

THE
SACRED NAME
BROADCASTER

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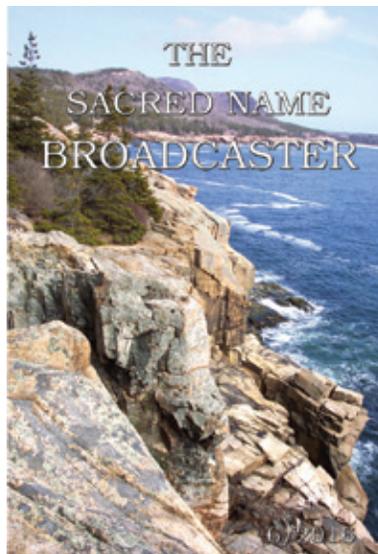
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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer



Our Cover:

"In this manner says Yahweh, who gives the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, who stirs up the sea, so that the waves of it roar; Yahweh of hosts is his name...." (Jeremiah 31:35).

Our cover this month is of the ocean pounding upon a rocky shoreline. Following the description of the New Covenant in Jeremiah 31:31-34, where Yahweh said that He will write His Law upon our hearts and that all will know Yahweh, from the least of them to the greatest. Yahweh has promised to forgive all of our iniquity and remember our sin no more. "Oh that you had listened to my commandments! Then your peace would have been as a river, and your righteousness as the waves of the sea...." (Isaiah 48:18).

Faith & Love

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

In Hebrews 11, the writer of Hebrews asked the question, “*And what is Faith?*” Well, the writer of Hebrews asked that question so we can’t avoid it. And what is faith? Faith, he says, gives substance to our hopes and makes us certain of realities we do not see.

My wife will leave the furniture where she puts it from year to year, and we don’t usually have too much change in the format of our home. Perhaps it is because of the construction of the house, but years ago she used to move furniture around a little more than she currently does. But I am a great one to conserve energy, and, when I go to the bathroom at night, I don’t usually turn on the lights in the bedroom (I don’t want to disturb the baby and my wife). I know exactly how many steps I need to take due east, and then turn left, to get into the bathroom, and, then, I can close the door and turn on the light. When I come back, I know if I take about five steps due south, turn right, I’m going to bump into the corner of my bed without seeing it. This can be a coal black night—pitch dark—and I’ll bump into the corner of my bed. I’ll slide around the edge of the bed, and I’ll get in bed again. I know that bed

is there—I can’t see it—and I know the bathroom is there—I can’t see it—but I’ve experienced something. I know that probably you, also, have had the same experience.

I recall visiting Sister Waggy. She was blind ever since I knew her. She was the one who purchased time on that Baltimore station when I began the Sacred Name Broadcast. But when I’d go to see her on her good days (it was only near the end of her life that she became bedfast), she would get around her apartment. She’d go up the steps, and she’d come down the steps and go down into her basement apartment and never see anything. She said it was just coal black, and she wasn’t able to distinguish anything because she was blind. She went down the steps, and she knew how to get around her apartment. I’d like to describe faith like that. We know something’s there because we’ve experienced it. We order our lives just exactly according to that reality. It’s not reality, you may say, because you don’t have it in your hands. When I’m walking along the bedroom to get to the bathroom at night, I can’t touch the wall, but I know it’s there and so I enter it.

The writer of Hebrews says,

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1). Some people say you can’t know that there’s a Mighty One, you can’t know that you will be saved. I say you can, if you have a living faith, if you’ve experienced the things I have. It is for their faith that the men of old stand on record. That’s why you have the Bible.

“By faith we understand that the worlds have been framed by the word of Yahweh, so that what is seen has not been made out of things which appear.” (Hebrews 11:3). In the time that this passage was written, you couldn’t prove scientifically that the earth was created like you can today. There are great many proofs that science has discovered that the earth was created, but the writer of Hebrews says you can take that on faith! **“By faith Abel offered to Yahweh a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he had witness borne to him that he was righteous, Yahweh bearing witness in respect of his gifts: and through it he being dead yet speaks.”** (Hebrews 11:4). You remember that? *“The blood of Abel is crying to me out of the ground.”*

PART ONE

When Abel offered the correct sacrifice to Yahweh, it was a witness against his wicked brother who didn't have faith, and this witness caused his own death, but he is assured of a resurrection.

“By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see the death; and he was not found, because Elohim translated him: for he has had witness borne to him that before his translation he had been well-pleasing to Elohim....” (Hebrew 11:5). Now that doesn't mean he was taken directly to heaven—of course it doesn't—he died. It means he didn't see the death of judgment in that flood. He was such a righteous man, Yahweh took him before they got to such a severe wickedness that Yahweh had to take drastic action and cleanse the earth.

“And without faith it is impossible to be well-pleasing; for he that comes to Yahweh must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that seek after him.” (Hebrews 11:6). Here is the first point the writer wishes to make: if you are not obeying the Scriptures, do you really believe Yahweh exists? Do you really believe Yahweh exists if you are not obeying the Bible? Are you not then giving a witness that He does not exist, that you can't believe Him and trust His Word? Faith is trust. Whoever comes to Yahweh and wishes to have his blessing must believe; he must have faith that Yahweh exists, and, if you can implant this thought in your heart and in your mind today, it'll make a tremendous change, because then you'll desire to know what His Word wishes you to do, how it wishes you to live. You'll begin to obey because you know that He exists! Here is the first point: if we believe Yahweh is real and exists, then we better obey Him. He will reward those who search for Him, and He will give you greater knowledge and understanding when you have this living faith in your heart.

“By faith Noah, being warned by Yahweh concerning things not seen as yet, moved with holy fear,

prepared an ark to the saving of his house; through which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.” (Hebrews 11:7). But isn't that what we're doing today when we believe Yahweh is real and exists? When we obey Him, we are a living witness against the world. Just like Noah,

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we have dropped out of the world, and we have taken up residence in another world, under another government. No, not actually, but mentally, spiritually. We are no longer a resident of the world. We are preparing and building our Ark.

I want to point out one very outstanding example. Constantly, we come to crossroads in life. Some of these crossroads don't really intersect at right angles; some of them intersect at just a slight deviating angle. Have you ever driven up a road and there's a road angling off? On the way to Mt. Aetna and Myerstown, if you were to go straight ahead, you would miss the route. You'd end up going west, instead of south, because the road turns and there's this little detour, this little road going straight west. Now you have to know where the road leads. Noah knew where he was going, and he didn't take any deviating route. He went straight ahead, and he saved himself and his house.

“By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed to go out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he went.

By faith he became a sojourner in the land of promise, as in a land not his own, dwelling in tents, with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: for he looked for the city which has the foundations, whose builder and maker is Yahweh.” (Hebrews 11:8-10). How many of us came into the Assemblies of Yahweh with high hopes, with high aspirations? Finally, we had found the Truth after searching for many years! We heard the call—we responded. But what happened? The cares of the world began to eat away at us, and we just couldn't cut away the tentacles of the world that hold us fast in its grip, and, so, we begin to become lukewarm and Laodicean. After a while, that Laodiceanism will take us back into the world. I've seen it happen. It didn't happen to Abraham. He had a good life; he lived in Ur of the Chaldees. He was a Babylonian, just like we were in spiritual Babylon, but, when Yahweh called, Abraham didn't argue, he left Babylon. Now, how many that will hear this message have become cold? It's a very solemn thing when we are called by Yahweh—we must answer. How many have been able to cut away through the strings that Babylon has attached to you? Are you able to set aside two evenings a week from the television, computer, or doing your own pleasure, to put out literature in laundromats, hospitals, and doctor's offices? How many of you are able to just turn your backs on a TV broadcast one night a week to go through the **Correspondence Course**? Well, you see, we really haven't become converted have we? One man told me on a number of occasions, “If I wouldn't have had the **Correspondence Course** and go back and review and review and review and get those Scriptures again, I probably wouldn't be here.” But how many people have taken the **Correspondence Courses**—or go back and review it later. How many have the full copies of the **Sacred Name Broadcaster**—every issue—and go back and review them

and see the Scriptures that are laid out before you?

Abraham turned his back; he obeyed the call. How many have been called into Yahweh's ministry, and we say, like the rich young ruler and like the man who came to Yahshua, "Well, I'm first going to bury my father and mother," or "I have to go and I have to prove some oxen," or "I have to go and see about my farmland," or "I have to do something else or something else." We offer excuse after excuse. But Abraham didn't do that. You can read in the 12th chapter of Exodus, when Yahweh spoke, Abraham went, he moved. He put legs on his faith. If you continue on reading a few more chapters, you find that he had Lot with him, and, when it came to a test whether to obey Yahweh or to go along with men, Abraham decided to go with Yahweh. He took the rough course—he took to the hills. He sacrificed. How many of us have had to sacrifice?

"By faith even Sarah herself received power to conceive seed when she was past age, since she counted him faithful who had promised: therefore there also sprang of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of heaven in multitude, and as the sand, which is by the seashore, innumerable." (Hebrews 11:11-12). It happened to Sarah, why? Because she had faith. Abraham had faith to look for a city—he saw that this world was crumbling. Sarah had the same faith, because she stuck with her husband. All these persons died in faith.

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them and greeted them from far off, and having confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things make it manifest that they are seeking after a country of their own. And if indeed they had been mindful of that from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better country,

that is a heavenly: therefore Yahweh is not ashamed of them, to be called their Elohim; for he has prepared for them a city." (Hebrews 11:13-16). They never saw it—they died; yet, they didn't curse Yahweh for not having given them that city and that nation immediately. They didn't lift Him up to ridicule and say, "Well, you

If we have a living Faith, we will know that, in the end, we'll be blessed.

haven't blessed me the way I think you should bless me." Maybe it's a blessing the way Yahweh is leading us, and I know it is.

