** is a promise that those who mourn for the sins of the house of Israel and because they received ‘*no mercy*’ during their time of trouble in exile, will again be consoled, encouraged and strengthened by Elohim. This is a reversal of Hosea’s proclamation of ‘*Lo-ruhamah*’ in Hosea 1. The words ***“Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth”*** is a promise that certain ones as also mentioned in Psalm 37 will inherit the earth. Let’s turn to Psalm 37, where we read about the ones who will inherit the land transliterated as ‘*eretz*’ in Hebrew, meaning the land of Israel or more specifically the Promised Land. We read from verses 9, 11, 22, 29 and 34 of Psalm 37 who the ones are who will inherit the land, as follows: (9) ***‘For evildoers will be cut off, but those who wait for YHVH, they will inherit the land.’*** (Those who wait for YHVH does not sit doing nothing, they do everything in their power to get into the Kingdom of Elohim, by regularly praying and studying Elohim’s word, to get to know Him better as the time draws near.) (11) ***‘But the humble will inherit the land, and will delight themselves in abundant prosperity.’*** (It is only when we are humble like little children who do not yet know how to brag about their superior knowledge that we can truly learn to know our Master. When we humble ourselves before YHVH, He will receive us, as he said in Matthew 18: 4, in this way: ***“Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”***) (22) ***“For those blessed by Him will inherit the land; but those cursed by Him will be cut off.”*** (We read about the blessings and curses by Elohim from Deuteronomy 28 where it tells us in verses 13 & 15 under what conditions we will be cursed and under what conditions we will be blessed, as follows: ***“And YHVH shall make you the head and not the tail, and you only shall be above, and you shall not be underneath, if you will listen to the commandments of YHVH your Elohim, which I charge you today, to observe them carefully. (15) But it shall come about, if you will not obey YHVH your Elohim, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today, that all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you.”***) (29) ***“The righteous will inherit the land, and dwell in it forever.”*** (Righteous people are those who do righteousness and obey all Elohim’s commandments, as opposed to lawlessness which is sin, as shown in Psalm 119: 172, as follows: ***‘Let my tongue sing of Thy word, for all Thy commandments are righteousness.’*** The words ‘*dwell in it forever*’ show they will have gained eternal life at Messiah’s return.) (34) ***“Wait for YHVH, and keep His way, and He will exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are cut off, you will see it.”*** So we see that these five verses from Psalm 37 are all reversals of the ‘*Jezreel*’ declaration by Hosea.

Isn’t this marvelous? In the first three verses of Yahshua’s first major teaching in Matthew 5, He proclaims a wonderful threefold prophetic restoration of the dreadful prophetic proclamation made by Hosea in Hosea 1. Even so, we need to let everything be established by two or three witnesses as Yahshua declared in Matthew 18: 16. Now let’s turn our focus on the next three blessings in Yahshua’s teaching in Matthew 5:

- We read accordingly from verse 6: ***“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”*** With what shall they be satisfied? Simply put, they shall be satisfied by what they hunger and thirst for. Let’s in this case turn to Psalm 18: 24, for another definition of righteousness, as follows: ***‘Therefore YHVH has recompensed me according to my***

*righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in His eyes.*’ This is talking about our application of the commandments or Torah in what we do with our hands. Do we commit sin with our hands or do we do what is right – do we help the less fortunate and work to earn a living, or do we steal, kill and murder with our hands. We need to praise YHVH for His gift of righteousness; He has made us righteous through faith in Yahshua as witnessed in Romans 8: 3 & 4, in this way: **“For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, Elohim did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, (4) in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”** Because of trusting faith in Yahshua’s sacrifice for us, the right standing of the house of Israel in the eyes of YHVH has been restored. Those in right standing with YHVH are no longer, ‘not My people’. Here Yahshua provides a witness to the reversal of the ‘Lo-ammi’ declaration of Hosea.

- Continuing in Matthew 5: 7, we read: **“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.”** We are merciful if we forgive others their transgressions against us, including those who owe us money and cannot repay because of the current economic conditions. Another word for mercy is compassion. We are truly compassionate when we help those who are poor and cannot repay us, instead of demanding that they be imprisoned for debt owed us. Yahshua here provides us with a witness to the reversal of the ‘Lo-ruhamah’ declaration of Hosea.
- Finally we read from verse 8 of Matthew 5: **“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see Elohim.”** YHVH looks at our hearts – our belief system. Do we practice what we preach, or do we deceive people by not telling the whole truth. We need to remember that we are able to deceive other people, but YHVH knows exactly what we do and say. This is saying that those who are pure in their hearts, will see Yahshua at His return to earth one day on Yom Teruah, as witnessed in first Thessalonians 4: 13 – 17, in this way: **‘But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have no hope. (14) For if we believe that Yahshua died and rose again, even so Elohim will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Yahshua. (15) For this we say to you by the word of the Master, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Master, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. (16) For the Master Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of Elohim; and the dead in Messiah shall rise first. (17) Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Master in the air (on the Mount of Olives), and thus we shall always be with the Master.’** Yahshua will one day rule the world from Jerusalem. If we overcome Satan, the world and our own human nature, we will be with Him and see Him in the Promised Land. This is clearly a complete reversal of the ‘Jezreel’ declaration of Hosea.

Yahshua was sent to seek and save the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Praise YHVH, He overturned the threefold divorce proclamation of Hosea 1 and Jeremiah 3. He did this by systematically reversing each of the dreadful proclamations by Hosea, promising restoration at each step. This is interestingly enough; the same method of restoration that Yahshua used with Kepha following Kepha’s threefold denial of Him after His betrayal by Judas Iscariot. Kepha denied Yahshua three times and Yahshua provided a three-step restoration in John 21: 15 – 17, as follows: **‘So when they had finished breakfast, Yahshua said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?” He said to Him, “Yes, Master; You know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend My lambs” (16) He said to him again a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love Me?” He said to Him, “Yes, Master; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Shepherd My sheep.” (17) He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love Me?” Kepha was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Master, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Yahshua said to him, “Tend My sheep.”’** Despite Rav Kepha having denied Yahshua three times, Yahshua restored him as a teacher sent by Him to teach the men, women and children in the congregation of Elohim. The parallel of Hosea’s and Yahshua’s teachings go one step further.

Matthew 5: 9 reads: ***“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of Elohim.”*** This agrees with Hosea 1: 10, in this way: ***‘Yet the number of the sons of Israel will be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered; and it will come about that, in the place where it is said to them, “You are not My people,” it will be said to them, “you are the sons of the living Elohim.”’*** The reconciliation of Elohim’s people to Himself is the basic message of Yahshua. This message is of such importance to our loving Father that He sent Yahshua to deliver His loving message of restoration to His lost sheep.

Let these encouraging words fill your spirit, as YHVH tells Hosea in Hosea 2: 19 – 23, saying: ***“And I will betroth you to Me forever; yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, in lovingkindness and in compassion, (20) and I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then you will know YHVH. (21) And it will come about in that day that I will respond,” declares YHVH. “I will respond to the heavens, and they will respond to the earth, (22) and the earth will respond to the grain, to the new wine, and to the oil, and they will respond to Jezreel. (23) And I will sow her for Myself in the land. I will also have compassion on her who had not obtained compassion, and I will say to those who were not My people, ‘You are My people!’ And they will say, ‘Thou art My Elohim!’”*** YHVH repeats three times, that He will again betroth Israel to Himself, showing the intensity of His love for her. At that time Israel will have returned to Elohim and will no longer be a harlot; He will remarry her and the house of Judah and will also provide the entire dowry. What a fantastic future awaits true believers. We also finally read the conclusion of the two house account from Ezekiel 37: 21 – 24, as follows: ***“And say to them, ‘Thus says YHVH Elohim, “Behold, I will take the sons of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and I will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; (22) and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king will be king for all of them; and they will no longer be two nations; and they will no longer be divided into two kingdoms. (23) And they will no longer defile themselves with their idols, or with their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. And they will be My people, and I will be their Elohim. (24) And My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd; and they will walk in My ordinances, and keep My statutes, and observe them.”*** Halleluyah!

## Chapter 7: Heart health?

We read from the first part of Deuteronomy 12: 23, ***“Only be sure not to eat the blood, for the blood is the life.”*** This tells us that the life of all living creatures depends on the blood that flows through their veins and arteries. As much as we need blood to live our daily lives, we need the Set-apart Spirit to live eternally. Any blockage in our blood vessels and arteries could result in a major heart attack followed by death, depending on the severity of the attack and how quickly we get medical attention at the onset and during such an attack. Mankind’s modern day lifestyle is a direct cause of eventual heart attacks for a large percentage of the population of especially those of us living in the western world and medical Doctors agree that the death rate of our nations could be drastically decreased, if we make our heart’s health a priority. We all could be heart healthy if we eat healthy foods, exercise regularly, sleep at least 8 hours a day and visit our family Doctor at least once a year. Spiritually our condition is very similar, since we could become ‘sin sick’ due to neglect and the absence of the Set-apart Spirit in us.

The Spirit cannot flow properly in our lives because of sinful blockages of hypocrisy, disobedience, disrespect, but also hatred. Our prayers do not go beyond the ceiling because of the insincerity of our hearts. We read from Proverbs 4: 23 (KJV): ***“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”*** The word "heart" in the Scriptures transliterated as ‘Lev’, means our feelings, emotions, will, intellect, but also our belief system or faith and appears more than 900 times throughout the Scriptures. Our heart is the seat of emotions within us that prompts us to do what we do. It is from our hearts that we get excited about Elohim, but also from our hearts that we rebel against Him. King Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived wrote in Proverbs 14: 14 (KJV), saying: ***“The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.”*** Our hearts directs our actions before we speak or do something and since we strive to live a life that is pleasing to Elohim, it is necessary to have regular heart check-ups. We need to regularly search and compare our motives and intentions with Torah, to ensure that our hearts remain healthy. Our examination doesn’t need to be about our actions, but the reasons behind these actions. We need to be concerned about those sins that so beset us; our habitual sins and bad attitudes. We don’t necessarily need to worry about an occasional slipping into sin, but should be concerned about continued habits and attitudes. A person’s arteries don’t get clogged from one fatty meal; it takes years of neglecting exercise and many times of eating the wrong foods. Rav Shaul warns us suitably in Hebrews 3: 12 & 13, saying: ***“Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living Elohim. (13) But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”*** We all have some areas of obedience where we could be more faithful, yet we ignore these sinful problems most of the time. It is like as if we hide them until the right time to sneak away and enjoy them on our own. Even so, we have come to understand that our heavenly Father wants us to become aware of our every doing. He wants us to ensure that whatever we do or say are in accordance with His Torah teachings. Nevertheless, because most of us only recently came into the faith and because of the many bad habits we learnt before, it is difficult to remain in control of our thoughts and deeds all the time. As a result some have started reasoning that a little sin, here and there, doesn’t count against us. But, this in itself could develop into a bad habit that we cannot easily get rid of.

Fact is we should guard our hearts from becoming bored, complacent or stubborn. It is so easy to go through the motions of obedience and forget why we do what we do. Many times we focus so much on the details of how to fulfill a commandment that we forget the simple reason for obedience, to show our faith by our works. It is for this reason that we read previously from Proverbs 4, to ***“keep thy heart with all diligence.”*** We as Nazarene Israelites are appointed watchmen over Israel, but also over ourselves and are to continuously be on the lookout for false ideas concerning Elohim’s Torah teachings. YHVH wants us to obey Him out of our own free will, for our good, not because



someone forces us to do so. He is not interested in robots who listen to a teacher who acts like a Sergeant Major shouting out commands for us all to follow in unison. He called us as individuals with different talents and character traits to use us for different functions at this time, but also in His coming kingdom on earth. He requires that we follow Him willingly, because we understand that He loves us and that His creation, including His teachings are for the benefit of His people. We are required to show the rest of mankind how serving and living according to the way of Elohim, will ultimately be to the benefit of all. Our performance of Elohim's teachings should be as a result of knowing Him and therefore loving Him. YHVH wants us to submit our lives to Him, fully. That is the essential difference between obeying and submitting. Our submission to Elohim's Torah teachings should come from trusting in His faithfulness to deliver what He promised, but also our love for Him. Let's not get the cart before the horse by stressing obedience over submission. YHVH wants us to submit our lives to Him; to love Him with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength. Obedience to the Torah should flow freely from the heart. Believers should obey in order to please the Almighty because we love Him. We should submit to Him before we try to obey anything, as Rav Yaa'cov wrote in James 4: 8, saying: ***"Draw near to Elohim and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded."***

Our Heavenly Father wants us to be a people set apart by Him for Holy use. This is why, when He first gave the united nation of Israel His Torah at the foot of Mount Sinai, He told Moses to say to the Israelites waiting to receive His instruction manual of how to live a happy and abundant life, in Exodus 19: 3 – 6, saying: ***"Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: (4) You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself. (5) Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; (6) and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."*** From the very beginning, when YHVH led Israel out of Egypt, He wanted them to be an example to the other nations of the world, to show them how obedience to Him will result in blessings beyond measure. This we accomplish through obeying the commandments and learning the principles behind each of them. We cannot achieve unity with the Father by performing His commandments alone. We must submit our lives to Him and intensify our efforts to become more like Him. King David understood this as he wrote Psalm 119, but especially in verses 97 – 100, saying: ***'O how I love Thy Law! It is my meditation all the day. (98) Thy commandments make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever mine. (99) I have more insight than all my teachers, for Thy testimonies are my meditation. (100) I understand more than the aged, because I have observed Thy precepts.'*** YHVH is not concerned with deeds alone; He looks beyond our deeds to see if we want to obey Him from our hearts – do we actually believe in what we are doing. As explained in a lesson before, faith or more correctly faithfulness is based on our knowledge of Truth (or Torah), proven by our obedience of the Truth, because we trust in the promises awaiting us for our obedience, given in Torah. YHVH does not want us to worship our actions; He wants us to worship Him. He wants us to love him with all our hearts (our belief system), all our souls (the way we live our lives) and all our might. But, before we obey, He wants us to question our actions. YHVH wants Torah-submission not Torah-observance. He wants us to be holy, not do what we do for show, but our hearts should be in it. Yahshua our Messiah warned us about this in Mark 7: 6, saying: ***"Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.'"***

Rav Shaul knew that the only way in which we are able to obey Torah from the heart is if we have a portion of Elohim's Set-apart Spirit indwelling us, as he explains in 1 Corinthians 2: 9 – 12, saying: ***'But just as it is written, "THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT ELOHIM HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."*** (10) ***For to us Elohim revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of Elohim. (11) For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit (or mind) of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of Elohim no one knows***

**except the Spirit of Elohim. (12) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from Elohim, that we might know the things freely given to us by Elohim.'** Rav Shaul knew that without us having received the Set-apart Spirit of Elohim at immersion and the laying-on of hand by a teaching elder, we cannot obey Elohim. Those of us from the lost ten tribes, who have forgotten what sin is, and have now returned to YHVH and His Torah teachings, through Yahshua the one seed of Abraham, are again obliged to remain Torah observant like our Jewish brothers to retain the Set-apart Spirit. The Set-apart Spirit enables us to obey Elohim fully, as Rav Shaul also explains in Galatians 5. Beginning in verse 1 of Galatians 5, we read: **'It was for freedom that Messiah set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.'** Yahshua has set us free from the slavery of sin. He provided us with freedom from sin – not freedom of Torah as some believe. Sin is in fact the transgression of the Law as we read in 1<sup>st</sup> John 3: 4, in this way: **'Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.'** Since any attempt to obey Torah by ourselves is futile without Yahshua, we cannot trust in anything but Him to give us the power to overcome sin. Continuing from verse 2 of Galatians 5, we read: **'Behold I, Shaul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Messiah will be of no benefit to you.'** Circumcision does not ensure our salvation. Yahshua the salvation of YHVH is the only way for us from the lost ten tribes to attain Salvation. He is the door and if we do not go through Him, we remain lost, circumcised or not. We read accordingly from verse 3, **'And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law.'** Like Abraham, we should not be circumcised before we are sure that we want to follow Yahshua all the way. The first step in our walk with Elohim is as Rav Kepha explained to those who came to believe in Yahshua, in Acts 2: 38, saying: **"Repent, and let each of you be immersed in the name of Yahshua Messiah for the forgiveness of your sins (transgressions of Torah); and you shall receive the gift of the Set-apart Spirit.'** Without having taken this step, it is impossible for us to obey Torah. Circumcision is the final step that we should take, because without the Set-apart Spirit indwelling us, we cannot obey Torah. By the time we are ready to ask for circumcision, we will want to obey Elohim fully and will therefore want to be circumcised out of our own free will. It is therefore clear that the Set-apart Spirit enables us to obey Torah.

