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Justice and righteousness frequently appear connected in the scriptural text. Yahweh will soon pour out His judgment upon our wicked age; however, Yahweh will spare His obedient people.

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Be sure to listen to the Sacred Name Broadcast and watch the Sacred Name Telecast. Tell your friends! Also, streaming is available at your convenience at www.WMLK.net.

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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer



Our Cover:

In the wilderness of Israel painted by the hand of Yahweh—we are awed by His creation.

It was in the wilderness of Judea that John came preaching the baptism of repentance to remission of sins. Yahshua the Messiah, following His immersion, spent 40 days and 40 nights fasting in the wilderness, after which He overcame the temptation of Satan.

Would you leave life's comforts to walk into the wilderness to hear the preaching of Yahshua the Messiah? Would His call to repentance penetrate your heart?



by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

"And bring you near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons. And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. And you shall speak to all that are wise-hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they make Aaron's garments to sanctify him, that he may minister to me in the priest's office. And these are the garments which they shall make: a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a coat of checker work, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, and his sons, that he may minister to me in the priest's office. And they shall take the gold, and the blue, and the purple, and the scarlet, and the fine linen.

"And they shall make the ephod of gold, of blue, and purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen, the work of the skilful workman. It shall have two shoulder-pieces joined to the two ends of it, that it may be joined together. And the skilfully woven band, which is upon it, with which to gird it on, shall be like the work of it and of the same piece; of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen. And you shall take two onyx stones, and engrave on them the names of the children of Israel: six of their names on the one stone, and the names of the six that remain on the other stone, according to their birth. With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet, shall you engrave the two stones, according to the names of the children of Israel: you shall make them to be enclosed in settings of gold. And you shall put the two stones upon the shoulder-pieces of the ephod, to be stones of memorial for the children of Israel: and Aaron shall bear their names before Yahweh upon his two shoulders for a memorial. And you shall make settings of gold, and two chains of pure gold; like cords shall you make them, of wreath work: and you shall put the wreath chains on the settings.

"And you shall make a breastplate of judgment, the work of the skilful workman; like the work of the ephod you shall make it; of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, you shall make it. Square it shall be and double; a span shall be the length of it, and a span the width of it. And you shall set in it settings of stones,

four rows of stones: a row of sardius, topaz, and carbuncle shall be the first row; and the second row an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond; and the third row a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; and the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper: they shall be enclosed in gold in their settings. And the stones shall be according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve according to their names; like the engravings of a signet, every one according to his name, they shall be for the twelve tribes. And you shall make on the breastplate chains like cords, of wreath work of pure gold. And you shall make upon the breast-plate two rings of gold, and shall put the two rings on the two ends of the breast-plate. And you shall put the two wreath chains of gold in the two rings at the ends of the breastplate. And the other two ends of the two wreath chains you shall put on the two settings, and put them on the shoulder-pieces of the ephod, in the forepart of it. And you shall make two rings of gold, and you shall put them upon the two ends of the breastplate, upon the edge of it, which is toward the side of the ephod inward. And you shall make two rings of gold, and shall put them on the two shoulder-pieces of the ephod underneath, in the forepart of it, close by the coupling of it, above the skilfully woven band of the ephod. And they shall bind the breastplate by the rings of it to the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, that it may be upon the skilfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastplate be not loosed from the ephod. And Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment upon his heart, when he goes in to the holy place, for a memorial before Yahweh continually. And

you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim; and they shall be upon Aaron's heart, when he goes in before Yahweh: and Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel upon his heart before Yahweh continually.

"And you shall make the robe of the ephod entirely of blue. And it shall have a hole for the head in the middle of it: it shall have a binding of woven work round about the hole of it, as it were the hole of a coat of mail, so it is not rent. And upon the skirts of it you shall make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the skirts of it; and bells of gold between them round about: a golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the skirts of the robe round about. And it shall be upon Aaron to minister: and the sound of it shall be heard when he goes in to the holy place before Yahweh, and when he comes out, that he does not die.

"And you shall make a plate of pure gold, and engrave upon it, like the engravings of a signet, HOLY TO YAHWEH. And you shall put it on a lace of blue, and it shall be upon the mitre; upon the forefront of the mitre it shall be. And it shall be upon Aaron's forehead, and Aaron shall bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall always be upon his forehead, that they may be accepted before Yahweh. And you shall weave the coat in checker work of fine linen, and you shall make a mitre of fine linen, and you shall make a girdle, the work of the embroiderer.

"And for Aaron's sons you shall make coats, and you shall make girdles for them, and headbands you shall make for them, for glory and for beauty. And you

Treastplate of JUDGMENT AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

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shall put them upon Aaron your brother, and upon his sons with him, and shall anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister to me in the priest's office. And you shall make them linen trousers to cover the flesh of their nakedness; from the loins even to the thighs they shall reach: and they shall be on Aaron, and upon his sons, when they go in to the tent of meeting, or when they come near to the altar to minister in the holy place; that they bear not iniquity, and die: it shall be a statute for ever to him and to his seed after him." (Exodus 28:1-43).

It was about 10 years ago that I preached a sermon following the Feast of Unleavened Bread on this same significant subject. I had intended to preach a follow-up sermon at the Feast of Weeks that year, but the subject matter revealed to me from the Sacred Scriptures by the Holy Spirit alarmed me so greatly that I did not follow up on the first sermon. Better to allow people to take plenty of time to make up their own minds, rather than curse anyone with fear, was my belief at that time. Therefore, I postponed the sequel sermon(s).

I put the notes to that sermon away in a secure place, and I had forgotten where I had filed them. Consequently, this sermon will be a completely new, and freshly prepared, sermon, somewhat different from the one that I had preached previously.

When I prepared the first sermon a decade ago, the emotional impact of the message that I beheld in the Sacred Scriptures was so great that I literally, and actually, began to pace the floor at home. Today, the impact has not lessened. I hope that you will pay close attention to this message. We should ask ourselves the questions: Where is the power of the Urim and Thummim today? Which Assembly has it? Where is Yahweh's We should ask ourselves the questions:

Where is the power of the Urim and Thummim today?

> Which Assembly has it?

Where is Yahweh's judgment?

judgment? I know where it is, but it is up to each individual member to determine that for yourself.

For some years, I have been teaching that the correct organizational government of the True Assembly is the one found in Isaiah chapter 1. This is the organizational government of the True Assembly. "Therefore says the Sovereign Yahweh of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease myself of my adversaries, and avenge myself of my enemies; and I will turn my hand upon you, and thoroughly purge away your dross, and will take away all your tin; and I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning: afterward you shall be called The city of righteousness, a faithful

town. Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and her converts with righteousness. But the destruction of transgressors and sinners shall be together, and they that forsake Yahweh shall be consumed. For they shall be ashamed of the oaks which you have desired, and you shall be confounded for the gardens that you have chosen. For you shall be as an oak whose leaf fades, and as a garden that has no water. And the strong shall be as tow, and his work as a spark: and they shall both burn together, and none shall quench them." (Isaiah 1:24-31). Pay close attention to the two terms justice and righteousness.

Here in this passage, we see that Almighty Yahweh will eventually tire of simply looking the other way when people are willfully doing wrong. He says that He will ease and avenge Himself of His adversaries and enemies. He will thoroughly purge away the dross. The dross represents the refuse in the iron-making process, or any metal-making process. When the metal is heated to a liquid state, the impurities work themselves out.

He will also take away all of the tin. Tin is not a precious metal; it is a very common metal. It is not strong like steel, but can help strengthen other metals in an alloy. He will purge out those who think the Assemblies of Yahweh is just a common-place organization, those who deliberately remain weak.

He will also restore the judges as at the first. When we turn to a passage like Deuteronomy 17, we find there that the authority of the Assemblies of Yahweh comes sharply into focus. It says, "If there arises a matter too hard for you in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, being matters of controversy within your gates; then you shall arise, and go up to the place which Yahweh your Elohim shall choose...." (Deuteronomy 17:8). Yahweh chose Bethel for the site of this end-time ministry, not because I was born there, but Yahweh brought me back to this place after our family had resided in other locations.

Continuing in verse 9 we read, "...and you shall come to the priests the Levites, and to the judge that shall be in those days: and you shall inquire; and they shall show you the sentence of judgment." Notice that the term *judge* brings us sharply into focus with the day in which we are now living. There are no priests serving anymore in the Assemblies of Yahweh, but there is a judge who is serving at this time. In the passage we read from Isaiah chapter 1, the counselors are mentioned. People have asked me, "What about the position of the subordinate elders?" This passage also refers to them, which we shall explain later. We have been fulfilling this passage of Scripture since the beginning of the ministry.

