

THE
SACRED NAME
BROADCASTER

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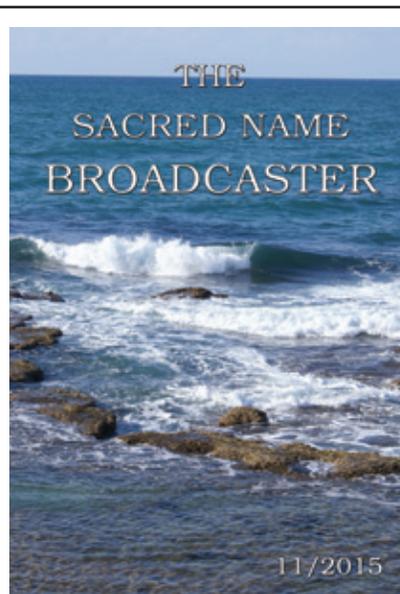
*Yahweh hates seven abominations that are the result of an evil character. **“But the way of the wicked shall perish.”** (Psalm 1:6).*

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All quotes in **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** are from **The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition**, 1981, Assemblies of Yahweh, Bethel, PA 19507, unless otherwise stated. All translations of the Bible quoted herein have been corrected to be consistent with the oldest available manuscripts. Copies of **The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition**, are available. For information about purchasing your copy, write to Assemblies of Yahweh.

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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer



Our Cover:

This month's cover depicts the Mediterranean Sea at Caesarea Maritima. Though the seas cover more than 70 percent of the earth's surface, still Yahweh knows the springs of the sea and has walked in the recesses of the deep, Job 38:16.

*Yahweh has promised in Genesis 9:8-17 that He would never again destroy the earth with a flood. **“For this is as the waters of Noah to me; for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah shall no more go over the earth, so have I sworn that I will not be angry with you, nor rebuke you. For the mountains may depart, and the hills be removed; but my lovingkindness shall not depart from you, neither shall my covenant of peace be removed, says Yahweh that has mercy on you.”** (Isaiah 54:9-10).*



People frequently follow customs set by society without first questioning where these time-honored traditions originated. They assume that the world around them accurately portrays the way people should live. It is their belief that, since the various denominations of nominal Christianity use the Bible in their teachings, they are faithfully following the biblical way of life with the traditions and customs that they keep.

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

However, your Bible warns continually against accepting the ways of the world. Jeremiah 10:2 admonishes us not to learn the way of the heathen (the Hebrew word is *goyim*, meaning *the nations of the world*). The line drawn between the practices of the Apostolic Assembly on the one hand, and the religious

lifestyle of the world on the other, is pointedly driven home by a veritable multitude of Scriptures. Just because millions of people do something is no clear indication such a practice was originally derived from the Bible.

Almighty Yahweh brought Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldees, placing him in the region of the hill country of Canaan. Almighty Yahweh taught Abraham the way of Truth. Such a physical description

- ***Are you truly an open-minded person?***
- ***Have you dedicated your personal life exclusively to serving the Most High Heavenly Father?***
- ***Will you be guided by the Word of Yahweh the Most High?***
- ***Do you humbly allow the Bible to correct you?***

can be spiritually explained to mean that Yahweh brought Abraham out of the degenerating system of the world and taught him the true way to eternal life in an isolated place, much as we, of the Assemblies of Yahweh today, are being taught.

Israel, Abraham's descendants, were brought out of Egypt and spent 40 years in the wilderness learning the ways of Yahweh. Paul describes this event in Acts 13:18 by saying, ***“And for about the time of forty years as a nursing father he bore them in the wilderness.”*** Yahweh intended Israel to leave behind the ways of that sinful society. Yahweh intended Israel to provide a bold witness of the heavenly way of life to the surrounding nations. Your Bible

contains a record of the progress and the failures of people who were to be Yahweh's witnesses.

For several years, in the office of the author, a file of newspaper and magazine articles relating to the pagan origin of the customs attached to the Chr-stmas celebration has been growing. Studying the contents of this file in preparation for writing this composition was again quite enlightening. The numerous authors who wrote these informative articles fully comprehend and understand the pagan origins of the traditions and customs observed at Chr-stmas time (as well as many of the other holidays celebrated by the world). Nevertheless, few and far between are the determined individuals who actually advocate eliminating those customs from their practices. While they know and comprehend these authentic facts, yet they will still not allow themselves to be corrected by the biblical and secular evidence. Many people of the world reflect this stubborn attitude.

Are you truly an open-minded person? Have you dedicated your personal life exclusively to serving the Most High Heavenly Father? Will you be guided by the Word of Yahweh the Most High? Do you humbly allow the Bible to correct you? If you can answer in the affirmative to all of these questions, then we would urge you to read this article very carefully. Check these facts for yourself, then make up your own mind. The facts published here can be verified in libraries which contain the quoted reference works. But remember, these facts will not benefit you unless you act on the information by bringing your personal life into harmony with what they prohibit.

Contending with Paganism

When the Apostolic Assembly came into existence, the members totally committed themselves to making their personal preparation for the Second Coming of Yahshua

the Messiah. The Apostolic Assembly of the book of Acts was never numerically large. It was a small group, but completely dedicated to obeying the Truth of Yahweh's Word.

The brethren of the Apostolic Assembly found themselves in the midst of a very strong government—the Roman Empire. The religion of this mighty empire was based primarily upon that of ancient Greece. In the Pantheon—a huge building located in the city of Rome—every major religion was represented, and the image of every mighty one was enshrined. Foremost among these pagan mighty ones was Jupiter, the Latin equivalent and representation of the ancient Greek mighty one—Zeus. So strongly was the religion of Jupiter and Zeus (the father of the mighty ones) imprinted upon the minds of ancient peoples that, evidently, some of those pagan religious ideas were subsequently carried over into the Messianic Assembly by people who had begun to follow the biblical Faith.

December 25 was a sacred day on the calendar for the worship of Zeus and other pagan mighty ones. Some writers even claim that Zeus was born on December 25. This day was called the *winter solstice*, when the sun appears to stand still in the heavens as it departs toward the south and, several days later, resuming its next journey north, portending another summer.

Let us note what we find in 1 Maccabees 1:52-64.

“And many of the people and everyone who was ready to forsake the Law joined with them and they did wrong in the land, and forced Israel to hide in every hiding-place they had.

“On the fifteenth day of Chislev, in the one hundred and forty-fifth year, he erected a dreadful desecration upon the altar, and in the towns of Judah round about they built altars, and at the doors of their houses and in the squares they burned incense, and wherever they found the book of the Law, they tore them up and burned them, and if anyone was



Statue depicting the raucous Saturnalia celebration in the Buenos Aires Botanical Gardens

found to possess a book of the agreement or respected the Law, the king's decree condemned him to death. The Israelites who appeared from month to month in the towns they treated with force. On the twenty-fifth of the month they offered sacrifice upon the altar which was set up on the altar of burnt offering. The women who had circumcised their children they put to death under the decree, hanging the babies around their necks, and destroying their families and the men who had circumcised them.

"Yet many in Israel stood firm and resolved in their hearts not to eat what was unclean; they preferred death to being polluted with food or profaning the sacred agreement, and so they died. And Israel suffered intensely." **The Complete Bible, An American Tradition.**

Why do Chr-stians celebrate Chr-stmas on December 25? YAHSHUA THE MESSIAH WAS NOT BORN ON DECEMBER 25. Our published article on that subject will clearly prove this statement of fact to you if you are open-minded. The Scriptures indicate that Yahshua the Messiah was born on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles in the fall of the year.

This can be ascertained from Luke chapter 1. Also, John 1:14 should be considered. **"And the Word became flesh, and tabernacled among us (and we beheld his glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father), full of grace and truth."**

The word *Chr-stmas* actually means *the mass of Chr-st*, the mass held in celebration of his birth. You can prove this from any good dictionary. If Yahshua the Messiah was not born at this time of year, why observe His birthday?

Furthermore, how can a Protestant believer keep any day which was dedicated to holding a mass, a Roman Catholic observance? How can the Protestant any longer protest when he joins in worship with those he ostensibly protests against? Are you confused now? Did you know that confusion is the meaning of "Babylon"?

Since they are idolatrous figures which represent sun worship, most pagan mighty ones were born around the winter solstice which was anciently set at December 25. The birthday of Mithra fell on December 25. Mithra symbolized the sun, as did other heathen mighty ones like

Osiris, Hercules, and Bacchus, who were also said to have been born on that day. Interestingly, China's pagan savior, Zao, was born on December 25. (Did you note the close similarity of the Greek word *Zeus*?) Additionally, the Egyptian mighty one Horus, the Hindu mighty one Vishnu, and the Syrian mighty one Tammuz had their birthdays on December 25, as did the Greek mighty one Dionysus, who was a personification of Zeus.

We must specify that sun worship represents the key to understanding why Chr-stmas today is celebrated on December 25. The seasonal circuit of the earth around the sun had become a great concern to ancient agrarian people. On the night between the 24th and 25th of December, the sun was perceived to have passed the farthest point from the earth and was beginning its new journey back from south to north. Since the sun provides the light of the world and produces heat for the earth and growth of crops, cold and famine would inevitably exterminate the human race if the sun did not return from the south. Consequently, in the north regions where most of

the early civilizations arose, great rejoicing broke out when the people perceived that the sun had stopped on its departure from the earth and now was returning. This is how such mythological traditions as the Chr–stmas celebration originated.