"By faith Abraham, being tried...." (Hebrews 11:17a). Each one of us gets a test. You know, when I baptize someone, I wish I could be there, right beside them, every minute for about the next six months, because if it happens to you, or the one I baptize, just like it happened to me, you are going to be put under a severe testing. You're at your weakest point, perhaps, after you are baptized. You're just a babe in the Messiah, and you really get a severe testing. But we have to come through! Whether it's leaving houses, lands, families, and friends, or whatever we have to do for the Word of Yahweh's sake, we must do it. If we have a living Faith, we will know that, in the end, we'll be blessed.

"By faith Abraham, being tried, offered up Isaac: yes, he that had gladly received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; to whom it was said, In Isaac shall your seed be called: accounting that Yahweh is able to raise up, even from the dead; from where he did also in a figure receive him back." (Hebrews 11:17-19). He

had received the promises (there they were; he had received his son). Because Abraham was going through with that offering, that was a type of Yahshua being offered for the sins of the world. That should give us faith in Yahshua. Abraham didn't hold back. He knew that the promise was true, and if Yahweh had to give, or to bring Isaac back from the dead and resurrect him, he'd do it, because through Isaac the seed was to come. Now that's faith. To put all your hopes on the altar, every last bit of it. Abraham probably knew that Sarah couldn't have any more children. It was a miracle she had that one.

"By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each one of the sons of Joseph; and worshiped, leaning upon the top of his staff." (Hebrews 11:20-21). He was an old man, and, yet, he knew that promise that Yahweh had given him would someday be fulfilled.

"By faith Joseph, when his end was near, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones." (Hebrews 11:22). Yahweh had shown him this and instructed him what to do with his bones.

"By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months by his parents, because they saw he was a goodly child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to share ill treatment with the people of Yahweh, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season...." (Hebrews 11:23-25). Here is the scriptural type for sin, and that is Egypt. The "transient" pleasures of sin are not stable.

Listen, sin will degenerate your mind, it will degenerate your body. How many people do you know that were drunkards that died young through cirrhosis of the liver? How

many people do you know that suffered all kinds of heartache and grief and brought trials and tribulations to their parents, their friends, because they did not obey their parents, or did not obey one of the commandments of Yahweh? Sin might be pleasurable for a little while, but it will end in death.

“... Accounting the reproach of the Messiah greater riches than the treasures of Egypt: for he looked to the payment of the reward.” (Hebrews 11:26). Moses could have been the next Pharaoh; he was the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He could have been the next Pharaoh but he rejected it, because he looked ahead—way out there in the future—and he desired to be known as one of Yahweh’s people. How about us? Do we just enjoy sin a little bit and just keep one foot in the world and one foot in Yahweh’s Assembly, or have we cut ourselves loose from the world? Faith—he considered the stigma, and it is a stigma in the eyes of the world, but it will change your mind and your heart.

Contrary to what the people of the world are saying, we are in for a judgment. Do you know that? The people of the United States are going to be judged severely. Look, you can’t commit murder and get away with it. The abortions today are murder—just as pure and simple as that. They are murder! Our country is going rapidly down the road to euthanasia. The food supplies are getting very slim, so, one of these days, they’ll impose an age limit on old people and all the old people will die at probably the age of 65 or 70. All of the people in nursing homes that are incapacitated, will go to a euthanasia clinic, and they will die. The State of Oregon has already imposed such a law. It was defeated.

Can you imagine that somebody would bring such a law in front of a state legislature?

The president of Union Theological Seminary in New York and his wife, who were about 80 years old, entered into a suicide pact. They believed in euthanasia; they committed suicide together. Here was a Christian minister who had taught other ministers. Now you know that this idea is saturating a certain portion of the theological circles of our country. One of these days it’ll happen, and it’s murder—pure and simple. Yahweh says you shall not take a life. Now, if you have faith in Yahweh’s Kingdom, you are going to be looking past that judgment. You’ll know a judgment is coming, just as Moses knew a judgment was coming.

“By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.” (Hebrews 11:27). The way you can see the invisible Yahweh is to read the Word and to just listen to that voice of thunder. When I preach Yahweh’s Word, I am preaching His wishes, and if I say, *“well this is what the Bible says,”* then I’ll stand on it, because that is what the Bible says. I hope that you also have the same convictions—that you’ll go where Yahweh wants you to go.

“By faith he kept the Passover, and the sprinkling of the blood, that the destroyer of the firstborn should not touch them. By faith they passed through the Red Sea as dry land: which the Egyptians attempting to do were swallowed up.” (Hebrews 11:28-29). The Egyptians, when they attempted the crossing, were drowned, and that is what will happen to us. Unless we become converted, we’ll be drowned trying to get into the kingdom. We’ll be drowned in the

judgment of Yahweh.

“By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they had been compassed about for seven days. By faith Rahab the harlot perished not with them that were disobedient, having received the spies with peace.” (Hebrews 11:30-31).

We have a miracle religion. We have a miracle Faith. When someone uses the word *faith*, this is what they mean—a trust in Yahweh, a trust in the future, a trust in miracles. “Need I say more,” the writer of Hebrew says. “Time is too short for me to tell the stories of Gideon and his 300 men (do you remember that?).” **“And what more shall I say? For the time will fail me if I tell you of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah; of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouth of lions.”** (Hebrews 11:32-33). Through faith they overthrew kingdoms—just a few people. Remember, this is a miracle faith, a miracle religion that we have.

Now our Bible has prophecies for the last days. Yahweh has called us to do something for Him. Those prophecies will be fulfilled. We can fulfill them, or we can be found wanting, and we can be deficient. How would you like to have your name written down in a future chronicle, written by Yahshua Himself, saying that *“out there was brother John Jones and this is what he did in the last days to further my message?”* Well, I don’t care for that!

David said, **“...I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my Elohim, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.”** (Psalm 84:10). I think the reason that the names of Yahweh’s people aren’t listed in

faith:

the assurance of things hoped for,
a conviction of things not seen.

HEBREWS 11:1

these prophecies is because Yahweh doesn't want them to make a name for themselves. You're going to have to take these things on faith, not because your name is written in the Bible—as were David, Samuel, the prophets, Gideon, Barak and Jephthah—but, because you love Yahweh and you have a faith that He exists, you have a faith in His Word. Are you going to fulfill these things, overthrow churches? Not to go out and hack down a sacred pole, or a church steeple, but to be a living witness in your community for the Truth; to witness against those people that you are a worshipper of Yahweh. Now you think about it. We're different.

“...Who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouth of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, became mighty in war, turned to flight armies of aliens. Women received their dead by a resurrection: and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn apart, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword: they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves, and the holes of the earth. And these all, having had witness borne to them through their faith, received not the promise, Yahweh having provided some better thing concerning us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.” (Hebrews 11:33-40). Their weakness was turned into strength (and you can find that in Gideon's case, Barak's case, and in Samson's case). They were all weak, but their weakness became strength through faith. They grew powerful in war,

and we can grow powerful, too, with the sword of the spirit, the Word of Yahweh, when we know it and it's a part of us. They were stoned; they were sawn in two (and this sounds like Paul), they were put to the sword. Are your problems as great as these? Do you have to face this kind of a problem in your life to maintain your faith in Yahweh? Of course not! It's easy right now. That's why we should be living with a great deal more faith than we have. We might get a few jeers along the way, but nothing physical, no physical punishment to speak of. I remember when I was a boy and my forefathers would say *“I remember when we were keeping the communion and the kids would come out from town and they'd throw rocks in the windows of the church and sometimes they'd break the windows.”* We don't get that kind of persecution today. They were different, and that's why they were being persecuted, but we don't get that kind of persecution today. We will, though, as the work grows we can expect it.

And so, we have been given an opportunity to reap a harvest. Yahshua constantly says *“the last shall be first and the first last.”* We can be first in the resurrection, but it's going to take faith, a lot more faith than we have today. We can supersede David and Samuel and the prophets and Barak and Gideon and Samson and Jephthah. It's going to take us for them to reach perfection.

Now look what you find in the 12th chapter of Hebrews. ***“Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us, [every sin to which we cling] and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Yahshua the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the torture stake, despising shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of Yahweh.”*** (Hebrews 12:1-2). And there's the secret: our eyes fixed on Yahshua. What happened

You're going to have to take these things on faith, not because your name is written in the Bible but because you love Yahweh, and you have a faith that He exists, you have a faith in His Word.

to Yahshua now? Well, He gives us a little bit of an example, on whom faith depends from start to finish. Yahshua, who, for the sake of the joy that lay ahead of Him, endured the tree, making light of its disgrace, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of Yahweh.

“Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Yahshua the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the torture stake, despising shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of Yahweh. For consider him that endured such opposition of sinners against himself, that you do not become weary, fainting in your souls. 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 reprov'd of him; for whom Yahweh loves he corrects, and scourges every son whom he

receives." (Hebrews 12:1-6).

But how many people, when the Elders have to correct Yahweh's people, become offended? They say "Well, I don't believe that." Well, I have said you don't fight against me, you fight against Yahweh's Word. All I'm here for is to bring you into remembrance of what Yahweh's Word says. The opposition is toward Yahweh and you fight against the Most High, not against me—I can take it.

