

THE
SACRED NAME
BROADCASTER

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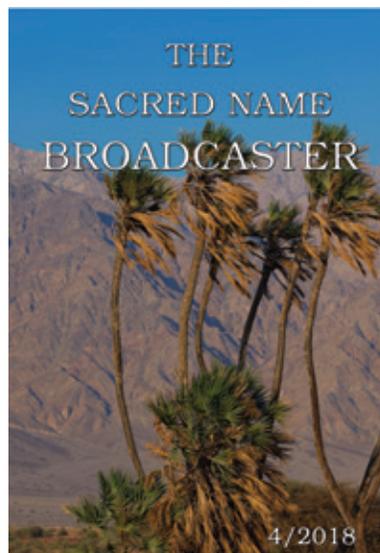
Be sure to listen to the Sacred Name Broadcast and watch the Sacred Name Telecast. Tell your friends! Also, streaming is available at your convenience at www.WMLKradio.net.

Our Cover:

This month's cover shows palm trees in southern Israel. When Yahweh brought Israel out of Egypt with great miracles and with an outstretched arm, He brought Israel to Elim, where there were 12 springs of water and 70 palm trees.

Today, Yahweh is leading us with an outstretched arm as well—onward to the Kingdom of Yahweh. Yahweh has commanded that we diligently keep His commandments, and, if we are fully observant, that it will be righteousness to us. "And it shall be righteousness to us, if we observe to do all this commandment before Yahweh our Elohim, as he has commanded us." (Deuteronomy 6:25).

"The righteous shall flourish like the palm-tree..." (Psalm 92:12a). Where will you be when Yahweh's Kingdom is set up here on earth?

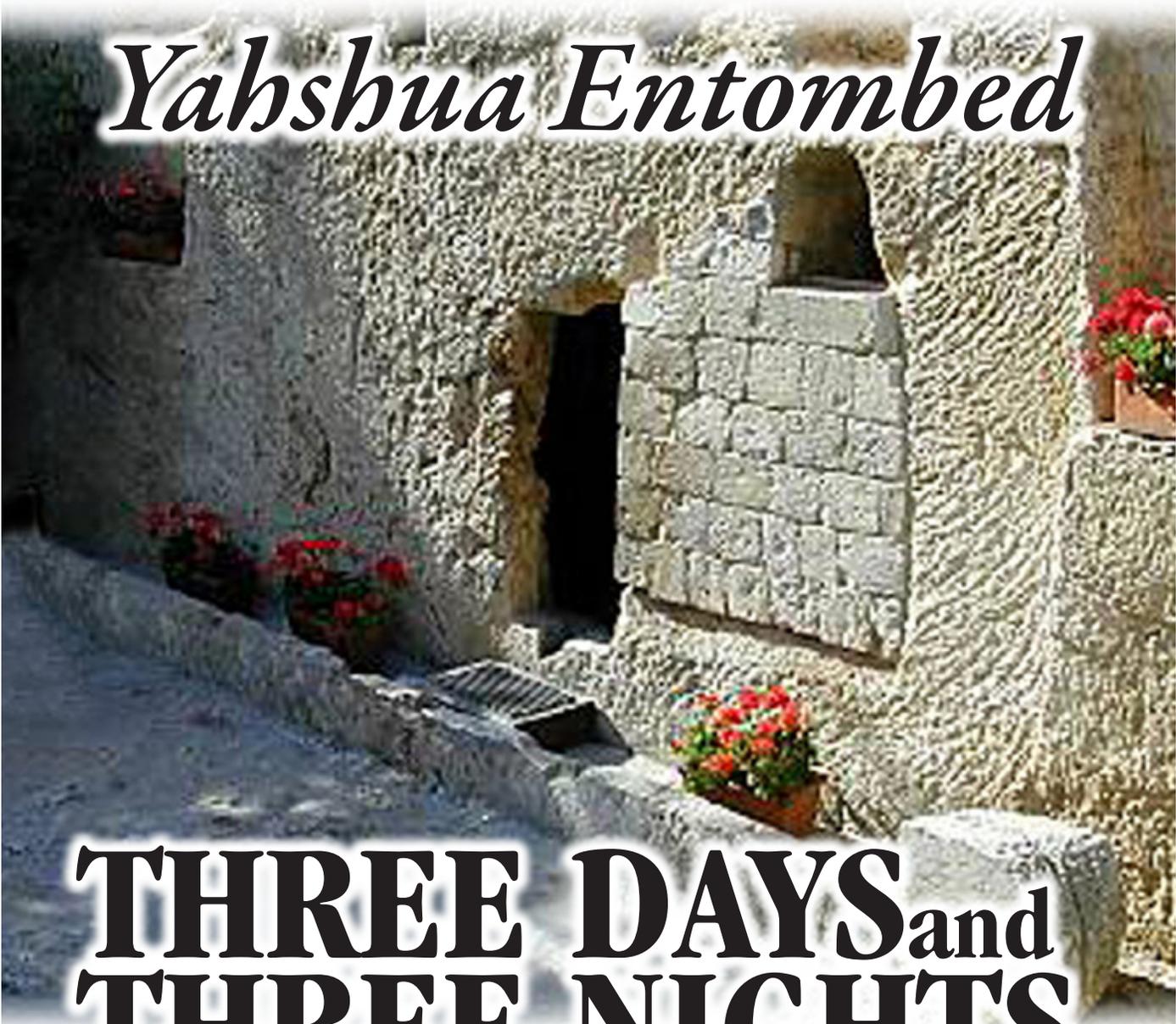


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Founder and Author: Elder Jacob O. Meyer



Yahshua Entombed

THREE DAYS and THREE NIGHTS

When the sincere Truth seeker begins to study the biblical text carefully to discover sound doctrine, he or she will soon discover that, in many crucial doctrines, plainly spoken passages clearly contradict the doctrines of chrchianity. What can be the reason for these discrepancies? Isn't the scriptural message plain for all to understand? Why shouldn't everybody who professes a faith in the Bible be in doctrinal harmony? The power of the Holy

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Spirit should produce universal unity. Why must people explain away forthright and plain-spoken passages from the Bible?

For example, the very words of our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, tell us that His dead body would rest entombed three days and three nights. He used the term *in the heart of the earth*. The *heart of the earth* served as

an idiomatic expression meaning *in the tomb*. Should we not accept that statement at face value, because it represents a forthright statement? Should we not allow the other scriptural passages to harmonize with it? The obvious answer is: We must follow the Truth of the Sacred Scriptures—nominal chrchianity, ecclesiastical councils, established dogmas, or theological declarations notwithstanding.

A Different Approach

The Assemblies of Yahweh diligently strives to achieve complete harmony within the Word of Yahweh. Yahshua the Messiah taught the unadulterated Truth of Yahweh's Word. ***"Sanctify them in the truth: your word is truth."*** (John 17:17). The Messianic teaching brought into doctrinal accord all of those who heard Yahshua speak and who humbly and sincerely allowed the Bible to correct them.

Yahshua the Messiah prayed for doctrinal unity among His followers. ***"That they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us: that the world may believe that you did send me."*** (John 17:21). Was His prayer answered—or was it not? Surely Yahweh answered His prayer!

