

THE
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Errors in teaching and errors in judgment have been made over the centuries since Apostolic times. Consequently, it is the intention of the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh to search deeply into the sacred Scriptures to determine what Almighty Yahweh demands of us to obtain our eternal salvation. Are you also committed to seeking first the Kingdom of Yahweh?



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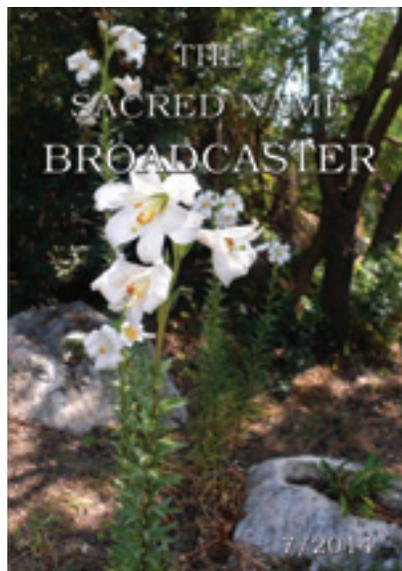
We are urged in the sacred Scriptures to seek wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, and, then, to apply them in our daily lives. Do you have the inclination to study the Word and to obey what the sacred Scriptures teach?

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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer



Our Cover:

The verdant days of summer are but for a fleeting moment, and then the flowers and the fruit of the growing season are gone.

We are admonished by Moses that our days upon earth are as withering grass. "So teach us to number our days, that we may get us a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:12).

The Apostle Peter, quoting Isaiah 40:8, guides us to the living and enduring Word of Yahweh where we find the pathway to life. "For, all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of it as the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls; but the word of Yahweh endures forever. And this is the word of good tidings which was preached to you." (1 Peter 1:24-25).

Are you making your calling and election sure?



“And working together with him we entreat also that you receive not the grace of Yahweh in vain (for he says, At an acceptable time I listened to you, And in a day of salvation did I help you: behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is a day of salvation): giving no occasion of stumbling in anything, that our ministration be not blamed; but in everything commending ourselves, as ministers of Yahweh, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in watchings, in fastings; in pureness, in knowledge, in long-suffering, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in love unfeigned, in the word of truth, in the power of Yahweh; by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things. Our mouth is open to you, Oh Corinthians, our heart is enlarged. You are not distressed in us, but you are distressed in your own affections. Now for a recompense in like kind (I speak as unto children), you also be enlarged. Be not unequally yoked with unbelievers: for what fellowship have righteousness and iniquity? Or what communion has light with darkness? And what concord has the Messiah with Belial? Or what portion has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has a temple of Yahweh with idols? For we are a temple of the living Elohim; even as Yahweh said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their Elohim, and they

shall be my people. Therefore Come out from among them, and be separate, says Yahweh, and touch no unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be to you a Father, and you shall be to me sons and daughters, says Yahweh Almighty.” (2 Corinthians 6:1-18).

We find a very strong statement in Deuteronomy 11:8-9 that will support this stirring passage written by Paul, which we have just read. *“Therefore shall you keep every commandment which I command you this day, that you may be strong, and go in and possess the land, which you go over to possess; and that you may prolong your days in the land, which Yahweh swore to your fathers to give to them and to their seed, a land flowing with milk and honey.”*

Just exactly what does Almighty Yahweh mean by these declarations to His people concerning His commandments? Notice carefully the imperative in verse 8.

1. **“...KEEP EVERY COMMANDMENT.”** Now that is a candid, straightforward statement. Almighty Yahweh did not wish to burden us, but He wished us to be instructed in how we can attain to the righteous character such as He possesses.
2. To continue with the relative clause modifying the term commandment: **“...WHICH I COMMAND YOU THIS DAY.”** (Deuteronomy 11:8b). There are no options open to misunderstand the instructions. Almighty Yahweh has been quite straightforward here when He says, “...keep every commandment which I command you this day.” In other words, read the book of Deuteronomy and learn what I command, and then obey the instructions.
3. **“...THAT YOU MAY BE STRONG.”** Have you ever thought about what this could mean? It must mean physical well-being as well as spiritual strength and character. Almighty Yahweh has given us this commandment to reinforce the idea that we may be strong physically. As members of the Assemblies of Yahweh, we work very hard six days each week. If it were not for the Sabbath, could we be as strong physically as we are? What about our spiritual strength? Almighty Yahweh has indeed given us many commandments designed to build spiritual character.
4. **“...And go in.”** Preparing for the future is a very important purpose for keeping Yahweh’s commandments. We cannot pick and choose; we are told to obey EVERY COMMANDMENT that He has included in His Word. We are instructed to prepare for a future by being obedient now. Obviously from the New Testament, we find that this future will be the Kingdom of Yahweh and the promise of life eternal.
5. **“...And possess the land.”** I am carrying the ellipsis forward each time I read. Yahweh has offered us an inheritance in His eternal new Kingdom age. Almighty Yahweh has offered this inheritance to His obedient spiritual children as a possession—to possess the land (the earth). We must keep Yahweh’s commandments.
6. **“... Which you go over to possess”** The concept of POSSESS means *to own or rule over*. Consequently, Almighty Yahweh intends to populate this land (the earth) which He has given to His people with individuals who faithfully obey His commandments. Those who rule over the land must do so properly, even as He originally bestowed this commission upon Adam and Eve.
7. **“...And that you may prolong your days in the land.”** This concept strongly implies durability. “Prolonging the days” has the implication of eternal life. Consequently, Yahweh is telling us that our lives, our days, may be preserved for a long duration if we obey His commandments. I marvel when I read of the long lives of the patriarchs as I teach the book of Genesis in the Bible 1 class of Obadiah School of the Bible. How did they live? What did they eat? Just exactly why were they blessed with such long lives? Of course, we may never learn all of the answers in this life, but in the Kingdom of Yahweh we certainly shall understand more accurately. Right now we are learning the commandments of Yahweh so that we may acquire a firm foundation upon which to build for a long duration of life in Yahweh’s Kingdom.
8. **“...Which Yahweh swore to your fathers to give to them.”** What is He telling us? Yahweh, in His Word, has made irrevocable promises. These are promises that He will never take back. Yahweh swore and made firm promises to our forefathers to give them this land.
9. **“...And to their seed.”** Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were faithful. Their physical seed is Israel, and the seed to receive these promises fulfilled in our time has been described as the spiritual Israel of Yahweh.
10. **“...A land flowing with milk and honey.”** All good things to sustain life have been promised to the people of Yahweh. These are some very strong statements.

In our communications with brethren and people of good will, we sometimes hear that the doctrines of the Assemblies of Yahweh are too restrictive and that a little more liberal interpretation might be possible. It seems that label reading for serving Almighty Yahweh is not always necessarily pleasing to some people. Occasionally, it is ventured that since the government approves the packaging and sale of food items, one can simply rely upon that substantiation and simply pull the food from the store shelves that he might wish to purchase.

However, the Apostle Paul clearly has forestalled such ideas when he stated in the passage we read previously as he taught, **“Therefore COME OUT FROM among them, and be separate, says Yahweh, and TOUCH NO UNCLEAN THING; and I will receive you, and will be to you a Father, and you shall be to me sons and daughters, says Yahweh Almighty.”** Then, the Apostle Paul continues with chapter 7, **“Having therefore these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of Elohim.”**

We are required to cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh. People tend to imagine that the biblical teaching which they receive in a religious organization is meant only to improve the spiritual life and to cleanse us spiritually. Here we learn that, additionally, we must be cleansed FROM ALL DEFILEMENT OF THE FLESH, as well as the spirit!

You are what you eat! That has been proven to the author and numerous other people on many different occasions. If we eat what Almighty Yahweh in His great love for His people has approved for us, that we are allowed to take into our physical bodies, then we may be strong enough to possess the Kingdom of Yahweh and, eventually, we may be accepted to rule over the earth in the Kingdom age.

Years ago, it was said by some Sabbath-keeping preachers that the dietary laws of Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 were only meant as a physical act. To them, they contained only a physical application. After meditating on that statement early in my formative years, I came to the conclusion that their opinion was entirely false, because, not only do the dietary laws have a physical application to make us strong physically, the spiritual application is one of learning obedience to the commandments contained in the inspired, sacred Scriptures. Yahweh has spoken. He has made various statements; numerous commandments have been ordained for us; therefore, it is also A SPIRITUAL ACT when we learn to submit and obey those commandments incorporated in the dietary Law.

We read in Leviticus chapter 11, beginning with verse 43-44, ***“You shall not make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing that creeps, neither shall you make yourselves unclean with them, that you should be defiled by it. For I am Yahweh your Elohim: sanctify yourselves therefore, and be holy; for I am holy: neither shall you defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that moves upon the earth.”*** This passage quite clearly informs us that if we put into our mouths anything that is abominable in Yahweh’s sight, we become abominable, unclean, and unholy, repulsive in His sight. We are what we eat, spiritually as well as physically. If we eat scripturally sanctioned food, which is approved in Yahweh’s Laws, sanctified food, then we can be righteous—sanctified. If we eat what Yahweh’s Word has prohibited, we become abominable in His sight.

“These are the beasts which you may eat: the ox, the sheep, and the goat...” (Deuteronomy 14:4). Continuing in the text, Yahweh lists several wild animals, ***“...the hart, and the gazelle, and the roebuck, and the wild goat,***

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and the pygarg, and the antelope, and the chamois.” Each one of these animals is scripturally clean according to Almighty Yahweh’s Law, and, therefore, we may eat them.

“And every beast that has a split hoof divided in two, and chews the cud, among the beasts, that you may eat. Nevertheless these you shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that have a split hoof completely divided....” Consequently, when we traveled in the Philippines, at one time we ate water buffalo (caribou). This is a clean animal, and we enjoyed eating the flesh.