"...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?" (Hebrews 12:5-9). What good is it to have life everlasting in this world, or to have life for a few years in this world and to miss life everlasting in the spiritual Kingdom?

"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. Follow after peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no man shall see Yahweh: looking carefully lest any man falls short of the grace of Yahweh; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and by it many be defiled...." (Hebrews 12:12-15). No bitter, noxious weed growing up to poison the whole, and that can happen so easily. A bitter, noxious weed growing up and poisoning the whole body through lack of

faith. No immoral person, no one worldly minded—I like that term. No "worldly minded" person, like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. **"...Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one mess of meat sold his own birthright. For you know that even when he afterward desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected; for**

If you have faith in your heart, faith will lead to action.

he found no place for a change of mind in his father, though he sought it diligently with tears. For you have not come to a mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, and to blackness, and darkness, and tempest...." (Hebrews 12:16-18). And that's a warning for us.

Over in Jacob 2:14: **"What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith, but has no works? Can that faith save him?"** Now we're going to have to take action! If you have faith in your heart, faith will lead to action. Are you in that category of people? You say "Yes, I have faith but I'm not taking action."

"If a brother or sister is naked and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled; and yet you give them not the things necessary to the body; what does it profit?" (Jacob 2:15-16). You do nothing to show it—can that faith save him? Suppose a brother or a sister is in rags with not enough food for the day, and one of you says "Good l-ck to you" (I don't think anyone should say that, however), but they'll say, "Shalom to you, keep yourselves warm, have plenty to eat." Like one man told me one time, he said: I went to an Assembly, and, every Sabbath, the minister would say (he was from the South), "Well

you all come down to my house and have dinner." So, this young fellow took him up on the invitation quite often, and he came to the point where he was an unwelcome guest. But you just can't say "have something to eat" without helping them to eat by giving them something.

"If a brother or sister is naked and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled; and yet you give them not the things necessary to the body; what does it profit? Even so faith, if it have not works, is dead in itself. Yes, a man will say, You have faith, and I have works: show me your faith apart from works, and I by my works will show you my faith. You believe that Elohim is one; you do well: the demons believe also, and tremble. But will you know, Oh vain man, that faith apart from works is barren? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, in that he offered up Isaac his son upon the altar? You see that faith worked with his works, and by works was faith made perfect; and the scripture was fulfilled which says, And Abraham believed Yahweh, and it was reckoned to him for righteousness; and he was called the friend of Yahweh. You see that by works a man is justified, and not only by faith. And in like manner was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, in that she received the messengers, and sent them out another way? For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, even so faith apart from works is dead." (Jacob 2:15-20). Now that's a pretty strong statement.

I'd like to leave five points with you today. What kind of faith must we have? What is your faith? Do you have enough faith? Let's look at Jeremiah 31:34. **"...And they shall teach no more every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know Yahweh; for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest**

Continued on page 20.

THE *Breastplate* OF JUDGMENT AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

PART SEVEN

This article is Part 7 of a series of sermons preached by Elder Jacob O. Meyer in the Bethel Assembly.

“And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual, but as to carnal, as babes in the Messiah. I fed you with milk, not with meat; for you were not able to bear it: no, not even now are you able; for you are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you jealousy and strife, are you not carnal, and do you not walk after the manner of men? For when one says, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are you not men? What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Ministers through whom you believed; and each as Yahweh gave to him. I planted, Apollos watered; but Yahweh gave the increase. So then neither is he that plants anything, neither he that waters; but Yahweh that gives the increase. Now he that plants and he that waters are one: but each shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are Yahweh’s fellow-workers: you are Yahweh’s husbandry, Yahweh’s building.

“According to the grace of Yahweh which was given to me, as a wise master-builder I laid a foundation; and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds on it. For

other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Yahshua the Messiah. But if any man builds on the foundation gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, stubble; each man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it is revealed in fire; and the fire itself shall prove each man’s work of what sort it is. If any man’s work shall endure which he built on it, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as through fire.

“Do you not know that you are a temple of Yahweh, and that the spirit of Yahweh dwells in you? If any man destroys the temple of Yahweh, Yahweh shall destroy him; for the temple of Yahweh is holy, and you are such.

“Let no man deceive himself. If any man thinks that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool, that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with Yahweh. For it is written, He that takes the wise in their craftiness: and again, Yahweh knows the reasonings of the wise, that they are vain.

“Therefore let no one glory in men. For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or

Cepha, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; and you are the Messiah’s; and the Messiah is Yahweh’s.” (1 Corinthians 3:1-23).

Encapsulated within a book of less than about 1,000 pages is found a perfect message of instruction to humankind. Interwoven within these pages of inspired text appears intertwined the tapestry of sound doctrine. Sound doctrine is that teaching which cannot be broken or questioned, doctrine that can only have been assembled (as it surely was) by a mind of infinite wisdom and understanding.

In addition, the true ministry of the Most High is now uncovering many things that have been hidden for centuries since it was written and assembled to prove the veracity of the Bible. Such is the case with our study of the breastplate of judgment and righteousness, of which this sermon will be Part 7. It clearly appears that these facts about to be explained were hidden, and the message of the subject was intended to be revealed **ONLY IN THE LAST DAYS IN WHICH WE ARE NOW LIVING.**

We have seen in this series the unveiling of a subject of such vast inspiring material that is found in virtually every book of the entire Bible. A review of the previously

unused material which still remains to be studied demands that this series not be concluded with this segment (as I had intended), but it will require at least two or three additional sermons. I have not as yet even touched on Urim and Thummim, among other material.

Last month, we clearly saw that the reference to the stones of fire in Ezekiel 28:14 must refer to the precious gemstones that are represented in the breastplate of judgment and righteousness. These gemstones, created by Almighty Yahweh, were intended to remind His children—His True Worshipers—of His righteous judgments that must be made an integral part of our personal spiritual lives.

Satan, while he was still Hallel (his Hebrew name in Isaiah 14) had access to every precious stone. In reality, however, he accepted and applied only three-quarters of them! Nine stones are mentioned, while the breastplate contains 12 precious stones.

The family of the tribes of Israel (along with all spiritual overcomers) must recognize and accept the 12 precious stones which have been incorporated as a unit in the completed breastplate. The individual tribes must recognize that the completed breastplate, therefore, symbolizes the implication that they must cooperate in a close unity with each other, but, in a greater sense, with Almighty Yahweh, or there will be no Urim and Thummim possible (revelation of the perfect Will of Yahweh).

On the other hand, Hallel (Satan) would be guilty of violating both of these eternally founded principles. The implication is that he accepted only three-quarters of the Word of Yahweh and that deficiency actually left him with the number nine remaining, the number which represents the finality of judgment. We must understand that in the Sacred Scriptures the number 12 represents good government. Ultimately, then,

because of Satan's rejection of three of the stones, he took the position of rebellion against Almighty Yahweh. This brought him rejection and eviction from the presence of Yahweh.

Do you understand some of these great implications that we may derive from Ezekiel chapter 28? Every member of the human race is clearly warned against following Satan's errors.

In Ezekiel chapter 28, let us more closely study several of these verses. ***“Moreover the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him, In this manner says the Sovereign Yahweh: You sealed up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.”*** (Ezekiel 28:11-12).

Now consider for a moment: the term *wisdom* in Hebrew is *chokmah*. Satan was, therefore, in possession of wisdom, beauty, and perfection. Consider further that this description could not have been that of the king of Tyre, because, in actuality, he had never been in the garden of Eden. Therefore, the description must apply to the power behind the throne—as we read in Luke 4:6, the passage wherein Satan attempted to entice Yahshua to renounce His mission given to Him in heaven by Almighty Yahweh. Yahshua was given the assignment to become the Redeemer and Savior of humankind on earth, Yahweh's human creation. Satan declared that all these nations of the world were given to him, along with the authority over them, and he offered this power to Yahshua to entice Him to relinquish His mission to save mankind for the Kingdom of Yahweh and to dwell in eternity, if Yahshua would only worship him.

“You were in Eden, the garden of Elohim; every precious stone was your covering, the sardius, the topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the

workmanship of your tabrets and of your pipes was in you; in the day that you were created they were prepared.” (Ezekiel 28:13). Is it not true that, in the breastplate of precious stones, every precious stone is important? All of the stones are unique, but they are bound together. Each one of those 12 stones is bound by the setting of gold in which they are placed on the High Priest's breast. Similarly, each True Worshiper is unique, but we are all bound together through the gold setting of sound doctrine. See 1 Corinthians 12.

“You were the anointed cherub that covers: and I set you, so that you were upon the holy mountain of Elohim; you have walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire....” (Ezekiel 28:14). As it was pointed out in the last segment, the stones of fire point to the precious gem stones. There is fire in these precious gemstones.

In the last segment, it was our intention to point out that the three missing stones are the *leshem*, *shevu*, and *'achlamah*. The jacinth (*leshem* in Hebrew), #3958 in **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible** which the King James version translates *ligure*, is identified as the amber or jacinth. The agate (*shevu* in Hebrew), #7618 in the **Strong's Hebrew and Chaldee Dictionary**, is a hard precious stone, one that means a flame, a gem that sparkles. Amethyst (*'achlamah*), #306 in **Strong's Concordance**, was traditionally identified as the amethyst. Now which tribes do these stones represent? The 12 tribes, according to their birth, are Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin. The stones to represent Gad, Asher, and Issachar are omitted in Ezekiel 28.