The Apostolic Assembly followed these noble guidelines. ***"For in one spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether bond or free; and were all made to drink of one Spirit."*** (1 Corinthians 12:13). ***"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as you were also called in one hope of your calling: one Master, one faith, one baptism."*** (Ephesians 4:4-5).

Consequently, we must logically conclude that if there is **only one Holy Spirit**, coming from **one Heavenly Father**, and **one Messiah Yahshua** then those True Worshipers who faithfully follow that inspired Word will be drawn together in **one accord**—into perfect unity.

What about those people who persist in defending doctrines that plainly contradict biblical teachings? Can they also have the Holy Spirit of Almighty

**Let us determine
that we must
prove all things
and hold fast only
to that which is
good.**



"...Prove all things; hold fast that which is good...."

(1 THESSALONIANS 5:21).

Yahweh? Are they really in the one spiritual Body founded by the Messiah? Does *sound doctrine* actually matter all that much?

Giving thoughtful consideration to these questions, let us understand that we must follow the teachings of the Sacred Scriptures without reservation. Let us determine that we must prove all things and hold fast only to that which is good (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

What Did Messiah Teach About His Death?

Did our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, make His declaration in Matthew 12:40 for a specific reason? ***"For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish; so shall the Son of man be***

three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." The context of this passage records a controversy between various religious elements of Judaism who demanded to be shown a sign of the Messiah's supernatural authority and the true sign of Yahshua's Messiahship.

It is obvious that He referred His hearers back to the prophet Jonah for a specific reason. The reader must conclude that Yahshua's own death and burial corresponded closely to the experience of the prophet Jonah. Let us turn to the book of Jonah (that Old Testament prophet) to answer our questions concerning the reason Yahshua the Messiah related His own experience to him.

Yahshua's quote came directly from Jonah 1:17. ***"And Yahweh prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights."*** It should now be quite plain for us to note that this passage means that Jonah would be in the belly of the great fish for a PERIOD OF 72 HOURS, not more or less.

It should also be quite evident to us that Jonah considered the belly of the whale (or great fish) to be his grave. The psalm of Jonah (chapter 2) makes this very clear. ***"... I called by reason of my affliction to Yahweh, And he answered me; Out of the belly of SHEOL [Hebrew term for the common grave] cried I, And you heard my voice. For you cast me into the depth, in the heart of the seas, And the flood was all around me; All your waves and your billows passed over me. . . . The waters compassed me about, even to the soul; The deep was all around me; The [sea] weeds were wrapped around***

my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; The earth with its bars closed upon me forever: Yet have you brought up my life from the pit [the grave], O Yahweh my Elohim.” (Jonah 2:2-3, 5-6).

You will notice from verse 2 how Jonah indicates that he cried out of the belly—*Sheol*. *Sheol* refers to the COMMON GRAVE. A parallel term to this word appears in verse 6 with the word *pit* (Hebrew—*shachath*), meaning *a pit or corruption*. (See the perfect parallel appearing in Isaiah 38:17-18.)

It should then be very clear that Yahshua the Messiah wanted us to understand a crucial meaning from His burial in the tomb after His death. He CLEARLY directed our attention to the Old Testament and to the sign of Jonah to mean that He would spend three days and three nights (72 hours) in the tomb.

Jonah’s Sign Vitaly Important

Many times, people try to minimize, or ignore, the importance of what Yahshua intended to teach us. They somehow conclude that it just doesn’t matter how long Yahshua was in the tomb. Only the fact of His resurrection is significant, they protest. By viewing the impalement of Yahshua the Messiah and His resurrection in a much shorter period of time, they fail to perceive the lessons Yahshua the Messiah evidently sought to convey. The sign of Jonah was to be Yahshua’s one and only, absolute, and certain sign of His Messiahship. The time element is of vital importance, Yahshua intended us to understand. If the time He would spend in the tomb is in any way shortened,

Yahshua would not be the Messiah! We shall soon comprehend how highly important this sign really becomes.

Even at the very beginning of His ministry, Yahshua already referred to this exclusive sign that would prove Him to be the True Messiah. Turn to John 2:19-22. ***“Yahshua answered and said to them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. The Jews therefore said, Forty-six years was this temple in building, and will you raise it up in three days? But he spoke of the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he spoke this; and they believed the Scripture, and the word which Yahshua had said.”***

Yahshua obviously desired that the Jews understand an important lesson. Yahshua the Messiah emphasized to the Jews that they could not destroy His eternal life, established by His resurrection. Now, take into consideration what Yahshua said in Matthew 10:28. ***“And be not afraid of them that kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.”***

It is relatively easy for someone to take the life of another human. By inflicting a serious, mortal wound upon another person, life will soon ebb away. No human being can of himself restore a dead body to life once that spark of vitality and life, that cannot be duplicated, has ceased to exist in the body.

Yahshua’s Resurrection Power

Almighty Yahweh, within His realm of authority, holds the power to give life. There is no

other Being on the face of the earth, or in the universe, who can create life—but Father Yahweh Elohim. The Sacred Name of Yahweh comes very forcefully into focus in this instance. The Name of the Almighty is derived from the Hebrew verb of existence (the form is the third masculine singular imperfect *Hiphil* stem, causative). The Name of the Father in Heaven means *He who was, He who is, He who ever shall be*. See Revelation 1:8. Because He exists, He can confer or cause existence, human life, and eventually, eternal life to bless those who please Him.

Consequently, Yahshua the Messiah employed this sign of the prophet Jonah as His only sign of His Messiahship. The prophet Jonah had experienced a symbolic death and resurrection in his experience of being swallowed by the great fish. Similarly, with Yahshua dead in the tomb, there would be no hope except insofar as our Father in heaven, Yahweh Elohim, would resurrect Him. Indeed, at His death, Yahshua the Messiah had to trust His Father Yahweh completely to restore Him to life. Consequently, those who deny the resurrection, and especially the specific time it happened, actually **deny the Word, the power, and the authority of the Most High!** This doctrine takes on a most significant importance! One might compare its level of importance to the keeping of the biblical seventh-day Sabbath, which recognizes the creative authority of the most High, when His people worship on a specific day, the seventh-day Sabbath. Read Exodus 31:12-18.

Only a Theory?

Sometimes people come across

articles written by leaders or members of Christian denominations who desperately try to defend their untenable Friday impalement and Sunday resurrection doctrine. In the course of so doing, they attempt to minimize the clear statement regarding the three days and three nights in the tomb by calling it merely “a theory.” There is **no way** that anyone can harmonize the plain statement—72 hours, three days and three nights, in the tomb, with the faulty doctrine Christianity teaches—that Yahshua was in the tomb only approximately 36 hours. That shortened period allows for only about half the time that He Himself had declared would be His experience in the grave.

Proving the Doctrine

Can we truly **prove** the veracity of a full three days, three nights, period of time Yahshua the Messiah spent in the tomb? Upon the authority of the Word of Almighty Yahweh, we certainly can do so! Every related Scripture will harmonize.