Here the text enumerates those animals that do not chew the cud, or have a split hoof—completely divided, and are, therefore, prohibited as human food. Yahweh names them specifically: ***“ ... The camel, and the hare, and the coney;***

because they chew the cud but do not have a split hoof, they are unclean to you.” The camel chews its cud, but has a big padded foot, not a divided hoof. The hare chews the cud, but it has a paw like a dog or cat. The coney is another species of wild rabbit.

“And the swine, because he has a split hoof, but does not chew the cud, he is unclean to you: of their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch.”

Now, these animals have been completely prohibited by the Word of Yahweh. ***“... OF THEIR FLESH YOU SHALL NOT EAT,”*** this language is certainly plain enough! If we put any of their flesh, even a very small portion of their flesh in our mouths to eat it, we become unclean, unsanctified. Any part of their carcasses, we may not touch!

There are two aspects of the Law legislated here. One Law says, ***“you shall not eat”*** and the second Law says, ***“you shall not touch.”*** Remember the lesson of Genesis chapter 2 where Yahweh speaks to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. ***“And Yahweh Elohim commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of knowing the good and [knowing the] evil, you shall not eat of it: for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”*** (Genesis 2: 16-17). Nevertheless, there are people who seem unable to separate themselves from eating unclean food. Why?

In Alaska some years ago, a whole tribe of Eskimos suddenly became sick. The doctors discovered that these Eskimos had contracted trichinosis. It just so happened that in the Cree (American Indian) language, the name *Eskimo* means *he eats it raw*. This is how the Eskimos eat a lot of their meat and blubber (fat) of whales and seals (all biblically unclean creatures). They eat this animal flesh raw. This is what happened to the Eskimos; they killed a polar bear, and then the

flesh and the organ meat was eaten raw, whereupon they contracted trichinosis from the bear that had eaten garbage.

The trichina parasite requires a host body for survival. The hog serves as a common host. If meat is eaten from any of these unclean animals, there is a possibility that the individual will contract trichinosis. The trichina organism enters the body and bloodstream of the host and goes into the muscles. It will eventually invade even the heart, which is also a muscle. Consequently, people may sustain heart attacks at young ages when otherwise they would be able to live long lives. (This happened to a Fordham University athlete recently.) Therefore, the people are no longer strong. Physically speaking, they have become weak through having contracted these debilitating diseases. Spiritually, they are also weak through disobedience to the commandments of Almighty Yahweh.

Let us continue reading, ***“These you may eat of all that are in the waters: whatever has fins and scales you may eat; and whatever does not have fins and scales you shall not eat; it is unclean to you.”*** (Deuteronomy 14:9-10). The world today ignores, or deliberately spurns, these aspects of Yahweh’s Law. They say, “I eat what I want to eat.” Coming from the waters you will find the flesh of snakes, sharks, alligators, turtles, shrimp, lobsters, clams, and oysters that become exotic food offered for human consumption and even approved by the government.

Yahweh says whatever is in the waters that does not have fins and

scales is unclean. The term “white fish” should make you very apprehensive, unless you know what the “white fish” really is and that it does have fins and scales. Often the flesh of shark is sold under other names such as “white fish.”

“Of all clean birds you may eat. But these are they of which you shall not eat: the eagle, and the gier-eagle, and the black vulture, and the glede, and the falcon, and the kite after its kind, and every raven after its kind, and the ostrich, and the night-hawk, and the seamew, and the hawk after its kind, the little owl, and the great owl, and the horned owl, and the pelican, and the vulture, and the cormorant, and the stork, and the heron after its kind, and the hoopoe, and the bat. And all winged creeping things are unclean to you: they shall not be eaten. Of all clean birds you may eat.” (Deuteronomy 14:11-20).

These prohibited birds are generally scavenger birds feasting on carrion. When you drive down the road and you see a road-killed animal, then you may notice birds picking apart the carcass of these animals. Almighty Yahweh has forbidden that we eat these birds (crows, buzzards, etc.) that He has listed here. However, of all the clean birds Yahweh’s converted people may eat.

Some of these prohibited birds are working birds like the falcon and cormorant. In Asia, cormorants are used for fishing by slipping a ring around their neck so they cannot swallow the fish they catch. The owner of a cormorant has the bird

tethered to a rope or string. The cormorant swims around and when it sees a fish, it dives down to grab the fish. The owner of the fishing boat thereupon pulls the cormorant in, takes the fish from him, and puts the cormorant back in the water to continue fishing. Consequently, those working birds are not allowed to be used for human consumption.

“You shall not eat of any thing that dies of itself: you may give it to the sojourner that is within your gates, that he may eat it; or you may sell it to a foreigner: for you are a holy people to Yahweh your Elohim. You shall not boil a kid in its mother’s milk.” (Deuteronomy 14:21).

Not boiling a kid “in its mother’s milk” means you should not kill a kid, or a calf, or a young animal, until it has reached a certain age. It should not be eaten when it is too young and is still drinking its mother’s new milk, which is known as colostrum. Boiling a kid in its mother’s milk would be pretty unusual, because milk scorches when it is boiled. You could hardly cook animal flesh sufficiently edible in milk. Nevertheless, if you understand the text to refer to an animal that is sucking on its mother early in its life, and that it should not be eaten at that time, then, of course, is when Yahweh’s Law is applied. So many people in high society love “white veal.” In my estimation, I equate that white veal to boiling the kid in its mother’s milk, because they withhold any grain feed from the calf so that the veal will be just totally white and light. Notice Yahweh’s explanation of this Law recorded in Exodus 22:30. ***“Likewise shall you do with your oxen, and with your sheep: seven days it shall be with its mother; on the eighth day you shall give it to me.”***

Consequently, Almighty Yahweh tells us also in verse 2 of Deuteronomy chapter 14: ***“For you are a holy people to Yahweh your Elohim, and Yahweh has chosen you to be a people for his own possession, above all peoples that***

There is a very great strictness contained in what Yahweh commands. We should try our very best to obey these righteous commandments.

are on the face of the earth.”

Yahweh desires to have obedience from His True Worshipers.

Here, in this passage of Deuteronomy 14, we encounter a workable, brief summary of the extended Laws that are found in Leviticus chapter 11. This passage in Leviticus chapter 11 contains laws that are quite extensive. Requirements are set forth in more detail than what you find in Deuteronomy chapter 14. If you look for a summary, or restatement, of Leviticus chapter 11, you will find it in Deuteronomy chapter 14.

We can even note in Leviticus chapter 11 that touching the carcass of a dead animal is prohibited, just as we found in Deuteronomy chapter 14. In Leviticus 11:8 for example we read, **“Of their flesh you shall not eat, and their carcasses you shall not touch; they are unclean to you.”** We see here the two Laws again. This is reiterated again, as I pointed out, in Deuteronomy chapter 14.

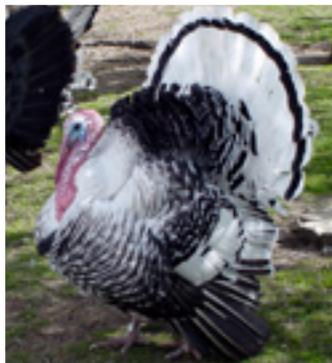
Consequently, even touching the dead carcass of unclean animals is prohibited. Yahweh did not prohibit touching live animals. Yahshua Himself rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey (as prophesied in Zechariah 9:9), which is an unclean animal (an animal that humans are not allowed to eat). Consequently, it is not wrong to touch an animal like that (or a dog, or cat, etc.) as long as he is alive! However, we may not even touch the dead carcass. Yet, the government of the United States approves the slaughter of hogs for human consumption.

We read in Leviticus chapter 11, beginning in verse 24, **“And by these you shall become unclean: whoever touches the carcass of them shall be unclean until the evening...”** The Apostle Paul is very plain when He instructs us to **“touch not the unclean thing.”**

“And whoever bears anything of the carcass of them shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening.” If you catch a mouse in a trap in the house, what do you do? Of course, you carry the



All of our diets must reflect obedience to scriptural law, or we have rejected something of spiritual value.



Yahweh has left us no dearth of animals whose flesh He has pronounced fit for human consumption. Although some animals that the government currently sanctions for human food are prohibited in His Law, there are plenty of other animals, birds, and fish that Yahweh’s Law has approved.

mouse outside. But what do you do thereafter? Do you obey this Law?

It is plain from this passage that you are supposed to take a bath. If you have to bear their carcass, or be close to the dead carcass of any unclean animal at any time, then take a bath as soon as you can. You have to remove a dead carcass out of the house. There is no other way, so you make yourself unclean. You do not have to touch the animal, however. I always recommend to my family, just as my father taught me this Law also, that you take a bath and change your clothes if you have to be near a dead animal to remove it from a building.

Consequently, would it matter

then what kind of soap we use on our body? Knowing for a fact that rendering companies are even to this very day rendering out (cooking) unclean animals and sending the fat to the soap companies, should we not be very careful about what soap we use? I certainly try to do that. We do not eat soap, but how many people in washing their faces with *treifa* (unclean) soap get some on their lips and it will indeed get into their mouth. Even touching the remains of unclean animals is prohibited; therefore, by applying such soap to our bodies we make ourselves unclean. (Kosher soap is available.)

There is a very great strictness

contained in what Yahweh commands. We should try our very best to obey these righteous commandments.

“Every beast that has a split hoof not completely divided, or does not chew the cud, is unclean to you: every one that touches them shall be unclean.” Having been born and raised on the farm, I know that at times an animal will die in the barn, and you have to take the animal out. Yahweh has made a way that when you must remove an animal carcass you can wash your clothes, take a bath, and put on clean clothes, and you are considered ritually unclean until the evening. We do not deliberately go out and make ourselves unclean, but if such a job as this must be done, it has to be done.

Consequently, years ago it was impressed on me, after I had once worked for a rendering company, that people were using the soap derived from unclean animals. In fact, I was doing the same thing. Perhaps I was also getting some of it in my mouth; therefore, my family and I began to pay very strict attention to the soap that we were using.