The jacinth, or the *ligure*, represents Gad. The term is # 1410 from #1464, *gud*, usually translated *fortune or troop*. The term *gud*, #1464 in the **Strong's Concordance Hebrew and Chaldee Dictionary**,

means *to crowd upon, i.e. attack*. This is what Satan does. He crowds, and he attacks. The definition also says “akin to 1413” which is the double *ayin* verb *gadad*, and means *to crowd; also to gash (as if by pressing into)*. This is also one of Satan’s tactics. He brings pressure upon the True Worshiper. The jacinth was omitted because Satan does not want you to know his tricks or tactics, and the world worships this false mighty one, G-d, to this very day, rather than the true Mighty One—Yahweh.

The second stone is meant to represent the tribe of Asher. Usually, we think of the term *Asher* as being *happy*. It is #836, *‘ashar*, meaning *to be straight (used in the widest sense, espec. to be level, right, happy); fig. to go forward, be honest, prosper*. Do you perceive why Satan omitted this stone? This should become very obvious just by looking at the definition. Satan is not straight, but he is crooked. See Proverbs 8:8. He is not level, right, or happy (honest). He does not go forward, rather, he tries to pull people backward and send them back into pagan religion, and whoever follows him will not prosper. It should be obvious to all of us why Satan would not accept the agate. Only Yahweh and His people exemplify the characteristics of the agate.

The name Issachar is #3485 from #5375 and #7939 in **Strong’s Concordance**. It defines the meaning of the word *Issachar* as *he will bring a reward*. The term is *nasa*, # 5375, and means *to lift, in a great variety of applications*. The second element of the name is *sakar*, #7939, *payment of contract; concr., salary, fare, maintenance; by impl. compensation, benefit*. However, Satan does not want to receive the wages of sin, does he? It becomes transparent, then, as you put these things together, why Satan would not accept these three precious stones. What is Satan’s compensation? The wages of sin is death! When he sinned against Almighty Yahweh, he knew that he

All the stones are unique, but they are bound together. Each one of those 12 stones is bound by the setting of gold in which they are placed on the High Priest’s breast. Similarly, each True Worshiper is unique, but we are all bound together through the gold setting of sound doctrine.

will eventually receive the ultimate compensation—death. Brethren, if you follow Satan into sin, you will follow him into his eventual punishment. It becomes very clear that you will not receive eternal life in Yahweh’s Kingdom.

Let us look at Genesis chapter 3, where Satan enticed our progenitors, Adam and Eve, to sin. Notice that his promise of compensation to Adam and Eve is something that he cannot deliver. ***“And the woman said unto the Serpent, Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, Elohim said, You shall not eat it, neither shall you***

touch it, lest you die. And the serpent said unto the woman, You shall not surely die: for Elohim knows that in the day you eat of it, then your EYES SHALL BE OPENED, AND YOU SHALL BE AS ELOHIM, KNOWING GOOD AND EVIL.” (Genesis 3:2-5).

Satan’s first lie promised the human family eternal life. He says you will never die: a never-dying immortal soul is his falsehood. This is not what the Bible says. The Bible plainly declares that the soul that sins it will die. See Ezekiel 18:4, 20. Satan says, “Just eat of Yahweh’s forbidden fruit and you will be like Elohim.” Worldly ch-rchianity today follows right down the line in every one of these false doctrines. They teach that you possess a never-dying immortal soul, that you will go to heaven when you die, and that you are created in the very image of the Almighty, a spirit Being. I heard all this teaching years ago in ch-rchianity. When I started studying the Bible, however, I found out their popular teachings were all a lie. You see, this is what Satan promises you as compensation to relinquish the great blessing, the offer of eternal life in the Kingdom of Yahweh.

What does Yahweh promise? Salvation to the overcomers. I want to ask, “WHAT HAPPENED TO SACRIFICE?” Satan offers everything immediately. Sometimes, when I do favors, someone asks me, “How much do I owe you?” I reply, “Does everybody need to be paid all the time, for anything they do? Why can’t we do something gratis for people?” What about future rewards? Perhaps I will lose my future reward if I receive pay right NOW.

Brethren, being in the now generation is one of Satan’s favorite ploys. Should we seek gratification now, or sacrifice a little now and look to the future reward in the new Kingdom Age, as we do in the Assemblies of Yahweh?

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PART SEVEN

PROPHETIC TRENDS



PESTILENCES AND PLAGUES

“See, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil; in that I command you this day to love Yahweh your Elohim, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his ordinances, that you may live and multiply, and that Yahweh your Elohim may bless you in the land which you go in to possess. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but shall be drawn away, and worship other elohim, and serve them; I declare to you this day, that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land, which you pass over the Jordan to go in to possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse: therefore choose life, that you may live, you and your seed; to love Yahweh your Elohim, to obey his voice, and to hold fast to him; for he is your life, and the length of your days; that you may dwell in the land which Yahweh swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

(Deuteronomy 30:15-20).

Yahweh has clearly indicated to us in His Law that He promises good for us if we obey His commandments. Moses makes this abundantly clear in this passage of Scripture that there are two pathways that we can choose—the good pathway that leads to life and the pathway of transgression of Yahweh’s Law (sin, 1 John 3:4), which leads to death. Moses,

in verse 16, commands us to love Yahweh, keep His commandments, and choose life instead of death.

The prophet Malachi, in Malachi 4:4, reminds us to remember the Law of Moses, the servant of Yahweh. Yet, so many today reject Yahweh’s Covenant Law. The violation of Yahweh’s commandments will bring judgment from our Heavenly Father Yahweh. Malachi 4:1 begins by warning that a day is coming which will burn as a furnace, and all the proud (those who arrogantly reject Yahweh’s Law and choose a life of sin), and all that work wickedness (transgress Yahweh’s Law), will be burned up with neither root, nor branch, remaining.

“But if you will not listen to me, and will not do all these commandments; and if you shall reject my statutes, and if your soul abhors my ordinances, so that you will not do all my commandments, but break my covenant; I also will do this to you: I will appoint terror over you, even consumption and fever, that shall consume the eyes, and consume the soul; and you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. And I will set my face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies: they that hate you shall rule over you; and you shall flee when none pursues you. And if you will not yet for these things listen to me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. And I will break the pride of your power: and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as bronze;

and your strength shall be spent in vain; for your land shall not yield its increase, neither shall the trees of the land yield their fruit.” (Leviticus 26:14-20).

For those who refuse to listen to the command to obey Yahweh’s Law and break the Covenant, Yahweh has promised that He will punish us with judgments with a factor of seven. If these judgments do not bring the transgressor to repentance, and they continue to boldly violate Yahweh’s Law, then seven times more plagues will be poured out upon this wicked generation, “... according to your sins.”

“And if you walk contrary to me, and will not listen to me, I will bring seven times more plagues on you according to your sins. And I will send the beast of the field among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your ways shall become desolate. And if by these things you will not be reformed to me, but will walk contrary to me; then I will also walk contrary to you; and I will afflict you, even I, seven times for your sins. And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall execute the vengeance of the covenant; and you shall be gathered together within your cities: and I will send the pestilence among you; and you shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy. When I break your staff of bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver

your bread again by weight: and you shall eat, and not be satisfied.” (Leviticus 26:21-26).

Plagues and pestilences will be poured out upon those who walk contrary to the Law of Yahweh, and Yahweh will again judge seven times over for sins, executing the vengeance of the Covenant. The use of the term *seven times more* gives an indication of the Sabbatical cycle. Notice that this chapter begins with an injunction against idolatry and the worship of graven images, which is commonly practiced throughout every nation of the world. Verse two commands us to observe (keep) Yahweh’s Sabbaths. This is a reference not only to the weekly Sabbath, but the annual sabbaths (the feast days) and the Sabbatical year as well. Yahweh also commands a rest of the land during a Sabbatical and Jubilee years. ***“Then shall the land enjoy its sabbaths, as long as it lies desolate, and you are in your enemies’ land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy its sabbaths. As long as it lies desolate it shall have rest, even the rest which it had not in your sabbaths, when you dwelt on it.”*** (Leviticus 26:34-35).

Moses reiterates this curse in Deuteronomy 28. ***“Yahweh will send upon you cursing, confusion, and rebuke, in all that you put your hand to do, until you be destroyed, and until you perish quickly; because of the evil of your doings, whereby you have forsaken me. Yahweh will make the pestilence hold fast to you, until he has consumed you from off the land, which you go in to possess. Yahweh will strike you with consumption, and with fever, and with inflammation, and with fiery heat, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue you until you perish.”*** (Deuteronomy 28:20-22).

Plagues Emerge

In recent years, many mosquito-

borne viruses have emerged. The West Nile virus, for example, has spread across the United States, killing birds and humans alike. Recently, Dengue fever has also affected many in the Caribbean region and southern United States, as well as other nations in Asia and Africa. Then, Chikungunya virus spread throughout the tepid region of the world, causing a painful illness. This virus is also mosquito-borne. Last year, the Ebola virus decimated many nations in West Africa, killing tens of thousands of people. Pictures of the effects of this disease have been horrifying. These visual images of suffering poor have moved us to great compassion for our fellow man.

Then, late last year, a new virus emerged in Brazil. The Zika virus, which spreads primarily through the bites of infected *Aedes aegypti* mosquitos, is now spreading in 60 countries and territories, expected to infect as many as 4 million people in the Americas by 2017, according to the World Health Organization. In fetuses and infants born to mothers infected with Zika, the virus has been linked to sharp increases in microcephaly, a malformed brain and skull. Other problems that have been reported include miscarriage, stillbirth, eye defects, hearing loss, and impaired growth. Again, our heart is filled with compassion for these little babies and their smaller than normal head size.