As our faith grows and we mature in this walk, we can move from doing the specified to searching for the implied. Yahshua expounded upon this idea with the issue of adultery, when He taught in Mathew 5: 27 & 28, saying: **"You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTARY'; (28) but I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in His heart."** When we are submitted, we do what is required and recognize and do what YHVH desires. The main reason for Messiah's first coming was to bring the lost sheep of the house of Israel back to the heart of Torah. If we don't guard our hearts, we'll soon begin to doubt our actions and become trapped by doing only what is required of us. There are those in the congregation of called-out believers who equate not working on the Sabbath to spending a day in the Dentist's waiting room. YHVH does not only want our actions, He wants our thoughts, actions and lives as He explains in Deuteronomy 10: 12 & 13, saying: **"And now, Israel, what does YHVH your Elohim require from you, but to fear YHVH your Elohim, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve YHVH your Elohim with all your heart and with all your soul, (13) and to keep (YHVH)'s commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?"** When we love YHVH with all our heart, we will do justly. When we love Him with all of our soul, we will view others in compassion and so we will love mercy.

What did Rav Shaul mean when he wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5: 19, saying: **'Do not quench the Spirit.'**? Rav Shaul likened the kindling of a fire with the workings of the Set-apart Spirit in our lives, as he wrote to Timothy in 2 Timothy 1: 6, saying: **'And for this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of Elohim which is in you through the laying on of my hands.'** Rav Shaul further likened the Set-apart Spirit to a glowing coal in a dying fire and encourages Timothy to stir it up, to keep on

burning. The advice that Rav Shaul gave Timothy here is timeless and applies to all true believers, even today; we need to guard that we do not quench the Set-apart Spirit within us, and need to continue to fan the flames of the Spirit, if we do not want to be found wanting, at Yahshua's return. The Set-apart Spirit is one of the most important gifts that we can receive in our lives, as it is the key to eternal life, as we read from Romans 8: 11, in this way: ***'But if the Spirit of Him who raised Yahshua from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Messiah Yahshua from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.'*** We need to make sure that we continue to have the Spirit of Elohim indwelling us and we can only have the Spirit in us, if we continue to do the things which are pleasing to Him. We need to continue to listen to that still small voice in us, warning us when we start going off the track. An example being: when we are perhaps tempted to have another alcoholic beverage, knowing that we've had enough and knowing that another could cause us to lose some self-respect and perhaps quench the Set-apart Spirit, by inappropriate actions.

The ancient Israelites could not obey Elohim's laws on a continual basis, because they had the laws written on stone and in their writings, but not on their hearts. This is explained to us in Hebrews 8: 6 – 10, in this way: ***'But now He (Yahshua) has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises. (7) For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion sought for a second. (8) For finding fault with them (i.e. the fault was with the people, not with the original covenant), He says, "BEHOLD, DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS YHVH, WHEN I WILL EFFECT A NEW COVENANT WITH THE HOUSE OF ISREAL AND WITH THE HOUSE OF JUDAH; (9) NOT LIKE THE COVENANT WHICH I MADE WITH THEIR FATHERS ON THE DAY WHEN I TOOK THEM BY THE HAND TO LEAD THEM OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT; FOR THEY DID NOT CONTINUE IN MY COVENANT, AND I DID NOT CARE FOR THEM, SAYS YHVH. (10) FOR THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS YHVH: I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MINDS, AND I WILL WRITE THEM UPON THEIR HEARTS. AND I WILL BE THEIR ELOHIM, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE."*** Obedience to the Sabbath and other commandments of Elohim, remain an identifying sign of those who obey YHVH and have His Spirit indwelling them, as witnessed to by Rav Kepha and the apostles in Acts 5: 27 - 32, when the high priest tried to stop them teaching about Yahshua, as follows: ***'And when they had brought them, they stood them before the Council. And the high priest questioned them, (28) saying, "We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and behold, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us." (29) But Kepha and the apostles answered and said, "We must obey Elohim rather than men. (30) The Elohim of our fathers raised up Yahshua, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross. (31) He is the one whom Elohim exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. (32) And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Set-apart Spirit, whom Elohim has given to those who obey Him."***

Rav Shaul wrote further about the Set-apart Spirit working in us in Romans 8: 6 – 9, in this way: ***'For the mind set on the flesh (desiring fleshly pleasures) is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is (eternal) life and peace, (7) because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward Elohim; for it does not subject itself to the law of Elohim, for it is not even able to do so; (8) and those who are in the flesh cannot please Elohim. (9) However, you (those of us called out by YHVH and who have been immersed in Yahshua's saving name) are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of Elohim dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Messiah, he does not belong to Him.'*** It is the Set-apart Spirit within us that makes it possible for us to obey the Torah teachings of Elohim, and also identifies us as Nazarene Israelites. Now that we know how important Elohim's Spirit is within us, we can fully understand why Rav Shaul told Timothy ***'to kindle afresh the gift of Elohim'***. Rav Shaul added in verse 7 of 2 Timothy 1, saying to Timothy: ***'For Elohim has not given us a spirit of timidity (or fear), but of power and love and discipline.'*** Rav Shaul encouraged Timothy

who was a young disciple of his in this way. It is important therefore that we also analyze these words of Rav Shaul in more detail. To commence with let's consider the words, **'For Elohim has not given us a spirit of timidity (or fear)'**: We should not let fear stop us from believing in YHVH and His salvation Yahshua as we are told in 1 John 4: 16 – 18, as follows: **'And we have come to know and have believed the love which Elohim has for us. Elohim is love, and the one who abides in love abides in Elohim, and Elohim abides in him. (17) By this, love is perfected with us, that we may have confidence in the Day of Judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world. (18) There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.'** Fear involves punishment, but if we love YHVH with all our heart and all our soul and as a result obey His commandments; then there is no need to be fearful of Him.

As Nazarene Jews/Israelites we believe that Abraham is our father in the faith. After YHVH called Abram out of the land of his fathers to follow Him, He said to him in Genesis 15: 1, **"Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; your reward shall be very great."** We read further from verse 6 of Genesis 15, **'Then he (Abram) believed in YHVH; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.'** We read consequently from Romans 4: 11 & 12, **'And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be reckoned to them, (12) and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.'** Even though YHVH wants us to honor and respect Him as our heavenly Father, He does not want us to be fearful of Him. We should learn from King David, who even though he had a very eventful life, full of ups and downs, believed in YHVH and wrote in Psalm 27: 1 – 3, **"YHVH is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? YHVH is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread? (2) When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, my adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. (3) Though a host encamp against me, my heart will not fear; though war arise against me, in spite of this I shall be confident."** YHVH comforts us through His Set-apart Spirit and just like David, we need to recall how Elohim sustained us in difficult times, as we read from verses 13 & 14 of Psalm 27, **'I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of Elohim in the land of the living (meaning in this life but also after being resurrected). (14) Wait for YHVH; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for YHVH.'** We need to look forward to the coming of our Master and Savior who will resurrect us to life again, at His return.

We should further learn from King David, in that when he sinned he realized that Elohim could take His Set-apart Spirit from him. It was for that reason that David approached Elohim with a humble attitude acknowledging his sin, and in repentance asked in Psalm 51: 10 & 11, **'Create in me a clean heart, O Elohim, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. (11) Do not cast me away from Thy presence, and do not take Thy Set-apart Spirit from me.'** David continued praying with confidence that Elohim would forgive him in verse 15 – 17, as follows: **'O YHVH, open my lips, that my mouth may declare Thy praise. (16) For Thou dost not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; Thou art not pleased with burnt offering. (17) The sacrifices of Elohim are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O Elohim, Thou wilt not despise.'** Rav Shaul mentioned these same principles for us in Romans 8: 15 & 16, in this way: **'For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Avinu! Father!" (16) The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of Elohim.'** Rav Shaul continues to tell us in Romans 8 that as children or heirs of Elohim we need not be fearful, as we read from verses 31 and 38 – 39, as follows: **'What then shall we say to these things? If Elohim is for us, who is against us? (38) For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, (39) nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of Elohim, which is in Messiah Yahshua our Master.'**

Next, let's consider the words, **'but of power'** (in 2 Timothy 1: 7): We read Yahshua's words to His apostles from Acts 1: 8, **'but you shall receive power when the Set-apart Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.'** We see from 1 Corinthians 12: 7 – 11, that the Set-apart Spirit empowers us to do different things according to Elohim's will, as follows: **'But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (8) For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; (9) to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, (10) and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. (11) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.'** We see also that Rav Kepha, who used to deny Yahshua after His arrest before being crucified, spoke boldly on the Day of Pentecost after receiving a portion of the Set-apart Spirit, in Acts 4: 8 - 12, saying: **'Then Kepha filled with the Set-apart Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people, (9) if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, (10) let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Yahshua Messiah the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom Elohim raised from the dead - by this name this man stands here before you in good health. (11) "He is the STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED by you, THE BUILDERS, but WHICH BECAME THE VERY CORNER stone. (12) And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."'** This same Spirit who is the Divine Presence or nature of Elohim, encouraged these believers in the past, and is also available to us today. We need not fear or get discouraged because of our various problems. We are able to overcome sinful habits with confidence and can replace our fear of punishment, with confidence and faith in the salvation of YHVH.

Now, let's consider the words, **'and love'** (in 2 Timothy 1: 7): We see from Galatians 5: 22 & 23, that love is one of the first attributes or fruits of the Set-apart Spirit, as follows: **'But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, (23) gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.'** In fact Rav Shaul tells us in 1 Corinthians 13: 13, that love is the greatest attribute, when it comes to faith, hope and love. Even so, most modern day believers believe that they need not do anything out of obedience as long as they love Elohim and their fellow man. However, the Scriptures define love and obedience in the same breath, as we read Yahshua's words from John 14: 15, in this way: **'If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.'** This was in fact confirmed by Rav Yochanan in 1 John 5: 2 & 3, as follows: **'By this we know that we love the children of Elohim, when we love Elohim and observe His commandments. (3) For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.'** The love of Elohim is more than just a feeling, but requires action as Yochanan put it in 1 John 3: 18, **'Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.'** Someone who loves his neighbor is respecting and obeying Elohim's law, and will not contradict it by harming his/her neighbor in any way.

Finally, let's consider the words, **'and discipline'**: Elohim's Set-apart Spirit makes it possible for us to prove His will and way for us, as Rav Shaul explained in 1 Corinthians 2: 9 – 12 (quoted earlier). This should give us the necessary confidence to continue boldly in our walk with Elohim, because we know Elohim's plan of salvation for all mankind. As ambassadors of the future Kingdom of Elohim, we should be disciplined enough to already live according to the laws which will be applicable in the Kingdom. We should be examples to the other people in the world, showing them that we willingly keep the commandments and other laws for our own good. It takes discipline to sit down and study all on your own, whilst the world is partying and enjoying themselves. It also takes discipline to say

no to that drink that could result in you losing your self-respect and ultimately quench the Set-apart Spirit. This is why it is so important to make sure that we continue to study the Torah, Haftarah and Renewed Covenant portions on an annual basis. This is also why we need to attend Sabbath services and the Annual Feast Days of Elohim on a regular basis, so that we may continue to remain in touch with our Creator. Even if it is not possible to meet together on weekly Sabbath days, due to the vast distances between us, we need to plan to attend the annual Feast Days of Elohim regularly, so that we may keep the Set-apart Spirit burning like an ongoing fire in our lives.

We should also pray, asking for more of Elohim's Set-apart Spirit, as Yahshua taught in Luke 11: 10 - 13, as follows: ***"For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it shall be opened. (11) Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? (12) Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? (13) If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Set-apart Spirit to those who ask Him?"*** Let's keep our hearts healthy by regularly praying, studying the Scriptures, but most of all asking YHVH for more of His Set-apart Spirit to help us obey what we have learnt. Amein and Amein!

## Chapter 8: The eternal priesthood.

Soon after YHVH called Israel out of Egypt and even before He gave them the commandments at Mount Sinai, He told them that depending their obedience to His commandments, they shall be a kingdom of priests and a Set-apart nation to Him, as witnessed in Exodus 19: 5 and the first part of verse 6, saying: ***‘Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; (6) and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a set-apart nation.’*** YHVH declared Israel to be His treasured possession before all nations and accordingly they were to be a kingdom of priests and a set-apart nation to Him. They were to be stewards of the Oracles of Elohim; the conduits through which Elohim’s teachings regarding His Torah truths and blessings were to be disseminated. The entire nation was to consist of priestly people; who would perform priestly duties before YHVH their Elohim. However, it appears that the nation felt that they were not qualified to enter into the responsibility of their priestly calling assigned by YHVH and they wanted a mediator for themselves to carry on a relationship with YHVH the Elohim of Israel.

Because YHVH anticipated Israel’s need for a mediator and as we read from Deuteronomy 5: 28 – 31, He communicated His agreement that they needed a mediator from that time forward through Moses, saying: ***“And YHVH heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me, and YHVH said to me, ‘I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They have done well in all that they have spoken. (29) Oh that they had such a heart in them, that they would fear Me, and keep all My commandments always, that it may be well with them and their sons forever! (30) Go, say to them, “Return to your tents.” (31) But as for you, stand here by Me, that I may speak to you all the commandments and the statutes (how to apply the commandments in your lives) and the judgments (or punishment for contravening the commandments) which you shall teach them, that they may observe them in the land which I gave them to possess.”*** Here YHVH appointed Moses officially as the mediator of Israel during their forty years of wandering in the wilderness, before entering the Promised Land. The nation of Israel failed to be a model nation when Moses *‘delayed’* coming down from the mountain and Aaron got them to give him the gold rings in the ears of their wives and children and fashioned it with a graving tool; making it into a molten calf. He proceeded to tell them that the golden calf is their god, who brought them out of the land of Egypt. In addition he declared the next day to be a feast to YHVH and we read how the nation obeyed his instruction, as witnessed from Exodus 32: 6, as follows: ***‘So the next day they rose early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.’*** The commentary in the New American Standard Mac Arthur Study Bible, against the words ***‘to play’*** reads - *‘The Heb. Word allows for the inclusion of drunken and immoral activities so common to idolatrous fertility cults in their revelry’*. The incident of the golden calf included cultural practices which the Israelites must have learnt in Egypt; such as burnt offerings intermingled with pagan customs of sexual immorality and idolatry, totally unacceptable to Elohim.