Yahweh says in Isaiah 1:26, "... and I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning: afterward you shall be called The city of righteousness, a faithful town."

Verse 27 states, "Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and her converts with righteousness." Those who are drawn to True Worship will be redeemed with justice and righteousness. However, in verse 28, we read, "But the destruction of transgressors and sinners shall be together, and they that forsake Yahweh shall be consumed." I could describe various incidents from past years that are not coincidences. Everyone must be ashamed of any contamination with worldly religion, as we read in verse 29. I cannot make this statement strong enough.

Verse 31 reads, "And the strong shall be as tow, and his work as

a spark; and they shall both burn together; and none shall quench them." Consequently, we must all work works of righteousness so that we will not be consigned for our sins to eternal destruction in the lake of fire.

In Nehemiah chapter 7, when part of the diaspora returned from Babylon, the text tells us, "These sought their register among those that were reckoned by genealogy, but it was not found: therefore were they deemed polluted and put from the priesthood. And the governor said to them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, until there stood up a priest with Urim and Thummim." (Nehemiah 7:64-65).

Let us go back to Exodus chapter 28. Now, it tells us in verse 6 that an *ephod* or *a garment for the priest* was designed to be produced of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine-twined linen. Then the text says in verses 9 and 10 that two onyx stones are to be engraved with the names of the children of Israel. Six names were to be engraved on the one stone and six names on the other stone, according to their birth.

Have you ever memorized the names of the 12 tribes of Israel? You should never forget the names of the tribes of Israel according to their birth. They are Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin. (See Genesis 29 and 30.) Those are the 12 tribes of Israel whose names were engraved on the stones of the breastplate and the two onyx stones.

"With the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a signet, shall you engrave the two stones, according to the names of the children of Israel: you shall make them to be enclosed in settings of gold." (Exodus 28:11). The onyx stones had to be enclosed in settings of gold.

"And you shall put the two stones upon the shoulder-pieces

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of the ephod, to be stones of memorial for the children of Israel: and Aaron shall bear their names before Yahweh upon his two shoulders for a memorial." (Exodus 28:12). These stones of memorial are meant for us to remember the names of the 12 tribes. Therefore, it should be up to you to memorize the names of the 12 tribes. You can go back to the book of Genesis, beginning with chapter 29, and start reading there how Leah gave birth to Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, then how the concubines gave birth, etc., and memorize them according to their birth from the top down, Benjamin being the last one.

"And you shall make settings of gold, and two chains of pure gold; like cords shall you make them, of wreath work: and you shall put the wreath chains on the settings.

"And you shall make a breastplate of judgment, the work of the skilful workman; like the work of the ephod you shall make it; of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, you shall make it. Square it shall be and double; a span shall be the length of it, and a span the width of it." (Exodus 28:13-16). This describes a cushion of cloth that was next to the High Priest's body. According to my hand, a span is about 9 inches and then doubled over.

"And you shall set in it settings of stones, four rows of stones: a row of sardius, topaz, and carbuncle shall be the first row; and the second row an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond; and the third row a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; and the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper: they shall be enclosed in gold in their settings." (Exodus 18:17-20).

Aaron shall wear this breastplate for a memorial upon his breast, upon his heart, when he goes into

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the holy place. Then we read in verse 30, "And you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim "The "Urim" and the "Thummim"-what does that mean? The term Urim is used seven times in the Sacred Scriptures. Mendelkern, a Jewish lexicographer and concordance publisher, says it means orakel (the German spelling), or English oracle, or oraculum in Latin. The Strong's **Exhaustive Concordance of the** Bible says Urim means lights. William Holladay, in his Hebrew Lexicon, says it means giving an oracle or light. Urim definitely comes from the Hebrew root term for light, a reference then undoubtedly intended to refer us to Yahweh's Laws. Brown, Driver, and Briggs says lights means completeness, sincerity, innocence.

Thummim, according to Mendelkern, means completeness, integrity, entire, whole, peace, and light. **Strong's Concordance** renders it as #8550, from #8537, the plural of tom, and means perfections; i.e. (techn.) one of the epithets of the objects in the high-priest's breastplate, an emblem of complete Truth.

Do you believe that Israel had the complete Truth of Yahweh? Do you understand that the Assemblies of Yahweh is preaching the complete Truth of Yahweh today? Yes, other groups have a portion of Truth, but not the complete Truth of Yahweh's True Worship that the Assemblies of Yahweh does. That I know to be a fact!

The term tom means completeness, and Tummim means completeness, integrity, and perfection. Usually, these are translated lights and perfections. Is it not Yahweh's Torah that makes perfect and complete? Of course!

Holladay says *Tummim* means whole, entire, intact, unobjectionable, free of blemish, blameless, sincerely, honestly. The **Brown**, **Driver**, and **Briggs Lexicon** defines it as completeness, sincerity, innocence, integrity, simplicity, without definite sin.

This obviously is a description of the Assemblies of Yahweh. The Assemblies of Yahweh has the complete sound doctrine and sincerity in teaching the Truth. There is nothing "slipped up our shirt sleeve," meaning that we do not handle the Word of Yahweh deceitfully. We do not pull "tricks" as Paul and Peter warned that false prophets do. We do not follow cunningly devised fables. Innocence in sound doctrine

The Assemblies of Yahweh has the complete sound doctrine and sincerity in teaching the Truth.

is derived from keeping Yahweh's Law. Integrity means doing things right. We do not have the wealth of other religious organizations located throughout this earth, but our message is one of simplicity. Simplicity, however, is beautiful—a doctrine easy to understand.

Early in my ministry, I once visited an elderly lady, who was an art collector and had some beautiful items of art hanging on the walls of her home. As she showed me one of her favorite art treasures, she remarked, "I happened to find this beautiful pen sketch of an outdoor scene." Then she explained, "Now, look closely, what do you see? Look at the birds. They are just a 'v' in the sky, a pen stroke that represents a bird. Step back and you can see a bird. Look closely and it is only a 'v' in the sky." She explained all of these things, and how joyful she was to examine the simplicity of this pen-sketch drawing up close, and then to step back and let the eyes fill in the details that completed the entire picture.

Lights and perfections (Urim and Thummim) were placed on the inside of this breastplate, and these items expressed the Will of Yahweh.

Let us go to Leviticus chapter 8. I get so thrilled with this inspired book. No other organization on the face of the earth has had this significant Truth revealed to them except the Assemblies of Yahweh. "And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water. And he put on him the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod on him, and he girded him with the skilfully woven band of the ephod, and bound it to him with it. And he placed the breastplate on him: and in the breastplate he put the Urim and the Thummim. And he set the mitre on his head; and on the mitre, in front, he set the golden plate, the holy crown; as Yahweh commanded Moses." (Leviticus 8:6-9).

First, we encounter here a type of baptism in the priestly cleansing. The "lights and perfections" were inserted into the breastplate, revealing Yahweh's Will. The holy crown on the High Priest had engraved upon it "Kodesh le Yahweh."

In Numbers chapter 27, beginning with verse 15, we read, "And Moses spoke to Yahweh, saying, Let Yahweh, the Elohim of the spirits of all flesh, appoint a man over the congregation, who may go out before them, and who may come in before them, and who may lead them out, and who may bring them in; that the congregation of Yahweh be not as sheep which have no shepherd." (Numbers 27:15-17). In the Hebrew Bible, the term for *congregation* is 'edah. The congregation of Yahweh must have a Shepherd. Of course, we rely upon Yahshua, but they also relied upon Yahweh, Who was invisible. They relied upon Yahshua, the second Yahweh in the Old Testament, but there had to be a human in charge of the congregation who served as the judge and rendered good decisions. Under Yahweh's direction, he decided when the congregation would move here or there. The congregation cannot be wandering around, being picked off by the wolves and the coyotes.

Continuing, we read from verse 18, "And Yahweh said

to Moses, Take Yahshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him; and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight. And you shall put of your honor on him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may obey." (Number 27:18-20). Yahshua, the son of Nun, was a type of Yahshua the Messiah. You must honor a person like this because Yahweh is leading that person.

Verses 21 through 23 reads, "And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the judgment of the Urim before Yahweh: at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation. And Moses did as Yahweh commanded him; and he took Yahshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation: and he laid his hands on him, and gave him a charge, as Yahweh spoke by Moses."