Notice especially the strictness of the tone in verse 32 as we read. Almighty Yahweh is speaking.

There is a list of unclean animals in verses 29 and 30. ***“And these are they which are unclean to you among the creeping things that creep on the earth: the weasel, and the mouse, and the great lizard after its kind, and the gecko, and the land-crocodile, and the lizard, and the sand-lizard, and the chameleon.”*** This list includes a number of creeping things that can enter a house.

“These are they which are unclean to you among all that creep: whoever touches them, when they are dead, shall be unclean until the evening. And on whatever any of them, when they are dead, falls, it shall be unclean; whether it is any vessel of wood, or raiment, or skin, or sack, whatever vessel it is, with

which any work is done, it must be put into water [it must be carefully washed], ***and it shall be unclean until the evening; then shall it be clean.”*** If it is a hard vessel like wood, iron, or copper as we see in some places, it shall be unclean until the evening and then it shall be clean. You must give time to allow any contamination to be removed from the vessel, and this undoubtedly means the germs, or diseases, they may carry.

But for an earthen vessel (something that can be broken), it is a different matter. ***“And every earthen vessel, into which any of them falls, whatever is in it shall be unclean, and you shall break it.”*** Historically, we find that this is what the Essenes did. That is where the abundance of potsherds on the slope of the Hinnom Valley originated. The Essenes were very strict in obeying this Covenant commandment.

“All food in it which may be eaten, that on which water comes, shall be unclean; and all drink that may be drunk in every such vessel shall be unclean.” Consequently, whatever is stored in those jars has to be thrown away when an animal dies in, or on, this vessel, and you shall break the vessel, because it will be unclean from then on.

“And everything on which any part of their carcass falls shall be unclean; whether oven, or range for pots, it shall be broken in pieces: they are unclean, and shall be unclean to you.” This means that if an unclean animal dies on an oven or a range, it shall be broken in pieces if it is made of ceramics or clay. Ovens in the Middle East were often made of clay or clay bricks.

“Nevertheless a fountain or a pit in which is a gathering of water shall be clean...” This means a large amount of water will cleanse itself eventually. ***“...but that which touches their carcass shall be unclean.”*** Consequently, all of Yahweh’s people should be obeying

these passages strictly. Yahweh is strict in the tone of voice applied to these commandments. The Apostle Paul is equally strict in 2 Corinthians 6:17, ***“...TOUCH NO UNCLEAN THING, and I will receive you,”*** says Yahweh.

Consequently, we are taught in Leviticus chapter 11, verse 39, ***“And if any beast, of which you may eat, dies; he that touches the carcass of it shall be unclean until the evening.”*** You shall not even eat any clean animal that dies of itself. The flesh is contaminated by the disease that took its life.

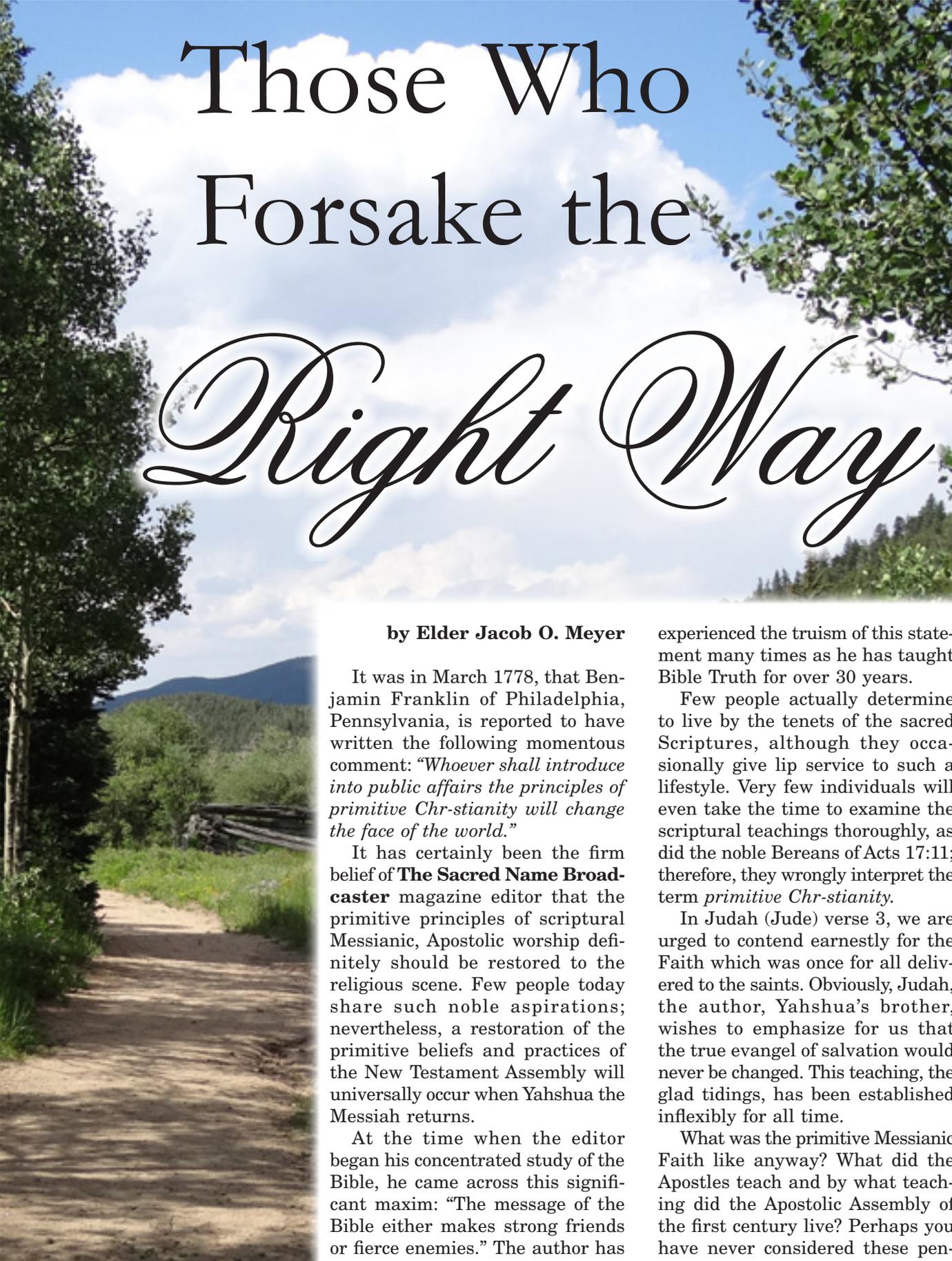
“And he that eats of the carcass of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening; also he that bears the carcass of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening. And every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth is an abomination; it shall not be eaten.” So why then do people eat exotic food like lobster and shrimp? The answer is simply that people desire it because they think it tastes good.

On television, there appears a commercial for “Louisiana cooking” depicting big mounds of crabs on a table. One of the natives of Louisiana told me that those crabs really stink when they become cold. We are not supposed to eat things like that which Yahweh declares unclean!

Years ago, I happened to catch a crab on my fish hook when I was fishing off the shore in Maryland. I can remember how I pulled up my line, that the crab jumped off my hook onto the highway. It looked so terrible as it was walking along the highway. It sauntered toward some of the children and they became terror-stricken. They were terrified by the appearance of that creature. It looked menacing to them. I told the children at that time, ***“People eat those creatures. How can they do that?”***

We later returned to where we were staying with one of the brethren, and a man came up to the dock

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Those Who Forsake the *Right Way*

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

It was in March 1778, that Benjamin Franklin of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is reported to have written the following momentous comment: *“Whoever shall introduce into public affairs the principles of primitive Christianity will change the face of the world.”*

It has certainly been the firm belief of **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** magazine editor that the primitive principles of scriptural Messianic, Apostolic worship definitely should be restored to the religious scene. Few people today share such noble aspirations; nevertheless, a restoration of the primitive beliefs and practices of the New Testament Assembly will universally occur when Yahshua the Messiah returns.

At the time when the editor began his concentrated study of the Bible, he came across this significant maxim: “The message of the Bible either makes strong friends or fierce enemies.” The author has

experienced the truism of this statement many times as he has taught Bible Truth for over 30 years.

Few people actually determine to live by the tenets of the sacred Scriptures, although they occasionally give lip service to such a lifestyle. Very few individuals will even take the time to examine the scriptural teachings thoroughly, as did the noble Bereans of Acts 17:11; therefore, they wrongly interpret the term *primitive Christianity*.

In Judah (Jude) verse 3, we are urged to contend earnestly for the Faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. Obviously, Judah, the author, Yahshua’s brother, wishes to emphasize for us that the true evangel of salvation would never be changed. This teaching, the glad tidings, has been established inflexibly for all time.

What was the primitive Messianic Faith like anyway? What did the Apostles teach and by what teaching did the Apostolic Assembly of the first century live? Perhaps you have never considered these pen-

etrating questions, or searched for their answers, assuming only that your denomination personified the accurate, fundamental Faith.

The basic answer to these questions can readily be ascertained from Matthew 5:17-20. ***“Think not that I came to destroy the law or the prophets: I came not to destroy, but to fulfil. For truly I say to you, Till heaven and earth pass away, one yothe or one tittle shall in no wise pass away from the law, till all things be accomplished. Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whoever shall do and teach them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say to you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven.”***

Yahshua the Messiah taught strict obedience to the sacred Scriptures. The Apostolic Assembly followed in His footsteps. Paul in Romans 3:31 asked the question, ***“Do we then make the Law of no effect***

through faith? By no means: No, we establish the Law.” Why then do ministers and religious organizations teach that the scriptural Law has been set aside, or annulled, when the Messiah died, when the Messiah Himself taught precisely the converse? It seems that ch-rc-hianity has established its own agenda and has developed its unique theology, outside the authority of the sacred texts.