This caused Elohim’s anger to flare up against them and He was ready to destroy the nation. But Moses’ pleadings on behalf of the nation caused YHVH to change His mind. Moses went down the mountain with the two engraved tablets of stone in his hands and when he saw the golden calf and the dancing, he became very angry and he threw the tablets of stone from his hands shattering them at the foot of the mountain. Next he ground the golden calf into powder and threw it into water, after which he forced the Israelites to drink it. Moses recognized the actions of Aaron and the Israelites as a sin, punishable by death. So he stood at the gate of the camp saying as in Exodus 32: 26, ***“Whoever is for YHVH, come to me!”*** We see further from the same verse that the Levites gathered together around him. Moses then instructed the Levites to go back and forth in the camp, and kill every man his brother, and every man his neighbor. As a result of the action taken by the Levites, YHVH chose the Levites to take the place of the first-born Israelites, to serve as priests under Aaron and his sons, as we read from Numbers 3: 9 – 13, in this way: ***“You shall thus give the Levites***

**to Aaron and to his sons; they are wholly given to him from among the sons of Israel. (10) So you shall appoint Aaron and his sons that they may keep their priesthood, but the layman who comes near shall be put to death.” (11) Again YHVH spoke to Moses, saying, (12) “Now, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the sons of Israel instead of every first-born, the first issue of the womb among the sons of Israel. So the Levites shall be Mine. (13) For all the first-born are Mine; on the day that I struck down all the first-born in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the first-born in Israel, from man to beast. They shall be Mine; I am YHVH.”** At this time YHVH called Aaron and his family and set them apart by law to be the priesthood for the nation of Israel. Even so, the nation remained set-apart to YHVH; the Aaronic priests were to bring the sacrifices and offerings of the people of Israel before YHVH.

Going back to Exodus 32: 28 & 29 we read: **“So the sons of Levi did as Moses instructed, and about three thousand men of the people fell that day. (29) Then Moses said, “Dedicate yourselves today to YHVH—for every man has been against his son and against his brother—in order that He may bestow a blessing upon you today.”** Similarly YHVH is calling first-fruits to come out of the world today and to consecrate, or set them apart for service unto Him, for each one who responds there is a reward of the priesthood. We also read from Numbers 25 that when Israel stayed at Shittim, the people began to play the harlot with the daughters of Moab, who invited them to the sacrifices of their gods. The people ate and bow down to the pagan gods of the Moabites, including Baal-peor and YHVH became angry with the people of Israel. So YHVH instructed Moses in verse 4 of Numbers 25, saying: **“Take all the leaders of the people and execute them in broad daylight before YHVH, so that the fierce anger of YHVH may turn away from Israel.”** Moses obeyed and instructed the judges of Israel, as we read in verse 5 of Numbers 25, saying: **“Each of you slay his men who have joined themselves to Baal of Peor.”** At this same time one of the sons of Israel brought a Midianite woman in full sight of Moses and the sons of Israel, whilst they were still weeping at the doorway of the tent of meeting. When Phinehas the son of Eleazer, the son of Aaron saw it, he got up from the midst of the people, taking a spear in his hand; he went into the tent of the man and pierced both the man and woman through their bodies, effectively checking the plague and those who died by the plague were 24,000.

YHVH made a covenant of peace (shalom in Hebrew) with Phinehas; thus making a covenant with him and his descendants after him that they will hold the office of priest (or Cohen) forever. Those of us who are called out of the world to become priests under Yahshua in the coming kingdom of Elohim, have to be like Phinehas, jealous (or rather zealous) for Elohim and His righteousness. We who are presently being trained to become priests (teachers and judges) in the world tomorrow should not shirk our responsibility; it is our duty to warn the people called out of the religions of the world by Elohim about their transgressions, as we read from Isaiah 58: 1, as follows: **“Cry loudly, do not hold back; raise your voice like a trumpet, and declare to My people their transgression, and to the house of Jacob their sins.”** Every person whom YHVH calls is important to Him and no one of us is beyond correction. YHVH wants each and every one of us to be ready to take action, when there is a need to do so. Are we going to do what YHVH requires of us, or are we going to make excuses for not doing so? Are we prepared to defend the helpless amongst us? Are we prepared to correct those who make coarse jokes? Are we going to point out those who teach falsehood in our community? Or are we going to remain quiet and avoid our responsibility as Nazarenes? The duty of a Nazarene or watchman is as described in Ezekiel 3: 17 – 21, as follows: **“Son of man, I have appointed you a watchman to the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from My mouth, warn them from Me. (18) When I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die’; and you do not warn him or speak out to warn the wicked from his wicked way that he may live, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. (19) Yet if you have warned the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness or from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered yourself. (20) Again, when a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I place an obstacle before him, he shall die; since you have not warned him, he shall**



**die in his sin, and his righteous deeds which he has done shall not be remembered; but his blood I will require at your hand. (21) However, if you have warned the righteous man that the righteous should not sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live because he took warning; and you have delivered yourself.**" Phinehas and his descendants after him will hold the office of priest forever. It seems odd that since Phinehas a Levite and descendant of Aaron the High Priest, that YHVH did not give him the office of High Priest forever. But, we know the reason for this being that Yahshua our Messiah has become the one and only High Priest forever. However, Yahshua is a High Priest in the order of Melchizedek and not in the order of Levi.

As mediators between YHVH and the people of Israel, the priesthood had to stand as righteous as humanly possible between YHVH and His people, and at the same time represent both YHVH and the people according to (YHVH)'s plan for Israel. After the commonwealth nation of Israel split in two separate nations after King Solomon's rule, the king of the house of Israel, namely Jeroboam, made priests from among the ten tribe nation of Israel, who were not of the descendants of Levi, as witnessed in 1 Kings 12: 28 – 32, in this way: **'So the king consulted, and made two golden calves, and he said to them, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem; behold your gods, O Israel, that brought you up from the land of Egypt."** (29) **And he set one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan. (30) Now this thing became a sin, for the people went to worship before the one as far as Dan. (31) And he made houses on high places, and made priests from among all the people who were not of the sons of Levi. (32) And Jeroboam instituted a feast in the eighth month on the fifteenth day of the month, like the feast which is in Judah, and he went up to the altar; thus he did in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves which he had made. And he stationed in Bethel the priests of the high places which he had made.'** As a result Jeroboam led the house of Israel to follow him in idolatry and YHVH ultimately scattered them into the nations of the world (as per 2 Kings 17: 22 & 23<sup>5</sup>), where they continued worshipping idols, and are doing so even today, as described in 2 Kings 17: 33, as follows: **'They feared YHVH and served their own gods according to the custom of the nations from among whom they had been carried away into exile.'** Whereas the Levites chosen by Elohim to replace the original priesthood of first-born Israelites ensured that the house of Judah amongst whom they remained because of Jeroboam's rejection of their authority, continued to act as mediators between the house of Judah and Elohim. This essentially left the house of Israel without a mediator and because of YHVH our Elohim's promise to our father in the faith Abraham, He caused His word (who was with Him from the beginning and was in reality Elohim Himself) to become flesh in Yahshua the Messiah, the mediator between Him and the house of Israel, as witnessed in Galatians 3: 17 - 20, in this way: **'What I am saying is this; the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by Elohim, so as to nullify the promise. (18) For if the inheritance is based on law, it is no longer based on a promise; but Elohim has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise. (19) Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed should come to whom the promise had been made. (20) Now a mediator is not for one party only; whereas Elohim is only one.'** The inheritance of the Promised Land by Abraham's children through Isaac and Jacob depended upon the condition that they remain loyal to YHVH and His Torah and as a sign of the covenant circumcise their sons at eight days old. However, because YHVH being the all-knowing Elohim knew the end from the beginning, His promise to Abraham included that a remnant of those of Jacob's children who lost their identity, language, culture and religion because of idolatry, be called by Elohim during the latter days to again become inheritors of the Promised Land through Abraham's one seed Yahshua, through whom He will also save the rest of mankind after the second resurrection.

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<sup>5</sup> 2 Kings 17: 22 & 23: **'And the sons of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not depart from them, until YHVH removed Israel from His sight, as He spoke through all His servants the prophets. So Israel was carried away into exile from their own land to Assyria until this day.'**

Considering again what we read in verse 20 of Galatians 3, some might vehemently object to my reference to YHVH of Hosts as Yahshua, but this is in fact what YHVH tells us in Isaiah 43: 10 & 11, saying: ***“You are My witnesses,” declares YHVH, “And My servant whom I have chosen, in order that you may know and believe Me, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no Elohim formed, and there will be none after Me. (11) “I, even I, am YHVH; and there is no savior besides Me.”*** A second witness comes from Isaiah 63: 8, in this way: ***‘For He said, “Surely, they are My people, sons who will not deal falsely.” So He became their Savior.’*** Moses told the united nation of Israel in Deuteronomy 18: 15 – 19, saying: ***“YHVH your Elohim will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him. (16) This is according to all that you asked of YHVH your Elohim in Horeb on the day of the assembly, saying, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of YHVH my Elohim, let me not see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ (17) And YHVH said to me, “They have spoken well. (18) ‘I will raise up a prophet from among their countrymen like you, and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. (19) And it shall come about that whoever will not listen to My words which he shall speak in My name, I Myself will require it of him.’”*** Yahshua came as Immanuel, meaning Elohim with us; and unless believers from the lost ten tribes call upon the name of YHVH through Yahshua our mediator and Messiah, they cannot obtain salvation. Yes, Yahshua is the visible image of the invisible Elohim (according to Colossians 1: 15) in whom the fullness of Deity (Elohim) dwells in bodily form (as per Colossians 2: 9). The point is that no man can fulfill the dual role of physical man and Elohim. We read accordingly from Isaiah 59: 16, in this way: ***‘And He saw that there was no man, and was astonished that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought salvation to Him.’*** The main purpose of Yahshua our Messiah and Savior was to bring the lost sheep of the house of Israel back to the covenant we made with YHVH, together with the house of Judah as revealed in the Torah, the Prophets and the writings.

We read fittingly from Hebrews 7: 26 & 27, ***‘For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy (set-apart), innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens; (27) who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins, and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.’*** As believers in Yahshua, the early Nazarenes were a sect of the Pharisees, much like the Levites, but of a different Priesthood; namely the royal priesthood of the coming King Yahshua Messiah, the High Priest to the order of Melchizedek (as per Hebrews 7: 16 & 17<sup>6</sup>). This Scriptural revelation required that the name of Elohim be made known to mankind and when He revealed Himself in Exodus 3: 14 as ***“I AM WHO I AM”*** to Moses – it implied that He could be whatever we need Him to be, as may be understood from His various names given in the Tanach, as follows: In Genesis 22: 14, YHVH-YIRAH meaning YHVH our Provider; in Exodus 17: 15, YHVH-NISSI meaning YHVH is My Banner; and in Jeremiah 23: 6, YHVH-TSIDIKENU meaning YHVH our Righteousness, which refers to Yahshua the righteous Branch, through whom we His creation become righteous before Elohim. In addition most of us are aware that the meaning of Yahshua’s name is the Salvation of YHVH, since the purpose of His first advent was to save His people (the house of Israel) from their sins. Through these truths the commandments given in Exodus 20: 3 – 11, YHVH ensured that His people understood the importance of His name in worshipping Him. Nevertheless, if the proclamation that Yahshua is YHVH in the flesh is an offense to some, it will have to be the stumbling stone that Yahshua told the Pharisees it would be in Matthew 21: 42 – 44, saying: ***“Did you never read in the Scriptures, ‘THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM YHVH, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES’? (43) Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of Elohim will be taken away from you, and be given to a nation producing the fruit of it. (44) And he who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on***

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<sup>6</sup> Hebrews 7: 16 & 17: ***‘Who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of Him, “THOU ART A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.”’***

***whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust.***” Elohim has truly gone to extremes to make His name and deeds known to mankind throughout the Scriptures, as king David also shows in Psalm 118: 21 – 26 saying: ***‘I shall give thanks to Thee, for Thou hast answered me; and Thou hast become my salvation. (22) The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone. (23) This is (YHVH)’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. (24) This is the day which YHVH has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (25) O YHVH, do save, we beseech Thee; O YHVH, we beseech Thee, do send prosperity! (26) Blessed is the one who comes in the name of YHVH; we have blessed you from the house of YHVH.’***

According to Rav Kepha, we who believe this truth about our Master and Savior Yahshua the Messiah are as per 1 Peter 2: 9 again ***‘(But you are) A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR Elohim’s OWN POSSESSION, that you may proclaim the excellences of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.’*** Are we like the ancient Israelites going to shirk our responsibility as priests? As priests of Elohim, most of us are able to recall the set-apart garments which were given to Aaron and his sons to wear. Similarly through Yahshua we are again given priestly garments to wear, as was prophesied by Isaiah about Yahshua in Isaiah 61: 1 – 10, as follows: ***‘The Spirit of YHVH Elohim is upon me, because YHVH has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to captives, and freedom to prisoners; (2) To proclaim the favorable year of YHVH, and the day of vengeance of our Elohim; to comfort all who mourn, (3) To grant those who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland (a peer shaped head covering) instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of YHVH, that He may be glorified (esteemed). (4) Then they will rebuild the ancient ruins, they will raise up the former devastations, and they will repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations. (5) And strangers will stand and pasture your flocks, and foreigners will be your farmers and your vinedressers. (6) But you will be called the priests of YHVH; you will be spoken of as ministers of our Elohim. You will eat the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast. (7) Instead of your shame you will have a double portion, and instead of humiliation they will shout for joy over their portion. Therefore they will possess a double portion in their land, everlasting joy will be theirs. (8) For I, YHVH, love justice, I hate robbery in the burnt offering; and I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. (9) Then their offspring will be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples. All who see them will recognize them because they are the offspring whom YHVH has blessed. (10) I will rejoice greatly in YHVH, my soul will exalt in my Elohim; for He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.’***

In addition YHVH tells our Jewish Brothers in Isaiah 66: 20 & 21: ***‘Then they shall bring all your brethren from all the nations as a grain offering (first-fruits) to YHVH, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, and on camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem,’ says YHVH, “just as the sons of Israel bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of YHVH. (21) I will also take some of them for priests and for Levites,” says YHVH.’*** Yes, those of us called at this time, who manage to overcome Satan, the world and the self, will become kings and priests with our Torah observant Jewish Brothers who remain loyal to YHVH and His Torah, at Messiah’s return for us (and coming for them) to rule the world during the millennium and beyond as shown in Revelation 5: 10, as follows: ***“And Thou hast made them to be a kingdom and priests to our Elohim; and they will reign upon the earth.”*** The first time that we read in the Scriptures about a person or being, holding the offices of king and priest together, is in Genesis 14: 18, in this way: ***‘And Melchizedek king of Salem (meaning king of peace) brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of Elohim Most High.’*** We are told in Hebrews 7: 3 that Melchizedek was without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of Elohim. In Psalm 110: 4 talking about our Messiah, David wrote: ***‘YHVH has sworn and will not change His***

*mind, "Thou are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."* We read further from Hebrews 5: 5 & 6: *'So also Messiah did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, "THOU ART MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN THEE"; just as He says also in another passage, "THOU ART A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."*' The Order of the Priesthood of Melchizedek will consist of the High Priest and King Yahshua, with other priests who were called and chosen by Elohim and remained faithful throughout their human lives, to be changed into spiritual children of Elohim at Messiah's return, to rule with Him as His bride.