To believe in a doctrine of a shorter stay in the tomb demands a deliberate **TWISTING** of the biblical text. The simple reason why popular religion in ancient times went in this direction undoubtedly related to the influence of the widespread devotion to sun worship. The sun experienced its resurrection at the beginning of each day. When remnants of the Apostolic Assembly apostatized and the Messianic worship was appropriated by the Babylonian priesthood to lend it credence, the doctrines of popular pagan religion were applied to the message of the Bible and proof-texted from the inspired Word.

When Roman Catholicism enters into an unevangelized area

to teach its doctrines, this religion assimilates many of the local pagan doctrines and traditions also. They apply those regional doctrines and superstitions to the biblical message and assert that they are trying to teach Truth by relating it to what the people already know. However, such an approach is **TOTALLY CONTRARY** to the directions Yahshua gave in the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20, where the true ministers of the Most High and His Messiah teach and preach Yahweh’s True Worship, correcting and instructing all those who are sincere. The True Messianic Faith must never tolerate false doctrine, nor compromise with plain biblical statements; conversely, Yahweh’s true ministers must teach the Truth to the world. Furthermore, doctrines cannot be proof-texted; conversely, they must be derived from plain, precise instructions in the Bible.

The Assemblies of Yahweh affirms that the true thread of sound doctrine in the Messianic Assembly, down through the ages, was never a part of Roman Catholicism. Even though the people who adhered to the doctrine of the Messiah were few and far between, the grave (*Sheol* and *Hades*) never completely prevailed against Yahshua’s True Assembly (Matthew 16:18). There were always faithful members alive at any given moment in history.

The Assemblies of Yahweh today strives to restore the True Worship of the Apostolic Assembly. We strive in all things to conform to the description of the Apostolic Assembly, who were anciently called the Nazarenes (Acts 24:5). We believe that the thread of sound doctrine preserved by the Nazarenes, who

remained outside of the religious mainstream, were never a part of nominal religion. Therefore, the Assemblies of Yahweh never emerged as a component part of the Reformation, and, by so doing, the unscriptural doctrines of nominal Christianity do not adhere to this organization. We follow the Lamb wherever He goes, believing what the Bible teaches and obeying it to the best of our ability by the power of the Holy Spirit.

How Much Evidence?

Frequently, those who try to undermine Yahshua’s sign of Messiahship, expressed in the three days and three nights doctrine, will insist that it is built on a very tenuous foundation. Some even claim that only two Scriptures prove it. (In this argument, they neglect to tell you that those two witnesses are firm and sure, Deuteronomy 17:6, 19:15-20, and Matthew 18:16.) However, under close examination, the false assertions of the critics will indeed forthwith disintegrate.

Yahshua’s Passion Week

It is our contention that one cannot understand the truth about the doctrine of three days and three nights (from the death of Yahshua the Messiah to His resurrection, **the time He spent in the tomb**), unless he is familiar with the feast days of Leviticus 23. **Not keeping the feast days** causes people to fabricate a **flawed doctrine**. Remember that the Holy Spirit of Yahweh is given to those who **OBEY** Him (Acts 5:32). Keeping the feast days of Yahweh is **quite necessary and significant** for many reasons, and here is yet another one of the reasons.

Almighty Yahweh told Israel to select their Passover lamb on the

One of the best rolling stone tombs, located south of Jerusalem.



tenth day of the first scriptural month (Exodus 12:3). Then, on the evening of the fourteenth of Abib, which means at dusk, sundown (in Hebrew the term is *bo'*—the GOING IN of the sun, Deuteronomy 16:6), Israel was instructed to kill the lamb. Over the years, the Jews changed these instructions by combining the Passover observance with the first holy day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the First High Day of the Feast. It is the opinion of the author that this was a contrived distortion to deny the veracity of the True Messiah.

Yahshua kept the Passover CORRECTLY. He ate the Old Testament Passover symbols before He instituted the renewed symbols of the True Passover Lamb of Yahweh that takes away the sins of the world. **“And**

he said to them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you BEFORE I SUFFER: for I say to you, I shall not eat it, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of Yahweh.” (Luke 22:15-16).

If you will read Luke 22:1, you will see there, **“... the feast of unleavened bread drew near, which is called the Passover.”** The Feast of Unleavened Bread—of seven days duration—came to be known by the day that preceded it, Passover, the day when Yahweh passed over the houses of Israel in Egypt, and His people were released from slavery.

This is very clearly established in John 13:1, which says, **“Now BEFORE THE FEAST of the Passover....”** Each instance in the Old Testament that explains

the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread informs us clearly that the Passover falls on the **fourteenth** day of Abib, and the **fifteenth** day is the Feast (not both falling partly on different days). Notice Leviticus 23:5-6 and Numbers 28:16-17. Therefore, the phrase *before the feast* would mean on Passover day itself—since the Passover is never anywhere in the Bible called the feast.

We may then readily conclude that Yahshua the Messiah was selected by Israel as their Passover lamb when they cried, “Hoshiana,” at His triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the tenth day of Abib. He spent His days thereafter teaching in the Temple, under the eyes of the Jews, while at night He went to Bethany, a small village just over

the crest of the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem. Compare Mark 11:11, 19; Luke 24:50-52; and Acts 1:12.

Confusion of Sabbaths

Yahshua the Messiah was impaled on the preparation for the Passover (as the Jews now keep it, John 19:31-42). You will notice how John clarifies this point by saying that the day, the Sabbath following the preparation, was a HIGH DAY. This term indicates that the preparation for the Sabbath means the preparation for one of Yahweh's ANNUAL Sabbaths. It was not the Sabbath of the seventh day of the week. Nor were these two Sabbaths, the annual and the weekly, combined in this particular year, as some misguided people believe. We shall prove that the annual holy day and the weekly Sabbath fell on different days.

Let us consider Luke 23:54-56. ***“And it was the day of the PREPARATION [the Passover Day, Abib 14], and the SABBATH [the feast holy day] drew on. And the women, who had come with him out of Galilee, followed after, and beheld the tomb, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.***

“***And on the SABBATH [the weekly seventh day] they rested according to the commandment.***”

By taking these steps in se-

quence, you will perceive that the day of Yahshua's impalement was the PREPARATION for a Sabbath.

Yahshua the Messiah died at approximately 3 o'clock in the afternoon. According to the Jewish time reckoning, this was the ninth hour of the day (Luke 23:44-49).

Thereupon, Joseph of Ari-

How frequently do we see people trying to defend a Friday impalement and Sunday resurrection, while neglecting these vitally important, yet very plain, points in the Sacred Scriptures.

mathea, a member of the Sanhedrin, upon observing Yahshua's death, went to Pilate (a journey of approximately a mile) to request the release of the body for burial. According to Jewish law, a corpse must be buried, if possible, on the same day of death, especially if a holy day follows. Now remember, it was approximately 3 o'clock in the afternoon, with sunset arriving at about 6:30 p.m.

Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate to request Yahshua's body for burial. Pilate then attempted to verify the fact that Yahshua the Messiah was indeed dead. The record of Mark shows that, when evening was rapidly approaching, Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate and asked for the body of Yahshua. But Pilate marveled—was amazed—that Yahshua was already dead.