Yahshua was placed in charge of the Assembly following the death



The Breastplate as interpreted by the Assemblies of Yahweh, on display in the tabernacle at Bethel.

of Moses and Aaron. Is it not sad that Yahweh names Aaron and his sons, and two of them proved to be unfaithful? "And bring you near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons." (Exodus 28:1).

Are you familiar with the account of Nadab and Abihu and their judgment after offering strange fire? Perhaps this incident happened on the Day of Atonement. "And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took each his censer, and put fire in it, and laid incense on it, and offered strange fire before Yahweh, which he had not commanded them. And there came forth fire from before Yahweh, and devoured them, and they died before Yahweh." (Leviticus 10:1-2).

What would happen in this Assembly if there was not someone to make decisions? As I spoke recently to someone who is a part of the nominal Sacred Name Movement, this individual pointed out that one group is keeping the feasts on a certain day and another group on another day, etc. There are Sacred Name groups

that are keeping the Feast of Tabernacles as the Jews do, and some are keeping it as we do, and some of them select the following night so that can be their holy day. Now what kind of a situation is that? Unity? Hardly!

At one time there was a big question regarding the new moon of green ears and when the Passover should be kept. People asked if they should be keeping it as the Roman Catholics have decreed. Some of these people went through the most elaborate and unscholarly figuring that I have ever seen in my life. I had thoroughly studied this subject and know what the Bible says on the subject. Yahweh has provided a way for me to go to Israel each year and observe the green ears. The following new moon crescent is the new moon of green ears. Just like turning down the volume on the radio or television, objections diminished. "Since Elder Meyer went to Israel and brought back the green ears every year, they have nothing to fight about." They are still not unified on doctrine, but they cannot argue against our evidence.

I want you to understand that the Assemblies of Yahweh is the only



biblically organized and directed organization on the face of this earth today. I want it to stay that way. I do not want any member of the Assemblies of Yahweh after this series of sermons to say, "I do not understand this." There is no other organization like this one. If you cannot know this truth after reading this series of sermons, you will quickly fall away from the Truth.

In Deuteronomy 33:8 we read, "And of Levi he said, Your Thummim and your Urim are with your righteous one, whom you did prove at Massah, with whom you contended at the waters of Meribah...." How many times in the past did you argue with Yahweh?

The first Sabbath that my family kept, Mrs. Meyer brought in some baked beans to the dinner table. I told her, "We are going to begin keeping Sabbath, but I don't know about that dietary Law. That is pretty tough to keep." There was a piece of pork right on the top of the baked beans. She set the bowl of baked beans down in front of me. I looked at that pork and I could hear Yahweh's voice saying, "The swine is unclean to you. You cannot eat the flesh of swine." I told my wife, "Get rid of it. We have to go all the way. We cannot keep the Law partially." Ever after that, we have tried our best to keep the entire Law of Yahweh. It was a learning experience, but Yahweh taught us-praise His Name!

How many times have you argued with the Scriptures? Some people even go so far as to bring a lawsuit against Yahweh!

In Zechariah 6:12-13, we read, "...and speak to him, saying, In this manner speaks Yahweh of hosts, saying, Behold, the man whose name is the Branch: and he shall grow up out of his place; and he shall build the temple of Yahweh; even he shall build the temple of Yahweh; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." This man must obviously be identified as Yahshua. It is only the Jews who take the lead in building the True Worship—the Tabernacle and the Temple. I preached a sermon several years ago on the subject of how the Jews were the Temple builders. But here is another Jew, and He is building a spiritual house. Yahweh's way is for His ministry to grow.

"Even he shall build the temple of Yahweh; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." Yahshua was not a Levite or priest, so something has to be done. There has to be a change in the Law. Yahweh changed the Law of the priesthood, restoring the Melchizedek priesthood.

The prophecy of Psalm 110 must be brought to our remembrance: "Yahweh says to my Sovereign, sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool. Yahweh will send forth the rod of your strength out of Zion: rule in the midst of your enemies.... Yahweh has sworn, and will not repent: You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek." (Psalm 110:1-2, 4). So the Law was not really changed. The incident of Melchizedek, all the way back in Genesis chapter 14, serves as the foundation of the change, or restoration, of the Law by Almighty Yahweh.

I have been teaching for many years that the Melchizedek priesthood is the priesthood of the Assemblies of Yahweh. We have a great Melchizedek High Priest, Yahshua, over this tabernacle or temple (Hebrews 7). Serving beneath this great High Priest are men who were not priests, as a result of physical lineage, but were selected, just as was Yahshua the Israelite general of the tribe of Ephraim. He was selected to be the judge and leader at that time, which is another excellent type we could recall between Yahshua the Messiah and this Yahshua, the son of Nun in the Old Testament.

Yahshua the Messiah has, therefore, been given the breastplate of judgment, of Urim and Thummim. He knows the Will of Yahweh. If He is in control of this organization, He will reveal Yahweh's Will to the leadership of this organization.

Let us carefully consider Isaiah chapter 11, beginning to read in verse 1, "And there shall come forth a shoot out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots shall bear fruit...." Jesse was the father of David, the son of Obed, who, in turn, was the son of Boaz and Ruth. Jesse has the very good genes of zealous, dedicated believers in himself. Who is this Scripture referring to? It refers to Yahshua the Messiah. So many pronouncements in the Bible were not absolutely coincidences.

The name *Nazareth* has its root as nun, sade, resh (netzer); therefore, you would define it as "branch town." It is not simply a coincidence that Yahshua came from Nazareth! Yahweh gave His people all these signs and then, conversely, some commentators will say, "No, it isn't true. Nazareth is not branch town, and that has nothing to do with Yahshua." I prefer to believe the Scriptures! There is more to this Bible than the average commentator, layman, or minister of worldly religion accepts. Here we read of a man, "the branch," who will come from "branch town," Nazareth, where he was brought up. He was called the Nazarene (Matthew 2:23).

"And the Spirit of Yahweh shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Yahweh...." Yahweh gave His Son Yahshua the Spirit without measure, a complete outpouring of that Spirit. First and foremost, we must comprehend that a Mighty One exists, and that this Mighty One has His eyes on us, His True Worshipers. Notice that this man will be given the seven spirits of Yahweh!

"And his delight shall be in the fear of Yahweh; and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither decide after the hearing of his ears." He shall judge, because, as Yahweh's High Priest, He has received the breastplate of judgment. Yahshua, the son of Nun, stood in front of Eleazar, Aaron's son, and he received lights and perfections from that breastplate. Now Yahshua, as the Mechizedek High Priest, bears this breastplate as the Judge and Leader of the True Assembly. What evidence is Yahshua looking for as He judges?

"But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he kill the wicked." Here, again, is depicted the spirit of judgment and righteousness, and it reminds us of the title of the series, "The Breastplate of Judgment and Righteousness," which encompasses these significant Scriptures. The breastplate is shown to be an item representing righteousness.

This verse refers us right back to Isaiah chapter 1. Remember, Isaiah—the prophet's name—is the exact reverse of Yahshua. There is a very pronounced relationship between the ministry of Isaiah the prophet and Yahshua the Messiah. The name Isaiah means the salvation of Yahweh. Yahshua means Yahweh is salvation. We should also, at this point, be reminded of the definition of the name Joel. Joel is the converse of the name EliYah. Joel means Yahweh is El, while EliYah means my El is Yahweh.

Dear readers, do not sell short this inspired volume—the Sacred Scriptures. One summer, my subject of sermons was to show that the subject matter of this book bears no coincidences. Whatever appears here in the book is the product of a mind that is so extensive, so majestic, that you and I cannot totally envision all that appears there.

Years ago, we heard people in the Assemblies of Yahweh, saying, "The Bible is boring. Your sermons are boring." I knew they were not dedicated Assemblies of Yahweh members when they said that. To me, the Bible is never a boring book! I hope Yahweh gives me the grace to bring forth His Word so that my sermons will never be boring. To me, the Bible is not boring. It is exciting! I come out of the meeting hall at Bethel filled with joy every Sabbath. I just love this book! It has everything we need for salvation. It connects me with Almighty Yahweh. There is so much we find in the Bible that just does not appear there to fill space, and we continue to preach its message strongly. I continually point out in the Obadiah School of the Bible classes how many instances reveal the evidence of its Supernatural Author.

Then the passage describes what Yahshua will do to the earth as He strikes the earth and kills the wicked. Do not sell short this power! Yahshua has this breastplate of judgment and righteousness upon Himself, and He is filled with the mighty Holy Spirit of Yahweh, and He makes the judgments.