Rav Shaul confirmed our calling in Romans 8: 29 & 30, saying: *'For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; (30) and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.'* A second witness to this may be read in Hebrews 2: 11: *'For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren.'* We, who are called during this age, are predestined, if we make it, to become kings and priests under Yahshua during His millennial rule. This is further confirmed by Rav Shaul in Ephesians 2: 13 – 22, saying: *'But now in Messiah Yahshua you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Messiah. (14) For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one, and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, (15) by abolishing in His flesh the enmity (punishment due for our sins), which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances (judgments of Torah), that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, (16) and might reconcile them both in one body (the congregation of YHVH and body of Messiah) to Elohim through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.(17) AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO WERE FAR AWAY (the house of Israel), AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO WERE NEAR (the house of Judah); (18) for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. (19) So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of Elohim's household, (20) having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Messiah Yahshua Himself being the corner stone, (21) in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Master; (22) in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of Elohim in the Spirit.'* We are being built-up as a Spiritual House for a Set-apart Priesthood to offer sacrifices to Elohim. We read accordingly from 1 Peter 2: 4 & 5: *'And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of Elohim, (5) you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a Set-apart priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to Elohim through Yahshua Messiah.'* Even though we are physical at present, we are being trained to become a spiritual priesthood. We keep the Sabbath, new moons and Set-apart Days of YHVH as shadows of (Spiritual) things to come (Colossians 2: 16 & 17). We read from the second part of verse 5 and verse 6 of Revelation 1 that Yahshua made us to be a kingdom of priests, as follows: *'To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood, (6) and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His Elohim and Father; to Him be the esteem and the dominion forever and ever Amen.'*

We need to practice to become kings and priests during the coming Kingdom of Elohim, as we will be required to perform priestly duties then and have to learn to do so during this age. We should practice righteousness in our lives by doing what YHVH requires of us in His Torah, so that we may teach our siblings, those who survive the tribulation into the millennium, as well as those in the second resurrection, the physical and spiritual application of Torah in their lives. However, let's also turn to Exodus 29: 38 & 39 to see what some of the other duties of royal priests are, as follows: *"Now this is what you shall offer on the altar; two one year old lambs each day, continuously. (29) The one lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight."* We do not sacrifice animals any longer, but are nevertheless required to make two offerings per day, as is confirmed in Exodus 30: 7 & 8, in this way: *"And Aaron shall burn fragrant incense on it; he shall*

**burn it every morning when he trims the lamps. (8) And when Aaron trims the lamps at twilight (in the evening), he shall burn incense. There shall be perpetual incense before YHVH throughout your generations.”** In Psalm 141: 1 & 2 David wrote about such offerings, saying: **“O YHVH, I call upon Thee; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to Thee! (2) May my prayer be counted as incense before Thee; the lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.”** We also read from Revelation 5: 8 that the prayers of the saints are considered as incense before YHVH, as follows: **‘And when He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, having each one a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.’** A second witness comes from Revelation 8: 4 as follows: **‘And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before Elohim out of the angel’s hand.’**

Finally we read the example of Daniel in Daniel 6: 10 that even under the threat of being thrown into a lions’ den, he prayed three times daily, in this way: **‘Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his Elohim, as he had been doing previously.’** We should not neglect our priestly duties; to pray every evening and morning and even during the afternoon. We should pray for the Kingdom of Elohim to come; that He will make Jerusalem a place of praise in the earth; for the peace of Jerusalem; and for forgiveness of our many sins. We should ask YHVH to give us more of His Set-apart Spirit and pray for both our spiritual and physical leaders; asking that our spiritual leaders will assist us to find the way of Elohim and that our physical leaders will make decisions which will allow us freedom of religion to worship YHVH our Elohim without being persecuted for doing so. Think about it!

## Chapter 9: Agents of Satan.

When some read the heading of this week's teaching, they immediately think it is about people who can be easily identified as 'evil' people in society, who's main aim is to deceive 'true believers' to lose their faith. However, just the opposite is true, since it is fairly easy for a true believer to identify people who go all out to get others to join them in their worldly pursuits of 'pleasure', but it is more difficult to identify those who come to us as teachers of righteousness, but who are out to deceive us, as Yahshua warned His followers in Matthew 7: 15, saying: ***"Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves."*** But, do not be mistaken, there are people in society who do not like others who show by their lifestyles that they want to be 'better' people, because such people have been 'trained' to rebel against all rules and regulations. However, Yahshua further warned His disciples (but also us His modern day disciples) in Matthew 24: 4 & 5, saying: ***"See to it that no one misleads you. (5) For many will come in My (true) name, saying, 'I am the Messiah,' and will mislead many."***

Yahshua was not talking here about those who will try and convince true believers in Yahshua the Messiah, that He is in fact 'J\*e\*s\*u\*s\* the C\*h\*r\*i\*s\*t\*', but He was talking about those who would use His correct Jewish name 'Yahshua', but will deceive them in other ways, such as for example about either the timing of the Feast Days of Elohim, or the correct pronunciation of the Father's true name, since both these matters are vital for salvation, as attested in Joel 2: 32<sup>7</sup> and by reading 1 Thessalonians 4: 14 - 16<sup>8</sup> with Matthew 25: 5 - 13<sup>9</sup>. Despite the fact that the world has made enormous advances in the field of medicine, science and technology, there are probably fewer true believers in this age of enlightenment, than what there were 2000 years ago. This despite the fact that Elohim told Daniel that knowledge will increase at the time of the end, in Daniel 12: 4, saying: ***'But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.'*** In addition we read from Acts 3: 21 about a time immediately prior to Messiah's return, when there will be a restoration of all things, which no doubt includes a restoration of the original covenant, that most of the house of Israel has forgotten because of neglect through the centuries. The reason for there being fewer true believers today is the fact that Satan and his many spiritual and human agents are doing everything in their power to hide the truth from us. Even though the true gospel has been proclaimed for a number of years, only a few remain in the truth. The reason being as explained in 2 Corinthians 4: 3 & 4, as follows: ***'And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, (4) in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Messiah, who is the image of Elohim.'*** As a second witness to this is found in Matthew 13: 11, where Yahshua when asked the reason for Him speaking in parables, said: ***"To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted."***

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<sup>7</sup> Joel 2: 32, "And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of YHVH will be delivered."

<sup>8</sup> 1 Thessalonians 4: 14 - 16 : 'For if we believe that Yahshua died and rose again, even so Elohim will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Yahshua. For this we say to you by the word of the Master, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Master, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Master Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of Elohim; and the dead in Messiah shall rise first.'

<sup>9</sup> Matthew 25: 5 - 13: "Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the prudent, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the prudent answered, saying, 'No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. And later the other virgins also came, saying, 'Master, master, open up for us.' But he answered and said, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.'"

The purpose of this teaching is to assist seekers of truth to identify as far as possible the many counterfeit teachings in the world, specifically designed to mislead true believers. Most of Churchianity has been *'disciplined'* to get all their spiritual knowledge and understanding from preachers who have been trained in the doctrines that they inherited from the Roman Catholic Church and those unique to their specific group (sect), only (such as immersion). These preachers have been deceived by false doctrines, which they learned from seminaries that came through many centuries of false teachings and being deceived themselves; they continue to deceive thousands of their congregants to believe these non-scriptural doctrines. Even so, we need to understand how and why it was possible to deceive more than a billion Christians, who were in the most, descended from the lost ten tribes of Israel and used to worship YHVH the Elohim of Israel, together with the house of Judah according to the covenant He made with them at Mount Sinai. After the reign of King Solomon the two houses of Israel were split in two, because of the idolatrous practices that king Solomon started after marrying his many wives, against Elohim's command for kings to the contrary. Soon after the house of Israel was scattered into the nations of the world because of idolatry, they were taken captive by Esau or more correctly the Roman Catholic Church and even though some protested bitterly since they did not agree with all the doctrines of the Roman Church, they tacitly accepted control of the Christian Church by Rome, by agreeing on having worship services on Sundays, Xmas and Easter with most also accepting the rite or tradition of 'christening' babies. Ever since Satan deceived Eve and got Adam to sin, he is perpetuating his lie through the traditions of men, today. We read Yahshua's own words in this regard in Matthew 15: 1 – 9, as follows: ***'Then some Pharisees and scribes came to Yahshua from Jerusalem, saying, (2) "Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread." (3) And He answered and said to them, "And why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of Elohim for the sake of your tradition? (4) For Elohim said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER,' and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER, LET HIM BE PUT TO DEATH.' (5) "But you say, 'Whoever shall say to his father or mother, "Anything of mine you might have been helped by has been given to Elohim," (6) he is not to honor his father or his mother.' And thus you invalidated the word of Elohim for the sake of your tradition. (7) You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, (8) 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME. (9) BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.'"***

Like with the Pharisees, many traditions of men are on-going in the lives of many 'so-called' believers in Messiah, who have been deceived into thinking that they are living their lives according to the Scriptures (or the Bible as they refer to it). Even though the Scriptures have never changed, the desires of man to do things his own way are even today making the Torah of Elohim of no effect in the lives of many believers. Many Christians and even Messianic/Nazarene Jews/Israelite believers hold to erroneous beliefs about certain important sections of the Scriptures. Even though these Messianic/Nazarene believers have learned many basic truths and their Scriptural knowledge provides them with an enormous advantage, it would have been even more beneficial if they practiced what they learned. Such believers have an advantage in that they have a firm foundation, whereas Churchianity who have no knowledge of the true Elohim and His ways, have no such foundation. But, the principle applies – those Christians and Nazarene Israelites/Jews who believe the Scriptures to be the word of Elohim, but think they are allowed to pick and choose which Scriptural teachings they wish to apply to their own lives, are equally mistaken. Many of them have been taught falsely to ignore some commandments of Elohim in place of the traditions of men. The fact that many of them are familiar with the Scriptures is like in the case with our Jewish brothers of great value. However, knowledge even though of great value is not enough. They must learn to interpret and understand the Scriptures correctly, and to use it to guide them in practicing righteousness. But, Christianity and even so-called Messianic/Nazarene Jews/Israelites under the influence of Satan have been misled to follow the traditions and in some cases the desires and lusts of men. Because of the traditions of men Elohim's commandment to keep the seventh day Sabbath, has become of no effect, by man's desire to do things his own way. Likewise, because of the traditions of men, Elohim's appointed Feast Days, are

of no effect. Christianity keeps Sunday, X-mass and Easter instead and many in Nazarene/Messianic Israel follow calendars of their own making, rather than the calendar that YHVH ordained through the Levites amongst the Jews. Some in Nazarene Israel even call the calendar which they *'fathomed out'*, the *'Biblically ordained calendar'*, thus contradicting and making the Scriptures of no effect. The Feast Days of YHVH gave all believers the blessing of getting to know Elohim's plan of Salvation for all mankind, but man is not interested in doing things according to the way of Elohim. YHVH says through the prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 1: 14, ***"I hate your new moon festivals and your appointed feasts, they have become a burden to Me. I am weary of them."*** But He says in Nahum 1: 15 ***'Behold, on the mountains the feet of him who brings good news, who announces peace! Celebrate your feasts, O Judah; Pay your vows. For never again will the wicked one pass through you; He is cut off completely.'***

It is the same with true immersion. The traditions of men have made water baptism of no effect, by sprinkling or pouring water onto the heads of small babies. True immersion is for a repentant adult believer – Yahshua being our prime example. Immersion is a symbol of being buried with Yahshua into death; to be raised with Him from the dead and to walk in newness of life (as per Romans 6: 1 – 6). Likewise because of the traditions of men, the Set-apart Names of YHVH and Yahshua are being made void by the use of titles like G-D and L-RD. In the preface of a number of modern translations of the Bible, as is the case with the New American Standard Bible, the Editorial Board THE LOCKMAN FOUNDATION, openly tells the reader that the word G-D is translated from the Hebrew word Elohim and the word L-RD is translated from the word YHVH. The word Lord (lower case letters) is translated from the word Adonai. Yes the traditions of men have made the Word of YHVH to no effect, in respect of many Scriptural subjects. YHVH gave us (the Scriptures) His manual, to show us what is clean to eat and what is not. YHVH our Creator knows what will keep our bodies healthy, or not. However, many so-called Bible believers have also made this manual to no effect, because of a misunderstanding of some New Covenant Scriptures. All those who are eating unclean meats are trying to prove that they are in control of their own lives. They arrogantly think and say to themselves: *'Nobody tells me what to do!'* Without realizing it, they are making gods out of themselves. Are they also forgetting the very first command in Exodus 20: 3, YHVH saying: ***"You shall have no other gods before (or besides) Me."*** By knowing the Scriptures we have a distinct advantage. However, we need to continue to study, diligently adding to what we know, as well as correcting what we misunderstood. We need to understand that it is vitally important for us to study the Scriptures daily, as it is through the Scriptures that YHVH corrects us. We need to develop David's attitude asking like he did in Psalm 139: 23 & 24, saying: ***'Search me, O Elohim, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; (24) and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.'***

To find out who Elohim's true people are, Yahshua gave us a foolproof test in Matthew 7: 20 & 21, as follows: ***"So then, you will know them by their fruits. (21) Not everyone who says to Me, 'Master, Master,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven."*** In addition Yahshua gave a second method to find them in John 13: 35, saying: ***"By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*** Love and obedience are according to the word of YHVH inseparable, as we read in 1 John 5: 3, ***'For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.'*** We are further told in Romans 13: 10, that: ***'Love does no wrong to a neighbor; love therefore is the fulfillment of the law.'*** The relationship between love and obedience is the key that distinguishes the true people of Elohim from those who are deceived by Satan, as witnessed in 1 John 3: 10, as follows: ***'By this the children of Elohim and the children of the devil are obvious; anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of Elohim, nor the one who does not love his brother.'*** YHVH wants us to prove our love for Him by our works, as we read in James 1: 22 – 25: ***'But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. (23) For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; (24) for once he has looked at himself and gone away,***



**he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. (25) But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.'** The point is that YHVH does not accept lip service. Yahshua quoted the prophet Isaiah in Matthew 15: 8, saying: **'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.'** The fruits of obedience should be evident in the lives of those who truly serve Elohim.

Everything that YHVH requires of us and every principle of right living given in the Scriptures is based on the two commandments described by Yahshua as the foremost in Matthew 22: 37 – 40, saying: **"YOU SHALL LOVE YHVH YOUR ELOHIM WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'** (38) **"This is the great and foremost commandment. (39) The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'** (40) **On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."** At immersion into Yahshua's saving Name, we are given a portion of the Set-apart Spirit of Elohim. However to retain the Set-apart Spirit we need to grow in grace and knowledge to guard us from being carried away by false prophets as we are warned in 2 Peter 3: 17 & 18, as follows: **'You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard lest, being carried away by the error of unprincipled men, you fall from your own steadfastness, (18) but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Master and Savior Yahshua Messiah. To Him be the esteem, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.'** The true obedient and converted servants of YHVH are pictured in Revelation 12: 17 as the woman under attack by Satan, just prior to Yahshua's return, in this way: **'And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of Elohim and hold to the testimony of Yahshua.'** Note that the servants of Elohim from the house of Israel are described as both keeping the commandments of Elohim and the things taught them by Yahshua. It is therefore impossible for true believers to claim to know Elohim, without obeying His Torah, as is confirmed in 1 John 2: 3 – 6, as follows: **'And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. (4) The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; (5) but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of Elohim has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: (6) the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.'** Yahshua Messiah is our perfect example and the standard against which we should measure ourselves. Many who claim faith in the Messiah (or Christ as they refer to Him) have no idea what sin is. They do not even know what to repent from and as a result Satan has deceived many in to a so-called false conversion/salvation. These deceived people believe in Messiah, without understanding any of His teachings. They believe that they will one day be 'saved', without repenting of disobeying any of Elohim's Torah and it is clear to see how Satan has indeed deceived the whole world.