The ancient heathen religions called the sun their savior. Since the solar savior had come, or returned, to save the world from suffering a harsh winter, it means that new life and hope was given to the people of the world. Therefore, you can perceive how these pagan thoughts are retained in some of the Chr–stmas carols. Songs that do not actually express the true biblical message of the Messiah’s birth are sung to praise the birth of their savior. The obvious relationship between ancient pagan sun worship and the modern Chr–stmas celebration can readily be noted.

Roman Customs

In ancient Rome, the time of the Saturnalia and Brumalia was fixed on a date in the middle of December. These feasts were known as the *Paganalia*. The name *Saturn* meant *abundance*. Distinctive traditions of the Saturnalia are closely akin to those of Chr–stmas as it is celebrated today.

Here is a review of some of these Romish customs. Prove our asser-

tions from a good encyclopedia. Gigantic feasts were held throughout the day on Saturnalia. Slaves were given liberty for the day and often were served by their masters at the feast. There was a general suspension of all public affairs. Courts and schools were recessed; commercial and all military activities were suspended. Most prominent among the festive dishes served were the boar’s head with an apple or orange in its mouth, plum pudding, mince pies, decorated sweets, and cookies for dessert. Dolls were frequently given as gifts. Some historians link these dolls to original human sacrifices, since human sacrifices were once offered to Saturn. The word *Brumalia* means *winter solstice*. The word *solstice* comes from a combination of words meaning *the sun* (Latin word *sol*) *standing still*.

Additionally, parades and mummeries, such as one will find in our time at the Pasadena Rose Parade and the Philadelphia Mummers Parade, were conducted at the Saturnalia. Such revelry formed an integral part of the extended observances of Saturn at the winter solstice just as they do today with the Chr–stmas/New Year celebrations. If anyone was to be transported to our age from those ancient times, he might conclude that he is right at home among the present-day Chr–stmas/New

Year celebrations. Actually, it would seem that the eight-day Chr–stmas/New Year observance of today has replaced Yahweh’s annual festival called the Feast of Tabernacles (Leviticus 23:33-44).

Norse Customs

Common in some European countries, especially England, is the yule log. The term *yule*, according to **Webster’s New World Dictionary of the American Language**, Second College Edition, is defined as *the original name of a heathen festival at the winter solstice akin to the old Norse Jol*. From the old Norse festival comes our word *jolly*, used most frequently around the Chr–stmas season to describe the revelry that cannot be scripturally supported.

It is interesting to note that the word *yule* also means *wheel* in the ancient Norse language. In Scandinavia, the celebration of yule honored the mighty one Woden with the rebirth of the wheel-shaped sun. To use anything with a wheel during the two weeks of rejoicing (work was suspended), such as wagons or spinning wheels, would have been an insult to the sun, implying that it was not moving north fast enough. To hasten the return of the sun, ancient people built huge bonfires (a yule fire with the log). Traps, snares,

Common in some European countries, especially England, is the yule log.



and fish nets were also brought in so that even the fish, birds, and animals might find yuletide (two weeks, a fortnight; 12 weekdays plus two Sundays) a time of peace. In ancient Chaldean, yule meant *the feast of the child*. Yule has a distinct relationship to the Semitic word for child or begettal—*yeled* and *yalad*.

Lighting the yule log signaled the beginning of the holiday merriment. In Britain, it was a religious ceremony for the Druids who blessed the log. The charred remains of the past year's log were used to light the new fire. The burning fire symbolized home and safety. The Teutons believed the burning of the yule log represented the death of the old sun, and the evergreen Chr–stmas tree stood for the annual rebirth of the solar savior. The Romans called this annual rebirth *Sol Invictus*—the unconquerable sun.

The legend of Santa Claus coming down the chimney also was derived from the early Norsemen. Their tales tell of the mighty one called Hertha appearing on the hearth of the fireplace and bringing good luck to the house. Therefore, a Santa Claus-type figure came down the chimneys of the ancient Norse people.

Santa Claus is usually called by the term *Old Nick*. You can prove to yourself that this was one of Satan's names by checking the word *Nick* in any dictionary. Satan has been masquerading under a variety of names to draw worship to himself. (This makes the Sacred Name doctrine so much more weighty.) The word *Santa* actually means *saint*, and he was supposed to have been called *Saint Nicholas*. You will notice in Revelation 2:6 and 15 the word *Nicolaitanes*, derived from the Greek word *Nike*. She was the winged victory who, in mythology, was the evangelist of Zeus. Santa

Claus is said to be a contraction of the term *Saint Nicholas* and this term can then present a clear name association with Nike. Santa Claus, therefore, was sent to announce the advent, or annual birth, of the solar mighty one Zeus.

Some traditional beliefs are that



the present Santa Claus myth was developed from an actual Saint Nicholas who lived during the 14th century. He was credited with miraculous healings. According to one legend, he tossed bags of gold into the windows of three girls who had no dowries, but wanted to get married. Some believe that here is where the custom of giving Chr–stmas gifts began. The wise men, you will remember, did not give gifts to each other, but they gave them to the Savior, Yahshua the Messiah.

Clement Moore, in 1822, wrote the composition, "**The Night Before Chr–stmas.**" The cartoonist Thomas Nast, in 1863, dressed Santa Claus in a red suit with reindeer and toys and had him coming down the chimney on Chr–stmas eve. However,

the entire corpus of this tradition is based upon telling lies to the children, cleverly undermining their faith and trust in spoken truth.

Tree Worship

Chr–stmas trees are entirely pagan also. You will see in Jeremiah 10:2-4 a scriptural passage that closely relates to tree worship.

"Thus says Yahweh, Learn not the way of the nations, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the nations are dismayed at them. For the customs of the peoples are vanity; for one cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it moves not." What

better description could we compose to describe the modern-day Chr–stmas tree? But Yahweh prophesied it for us over 2,500 years ago.

In America, the Chr–stmas tree was brought to our shores by German immigrants. Long before they acquired the custom, worship with the use of the tree had been a traditional custom in the ancient Middle East. Reverence for trees dated back to Nimrod, whose death was represented by the cutting down of the tree. Aescalapius, the physician or healer, was portrayed as a serpent who wrapped himself around the dead stump, which, thereupon, brought forth a new shoot from its roots with the rebirth, or reincarnation, of Nimrod's son—Tammuz. This Babylonish idolatry continues to be reenacted each year at Chr–stmas time.

Surprisingly, the wise men did not arrive to pay homage to the Savior at the same time as did the shepherds, although they are so depicted in

the creche scene. Shepherds abiding in the fields near Bethlehem (Luke 2) would have undoubtedly been tending the sacrificial animals for the Feast of Tabernacles. They were pasturing their animals in a cultivated field (Greek is *agros*—a field in which agriculture is pursued). They would have come to pay homage to the Messiah the same night, but the wise men arrived several weeks later and found the Messiah in a house. (Matthew 2:11). The angels did not announce to the shepherds the Messiah's birth by singing a song or carol. The angel spoke—angels in the Bible never sing. The sincere Bible student is, each year, insulted to hear the Chr-stmas carols declaring how the angels sing songs!

When the wise men arrived in Bethlehem, Yahshua and His parents lived in a house. (Matthew 2:11). He was no longer in a stable, if He ever was born in a stable. (We are not told that He was, only that He was laid in a manger.) The manger could have been in a pasture. Yahshua the Messiah was most likely born in a tent out in a field where a small manger stood for

feeding animals at pasture. Such a manger was then used as a crib for the Messiah. No mention is made that He was born in the inn stable, only that there was no room for them in the inn.

During the month of December, the shepherds had brought their flocks into the folds for the winter around Bethlehem in the Holy Land. Shepherds would not abide in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night, after the eighth month of the biblical year (October-November), since the weather turns cold and wet after the Feast of Tabernacles (usually held in early October).

To this very day, the Scottish people celebrate Hogmanay at the winter solstice. The word is said to be derived from the old Norman-French term *hoguiane*, a festival in which New Year's gifts were given or exchanged between friends. Traditionally, Hogmanay feasting begins at midnight with the arrival of a tall, dark stranger. Music and alcoholic beverages constitute an indispensable part of a traditional Hogmanay.

But where does this festival

originate? Is it found in the Bible? Actually, none of the customs, traditions, and festivals attached to the Chr-stmas/New Year holidays can be found anywhere in the BIBLE, except that some of them are condemned as being idolatry and paganism. Hogmanay actually comes from the Hebrew word for feast (*hog*—in Hebrew *chag* means feast, and *manay* which means number—*Mene*). See Daniel chapter 5 where a wine feast was dedicated to Mene. Please research Isaiah 65:11 very thoroughly from the original text where you find that those who forsake Yahweh and the keeping of His commandments are keeping pagan feasts. One of these feasts is furnishing a drink offering (alcohol) to Mene. Customarily on New Year's eve, people of the world go out partying, dancing, and drinking to celebrate the arrival of a new numbered year. (Did you know that the words *money* and *mene* can be traced to a single root? What do such word associations mean to you?)