"And righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist, and faithfulness the girdle of his loins." All of these words are used to define "Urim and Thummim,"— "Thummim" especially—are they not? These terms are used in the lexicon as I have shown previously completeness, sincerity, innocence, integrity, faithfulness, to define the term Thummim.

Remember, this is the prophet Isaiah speaking. This book of Isaiah contains 66 chapters. It is put to-

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This book of Isaiah contains 66 chapters. It is put together like a mini-Bible.

gether like a mini-Bible. This book, by the prophet Isaiah, contains the history of the world from Yahweh's perspective. It is the history of the world in a nutshell, with the focus on the Messiah. The Obadiah School of the Bible students, who were in the Bible class that covered Isaiah, remember how I tried to speed up in covering this book. I was lagging behind schedule, and I needed to get through this book. I would start reading, and then I would say, "I am going to take it word for word, line by line, chapter by chapter, until we are finished, and then I'll go on to Jeremiah." The prophecy of Isaiah just absorbed me as we explained its message.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty El, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his Kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from now on even forever. The zeal of Yahweh of hosts will perform this." (Isaiah 9:6-7). This passage prophesies of Yahshua. The government of Yahweh was on the shoulder of the priest, represented by the two onyx stones. Notice again the terms—justice and righteousness—as applied to the Messiah.

It is the history of the world in a nut shell, with the focus on the Messiah.

As we can see, Thummim comes into play again in the beginning of verse 7. There shall be no end, because that is what peace means. Yahweh is the Author of Peace (1 Corinthians 14:33), not this irresponsible peacemaking that is going on in our day, when things appear totally without principle in our capital city of Washington, D.C. I do not know if conditions in this country will ever swing back on track again. I think it will be as the Scriptures tell us, "...evil men and imposters shall become worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived..." right up to the end of the age (2 Timothy 3:13).

We will go through the entire chapter of Isaiah 28, because it clearly relates to this subject of righteous rule and the breastplate. We begin reading with verse 1, "Woe to the crown of pride of the drunkards of Ephraim, and to the fading flower of his glorious beauty, which is on the head of the fat valley of them that are overcome with wine!"

It seems that in parts of the world today, especially in the Western world, there is a national pride mostly promoted by drinking alcoholic beverages. Ephraim was the leading tribe of the 10 northern tribes, the House of Israel. Sometimes, when the Scriptures refer to Ephraim, it means not only the tribe of Ephraim, but all of the 10 northern tribes. I would like to follow that interpretation now. I do not need to cite statistics. What happens to people who over-imbibe alcoholic beverages? They develop liver cancer, or cirrhosis of the liver. The Western world is also beset by a spiritual cancer today which is on "the fat valley" of them that are overcome with wine.

"Behold Yahweh has a mighty and strong one; as a tempest of hail, a destroying storm, as a tempest of mighty waters overflowing, will he cast down to the earth with the hand." Yahweh is still in control. Do not ever forget that. Man may be swayed by a mob psychology, as did the plot sometimes in the old Western movies, when a posse instituted vigilante justice, but Yahweh is still in control. I have faith and confidence in my heart that He will always remain in control of this creation.

"The crown of pride of the drunkards of Ephraim shall be trodden under foot: and the fading flower of his glorious beauty, which is on the head of the fat valley, shall be as the first-ripe fig before the summer; which when he that looks upon it sees, while it is yet in his hand he eats it up." The events that Yahweh has in store for the end of the age describe some really serious scenarios.

"In that day will Yahweh of hosts become a crown of glory, and a diadem of beauty, to the residue of his people...." I want to be here after Yahweh finishes judging the world with the great Tribulation. I want to meet Yahshua in the air as He returns. If you think we will go flying off into the air, to reside forever on a cloud, and strumming a harp or whistling a tune, you are wrong. We will go through this Great Tribulation. This great Tribulation is staring us right in the face, and I see many people-even some members of the Assemblies of Yahweh included-who are not looking closely enough at what is happening in the world. My heart quivers when I perceive what is

going on in this worldly system and how close we are to this Tribulation.

"And a spirit of justice to him that sits in judgment, and strength to them that turn back the battle at the gate." Let us think of this as a moral battle. We are in a battle against forces of evil, and Satan is loose. How many years ago did I indicate that we are in the time when Satan has come down upon us in great wrath? Many of us have taken severe punishment over the years from the Adversary.

Who is this sitting at the gate? This is not merely a soldier standing there wielding an actual sword. This is the responsibility of the judge to guard the gates, is it not? I frequently have to make difficult decisions in the Assemblies of Yahweh. I desire everyone in the world to be saved. I know that the Assemblies of Yahweh is going to have to stand here as His representative to herald Yahweh's Truth, so I have to make these decisions. I want to see a repentant, converted people, a people who really believe in Yahweh in their hearts.

"And even these reel with wine, and stagger with strong drink; the priest and the prophet reel with strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they stagger with strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment." Look at the scandals going on in ch-rchianity today. It is not exclusively in ch-rchianity, but appears also in Judaism. They stumble in judgment saying that anybody can be accepted into their worship: homosexuals, lesbians, etc.

In the Assemblies of Yahweh at one time was someone who suggested that we should go down to the Interstate highway and flag travelers into the Feast of Tabernacles. I responded, "This is Yahweh's feast. It is for Yahweh's human tabernacles. It is for repentant, converted people to assemble together in holy convocation to gain even more spiritual strength. It is not for adulterers, Satan uses drunkenness to his advantage to cloud the minds of men to keep them from the Truth.

fornicators, evil-minded people to come into Yahweh's feast. It is a feast of Yahweh's True Worshipers gathered together to honor Him."

"For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean." Why are they filled with vomit and filthiness? Because so many worldly religious leaders are drunk with the spirit of the world, that is what is the intended meaning of this drunkenness. Satan uses drunkenness to his advantage to cloud the minds of men to keep them from the Truth.

So that no one misunderstands me, I will tell you this: Mrs. Meyer has a beautiful meal waiting for us at home each Sabbath. We enjoy this delicious meal. Most Sabbaths we begin our meal with a small glass of kosher wine. That is all we have-one glass of wine. We do not sit there and imbibe wine for the rest of the night. The wine bottle is put away, and then, at next week's Sabbath meal, we will have another glass. There are many weeks we do not serve any wine. I just want to tell you that the Sacred Scriptures allows drinking wine in moderation, but not to imbibe it to drunkenness, which is wrong.

"Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts? For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little." (Isaiah 28:9-10). The milk and breast which we see here is undoubtedly the milk of Babylon and the breast of Babylon which was personified in pagan worship by the image of Cybele, with her many breasts.

I am convinced that the teachers in Israel used this little jingle in ancient Israel to teach a principle. I once attended a class taught by a professor who said, "Ah, this means nothing! It is just a little jingle that appears in the Bible. Don't worry about it." I do not agree with his conclusion.

"Nay, but by men of strange lips and with another tongue will he speak to this people; to whom he said, This is the rest, give you rest to him that is weary; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear. Therefore shall the word of Yahweh be to them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little; that they may go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken." (Isaiah 28:11-13). Harmonize the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and do not leave anything out. Do not edit the Bible. Accept what has been handed down to us, because this is Yahweh's Word. That is the meaning of this little Israelite jingle!

"Therefore hear the word of Yahweh, you scoffers, that rule this people that is in Jerusalem...." This passage speaks to those who misgovern the people in Jerusalem. How are they misgoverning? Look, for example, at many modern leaders of the nations.

These people do not consider Yahweh, and the reason is stated in verse 15. "Because you have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come to us; for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves "What will Yahweh do when He judges the people of this world and its religion is proven to be wrong? Yahweh will pour out His wrath on this sinful world, and many sinners will die. Worldly religion believes that they will go to heaven when they die, anyway. They do not consider that it is a judgment when homosexuals are dying from AIDS. They also believe that these AIDS victims have gone to heaven. It is totally unscriptural the way unconverted people think.

Now Yahweh speaks, "Therefore thus says the Sovereign Yahweh, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner-stone of sure foundation: he that believes shall not be in haste. And I will make justice the line, and righteousness the plummet; and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies. and the waters shall overflow the hiding-place." Yahshua is our foundation stone. In verse 17, we find another reference to the breastplate of judgment and righteousness. Justice and righteousness frequently appears to be connected in the scriptural text. Some interpreters describe the hail stones in Revelation as 40-pound hailstones, and others believe they are 90-pound hailstones. But will a 90-pound hailstone kill you faster than a 40-pound hailstone? This severe hailstorm is Yahweh's punishment on these sinful people.