Mrs. Meyer and I were studying through the book of Revelation during the summer of 1961 when we encountered the dogmatic comments found in Revelation 12:17 and 14:12. Certainly, these verses cannot be easily misunderstood. How were we to perceive them? The commandments of Yahweh are inviolable and sacred. They continue in force just as they were in biblical times. In the end of the age, a people existing at that time will be keeping the commandments of Yahweh while maintaining and holding fast the Faith of Yahshua the Messiah, explains the Apostle John. Who are these people?

Remember that the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh demands that all of the commandments are

observed, beginning with the first one that relates to the Name of Yahweh. See Exodus 20:2. If Bible prophecy is correct and to be trusted, a group of people fulfilling this description will be evident in the last days. They will be keeping the commandments of Yahweh while maintaining a firm belief in the sacrifice of the Messiah to atone for our sins (thereby fulfilling the scriptural sacrificial commandments). Who are they?

Then Judah (Jude) sets forth a warning in verse 4, ***“For there are certain men who sneaked in secretly, even they who were of old written of beforehand to this condemnation, lawless men, turning the grace of our Elohim into lasciviousness, and denying our only Master and Sovereign, Yahshua the Messiah.”***

Certain false teachers evidently stealthily gained entrance into the Assembly during the Apostolic era. They were lawless people who turned the grace of Yahweh into lasciviousness. In the English text, the term *lasciviousness* is translated from the Greek word *aselgeia* (#766 in **Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible**) and it means



licentiousness—license to do as you please.

Yahshua the Messiah Himself taught against licentiousness, or lasciviousness. Turn to Mark 7 where He explained in verses 20 to 23, **“And he said, That which proceeds out of the man, that defiles the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, evil thoughts proceed, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, covetings, wickednesses, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, railing, pride, foolishness: all these evil things proceed from inside, and defile the man.”** In verse 22, we find the word *lasciviousness* (meaning *licentiousness, license to do as you please*), and Yahshua declares such conduct to be a great evil. Yahshua the Messiah never approved a doctrine of license, but He included such conduct as evidence of a defilement of the heart of the evil man.

Grace represents the mercy and lovingkindness of Yahweh in forgiving the sins of His people. In the Greek dictionary of **Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible**, the term is #5485, *charis, graciousness—the sublime influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life....* However, Yahshua has forgiven sins, and we may no longer return to an evil life. **“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? By no means. We who died to sin, how shall we any longer live in it?”** (Romans 6:1-2).

Peter explains, **“For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of the Master and Savior Yahshua the Messiah, they are again entangled in it and overcome, the last state has become worse with them than the first. For it were better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. It has happened to them according to the true proverb, The dog turns to his own vomit again,**

and the sow that had washed, to wallowing in the mire.” (2 Peter 2:20-22). Why should anyone become interested in the Bible and True Worship, and then later backslide again, falling away into unscriptural conduct? Were they ever sincere in the first place?

Furthermore, we read in Hebrews 6:4-8, **“For as touching those who were once enlightened and tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and tasted the good word of Yahweh, and the powers of the age to come, and then fell away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance; since they impale to themselves the Son of Yahweh again, and put him to an open shame. For the land which has drunk the rain that comes often upon it, and brings forth herbs useful for them for whose sake it is also tilled, receives blessings from Yahweh: but if it bears thorns and thistles, it is rejected and near to a curse; whose end is to be burned.”** Certainly, this warning by the author of the book of Hebrews is quite clear—the one who departs from the Faith must expect to be thrown into the lake of fire!

Judah continues to expound upon the thought of falling away from the Faith and returning to a life of self indulgence (self gratification) by referring to the incident of the golden calf worship in Exodus 32. Having saved His people Israel out of Egypt, Yahweh afterwards destroyed them that believed not, since 40 days after the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), when Israel had ratified the Covenant, they held a licentious, idolatrous service.

The title of this article was taken from 2 Peter 2:15: **“forsaking the right way, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the hire of wrongdoing....”** Who would fall away from the true Faith, except religious hobbyists?

Is it not true that many religious organizations only appear interested

in acquiring wealth, like Balaam the son of Beor in Numbers 22? Balak, king of the Moabites, offered Balaam great wealth if he would only prophesy against (curse) the nation of Israel. When Balaam sought a way to justify accompanying Balak the king of Moab to curse Israel, Yahweh said, **“...You shall not go with them; you shall not curse the people; for they are blessed.”** (Numbers 22:12).

The name *Balaam* means *not of the people, a foreigner*. See the Hebrew dictionary in **Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible**, #1109 (# 1110, #1111, *Balak* means *waster*) This description became obvious and was fulfilled when Almighty Yahweh sent His angel to withstand Balaam and keep him from cursing Israel (the people who were obedient to Him, and, consequently, should be blessed). Finally, Balaam’s ass was given voice and intelligence to speak a warning, wherein Almighty Yahweh impressed upon Balaam that He could not curse Israel, or go beyond what He had spoken. Later, in Numbers 31:8, we find that Balaam was slain by Israel in the war of retribution to avenge the difficulties that Midian had brought upon Israel through enticing them to sin. See Numbers 25.

Balaam is again mentioned near the end of the Bible in the book of Revelation. **“Forsaking the right way, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the hire of wrongdoing; but he was rebuked for his own transgression: a dumb ass spoke with man’s voice and restrained the madness of the prophet.”** (2 Peter 2:15-16). We also see that Balaam is mentioned as the false prophet who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, getting them to sin and eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit fornication (Revelation 3:14).

The ministry of the Assemblies of Yahweh was founded exclusively upon Bible Truth. See John 17:17.

Continued on page 19.



Standing on One Foot

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

A story appears in the Jewish Talmud which has many implications, especially for our present day and age.

“It happened that a Gentile came to Shammai, and said to him: Make me a proselyte, provided you can teach me the entire Torah while I stand on one foot. Shammai gave

him a push with the builder’s ell which he had in his hand. Thereupon the Gentile went to Hillel. He accepted him as a proselyte and said to him; Whatever is hated by you, do it not to your fellow men. This is the whole Torah; the rest is commentary. Go and study!”

This story appears in the Babylonian Talmud, Shab. 31a.

The reference made here by Hillel relates to what is known as the Golden Rule that appears in Leviticus 19:18, ***“You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people; but you shall love Your neighbor as yourself: I am Yahweh.”***

Occasionally some commentators will embellish slightly when this story is being retold, by having Hillel reply to the proselyte: “The two great commandments are to love Almighty Yahweh with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and the second is to love your neighbor as yourself. Now go and study; the rest is merely commentary.”

I have instructed the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh to read several passages of Scripture to close each weekly Sabbath day. One of those passages appears in Mark 12:28-34, ***“And one of the scribes came, and heard them questioning together, and knowing that he had answered them well, asked him, What commandment is the first of all? Yahshua answered, The first is, Hear, O Israel; Yahweh is our Elohim, Yahweh is one: and you shall love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is none other commandment greater than these. And the scribe said to him, Of a truth, Teacher, you have well said that he is one; and there is none other but he: and to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. And when Yahshua saw that he answered discreetly, he said to him, You are not far from the kingdom of Yahweh.”***

The version of the Golden Rule as set forth by Yahshua the Messiah appears in Matthew 22:34-40. ***“But***

the Pharisees, when they heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, gathered themselves together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, trying him: Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law? And he said to him, You shall love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second like unto it is this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments the whole law hangs, and the prophets.”

For further consideration, turn to Matthew 7:12. ***“All things therefore whatever you would that men should do to you, even so do you also to them: for this is the law and the prophets.”***

The corresponding Scripture can also be read in Luke 6:31, ***“And as you would that men should do to you, do you also to them likewise.”***

The Hebrew Israelite, Jewish religion is quite different from worldly religion. Yahweh’s Truth, as set forth in the sacred Scriptures, is one wherein we are urged to seek wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, and then apply the teachings of the Scripture to our daily lives.

The truth of the matter is that most people have little inclination to study the sacred Scriptures, with even less inclination to obey and practice the Word. King Solomon urges his reader: ***“My son, if you will receive my words, and lay up my commandments with you; so as to incline your ear to wisdom. And apply your heart to understanding; for, if you cry after discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding; if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hid treasures: then shall you understand the fear of Yahweh. And find the knowledge of Elohim. For Yahweh gives wisdom; out of his mouth comes knowledge and understanding: He lays up sound wisdom for the***

upright; He is a shield to them that walk in integrity.” (Proverbs 2:1-7). ***“And he taught me, and said to me; let your heart retain my words; keep my commandments, and live; get wisdom, get understanding; forget not, neither decline from the words of my mouth; forsake her not, and she will preserve you; love her, and she will keep you. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom; and, with all your getting get understanding.”*** (Proverbs 4:4-7). Hence, we can note that the application of Yahweh’s Word to our daily lives should be the end goal of our Bible study.

The world’s religions are generally based upon the physical—seeking to “feel good.” The True Worship in the sacred Scriptures is founded UPON A KNOWING FAITH. Here lies the great difference between the Truth of Almighty Yahweh and the more widely accepted religions of the world. YAHWEH’S WAY IS GIVING—WORLDLY RELIGIONS ARE CUSTOMARILY BENT UPON GETTING.

An enlightening Scripture describing worldly religion appears in the prophetic book of Zephaniah 1:4, which reads, ***“And I will stretch out my hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the Chemarim with the priests...”***

Here we learn that the remnant of Baal appears as parallel to the term *chemarim*. The term *chemorim* is defined in the **Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, Hebrew Dictionary**, #3649, as the *masculine plural form of kamar; properly an ascetic (as if shrunk with self—maceration), i.e. an idolatrous priest (appears only in plural)*. The root is #3648, *karnar*, which means *to intertwine or contract i.e. by implication to shrivel, as with heat*. There is evidently a crossover with #2525, *cham* (khawm), meaning *hot*, from #2552, *chamam*, *to be hot*, #2535, *chamah*, means *heat, by implication*

The truth of the matter is that most people have little inclination to study the sacred Scriptures, with even less inclination to obey and practice the Word.

the sun. From this word comes the term *hamon*, a title for Baal worship (see Song of Solomon 8:11).