One of the most abominable aspects of the Chr-stmas/New Year celebration is people's quest for the Chr-stmas spirit (out of a bottle of alcoholic beverage, that is). During the Chr-stmas holidays, more



people get drunk, more divorces result, more automobile accidents occur from drunken driving, and more tragedies happen than at any other similar period throughout the year. These tragedies are connected with intemperate use of alcohol. Evidently, this kind of Chr–stmas spirit is evil—from the Adversary and not from Yahweh, our Father in Heaven, or from the One whose birthday they are said to celebrate—the Messiah of Israel.

Modern Chr–stmas plants can kill you if you're not careful. Poinsettia, holly, and mistletoe contain deadly poisons that can sicken or kill a child or pet curious enough to eat the leaves. Mistletoe, a parasite plant, was originally designated by the Druids as a type of peace-making plant. Kissing under the mistletoe was explained as heaven reaching down to kiss the earth through the rebirth of the son of heaven (at the turning of the sun when a new cycle begins). None of these plants are mentioned in the Bible, yet they are almost venerated at Chr–stmas time.

Merchants Profit from Deceit!

Many people go deeply into debt to buy Chr–stmas presents, a practice which is not at all scriptural. The wise men did not give presents to each other, but they brought presents to Yahweh's designated King, Yahshua the Messiah. Wouldn't it be better to give Yahshua the glory as did the Magi? Better yet, we should keep Yahweh's holy days rather than any birthday. But, remember, Yahshua's birthday was probably on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Among the Hebrew people, birthdays were never observed. It is not wrong to wish each other a happy birthday, but to engage in birthday parties and other festivities may be traced directly to paganism, especially to ancient Greece and Rome.

Julius Sextus Africanus was the first person to specify December 25

as Yahshua's birthday. Before the year 225 C.E. (Common Era), it was never observed as such. The winter solstice was selected by Julius Sextus Africanus as the Messiah's birthday through His association with pagan religious practices.

It would appear as though most of the customs of the Chr–stmas are derived directly from the ancient anti-messiah and false-savior, Nimrod, and his mother-wife, Semiramis. The world today worships a false savior and an anti-messiah under the guise of sun worship. To restore the pure worship of the Bible and to eliminate from our lives festivals and celebrations displeasing to Almighty Yahweh should be our aim. Let us read the Bible and see for ourselves how groundless are the traditions attached to the X-Mass festivities observed today.

The Truth That Makes You Free!

Now that you have seen the facts for yourself, will you observe Chr–stmas this year?

Now that we have examined the customs and traditions of the Chr–stmas/New Year celebration and have found them to be derived from ancient pagan mythology, what will you personally do? Should we continue to observe them, however half-heartedly we may enter into the celebration, now that we know the celebration is wrong?

Or should we do as Yahshua the Messiah Himself has instructed us—OBEY His Word and keep His commandments (Matthew 5:17-20)? Yahweh gives His Spirit only to those who obey Him (Acts 5:32).

Those who keep Yahweh's commandments will be blessed (Revelation 22:14). Those who do not curse themselves (Deuteronomy 27, 28).

Let us not add to the Word, or diminish from it, but let us keep the commandments of Yahweh for our good (Deuteronomy 6). Eliminate that which is displeasing to Yahweh from your worship and receive His

blessing today.

Why not take a closer look at the doctrines of the Assemblies of Yahweh? We can prove that the "way of life" we practice is commanded by the Word of Yahweh. It is our intention to obey our Covenant with Yahweh just as strictly as we can.

This holiday season watch the newspapers and magazines for articles that straightforwardly confess the pagan origin and meaning of the customs and traditions attached to the Chr–stmas observance. When we know where these customs and traditions originated, we must reject them from our lives. Then we must obey Yahweh's Covenant so that we may please Him as obedient children.

For more informative literature on the subject of the origin of the worldly holidays, write to Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA 19507. You may be astounded at the customs of the world.

Remember Yahshua's description of the True Worshiper: ***"You worship that which you know not: we worship that which we know; for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth: for such does the Father seek to be his worshipers. Yahweh is Spirit: and they that worship him must worship in spirit and truth."*** (John 4:22-24).

"But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh." (Matthew 4:4).

"And he humbled you, and suffered you to hunger, and fed you with manna, which you knew not, neither did your fathers know; that he might make you know that man does not live by bread only, but by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh does man live." (Deuteronomy 8:3).

The question remains: Will you obey? SNB



The Sacred Name Broadcast

RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

SET APART

by Obedience to the Word

Are you satisfied with your religion, or are you still looking for the true church? If you answered in the affirmative to the second half of the question, I would like to ask you another one. If you are still looking for the true church, where are you looking to find it?

Today, there are hundreds of different religious bodies in existence in our country and around the world. Each one thinks that they are the True Body of the Messiah which will meet the Savior in the air when He returns. However, someone has to be right, and someone has to be wrong. Not all of these groups—each one teaching a different doctrine—can fulfill the predictions to be the Savior's true bride.

How large of a group would you look for if you are searching for the True Worship? My home here at Bethel, Pennsylvania, is located on the edge of the section of the country in which live the so-called "plain people." As a matter of fact, Mrs. Meyer was raised as a Mennonite,

and I was born and raised in the Church of the Brethren. Both of these groups are the more liberal element of what was called the "plain people." The more conservative groups would be the Amish or the Horning Mennonites, among others. If I were to take you through the valley about eight miles from my home, the farming communities would yield a broad spectrum of dress, highway transportation, and farming equipment. For instance, some groups allow farm tractors with steel wheels, but no automobiles. Several of the more conservative churches allow cars for highway transportation, but the chrome trim, such as bumpers, door handles, etc., must be painted black. Some groups allow electricity, while others still continue to use kerosene lamps and lanterns, and, to these church members, all electrical conveniences are forbidden.

Perhaps one of the most obvious distinguishing characteristics between these groups is their attire. In the conservative Amish

congregations, the men wear long hair, beards with the mustaches shaved, homemade clothes with no buttons. These people use hooks and eyes, and they wear suspenders rather than belts. They wear broad-brimmed black hats in the winter and straw hats in the summer. The ladies wear long dresses with a cape, long sleeves to the wrist bone, and white caps. As the congregations become more liberal, the dress styles change and become more modern. If you should meet one of these people in town, or on the highways, you might imagine that you are transported instantly back into history about 125 years. For them, time has stood still.

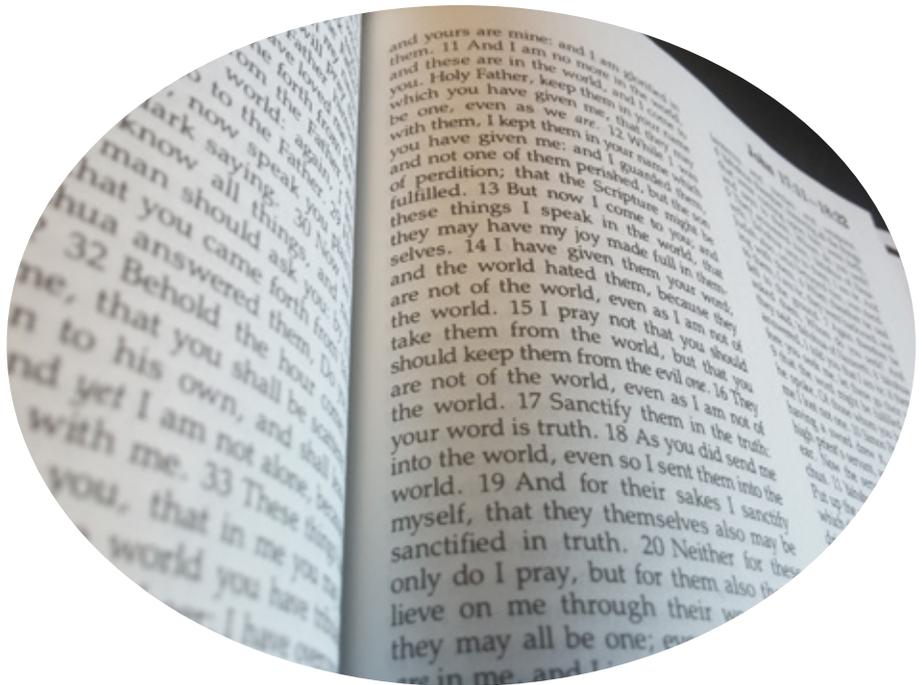
A newcomer to this area of Pennsylvania might inquire as to the reason for living in this ancient manner. A question directed at one of the plain people will yield a reply, that they want to be different, and this is the way that they can best witness their convictions to the world. "Different from what?" you

might ask, and they would reply, "From worldly Christianity."

Within our lifetime, a powerful union of churches has developed, calling themselves the National Council of Churches, which has, in turn, yielded to an organization of greater scope, called the World Council of Churches. These groups of united religious bodies seek to inform us that, by uniting in an ecumenical movement, all of these different bodies of believers can become one and reunite as the Apostolic church. The plain people of Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana, are strongly opposed to this union, and they well should be. However, it is not different clothes, or the use of draft horse power, that will distinguish between the True Worship and worldly Christianity. All of these groups call themselves Bible-preaching and Bible-believing groups, but when you ask them to show you in the Scriptures where we are commanded to paint the bumpers of the cars black, or to drive horses instead of cars, or to refuse to use electricity in our homes, they cannot answer. These are only traditions which some preacher, or church, has imposed to distinguish between what he felt was modesty and worldliness.