"And your covenant with death shall be annulled, and your agreement with Sheol shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then you shall be trodden down by it." Who will do the treading? Yahweh's people will do the treading down. Remember Malachi 4:3. "And you shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I make, says Yahweh of hosts."

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THE

Notice also Isaiah 63, where the One to tread down the wicked in end-time judgment will be the Messiah.

We continue reading with verse 19 of Isaiah 28, "As often as it passes through, it shall take you; for morning by morning shall it pass through, by day and by night: and it shall be nothing but terror to understand the message." Now you wonder why I got emotional when I began preparing this sermon 10 years ago. I understood the prophesied terror of Yahweh's judgment.

"For the bed is shorter than that a man can stretch himself on it: and the covering narrower than that he can wrap himself in it." We must put forth a little better effort to get the garments of righteousness wrapped around us.

"For Yahweh will rise up as in mount Perazim, he will be angry as in the valley of Gibeon; that he may do his work, his strange work, and bring to pass his act, his strange act." It will be a time similar to the instance when Yahweh vanguished the Philistines in Mount Perazim, also, as in the time when Israel began to conquer the Holy Land under Yahshua the General (Yahshua [Joshua] 10). There is no question in my mind that what fell from the heavens in Yahshua 10 was not ice, but it was actual stones. Maybe it was some kind of debris from a comet that fell down on those Canaanites. The Israelites were watching all this judgment. They were hurriedly charging after these fleeing Canaanites-and down came the stones. The Canaanites were hammered by the stones, but Israel was supernaturally spared.

Yahweh is still in control. It is a terror to understand this message, because it describes severe judgment for sin. It terrorizes you, but everyone says, "Oh, the Almighty is love. He would never do something like that, to judge so severely for sin."

"Now therefore be not scoffers, lest your bonds be made strong; for a decree of destruction have I heard from the Sovereign, Yahweh of hosts, upon the whole earth." You are not going to fly away from Yahweh's judgment on some flying saucer. Yahweh will spare His obedient people and protect them here on earth from His vengeance as His judges the whole earth for sin.

"Give you ear, and hear my voice; listen, and hear my speech. Does he that plows to sow plow continually? Does he continually open and harrow his ground? When he has levelled the face of it, does he not cast abroad the fitches, and scatter the cummin, and put in the wheat in rows, and the barley in the appointed place, and the spelt in the border of it?" You plow one time, and then, you harrow. After you finish harrowing the ground, you plant your seed. The farmer does not plough up growing crops.

When Yahweh has done everything properly, then judgment will fall. I think about the Shoemaker-Levy Comet striking Jupiter—I am convinced that it was a sign from Yahweh. "Do not get arrogant down here on this earth," is the lesson He might have intended for us to understand. We humans are bound to this earth.

"For his Elohim does instruct him aright, and does teach him. For the fitches are not threshed with a sharp threshing instrument, neither is a cart wheel turned about upon the cummin; but the fitches are beaten out with a staff, and the cummin with a rod. Bread grain is ground; for he will not be always threshing it: and though the wheel of his cart and his horses scatter it, he does not grind it. This also comes forth from Yahweh of hosts, who is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in wisdom." Will we hear and obey His glorious words?

Jeremiah 23:5-6 contains a description of Yahshua, the Branch of It is a terror to understand this message, because it describes severe judgment for sin.

Yahweh. "Behold, the days come, says Yahweh, that I will raise to David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is his name by which he shall be called: Yahweh our righteousness." (Jeremiah 23:5-6).

In Ephesians 6:14, we read "Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness...."

Let us briefly discuss the breastplate of righteousness described in Isaiah chapter 59, beginning with verse 15b, "And Yahweh saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice." Who desires Truth? People usually rather wish to hear falsehood. One gets frustrated over the falsehoods that are circulated on the television news and other programs. "It displeased him that there was no justice." He was the One that designed the breastplate and its truthful direction.

"And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his own arm brought salvation to him; and his righteousness, it upheld him." Here again, we note the terms justice and righteousness combined in the same passages.

"And he put on righteousness

as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a mantle."

Now we get to the heart of the matter, "According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay, wrath to his adversaries, recompense to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompense. So shall they fear the name of Yahweh from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; for he will come as a rushing stream, which the breath of Yahweh drives. And a Redeemer will come to Zion, and to them that turn from transgression in Jacob, says Yahweh. And as for me, this is my covenant with them, says Yahweh: my Spirit that is upon you, and my words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, nor out of the mouth of your seed, nor out of the mouth of your seed's seed, says Yahweh, from now on and forever." (Isaiah 59:18-21). That Spirit of Truth will soon be divided among the people of the world, from now on and forever, just as the Spirit that was on Moses was divided and given to the 70 elders in Numbers 11.

During the summer of 1994, I completed a study of the stones that are included in the breastplate. Satan had access to the same stones that are listed in Exodus chapter 28. In Ezekiel chapter 28, Satan is there. He also had an opportunity to wear this breastplate, but, because of pride in himself, he refused to humble himself. There is only one of these rows of stones that is missing in Ezekiel chapter 28, where we are told that he had access to these stones. In Revelation chapter 21, those stones are found represented on the foundations of the holy city that comes down from Almighty Yahweh, our Father in heaven.

The breastplate begins with the onyx stones on which the names of Israel were carved. It contains the rows of stones representing all the Israelite tribes. At the 1994 Feast of Tabernacles, we were present at a historic moment at the presentation of a model of the breastplate. Something like that had not happened previously in the Assemblies of Yahweh.

Before someone goes off on a tangent and suggests that I am putting my faith in a breastplate replica, I declare I am not putting my faith in a physical object. My faith is in Yahweh and in Yahshua. The breastplate of judgment and righteousness has been spiritually in the Assemblies of Yahweh since the beginning of this ministry. Here is a visible lesson for all of us now, however. When you see it, you will notice that it looks almost like a face. That face is going to be turned toward every sincere, faithful member. From now on, we all have a lot to think about. Think before you act! Attitudes and actions are very important in Yahweh's Word.

Who condemns? Yahshua Himself judges. For how many years have you heard me preach 1 Peter 4:17? Perhaps you can understand a little more clearly what it really represents. "For the time has come for judgment to begin at the House of Elohim: and if it begin first at us, what shall be the end of them that do not obey the good tidings of Yahweh?" The answer to this question is death. The time is come that judgment must begin at the house of Elohim-at Bethel-so do not go around playing games with Yahweh and His Word.

We have restored the system of judging in the Assemblies of Yahweh organization. We fully serve our High Priest, the righteous Judge, Yahshua the Messiah. Today, I want you to think: Who is it that condemns? Who is quick to criticize? Who is quick to object to policies that must be put into position for the good of this organization to keep this organization faithful to the Bible? Does everyone today bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit? I think all the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh should think about shaping up immediately. Perhaps we do not have that long to wait, but unless there is a righteous body of people like the salt of the earth scattered around the world—this world would have been judged unrighteous and unworthy already. Yahweh would, by this time, have probably just wiped man off the face of the earth.

This organization is indeed a fulfillment of scriptural prophecy. I know it from where I sit. I have no doubts on that point. I do not know why some people do not see it and why they waver. The time is too late for wavering. We must be strong and steady and stable. We must prepare a people to meet Yahshua in the air. How would Yahshua view us if we were to pass before His judgment seat today? Would He be pleased with us today? Would He give us His approval? It is up to us to think seriously about that.

May Yahweh bless the Assemblies of Yahweh and continue to use this organization as never before in the past, because I believe that we are ready to move forward now and go on to much greater things. May Yahweh bless you as you read the remaining segments to come that will fill out what I have written in this article and follow up with the Truth of Yahweh and His Word on this marvelous subject. s_{NB}

This article is part one of a series of articles taken from sermons preached by Elder Jacob O. Meyer in the Bethel Assembly.

Don't miss subsequent articles in future issues of the **Sacred Name Broadcaster.**

Treastplate of JUDGMENT and RIGHTEOUSNESS

THE



by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Inconsistencies in the arguments used by various opponents of the Sacred Name doctrine are glaringly obvious. For those who wonder why the Assemblies of Yahweh is pressing the issue in favor of the exclusive use of the Sacred Names in pure worship, there are manifold reasons. Let us examine some of them.

Thousands of Witnesses

Undoubtedly, the most prominent reason the Assemblies of Yahweh is so emphatic in teaching the Sacred Name doctrine is that the Bible itself is dogmatic in declaring the importance of this subject. We find the Sacred Name employed in the Hebrew text 7,000 times, which should give you some significant indication of its importance. Few are the words in the Hebrew or Greek texts that occur with greater frequency.