The 2016 Olympics, which are scheduled to be conducted in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, are planned even though many athletes have expressed concern regarding this disease and its consequences. The crowds that are expected to attend the Olympic games will further spread this virus around the world. As a result, many have called for the cancellation of the 2016 Olympics (which are based upon the Greek idolatry). Still, the Olympic Committee, Brazilian government officials, and many others, press on toward the holding of this sporting event. Since the Zika virus can be spread sexually for many months,

Olympic officials have promised to hand out nearly a half million condoms to the athletes. Man’s solutions always fall short, it seems.

Fear of microcephaly, and other birth defects caused by the Zika virus, have resulted in a spike of abortions across the predominantly Catholic nations in South America, with many turning to the Internet to purchase restricted abortion medications. Again, man’s solutions are not Yahweh’s solutions. How many women will be prevailed upon to terminate their pregnancy by overzealous doctors and nurses?

Have you noticed that many of these plagues and pestilences are sexually transmitted as well? The Ebola virus, and now the Zika virus, are all transmitted sexually as well. There are many instances also of rapid increases in sexually transmitted diseases in various areas around the world. News reports from rural southern Indiana have noted a sharp increase in sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV among IV drug users. This drug abuse, which is commonly found in large metropolitan areas has now become a commonplace activity throughout rural America. Heroin use has skyrocketed in the United States of America in recent years, because of a flood of cheap heroin coming across our southern border.

Sexually transmitted diseases are also on the rise for the first time in nearly a decade as online dating has been listed as a contributing factor. Young people, ages 15 to 24, account for nearly half of the 20 million new cases of STDs each year, according to the Center for Disease Control. Reported cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis have increased for the first time since 2006. Online dating and anonymous sex have greatly increased because of smartphone use and the online dating apps.

No Pleasure in Death

“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel: In this manner you speak, saying, Our

transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we are rotting away in them; how then can we live? Say to them, As I live, says the Sovereign Yahweh, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn, turn you from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 33:10-11).

Yahweh has no pleasure in the death of the wicked—those who violate His Covenant Law. Yahweh is very patient to bring the sinner back to the ways of righteousness again. However, Yahweh is going to pour out judgments upon this wicked generation if changes are not made. ***"Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. Though a sinner does evil a hundred times, and prolongs his days, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear Elohim, that fear before him: 13 but it shall not be well with the wicked, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he fears not before Elohim."*** (Ecclesiastes 8:11-13). Therefore, should not this world repent of its evil before Yahweh's judgments fall?

"The times of ignorance therefore Elohim overlooked; but now he commands men that they should all everywhere repent: because he has appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he has ordained; of which he has given assurance to all men, in that he has raised him from the dead." (Acts 17:30-31).

Call to Repentance

A call to repentance is going out in these end-times. Those who remember the Law of Moses, and comply with Yahweh's Covenant Law, will receive mercy and a pardon for sin. This is what the term *remission of*

"Yahweh will afflict you with the boil of Egypt, and with the tumors, and with the scab, and with the itch, of which you cannot be healed. Yahweh will afflict you with madness, and with blindness, and with astonishment of heart...." Deuteronomy 28:27-28

sins means. The Greek word is #859 in the **Strong's Concordance**, *aphesis* means *freedom, pardon, deliverance and forgiveness*. Will you heed this call to repentance? Yahweh has promised to cleanse us from all iniquity and create within our hearts a heart of obedience rather than of sin and the rejection of Yahweh's Law.

"And I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and you shall keep my ordinances, and do them. And you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and you shall be my people, and I will be your Elohim. And I will save you from all your uncleanness: and I will call for the grain, and will multiply it, and lay no famine upon you. And I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field, that you may receive no more the reproach of famine among the nations. Then shall you remember your evil ways, and your doings that were not good; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniqui-

ties and for your abominations." (Ezekiel 36:25-31).

"Repent; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand..." was the call from John the Baptist, as well as Yahshua the Messiah in Matthew 3:2 and in verse 17. Will you heed this call to repentance that is going out in the same time? Time is short! Why not make your personal commitment to Almighty Yahweh now instead of waiting until the 11th hour? Will you be a wise virgin that is prepared for Yahshua's Second Coming? Or will you be an unprepared, foolish virgin?

"Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with men, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the Kingdom of Yahweh. And such were some of you: but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Sovereign Yahshua the Messiah, and in the Spirit of our Elohim." (1 Corinthians 6:9-11).

Hope For the Hopeless

The Assemblies of Yahweh has received the assignment to fulfill the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20. It will herald the coming Kingdom of Yahweh to the ends of the earth. We must witness the Truth of Yahweh to the world. As we preach the Word, those individuals who are convicted by the Word of Yahweh will voluntarily make the necessary changes in their lives so that they'll eventually enter the Assemblies of Yahweh. The Holy Spirit is calling! Will you make the necessary alterations to your life to live by every Word of Yahweh? The faster you act, the sooner you will receive Yahweh's blessings and the closer personal relationship you can develop with Him. ^{SNB}

Continued from page 9.

Recently, in a discussion with one of the brethren, I remarked that the President of the United States of America is making an offer to workers of \$1 an hour more for the minimum wage. Businesses who operate on close profit margins will say, "We can't pay \$1 an hour more. It is impossible to do so; consequently, we will have to lay off workers. We will have to cut even more of the long-term efficiency out of this company." Carnal people do not realize that the minimum wage was established as a type of training device. You receive a minimum wage in lieu of training for your job. Historically, on-the-job training was called apprenticeship. You received very little pay at the beginning of working in a craft, but wages increased when you reached proficiency.

I remember what wages were when I was a young man. The first year after I was married, I think I made a grand total of \$1,200. That is what was reported as my total income on my W-2 tax form. I can remember working for six full days in one week and earning only \$62. I believed that I had found success at that time!

We read in 1 Corinthians 3:10, ***"According to the grace of Yahweh which was given to me, as a wise master-builder I laid a foundation; and another builds upon it."*** Paul laid the foundation. ***"For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Yahshua the Messiah. But if any man builds on the foundation gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, stubble...."*** (1 Corinthians 3:11-12). Gold, silver, and costly stones are certainly good, durable foundation materials.

I can remember when I was working in the construction trade as a young man, and we received mason

sand that had bits of driftwood in it. We had to screen out the wood because it would not make strong building material. Weakening it, the wood will rot in the mortar in the

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foundation. The foreign matter had to be taken out. You would not use hay to construct a foundation. Many times, even when I tried to stack hay bales as solidly as I could, suddenly the stack toppled. You have to work very carefully to stack hay so it will stand, yet it will not be good, solid construction material.

Stubble is almost worthless. I remember there was a drought when I was a boy. In past sermon illustrations, I have described how my father and grandfather dug a lake in a swampy place beyond the barn, and, the next day, we had enough water to water the livestock. The wells in our area went dry in 1937 in this serious drought during the Dust Bowl era.

I remember, of that summer, my parents describe how they only harvested three loads of hay off the farm. Now that was not enough to carry our livestock, which consisted of about five cows and three horses, over that winter.

I can remember that summer we helped the neighbor put up his hay. He told us that we could have anything left on the field. My grandfather, with a dump rake, dragged that field. He dragged the field in one direction to pick up any remain-

ing hay, and then dragged the field the other direction to get every last stem, or stubble, of hay so that we could get one more load of hay in the barn. It is near Bethel, along Route 501, where I was born, and I often remember this incident when I go by that farm. We always chopped our corn fodder, but that year corn was only about waist high due to the drought.

There was just no rain. It was a terrible drought year during the Depression when the Dust Bowl was going on in the Midwest.

I can remember my father, grandfather, and others in the community describing how the sky always looked cloudy due to the dust in the atmosphere. My mother talks about making hay that summer wearing a sweater because it was so cool. The dust, driven all the way east from the Midwest, blocked out the sun and caused temperatures to be cool.

As a consequence, I know what stubble, hay, and wood describe. Wood rots quickly if left out in the weather and, after several years, it will be nothing but dust, having totally disintegrated.

Gold, silver, and costly stones make strong, durable building material, especially when those terms are applied spiritually.

Let us read from verse 18. ***"Let no man deceive himself. If any man thinks that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool, that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with Yahweh."*** (1 Corinthians 3:18-19a). Paul begins the book of 1 Corinthians like this in verse 19 of chapter 1, ***"For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning will I bring to nothing."*** Paul is quoting from Isaiah 29:14. Further in 1 Corinthians 1:21, ***"For seeing that in the wisdom of Elohim the world through its wisdom did not know Yahweh, it was***

Yahweh's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching [kerygma, in Greek] to save them that believe."

Let us continue our study of the stones that Satan did not accept. Earlier, we considered the tribes that were represented by these stones. The jacinth is mentioned in Revelation 9:17 in relation to that invading foreign army.

In Revelation 21:20, the jacinth is also mentioned as one of the foundation stones of the heavenly city. ***"...The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoptase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst."*** (Revelation 21:20).