Our Savior Yahshua, in Matthew 15:7-9, says some rather unkind things about traditions. We read, ***"You hypocrites, well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, This people honors me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they worship me, teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men."*** Can a people really desire to draw near to the Almighty by imposing heavy traditional burdens upon themselves and find themselves rejected by Him? The answer must be a resounding affirmative, since this seems to have been the approach which man has tried all the way down through history. Our Heavenly Father has prescribed a definite way which leads to Him, but few people wish to humble themselves to take it.

How does nominal, contempo-



"But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh."

rary Christianity compare to the True Body of the Messiah? Can you say that this is the group of people of which the Savior asked the Father to keep them one, even as the Messiah and the Father are in one accord, John 17:21-23? If each of these groups was following the true Holy Spirit, they would all be in one accord, one in doctrine, and perfect in unity. Trying to reform and set themselves apart from Roman Catholicism in some way, they have embarked down the dead-end pathway of tradition. In referring to the traditions of Israel, Paul says, ***"For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for Yahweh, but not according to knowledge. For being ignorant of Yahweh's righteousness, and***

seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of Yahweh." (Romans 10:2-3).

How would you go about describing the True Worshipers today? Do you know that the inspired Scriptures describe them accurately? They are living a sanctified, separated life. They are doing things scripturally, not traditionally. We today are looking directly into the very era of crisis at the end of the age. These end days have not yet arrived, but we are on the very brink of this time of world trouble which the prophets have predicted for the end of the age. In the book of Revelation, we find the True Worshipers described twice, in such a distinct

Continued on page 17.



THE TEMPLE MOUNT IN PRO

These pictures, taken in Jerusalem, depict the arch structure on the western side of the Temple Mount platform. The small, domed structure visible through the archway is known as the Dome of the Tablets, or the Dome of the Spirits.

For centuries, the world has been led to believe that the Solomonic Temple stood over the Rock outcropping, currently the site of the Dome of the Rock Mosque. But recent studies have revealed that the temple structure of Solomon, and also Herod, most likely stood further north.

The area sheltered by the small domed structure (Dome of the Tablets) is an outcropping of rock. In the Mishna section, Yoma 5:2, the following explanation appears: "After the ark was taken away, a stone remained there from the time of the early Prophets and it was called 'Shetiyah.' It was higher than the ground by three finger-breadths. On this he used to put [the firepan].

A note following the term taken away refers you to Shekelim 6:1-2. The note following the word Prophets says. "i.e., the time of David and Solomon." The note following the word Shetiyah is literally foundation.

The editor of **The Sacred Name**

Broadcaster magazine has traveled to Israel on many different occasions. He has been inside the Dome of the Rock Mosque on each one of these occasions. The large outcropping of stone in the Dome of the Rock Mosque is at least four feet high, which is much higher than the three finger-breadths that the Mishna mentions as the place where the Ark of the Covenant stood on Shetiyah—literally, the foundation stone of earth.

The outcropping of stone that is marked by the small, domed structure, which is called Dome of the Tablets, meets dimensions recorded in the Mishna. It actually appears to be about three finger-breadths above the flagstone floor.

If the scholars are correct in their assertion that the Dome of the Tablets stands over the exact spot where the Ark of the Covenant once stood, then we can readily pace off the area and determine the dimensions of the Temple of Solomon and the Temple of Herod. Several years ago, when the author and a few of his friends traveled to the Holy Land, we paced off the dimensions of the Temple. We, thereby, also fulfilled Revelation 11:1-2, since, as we paced

off the area, we related the distance to the length of the scriptural cubit measure, the rod or reed. We were able to determine the approximate area where the temple once stood.

As Professor Asher Kauffman has shown, several things make this domed structure, known as the Dome of the Tablets and Dome of the Spirits, so intriguing. First is its name. Secondly, the spot it occupies is also quite significant, since you can determine that it lines up fairly well with the Eastern Gate. The current Eastern Gate is not ancient, but, according to some archaeologists, foundations of an older gate have been discovered beneath this one.

It is the belief of the author that Revelation 11 will be fulfilled in our time. Some significant events point in that direction. During the Feast of Tabernacles 1987, the group known as the Temple Mount Faithful, for the first time, held a prayer session behind this platform in the area of the chain gate. Their presence on the Temple Mount was militantly resisted by many Muslims and the Wakft, the Muslim Temple Mount authority. Nevertheless, the Israeli Border Patrol and the Israel Defense Forces protected the worship-



The only other place (other than the Dome of the Rock Mosque) where the bedrock protrudes through the paving stones is beneath the Dome of the Tablets (Dome of the Spirits), as indicated below.

PROPHECY

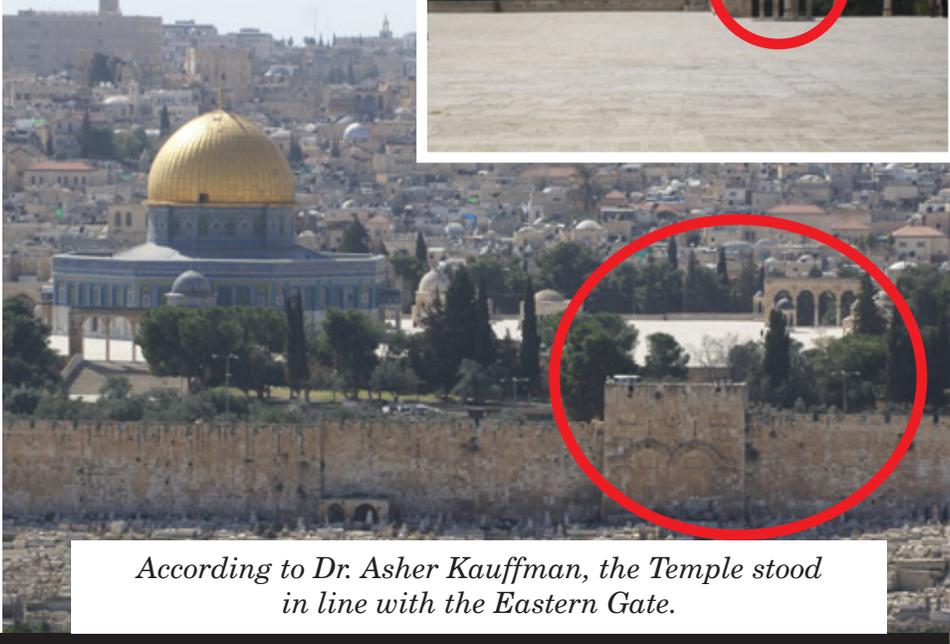
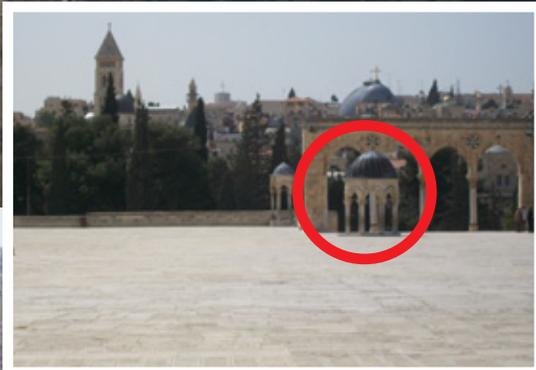
ers with tear gas and gunfire.

It is the belief of the author that a new Temple will soon be rebuilt on the platform in the spot where the original Temple once stood. This means that the current Muslim religious structures will not have to be removed. But, also, this means that, for the nations to tread the Temple Mount underfoot, a Christian Cathedral will have to be built on the Temple Mount. It will demand that Jerusalem be designated as an international city. People from all the nations of the world will come to worship on the Temple Mount. It will, ostensibly, serve as a peace symbol.

Then, on October 8, 1990, the Temple Mount Faithful announced their decision to lay the cornerstone of the Third Temple, resulting in riots that left 17 dead. Since then, they march yearly to sacrifice a Passover lamb, offer the wave sheaf, or set the temple cornerstone.

Let us be careful now and watch our spiritual garments, for the time of Yahshua's Second Coming draws ever closer. Will you be ready to receive Him when He returns?

SNB



According to Dr. Asher Kauffman, the Temple stood in line with the Eastern Gate.

Sharing the Gift

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

“For Yahweh so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes on him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16).

Yahweh’s unselfish act in giving His Son, Yahshua, as the sacrifice for the sins of the world comprises a monumental blessing that cannot be valued. The paradoxical enigma is that people, each winter, give presents to each other, when, in fact, IF they truly appreciated Yahweh’s gift to the world, they should be giving gifts to HIM!

Most worldly, unconverted people resent giving contributions to religious organizations. To justify their selfishness, they assert that “all the organization wants is their money.” Some believe that by giving a dollar or two, here or there, they are adequately fulfilling their obligations to the Almighty. People with an unconverted attitude don’t seem to value the knowledge they receive, nor do they view it as the means whereby they may receive eternal life. They neglect to see the sacrifice that goes into freely sending out the Word of life.