If the Almighty Heavenly Father chose to use this particular personal Name on so many different occasions in the Scriptures, there must be a noteworthy reason. Our Heavenly Father has explained the importance of His Name at different places in the biblical text. Because He has elucidated on this special word, you should be interested in understanding what the Heavenly Father wishes you to know about His revealed, personal Name.

Many Ancient Witnesses

Historically, the four letters that make up the Heavenly Father's Name in the Hebrew Masoretic text were used by both laymen and the general public. Many ancient texts prove the widespread knowledge of the Name of Yahweh in biblical times. One of the most prominent texts revealing the general knowledge of the Name of Yahweh is the Lachish letters, where the Name is used by laymen as a general greeting in military reports and requisitions. The Moabite Stone, written by King Mesha (mentioned in 2 Kings 1:1 and 3:5), proves that prominent leaders of Israel's neighboring nations recognized Yahweh as the Mighty One of Israel. If you do not have our article Seven Ancient Witnesses-Seven **Thousand Witnesses Testifying** to the Name of Yahweh, be sure and write for it immediately. It is free by sending your request to the Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA, 19507.

A new archaeological discovery that has come to prominent attention is the unearthing of almost 20,000 clay tablets at Tell Mardikh in Ebla, Syria. National Geographic magazine of December 1978 has an outstanding article reporting on this very significant find. In this article, substantial attention is given to the Name of Yahweh, which apparently appears in the Ebla tablets quite frequently. The city has been dated at 2,300 B.C.E., which makes the tablets among the oldest written material ever discovered. It must again be emphasized that the Name Yahweh appears in the literature of this pagan culture, presenting problems for the opponents of the Sacred Name who insist that the Name of Yahweh never reached widespread importance.

The Key Word

The same key words are found in many languages. One of those words is the Name Yahweh. It is found in the tongues of numerous cultures, including the American



Indian languages. Did you know that two names of American states are actually variations of this Sacred Name? (If you can't guess the two names, write to us at the Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA, 19507, for the answer.)

The Roots of True Worship

Where do we go in search of the True Worship? Do we locate the True Faith among

thoughts, philosophies, and concepts in pagan mythological religion, or do we recognize that the ethnic peoples of the world corrupted what little Truth the Heavenly Father chose to reveal to them? The latter has obviously proven to be the case. Such corruption resulted in the myths and legends upon which worldly religion is based. The Bible is the only source of the revealed Will of our Heavenly Father.

Opponents of the Sacred Name seemingly do not realize that they are playing into the hands of religious syncretism (reconciling differing beliefs) with some of the arguments they have fabricated. Where does the Truth lie anyway? Is it not in the Bible, which is the corpus of written material comprising the holy, inspired Scriptures? Should we not allow the Bible to speak for itself rather than fabricate an argument against a certain doctrine, as do some misguided theologians? Yahshua the Messiah quoted Deuteronomy 8:3 when He said, "...Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh." (Matthew 4:4). Various ministers give lip service to this inspired declaration, while seeking to devise ways of avoiding what has

been clearly written in the Word. Let us look into the Word, see what it says, and humbly submit to its directions.

Living by Every Word

Yahshua the Messiah said in John 10:35, "...and the Scripture cannot be broken." Yet there are many theologians and ministers who attempt to dissect the Bible and excise from its pages doctrines with which they do not agree. The they are richly blessed with spiritual knowledge by the Most High. All too frequently, people imagine that the True Worship should be numerically large, financially wealthy, and enjoying the prestige of the world, when, in fact, it is described as being a dedicated few who find the Narrow Way (Matthew 7:13). The poor of this world—rich in faith and heirs to the Kingdom (Jacob 2:6), enduring afflictions and persecution (2 Timothy 3:12)—are the ones Yahweh has chosen.



Sacred Name is not overlooked in this regard as various denominational commentators desperately seek for that one Scripture that they hope will support their mistaken conclusions. When they think that they have discovered it, they build their entire doctrinal case on it.

There is only one True Worship, and the faithful followers are few. Yahshua the Messiah called His disciples "*the little flock*" in Luke 12:32. He went so far as to question whether the True Faith that He had left in the care of His chosen disciples would still be evident when He returned (Luke 18:8).

The Philadelphia Assembly of Revelation 3:7-12 is described as being infinitesimal in terms of wealth and numbers. But because they have kept the Savior's Word and have not denied His Name,

Notice the encouragement offered to us by Yahshua's apostle in 1 Peter 4:13-14. "But insomuch as you are partakers of the Messiah's sufferings, rejoice; that at the revelation of his glory you may also rejoice with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of the Messiah, you are blessed; because the glorious Spirit of Yahweh rests upon you." Trust in the Sacred Name is of

vital importance in serving the True Mighty One and will bring persecution upon those who are dedicated and sincere in following the Scriptures—those who have rejected the commandments and traditions of men.

The Name Removed— How?

Your Bible plainly describes how the Sacred Name was removed from the Word. It was not the Will of the Heavenly Father to minimize the importance of His Name at any time or in any way. Responsibility for the removal of the Name of Yahweh from the text of His Word goes to that corrupt element of humankind who wished to inaugurate a universal religion at the expense of sound doctrine.

Notice Jeremiah 8:8-9 in the

Moffatt translation of the Bible. "What! you say, 'We are Wise, we do have his directions'—when lo, your scribes have written them wrong, and falsified them? No, the 'wise' shall be discomfited, dismayed, and tricked. They have rejected Yahweh's word; so what 'wisdom' have they?" The scribes, the copyists, and the teachers of the Bible were responsible for removing the Heavenly Father's Name from His Word. They acted without authority from the Almighty, and He has withdrawn His Holy Spirit from them.

The Name Confirmed by Scholarship

Any minister who has studied at a reputable seminary has not been able to escape encountering the Name of Yahweh. Most teachers of the Bible, especially in Old Testament and biblical languages, clearly explain the Sacred Name to their students. It is impossible to avoid the Sacred Name when we are studying the Old Testament law. Most commentators affirm, straightforwardly, that the Name of Yahweh was the Covenant Name through which Israel entered into a close personal relationship with the Most High. Is it not similar in our time living under the New Covenant?

Valid Baptism Must Be into the Name

How can one say that the Name is unimportant when we are commanded to be baptized into "...the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." (Matthew 28:19)? Throughout the New Testament, the Apostles clearly were teaching a specific Name that was rejected by the leaders of the religious establishment of their day. They taught in the Names of the Messiah and our Heavenly Father—Names which the Pharisees had prohibited for general use.

Notice, in this context, Acts 5:27-28. "And when they had brought them, they set them before the

council. And the high priest asked them, saying, We strictly charged you not to teach in this name: and behold, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us." Does it not reveal something of importance to us when the disciples declared emphatically their pleasure at receiving the opportunity to bear shame for His Name? "They therefore departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the Name." (Acts 5:41).

A Revealing Incident in Acts

An incident occurred during Paul's ministry that is described in Acts 18:12-15. Here the Jews brought an accusation against Paul before Gallio, the deputy (governor) of Achaia. The reply of Gallio indicates very clearly that the Jews were relying on their theologically motivated interpretation of the Scriptures as grounds for prosecuting Paul. Their accusation was, "This man persuades men to worship Elohim contrary to the law." (Acts 18:13). Notice what Gallio replies, "If indeed it were a matter of wrong or of wicked villainy, Oh you Jews, reason would that I should bear with you: but if they are questions about words and names and your own law, look to it yourselves; I am not minded to be a judge in such matters." (Acts 18:14-15).

Obviously, the reference here is to the disciples' unalterable insistence upon using a specific Name for the Almighty in harmony with the teachings of the Old Testament Scriptures. This was in diametrical opposition to what the Jewish religious establishment was teaching. Their Pharisaical law forbade the common use of the Almighty's Name and probably countered the scriptural arguments of the Apostles by asserting that this Name was a word too sacred to use to designate the Almighty. Chr-stians have followed this theological error and have substituted foreign names for that of the Almighty and His Son, names that are not sanctified for this purpose.

The Real Importance Set Forth

Is it really important to use the True, revealed, personal Name of our Heavenly Father? To answer this question satisfactorily, we must heed the scriptural directions that have been handed down to us in the Word. For example, the Covenant Law forbids us to worship any other mighty one. "He that sacrifices to any elohim, except to Yahweh only shall be utterly destroyed." (Exodus 22:20). In our time, when the terms of the New Covenant have inaugurated the offering of the sacrifices of the praises of our lips, we must be careful never to offer such personal, spiritual praises to any mighty one but Yahweh.