Because of Satan's influence and the traditions (and appetites) of men, many people live in unbelief. Satan has through the religions of the world invented a counterfeit for every doctrine found and taught in the Scriptures. We need to humbly ask ourselves: **'Who do I obey?'** If we truly serve and obey YHVH our Elohim, we need to start studying the Scriptures for ourselves, to see whether the doctrines that we are being taught are indeed so, or not. In addition, we need to pray and ask YHVH to guide us in our studies and to lead us into all truth through His Set-apart Spirit. Let's make certain that we are known by the fruits of the Spirit of Elohim and not by the insincere fruits of the traditions and lusts of men. Yahshua told the woman at the well, in John 4: 22, saying: **"You worship that which you do not know; we worship that which we know, for salvation is from the Jews."** The average churchgoer has no idea that Messiah's name was in fact Yahshua. The name Yahshua means the salvation of YHVH (In Hebrew), which is alluded to in Matthew 1: 21, as follows: **"And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Yahshua, for it is He who will save His people from their sins."** Yahshua's mother was Jewish and they lived in Israel, which was even at that time populated by mostly Jewish citizens; so why would His mother give Him a hybrid Latin-Greek name like J\*e\*s\*u\*s\*,

which carries no meaning at all. In addition why will a Jewish Savior, speaking Hebrew be given the Greek title of 'Christ'. His correct Jewish title, is as we read in Daniel 9: 26, as follows: ***"Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined."***

Even though we should by now be familiar with the way of Elohim, let's consider the many counterfeit doctrines that Satan introduced through the church system. The problem with mankind is that of human nature and lawlessness. Most of Christianity have been duped to believe that J\*e\*s\*u\*s<sup>10</sup> came to abolish the strict laws introduced by His Father. Yet we read Yahshua's own words in Matthew 5: 17 & 18, like this: ***"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. (18) For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished."*** If you think or believe that Yahshua accomplished all, when He died and was resurrected, you are wrong. Let's read the next verse of Matthew 5 to prove just the opposite, as follows: (19) ***"Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and so teaches others, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."*** We read further in this regard from 1 John 3: 4: ***'Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.'*** Do you practice righteousness, by obeying the Sabbath commandment? Do you practice righteousness by eating only clean meats? In addition, do you practice righteousness by sometimes sharing your blessings with a brother, even if he is not less fortunate than yourself? Do you love your neighbor enough to share the good news about the coming kingdom of Elohim with him? Religious confusion and error is evident everywhere, but the majority of those attending church services are ignorant of the subtle influence of pagan customs. YHVH made a covenant with Israel that they will follow the teachings from His mouth, by the hand of Moses, in order to be a light to the nations around them. They were to become a model nation that would lead other nations to worship Him. However we read what happened to them from Psalm 81: 10 & 11, as follows: ***"I, YHVH, am your Elohim, Who brought you up from the land of Egypt; open your mouth wide and I will fill it. (11) But My people did not listen to My voice; and Israel did not obey Me."*** The house of Israel became entangled in the worship practices of the pagan nations around them, instead of influencing these nations for the better. This is why YHVH made them wander in the wilderness for 40 years, where most of the older generation died out. When they finally entered the Promised Land it was a new generation, but people who also witnessed the miracle of the manna provided during their years in the wilderness, as well as the presence of YHVH in the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night. This new generation should have forgotten the pagan gods of Egypt, since they had a functioning priesthood to keep them mindful of the good things that YHVH provided for them, but to no avail. After Moses died, instead of driving out the pagan nations among them in the Promised Land, they absorbed the heathen customs and worship practices from their neighbors. Even after the nation split into two separate nations, they did not obey YHVH as we read from 2 Kings 17: 22 & 23: ***'And the sons of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam (the Israelite king who kept a feast like the Feast of Tabernacles in the eighth month instead as in the seventh month, as ordained by YHVH and lead the nation into idolatry) which he did; they did not depart from them, (23) until YHVH removed Israel from His sight, as He spoke through all His servants the prophets. So Israel was carried away into exile from their own land to Assyria until this day.'***

History being something that repeats itself shows that after Yahshua Messiah's resurrection and ascension to heaven, only a few hundred years elapsed when the congregation was no longer

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<sup>10</sup> We insert the asterisks in this name, as we are admonished in Exodus 23 verse 13: ***"Now concerning everything which I have said to you, be on your guard; and do not mention the name of other gods, nor let them be heard from your mouth."***

Hebrew in character. Christianity simply rejected the Hebrew religion, leading them to despise the Mosaic Law given to man by YHVH Himself. Even though Christianity claims to follow Messiah (the one they call C\*h\*r\*i\*s\*t), it has absorbed many strange doctrines without any Scriptural basis. In the beginning the Church was pure, but because they rejected the so-called 'Old Testament' they lost a great deal of the blessings to be had, by keeping the commandments. They also lost the knowledge about the true Sabbath and Feast Days of Elohim, and as a result accepted Satan's false doctrine that mankind is immortal and upon death the soul of a good person goes to heaven, whereas the soul of an evil person goes to hell. It is because of this that many believe, since they are going to hell, because of their past sins, they might as well carry on sinning anyway. Yahshua often referred to the Torah the Prophets and the writings (the Tanach), even saying to Satan when he tempted Yahshua in Matthew 4: 4, as follows: ***'But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF ELOHIM.'***" The Scriptures as originally given by Elohim, to those inspired to pen the same, was indeed the pure word of Elohim. But since then, the Scriptures were translated into other languages and many errors slipped in. This is all Satan's doing, as we read in Revelation 12: 9, as follows: ***'And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.'*** We also read from Genesis 3: 4, how Satan started deceiving mankind. He told Eve that she would live forever and that she has an immortal soul. Since then Christianity as well as most other religions believe this lie. Even though Satan does not speak to us directly any longer, he controls the minds of many human agents, whom he inspires to introduce false doctrines and lies to dissuade people from believing in YHVH. It is as we read from 1 Peter 5: 8, ***'Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.'*** It is important that we understand the main source of all the error and false doctrines that even some amongst us come up with from time to time. Even though the Scriptures which YHVH gave to us originally were undefiled, problems began when translations were made from one language to another. Portions were added in and others left out, making it easier to deceive the uninformed.

It was originally the purpose of Churchianity to convert pagans and bring them into their fold. But it worked just the other way round: Churchianity absorbed and retained most of the pagan practices, symbols and holidays to help the pagans understand their religion better. The battle between light and darkness is not new. In fact it came from before the fall of man, when Satan rebelled against Elohim's government and he wanted to take over the throne of YHVH, as we read in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28. This resulted in YHVH throwing Satan and his angels down to the earth, as we read previously in Revelation 12. Many of the religious ideas, festivals and practices such as Easter, Christmas and Sunday worship services, may be traced back to our pagan forebears. If Israel did not persist in corrupting the truth, Churchianity might have had a chance. However, because of the failings of Israel, Churchianity reads the Scriptures without seeing a connection between them and ancient Israel. As a result they cannot even learn from the mistakes that our forebears made. The point is that as human beings, we cannot do what Elohim requires of us, as we are reminded in Romans 8: 7 & 8, in this way: ***'Because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward Elohim; for it does not subject itself to the law of Elohim, for it is not even able to do so; (8) and those who are in the flesh cannot please Elohim.'*** We read Elohim's condemnation of Israel for their wickedness and idolatry in Isaiah 29: 13, as follows: ***'Then YHVH said, "Because this people draw near with their words and honor Me with their lip service, but they remove their hearts far from Me, and their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned by rote."*** In fact the very same may be said about Churchianity today, since they are very sincere in their worship, but they are sincerely wrong! We have been warned about mixing pagan customs with the way people worship in Leviticus 18: 3, as well as in Jeremiah 10: 1 – 5, as follows: ***'Hear the word which YHVH speaks to you, O house of Israel (note not Judah). (2) Thus says YHVH, "Do not learn the way of the nations, and do not be terrified by the signs of the heavens although the nations are terrified by them; (3) for the customs***

***of the peoples are delusion; because it is wood cut from the forest, the work of the hands of a craftsman with a cutting tool. (4) They decorate it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers so that it will not totter. (5) Like a scarecrow in a cucumber field are they, and they cannot speak; they must be carried, because they cannot walk! Do not fear them, for they can do no harm, nor can they do any good.'***

Christianity believes that Yahshua was resurrected on Sunday and as a result they hold that He changed the Sabbath to Sunday. They are also totally oblivious of the fact that by keeping to the Friday impalement and Sunday resurrection account, they are denying that Yahshua is the Messiah. Recall for the moment the account in Matthew where the Scribes and the Pharisees asked Yahshua to give them a sign that He is indeed the Messiah. We read this and His answer in Matthew 12: 38 – 40, as follows: ***'Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered Him, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." (39) But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign shall be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; (40) for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.'*** This is twice as long as the Christian church believes he spent in the grave. The main reason why they misinterpret these Scriptures is the fact that they keep strictly to the Gregorian calendar as well as the Roman method of determining a day, i.e. from midnight to midnight. They also do not keep the Feast Days of Elohim like Yahshua and his followers did, given in Leviticus 23, as they consider these to be for the Jews only. If they were familiar with these Feast Days of Elohim, they would have realized that these Feast Days are also known as annual or High Day Sabbaths. Yahshua was impaled on a Wednesday, which was the day of preparation for the Feast of Unleavened Bread kept annually from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> of Aviv. This is confirmed in John 19: 31 as follows: ***'The Jews therefore, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.'*** This was not a regular Sabbath, spoken about here but the First Day of Unleavened Bread. Our Savior was put to death on a Wednesday, the day of Passover. He was placed in the tomb just before sunset when Wednesday ended and Thursday started. The woman had no time to wrap His body with spices, due to the High Day Sabbath. They kept the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Unleavened Bread which started on Wednesday after sunset (the 15<sup>th</sup> of Aviv). They bought spices on Friday after the Set-apart day for embalming Messiah's body. They rested the next day on the weekly Sabbath and prior to sun-set on the Sabbath (or Saturday evening), came to see the tomb. This was when as described in Matthew 28; they found that Yahshua was already risen at the end of the weekly Sabbath, not on Sunday morning as Churchianity falsely came to believe.

By twisting the meaning of the Scriptures to highlight certain portions over others, preachers try hard to do away with Torah. They absolutely hate two of the Ten Commandments; the commandment they detest the most is the fact that the Sabbath is on the seventh day of the week, namely Saturday – this is the fourth commandment. In fact in collaboration with business and industry, they have changed the calendar used in Europe to show Monday as the beginning of the week and Sunday as the seventh day of the week. The third commandment is the second most hated commandment by Churchianity. It is the third command that tells us to honor the name of our Creator. Even though we know the name of our Creator, we need to be careful how and when we use His name. We should use the name of YHVH only during teachings, worship services and prayer. When we use the name of YHVH during such occasions, we need to ensure that we do not bring it to naught, by purposely misspelling it, using it in prayer over un-kosher food, (believing that the prayer will somehow render the food clean); or linking it to worship services not ordained by Him. We should not teach outsiders His name, as they might blaspheme His name in everyday use like some do, exclaiming the title G-d when they win a game or contest in TV programs. We should not forget that according to the Scriptures, if we break one commandment, we have broken them all.

Churchianity continues to preach falsehood, saying like Martin Luther used to, that *'faith alone saves us.'* Similar to Luther, they would like to remove the book of James (Yaa'cov) from the Scriptures, where we read in James 2: 24 – 26: ***'You see that a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone. (25) And in the same way was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works, when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? (26) For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.'*** We know that we are not justified by works, but that salvation is a free gift of Elohim to those who love Him. We read accordingly in 1 John 5: 3, ***'For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.'*** Those who say that Messiah came to bring a new religion are agents of Satan, since He himself said just the opposite as is recorded in John 7: 16, as follows: ***'My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me.'*** Yahshua was born a Jew, and there is no record anywhere in the Scriptures that He became a Christian. His main purpose was to bring the lost sheep of the house of Israel back to the covenant we made together with the House of Judah at Mount Sinai, as He told the Canaanite woman who asked Him to heal her demon-possessed daughter in Matthew 15: 24, saying: ***"I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*** How much clearer would you like it stated!

The reason why so many follow pagan doctrines is because they have been deceived to follow the anti-Messiah. Those from the house of Israel called at this time are a small group, making up the remnant that will be saved with our Torah observant Jewish Brothers, if we overcome Satan, the self and the world. We need to heed the message of Revelation 14: 12, as follows: ***'Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of Elohim and their faith in (the true) Yahshua.'*** Yes, we need teachers, but such teachers should teach only Scriptural truths. In addition, we need to know that they come in the name of YHVH and practice Torah: besides, they should come through Yahshua's discipleship program, teaching us what He, or those who followed after Him taught them. Think about it!

## Chapter 10: Nazarene Jewish Passover.

Whilst still in Egypt, YHVH commanded the Israelites to observe the first Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month, in the evening or the beginning part of the day at twilight. To fully understand the importance and meaning of the Passover, it is essential that we consider that very first Passover. After the death of Joseph the children of Israel became slaves in the land of Egypt. They were forced into hard labor making bricks and mortar for Pharaoh's many building projects. They worked every day, for seven days of the week and their Egyptian taskmasters threatened and whipped anyone who fell behind in his work. Those not working on the building projects were forced to work in the fields, under the heat of the sun. Even young children were used as farm laborers to cultivate the crops of the land, or to make bricks. They worked every day, from sunrise to sunset and could not do anything about it – they were powerless and could not help themselves. But Almighty YHVH saw their plight and decided to help them through His faithful servant Moses. YHVH displayed his power to deliver the Israelites from slavery in Egypt through a series of plagues. After nine destructive plagues when Pharaoh still refused to let the Israelites go, YHVH told Moses in Exodus 11: 1, saying: ***“One more plague I will bring on Pharaoh and on Egypt; after that he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out from here completely.”*** The Egyptians would be devastated by this tenth and final plague, since YHVH would take the lives of all the firstborn of both people and animals in Egypt.

In Scriptural times the firstborn son was given special treatment; a first-born son usually received a double portion of the inheritance and became the head of the family when his father died. In a monarchy like Egypt, it was his firstborn son who ascended the throne, when the Pharaoh died. The firstborn was also usually the most loved and respected in the family and it was a great tragedy for the Egyptians to lose all their first-born in a single day. Nevertheless, it will become clear later how YHVH will also resurrect the first-born of Egypt after the millennium, to become part of the second harvest of human beings into His everlasting Kingdom, as part of His plan of salvation for all mankind. Even though the last and tenth plague would be on every family living in the land of Egypt, YHVH gave the Israelites a method to escape this great tragedy in history. He instructed that each family choose a male lamb without any blemishes, under a year old, from their flock and to bring it into their homes on the tenth day of the first month. They were to kill the lamb immediately after sunset at the beginning of the fourteenth of Aviv and mark the doorposts and lintels of their homes with the blood of the lamb. They were to roast and eat the lamb inside their homes that night and be ready to depart from the land of Egypt in haste. When YHVH struck the first-born at midnight on the fourteenth day (as per Exodus 12: 29), He passed over the homes which were marked with blood on its doorposts and lintels and spared the firstborn members of the family, as recorded in Exodus 12: 13, as follows: ***“And the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.”*** Because the Israelites obeyed Elohim's instructions that night, He spared their first-born children and animals from death.