The **King James** term is *ligure*, as I showed previously. It is mentioned in Exodus 28:19. I would like to digress just a moment and turn to Exodus 39:12, where the craftsmen are constructing the breastplate and all of the other pertinent pieces of the High Priest's ceremonial dress and tabernacle, beginning with verse 8. ***"And he made the breastplate, the work of the skilful workman, like the work of the ephod; of gold, of blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen. It was square; they made the breastplate double: a span was the length of it, and a span the width of it, being double."***

"And they set in it four rows of stones. A row of sardius, topaz, and carbuncle was 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...." This entire third row is the one Satan omitted. Nevertheless, that is an accurate description of the Adversary. That is also a description of the average worldly person, since most people do not accept the whole Bible. They do not want to obligate themselves to live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of

Yahweh. They want to be selective. Satan decided to eliminate three of these stones (one entire row) and the reference to the tribes that they represented, simply because of what the stones represented to him. He did not care for the significance of these stones and the tribes they symbolized.

"...And the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper: they were inclosed in inclosings of gold in their settings. And the stones were 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, for the twelve tribes." The biblical number relating to good government is 12. That is why Satan chose to reject these three—Gad, Asher, and Issachar—since the stones were set according to their names (perhaps the meaning of their names).

"And they made upon the breastplate chains like cords, of wreath work of pure gold. And they made two settings of gold, and two gold rings, and put the two rings on the two ends of the breastplate. And they 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 they put on the two settings, and put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, in the forepart of it. And they made two rings of gold, and put them on the two ends of the breastplate, on the edge of it, which was toward the side of the ephod inward. And they made two rings of gold, and 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 bound the breastplate by the rings of it to the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, that it might be upon the skilfully woven band of the ephod,

and that the breastplate might not be loosed from the ephod; as Yahweh commanded Moses." (Exodus 39:15-21).

Consequently, we can observe that the tribes of Israel were always united within the breastplate of judgment, and that Yahweh intended these special precious stones to be used for a purpose; therefore, they had a meaning. Notice again the term *agate* in Exodus 28:19 and 39:12, which is one of the stones in the third row comprising the jacinth, agate, and amethyst, and recall its meaning.

Let us turn to Ezekiel chapter 27. Notice, in this passage appears a lamentation over Tyre. Tyre and Sidon are mentioned at the beginning of the chapter. As we drop down to verse 12 we read, ***"Tarshish was your merchant by reason of the multitude of all kinds of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded for your wares. Javan, Tubal, and Meshech, they were your traffickers; they traded the persons of men and vessels of bronze for your merchandise."*** (Ezekiel 27:12-13). This description sounds similar to that of Babylon in Revelation 18:13. They traded the persons—souls of men.

"They of the house of Togarmah traded for your wares with horses and war-horses and mules." (Ezekiel 27:14). Here horses, war horses, and mules referred to the draft and calvary animals that were used in the military. Generally, the donkey (or the mule) and the ox were the draft animals used in the peace-time cultivation of the land.

"The men of Dedan were your traders; many isles were the mart of your hand: they brought you in exchange horns of ivory and ebony." In other words, this Tyre (and later on Babylon, both literal and figurative systems) has penetrated into every facet of society throughout all the world.

"Syria was your merchant by reason of the multitude of your handiworks, they traded

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for your wares with emeralds, purple, and embroidered work, and fine linen, and coral, and rubies. Judah, and the land of Israel, they were your traders: they traded for your merchandise wheat of Minnith, and pannag, and honey, and oil, and balm.” (Ezekiel 27:16-17). Remember that the term *Judah* means *worshiper of Yahweh*. See the Singer edition of the *Jewish Encyclopedia*.

“Damascus was your merchant for the multitude of your handiworks, by reason of the multitude of all kinds of riches, with the wine of helbon, and white wool.” (Ezekiel 27:18). In other words, Tyre was the one who traded various goods with certain nations and who would also buy things from Tyre. You can read through this passage, and you can see that the influence of Tyre, and, later, Babylon in Revelation chapter 18, penetrated into all the known world. That influence became a worldly system that continued on to the last days. It is a system dominated by the Adversary who employs it to enslave the world for his own purposes.

Let us remember, however, that the term translated *agate* could also be *ruby*. In the end of verse 16, it is #3539. The term is *kedakod* from #3537 and means *in the sense of striking fire from a metal forge*. But then again, why not translate it as *agate*? Fire agates would illustrate

the definition of this term quite well.

Let us not forget that we opened the last segment of this series by reading Isaiah chapter 54 as our pilot Scripture. *“And I will make your pinnacles of rubies, and your gates of carbuncles, and all your border of precious stones.”* (Isaiah 54:12). The **King James** version translates *pinnacles* as *windows*. I was concentrating on the *“border of precious stones,”* and it clearly symbolizes a warning not to overstep the restrictions of Yahweh’s Law. We must notice the scriptural restrictions regarding the line that we cannot step across. The Law—Torah—serves as a fence around our lives, and this restriction is clearly portrayed by the breastplate of good judgment.

I would not have any problem with the translation, “windows of agates” because of the word which means to strike fire as when you are pounding metal. The definition for *kedakod* also means *a sparkling gem, prob. the ruby*.

Turn to Ezekiel chapter 39, where we will begin reading with verse 8. *“Behold, it comes, and it shall be done, says the Sovereign Yahweh; this is the day of which I have spoken. And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall make fires of the weapons and burn them, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the hand-staff, and the spears, and they shall make fires of them seven years; so that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall make fires of the weapons; and they shall plunder those that plundered them, and rob those that robbed them, says the Sovereign Yahweh.”* (Ezekiel 39:8-10).

This is obviously a reference to the Exodus motif where Israel was told to plunder the Egyptians before they departed from their enslavement there. Now, at the end of the age when the new Kingdom of

Yahweh is to be established, that is when Yahweh’s people will plunder the wealth of the whole world as their forefathers in scriptural times plundered the Egyptians. The nations of the world will drop their wealth at the battle of Armageddon, and, for seven years, there will not be a need to purchase or collect any fuel.

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give to Gog a place for burial in Israel, the valley of them that pass through on the east of the sea; and it shall stop them that pass through: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude; and they shall call it The valley of Hamon-gog. And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying them, that they may cleanse the land. Yes, all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them a renown in the day that I shall be glorified, says the Sovereign Yahweh. And they shall set apart men of continual employment, that shall pass through the land, and, with them that pass through, those that bury them that remain upon the face of the land, to cleanse it: after the end of seven months shall they search. And they that pass through the land shall pass through; and when any sees a man’s bone, then shall he set up a sign by it, till the buriers have buried it in the valley of Hamon-gog. And Hamonah shall also be the name of a city. In this manner shall they cleanse the land.” (Ezekiel 39:11-16).

This is what will happen to those who follow Satan the Adversary in the end times and place themselves outside of the protection of the border of precious stones. They will put themselves outside of the protection of the blessings of Almighty Yahweh for obedience. They will not have good judgment and will follow the Adversary, but the world will unite with Satan to attack Yahweh and His returning Messiah Yahshua.

See Revelation 19:19-21.

Let us turn now to Isaiah chapter 14. Beginning in verse 12, we can determine that this prophecy is applied to Babylon's ruler. ***"How have you fallen from heaven, O day-star, son of the morning! How have you been cut down to the ground, that laid low the nations!"*** *Day star, son of the morning* is the term *Hallel*. Satan's name was Hallel in Hebrew. The Adversary's name was not Satan until he became the opposer of Almighty Yahweh. Has not Satan laid low the nations? Look at what he did to Germany in World War II! Hitler followed the Adversary. What did he get? He received a destruction for his government similar to what you read in Ezekiel 39.

"And you said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of El; and I will sit upon the mount of congregation, in the utmost parts of the north...." The term *north* here in Hebrew is *tsaphon* and the term is used in relation to Baal worship, Baalzephon. See Exodus 14:2, for example. Some linguists attempt to tie this term to the word *Zion, har Zion*, but we will not accept that. *Zion* is not *zephon*. *Zephon* was the site of Baal worship in ancient Syria; therefore, we must say that Satan is the head of the worship of the L-rd. (See Hosea 2:16-17, center-column references that ties Baal to L-rd.) It comes out very plain in this passage.

"I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High." Satan imagines that he will transpose himself into the Most High, but Yahweh has news for him. Yahweh says, ***"Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the utmost parts of the pit. They that see you shall gaze at you, they shall consider you, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that shook kingdoms; that made the world as a wilderness, and***

overthrew the cities of it; that did not let loose his prisoners to their home?" (Isaiah 14:15-17).

In the movie "Patton," General Patton is portrayed as having said, "Oh, I love this!" He loved war. He is depicted as standing on a battle field, wrecks of destroyed equipment are all around, dead bodies strewed all around, and he says, "Oh, I love this!" He used to say he was actually the reincarnation of Alexander of Greece.

Is this not what war has done to the world? It has produced so much grief. I read a book on Amelia Earhart which described how some of the islands and atolls in the Pacific that the Japanese had fortified before the World War II, have today returned to jungle. Nobody even lives there now. Many islands were fortified with military airports put in by the Americans. Today, they also are jungle, and no one lives there. That is what has happened to many locations in the Pacific that were once famous military facilities.

I once read that Tinian Island, essentially appeared as merely a big, stationary aircraft carrier. It was an island with several air strips on the south side, so big planes could land and take off simultaneously. The north side had two air strips where the B-29s departed to bomb Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Tinian Island today has virtually returned to jungle.

"...That made the world as a wilderness, and overthrew the cities of it; that did not let loose his prisoners to their home? All the kings of the nations, all of them, sleep in glory, every one in his own house." (Isaiah 14:17-18). You can understand everyone in his own sepulchre (grave). When we die, we are placed in a tomb in a cemetery—a necropolis (city of the dead)—which usually has streets and each person has his/her own allocated space which becomes our house until the resurrection. See

Whose spiritual child are you? Are you a child of Yahweh, or a child of the Adversary? You must make your personal decision. You become a follower of whomever you obey.