A note on Zephaniah 1:4 appearing in **E. W. Bullinger's Companion Bible**, reads: *chemarim—black robed or cassocked, from Hebrew kamar, to be black, used of the idolatrous priests because so clothed, not kohen as appointed by Yahweh.* This term *chemarim* is also found in the Hebrew text of 2 Kings 23:5 and Hosea 10:5, where the word has been translated as *idolatrous priests*.

The note in the **Companion Bible** for Hosea 10:5 reads, "*chemarim priests of Baal or black ones from kamar, equals to be black from the black dress or cassock worn by them, occurs only here in 2 Kings 23:5 and Zephaniah 1:4.*" Some people have commented that the priests of Baal were the hot (exciting) men, while the priests of Yahweh were the thoughtful teachers of the Word.

The conduct of idolatrous priests is described in 1 Kings 18. The description found in 1 Kings 18:26-29 clearly reveals the emotional actions carried on by priests of Baal. They certainly weren't standing on one foot!

Conversely, the Bible student experiences a great thrill of finding Yahweh's Truth in the sacred Scriptures; however, it requires hard and diligent effort. Nevertheless, most of average humankind desires physical thrills of some kind; therefore, emotions come heavily into play regarding the subject of religion, as does instant gratification.

The average individual desires immediate results from his religious experience. Rather than build a reservoir of knowledge slowly, waiting for the true joy and happiness of accomplishment in learning, he

demands immediate gratification (while seemingly standing on one foot, only momentarily). The proselyte, the gentile, in this Talmudic story certainly illustrates this point. Shammai did not even give him a reply, but immediately drove him away. On the converse, patient Rabbi Hillel accepted him upon the condition that he would STUDY TO LEARN THE FULL TRUTH IN THE SACRED SCRIPTURES. This basic concept is based upon love. We must love Almighty Yahweh with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, accepting the authority of His Word to rule our lives; and secondly, we must love our fellow men, never to trample upon his rights. It should be the desire of each one of Yahweh's people to treat others (especially Yahweh, our Father in heaven) just as we would have them treat us.

The converse of love is illustrated in the acrimonious situation confronting the people of the United States today. Politics reigns everywhere, it seems, rather than searching diligently for the truth and adhering to it. The world wishes to put a new, clever, interpretation (or spin) on every situation, hopping from one side to the other.

Standing on one foot was the way Rabbinic authorities illustrated the terms TRUTH and LIES in the Hebrew language. Truth is composed of three letters that have a firm foundation under them (two legs or more). Pronounced (*emeth*), the letters of the word truth אמת, **Strong's** #571, stand solidly on at least two legs or firmly upon a base. The word lies, *sheqer* שקר, **Strong's** #8267, however, is composed of three letters, each of which stands insecurely on only one point; therefore, lies are unstable, wobbly, and unsteady. That also illustrates the facts of life. Truth will always remain secure and steadfast, standing the test of

very close examination. Conversely, lies are bound to fall under close scrutiny, falling easily since they cannot stand the pressure of close examination.

A pertinent question is asked in Revelation 6:17 "***...for the great day of their wrath has come; and who is able to stand?***" The answer is found in Psalm 26:1-6, 11-12, "***Judge me, O Yahweh, for I have walked in my integrity: I have trusted also in Yahweh without wavering. Examine me, O Yahweh, and prove me; try my heart and my mind. For your lovingkindness is before my eyes; and I have walked in your truth. I have not sat with men of falsehood; neither will I go in with dissemblers. I hate the assembly of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked. I will wash my hands in innocency: so will I compass your altar, O Yahweh; ...But as for me, I will walk in my integrity: redeem me, and be merciful to me. My foot stands in an even place: in the congregations will I bless Yahweh.***" Also, we read in Psalm 37:31, "***The law of his Elohim is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.***"

In the last days of this age, Satan will mount a ferocious assault on Yahweh's Truth, "***Sanctify them in the truth: your word is truth.***" (John 17:17). He will do all in his power to undermine the preaching of Yahweh's Word. "***Finally, be strong in Yahweh, and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of Yahweh, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against spiritual wickedness in***

high places. Therefore take up the whole armor of Yahweh, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” (Ephesians 6:10-13).

Let us consider the reward for maintaining fidelity (faithfulness) to Yahweh as Paul informs us in Philippians 4:1. This will be predicated upon our firm attachment to the Word of Yahweh, **“The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our Elohim shall stand forever.”** (Isaiah 40:8). The verse is repeated in many passages. See 1 Peter 1:24-25, Psalm 90:5-6, etc.

Consider that Truth is eternal, but falsehood endures only for a moment. Satan is the father of lies. **“You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father it is your will to do. He was a**

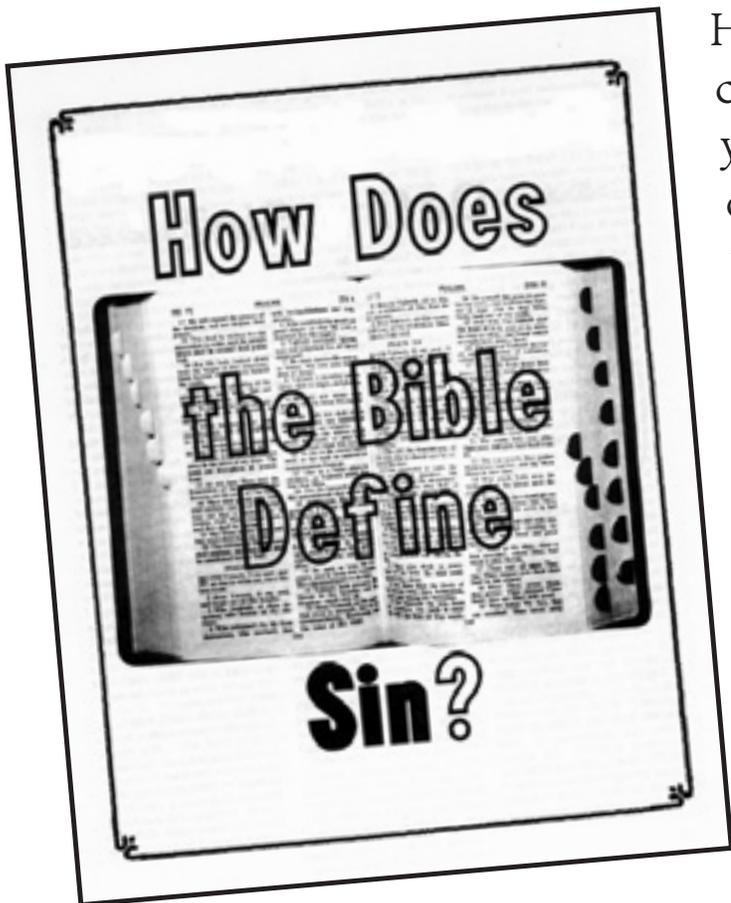
murderer from the beginning, and stands not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.” (John 8:44). He became a murderer, because it was his intention to deprive humankind of both physical and eternal life. He did this with the temptation of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3, but Yahweh made a way of escape by offering sacrificial animals so He could clothe them with durable garments (skin, instead of fig leaves—a vegetable which is not durable). An animal must die to yield its skin; therefore, blood was shed (Genesis 3:21). Fig leaves offer no atonement blood covering.

Although the world today is filled with instant experts, while people

demand instant coffee, instant soup, instant credit, the enduring quality of receiving a home in Yahweh’s eternal Kingdom will require personal preparation and commitment. The basic plan of salvation is so simple that it can be quickly learned, but the knowledge to be useful to Father Yahweh and Yahshua the Messiah in the Millennial Kingdom will require a long-term commitment to learn.

However, why not begin immediately and then determine to be faithful to the end? **“But he that endures to the end, the same shall be saved.”** (Matthew 24:13).

No, it doesn’t require a long time to learn the basic rudiment of salvation, but it requires a longer internship to become a productive son or daughter of Yahweh. Why don’t you begin your long-term learning endeavor today? **5ND**



Have you been wondering if you are committing the unpardonable sin? If you are breaking any of Yahweh’s commandments today, you may very well be doing this. Obedience is the only thing that will stand between you and eternal punishment in these last days at the close of the age. For a study on how the Bible defines sin, write to:

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in a boat loaded with crates of crabs that he had caught overnight in his crab traps, or with bait on fishing lines. He unloaded the crates of these creatures and told me that he can make \$50,000 a year during crabbing season, and that is more than he received from his United States Postal Service pension. He was quite proud that he could make over \$100,000 a year catching crabs and, later in the year, from oyster and clam fishing.

I could hardly believe it! I was amazed. Are those exotic foods such great delicacies that people pay such huge amounts of money to purchase them? Look in the advertisements in your local newspaper, placed there by the supermarkets, and notice the prices that they are asking for shrimp, lobster, and crabs—flesh that Yahweh in His Word has forbidden!

“Whatever goes upon the belly, and whatever goes upon all fours, or whatever has many feet, even all creeping things that creep on the earth, them you shall not eat; for they are an abomination. You shall not make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing that creeps, neither shall you make yourselves unclean with them, that you should be defiled by it.” (Leviticus 11:42-43). Let us notice here that the English term *abominable* is translated from **Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible**, Hebrew dictionary, #8262 *shaw-kats*’, a prime verbal root meaning *to be filthy, to loathe, pollute*.

There are occasionally times when we may become unclean, but we shall not deliberately do so. Do not touch an animal, even if it is a clean animal, after it has died. We always attempted to slip a rope around it and take it outside the barn that way and get rid of it by burying it.