Therefore, he sent for the centurion who had been placed in charge of the execution to come

and make his report in person. The centurion came to report directly to Pilate. When Pilate, the Roman governor, asked if He was dead already, the centurion assured him that indeed it was so, whereupon Pilate released Yahshua's corpse to Joseph. Joseph then hurriedly obtained a linen cloth and removed the body of Yahshua from the torture

stake, laying it in his own tomb. It was a new tomb carved out of solid rock, so the grave was already prepared. **This was his own new tomb, close by the place**

where Yahshua had been impaled (John 19:41 and Matthew 27:60). Closing the grave (sepulchre) was easy because a huge “rolling stone” had been prepared to block the entrance.

As Joseph of Arimathea, with Nicodemus, hurriedly placed the body of Yahshua in the garden tomb, the women who had followed Yahshua from Galilee watched the process to mark the place where He was laid. As the sun was now almost setting, they evidently hurried home. It would have been **impossible** for them to obtain the necessary spices and ointments and then prepare them for embalming, because this new day was an annual Sabbath and holy day. They knew they would have been in violation of Yahweh's commandments to do business on the high Sabbath, and, furthermore, the merchants' shops were now closed in celebration of this annual Sabbath. Addition-

ally, it was necessary for Joseph of Arimathea and his helpers to cleanse themselves from contact with a corpse before sundown.

The Women Prepare to Embalm the Body

Consequently, it was necessary on the day after the annual Sabbath for the women to go out and purchase spices and ointments, prepare them, and then to rest on the following day which was also a Sabbath—the weekly, seventh-day Sabbath.

How frequently do we see people trying to defend a Friday impalement and Sunday resurrection, while **neglecting these vitally important, yet very plain, points** in the Sacred Scriptures.

But how many people will read over these passages and even question why the women did not then embalm the body of Yahshua on the day between the high day Sabbath and the weekly Sabbath? The answer becomes obvious by turning to Matthew 27:62-66. ***“Now on the next day, which is the day after the Preparation [the annual First High Day of the Feast], the chief priests and the Pharisees were gathered together to Pilate, saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said while he was yet alive, After three days I rise again. Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest might his disciples come and steal him away, and say to the people, He is risen from the dead: and the last error will be worse than the first. Pilate said to them, You have a guard: go, make it as sure as you can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, the guard being with them.”***

It was evidently late on the afternoon of the high day (Thursday) when the leaders of Judaism felt compelled to take action to ensure the security of the tomb. Even though it was a high day—a day reserved for worship—they had to be sure that the body of Yahshua the Messiah would not be stolen by His loyal disciples and a resurrection counterfeited. Therefore, they asked Pilate to post a guard of Roman soldiers until after the third day, so no contrived resurrection could be possible. Furthermore, an official Roman seal was affixed to the stone.

Consequently, it becomes immediately clear that **the women could not have entered the tomb on the day between the Sabbaths** (the annual holy day and the weekly Sabbath), because they found Roman soldiers standing guard before the door with a Roman seal affixed to the stone. Anyone tampering with a Roman seal was liable for immediate death. Nevertheless, it was imperative that the proper embalming of Yahshua’s body take place as soon as possible. The women planned to obtain entrance into the tomb at the earliest possible opportunity after the guard would be withdrawn.

Therefore, Matthew 28:1 comes into focus. By a careful reading of this verse, you will comprehend a new thought. The Sabbath was drawing to a close, and the women went to see the sepulchre, the grave of the Messiah. **Yahshua the Messiah was not resurrected at the moment as the women watched, as some Christians erroneously believe. The women evidently went to the sepulchre to determine how soon the Roman guard would be withdrawn.**

Otherwise, it would have been possible to embalm the body of Yahshua with the use of lamps immediately after the Sabbath had ended. But they were evidently informed that the guard would be withdrawn sometime on the morning of the first day of the week. You will also notice that **none of the women saw the Messiah being resurrected or leaving the tomb.**

This is the reason why the women went to the garden tomb early in the morning on the first day of the week, as the evangelists record for us. John even says that the visit occurred before the actual break of day. While it was still dark, Miriam Magdalene arrived at the tomb (John 20:1). In each instance, the women were met by the angels who informed them—“He is not here, He is risen! Come see the place where He lay.” Therefore, the resurrection had occurred just at sundown, at the very moment the weekly seventh-day Sabbath ended.

Statement that Confounds Theologians—Now Harmonized

Not **harmonizing the Bible** throughout, from Genesis to Revelation, as we have seen, sometimes causes people to make **serious errors in doctrine.** Even within a passage, there are times when significant facts are overlooked by theologians who form doctrines to support the status quo (perhaps intentionally). Such is clearly the case with the explanation they give of Luke 24 concerning the account of the two men traveling from Jerusalem to Emmaus.

As these men were walking along and discussing the events that had occurred in Jerusalem, a stranger joined their company.

They were traveling about 60 furlongs (slightly less than eight miles) from Jerusalem to Emmaus. After the stranger expressed interest in the events that had occurred in Jerusalem, Cleopas (one of the travelers) recapitulated for him what had happened, concluding with, ***“...Yes and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things came to pass.”*** (Luke 24:21).

Seizing upon this seemingly foolproof Scripture to prove their faulty theory of a Friday impalement and Sunday resurrection, people then begin counting backwards. “The third day since” would SEEM to indicate the veracity of a Friday impalement and a Sunday resurrection. But will this idea really prove out?

Scrutinizing the context carefully, we discover that the two men, as they walked, communed with each other of **ALL** (note this term) these things which had happened, verse 14. If they discussed **each event in specific** during their conversation, examining each incident that had happened during the suffering and death of Yahshua the Messiah, and, finally, explaining how His body had been placed in the tomb, they would have also discussed how the Roman guard was placed and **the sealing of the tomb described in Matthew 27:62-66**. As we pointed out previously, this decision by Pilate to assign soldiers to guard the tomb, at the urging of the religious authorities in Jerusalem, took place **late on Thursday afternoon**. The soldiers were to remain in place until **after the third day of Yahshua’s entombment**.

Actually, by counting backward, the third day **since all** these things happened would

more clearly indicate at the very least a **THURSDAY IMPALEMENT**, rather than the death of Yahshua the Messiah during the middle of Friday afternoon. Nevertheless, **the very last thing that happened was the sealing of the tomb and the setting of the Roman guard**. Thus, a Wednesday impalement and burial of Yahshua the Messiah is again **PROVEN** by **COUNTING BACKWARD!**

Cleopas continues by saying that, when the women arrived early at the tomb on the first day of the week, **they did not find the Messiah’s body**, reporting that a **vision of angels had appeared to them**, informing them that Yahshua was **resurrected**. This, in itself, is sufficiently strong evidence to reject a Sunday-morning resurrection, since, **when the women arrived, the resurrection had already taken place sometime earlier**. Again, we point out strongly that **the women did not see Yahshua being resurrected!** (Now consider the folly and irony of so many churches conducting Easter sunrise services!)