The Apostle Paul encountered a similar, stingy attitude among the members of the Corinthian Assembly. The members seemed to imagine that they should not financially support Paul’s missionary endeavors. In 1 Corinthians 9, he had to point out strongly to them that one does not labor without hope of some return. He quotes Deuteronomy 25:4 which says, ***“You shall not muzzle the ox when he treads out the grain.”*** Paul emphasizes in 1 Corinthians 9:11, ***“If we sowed to you spiritual***

things, is it a great matter if we shall reap your carnal things?”

We must recall from Acts 20:33-35 how Paul described his own attitude regarding the contributions he received. He was willing to give—even more than give, to sacrifice his entire life if need be—for the benefit of those who have an interest in spiritual things and to provide them with an opportunity to hear the Word of Yahweh and be saved.

“I coveted no man’s silver, or gold, or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to them that were with me. In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring you ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Master Yahshua, that he himself said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

What is your personal attitude toward giving?

Yahshua our Messiah taught that it is more blessed to give than to receive. But most people would much rather receive than give! They even expect people to give to them constantly. Their motto is, “What’s yours is mine if I can get it; what’s mine is mine if I can keep it.” The attitude of most Americans is to get something for nothing, or to take something from someone else—obviously an unconverted concept. Giving and generosity today are much neglected.

Yahshua gave Himself totally in sacrifice to the people of the world while He was here on this earth. He said, ***“Give, and it shall be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running***

over, shall they give into your bosom. For with what measure you measure it shall be measured to you again.” (Luke 6:38). Perhaps this is the reason why the spiritual lives of people today are so obviously depleted. Yahshua personified sacrificial giving by offering His life for the sins of the world. Conversely, people today are very self-centered, thinking only of their own advancement. Where would we be if Yahshua had not sacrificed Himself for the sins of the world?

John 3:16 tells us that Yahweh loved the world (His creation) and GAVE His Son to be our Savior, so that we would not have to perish for our sins, but have eternal life.

The attitude of the truly converted person is to give generously to Almighty Yahweh so others may hear this Truth. You will notice from Leviticus 27:30-33 that Almighty Yahweh has reserved the first tenth of the produce of our fields for Himself. This does not necessarily refer exclusively to agriculture, as some misguided individuals would have you believe. People work in many types of fields of endeavor. Some people are in the field of teaching. Another’s field is manufacturing, or business management, construction, or sales. Each person has chosen a field of occupation in which he labors to produce his daily livelihood. Therefore, all of us are obligated to return to our Heavenly Father a tenth of everything we produce, because Yahweh has reserved a rental fee to be paid by His human creation for using this earth, which He actually owns since He created it. See Leviticus 25:23-24.

of TRUTH

Almighty Yahweh Himself receives all the tithes and offerings contributed to the Assemblies of Yahweh. Every contribution is placed in a bank account bearing the Name of Almighty Yahweh. From this bank account, Yahweh's stewards pay the expenses of this ministry.

Radio and television time on commercial stations for airing **The Sacred Name Broadcast** and **The Sacred Name Telecast** is quite costly. Publishing **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** magazine monthly and the numerous other items of literature we have available is quite costly. Postage costs have escalated sharply over the past decades. Paying the telephone bills and other utilities necessary to keep the ministry functioning becomes more costly with each passing day. Expenses related to ministerial trips continue to grow as representatives are sent around the world. Frequently, we use the telephone for counseling, or advising people; but, we never charge for this service, as do professional counselors. Our goal is to make life more pleasant for those who experience problems, by showing them the scriptural solutions to their problems, which will be applied in Yahweh's coming new Kingdom and encouraging everyone to live a moral, obedient life. But we also have other out-of-the-pocket expenses to meet.

Many different services—that are offered free by the Assemblies of Yahweh—are, in fact, not free! For example, our literature is offered free of charge, when someone actually has to pay to produce it. Even if you are a casual reader of our materials, you benefit as you read in this

publication the strong doctrines taught by the Bible. Do you ever contemplate offering support to Yahweh's ministry? Perhaps you fail to express your appreciation to Yahweh for His blessings, just as did the lepers who failed to thank Yahshua after He healed them. (Luke 17:12-19).

Almighty Yahweh has laid down a practical plan to finance His ministry. It is financed through the freely given tithes and offerings of all those who appreciate the Truth of Yahweh. He has reserved the tithe of all the increase of the earth to proclaim His message of salvation, so that all people can have the knowledge to be saved. If we refuse to obey this commandment, we are sinning. We are spurning His kindness in offering His Truth to us, an insult that will bring down the wrath of Yahweh upon us.

In the Assemblies of Yahweh at Bethel, Pennsylvania, you will find rich nourishment for your spiritual life. All around in the religious world is a dearth of hearing the Word of Yahweh. You have probably, on frequent occasions, learned much new Truth, or have been encouraged along the difficult areas in your life by the things you have read in our publications. Or you may have heard **The Sacred Name Broadcast** which regularly teaches Yahweh's Truth over the air. Perhaps you are a daily listener to Radio WMLK. **The Sacred Name Telecast** can be seen each week on television. It is our

pleasure to serve the brethren. All of us here at the Home Offices of the Assemblies of Yahweh believe in sacrificing. Freely we give, because Almighty Yahweh has generously bestowed upon us His Truth. There is food in the house of Elohim (Bethel), because someone gives to make that spiritual nourishment available.

Please note carefully the following scriptural passage: ***“Will a man rob Elohim? Yet you rob me. But you say, In what have we robbed you? In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with the curse; for you rob me, even this whole nation. Bring the whole tithe into the store-house, that there may be food in my house, and prove me now with this, says Yahweh of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast its fruit before the time in the field, says Yahweh of hosts. And all nations shall call you happy; for you shall be a delightful land, says Yahweh of hosts.”*** (Malachi 3:8-12). How will you respond to this instruction? Will you obey, or rebel?

We must be careful not to rob Yahweh of His rightful, honorable recognition. If all those who love and appreciate Yahweh's Truth would

give generously, abundant spiritual food will always be available in the house of Elohim (Bethel). If we do not give, the world will starve spiritually, because we have closed our hand when it was in our power to do good.

“Behold, the days come, says the Sovereign Yahweh, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of Yahweh. And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east; they shall run to and fro to seek the word of Yahweh, and shall not find it. In that day shall the fair virgins and the young men faint for thirst. They that swear by the sin of Samaria, and say, As your mighty one, O Dan, lives; and, As the way of Beer-sheba lives; they shall fall, and never rise up again.” (Amos 8:11-14).

Ancient Israel experienced a similar situation. When no central storehouse was in effect, the priesthood of Yahweh (His ministry) suffered. King Hezekiah acted decisively when he encountered this need.

“Moreover he commanded the people that dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites, that they might give themselves to the law of Yahweh. And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel gave in abundance the first-fruits of grain, new wine, and oil and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithe of all things they brought in abundantly. And the children of Israel and Judah, that dwelt in the cities of Judah, they also brought in the tithe of oxen and sheep, and the tithe of dedicated things which were consecrated to Yahweh their Elohim, and laid them by heaps. In the third month they began to

lay the foundation of the heaps, and finished them in the seventh month. And when Hezekiah and the princes came and saw the heaps, they blessed Yahweh, and his people Israel. Then Hezekiah questioned the priests and the

If we do not give, the world will starve spiritually, because we have closed our hand when it was in our power to do good.

Levites concerning the heaps. And Azariah the chief priest, of the house of Zadok, answered him and said, Since the people began to bring the ablations into the house of Yahweh, we have eaten and had enough, and have left plenty: for Yahweh has blessed his people; and that which is left is this great store. Then Hezekiah commanded to prepare chambers in the house of Yahweh; and they prepared them. And they brought in the ablations and the tithes and the dedicated things faithfully: and over them Conaniah the Levite was ruler, and Shimei his brother was second.” (2 Chronicles 31:4-12).

The ministry of Yahweh’s Word in the Temple of ancient Israel was well supplied when Hezekiah created a central storehouse to collect all the tithes and offerings in one place. The ministry had plenty of resources to do Yahweh’s Work and the Most High blessed Israel.

A very moving incident occurred when Israel came out of Egypt and Almighty Yahweh instructed them to build His Tabernacle of witness in the wilderness. When Moses came down from the mountain with the blueprint in his hands for constructing the Tabernacle, he announced the need to accomplish this magnificent construction project. He called upon Israel to give generously so that the building of the Tabernacle

could be well supplied with money and material.

“And all the congregation of the children of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and brought Yahweh’s offering, for the work of the tent of meeting, and for all the service of it, and for the holy garments. And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing-hearted, and brought brooches, and ear-rings, and

signet-rings, and armlets, all jewels of gold; even every one that offered a wave offering of gold to Yahweh. And every man, with whom was found blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats’ hair, and rams’ skins dyed red, and tahash skins, brought them. Every one that offered an offering of silver and bronze brought Yahweh’s offering; and every man, with whom was found acacia wood for any work of the service, brought it. And all the women that were wise-hearted spun with their hands, and brought that which they had spun, the blue, and the purple, the scarlet, and the fine linen. And all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun the goats’ hair. And the rulers brought the onyx stones, and the stones to be set, for the ephod, and for the breast-plate; and the spice, and the oil: for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense. The children of Israel brought a freewill offering to Yahweh; every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all the work, which Yahweh had commanded to be made by Moses.” (Exodus 35:20-29).