At the time of the first Passover, the children of Israel did not know that the Passover sacrifice that they partook of was in fact a prototype of Yahshua's sacrifice as the Lamb of Elohim one day in the future. We read about this from 1 Corinthians 5: 7, in this way: ***“Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Messiah our Passover also has been sacrificed.”*** A second witness is recorded in 1 Peter 1: 18 – 19, as follows: ***“Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, (19) but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Messiah.”*** It is important to understand that at times the Scriptures depict Egypt as a type or symbol of sin. When we sin, we bring the death penalty upon ourselves as witnessed in the first part of Romans 6: 23, in this way: ***‘For the wages of sin is death.’*** However, for those who heed Elohim's

call to return to Him in repentance through Yahshua, there is the promise recorded in the second part of verse 23, as follows: ***‘(but) the free gift of Elohim is eternal life in Messiah Yahshua our Master.’*** Yahshua our Messiah redeemed the first-fruits of the house of Israel from the death penalty, which we earned by transgressing the teachings of Elohim, but will also do so for the rest of mankind after the Great White Throne Judgement period, during which time they will be instructed in the way of Elohim and be given their first opportunity to accept or reject the way of Elohim, as may be understood from John 1: 29, in this way: ***‘The next day he (John the Immerser) saw Yahshua coming to him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of Elohim who takes away the sin of the world!”’*** Yahshua qualified to do this because He lived a sinless life as a ‘human being’ and never incurred the death penalty upon Himself, because He did not sin and as the Word of Elohim (our Creator) who became flesh, His life was more valuable than all other human lives together. He therefore paid the death penalty for all mankind. Elohim’s ultimate goal is to give eternal life to all those who obey and serve Him out of their own free will, but because we all have sinned, we brought the death penalty on ourselves. Even so, due to His love for His creation, Yahshua paid the death penalty by dying on the impalement stake in 31 CE, on our behalf. Consequently, when YHVH calls a believer and the believer decides to follow Him wholeheartedly by repenting and confessing his/her past sins to Elohim and return to full Torah obedience, the new believer should be immersed in the saving name of Yahshua and will (as a result of the laying on of hands of a teaching elder) receive a portion of the Set-apart Spirit (as recorded in Acts 2: 38 and 8: 12 - 17). At immersion, YHVH forgives us by applying Yahshua’s sacrifice to our past sins, when He becomes our personal Passover Lamb. That is why we keep the Passover at the season appointed for it, as a memorial of what YHVH has accomplished for us through Yahshua.

The Israelites were commanded to observe the Passover by killing and eating the Passover lamb (in Exodus 12), **but Yahshua the Passover who specifically came to redeem the lives of first-fruit returning Israelites (including a number of real Gentiles) from the second death, replaced the lamb sacrificed at Passover when He introduced ‘new symbols’ for those observing His memorial Passover. In the evening before His death, as the 13<sup>th</sup> of Aviv came to a close between sunset and the appearance of three stars besides the evening star (at twilight), Yahshua and His disciples observed the Passover differently to what the ancient Israelites were instructed to do, but also to the way the house of Judah is currently doing in accordance with the instructions given them by the mouth of YHVH through the hand of Moses in the second part of Deuteronomy 16: 6<sup>11</sup>. Yahshua changed the Passover ceremony for His disciples the night before His impalement, as a pattern of how they (but also us His modern day disciples) were to observe the Passover from then on, until His return in the near future, after which the house of Israel will probably do it in unison with the house of Judah.** Consequently, only returning Israelites (including a number or real Gentiles) called out of the religions of the world, who joined themselves to the covenant YHVH made with Abraham through faith in Messiah, who are circumcised in both heart (immersed) and flesh (only applicable to males) may partake of Messiah’s memorial Passover until He returns to rule the commonwealth of Israel, as the Kingdom of Elohim. They are those who repented from transgressing Elohim’s Torah teachings in the past, who accepted that Yahshua also died for their sin, and were immersed into His saving name. So, in addition to being immersed, the commandment given for the original Passover regarding males, still applies, as recorded in Exodus 12: 48, in this way: ***“But if a stranger sojourns with you, and celebrates the Passover to YHVH, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near to celebrate it; and he shall be like a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person may eat of it.”*** Nevertheless, Yahshua also introduced the foot washing ceremony as one of the new symbols for His memorial Passover, which He and His disciples kept on the night before His impalement. After taking a towel and pouring water into a basin,

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<sup>11</sup> Deuteronomy 16: 6, ***‘You shall sacrifice the Passover in the evening at sunset, at the time that you came out of Egypt.’*** This is absolutely correct for the house of Judah, since it also agrees with the timing of Yahshua’s death on the cross, when they normally kill their Passover lambs – at three o’clock in the afternoon!

Yahshua washed the feet of each one of the disciples – an action which they did not understand, as it was a function normally performed by household servants (as may be seen from John 13: 4 - 7). However, Yahshua explained His actions in John 13: 13 – 17, saying: ***“You call me Teacher and Master; and you are right, for so I am. (14) If I then, the Master and Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. (15) For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. (16) Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master; neither is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. (17) If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”*** Yahshua was essentially showing His disciples that He came to the earth to serve mankind and immediately after the Passover, He proved the extent of His service for this world when He gave His life to pay for the sins of all mankind. Foot washing shows an attitude of humility and service to others, which Yahshua wants every Nazarene to imitate in our lives.

Even though Unleavened Bread is not new to the original Passover, Yahshua introduced a new meaning to the Unleavened Bread eaten that evening, as we read from Matthew 26: 26, in this way: ***“And while they were eating, Yahshua took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is My body.’”*** Yahshua told His disciples that the unleavened bread which was broken, symbolized His body; before His impalement He was severely beaten and even though He was a hard working young man with a healthy body, it was a terrible beating. It was so severe that the skin on His back was torn from His bones, and many were no longer able to recognize Him, as was prophesied about Him in Isaiah 52: 14, as follows: ***“Just as many were astonished at you, My people, so His appearance was marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men.”*** Most believers, who partake of Matzo crackers (Unleavened Bread) during Passover, are not always aware of the meaning of the stripes and holes on these crackers, which our Jewish brothers dutifully make prior to baking it, without knowing the true reason for doing so. We know that physical illness is usually as a result of breaking physical health laws, such as not eating balanced meals; not sleeping enough; and not getting enough exercise. It could also be as a result of eating un-kosher foods, such as lobsters and the like, which could eventually result in us getting Lupus or another incurable disease. Sickness is the penalty we pay for breaking the physical laws, just like the second death is the penalty for breaking Spiritual Laws (or Torah). Even so, it is Elohim’s intention that we live happy, abundant lives, as we see He inspired Yochanan to write in 3 John 2, saying: ***“Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul (life) prospers.”*** Because of Elohim’s love for mankind, He allowed Yahshua to suffer immensely even though He did not break any physical health laws. However, He paid this penalty so that when we become ill or are involved in an accident, we may be healed, as witnessed in 1 Peter 2: 24, as follows: ***“And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.”*** When we become ill, we should follow the instructions given in James 5: 14 & 15, in this way: ***“Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the congregation, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Master; (15) and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Master will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him.”*** So we see that part of the meaning of the Unleavened Bread that we eat at Passover, is that YHVH promises to heal us. Another

very important part of the Passover service is the wine, which is symbolic of the shed blood of Yahshua, as witnessed in Matthew 26: 27 - 28, as follows: ***‘And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; (28) for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.”’*** According to the example that Yahshua left us, we partake of a little bit of wine after eating a small piece of unleavened bread, as a reminder of His shed blood. Yahshua’s shed blood freed us from the penalty of eternal death, because of the sins that we have committed. Even though we as Elohim’s people strive to obey the Torah, as flesh and blood humans we are not perfect yet and still sin at times. Fortunately we have Elohim’s promise, that if we repent of our sins and return to obeying Torah, He will forgive us.



There are those who agree that Yahshua was our Passover Lamb, but because He was impaled before the Jews of His day partook of the Passover, they hold that He could not partake of the Passover before He died. However, if Yahshua did not partake of the Passover before He died, He would have died for His own sin and you and I would be most miserable as the death penalty would still hang over our heads. How can I say that? Let's turn to Numbers 9: 2 & 3 to see what Torah teaches regarding this subject, in this way: ***"Now, let the sons of Israel observe the Passover at its appointed time. (3) On the fourteenth day of this month at twilight, you shall observe it at its appointed time; you shall observe it according to all its statutes and according to all its ordinances."*** From verse 4 on, it gives details why at times the children of Israel could not always observe the Passover at the appointed time; he/she might be on a journey or is unclean because he/she came in touch with a dead person (when a family member passed away and he/she had to bury the family member during the time of the Passover) and may therefore partake of a second Passover during the fourteenth day of the second month at twilight, as described in Numbers 9: 13, as follows: ***"But the man who is clean and is not on a journey, and yet neglects to observe the Passover, that person shall then be cut off from his people, for he did not present the offering of YHVH at its appointed time. That man shall bear his sin."*** If Yahshua did not partake of the Passover and died only for His own sin because He neglected to observe this important ceremony, we as returning Israelites from the lost ten tribes, and indeed the whole world would have a real problem, since we would as a result still be held captive by our past sins. Nevertheless, the original Passover was kept on the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight (transliterated as 'Bayn Ha-erbaim' in Hebrew meaning 'between the two evenings' or 'twilight time' in English). When is twilight? Some insist that twilight or 'between the two evenings', means the next afternoon or evening. They therefore suppose that the original Passover was kept at the end of the fourteenth. However, we see from the Scriptures that twilight simply means in the evening, as witnessed in the first part of Exodus 16: 8, in this way: ***'And Moses said, "This will happen when YHVH gives you meat to eat in the evening, and bread to the full in the morning."*** Continuing in verses 12 & 13 of Exodus 16, we read: ***"I have heard the grumbings of the sons of Israel; speak to them, saying 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; and you shall know that I am YHVH your Elohim'"*** (13) ***So it came about at evening*** (the beginning of the new day) ***that the quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.'*** It is therefore clear, by comparing these two sections of the Scriptures, that twilight does not mean the next evening; it is simply at the start of the day in the evening. According to Deuteronomy 16: 1 the Israelites left Egypt by night, we also read from Numbers 28: 16 & 17: ***"Then on the fourteenth day of the first month shall be Elohim's Passover. (17) And on the fifteenth day of this month shall be a feast, unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days."*** In addition, according to the last part of Exodus 12: 22, the Israelites were not permitted to leave their houses during the night of the fourteenth until the morning and if they left during the night of the Passover, they would have been disobedient to Elohim's instruction. We also read from Exodus 12: 29, ***"Now it came about at midnight that YHVH struck all the first-born in the land of Egypt, from the first-born of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the first-born of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the first-born of cattle."*** So they could not have left during the night of the Passover, but left during the next night, in the full moon to help them on their journey.

We read from Genesis 49: 10 that rulership (as far as religious matters are concerned) would remain with Judah, until Yahshua comes to rule the commonwealth of Israel, as the Kingdom of Elohim on earth. Whilst Yahshua's first advent was to bring a remnant of the lost ten tribes back to the covenant we made with Elohim, together with the house of Judah at Mount Sinai, His second advent is to come and rule the world from Jerusalem. We know that Yahshua kept the Passover a whole 24 hours before the Jews of His day did, at sunset on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Aviv, so that His death at three o' clock the next afternoon would coincide with the time when the Jews of His day slaughtered their Passover Lambs, before partaking of their Passover during the night they left Egypt as commanded

in Deuteronomy 16. That was the only change Yahshua, who was the prophet that YHVH promised Moses that He would raise for the Israelites from among their countrymen like him, through whom YHVH would speak all that He commands them in Deuteronomy 18: 18 & 19 – Yahshua kept all the other Set-apart days of Elohim with the Jews of His day and will only make any corrections to the Hebrew calendar at His return to rule, if necessary. This agrees with what our Jewish brothers believe regarding what Shiloh (a Scriptural name for the Messiah) will do when He comes. As returnees of the lost ten tribes, we keep the Passover at twilight on the fourteenth day of Aviv as a memorial to Messiah's death, as Rav Shaul also taught us in 1 Corinthians 11: 23 – 26, saying: ***“For I received from the Master that which I also delivered to you: that the Master Yahshua in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; (24) and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, “This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” (25) In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” (26) For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Master's death until He comes.’*** The Passover as a memorial to Yahshua's death is one of the traditions in which we follow Rav Shaul, as He followed Messiah, as we read from 1 Corinthians 11: 1 & 2 (and verse 23 above), as follows: ***‘Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Messiah. (2) Now I praise you because you remember me in everything, and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.’*** I know there are many Messianic Jews/Israelites who disregard the foot-washing service Messiah introduced at His last Passover as superfluous and that a great deal of what Rav Shaul taught was anti-Torah and should therefore be rejected.

However, we read the warning given us by Rav Kepha regarding the validity of Rav Shaul's teachings in 2 Peter 3: 13 – 16, saying: ***‘But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. (14) Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, (15) and regard the patience of our Master to be salvation; just as also our beloved brother Shaul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, (16) as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.’*** You and I may choose to disregard the traditions which Rav Shaul learnt from our Master Yahshua and taught the Nazarene Israelites to follow, but that could truly be one way in which we contradict what Yahshua taught. We read further from Mark 14: 13 & 14, ***‘And He sent two of His disciples, and said to them, “Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him; (14) and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher says, “Where is My guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?”’*** From this it is clear that Yahshua fully intended to eat the Passover with His disciples. In verse 16 of Mark 14, we also see that they prepared the Passover and in verse 18 that Yahshua ate the Passover when he said: ***“Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me – one who is eating with Me.”*** Continuing in verse 23 of Mark 14, we read: ***‘And when He had taken a cup, and given thanks, He gave it to them; and they all drank from it.’*** Brethren, whether you believe it or not, this was the Passover that Yahshua was partaking of, even though it was 24 hours prior to the Passover of the Jews. If it was the Passover, then I say to you again, if He did not partake of it, then we are all still in our sin, as we read in the last part of Numbers 9: 13 ***“That man shall bear his sin.”*** After Yahshua's death and resurrection, His disciples continued to follow His example by keeping the Passover and all the other festivals which He kept. Rav Shaul also continued to instruct the Nazarene Jews around 55 CE about the correct way to keep the Passover, as we read from 1 Corinthians 11. The Word of YHVH clearly shows that the people of Elohim will continue to observe the Passover as an annual memorial of His death.

The timing of the Passover has been debated by Bible students for many years. The Renewed Covenant clearly places the Passover kept by Yahshua and His disciples at the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> of Aviv, the evening during which He was betrayed. The Rabbinic understanding where the Passover

commences at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> of Aviv, with the 15<sup>th</sup> of Aviv as the High Sabbath was also the understanding of the Pharisees and Priests at the time of Messiah. A popular theory by those who insist that Yahshua did not partake of the Passover, is that He supposedly kept a mock Passover with His disciples the evening before the actual Passover, to show them how to keep the Passover the next afternoon and in the future, as He knew that He will be the Passover Lamb the following afternoon. However, we read from the four Gospels that Yahshua and His disciples *'kept the Passover', 'that we may eat it (Passover)', and 'prepared the Passover'*. The argument that the Passover that Yahshua kept was only a practice run, or mock Passover is usually "proven" by making use of Luke 22: 15 – 18, as follows: ***'And He (Yahshua) said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; (16) for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of Elohim."*** (17) ***And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; (18) for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the Kingdom of Elohim comes."*** However, reading from verse 8 to verse 22, we see that Yahshua actually ate this Passover, but would not eat it again until He comes to rule the world from Jerusalem. The theory of the mock Passover is presented saying that Yahshua really wanted to keep the Passover, yet wasn't going to be able to, because the actual Passover was only supposed to occur on the next afternoon after 3 pm. Others insist that Yahshua took a Nazirite vow and could not partake of the Passover, because he could not drink any wine. But, there is no indication in the Scriptures that Yahshua ever took a Nazirite vow, instead we read His own words in Luke 7: 33 & 34, as follows: ***"For John the Immerser has come eating no bread and drinking no wine; and you say, 'He has a demon!' (34) The Son of Man has come eating and drinking; and you say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man, and a drunkard, a friend of tax-gatherers and sinners!'"***