Old Testament Provides Precedent

When Yahshua the Messiah had heard the travelers to Emmaus describing the events of the previous week, He said to them, ***“... O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary the Messiah to suffer these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning from Moses and from all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”*** (Luke 24:25-27).

Later, Yahshua the Messiah appeared to His disciples and

said: ***“And he said to them, These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was yet with you, that all things must needs be fulfilled, which are written in the law of Moses, and the prophets, and the psalms, concerning me. Then he opened their mind, that they might understand the Scriptures; and he said to them, In this manner it is written, that the Messiah should suffer, and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”*** (Luke 24:44-47).

In Deuteronomy 18:15-19, we find a passage quoted by Peter and John in Acts 3:22-26. Pay close attention also to verse 24.

“Yahweh your Elohim will raise up to you a prophet from among you, of your brethren, like to me; to him you shall listen; according to all that you desired of Yahweh your Elohim in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of Yahweh my Elohim, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I do not die, And Yahweh said to me, They have well said that which they have spoken. I will raise them up a prophet from among their brethren, like you; and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass, that whoever will not listen to my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.” (Deuteronomy 18:15-19).

Isaiah chapter 53 is a very explicit passage describing the Messiah’s suffering and death to

atone for the sins of His people. This most irrefutable chapter the Jews usually avoid in their readings, or they interpret it in some other way (which is impossible), to avoid accepting the True Messiah. Read this passage and note carefully how heavily the Apostles of the New Testament depended upon it to prove the Messianic claim of Yahshua the Messiah. See Acts chapter 8, etc. Psalms 2 and 110 are major Messianic passages.

Zechariah 12:10 is also a Messianic Scripture. ***“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplication; and they shall look to me whom they have pierced; and they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his first-born.”*** As you read this verse carefully, you will note that the first person pronoun appears (...look upon me...), which authentically appears in the Old Testament text. The Jews believe a reigning Messiah (Messiah, son of David) will come. Therefore, they reject the concept that a suffering Messiah (Messiah, son of Joseph) has already appeared. Nevertheless, if we accept the Bible as inspired, we must believe in the veracity of this passage.

The Prophet Daniel Speaks

The prophet Daniel also makes a very revealing statement regarding how and when the Messiah was to die. Verse 26 of chapter 9 reads, ***“And after the sixty-two sevens shall the anointed one [the Messiah] be cut off...”*** According to the prophecy in the ninth chapter of

The Jews believe a reigning Messiah (Messiah, son of David) will come. Therefore, they reject the concept that a suffering Messiah (Messiah, son of Joseph) has already appeared. Nevertheless, if we accept the Bible as inspired, we must believe in the veracity of this passage.

Daniel, 70 weeks (Hebrew—*sevens*, or cycle of Sabbatical years) are determined upon Jerusalem. The first seven weeks, or 49 years (since the seven refers to a Sabbatical cycle), pointed toward the reconstruction of the Temple, as we find in the books of Zechariah, Haggai, and Zephaniah. The wall and the city were rebuilt in very troublous times, which can be proven by reading the books of Ezra and Nehemiah. After the next 62 sevens (after the cycles

totaling 434 years), the Messiah was to be cut off.

Much confusion has taken place regarding the correct interpretation of the Book of Revelation. Specified there is a period of 42 months, 1,260 days, comprising 3 1/2 years. Other prophecies of the Bible concur with this 3 1/2-year time period at the end of the age.

Consequently, Yahshua the Messiah was to die AFTER 69 weeks of years (sevens, Sabbatical cycles), which would indicate that He was to fulfill the first half of the last seven-year Sabbatical time cycle (3 1/2 years). Yahshua the Messiah caused the sacrifice and oblation to cease after 3 1/2 years, in the middle of the week of years, verse 27. In addition, Yahshua the Messiah's death occurred in the middle of a literal week. He died on the middle day of the week, on what is now called Wednesday. Furthermore, the True Messiah, Yahshua, would have fulfilled all of the prophecies about Him if the people had accepted Him and the Kingdom could have been forthwith established. The anti-Messiah, or man of sin, will fulfill the last half of the week of sevens, as predicted in the Book of Revelation, because the world did not receive the True Messiah Yahshua. This time period will occur after the 70th Jubilee, because this will occur at the end of the age.

Sun Worship Influence

Celebrating the resurrection of Yahshua the Messiah at sunrise on Sunday morning is derived directly from paganism. With few exceptions, the people of the ancient nations regularly worshiped the sun. The average person, in his ignorance, was steeped in superstition; therefore,

the ancient peoples went in the direction of worshiping nature to illustrate the supernatural (Romans 1). The ancient religion, simply stated, was “father sun lying on mother earth, and that produced fruit.” This concept the pagans believed wholeheartedly, along with a host of different variations, and they depicted these concepts in their religious rituals.

Such abominable sun worship practices, in which the Canaanites indulged, served as an enticement to lead astray ancient Israel. Many times, the Israelites yielded to the influence of their idolatrous neighbors. They placed the horses and chariots of the sun in the Temple (2 Kings 23:11) in one recorded assimilation of the idolatry practiced by surrounding nations.

Yahweh announced to Ezekiel the prophet that any worship of the sun constitutes an abomination (meaning something most repulsive) in His eyes. Ezekiel was to take this message to Israel: **“And he brought me into the inner court of Yahweh’s house; and behold, at the door of the temple of Yahweh, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men, with their backs toward the temple of Yahweh, and their faces toward the east; and they were worshiping the sun toward the east.”** (Ezekiel 8:16).

When someone worshiped before, or toward, the Temple of Yahweh, they worshiped facing toward the WEST. The priests who were serving between the porch and the altar had turned their backs to the Temple of Yahweh (His True Worship), and they were now worshiping the rising sun TOWARD THE EAST. Yahweh’s people must be careful never to do this!

ABIB

FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH	SIXTH	SABBATH
				1 <small>New Year New Moon</small>	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 <small>Pentecost</small>	15 <small>First High Sabbath</small>	16	17
18 <small>Day 1</small>	19 <small>Day 2</small>	20 <small>Day 3</small>	21 <small>Day 4 Second High Sabbath</small>	22 <small>Day 5</small>	23 <small>Day 6</small>	24 <small>Day 7</small>
25 <small>Day 8</small>	26 <small>Day 9</small>	27 <small>Day 10</small>	28 <small>Day 11</small>	29 <small>Day 12</small>	30 <small>Day 13</small>	

Counting Correct Pentecost Date

We learn that the Holy Spirit of Almighty Yahweh is given to those who obey the commandments of Yahweh (Acts 5:32 and John 14:15-26). To receive the Holy Spirit, we must obey the sound doctrines of the Sacred Scriptures and worship on the correct days specified by the Almighty, as Yahweh instructs us. Yahweh will reject those who maintain false doctrine. Pentecost day must be COUNTED from the day the sickle is put to the standing grain.

“And you shall roast and eat it in the place which Yahweh your Elohim shall choose: and you shall turn in the morning, and go to your tents. Six days you shall eat unleavened bread; and on the seventh day shall be a solemn assembly to Yahweh your Elohim; you shall do no work in it.