You will notice Moses forthrightly laid the needs of the Tabernacle building material and furniture before the people. Without hesita-

tion, all of the Israelites departed to their homes and began immediately to collect the necessary items for the Tabernacle construction. Some brought abundantly of their material possessions; others freely gave of their time and efforts for this project. The needs of Yahweh's ministry deeply stirred their hearts, and all who volunteered gave generously until the needs were abundantly supplied.

Would you believe it, Moses actually had to tell Israel to stop giving! Let us read from Exodus 36:3-7. ***“And they received of Moses all the offering which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of the sanctuary, with which to make it. And they brought yet to him free-will offerings every morning. And all the wise men, that wrought all the work of the sanctuary, came from the work which they wrought; and they spoke to Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work which Yahweh commanded to make. And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing. For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much.”***

Israel had recently been released from Egyptian slavery. They were grateful in heart for their newfound liberty. Similarly, today those people who read **The Sacred Name Broadcaster**, and benefit from the services offered by the Assemblies of Yahweh, should consider this message to be a release from the abject bondage of false doctrine. Each one should thankfully give to Almighty Yahweh, so that others also might hear, even as someone else gave in the past so that they were able to hear the message of salvation.

The Assemblies of Yahweh ministry does not request gifts from those whose hearts are cold. We do

not desire to build up the income of the organization to increase our personal remuneration. Paul explained to the Philippian brethren, ***“And you yourselves also know, you Philippians, that in the beginning of the good tidings, when I departed from Macedonia, no assembly had fellowship with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you only; for even in Thessalonica you sent once and again to my need. Not that I seek for the gift; but I seek for the fruit that increases to your account. But I have all things, and abound: I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the things that came from you, an odor of a sweet smell, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to Yahweh. And my Elohim shall supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in the Messiah Yahshua. Now to our El and Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen.”*** (Philippians 4:15-20).

Do you understand Paul's intended meaning in this passage? He praises Almighty Yahweh for the dedication of the Philippian brethren. Having laid his need before them, they realized that Paul did not want their money, but that they were giving a temporal gift for his use in his effort of teaching people the way to life everlasting. Their gift to Paul produced fruit (other converted people), which was credited to their account in heaven's bank of future reward.

The Assemblies of Yahweh has a similar outlook. We don't want your money! Rather, what we want is to see that you will be blessed by Almighty Yahweh for your dedication in helping to convey Yahweh's Truth to others. Those contributions which you send to the Assemblies of Yahweh of Bethel, Pennsylvania, will be placed in Yahweh's bank account. An accurate record will be kept in a bank account in the heavens. Your contributions will be exclusively used so that others also may hear the glorious Truth that

Almighty Yahweh has revealed to His people in these last days. That fruit will be credited to your account upon Yahweh's records. Your money will not go to the individuals of the Assemblies of Yahweh, but it will be used by Almighty Yahweh to proclaim His Truth. You will receive a rich reward in His Kingdom, when your bank account can be withdrawn at Yahshua's judgment seat.

Most people today give if they have anything left over after satisfying themselves. Conversely, Almighty Yahweh reserves the first fruits for Himself.

Can we understand His ways more perfectly? Read the following passage carefully. ***“Trust in Yahweh with all your heart, and lean not upon your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will direct your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear Yahweh, and depart from evil: It will be health to your navel, and marrow to your bones. Honor Yahweh with your substance, and with the first-fruits of all your increase: So shall your barns be filled with plenty, and your vats shall overflow with new wine.”*** (Proverbs 3:5-10).

We must remember that we serve the Great King who governs this entire universe. We take too lightly the fact that He has called us into His blessed Truth. If we were to visit the President of the United States, or the Queen of England, we would take with us the most beautiful gift we could afford. Why do we think we can give Almighty Yahweh second best? Do we assume that Almighty Yahweh doesn't care if we rob Him of what He has reserved for Himself?

Let us consider that those who do not faithfully return to Almighty Yahweh of the blessings He has given to us—and do it first before we spend anything on ourselves—might just insult Almighty Yahweh. Thereby, such insult will be directed toward the Holy Spirit of grace until we have ultimately committed the unpardonable sin.

There are many people who buy things for their own pleasure and even squander their money lavishly BEFORE they give a token offering to Yahweh. On the other hand, it is the constant practice of a converted person to satisfy the claims of the actual owner of all our possessions—Yahweh—before we accommodate ourselves.

How about you? Do you take your paycheck each week and look at your net pay and then pay a tithe and give an offering to Almighty Yahweh for His glory? Some people insist that they are wallowing so deeply in debt that they can't tithe and give offerings to Almighty Yahweh. But nothing could be further from the truth! Proven time and time again is the fact that when someone makes the irreversible decision to tithe first, he will begin to pay much closer attention to his budget. That person will discover that he has actually earned wages only to put them in a bag with holes. See Haggai 1:6. When we carefully BUDGET our earnings and determine not to squander any of our money, we will soon find that we are able to pay our tithes and give our freewill offerings to Almighty Yahweh without lowering our living standard. We will spend our income on the important things, and not purchase trivialities that we do not need or cannot afford.

The Assemblies of Yahweh does not take up weekly collections in our worship services. We expect each member and faithful coworker to contribute of his own free will without any coercion. The Assemblies of Yahweh ministry does not apologize for teaching tithing. It is the biblical way of financing Yahweh's ministry. We teach this principle strongly.

Frequently, we wonder why more people do not assist us in this ministry by holding up our hands with their regular and generous giving. Perhaps they don't appreciate this Bible Truth they have so freely received. Or they may lack the faith to be obedient in all things. Our material possessions should be the least of our interests, rather than

our pride and joy—a thing to covet. Only those who have a living faith in Yahweh will obey Him. Spiritual wealth far outweighs material possessions.

Perhaps they are unconcerned about the salvation of others, or they simply forget to acknowledge the priceless gift of knowledge they have received. Whatever the case, this ministry frequently exists on little, even on the crumbs that many other larger religious organizations might discard or waste. How faithful have you personally been?

The blessings of life come from giving to others. But to experience these blessings you must learn to give to benefit others, with no expectations, as Yahshua did. Rewards in life do not come from getting, but from giving. Try out this concept and see for yourself! Yahweh can easily measure your faithfulness by how faithfully you obey His commandment to return His tithe. When Almighty Yahweh completely controls your purse strings and bank account, He will know that He has your absolute loyalty in keeping His Laws. Even with a faithful tithe, few people will give until it hurts. But Yahweh GAVE His only begotten Son to die for the sins of the world, and you must believe that His gift hurt!

How well I recall visiting an elderly couple early in my ministry. They lived in a small mountain cabin, and their only income was from a small pension. Their furniture was old and well worn. The stove in their kitchen had a board propped against the oven door to keep it closed. Nevertheless, each month their tithe check, although small, routinely arrived on time. They could have kept that money and bought a new stove, but they thought more of obeying Yahweh's commandments than making their personal life comfortable. These thoughts have always been with me while writing out the checks to pay the bills of this ministry. This incident has been multiplied many times over by the widow's mite the ministry has received from numer-

ous others over the years. This is why this ministry is operated so frugally and carefully.

How about you? Have you robbed Yahweh? Do you follow the principle of Matthew 23:23? ***“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and anise and cummin, and have left undone the weightier matters of the law, justice, and mercy, and faith: but these you ought to have done, and not to have left the other undone.”*** See Luke 11:42: ***“But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and every herb, and pass over justice and the love of Yahweh: but these ought you to have done, and not to leave the other undone.”***

Are you as dedicated to Yahweh as you should be? Or do you like to freeload? Some day, all of us will have to stand before the Messiah's judgment seat and look into the face of the One who gave all, even His life, for us. What will He do with us at that time? If we are faithful, He will receive us. Otherwise, we will probably be in danger of taking a final plunge into the lake of fire!