Job 17:13-16.

"But you are cast forth away from your sepulchre like an abominable branch, clothed with the slain, that are thrust through with the sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a dead body trodden under foot. You shall not be joined with them in burial, because you have destroyed your land, you have killed your people; the seed of evil-doers shall not be named forever." (Isaiah 14:19-20).

Most religions do not often consider this next passage, but I want you to pay attention! It is meant for anyone who falls away from the Faith and follows the Adversary back into a no-law, Yahweh-rejecting doctrine. ***"Prepare you slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers, that they rise not up, and possess the earth, and fill the face of the world with cities."*** (Isaiah 14:21). Whose spiritual child are you? Are you a child of Yahweh, or a children of the Adversary? You must make your personal decision. You become a follower of whomever you obey. You are a child of whomever you obey, according to Romans chapter 6, which clearly shows this

description.

We can conclude that Satan's children are currently in possession of the earth, but not entirely so. Some people of Yahweh, True Worshipers, are left, who are the salt of the earth, preserving it from Yahweh's judgment. Yahweh will never release to the Adversary all of His authority over this earth.

Continue reading with verse 22, "***And I will rise up against them, says Yahweh of hosts, and cut off from Babylon name and remnant, and son and son's son, says Yahweh.***" Remember what we read in Ezekiel chapter 39? "***I will also make it a possession for the porcupine, and pools of water: and I will sweep it with the broom of destruction, says Yahweh of hosts.***" (Isaiah 14:23).

This prophetic description is that of Babylon, and we can now interpret this passage as a prophecy for the last days. Babylon (the worldly system) is no longer going to be in possession of this world. Yahweh is going to bring it to a halt. He will establish His Kingdom to rule over this entire earth. He says, "***I will sweep it with the broom of destruction.***"

This is why we read in the book of the prophet Jeremiah as he says in chapter 25, verse 33, "***And the killed of Yahweh shall be at that day from one end of the earth even to the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the face of the ground.***" In verse 38, we find, "***He has left his covert, as the lion; for their land has become an astonishment because of the fierceness of the oppressing sword, and because of his fierce anger.***" This is prophecy for the last days in which we are now living. I would be tremendously fearful, in this time in which we are now living, to depart from the authority of Yahweh, because His judgment upon this wicked earth lies just ahead. It is a fearful thing to step

outside of that border of precious stones implied by the breastplate.

We must make good decisions, sound judgments, to avoid following Satan the Adversary and his worldly system into destruction. In Revelation chapter 20, we read that even after the thousand years of the Kingdom (the Millennium) are concluded and Satan is again turned loose from his imprisonment, there will still be unconverted people who follow him in an attack against the holy city and against Yahweh's saints.

"And when the thousand years are finished, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall come forth to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to the war: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up over the width of the earth, and encircled the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from Yahweh out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, in which were also the beast and the false prophet; and they shall be tormented day and night to the ages of the ages." (Revelation 20:7-10).

Reference to the false prophet appears in Revelation 19:19-21. Let us read this passage. "***And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat upon the horse, and against his army.***" The people of this world do not intend to allow themselves to be ruled by the Messiah. Psalm 2 candidly describes this attitude. They make war against the returning Messiah Yahshua and against His conquering army.

"And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that worked the signs in his sight, by which he deceived them that had received the mark of the

beast and them that worshiped his image: they two were cast alive into the lake of fire that burns with brimstone: and the rest were killed with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, even the sword which came forth out of his mouth: and all the birds were filled with their flesh." (Revelation 19:20-21).

In Revelation 20:10 appears the description of the ultimate punishment of Satan the Devil. "***And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, in which were [cast] also the beast and the false prophet; and they shall be tormented day and night to the ages of the ages.***"

The term *basanos*, translated *tormented* in Revelation 20:10, #931 in the **Strong's Concordance Greek Dictionary**, means *through the notion of going to the bottom*; *a touch stone*. It also means *inquisition, trial, and judgment*. They are judged, not merely tortured or tormented, but rather judged. This is what happens to the devil, to the Beast, and to the false prophet. They are going to be judged with the finality of Yahweh's judgment. Who wants to join them? I certainly do not want to join them!

Let us consider again that Yahweh will some day sweep this Babylonish system out of the way of His Kingdom and authority with the broom of destruction. Satan the Adversary, the Beast, and the false prophet are going to be cast into the lake of fire and judged for the ages of the ages, in effect for all eternity. They are not simply tormented, but rather they are judged for the ages of the ages. We do not wish to join the Adversary in the lake of fire because we are not HIS children.

Fire or light in the stones represents Yahweh's Law. It represents an orderly, governed nation that is ruled by the love and goodness of the Most High. It thereby represents the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit coming into the heart and life of a

person is predicated upon obedience to Yahweh's Law (Acts 5:32). Have we today acquired a sufficient amount of that Holy Spirit?

Therefore, you can understand why I could not conclude this series of messages with this segment. It will take three or four more segments to do so. The subject is so enlightening to me, and I get so excited when I think about what Yahweh is telling us here!

Turn to Isaiah chapter 30, and begin reading with verse 15. ***“For thus said the Sovereign Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel, In returning and rest shall you be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and you would not.”*** There will be safety in returning (doing *teshuva* in Hebrew), in repentance, and keeping the Sabbath, and, thereby, obtaining rest, whereas, the wicked have no rest, but they are like a troubled sea. They have no Sabbath rest according to Revelation 14:11.

“But you said, No, for we will flee upon horses; therefore shall you flee: and, We will ride upon the swift; therefore shall they that pursue you be swift.” (Isaiah 30:16). What is this passage talking about? When people flee away from Yahweh on military equipment in the last days, it obviously refers to the battle of Armageddon. When the world turns their weapons to the sky, and they even try to fight off the returning Messiah, He that sits in the heavens will laugh a mocking laugh at them (Psalm 2:4a). Yahweh will still maintain His control over his creation.

“One thousand shall flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five shall you flee: till you be left as a beacon [a law keeper] upon the top of a mountain, and as an ensign on a hill. And therefore will Yahweh wait, that he may be gracious to you; and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for Yahweh

“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.”

**The precious
cornerstone
is Yahshua.**



is an Elohim of justice; blessed are all they that wait for him.” (Isaiah 30:17-18). The earth will no longer be the world of the Adversary in Messiah's days.

We want to consider that the breastplate of judgment and righteousness is Yahweh's design. It is of Yahweh's manufacture. Yahweh created the stones to remind us of His Torah (Law) and the Holy Spirit. Blessed are all they that wait for him. Are you still patient in waiting for the Second Coming of Yahshua? 2 Thessalonians chapter 2 warns us that there will be people in the last days who will throw away their salvation because Satan will give them strong delusion to believe a lie, and Yahweh will allow it to happen as a test.

“For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem; you shall weep no more; he will surely be gracious to you at the voice of your cry; when he shall hear, he will answer you. And though Yahweh give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet shall not your teachers

be hidden any more, but your eyes shall see your teachers....” (Isaiah 30:19-20). We do not like to learn that we will have adversity and affliction in our lives. We would prefer to be blessed. Yet Yahweh knows that He has to allow us to endure a test—an examination—to see what we have learned, and to learn how serious we are. Our teachers will not be hidden in the Kingdom age. However, Jacob (James) says, ***“Blessed is the man that endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he shall receive the crown of life, which Yahweh promised to them that love him.”*** (Jacob 1:12).

“...And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it; when you turn to the right hand, and when you turn to the left. And you shall defile the overlaying of your carved images of silver, and the plating of your molten images of gold: you shall cast them away as an unclean thing; you shall say to it, Go away!” (Isaiah 30:21-22). This is a description of how converted, repentant people

will some day banish idolatry.

Let us turn back to Isaiah chapter 28. ***“Therefore hear the word of Yahweh, you scoffers, that rule this people that is in Jerusalem: 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....”*** (Isaiah 28:14-15).

“And you have profaned me among my people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, to kill the souls that should not die, and to save the souls alive that should not live, by your lying to my people that listen to lies.” (Ezekiel 13:19). This is what some of the ministers of christianity are doing. They are trying to appease their congregation with a liberal doctrine for their salary (handfuls of barley and pieces and bread). ***“To kill the souls that should not die,”*** describes the aborted, little fetuses—the little children.

These same ministers turn right around and try to save the souls of murderers, when they should die that are guilty of murder. The criminals on death row are those souls that are saved alive that should not live. Murderers are supposed to be executed, but they most often receive a stay of execution. Some of them have been on Death Row more than a decade, and their appeals continue to circulate through the court system. It is obvious to me that the former governor of Pennsylvania only signed the more controversial death warrants so that they would be overthrown by the courts, because he did not want to accept capital punishment. I mentioned this to our local representative in the legislature and she replied, “I never thought of that. You may be right!” Yahweh has decreed that murderers should die (Genesis 9:5-6).

Let us return to Isaiah chapter 28, continuing to read with verse

16. ***“Therefore thus says the Sovereign Yahweh, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone of sure foundation: he that believes shall not be in haste.”***

The precious cornerstone is Yahshua. Undoubtedly, He is represented by those onyx stones on the shoulders of the High Priest. On these really hard stones are inscribed the names of the children of Israel. He that believes will not be in haste, but will be listening to the voice of Yahweh and patiently obeying His Covenant Law.