“Seven weeks shall you

number to yourself: FROM THE TIME YOU BEGIN TO PUT THE SICKLE TO THE STANDING GRAIN SHALL YOU BEGIN TO NUMBER SEVEN WEEKS. And you shall keep the feast of weeks to Yahweh your Elohim with a tribute of a freewill-offering of your hand, which you shall give, according as Yahweh your Elohim blesses you: and you shall rejoice before Yahweh your Elohim, you, and your son, and your daughter, and your manservant, and your maidservant, and the Levite that is within your gates, and the sojourner, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are in the middle of you, in the place which Yahweh your Elohim shall choose, to cause his name to dwell there. And you shall remember that you were a bondman in Egypt: and you shall observe and do these statutes.” (Deuteronomy 16:7-12).

The Jews, today, count toward Pentecost from the 16th day of the first scriptural month, making their Feast of Pentecost observance fall on different days around the week from one year to the next. Leviticus 23:9 tells us that it must be counted from the day after the weekly Sabbath, and we must end our count on a Sabbath day. Pentecost day (the 50th day) always falls on the first day of the week. In other words, **seven full weeks must be counted**. The 50th day falls on the first day of the week and begins a new cycle of sevens. It represents a new harvest.

Yahshua's resurrection designates the correct day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was given. You should now be able to perceive more clearly why the resurrection of Yahshua was so specified by the Messiah. Man can certainly predict the day of his own death and carry out his evil plot by suicide. But no one can predict the day of his resurrection, because, without the blessing of life from Almighty Yahweh, it is impossible to resurrect a dead body. Almighty Yahweh holds the gift of life within His authority. He gave life to His obedient Son by resurrecting Him on the very day when the standing grain offering—the *omer*—was cut. Therefore, Yahshua represents the first of the first fruits of a new harvest.

When Miriam Magdalene went to the garden tomb and was unable to locate the body of Yahshua, a man walked by. She mistook Him to be the gardener until He spoke to her, whereupon she recognized Him as her resurrected Messiah, Yahshua. Why did she confuse Him with the gardener? The answer is quite simple for those who keep Yah-

weh's holy days. Yahshua the Messiah had evidently cut the last wave sheaf of actual grain and intended to offer it, with Himself having been resurrected, to Almighty Yahweh. Whereupon He presented Himself to Almighty Yahweh as the fulfillment of this type on that very specific day, **on the first day of the week when the wave sheaf (the *omer*) was offered**. Please compare Matthew 28:9 with John 20:17.

Roman Calendar Days Confuse

Remember, we cannot have Yahweh's Holy Spirit if we do not worship in thanksgiving on the same day it was given.

In reading over various items of literature that contend for the Friday impalement and Sunday resurrection, one is almost immediately impressed by the fact that the writers NEGLECT to understand the **difference between the biblical time and the Roman time** under which we are presently living. The biblical days begin and end with sunset. Genesis 1 proves this fact conclusively. Leviticus 23:32 and Mark 1:32 support it.

The Roman day begins at midnight, or, generally speaking, at dawn when a person arises. He thinks of the day being from sunrise to bedtime that night, or up to the following sunrise, rather than as Yahweh instituted at Creation—from evening to evening (Leviticus 23:32).

By not keeping Yahweh's holy days of Leviticus 23, the theologians—who should take into account the firm statements of the Bible—neglect to perceive that importance. They wrest the Scriptures to support the keeping of Sunday, rather than keeping the biblical seventh-day Sabbath

which Almighty Yahweh has enjoined. They keep holidays which were once pagan observances, rather than keeping the feast days of Leviticus 23, days which portray the plan of salvation and picture Yahshua the Messiah and His atonement sacrifice for the sins (transgressions of the Law) of the people of the entire world.

When Yahshua predicted that He would be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth (the tomb), **he meant precisely three full days and three full nights**. He did not mean parts of three days! In no way can anyone ever count 72 hours from a Friday impalement to a Sunday morning resurrection. Nevertheless, when the passages are encountered which say “the third day,” such a term does not in any way alter the expressed, specific statement that Yahshua made, “three days and three nights,” which reflects the prophecy of Jonah. Three days and three nights represents 72 hours, NO LESS OR NO MORE!

Summary

As we have seen, by harmonizing the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, we discover that Yahshua the Messiah was impaled on the day that is now designated as Wednesday, the day in the very middle of the seven-day week. Yahshua's ministry extended for 3 1/2 years, proving again that He was the True Messiah.

When Yahshua died, at the end of the day called Wednesday, at sundown, His body was placed in the tomb, and the stone quickly rolled before the door. Very soon thereafter (at sundown), the first holy day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread arrived when no work could be done. At the end of that High



Golgotha, the place of the skull. Just outside the walls of Jerusalem, this stone outcropping bears the unusual likeness of a human skull.

Day, the priests went to Pilate and requested that a guard be posted at Yahshua's sepulchre and the stone sealed. The guard would have been withdrawn after the three days and three nights during which Yahshua had specified He would be in the tomb.

During the day on which labor is allowed, falling between the annual High Day (Thursday) and the weekly Sabbath (on the seventh day of the week), the women prepared their embalming spices and ointments to finish the burial of Yahshua. Unable to enter the tomb because of the Roman guard and affixed seal, they had to wait until the guard

would be withdrawn. Therefore, they returned at early dawn on the first day of the week but found the tomb empty. At that time, they saw a vision of angels telling them that Yahshua was alive—resurrected from the dead—and no longer there. No one saw Yahshua until some time after His resurrection.

You must make a decision. The strong, conclusive evidence has now been presented. This evidence you have just studied completely refutes the keeping of Sunday as honoring Yahshua's resurrection. It clearly refutes the association of the rising sun with the sacrifice of Yahshua the Messiah. It separates between

pagan worship and the True Worship of Almighty Yahweh. It absolutely proves Yahshua's Messiahship. It demonstrates the true sacrifice of the Messiah and His atonement. It also specifically designates the day on which the Holy Spirit was given on the Feast of Weeks.

We hope you will study this subject carefully, and see what we have seen. Then, accept what the Bible plainly teaches so you may be obedient to the Will of the Most High Yahweh Elohim. He will not bless you with salvation unless you withdraw from the false doctrines of the worldly religious system. Do so without delay!

SNB



The Sacred Name Broadcast

RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

EASTER

If you are in **any way** interested in RELIGION, you are virtually a **unique person** in our society today. If you are reading the Bible regularly, proving its veracity to yourself, that it means what it says, that its message is consistent from Genesis to Revelation, and if you are trying to obey it to the best of your ability, you are really a most exceptional, or unusual, person indeed. You might even be characterized as quite a rare specimen!

Almost everyone you meet today seems bent on pursuing only one course; that is, they are seeking a good time, worldly pleasure, materialism, or satisfaction of their carnal lusts. One can surely notice how many people are only **enduring life** so they can go on a drinking bout during the weekend. Many seem to exist only for vacation time. Life seems so boring, and the minutes between coffee breaks appear to drag by so slowly. If you have developed a zest for living and a purpose in life, **you are indeed a rare individual!** If you love the Sacred Scriptures,

you are in a very small category indeed!