The question that arises next in the minds of people is, "Just how do we distinguish between the True Mighty One and pagan mighty ones?" The Apostle Paul has given us the answer in 1 Corinthians 8:4-7. There are many mighty ones worshiped throughout the world, but there is only one True and living Mighty One. We distinguish the True Mighty One from others by the one specific Name He has chosen to be revealed to His people. The Name He has revealed in His Word is Yahweh. Who would think to offer a contradicting opinion to the Almighty? His Word is not meant to be so confusing that only scholars can understand it. Any English translation is sufficient for the child of the Most High to prove the importance of His Name.

Substitute Names Prohibited

We may not even contemplate using another name for the Almighty, like L-rd or G-d, let alone use such disrespectful names. This prohibition is set forth quite plainly in Exodus 23:13. Please see also Yahshua 23:7 and Psalm 16:4, along with Psalm 44:19-20, for additional proof. It should be our objective as True Worshipers to stand with firm conviction upon the revealed, personal Name of our Heavenly Father, just as did Yahshua at the end of his life when he affirmed "...Choose this day whom you will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh." (Yahshua 24:15). How many people will join me, as the ancient Israelites joined Yahshua, in honoring (with our personal worship) the True Mighty One of the heavens by declaring our allegiance to Him through His Name Yahweh?

The Covenant Name Forever

A Scripture that clearly reveals the foundation of True Worship is found in Psalm 111:7-10: "The works of his hands are truth and justice; all his precepts are sure. They are established for ever and ever; they are done in truth and uprightness. He has sent redemption to his people; He has commanded his covenant forever: holy and reverend is his name. The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: His praise endures forever."

The commandments of Almighty Yahweh are firmly established forever. There is no annulling them as ch-rchianity would have you believe. Not even the Son of Yahweh can set aside what His superior, His Father, has commanded. His agreement (Covenant) is also unalterably established forever and cannot be changed. His Name cannot be changed, since it also stands forever, Exodus 3:15. Since the Covenant is based upon the reliability of the Name of the Almighty, He must maintain the veracity of that revealed, personal Name to ensure trust in His Word.

Why do people think that they can change or substitute the Name of the Heavenly Father? It is impossible to do this and remain faithful, because He has straightforwardly declared His Name (Isaiah 42:8). "I am Yahweh, that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to carved images." Remember, when we restore the Name Yahweh to the text from which it was removed (without authorization) and insert it where we find the term the L-rd, then the doctrine of the Sacred Name will be clearly manifested for each reader. It is Yahweh who is the True, living, and eternal Mighty One (Jeremiah 10:10). We must bring our homage to Him by calling upon His only Name.

Yahweh, the Only Mighty One

A very weighty scripture relating to the Name of the Almighty is found in Psalm 96:5. "For all the elohim of the peoples are idols; but Yahweh made the heavens." Each reader must humbly submit to the message this verse intends to convey. We must make a united effort to restore the Name Yahweh to our worship without further hesitation. Should we not be careful to eliminate all paganism from our Faith and worship the True Mighty One as He directs? Blessings will accompany obedience, while curses will befall those who refuse to submit to Him (Psalm 83:15-18 and Deuteronomy 28:1-14).

In Hebrew and other Semitic languages, all names have a mean-

ing. Consequently, when speaking of a biblical person, his attributes or character can be determined from the meaning of his name. The possibilities that this presents are fascinating. And unless we relate salvation to the Name of the Almighty, we will never receive the blessing He has reserved for us.

Derivation of Yahweh's Name

The Name of Yahweh is derived from the Hebrew verb of existence in its linear form. The meaning this Name conveys is action presently in progress, to be completed sometime in the future. The verb of existence, therefore, means one who exists at this moment and shall always exist. He is THE SELF-EXISTENT ONE. THE ETERNAL ONE who is not restricted in His life. The human family must call upon a Being who holds everlasting life in His hands, or they will not be saved. Can you see how so many Scriptures relating to the Names of the Father and Son will harmonize with this knowledge?

G-d—An Idol Name

Now let us examine the name of the Almighty that people commonly use. Most of the Western world calls upon the name G-d, or a variation thereof. The etymology of this word traces to a graven image, according to the **Encyclopedia Britannica**, 11th Edition. Read the entry entitled "G-d." Upon researching the Hebrew Scriptures, we discover that the word G-d can also be found in various Semitic languages. From antiquity, a *baal* by this identical name was worshiped in the Middle East. Turn to Yahshua 11:17, 12:7, and 13:5 for proof. You can substantiate this from your own King James **Bible** by properly pronouncing the

"a" in the word Gad like the "a" in the English word father.

In Isaiah 65:11, we encounter an astounding Scripture relating to the Sacred Name doctrine. By restoring the Sacred Name found in Hebrew to the text, we discover some thrilling new truths. "But you that forsake Yahweh, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for Fortune (Hebrew: Gad, pronounced Gawd), and that fill up mingled wine to Destiny (Hebrew: Menni)." This verse of Scripture has actually been fulfilled. The people today have forsaken Yahweh, and they are eating at G-d's table. Interestingly, there are currently some Europeans who observe Hogmanay, which is a Hebrew term defined as the Feast of the Numberer. Chr-stianity has sanctified pagan feasts that Yahweh calls abominations! We, who are sincere in serving the Heavenly Father, should take the lead in restoring Yahweh's Truth.

L-rd Also Unacceptable

The meaning of the term L-rd may also be discovered from the inspired Scriptures. If you have a Bible with a good center-column reference, turn to Hosea 2:16-17. We read there, "And it shall be at that day, says Yahweh, that you shall call me Ishi [margin - my husband], and shall call me no more Baali [margin - my l-rd]. For I will take away the names of the Baalim [the baals] out of her mouth, and they shall no more be mentioned by their name."

If these various names are not voluntarily discarded by the individual out of love and respect for the Heavenly Father, Yahweh will eventually be forced to judge His people severely so they will heed Him and remove these offensive names from their worship. When they call upon substitute names during times of trouble and tribulation, He will not listen, nor will He spare them—because they abandoned His Covenant. We must remember the story of the exodus, how the cries of Israel went up into the heavens, and they were set free from their bondage. Importance of the Sacred Name Yahweh was forcibly brought to the attention of all those Israelites, from Moses the leader down to the very least of their number.

Messiah's Correct Name Is Yahshua

Since the Savior's Name Yahshua means Yahweh is salvation, those who trust in this saving Name may rely upon the promise of everlasting life. Conversely, if we trust in another Name, we will not be saved. This is the basic message of Acts 4:12. "And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, in which we must be saved." If we can prove that the Savior's Name was indeed Yahshua the Messiah, then this verse should be instrumental in establishing our faith in the Name of Yahshua the Messiah. Recall the emphasis Paul places on the Hebrew language as he relates his Damascus Road experience in Acts 26:14. If the Savior spoke in Hebrew, He did not identify Himself as J-sus, but Yahshua!

Widespread Rejection of the Sacred Name Prophesied

Perhaps you are contemplating accepting the Sacred Name doctrine, and, yet, you hesitate for fear of rejection by your relatives, friends, and spiritual brethren. Without a doubt, this revelation will set you apart from the people of the world. In order to be saved, however, you will need to be in the Body of the Messiah, bearing the name "Assemblies of Yahweh," as we are directed in Ephesians 3:14-15 and Deuteronomy 23:1-5.

Do not fear. It has been prophesied in the Scriptures that you would be rejected by men for the Name of the Heavenly Father. Isaiah 66:5-6 reads, "Hear the word of Yahweh, you that tremble at his word: Your brethren that hate you, that cast you out for my name's sake, have said, Let Yahweh be glorified, that we may see your joy, but it is they that shall be put to shame. A voice of tumult from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of Yahweh that renders recompense to his enemies."

How many people today are being persecuted for the common names of the Almighty and the Savior? Very few, indeed, are cast out for those Names! However, those who bear the revealed, personal Name of our Heavenly Father and the Name of His Son, Yahshua the Messiah, suffer rejection, not as a result of their personal moral conduct, but because the people of this world reject the Most High Himself. True Worshipers are rejected because of their attachment to the Heavenly Father and His Faith which they hold dear.