“And I will make justice the line, and righteousness the plummet....” There is the border, the line, which we cannot cross. The term for SIN in the Greek text means *to miss the mark*. The term sin in Hebrew is *chatta’a* means to overstep a line. Through justice and righteousness, Yahweh is causing His people to conform to His way of life.

“...And the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding-place. 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.” People were taught the falsehood that they have a never-dying immortal soul. They have made a covenant with death believing that they will never die. They imagine that they may burn forever in hell-fire but will, nevertheless, live forever, and the Almighty may allow them to escape from hell in the future. What does the Bible say? ***“... Which in its own times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Sovereign of Rulers; who only has immortality, dwelling in light unapproachable; whom no man has seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power eternal. Amen.”*** (1 Timothy 6:15-16).

“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.” (Isaiah 28:19).

Isaiah the prophet says in chapter 61, verse 8, ***“For I, Yahweh, love justice, I hate robbery with iniquity; and I will give them their recompense in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.”*** The prophet declares that Yahweh LOVES JUSTICE.

In Galatians chapter 5, we are again reminded of the good judgment that is to be had by obedience to Yahweh’s Covenant Law. ***“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law.”*** (Galatians 5:22-23). Good judgment will bring forth the fruits of the Holy Spirit. When we judge ourselves, we should not be judged. See 1 Corinthians 11:31. Yahweh’s Word—His Torah—provides good judgment and good regulations to direct our lives. Those who have implemented the good judgment, the Torah, and the spiritual regulation of our lives will prevent the destruction of Yahweh’s judgment from falling upon us, as He has predicted He will punish the wicked.

There is a law against the works of the flesh. The works of the flesh violate every one of the laws in Yahweh’s Covenant Law, as I have clearly shown in previous sermons. If you bring forth the works of the flesh, you will be in danger of Yahweh’s judgment and Gehenna fire. You will follow the Adversary into the sweeping destruction of the broom that will sweep sin from the whole world in the last days.

Let us take these messages to heart and change our lives so that we can be in harmony with Yahweh’s Word. Remember, against the fruits of the Spirit there is no Law. Yahweh will bless those who fulfill His Word, listening to the voice of His Word, and keeping His Law (Psalm 103:20). Will you be blessed by Yahweh for obedient actions? ^{SNB}

Faith & Love

Continued from page 6.

of them, says Yahweh: for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin will I remember no more.

Five points. First of all, faith in the grace of Yahweh to forgive sins. Do you have faith to keep Yahweh's Law and enter into the New Covenant? We better have that kind of faith, or we may eventually be taking up the mark of the Beast, and that means a certain death. Do you have faith in the blood of Yahshua to cleanse from sin? ***"...Whom Yahweh set forth to be a propitiation, through faith, in his blood, to show his righteousness because of the passing over of the sins formerly committed in the forbearance of Yahweh...."*** (Romans 3:25). Now this runs through my mind constantly. Faith in His blood will cleanse us from sin. It will be the blood covering over our sins.

Do you have faith in Yahweh to keep you in troublous times? 1 Peter, the first chapter, verse 5, speaking of the Assembly, says ***"...who by the power of Yahweh are guarded through faith to salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."*** 1 Peter 1:5. That's speaking about us. We are kept by the power of Yahweh through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time, just like the Apostles and the Prophets and the men of old. ***"In which you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been put to grief in manifold trials...."*** 1 Peter 1:6.

Why does Yahweh give us trials and testings? Because He wishes to know that when He gives us His great power in the last days that we won't misuse it. He wants to know if you will go on to the end. The Scriptures prophesy that, one of these days, we will be given a vast amount of power. We'll be able

to speak in various languages and communicate with other people. It may happen that we'll be taken up by the spirit and all of a sudden just be transported to Asia or Africa and set down in the middle of a baseball or cricket stadium and the spirit will say, "Preach to these people and warn them that an earthquake is about to destroy them"—just like Phillip in the eighth chapter of the book of Acts, and just like EliYah the prophet was transported by the Spirit.

What would happen to you if you were given that kind of power now? Now, you think about it. That's why we're tested and tried. The message of the Bible is "Give before you get." It's not pleasant to endure those trials, many of them. 1 Peter 1:7-9 says, ***"...that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which perishes though it is proved by fire, may be found to praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Yahshua the Messiah: whom not having seen you love; on whom, though now you see him not, yet believing, you rejoice greatly with joy unspeakable and full of glory: receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."*** That's the end of the Faith that we're looking for.

"Concerning which salvation the prophets sought and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come to you: searching what time or what manner of time the Spirit of the Messiah which was in them did point to, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of the Messiah, and the glories that should follow them. To whom it was revealed, that not to themselves, but to you, did they minister these things, which now have been announced to you through them that preached the good tidings to you by the Holy Spirit sent forth from heaven; which things angels desire to look into." (1 Peter 1:10-12). We can have faith to keep us in troublous times when we're tested and tried.

Let me show you that kind of faith in 1 Corinthians 15:14-15. ***"...And if the Messiah has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, and your faith is also vain. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of Yahweh; because we witnessed of Yahweh that he raised up the Messiah: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead are not raised."***

I don't have a vain faith and neither did those witnesses. I believe Yahshua was raised from the dead. ***"For if the dead are not raised, neither has the Messiah been raised: and if the Messiah has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are yet in your sins."*** (1 Corinthians 15:16-17). Maybe that's why people don't have an active faith. They have a vain faith. Maybe they don't believe in Yahshua's resurrection. Do you? ***"Then they also that have fallen asleep in the Messiah have perished. If we have only hoped in the Messiah in this life, we are of all men most pitiable."*** (1 Corinthians 15:18-19). How about you? Do you have faith in Yahweh's Word to raise us from the dead?

Why can't people live victorious lives? The answer is found in 1 John 5:4. ***"For whatever is begotten of Yahweh overcomes the world: and this is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith."*** People say, "I can't tear myself loose from a worldly life." Do you have faith in the Word of Yahweh? You can do it. You can begin to be a good, strong witness for Yahweh and for His Word. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world—that will drive out Babylon and Egypt from our lives and from our hearts.

Today I want to leave you with a prayer. I want to take that prayer from Luke 17:5. ***"And the apostles said to the teacher, Increase our faith."*** Short prayer. Short petition to Yahweh. We all need it. I need it. You need it. All the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh need it. ***"Master, increase our faith."*** ^{SNB}

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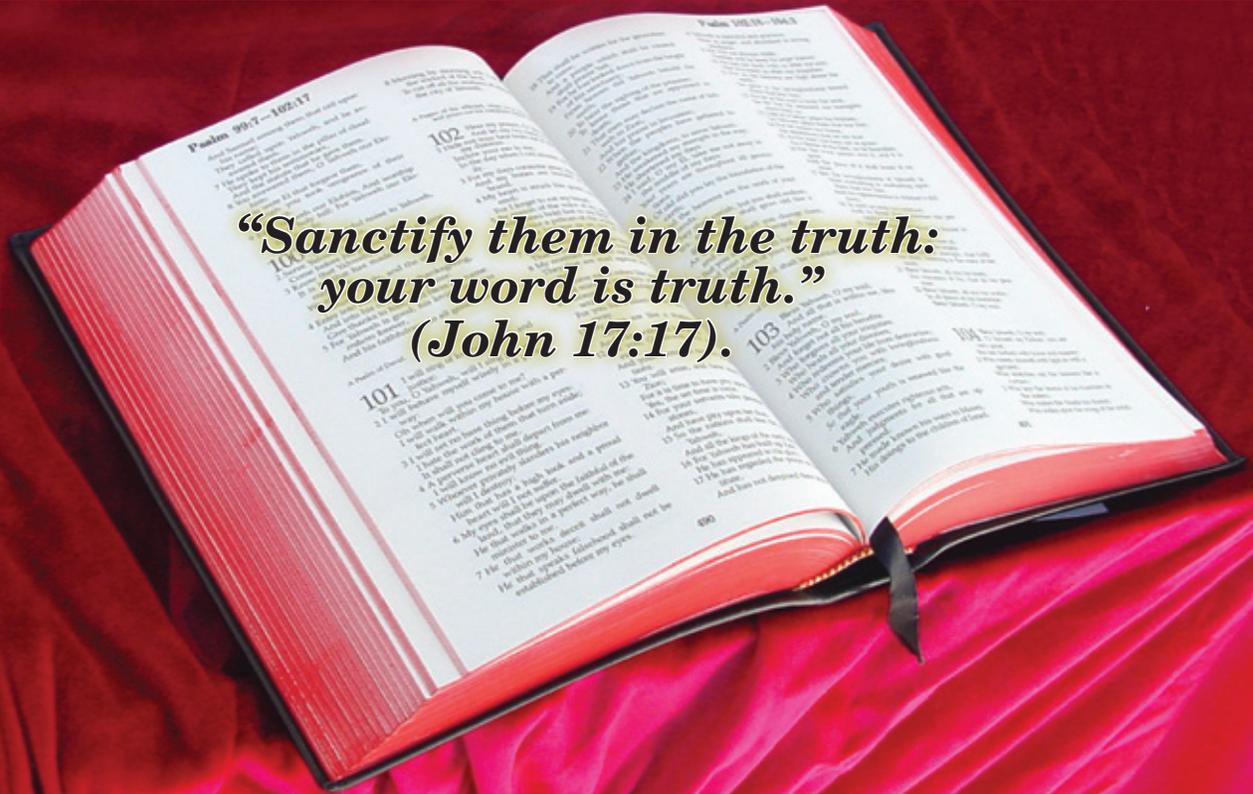
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