When we read the Bible, it is quite difficult at first to let go of our past ideas. We usually find ourselves reading some established concept into the biblical message. Why is it that **plain statements** directly from the Scriptures are ignored, while concepts which are NOT TAUGHT in its pages seem to be proof-texted and preached from almost every pulpit?

For instance, take the subject of the annual holy days that are commanded in the inspired Scriptures, versus the days which are commonly observed by most people of the world today. For example, did you know that, in the only instance where the world **Easter** is mentioned in the Bible, it should have been translated "PASSOVER"? This passage is found in Acts 12:4. Most Bibles merely offer the correction in the margin. In the Greek text, the word that appears is *Pascha*, and it is derived from the Hebrew word *Pasach*, meaning *the Passover*.

Don't you think that it is very strange indeed that the word "Easter" is NEVER ONCE USED in the New Testament Greek or Aramaic texts in connection with our Savior's resurrection? Certainly you would imagine that it would be employed by several of the writers of the account of our Savior's resurrection, but **only silence emanates from their pens regarding this word.**

In my Bible studies, in addition to texts in the original languages, I have used what I consider to be perhaps the best study Bible on the market: the **Companion Bible**. In the note on the word **Easter**, allow me to read what Dr. E. W. Bullinger, the compiler, has written in the margin. "Easter. Greek 'to Pascha,' the Passover. Easter **is a heathen term**, derived from the Saxon g-ddess 'Easter,' the same as Astarte, THE SYRIAN VENUS, called ASHTORETH in the Old Testament." My studies over almost a quarter century have proven this statement to be entirely accurate and truthful. Have you ever checked diction-

aries or encyclopedias for such terms?

Here is the etymology of the term that appears in the **Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language**, Second College Edition. "ME. *ester* < OE. *eastre*, pl. *eastron*, spring, Easter; orig., name of pagan vernal festival almost coincident in date with paschal festival of the ch-rch < *Eastre*, dawn g-ddess < PGmc. **Austro* (whence G. *Ostern*): see EAST."

When I find facts such as these, I think that it is alarming! Do you mean to tell me, Dr. Bullinger (and others), that modern-day people have been guilty of **idol worship** and are using the inspired Scriptures to support it? I can imagine Dr.

Bullinger (and other authorities) replying, if he were still alive, "Yes, **that is exactly what I said.**" Not only has Dr. Bullinger said this but so has Dr. Alexander Hislop; an Episcopalian minister: Dr. Alfred Edersheim; the historian Flavius Josephus; and many other writers, who have succeeded in **stripping away** the mysterious mantle with which modern Christian theology has so skillfully **covered over (veiled) the Truth.** When I dig up gems such as the one I read to you from the pages of the **Companion Bible**, and the etymology in the **Webster's Dictionary**, I do some added research on the subject and follow the leads which I find. Do you do the same?

Astarte, Easter, Ishtar, Ostera, was a commonly-worshiped female mighty one of **fertility** in ancient Middle Eastern civilizations. In mythology, she was closely affiliated with Baal (L-rd). It is certainly strange how much ancient religions all resembled one another. In view of this resemblance, it is not difficult at all to trace all religions (as practiced by the **ancient pagans**) to the worship of Nimrod and his wife-mother Semarimis. Satan the devil employed this unscriptural worship to produce a counterfeit of the True Worship which was observed by the ancient Hebrews. The modern doctrines—which are so vehemently defended by modern Christian clergy—are **not found in the Bible at all**, although most people ASSUME that they are. They are derived from the traditions of ancient

Babylon and Assyria, from the worship in which those ancients engaged, and are CONDEMNED, in no uncertain terms, **by Almighty Yahweh in His Word.**

Have you ever wondered why the world uses eggs, bunnies, baby chicks, and even hot cross buns at Easter? Nowhere in the Bible can the student ever find that these articles were used or commanded as symbols of our Savior, or His resurrection, nor did the Apostles ever hide eggs, engage in Easter egg rolls, or give Easter baskets to their children. (How hilarious that suggestion sounds!) At no time in the book of Acts did the Apostles ever observe Easter sunrise services, nor do we find them leading their congregations outside the place of meeting to decorate an Easter egg tree! (Perhaps today's ministers are more liberated—or is it merely liberal?) Yet, these worldly symbols **do mean something!** They are an annual throwback to the ancient fertility rites about which Yahshua the Messiah and His Apostles warn the True Worshipers NOT to engage in again after having been washed in the cleansing waters of baptism. See Galatians 4:8–11.

Ancient idolatrous worship was completely wedded to glorifying the sun, the solar disc. In the springtime, the ancient people devoted a feast to fertility, attempting to influence their mighty ones to grant them a fertile growing season so that crops would be luxurious and bring forth a bountiful harvest. In association with this fertility rite, eggs were used at the time when the Mighty One Easter was worshiped. The ancient account about the origin of Astarte relates that a giant egg had fallen from heaven and landed in the Euphrates river. The fish pushed the



Figurine of Astarte with a horned headdress, Louvre Museum

egg to the shore, and it hatched there to become the mighty one Easter, Astarte, or Venus. The mythical origin of Aphrodite, the Greek mighty one, has a somewhat similar origin, in that she is reported to have been formed from sea foam.

Did you ever hear of rabbits laying eggs? Each Easter, millions of children are encouraged to believe this outrageous **fallacy!** As a matter of fact, one of the author's teachers in grade school once asked each child in the class to come forward and whisper in her ear if they thought rabbits did, or did not, lay eggs. We were never told how many answered in the affirmative, but, obviously, some of the little children believed this lie.

In mythology, the rabbit symbolizes fecundity (ability to reproduce rapidly), because this animal species multiplies at such a rapid rate. The egg is also a fertility symbol. It takes a relatively short time for an egg to hatch into a chick, and this normally happened in the spring of the year in ancient times before these reproductive cycles were manipulated.

The hot cross buns, which are so popular around Easter, are also a left-over remnant from pagan worship. Significantly, the same identical word "buns" was used in ancient Athens, **1,500 years before the Messianic era, in the worship of the "queen of heaven."** This is quite an enlightening (or startling) study in itself!

The prophet Jeremiah, in the second chapter of his prophecy, speaks about the worship of the queen of heaven. Also, in chapter 7, verses 17-19, we

read, "*See you not what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? The children gather wood,*

Can any man in his right mind not acknowledge in the affirmative that the Bible is correct, that Almighty Yahweh is condemning sin with concrete reasons, and that something went wrong somewhere with Christian theology?

and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead the dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, to pour out drink-offerings to other elohim, that they may provoke me to anger. Do they provoke me to anger? says Yahweh; Do they not provoke themselves, to the CONFUSION [Babylon] of their own faces?"