The Last Warning

Right now you are reading the last warning message to go out to the world just before the Savior returns. It is called the Elijah (Eli-YAH) message in the Scriptures. The name of this Israelite prophet means my Mighty One is Yahweh. Malachi 4:5-6 says that immediately preceding the "great and terrible day of Yahweh," this saving message of the Sacred Name will be heralded to all the earth as a witness. For even greater understanding, read again the EliYah story of 1 Kings 18, restoring the Sacred Name to the text. You will clearly see that circumstances today are identical to what they were then.

Those who hear and obey the Word, as it is proclaimed today, will be sealed. That sealing is in progress. Note Revelation 7:1-3. "After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that no wind should blow on the earth, or on the sea, or upon any tree. And I saw another angel ascend from the sunrising, having the seal of the living Elohim: and he cried with a great voice to the four angels to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, Do not hurt the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our Elohim on their foreheads."

Sealed in the Names of Protection

It is the 144,000 who have dedicated themselves to Almighty Yahweh who will be sealed with the Name of the Father and the Son. Revelation 14:1 reads, "And I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on the mount Zion, and with him a hundred forty-four thousand, having his name, and the name of his Father, written on their foreheads [corrected translation]." These True Worshipers seek to obey the Almighty in all that He has directed. They follow the Lamb wherever He leads. They are selected from among men, being first fruits to Yahweh and the Lamb. They are protected from harm by His mighty power manifested in His Name. Proverbs 18:10 reads, *"The name of Yahweh is a strong tower; the righteous runs into it, and is safe."*

Eventually, ALL PEOPLE on this earth will be required to bear the Name of Almighty Yahweh and His Son Yahshua the Messiah in their foreheads. Notice Revelation 22:4. "And they shall see his face; and his name shall be on their foreheads." When someone bears forever the Name of Yahweh, it means he has been adopted into the spiritual family. That adoption is consummated when Yahshua the Messiah returns to establish the Kingdom of Yahweh on this earth, and the saints of Yahweh are changed into Spirit. Then, everyone

who is to be saved will enter the Elohim family and be changed into the likeness of our Savior Yahshua. They will bear this family Name Yahweh and live forever.

Come Out Now!

Don't take the word of anyone who seeks to minimize the importance of the Sacred Name doctrine. Let the Bible speak for itself! It will clearly show the necessity of calling upon the Sacred Name if we wish to find salvation. Come out of the Babylon of confusion characterized by using many different names in worship. No other name holds the quality of everlasting life within itself. Yahweh is the only Name with this meaning. Why not see this fact demonstrated clearly for you as you study the Bible? The Name of Yahweh will give you blessings and protection, as He has promised. The Name of Yahshua will save you for eternity.



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Bread The Strength of Man's Heart

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Bread is often spoken of as "the staff of life," and, indeed, it is. It is the mainstay of the average diet, but, in this article, we are not so much interested in the process used in baking bread-leavened or unleavened—nor in the ingredients used in its production—e.g., wheat, rye, or barley flour, but, rather, this article is designed to be a study of several passages where the word occurs in Scripture. Perhaps by such a study we may obtain a better understanding of its usage, for any word which occurs at least 360 times in the Bible by the Holy Spirit inspiration of Yahweh must be SIGNIFICANT; this does not even include the 18 occurrences of the term "shewbread."

The first reference is found in Genesis 3:19, "...in the sweat of your face shall you eat bread," so obviously, perspiration and labor go together. Paul says, "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, IF ANY WILL NOT WORK, NEITHER LET HIM EAT. For we hear of some that walk among you disorderly, that work not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort in the Master Yahshua the Messiah, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread." (2 Thessalonians 3:10-12). This was

the "blessed" curse, for suffering would go with work. But the sustenance of man's human life (food) must be derived from labor, and the pain that accompanies it. This, then, is the answer to all human WOES. Sweat and toil is Yahweh's way of teaching us to obey. At least it is an effective way, for the resulting suffering produces the desired results. Even His Son Yahshua learned obedience by what things He suffered (Hebrew 5:8). Quite revealing, is it not?

The Hebrew word for bread is lechem, and the Greek term is artos, coming from a root airo, meaning to *lift up or raise.* My dear mother who was of Pennsylvania German descent-made her own bread, and it was delicious. Her loaves were always literally exalted (raised high). Remember the words of our Redeemer, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." (John 12:32). His death would be the judgment of the world. That great act, beloved, is the great CORRECTION, the act which will correct all. It still awaits Yahweh's unveiling of His Son with His powerful messengers in flaming fire, dealing out vengeance upon them who are not acquainted with Him and are not obeying the glad tidings of His Son Yahshua. He should be

coming soon to be glorified in His saints (2 Thessalonians 1:7-10).

The importance of bread for the physical man is probably brought out and emphasized most in the account of the great famine when Joseph was the premier of Egypt. He was the father of Ephraim and Manasseh, which, as we know, are the house of Joseph today (Great Britain and the United States). Canada and the United States along with Australia, comprise the great "breadbasket" of the world today. Joseph is again feeding his family, and outsiders, too. Even Russia is constantly buying grain from us in great quantity and forcing the price of BREAD up higher. As we read the account of how our illustrious forefather Joseph handled a most delicate and troublesome matter in Genesis 41:54-47:19, we note that the word lechem (bread) occurs exactly 12 times. Thus, his great job was stamped with the wonderful sublime number of governmental perfection. This was needful, for "there was famine in all the lands; but in all the land of

Egypt there was bread."

While the Egyptians' famine was indeed widespread and severe, Amos prophesies of a time in the last days when Yahweh "will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of Yahweh." (Amos 8:11). From all appearances, we are now living in those days. Israel's pastors are failing to do their job today, so there is a dearth for the TRUE BREAD OF LIFE upon the people. But after a severe judgment, HE will bring about the days when "the plowman shall overtake the *reaper.*" (Amos 9:13).

In addition to this famine for the Word of life, we also have a strange situation spoken of by Isaiah as he pleads for Israel to return to Yahweh, "Why do you spend money for that which is not bread? And your labor for that which satisfies not?" (Isaiah 55:2). Yes, nutritionally, white bread is masquerading as the staff of life; the WHEAT GERM having been removed. Doughy pretzels are sold now on nearly every corner on our downtown streets, and DONUTS are certainly worthless nutritionally and not satisfying nourishment to feed our bodies. No wonder people have heart attacks! And, again, hear the words of Haggai 1:5-6, "Now therefore thus says Yahweh of hosts: Consider your ways. You have sown much, and bring in little; you eat, but you have not enough; you drink, but you are not filled with drink; you clothe,

but there is no one warm; and he that earns wages earns wages to put it into a bag with holes." Oppressive taxes and interest eat up our labor! Poor, blind, stubborn modern-day Israel—the people of Western Europe and the Western Hemisphere— "destroyed for lack of knowledge" of HIS WORD!

It is written in Deuteronomy 8:3, "...man does not live by bread only, but by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh does man live." If we would only learn to put our spiritual lives first, i.e., look to Yahweh, we would always be full—well fed, even when living during a famine in nature. For if we would cry to HIM in morning, "Give us today our daily *lechem*, or bread," He would supply it just like He fed our forefathers with the manna from heaven.

In conclusion, we would point out for the reader to consider John chapter 6 where Yahshua fed the 5,000. Most are familiar with the account, but after the multitudes were filled, "Yahshua therefore perceiving that they were about to come and take him by force, to make him king, withdrew again into the mountain himself alone." (John 6:15). But the account says the crowd sought Him again the next day and, when they had found Him, notice what He says to them in verses 26-35. "Yahshua answered them and said, Truly, truly, I say to you, You seek me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves, and

were filled. Work not for the food which perishes, but for the food which remains to eternal life, which the Son of man shall give to you: for him the Father, even Yahweh, has sealed. They said therefore to him, What must we do, that we may work the works of Elohim? Yahshua answered and said to them, This is the work of Elohim, that you believe on him whom he has sent. They said therefore to him, What then do you for a sign, that we may see, and believe you? what do you work? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, He gave them bread out of heaven to eat. Yahshua therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, It was not Moses that gave you the bread out of heaven; but my Father gives you the true bread out of heaven. For the bread of Elohim is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world. They said therefore to him, Rabbi, evermore give us this bread. Yahshua said to them, I am the bread of life: he that comes to me shall not hunger, and he that believes on me shall never thirst."

May you always place your personal life in subordination to Yahweh, and may you find the spiritual food—the bread of life which comes only from the Messiah Yahshua to those who are in True Worship. The bread of life is still available today, and is just as satisfying and nourishing as ever. ^{SNB}



"Give us this day our daily bread"

(MATTHEW 6:11)

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