The second reason why some say that Yahshua did not partake of the Passover is because He referred to the cup of wine as the New Covenant in His blood, and since the New Covenant will only be inaugurated when the Kingdom of Elohim comes, He will only drink it at that time. However, absolutely nothing in the Renewed Covenant supports the theory of a mock Passover. Nowhere do we find His disciples gathered together the next evening keeping the Passover. They scattered after Yahshua was arrested and did not come together again until after His resurrection. The Nazarene system of keeping the Passover season is an eight day system, having Passover occurring on the 14<sup>th</sup> and seven days of unleavened bread follows from the 15<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup> of Aviv. This was also how the original Passover occurred, but was changed as part of the Renewed Covenant for the children of Israel in Deuteronomy 16, before they went into the Promised Land. To show this from the Tanach, let's examine the meaning of the text in Exodus 12: 6, in this way: ***'And you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it at twilight.'*** Continuing in verse 14 of Exodus 12, we read: ***'Now this day will be is a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it as a feast to YHVH; throughout your generations you are to celebrate it as a permanent ordinance.'*** Exodus 12: 6 and 14 establishes the 14<sup>th</sup> of Aviv as a memorial and a feast day to be kept throughout Israel's generations. Continuing on in Exodus 12: 15, we read: ***'Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, but on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses; for whoever eats anything leavened from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.'*** We know that the seven day period of Unleavened Bread starts after Passover. But, for this exercise, we need to hone in on the key phrase ***'first day'***. The Hebrew word which appears as *'first'* in this verse is transliterated as *'roshown'* and may be translated as *'head', 'chief', 'former or before'*. The Hebrew language is a contextual language with its terms relying on what surrounds them. The word *'roshown'* is translated as *'former'* in Numbers 6: 12 ***'and shall dedicate to YHVH his days as a Nazirite, and shall bring a male lamb a year old for a guilt offering; but the former days shall be void because his separation was defiled.'***

We read from the last part of Joshua 8: 33, ***'as Moses the servant of YHVH had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Israel. (KJV)'*** However, in this case note that the New American

Standard Bible reads: ***'just as Moses the servant of YHVH had given command at first to bless the people of Israel.'*** In this case 'roshown' is translated as 'before' or 'first'. In 1 Kings 13: 6, 'roshown' is again translated as 'before', in this way: ***'And the king answered and said to the man of Elohim, "Please entreat YHVH your Elohim, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored to me." So the man of Elohim entreated YHVH, and the king's hand was restored to him, and it became as it was before.'*** The literal meaning of the Hebrew word 'roshown' as before is also confirmed by ancient translations such as the Septuagint (LXX) and the Peshitta Tanach. The Greek Septuagint translation has "Prote", which essentially means the same thing as "roshown" and the Peshitta Aramaic Tanach has "kadmaya" from the Aramaic root "k'dam" also meaning 'before.' All these words for 'before' are translated as such, when there is context to place what follows it, after what is just mentioned. For example "roshown" is translated as 'before' in the phrase "first of the month" because there is nothing to place this month before. In Exodus 12: 15 – 19, the Nazarene System, is plain to see: ***'Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, but on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses; for whoever eats anything leavened from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel. (16) And on the first day you shall have a holy assembly, and another holy assembly on the seventh day; no work at all shall be done on them, except what must be eaten by every person, that alone may be prepared by you. (17) You shall also observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt; therefore you shall observe this day throughout your generations as a permanent ordinance. (18) In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening. (19) Seven days there shall be no leaven found in your houses; for whoever eats what is leavened, that person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is an alien or a native of the land.'***

Verse 17 confirms that the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Aviv is the first day of the seven days of Unleavened Bread, since we know from Numbers 33: 3 that the day in which Israel was brought out of Egypt was the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the first month; ***'on the next day after the Passover.'*** It is clear from Leviticus 23 and Deuteronomy 16, that there are actually eight days in which unleavened bread is eaten; from the 14<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>, but that there are only seven days (15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>) in which leaven is forbidden in dwellings. For clarity purposes we focus on the preposition 'until' in verse 18 similar to the way in which it is done in Hebrew. The transliterated Hebrew word used here is 'ad' which can mean 'during, even, unto, equally with'. It is clear that the Hebrew preposition 'ad' may or may not include the direct object in its usage. However, 'ad' in these instances includes the direct object which would be the 21<sup>st</sup>. The phrase ***"until the twenty-first day of the month at evening"*** is best interpreted chronologically just as it appears; i.e. after the 21<sup>st</sup>; there is an evening at which the feast ends. This understanding is supported by Leviticus 23: 32, as follows: ***"It is to be a Sabbath of complete rest to you, and you shall humble your souls; on the ninth of the month at evening, from evening until evening you shall keep your Sabbath."*** Here the fast for the Day of Atonement is started after the 9<sup>th</sup> at evening, but we know that the fast is on the 10<sup>th</sup> as per Leviticus 23: 27. Therefore, the evening that follows the ninth is the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup>. The point is one of succession of chronology as it relates to the phrase ***"until the twenty-first day of the month at evening"*** – the evening referred to in Exodus 12: 18 is therefore the evening that comes after the 21<sup>st</sup>.

The key to understanding the original Passover is given in Leviticus 23: 5 – 8, in this way: ***'In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight is Elohim's Passover. (6) Then on the fifteenth day of the same month there is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to YHVH for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. (7) On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not do any laborious work. (8) But for seven days you shall present an offering by fire to YHVH. On the seventh day is a holy convocation; you shall not do any laborious work.'*** The original Passover was kept on the 14<sup>th</sup> Aviv, as may be seen from both verse 5 of Leviticus 23 and verse 6 of Exodus

12. Verse 6 of Leviticus 23, as well as verse 7 of Exodus 12, shows that the 15<sup>th</sup> of Aviv as the day on which Israel left Egypt (as per Numbers 33: 3) and that this is the day in which the seven days of unleavened bread begins, during which only unleavened bread may be found in our homes. Verse 7 and 8 of Leviticus 23 clearly show that as in Exodus 12: 16, the first and seventh days of Unleavened Bread are days on which Set-apart convocations are to be held. Interestingly enough, verse 8 of Leviticus 23 mentions seven days in which burnt offerings were to be made – the timing of which follows the day of Passover and starts on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Aviv. We've seen before from the Renewed Covenant that Yahshua kept the Passover the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup> of Aviv, and was impaled, and buried on the day of preparation before the High Sabbath of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Aviv, as may be read in John 19: 31. The understanding of an eight day system for the Passover and Unleavened Bread is affirmed by Josephus in a statement that he made as recorded in Jos. Antiq. 2:15:1, "...we keep a feast for eight days which is called unleavened bread." Further details are given in a statement by Josephus at Jos. Antiq.3:10:5 *"In the month of Xanthicus, which is by us called Nisan (also known as Aviv), and is the beginning of our year. On the fourteenth day of the lunar month, when the sun is in Aries, (for in this month it was that we were delivered from bondage under the Egyptians) the law ordained that we should every year slay that sacrifice which I before told you we slew when we came out of Egypt, and which was called the Passover, and so we do celebrate this Passover in companies, leaving nothing of what we sacrifice till the day following. The feast of unleavened bread succeeds that of the Passover, and falls on the fifteenth day of the month, and continues seven days, wherein they feed on unleavened bread; on every one of which days two bulls are killed, and one ram, and seven lambs. Now these lambs are entirely burnt, besides the kid of the goats which is added to all the rest, for sins; for it is intended as a feast for the priest on every one of those days. But on the second day of unleavened bread, which is the sixteenth day of the month, they first partake of the fruits of the earth, for before that day they do not touch them."* This also confirms that the Omer account starts on the 16<sup>th</sup> of Aviv when the produce of the land was eaten, as witnessed in Joshua 5: 10 - 12. I hope this makes clear why we as Nazarene Israelites keep the Passover 24 hours before our Jewish Brothers, as a once a year memorial, until He comes. Even if some don't agree with this teaching, we need to partake of the Passover if we want to live eternally, as Yahshua taught in John 6: 58, saying: ***"This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate, and died, he who eats this bread shall live forever."*** Think about it!

## Chapter 11: Our need for Yahshua our Messiah.

There are many Messianic Jewish/Israelite believers who reject the writings of Rav Shaul, by insinuating that it is anti-Torah. The reason for their antagonism against what Rav Shaul taught comes from misinterpreting most of what he wrote to various groups of Israelites dispersed into the European continent more than 730 years after he was instructed by Yahshua to work amongst them as a minister and witness to the things he learnt from as a Jew, but also from Messiah during a three year training program in Damascus after Yahshua ascended to heaven. One example being the book of Galatians written specifically for the (Galutyah or) exiles of the house of Israel banished by Elohim because of idolatry.

It is also in the book of Ephesians that Rav Shaul explains how the two houses of Israel have been reconciled through the blood of Messiah into one body, or congregation of YHVH as He promised Abraham many years before in Genesis 12 – 18 and as recorded in Ephesians 2: 11 – 16, as follows ***‘Therefore remember, that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “Uncircumcision” by the so-called “Circumcision,” which is performed in the flesh by human hands— (12) remember that you were at that time separate from Messiah, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without Elohim in the world. (13) But now in Messiah Yahshua you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Messiah. (14) For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one, and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, (15) by abolishing in His flesh the enmity (the punishment due for our sins), which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances (judgments of the Torah), that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, (16) and might reconcile them both in one body (the body of Messiah) to Elohim through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.’*** Yahshua our Messiah the one seed of Abraham through whom YHVH promised Abraham that He will bring a remnant of the Israelites who were scattered into the world because of idolatry, back to the covenant He made with them together with the house of Judah at Mount Sinai, so that He may remarry His bride consisting of both houses of Israel and to establish the kingdom of Elohim over Israel at His return. Without belaboring the point, it was also for this reason that Rav Kepha warned us in 2 Peter 3: 13 – 16, saying: ***‘But according to His (Elohim’s) promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. (14) Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, (15) and regard the patience of our Master to be salvation; just as also our beloved brother Shaul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, (16) as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things in which some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.’***

All of the above is associated with Yahshua the Messiah’s main purpose for coming to earth; something which a small group of Nazarene Israelites only discovered as recently as ten years ago and which negated the missionary work done by Christianity for the past two thousand years and which Messianic Jews are trying to do among the house of Judah since 1973. Whereas the original Passover was to save the first-born Israelites from death during the tenth and last plague which killed all the first-born Egyptians and their animals, when YHVH saved them from exile in Egypt, Messiah’s memorial Passover was to save the first-fruit Israelites called from the house of Israel and those from the house of Judah who remained Torah observant from the second death during the Great White Throne judgment. This discovery is in fact totally in agreement with the prophecy by the Prophet Daniel about the time of the end in Daniel 12: 2 - 4, as follows: ***“And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt. (3) And those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. (4) But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many***

***will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.***” Not many realize that YHVH has revealed a major truth to those of us living during these end times. It is also very hard for many learned Bible Teachers and students to after studying the facts about this discovery, even with the required two or three Scriptural witnesses, to agree that YHVH has revealed his truths including the Oneness of Elohim, to those who are supposed to be babes and not to the wise and intelligent, as Yahshua witnessed about the Oneness of Elohim in Luke 10: 21 – 24, saying ***“I praise Thee, O Father, Adonai of heaven and earth, that Thou didst hide these things from the wise and intelligent and didst reveal them to babes. Yes, Father, for thus it was well pleasing in Thy sight. (22) All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.” (23) ‘And turning to the disciples, He said privately, “Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see, (24) for I say to you, that many prophets and kings wished to see the things which you see, and did not see them, and to hear the things which you hear, and did not hear them.”***” The truth about Messiah’s main purpose is so incredible that most people cannot believe it, since it requires that they reject most of what they have been taught about religion in the past.

Many think it is impossible that something so important as the salvation of all mankind have been hidden in plain sight for so long, yet this is in accordance to what YHVH told us through His prophet Daniel about four hundred years before Messiah’s first advent. In addition the churches of the world cannot afford to confirm or accept this truth, since it will lose them all their tithes and offerings that they receive from almost a billion deceived members. It therefore pays them to make sure that these Scriptural truths never come to light. In addition they have Satan’s support in this respect, as witnessed from Revelation 12: 9, as follows: ***‘And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.’*** This is nonetheless another fact that proves Yahshua existed before the creation of mankind and that He is Elohim, when He told His disciples in Luke 10: 18, saying: ***“I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning.’*** But, despite all the opposition to this newly revealed truth, we need to be mindful that YHVH the Elohim of Israel is in control and these churches (or more specifically Esau under the guise of the Roman Catholic Church) will soon lose their grip on the house of Israel, as YHVH is beginning to bring about the salvation of His people as He promised Moses He will do in Deuteronomy 4: 27 – 31, saying: ***“And YHVH will scatter you among the peoples, and you shall be left few in number among the nations, where YHVH shall drive you. (28) But from there you will serve gods, the work of man’s hands, wood and stone, which neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell. (29) And there you will seek YHVH your Elohim, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul. (30) When you are in distress and all these things have come upon you, in the latter days, you will return to YHVH your Elohim and listen to His voice. (31) For YHVH your Elohim is a compassionate Elohim; He will not fail you nor destroy you nor forget the covenant with your fathers which He swore to them.”*** YHVH has during the past 120 years slowly but surely woken a remnant from the house of Israel up to their identity and they have over many years started obeying Elohim’s commands regarding His Sabbaths and Set-apart Days and many are also beginning to keep the food laws given in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14. In addition they started proclaiming the good news of the coming Kingdom of Elohim into the world, as Messiah instructed His original disciples to do. But, a large percentage of returnees still need to discover Messiah’s main purpose, which I believe will change their entire outlook towards especially our Jewish Brothers. What most still have to discover, is that there cannot be a kingdom of Elohim without both houses of Israel being present.

But herein lies a major problem, in that when some discovered they are from the house of Israel during the past ten years and that Yahshua’s main purpose was to bring us back to the faith into which He was born, they question the need for ‘Yeshua’ (the name they use to refer to our Savior and Messiah) in their return to the Torah covenant with Elohim. Some of them immediately started a lengthy conversion process at their local Jewish synagogue, requiring them to actually contradict

or deny 'Yeshua'. I am not talking about Messianic Jews, who are full-blooded Jews that eventually decided to go back to Rabbinic Judaism. No, I am talking about people like us; half-Jews and Israelites from the lost ten tribes who come to this incorrect conclusion, since we can only go back to the covenant we made with YHVH at Mount Sinai through Yahshua. You and I from the lost ten tribes, who have forgotten what sin was, because we were taught the Tanach did not apply to believers in Messiah any longer, because our teachers taught falsely that He came to do away with the strict Laws of YHVH. I am also not talking about young people from the house of Israel who were never really involved in the churches of the world by their own choice after they left their parent's homes. They have a choice as adults regarding the religion they want to affiliate with and may elect to join the local synagogue and have my full blessing for so doing. But, we who were part of the churches of the world because of our own choice can only get back to the covenant our forefathers made with Elohim, through Yahshua. Our forefathers who travelled to Europe and beyond committed a serious offense against YHVH and even though we know that Israel is our spiritual home, we are too impoverished by the multitude of our sins and spiritual adulteries, to assume that we may return on our own merit. Since we started studying Torah, we have learnt that there is a specific provision made for us; Torah specifically teaches that if an Israelite loses his connection with his inheritance and is too deprived to buy it back, his kinsman may redeem it on his behalf. This is recorded for us in Leviticus 25: 25, as follow: ***'If a fellow countryman of yours become so poor he has to sell part of his property, then his nearest kinsman is to come and buy back what his relative has sold.'*** An example of this may be found in the Book of Ruth in the Scriptures. The kinsman redeemer is according to the law of lineage the designated person to purchase the property of an impoverished relative so as to keep it in the family.