“For I am Yahweh your Elohim: sanctify yourselves therefore, and be holy; for I am holy....” Circumstances have changed so drastically

over the past 50 years. At one time, most animals that were killed for food were slaughtered in a proper manner. Today, animal rights activists are attacking even the kosher slaughtering of animals as practiced by the Jews. Kosher slaughter is intended to remove as much of the blood as possible. Therefore, we have been teaching that, if at all possible, Assemblies of Yahweh members should purchase kosher-killed meat. If that is impossible, try to inquire about a local butcher shop that tries its best to eliminate as much of the blood as possible and then BROIL the meat, after salting and soaking it to try and remove all the blood you can.

Most commercial slaughterhouses today electrocute the animals and birds before cutting the jugular veins in the neck to bleed them. This act of electrocution is intended to stop the heart action immediately from pumping out the blood. Therefore, more blood is retained in the flesh and, consequently, more weight is added to the carcass (and more dollars to their profit). A True Worshiper cannot eat such tainted meat.

The word *kasher*, #3787 in **Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible**, means *to be straight or right; by impli. to be acceptable*. The **Jastro Lexicon** says the term *kasher* means also what the Bible, the biblical Law, says is acceptable for eating. You are what you eat! We can either be abominable to Yahweh, or a blessing. We, the people of Yahweh, can be strong physically, mentally, and spiritually, or we can be weak in all respects like the people of the world.

Proper Methods for Slaughter

Yahweh’s power fights for Israel, but Israel must obey the commandments of Yahweh.

We must remember that, at one time, Israel was living together as a group surrounding the Tabernacle. They were required to bring to the Tabernacle all of their animals for

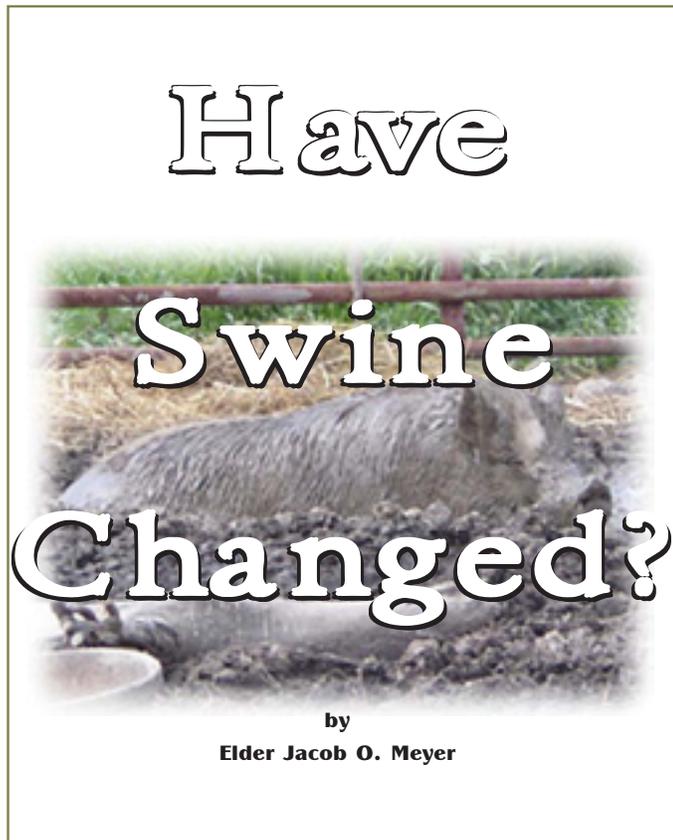
slaughter as human food so that the blood could be extracted by a slaughtering professional. In Deuteronomy chapter 12, we find that Almighty Yahweh instructs at the beginning of verse 20: ***“When Yahweh your Elohim shall enlarge your border; as he has promised you, and you shall say, I will eat flesh, because your soul desires to eat flesh; you may eat flesh, after all the desire of your soul.”***

Almighty Yahweh has indicated that every one of His people need not bring the animal to the Tabernacle for slaughter. But you must learn how to do your own slaughtering so that it will be done properly, or you must oversee the slaughter, or obtain the meat you eat from someone that you can trust.

“Even as the gazelle and as the hart is eaten, so you shall eat of it: the unclean and the clean may eat of it alike.” These are animals that you have to obtain by hunting. Yahweh has approved hunting in the Scriptures, but Jewish tradition has prohibited it. No Jew is allowed to hunt, because they are all supposed to eat just kosher food, but Yahweh’s Law has not restricted hunting. In fact, the Talmudic tractate Hullin begins by saying, “All may slaughter for themselves.” Therefore, I have ruled as I did above for the Assemblies of Yahweh.

“Only be sure that you eat not the blood: for the blood is the life; and you shall not eat the life with the flesh. You shall not eat it; you shall pour it out on the earth as water.” We read in other places that it shall be covered with dust. See Leviticus 17:13, for example.

“You shall not eat it; that it may go well with you, and with your children after you, when you shall do that which is right in the eyes of Yahweh.” Generally speaking, the meat that is taken by hunting should be also “koshered” if possible and broiled so that if any blood that you were not able to extract in the hunting operation remains, then you are able to get



The names used to designate this animal are all epithets for filth, viciousness, and the disgusting. Yet, these omnivorous animals are raised for meat and are sold commercially for human consumption, even though forbidden in Yahweh's Law.

For your free copy of this article explaining the dietary Laws, write:

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rid of that prohibited substance.

Verse 23 instructs us: ***“Only be sure that you eat not the blood...”*** Yahweh very greatly cautions us to eliminate all the blood that is humanly possible. But His Law approves the eating of hunted animals. The Law of Yahweh also approves slaughtering your own cattle and animals for food. However, read the entire seventh chapter of Leviticus to note the prohibition of not eating fat or blood.

Again in verse 25 we read, ***“You shall not eat it; that it may go well with you, and with your children after you, when you shall do that which is right in the eyes of Yahweh.”*** Why is this? Because there is a danger of contaminating yourself with something that is not according to the Law of Yahweh.

“Only your holy things which you have, and your vows, you shall take, and go to the place which Yahweh shall choose: and you shall offer your burnt-offerings, the flesh and the blood, upon the altar of Yahweh your

Elohim....” Sacrificial animals were still restricted and had to be killed by the priest.

Verse 28 reads, ***“Observe [watch out] and hear all these words which I command you, that it may go well with you [a blessing], and with your children after you forever [a blessing upon them], when you do that which is good and right in the eyes of Yahweh your Elohim.”***

In Isaiah chapter 65, we read, beginning with verse 1, ***“I am inquired of by them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not....”*** Perhaps we can say that this verse describes all of us in this modern age. Yahweh, in most instances, first came looking for us before we became interested in knowing what Yahweh's Word said. ***“I am inquired of by them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not....”*** Yahweh indeed came face to face with us in our lives.

“...I said, Behold me, behold me, to a nation that was not

called by my name.” In the Word of Yahweh, He is beckoning, and those of us who read Yahweh's Word in our younger days heard and responded to the voice of Yahweh.

“I have spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, that walk in a way that is not good, after their own thoughts....”

Some people try to rationalize. They think to themselves, “A little bit of unclean fat of horses, dogs, cats, or lions, tigers, zebras, giraffes, etc., in my soap won't matter.” “What can a little bit of pork fat matter? I do not eat it.” The answer is that Yahweh's Word says of their carcass: “You shall not touch it.” We have the ability to purchase things like soap that is kosher, and we can be assured that it does not contain any of those *treifa* ingredients in them.

“A people that provoke me to my face continually....” They are rebellious, because they will not honor Yahweh's commandments. They will not keep Yahweh's words. ***“...Sacrificing in gardens,”*** this sounds like the gardens under the

trees that in biblical times were dedicated to Baal and the Asherah, etc., **“...and burning incense upon bricks,”** which is restricted. The altar of Yahweh had to be made out of whole stones, stones which were not shaped by iron instruments.

“That sit among the graves...” is evidently some reference to Aesculapius worship where animal skins were taken into caves, and the people slept on them. Then the pagan mighty one Aesculapius was supposed to reveal what malady they had when they were sick. But in Yahshua’s time, to sit among the graves, or live in the tombs, was a sign of MENTAL ILLNESS. Perhaps this could be what Yahweh is trying to convey to us. **“...And lodge in the secret places,”** again, perhaps Yahweh is trying to convey the idea of a mental illness.

To whom do we go for our counsel? Do we go to the Word of Yahweh, or do we go to the tombs of the ancestors? For our doctrine, where do we go? To our forefathers and their traditions, or do we go to the Word of Yahweh and allow the sacred Scriptures to be the absolute rule and authority in our lives?

“...That eat swine’s flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels.” It just so happens that here in Isaiah 65:4, the term *abominable things* in Hebrew is *piggul*. If you do not have that as your note in your Bible, put it down. It is #6292 in the Hebrew dictionary of **Strong’s Concordance**. From this word, I am convinced, comes

the English word *pig*, meaning *an abominable thing*. It follows references in the text to eating swine’s flesh and having the broth of abominable (*piggul*) things in their vessels.

What broth is in your vessels? Could it not mean things like glycerine, which is used in toothpaste and many other products, or *treifa* animal fat (lard) used in bread or pies baked with animal shortening? All of these things we must consider because Yahweh declares the broth of abominable things is in their vessels! Some people believe that if they do not go to the supermarket and buy a ham and pork chops, and do not specifically eat pork, they have obeyed the clean food commandments. The Law of Yahweh includes more than this, however. He says, do not even use any part of their carcass. If we are faithful to that commandment, then we will become very strict concerning every product that we use. Remember to look for the kosher symbols on whatever products you purchase.

We must always read the label before purchasing anything. Most of us cannot be standing by watching the *goyim* cooking and baking our food properly to insure that it meets compliance with Yahweh’s Law. However, we can look for the kosher symbols placed on the food packages; thereby, we can have a surrogate there, a man who holds the dietary Laws in high esteem, and he, therefore, serves as our watcher. Consequently, we should be examining all of the packages we

purchase to determine if the product is approved by kosher certification or not.