- Let's be faithful out of love for Him rather than out of fear of what He can do to us.
- Let us be generous in giving and hold foremost in our hearts a sincere love for the lost souls who are hungering and thirsting after the Word of Yahweh.
- Let us give from the heart that our reward may be great in the Kingdom of heaven.
- Let us seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness that all else will be added to us. May we count on you? ^{SNB}

Continued from page 9.

and crystal clear manner, that you cannot help but recognize them. Please turn to Revelation 12:17. We read there, ***“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.”*** Now turn with me to the second description. This is found in Revelation 14:12. The time setting is that of the “mark of the beast.” We read, ***“Here is the patience of the saints; They that keep the commandments of Yahweh, and the faith of Yahshua.”***

Now look around at yourself. Look with a severe logical scrutiny at your church denomination. Are they the ones who are described in these two Scriptures? Are you keeping the commandments of Yahweh and, at the same time, holding fast to the Faith in the Messiah and His shed blood? The groups who even remotely resemble this description are indeed scarce—few and far between. Oh, certainly, I will admit that most ministers of nominal Christianity give lip service to the keeping of the commandments . . . until you get specific as to why they are breaking some of them. How many groups today are obedient to the first commandment of the Decalogue? This first commandment and the third one, legislate the Name which our Heavenly Father requires that we use for our worship of Him. This Sacred Name is “Yahweh,” which is the best transliteration of the Name which our Heavenly Father revealed to His people. And, then, when you move along to the fourth commandment, people really become indignant! “What do you mean?” they exclaim. “We don’t need to keep that old Jewish Sabbath.” They don’t seem to realize that the Bible never once anywhere calls the scriptural Sabbath, “Jewish.” They have probably never read that, in Exodus 31:12-18, the Sabbath is described as a perpetual Covenant and

How would you go about describing the True Worshipers today? Do you know that the inspired Scriptures describe them accurately? They are living a sanctified, separated life. They are doing things scripturally, not traditionally.

sign between the Heavenly Father and His people. Do you realize that there is actually a commandment to keep the Sabbath in the New Testament? It has been hidden by a faulty translation, but it is there, in Hebrews 4:9. ***“There remains therefore a sabbath rest for the people of Yahweh.”*** This is the correct translation from the Greek.

When our Savior was tempted by Satan the Devil in the wilderness, Yahshua the Messiah resisted the Adversary with a quote from the Old Testament in Deuteronomy 8:3. You may read of this incident in Matthew 4:4. ***“But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh.”*** If you are living by every word, you will, of absolute necessity, be keeping the commandments of Yahweh and holding fast the Faith in the Messiah.

What does it take to obtain everlasting life? This question was once asked of our Savior in Matthew 19:16. His startling reply is found in verse 17, ***“And he said to him, Why do you ask me concerning that which is good? One there is who is good: but if you would enter into life, keep the commandments.”*** To the further interrogative, “Which commandments?” the Messiah quoted from the Decalogue, or the 10 commandments, in verse 18.

Listen, dear friend, if you keep the commandments of the Almighty Heavenly Father Yahweh as they are found in the Bible, you will be set apart, or severed, from the rest of the world. You will not have to drive horses on the highway instead of cars, or dress as was fashionable 125 years ago. Your very life and how you live it will be a witness to the world that you are a part of the Body of the Messiah. You will have rejected dead, traditional religion, and entered a new era of life and joy. If you have come this far, all you will have to do is follow your nose, and you will arrive finally at the Assemblies of Yahweh. We will be looking for you!

SNB



Seven Things Yahweh Hates

by Teaching Elder Jonathan S. Meyer

Yahweh hates seven things which can be termed the result of an evil character. How are they related, and why is Yahweh determined to show His displeasure toward these wicked human traits?

A generation has arisen in recent years that has revealed an alarming trend in society. Just as the sacred Scriptures has prophesied, there will be a vicious, self-centered people in the end of the age that will oppose True Worship. This age of evil has come upon us at an alarming rate! Gone are the days when the younger generation would respectfully follow the dictates of parents and grandparents without opposition and argument.

Whenever we are in a public place such as a store, supermarket, or airport, we can see that the young make insatiable demands of parents—and the parents seem unable to say no and maintain their position of authority. ***“There is a generation that curses their fa-***

ther, and bless not their mother. There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet are not washed from their filthiness. There is a generation, oh how lofty are their eyes! And their eyelids are lifted up. There is a generation whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men.” (Proverbs 30:11-14).

Parents have forgotten how to instill in children a respect for others. It used to be that school teachers would enlighten the unruly students about how they should show respect for their fellow man. Now, cell phone videos abound that reveal students defying their teachers and even assaulting them physically, as

well as verbally. This has led to a breakdown in society wherein people show a complete lack of respect for authority, whether that authority be a policeman or a judge. Their teeth are set on edge, and they gnash instantly with vicious words.

Parents and grandparents used to teach the younger generations how to submit to the sacred Scriptures and follow its directives. They would deliver a generation who allowed themselves to take correction from the Word of Yahweh—even if they didn't know His Name—so that all knew a sense of right and wrong.

“You have not resisted to blood, striving against sin; and you have forgotten the exhortation which reasons with you as with sons,

“My son, regard not lightly the chastening of Yahweh,

“Nor faint when you are reproved of him;

“For whom Yahweh loves he corrects, and scourges every son whom he receives. It is for chastening that you endure; Yahweh deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not correct? But if you are without chastening, of which all have been made partakers, then you are bastards, and not sons. Furthermore, we had the fathers of our flesh to chasten us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection to the Father of spirits, and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as it seemed good to them; but he for profit, that we may be partakers of his holiness. All chastening seems for the present to be not joyous but grievous; yet afterward it yields peaceable fruit to them that have been exercised by it, even the fruit of righteousness. Therefore lift up the hands that hang down, and the palsied knees; and make straight paths for your feet, that that which is lame be not turned out of the way, but rather be healed.” (Hebrews 12:4-13).

“A worthless person, a man of iniquity, is he that walks with a perverse mouth; who winks with his eyes, that speaks with his feet, that makes signs with his fingers; in whose heart is perverseness, who devises evil continually, who sows discord. Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; on a sudden shall he be broken, and that without remedy, there are six things which Yahweh hates; yes, seven which are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood; a heart that devises wicked purposes, feet that are swift in running to mischief, a false witness that utters lies, and he that sows discord among brethren.” (Proverbs 6:12-19).

1 Haughty Eyes

Haughty eyes, similarly translated in **The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition**, as well as **The New International** version, was rendered *a proud look* in the **King James Version**. This is #7311 in the **Strong's Concordance**, the prime root meaning *to exalt self, to set up too high, to promote oneself, proud*. It also has connotations of *to rise or raise*, which shows a relationship to the leavening action, *to puff up*. ***“Love suffers long, and is kind; love does not envy; love vaunts not itself, is not puffed up....”*** (1 Corinthians 13:4).

Let us remember the relationship of leaven (puffing up) to false doctrine and sin, Matthew 16:6. When someone exalts himself, he is doing something that Yahweh hates, because Yahweh exalts those who humble themselves. We must remember Matthew 5:5. ***“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.”*** A meek and humble attitude is Yahweh's delight. Egotism and arrogance are an abomination to Him.

In Mark 7:20-23, we learn that pride comes from the heart of a sinful man. Proverbs 29:23 states. ***“A man's pride shall bring him***

low; but he that is of a lowly spirit shall obtain honor.” Proverbs 16:18 reminds us that ***“Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.”***

Yahweh turns away from those who are puffed up and haughty, because this sinful attitude—based upon false doctrine—is a corrupting influence, just as is leaven. Remember Cain, Balaam, and Nabal who were punished for haughtiness.

Having a proud look is a work of the flesh. This is a form of selfishness which is totally against Yahweh's love, which stresses ***“Love your neighbor.”*** The True Worshipers must get their minds off self. Egotism is a problem which every carnal human must overcome. Let us remember that Yahweh and Yahshua are very humble, and They require that we be the same. Paul admonishes the Roman brethren in Romans 12:3: ***“For I say, through the grace that was given me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but so to think as to think soberly, according as Yahweh has dealt to each man a measure of faith.”***

If we consider the love and humility that Yahshua has shown for us by giving His life for us, we must reject the work of the flesh—pride—and model ourselves after our Savior and our Heavenly Father. Pride and its results are very sinful as shown in Mark 7:21-23, and it is for this reason that Yahweh hates haughty eyes. ***“The fear of Yahweh is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the perverse mouth, do I hate.”*** (Proverbs 8:13).

2 A Lying Tongue

Yahweh hates liars, because lying is sin. Exodus 20:16: ***“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”*** To break this commandment is sin. Yahweh hates it, and He has designated it as a capital offense carrying the death penalty.

“A false witness shall not be unpunished; and he that utters

lies shall not escape.” (Proverbs 19:5). A parallel thought is found in verse nine: **“A false witness shall not be unpunished; and he that utters lies shall perish.”**

Yahweh speaks out strongly against lying. In Revelation 21:27, we learn that none of those who practice lying will enter into the Kingdom of Yahweh. Verse eight says that all liars will be cast into the lake of fire. If we remember that Satan is the father of lies—as he lied to Eve—we can see why Yahweh hates lying, because it is Satan-motivated. Yahweh is a Mighty One of TRUTH (Deuteronomy 32:4 and Psalm 31:5). His Word can be trusted, since it is Truth (Psalm 119:142).

3 Hands That Shed Innocent Blood

Hands that shed innocent blood reveal great hatred in the heart, much as Cain showed toward Abel. The sixth commandment states, **“You shall not commit murder.”** (Exodus 20:13). To shed innocent blood, literally, or to conceal hatred in your heart, is a very grave sin. Yahshua states that to hold an attitude of hatred in your heart contains the seed of murder, and to be angry against your brother without cause puts one in danger of the judgment. To say “you fool” puts one in danger of Gehenna fire (Matthew 5:21-26).

Cain hated Abel simply because Yahweh had accepted the sacrifice of Abel and not that of Cain. Yahweh instructed Cain to overcome this attitude of hate for his own brother while it was still in his heart (Genesis 4:7). However, Cain refused, and this sin bore bitter fruit as he committed the first murder recorded in the Bible. We are commanded to love one another in 1 Thessalonians 4:9.