But this is also in line what all Jews believe the real Messiah (or Moshiach) has to fulfil as prove that He is in fact the Messiah as codified by Rambam: *"The Moshiach King will arise and restore the sovereignty of the House of David to its previous status as it was during {David's} original rule, build the {Beis} HaMikdash and gather in the Diaspora of Israel. Additionally, during his days, all the {Torah's} laws will be re-implemented as they were previously: people will bring offerings and Shemita, and Yovel years will be practiced according to all of their rules specified in the Torah."* The first point to make is that the Moshiach is required to descend from the House of David. Davidic lineage, like all lineages in Judaism, is established paternally, and therefore the Moshiach is required to be a direct male-to-male descendant of David. The requirement for Davidic descent originates from Hashem's promise to David that his royal dynasty and right to the throne would extend forever. (2 Samuel 7: 16). While this general description provides some of the details of the requirements, the Rambam codifies that there are in fact two stages to belief that a particular individual is the Moshiach – presumption that an individual is the Moshiach; and complete confirmation thereof: *"And if a king from the House of David shall arise, learned in Torah and engaged in mitzvos like his forefather, David, according to {both} the Written Torah and the Oral Torah, and further he:*

- *Compels all of Israel to walk in {the ways of the Torah}....*
- *Fights wars of Hashem (to restore Jewish sovereignty over the land of Israel and implement Torah law)*

*Then {such a person} is presumed (although not confirmed) to be the Moshiach. If he does this and is successful and he:*

- *Defeats all of the nations that surround him;*
- *Rebuilds the {Beis} HaMikdash in its correct place; and*
- *Gathers in the Diaspora of Israel then he is certainly the Moshiach.*

*However, if he is not successful in achieving all of these things or he is killed, then it is known that this person is not the one the Torah promised and he is like all the other proper and upstanding kings of the House of David who died."*

The house of Judah has returned to the land of Israel, which they lost temporarily because of mainly the sins of Manasseh who followed his father King Hezekiah up, as king over Judah as is recorded in



2 Kings 21: 16, in this way: ***‘Moreover, Manasseh shed very much innocent blood until he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; besides his sin with which he made Judah sin, in doing evil in the sight of YHVH.’*** Even though Manasseh repented later in his life, his sins were considered so severe and YHVH did not relent from punishing Judah for it, as we read from 2 Kings 23: 26 & 27, as follows: ***‘However, YHVH did not turn from the fierceness of His great wrath with which His anger burned against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked Him. (27) And YHVH said, “I will remove Judah also from My sight, as I have removed Israel. And I will cast off Jerusalem, this city which I have chosen, and the temple of which I said, ‘My name shall be there.’”*** But, the house of Israel which lost all their rights because they abandoned Elohim’s covenant altogether, need to have their place in Elohim’s country purchased back, if they want it to be lawfully and rightfully theirs once again. The kinsman redeemer for the lost ten tribes will therefore have to be someone who is even now totally devoted to the covenant with Elohim. As recorded in the correct translation of Hosea 11: 12 (KJV)<sup>12</sup>, Judah is in such a position, so the kinsman redeemer would have to come from that tribe. This is how Yahshua our Messiah fits into the puzzle. The Messiah had to be a descendant of David and was therefore also from the tribe of Judah, as witnessed from Jeremiah 33: 15 & 16, in this way: ***“In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch of David to spring forth; and He shall execute justice and righteousness on the earth.”*** We read from Isaiah 49: 6, ***‘He says, “It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up (from the dead) the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”*** We see consequently that Messiah will be the one responsible to bring back the house of Israel to their inheritance. He is absolutely indispensable to bring us back in repentance (Teshuvah) to the Father.

Daniel prophesied the time frame when Yahshua would arrive on the scene in Daniel 9: 24 - 27, as follows: ***“Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make and end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy (set-apart) place. (25) So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. (26) Then after the sixty two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. (27) And he will make a firm covenant the with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain (wave sheaf) offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction (the KJV reads: the consummation, meaning the end time here), one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.’*** The year of Yahshua’s impalement and the Passover, can be confirmed by correlating the prophecy of Daniel 9 with the occurrence described in Ezra 7. Daniel explained that there would be a time period of ‘seventy weeks’ that is to say 490 prophetic days. We are also told that 69 of these ‘weeks’, i.e. 483 years would run from the time of the decree to rebuilt Jerusalem until the Messiah’s appearance. This decree of King Artaxerxes that commences the count of the prophetic ‘weeks’ is recorded in Ezra 7. Ezra arrived in Jerusalem with the decree in the summer of 457 BCE. Adding 483 years to 457 BCE, brings us to 27 CE. This is the year during which Yahshua was immersed; He was about 30 years of age and His ministry began at the time when Yochanan the Immerser’s came to an end. Most researchers agree that His ministry lasted for 3½ years; He started His ministry in the fall (September/October) of 27 CE and was impaled in the spring

<sup>12</sup> Hosea 11: 12, ***‘Ephraim compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit: but Judah yet ruleth with Elohim and is faithful with the saints.’*** So we see that even the Bible Translators were and are trying to put the house of Judah in a bad light, but in the end the truth will prevail. It was similar with Hitler who was looking for the final solution to the world’s problems and they were right under his nose, but he elected to kill them instead of making use of Elohim’s chosen people’s know how.

of 31 CE. We know that Yahshua was impaled on the 4<sup>th</sup> day (or the middle) of the week and was resurrected three days and three nights later, at the end of the weekly Sabbath. This means that the Passover of 31 CE, the scripturally established time of His impalement, occurred on a Wednesday of that week. (For interest sake: Yahshua was cut off in the middle of the week, or after a ministry of only 3½ years. It is also believed that He will cut the 7 year period of the Great Tribulation (short) in half, at His return; thereby accounting for the difference of one week (7 years) between the 69 and 70 'weeks' prophesied in Daniel 9.)

Both the British and U.S. Naval Observatories confirm that, that particular Passover occurred on the fourth day of the week (or Wednesday) that year. This agrees with the prophecy in Daniel 9: 27, which predicted that Yahshua would be cut off in the middle of the week. He was in the grave for three full days and three full nights according to His claim in Matthew 12: 40 and as witnessed of His resurrection in Matthew 28: 1 – 6. Titus a Roman general overpowered Jerusalem on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 70 CE. His soldiers burned the Temple against his orders, with the result that the gold in the Temple melted down into the temple stones. It took another seven months to remove the melted gold from the destroyed Temple building, bringing us to about the same time in 71 CE, when Yahshua was impaled 40 years earlier. Titus returned to Rome in the spring of 71 CE. Yahshua predicted the destruction of the Temple in Matthew 24: 1 & 2, and added in Matthew 24: 34, saying: ***“Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.”*** In Scriptural times a generation was said to be 40 years as may be read from Psalm 95: 10 and Hebrews 3: 9 – 10; from the spring of 31 CE to spring of 71 CE is exactly 40 years, which is in total agreement with what Yahshua said. Zechariah even gives us Messiah’s name. The righteous Branch spoken about in Jeremiah 33: 15 refers to the Messiah. In Zechariah 3: 8 & 9 he tells us that the name of ***‘My servant the Branch’*** is Joshua and in Zechariah 6: 11 & 12 Joshua is crowned. We read further from verse 13, ***“Yes, it is He who will build the temple of YHVH (meaning us, the ecclesia of called out believers), and He who will bear the honor and sit and rule on His throne. Thus, He will be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace will be between the two offices.”*** Many orthodox Jews are busy coming to the conclusion that Yahshua was indeed the Messiah. The great Kabbalist Rabbi Yitzach Kaduri passed away on January 29, 2005. Just prior to his death, he gave an envelope containing a letter in which he said he will reveal the coming Messiah’s name. However, he told his students to only open the letter a year later, on the date that he died. When they opened the letter they found the name written in his hand, stating the name of Messiah to be Yehoshua. Even so, these Torah keeping Jews did not because of this revelation become Christians, since they understood Messiah’s message to be ***‘to the Jew first’***, as is confirmed in Romans 1: 16.

We who have been called from the Christian churches of the world need to realize that there is a major difference between believing in Yahshua the Messiah and *‘J\*e\*s\*u\*s\* C\* h\*r\*i\*s\*t’* of Christianity. The one whom Christianity serve is the one who performed many miracles, but denied Torah, and is therefore not acceptable to Judaism in accordance with Deuteronomy 13: 1 – 3, as follows: ***“If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, (2) and the sign or the wonder comes true, concerning which he spoke to you, saying ‘Let us go after other gods (whom you have not known) and let us serve them, (3) you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams: for YHVH your Elohim is testing you to find out if you love YHVH your Elohim with all your heart and with all your soul.”*** Forty days after Yahshua’s resurrection, when He was about to ascend to heaven and He together with His disciples began climbing the Mount of Olives, His disciples became very excited since they knew that according to Zechariah 14: 4, the kingdom (of Elohim) would come when Messiah’s feet touches the same mountain. That is also why they asked Him at that time in Acts 1: 6 saying, ***“Master is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?”*** Yahshua replied in verse 7 & 8, saying to them, ***“It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; (8) but you shall receive power when the Holy (Set-apart) Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”***

Yahshua's parable of the prodigal son, who asked His father to give him his portion of his inheritance and then went and squandered it on living it up, pictures Ephraim, who is representative of the lost ten tribes. Judah is pictured by the Father's eldest son, who remained with Him. Though YHVH had forsaken Ephraim for a time, He says of him in Jeremiah 31: 10, ***'Hear the word of YHVH, O nations, and declare in the coastlands afar off, and say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock."*** We see in John 10: 11, Yahshua identified Himself to the Jews as being the *'good shepherd'*. Continuing in verse 16 of John 10, He also said to them: ***"And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they shall hear My voice; and they shall become one flock with one shepherd."*** Yahshua was referring here to Ezekiel's prophesy in Ezekiel 34: 23, as follows: ***"Then I will set over them one shepherd, My servant David, and he will feed them; he will feed them himself and be their shepherd."*** Yahshua never denied that He had come to restore the kingdom of Israel. Far from it! In fact all He did was to turn His disciples' focus on finding the subjects of the house of Israel, as we read from Matthew 10: 5 & 6, saying: ***"Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans; (6) but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*** Yahshua also said to the Canaanite woman who asked Him to show mercy to her demon possessed daughter in Matthew 15: 24 ***"I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*** In fact Yahshua was sending His disciples out to draw Ephraim back to the covenant that they forsook, as He was the Kinsman Redeemer for the prodigal tribes. The leaders in Yahshua's community laid down four ground-rules in Acts 15 for new believers to follow at the beginning of their walk in the way of Elohim. The basics of Kashrut and niddah and the forsaking of idolatry and immorality were the first requirements for new believers. These are the things which today's Messianic Jews/Israelites and like-minded believers (such as members of the Churches of G-d and the Assemblies of YHVH) do not even keep, let alone the fact that they ignore the very next qualifying statement in Acts 15: 21, in this way: ***"For Moses from ancient generations has in every city those who preach him, since he is read in the synagogues every Sabbath."*** This is saying that repentance to full Torah observance is a process, where initially we follow the basic four ground-rules and then as we learn about the Sabbath and Feast Days of Elohim, the wearing of tzitzit and circumcision, we will eventually grow to a point where we are fully Torah observant, if we attend a local synagogue or a fellowship like ours.

According to Ezekiel 37, it will be YHVH who will ensure that once the fullness of the Gentiles (who are called by {YHVH}'s name – meaning members of the lost ten tribes who used to believe they are nothing but Gentiles, plus a number of real Gentiles) have come out of the world and started keeping the Sabbath and the annual Feast Days of Elohim, eating only kosher foods and studying and obeying Torah, so much so that our conduct make our Jewish brothers jealous and the two houses of Israel, will once more become one in His hand. Yahshua's death was to redeem the first-born children from the house of Israel and eventually also for the rest of mankind, after the second resurrection during the Great White Throne judgment period, but also to be able to remarry His bride, whom He divorced because of Idolatry. We read accordingly from Roman 7: 1 – 4, in this way: ***'Or do you not know, brethren (for I am speaking to those who know the law of divorce and remarriage), that the law has jurisdiction over a person as long as he lives? (2) For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband. (3) So then if, while her husband is living, she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress, though she is joined to another man. (4) Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Messiah, that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, that we might bear fruit for Elohim.'*** That was why Yahshua's dying words on the stake was *'Kallah'* meaning *'it is finished'* but also *'My bride'* as recorded in John 19: 30. When He died He confirmed that because we died in immersion in Him and He died for us, He will now be able to remarry us, His ecclesia of called out believers, who will be resurrected or changed, at His return to earth.

When we come to YHVH through the only door available to us, we should not be reluctant to confess Him to those who ask us about the hope that is within us, through Yahshua our Messiah. It is for this reason that Yahshua told His disciples in Matthew 10: 32 & 33, saying: ***“Everyone therefore who shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. (33) But whoever shall deny Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.”*** No matter who or what we believe Yahshua is, we need to be aware of what Rav Shaul wrote about Him in Philippians 2: 5 – 11, in this way: ***‘Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Messiah Yahshua, (6) who, although He existed in the form of Elohim, did not regard equality with Elohim a thing to be grasped, (7) but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. (8) And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (9) Therefore also Elohim highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, (10) that at the name of Yahshua EVERY KNEE SHOULD BOW, of those who are in heaven, and on earth and under the earth, (11) and that every tongue should confess that Yahshua Messiah is Master, to the glory of Elohim the Father.’*** This is quoted from Isaiah 45: 23, where we read: ***“I have sworn by Myself, the word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness and will not turn back, that to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance.”*** We continue to read from verse 24 of Isaiah 45, ***“They will say of Me, ‘Only in YHVH are righteousness and strength.’ Men will come to Him, and all who were angry at Him shall be put to shame.”*** It is important for those of us who are returning from the lost ten tribes, not to deny our Master and Savior, even if we are compelled through circumstances to join the synagogue, which is the last thing that I will recommend, as we are already following in the way of Elohim, shown us by Yahshua our Savior.

We see from first Timothy 6: 16 that no one has ever seen or can see YHVH, as He is a Spirit Being. Yahshua our Messiah; the visible image of the invisible Elohim (as per Colossians 1: 15) is the only way in which we as flesh and blood human beings can relate to the Father. It is for that reason that Yahshua the Messiah will rule us during the millennium and will remain with us until after the great white throne judgment, as witnessed in first Corinthians 15: 22 – 28, in this way: ***‘For as in Adam all die, so also in Messiah all shall be made alive (as spiritual children of Elohim). (23) But each in his own order: Messiah the first fruit(s), after that those who are Messiah’s at His coming, (24) then comes the end (ones), when He delivers up the kingdom to the Elohim and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. (25) For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. (26) The last enemy that will be abolished is death (as may be read from Revelation 20: 14, when there will not be any physical human beings prone to death any longer). (27) For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. (28) And when all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, that Elohim may be all in all.’*** Yes, Yahshua the visible image of the invisible Elohim will be around until all human beings have been changed into spirit-born children of Elohim.

Even though the Scriptures do not say so directly, but from reading Revelation 22: 1 – 4, it appears as if Yahshua the lamb of Elohim, will go back into the Father, from where He came (John 1: 18), as follows: ***‘And he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne (singular) of Elohim and the Lamb (The footnote against the words the Lamb in the NASB reads: or the Lamb), (2) In the middle of its street. And on either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. (3) And there shall no longer be any curse; and the throne of Elohim and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His bond-servants shall serve Him; (4) and they shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.’***

We need to be very careful not to follow those who misinterpret Rav Shaul's writings and deny or contradict what our Master Yahshua Messiah taught and did whilst He was on earth. You and I from the lost ten tribes, who have been granted Elohim's mercy to return to the covenant that our forefathers made with YHVH at Mount Sinai, with our Jewish Brothers, can only do so in and through the blood of Messiah – the blood by which the Renewed Covenant is busy being ratified in the hearts of returning members of the house of Israel; something that will only be completed when Messiah returns to remarry His bride consisting of both the house of Israel and the house of Judah. Think about it!

**Bibliography and contact details of the publisher:**

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1. **New American Standard Bible quoted throughout, unless otherwise indicated and Set-apart Names corrected in quotes used in accordance with this Bible's 'Principles of Translation'.**
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