It is not too strict to ask questions concerning bread. There is much bread on the market today that is baked in bakeries that adhere to the kosher standards. I personally do not want to put anything from a hog, *piggul* animal, into my mouth. This includes toothpaste and other products on the general market that most people never think could carry abominable, unclean substances.

Remember the Maccabean times. 2 Maccabees chapter 7 describes the incident where a woman lost seven sons and was then herself executed, because she would not put into her mouth anything that was unclean and abominable. She encouraged her sons to stand strong in observance of Yahweh’s dietary Laws. She further encouraged them to consider the idea of an extra day in this life as compared to eternal life in the Kingdom age to come.

Consequently, there is much kosher food on the market. At the present time, there are about 1,700 different kosher products for sale here in the United States. Not only are the Jews interested in having their food products guarded, but other people also want safe, pure food. Consequently, if we cannot be standing there and watching the manufacturing facility personnel cook and prepare our food, then we can have a surrogate watching, a rabbi or a *mashgiach*, and, thereby, the products will be kosher. The



bottom line is PROFIT. Unless there is a certification on a product, you cannot be certain from one day to another that the ingredients will be acceptable according to Yahweh's dietary Laws.

The last 27 chapters of Isaiah are meant to encourage the people of Yahweh in the last days to be prepared to enter His Kingdom. They are intended to encourage us to prepare diligently for the coming of the Messiah. We will read from Isaiah chapter 66, beginning with verse 15, **"For, behold, Yahweh will come with fire, and his chariots shall be like the whirlwind; to render his anger with fierceness, and his rebuke with flames of fire."** This is similar to the description found in 2 Thessalonians chapter 1 and in 2 Peter chapter 3.

"For by fire will Yahweh execute judgment, and by his sword, upon all flesh; and the killed of Yahweh shall be many." Isaiah 65:15 reminds us, **"And you shall leave your name for a curse to my chosen; and the Sovereign Yahweh will kill you; and he will call his servants by another name..."** The killed are those who receive Yahweh's judgment for acting disobediently.

Verse 17 of Isaiah chapter 66 reads, **"They that sanctify themselves and purify themselves to go to the gardens, behind one in the middle, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, they shall come to an end together, says Yahweh."** The gardens are where pagan worship is practiced. Recall that the term *abomination* is *sheqets* in Hebrew. *Akbar* is the Hebrew term for *mouse*. It means to *gnaw* and refers to any of the rodent species. This passage is very plain, and it certainly complements what we read in Isaiah 65:4.

If we sanctify ourselves and purify ourselves to go to the gardens of pagan worship, we join in with what happened during the Saturnalia celebration in ancient times. People would take a bath in the morning so that they could feast all

day and revel in drunkenness. The people who engage in such sin will come to an end—Yahweh indicates that He will terminate the lives of those people.

The New Testament writers assumed that the people who would read their documents would be keeping the Law of Yahweh as Yahshua the Messiah taught. **"Think not that I came to destroy the law or the prophets: I came not to destroy, but to fulfil. For truly I say to you, Till heaven and earth pass away, one yotse or one tittle shall in no wise pass away from the law, till all things be accomplished. Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whoever shall do and teach them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say to you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven."** (Matthew 5:17-20).

We have read the commandments of Yahweh for ourselves in this article. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 7:19, **"Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing; but the keeping of the commandments of Yahweh."** Retain the converse ellipsis, and you must read, **"...the commandments of Yahweh [are everything]."** In 1 Peter 2:21-22, we read, **"For to this were you called: because the Messiah also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow his steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth..."** (1 Peter 2:21-22).

What did Yahshua eat? We must recognize that He ate Passover lamb, and He also ate fish. You must believe that He followed the scriptural Laws of Yahweh's Word and dietary Laws at all times. Yahshua never violated any of Yahweh's commandments. He is called perfect, He did no sin.

Turn to 1 John chapter 5, verse 3, where we read, **"For this is the**

A Green Herb?



"And Elohim said, Behold, I have given you every herb yielding seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for food..."

...as the green herb have I given you all." (Genesis 1:29, 9:3).

love of Yahweh, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

We can notice throughout the book of 1 John that John the Apostle was indeed a preacher of Yahweh's Law. Read 1 John 3:4, **"Everyone that commits sin also transgresses the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."**

John also said in Revelation 12:17, **"And the dragon became exceedingly angry with the woman, and went away to make war with the remnant of her seed, that keep the commandments of Yahweh, and hold the testimony of Yahshua."** (Revelation 12:17). The saints are described the same way in Revelation 14:12. Then in Revelation 22:14, we read again, **"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city."** In the Bible, there appear plenty of reasons for keeping Yahweh's Laws.

The Apostle Paul warned in 1 Timothy 4:1 that seducing spirits and doctrines of demons would try to overthrow the faith of the members of Yahweh's Assembly. We are currently living in the last days (latter times). We read further in this chapter, beginning to read with

***If we renounce Yahweh's Laws,
it is more than simply a physical
act. It is the renouncing of
Yahweh's Holy Spirit which
comes to us through His Word.***

verse 3, ***"...forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which Yahweh created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe and know the truth."***

The animal rights activists are pushing the world toward vegetarianism. Yahweh, in His Torah Law, has given us rules to prove what meat and flesh foods have been created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe in the Word of Yahweh. Know Yahweh's commandments. We have been reading the Law from Leviticus chapter 11 and Deuteronomy chapter 14, the Law concerning which flesh foods Yahweh allows us to consume.

"For every creature approved of Yahweh is good, and nothing is to be rejected, if it be received with thanksgiving: for it is sanctified through the word of Yahweh and prayer." (1 Timothy 4:4-5, corrected translation in **The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition**). Yahweh sanctifies certain animals, fish, and birds to be eaten by His people. These are sanctified and set apart—they are approved—by Yahweh's Word

"If you put the brethren in mind of these things, you shall be a good minister of the Messiah Yahshua, nourished in the words of the faith, and of the good doctrine which you have followed..." (1 Timothy 4:6). I intend to do exactly that.

In Hebrews chapter 10, we will begin reading in verse 17. ***"And their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more."*** We have a quote here from Jeremiah 31:34. The writer of Hebrews intends us to understand that Almighty

Yahweh forgives sins. ***"Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin."*** Yahshua and His shed blood and His sacrifice fulfilled the sin offering.

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holy place by the blood of Yahshua, by the way which he dedicated for us, a new and living way, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh..." Yahshua the Messiah pointed us to a new and living way of life. The term *living way* can also be translated as *a way of life*.

"And having a great priest over the house of Elohim [Bethel]." Who is our High Priest? Our High Priest is Yahshua the Messiah. He is the One who offered the sacrifice that was acceptable to Almighty Yahweh once and for all.

"Let us draw near with a true heart in fullness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience..." The evil conscience is also described in 1 Timothy chapter 4 as a conscience seared with a hot iron. ***"...And having our body washed with pure water."*** This symbolizes and refers to the cleansing water of baptism, but also the water of cleansing from the defilement of the flesh.

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope that it waver not..." When the brethren enter the fold of the Assemblies of Yahweh, usually they are very zealous to discriminate about the things they eat. They become very zealous for keeping the dietary Laws. "Teach me so that I do not violate Yahweh's Covenant. What can we eat? What products can we use and purchase?" they say. So why do people doubt after a while or why do they become slack

and slothful in their observance? They apparently begin listening to another voice than that which speaks to us from the Word.

"...For he is faithful that promised: and let us consider one another to provoke to love and good-works; not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as you see the day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:25).

Let us continue to seek out and do the Will of Yahweh. It is our aim to grow in grace and in the knowledge of Yahshua the Messiah. It is our aim to follow the Word of Yahweh closely and obey His Laws, because it reveals a deep-rooted spiritual attitude and character.

If we renounce Yahweh's Laws, it is more than simply a physical act. It is the renouncing of Yahweh's Holy Spirit which comes to us through His Word. Therefore, we should also think about how Yahweh views such actions. We can make ourselves abominable physically and spiritually, but, conversely, we can make ourselves spiritually and physically viable and strong. We can be blessed and go in and possess the Kingdom of Yahweh, to offer ourselves in service to Yahshua the Messiah (our King) upon His return.

Those of us who believe in keeping Yahweh's Covenant Law are assembling together. Those who reject Yahweh's Covenant Law and any one of His Laws are, in effect, disassembling. Consequently, let us be very careful that we do all in our power always to be on the side of Yahweh's Law, in unity with Him.

May Almighty Yahweh bless His converted, obedient people as we continue to strive for perfection, knowing that the end of the age is upon us. The latter days are already here. Let us be strong in the Faith so that when Yahshua returns we may be approved of Yahweh to enter His Kingdom and have a share in the age to come. See Luke 18:8. May Yahweh bless you always, in Yahshua's Name!

Continued from page 9.

We teach the whole counsel of Yahweh (Acts 20:27). It has been the intention of the editor to search deeply into the inspired, sacred texts to determine what Almighty Yahweh demands of us to obtain our eternal salvation. Whatever is to be found in the Scriptures and absolutely proven from the Word is genuine doctrine in this organization. In my youth, my parents taught me to revere the sacred Scriptures (the Bible) as the true Word of the Almighty. Later, the veracity of the Bible manifested itself through a deep study of the sacred Scriptures. Therefore, I made up my mind that I would never swerve from the truth of the written Word to defend error.

Errors in teaching and errors in judgment have been made over the centuries since Apostolic times by numerous people who have been involved in the field of religion. Some of these errors are made intentionally, while others took root through ignorance. Generally, when statements are uttered and decisions are made, people cannot step back at some point and determine to chart a different course (if proven to be in error).