Yahweh hates those who lurk privately for the innocent without cause, Jeremiah 7:3-6. We are warned in Proverbs 1:11 not to give consent to their evil deeds or to walk in their evil paths, because Yahweh

hates the sin of the murder of the innocent. Yahweh cut off the royal family of Ahab because Jezebel had falsely accused Naboth and had him killed by this false testimony (1 Kings 21). We must be careful to avoid such conduct or such punishment from Yahweh will certainly fall on us too.

4 A Heart That Devises Wicked Purposes

A wicked person will waste much time thinking of ways to repay evil (real or imagined). This evil plotting is against every biblical principle of turning the other cheek, forgiving our brother 70 times 7 (when he repents), and to love your enemy, as well as your brother. In some cases, the Law dictates recompense, but this does not require evil plotting. Paul directs all True Worshipers in Colossians 3:5 to put to death (mortify) your members which are on the earth, some of which are malice, railing, wrath, and anger. This plotting of the heart requires hatred that will surely result in sin and does not amount to anything constructive. The biblical way to solve grievances is to take the problem directly to the person involved, discuss it, and, then, solve the problem (Matthew 18:15-19). Leviticus 19:18 states: **“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.”** Children of Yahweh who obey this command will never allow plotting, hatred, or grudges in their heart.

5 Feet That Are Swift In Running to Mischievous

Man always seems to have a proclivity for wandering away from Yahweh. **“In this manner says Yahweh to this people, Even so have they loved to wander; they have not refrained their feet:**

therefore Yahweh does not accept them; now will he remember their iniquity, and visit their sins.” (Jeremiah 14:10).

Proverbs 1:10-16 deals with the feet swift in running to mischief, as well as hands shedding innocent blood. **“My son, if sinners entice you, consent not. If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood; let us lurk privately for the innocent without cause; let us swallow them up alive as Sheol, and whole, as those that go down into the pit; we shall find all precious substance; we shall fill our houses with plunder; you shall cast your lot among us; we will all have one purse: my son, walk not in the way with them; refrain your foot from their path: for their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood.”**

Solomon warns us not to be part-takers with these sinners, lest we become involved in their sin and lose our salvation. The psalmist in Psalm 119:101 strongly declares, **“I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might observe your word.”** Here a definite distinction is made between good and evil. The Word of Yahweh, if closely followed, will guard the True Worshiper from straying into evil ways, if he walks intently in the paths of righteousness. Yahweh hates such activities of being “foot-loose.” He condemns Baalam in Numbers 22:32, because his way was “perverse,” reckless, or deviating from before Yahweh. Yahweh hates feet that are swift to run to mischief, because it leads away from Him and results in sin, Psalm 121. Just as Yahweh had to confront Jonah when he went running in the wrong direction, He will do the same to all who run to mischief away from Him and obedience to His Laws.

6 A False Witness

A false witness that speaks lies is hated by Yahweh, because it is a blatant transgression of the ninth

The Word of Yahweh, if closely followed, will guard the True Worshiper from straying into evil ways, if he walks intently in the paths of righteousness.

commandment. According to the Law found in Deuteronomy 19:16-19, ***“If an unrighteous witness rises up against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing, then both the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand before Yahweh, before the priests and the judges that shall be in those days; and the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and, behold, if the witness is a false witness, and has testified falsely against his brother; then you shall do to him, as he had thought to do to his brother: so shall you put away the evil from among you.”*** Yahweh is very strict—but also very fair—in dealing with such a sin. Those false witnesses who testified against Yahshua shall receive the punishment of death. Remember that all liars will be thrown into the lake of fire.

7 He That Sows Discord

He that sows discord among the brethren commits the sin which may actually contain the link to bind together all of the other six abominations. Proverbs 26:24-28: ***“He that hates dissembles with his lips; but he lays up deceit within him: when he speaks fair, believe him not; for there are seven abominations in his heart: though his hatred covers itself with guile, his wickedness shall be openly showed before the assembly. Whoever digs a pit shall fall into it; and he that rolls a stone, it shall return upon him. A lying tongue hates those whom it has wounded; and a flattering mouth works ruin.”*** This Scripture clearly ties together all of the seven things Yahweh hates. He that sows discord, as well as those who sin, dis-

semble from the congregation. Achan is called a dissembler for his sin in Yahshua 7:11. One who dissembles is said to have seven abominations in his heart, the seven abominations which Yahweh hates. He has haughty eyes (no humility), a lying tongue (to create discord), hands that shed innocent blood (usually by character assassination), a heart that devises wicked purposes (he wants his own way), feet that are swift in running to mischief (because he does not seek unity of the Faith). He is a false witness speaking lies (see Psalm 41:5-11) and sows discord among the brethren (to achieve his own evil designs and purposes). Whatever pit he digs, or whatever stone he rolls to hurt someone else, it will return upon him. Yahweh’s justice will ultimately triumph! Dissemblers will sow the wind and reap the whirlwind.

Conclusion

A dissembler is one who walks in the way of the sinners of this world. Yahweh hates the things that he does, because Yahweh hates the works of them that turn aside from the True Body of the Messiah. King David, in Psalm 101, says that these dissemblers will surely be cut off from the city of Yahweh. David, in Psalm 26:4, asserts that he will not sit down with dissemblers, and he hates the assembly of evil doers (a devious assembly) working in opposition to Yahweh’s True unified Body, the Assemblies of Yahweh. In Psalm 1, the Psalmist contrasts between the wicked and the righteous and strongly declares that the wicked will certainly perish. Psalm 15, another psalm of David, condemns the work of the unrighteous, stating that whoever walks uprightly and works righteous things shall never be moved, but will live close to Yahweh.

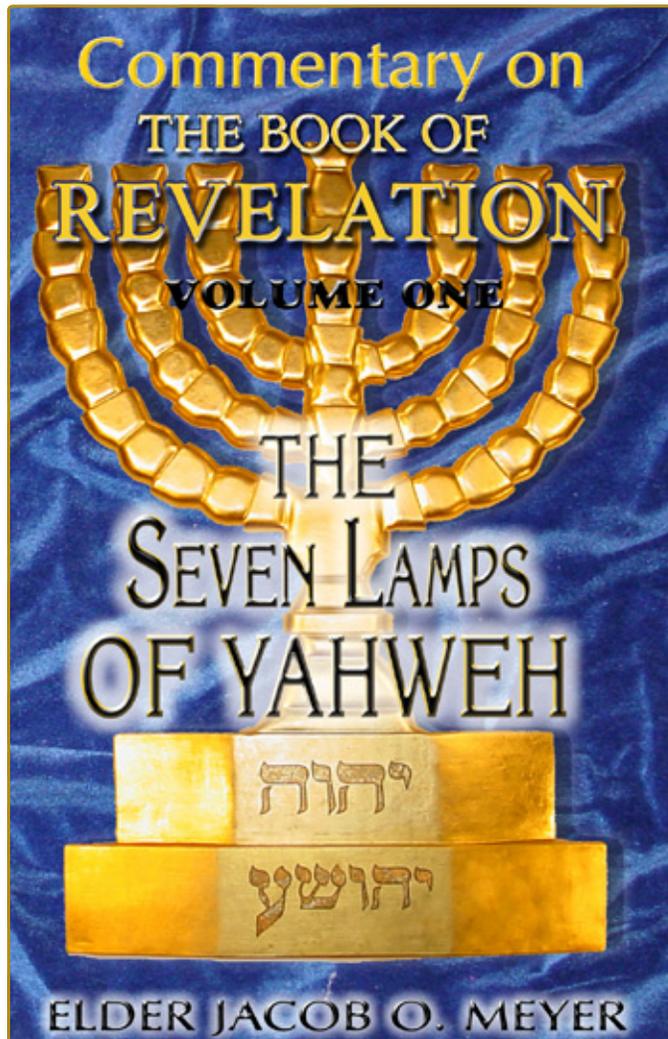
We must avoid dissemblers: not sitting down to communicate with them, walking in their ways, or following their sinful example. We must separate ourselves from these people, as did David, and continue studying the Scriptures to remain strong and faithful to Yahweh because His Word is Truth, John 17:17.

“Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit upon you; I will make known my words to you. Because I have called, and you have refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man has regarded; but you have rejected all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh in the day of your calamity; I will mock when your fear comes; when your fear comes as a storm, and your calamity comes on as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish come upon you. Then will they call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but they shall not find me: for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of Yahweh. They would none of my counsel; they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the backsliding of the simple shall kill them, and the careless ease of fools shall destroy them. But whoever listens to me shall dwell securely, and shall be quiet without fear of evil.” (Proverbs 1:23-33).

According to Almighty Yahweh, there is a right and a wrong, though today’s society rejects Yahweh’s Word and His commandments. If we want to enter into life, we must keep Yahweh’s commandments. Yahweh will judge all who rebel against Him, but He has extended grace and lovingkindness to all who submit to His Word. S^NB

The Seven Lamps of Yahweh

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer



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the beginning.”***

(Isaiah 46:9-10)

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