Almost since the very beginning of the Assemblies of Yahweh ministry, there have been people who entered the organization, and later, for one reason or another, became dissatisfied with the strictness which we teach and practice. Soon they decided to go in a different direction. They liberalized their principles, and they made decisions that were contrary to Bible teachings. Some searched around for diverse doctrines to use as a crutch to justify their departure from the organization. Usually, we discovered there were more deeply rooted problems that these individuals harbored in their hearts which they were unable to (or did not intend to) solve for themselves so they could remain obedient to the Word. Therefore, they felt more comfortable outside this fraternal body.

Several years ago, the author

was speaking to a local businessman who commented that he was surprised that I would be involved with criminals. Incredulously, I demanded to know what he meant. He said he had seen a newspaper report that an individual who used the Name Yahweh had been sentenced to a prison term for racketeering. I requested to see this newspaper article. Several days later, when I again stopped at his establishment he had the article available. After skimming the article, I immediately explained what I had learned of the background of that individual and affirmed that the Assemblies of Yahweh had ABSOLUTELY NO FELLOWSHIP with people of such dubious reputation. Actually, the Assemblies of Yahweh has borne “guilt by association” far too many times since the inception of this ministry, since people generally group into one category those who use the Sacred Name.

Time and time again, it seems that people go off the track, and they make dubious decisions. We all recall the Waco situation, wherein a former Seventh-day Adventist decided he was the Messiah (or the Holy Spirit), that he was going to fight against the United States government in an armed rebellion and take over the governments of the world—before the Messiah returns. Of course, such ideas are gross false doctrine, and the proof of his evil fruits (and deeds) led to the deaths of 80 people and the destruction of his compound.

Interestingly, the Assemblies of Yahweh organization here at Bethel had received some communication from the previous administrators of Mount Carmel. However, we could not agree with them (nor cooperate) for a number of different reasons. One of the false doctrines they espoused at that time was that the spirit of Almighty Yahweh is a “feminine” spirit. The apparent reason for this doctrine being promulgated was that the wife of their leader had decided she would become the prophetess, like the founder of the

Seventh-day Adventist religion, and, therefore, she had to justify her position.

As we recall individuals who came into the Assemblies and later departed, another incident stands out in our mind. One family decided they needed to be the watchmen over the author. Never understanding that the author is himself the watchman to the Assemblies of Yahweh and modern-day Israel, in a short time they demanded of the author that he begin teaching that the world was already one year into the great Tribulation! This incident occurred in 1981! Where do you think the Assemblies of Yahweh would be today if the author had accepted such reprehensible false doctrine? Undoubtedly, only a handful of people would have remained. Boldly, the author has had to stand against false teachings on a number of occasions over the past years.

Periodically, as we indicated above, various individuals or groups who harbor false doctrines arise using the Sacred Name, and, through guilt by association, people imagine that all Sacred Name believers comprise one association. Such was the case recently when an individual went off the track doctrinally and cast aspersions upon the TRUE WORSHIP. Teaching polygamy, that Satan is a female, and other fallacious ideas, he made several national media exposé programs. Once again, the Assemblies of Yahweh organization suffered through no fault of our own. Therein lies one of the reasons for this article, and our endeavor to set the record straight!

Such incidents are prophesied in the Scriptures to occur in the last days. Turn to Jacob (James) chapter 3, where people are warned against seeking to be preachers or teachers, inasmuch as the leadership will receive the heavier judgment.

Peter describes the appearance of false prophets and false teachers at the end of the age in the second chapter of his second epistle. ***“But there arose false prophets also among the people, as among you***

When He sends His only begotten Son back to this earth to reign over this entire earth and to judge the world in righteousness, then the True Faith will be upheld. Judgment will befall those who have forsaken the right way. Justice will eventually prevail!

there shall be false teachers, who shall privately bring in destructive heresies, denying even the Master that bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their lascivious doings; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. And in covetousness they shall with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose sentence now from of old lingers not, and their destruction slumbers not.” (2 Peter 2:1-3).

The Assemblies of Yahweh has been founded upon the concept of giving. We offer free subscriptions to **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** magazine. We offer all of our reprint literature of doctrinal teaching free of charge. We make available the Truth of Yahweh without cost or obligation, just as Yahshua the Messiah instructed His disciples in Matthew 10:8 to freely give as we have freely received from Yahweh the gift of eternal life. See John 3:16.

How could any true representative of the Messiah stand for false doctrine such as polygamy or avarice? How could it be that anyone would follow such false doctrines taught by charlatans and pseudo-ministers, when Yahweh's Truth is freely available in the Assemblies of Yahweh? The sincere regret in the heart of the author is that so few people wish to remain stable and steadfast in the Faith, while so many allow themselves to be deceived.

Peter the Apostle and Judah,

the Messiah's own brother, in their warnings to the Assembly regarding the end of the age, make absolutely plain that Yahweh is in control. When He sends His only begotten Son back to this earth to reign over this entire earth and to judge the world in righteousness, then the True Faith will be upheld. Judgment will befall those who have forsaken the right way. Justice will eventually prevail!

“And he says to me, Seal not up the words of the prophecy of this book; for the time is at hand. He that is unrighteous, let him do unrighteousness still: and he that is filthy, let him be made filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him do righteousness still: and he that is holy, let him be made holy still. Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to render to each man according as his work is. I am the Aleph and the Tau, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, and the sorcerers, and the fornicators, and the murderers, and the idolaters, and everyone that loves and makes a lie.” (Revelation 22:10-15).

The writer of Hebrews candidly explains that when Yahshua returns and judges this evil, Babylonish world, it will be a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living

Elohim. *“For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which shall devour the adversaries. A man that has violated Moses' law dies without compassion on the word of two or three witnesses: of how more severe punishment, think you, shall he be judged worthy, who has trodden underfoot the Son of Yahweh, and has counted the blood of the covenant with which he was sanctified an unholy thing, and has done despite to the Spirit of grace? For we know him that said, Vengeance belongs to me, I will repay. And again, Yahweh shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living Elohim. But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after you were enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings; partly, being made a gazing-stock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, becoming partakers with them that were so used. For you both had compassion on them that were in bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your possessions, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and an enduring one. Cast not away therefore your boldness, which has great recompense of reward. For you have need of patience, that, having done the will of Yahweh, you may receive the promise. For yet a very little while, He that comes shall come, and shall not delay. But my righteous one shall live by faith: and if he shrink back, my soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of them that shrink back to perdition; but of them that have faith to the saving of the soul.”* (Hebrews 10:26-39).

Dear reader, when you hear of different Sacred Name groups, especially those who do not stand

for a high level of morality, do not lump us with them! Do not judge us guilty simply by a few doctrinal similarities. Communicate with the International Headquarters of the Assemblies of Yahweh here at Bethel, Pennsylvania. Ask us to explain the sound doctrines of the Bible. ***“For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and turn aside to fables.”*** (2 Timothy 4:3-4). Hobbyists who make a game out of religion come and go over the years, but those who are determined to live by every word of Scripture re-

main steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the word of Yahweh.

We are following the urging of Yahweh, recorded in Jeremiah 6:16-19. ***“In this manner says Yahweh, Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way; and walk in it, and you shall find rest for your souls: but they said, We will not walk in it. And I set watchmen over you, saying, Listen to the sound of the trumpet; but they said, We will not listen. Therefore hear, you nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not listened***

to my words; and as for my law, they have rejected it.”

Remember that the majority of these dissident people originally learned sound doctrine from the Assemblies of Yahweh, but they intentionally departed from the Faith and the Truth of the sacred Scriptures to follow their own personal agenda. Conversely, the Assemblies of Yahweh organization is committed to maintaining a high moral standard, SEEKING FIRST THE KINGDOM OF YAHWEH (Matthew 6:33).

Why not check out our fruits and compare the Assemblies of Yahweh doctrines with what the Bible teaches? We believe you will not be disappointed. SND

— FEAST OF TABERNACLES —

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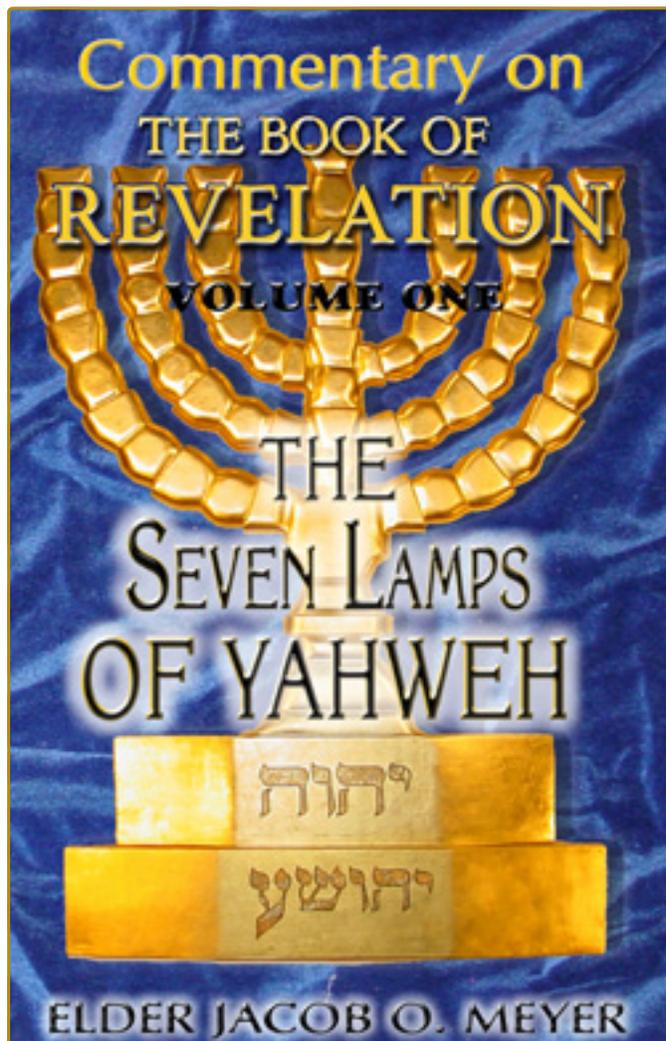
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