Would you believe a queen of heaven was worshiped in the Land of Israel over 600 years before the Messianic era and over 2,000 years before the doctrine of the bodily assumption of the virgin was formally defined by Roman Catholicism in 1950? One wonders how there could be a queen of heaven for such a span of time **before there was a "Virgin Mary!"** Who, then, was the mighty one reigning as the **queen of heaven** in Jeremiah's time? How is it that in the time of Jeremiah the practice

is **strongly CONDEMNED** as pagan, a reference to mighty ones other than to the True Mighty One Yahweh that the Jewish people worshiped, yet, in our time, Christianity still teaches similar doctrines? Yahweh Himself accuses the people of being **CONFUSED in their own minds.**

Can any man in his right mind not acknowledge in the affirmative that the Bible is correct, that Almighty Yahweh is condemning sin with concrete reasons, and that **something went wrong somewhere with Christian theology?** It is time that you, as a thinking person, begin to open your eyes (and mind), and do some general research at the public library, and in the Bible, and, then, reach a reasoned decision.

If you look at the facts with the eye of logic and reason, as did such notable Bible students as Doctors Bullinger, Edersheim, and Hislop, you will have to acknowledge the pagan origin of yet another doctrine which is currently embraced by most people of our world today.

Another interesting study to make relates to the **cross**. Since the **cross** is imprinted on the hot cross buns, it must originate from somewhere. Did you know that our **Savior did not die upon a cross** with outstretched arms but on a stake or pole driven in the ground with His hands nailed over His head? It is a fact that the word which has been translated *cross* means *an upright pole*, and it **does not at all** convey the idea of a timber set with a cross piece nailed at right angles. The cross was a **phallic symbol**—it was a sign of the sun worship in which the

pagans engaged in most ancient times. Those readers who have studied biology know that the cross is the sign of the female sex, hence you can readily perceive the association with the observance of the Easter celebration.

In Acts 20:6, we find an additional reference wherein the Apostles are observing the Feast of Unleavened Bread. They are found to be “breaking bread,” which does not mean, as so many people assume, the eating of the Savior’s last supper on Sunday. **IT MEANS THE BREAKING OF THE UNLEAVENED BREAD WHICH IS EATEN FOR SEVEN DAYS.** The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 10:16 says, **“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of the Messiah? The bread which we BREAK [hard bread, not soft leavened bread], is it not a communion of the body of the Messiah?”** The only bread which is BROKEN is the unleavened bread, because it is hard and cannot be easily cut with a knife. You must BREAK it in order to eat it. This unleav-

ened bread is the symbol of our Savior’s broken body. When we eat it for a week, we symbolically cleanse our habitations of leaven just as we symbolically cleanse our hearts and lives of all false doctrine which leads to SIN.

“And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free,” explains our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, in John 8:32. The truth about the origins of the customs which are followed by most of the people of the world today are common knowledge with many ministers who have studied in the seminaries. We wonder why they have not informed their congregations of these facts, except that they intend to maintain the status quo. I recall one letter I received from a minister some time ago. **“I know that what you are preaching is the truth, Elder Meyer,”** the letter began. **“But you must watch what you say over the air, or you’ll get the people stirred up.”** Do you know what I replied? I said, **“I think that it is about time the people knew the truth, even if it means stirring them up!”**

How about yourself? Would you like to be FREE from the religious customs that drag you downward, customs which Almighty Yahweh contends are confusing and an abomination to Him? Would you like to really get to learn the Bible and to obey ALL of Yahweh’s commandments instead of merely giving lip service to them?

The Bible is a book which is relatively easy to understand—if we cleanse our minds of all previous knowledge and read it as though it were the explicit, plain instructions of a loving father to his child. Rejecting the customs which are objectionable to our Heavenly Father will clearly relate to whether you receive eternal salvation within a relatively few years from now. It will also mean protection during the tribulation (see Revelation 3:10).

Begin now to search and see that the Word of Yahweh is true, and it is light. In Him is no darkness at all (1 John 1:5)! Let us walk in the light, as He is in the light (1 John 1:7). **SNB**

The flyer features the title "How to Keep YAHWEH'S HOLY DAYS" in large, bold letters. To the right of the title is a small text block that reads: "The Scriptures declare that the commandments of Yahweh are everlasting. Psalm 136:1-3. Your Bible department says that the commandments of Yahweh will endure forever. Psalm 135:10. The Hebrew's own words indicate that He intended unchangeably to the commandments of Yahweh, saying His approval of them early in the morning. Matt. 5:17-18. Yahweh said that not one jot or tittle should pass from the law until all be fulfilled. Who can we so receive such a promise, an imperative statement from the very Son of the Captain of our salvation? When we study the Bible seriously, it becomes apparent that the inspired Holy Spirit was not so harmonized with Genesis to Revelation. Hence we agree the fact that the Patriarchs kept the commandments of Yahweh. These Patriarchs were the recipients of the original apostolic assembly that opened in AD on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2. Elements of the original apostolic assembly have remained through the ages. The New Testament does not give us evidence to the law of Yahweh. Today, at the end of the age, the prophecy of Revelation 12:17 can be fulfilled. And the degree was given with the witness and seen to make war with the enemies of her name, which keep the commandments of Yahweh, and have the testimony of Yahshua Messiah. From studying the commandments of Yahweh, we discover that there are a number of special days that our Heavenly Father wishes us to observe. Some of these days are observed weekly, some monthly, and some annually. On those special days Almighty Yahweh desires that we bring our worship to Him." At the bottom of the flyer is the logo for "Assemblies of Yahweh" and the copyright notice: "© Copyright 1978, 1979 Assemblies of Yahweh Bethel, PA 19507. All Rights Reserved."

*The annual holy days of Almighty Yahweh that are outlined in the Scriptures provide us with a foretaste of things to come. Are you aware of the vital importance that these special days play in Yahweh’s plan of redemption for mankind? Do not delay in requesting your copy of the article **How to Keep Yahweh’s Holy Days**. It is free of charge and without obligation. Write today to:*

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The Sacred Name Broadcast

RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

PENTECOST

Strange as this may appear to the casual Bible reader and church member, many of the important events that are recorded in the Bible occurred on one of the holy day observances which our Heavenly Father Yahweh commanded in Leviticus 23. Have you ever wondered just why the Apostles were so specific in their accounts of our Savior's death so that the reader could hold no doubt that the event occurred on Passover day, the 14th day of the first scriptural month? You might wonder why the Apostles, all through the book of Acts, were observing these same holy days that were observed by the people of Yahweh down through the historical record of the Scriptures. Have you ever searched your Bible to learn that the word "SUNDAY" is never found there, but, rather, this day is always referred to as the first, or the eighth, day of the week?

Because popular theology and society, in general, have rejected the Old Testament as the basis

of Faith in this New Testament era, they have failed to scratch the surface in gaining a genuine understanding of the Bible.

Did you know that the Old and New Testaments can be brought into perfect harmony with each other? Both Old and New Testaments actually speak the very same thing. The words of the prophet Jeremiah were never more applicable than they are today, as we read in chapter 8, verse 9, "***The wise men are put to shame, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of Yahweh; and what manner of wisdom is in them?***"

The Word of Yahweh, to which the prophet refers in this passage, is the actual recorded words spoken by our Father in heaven, and which are to be found in what is known as the Old Testament. What enduring wisdom can a man acquire from sources outside the inspired Scriptures? Anything can be proven from reference books, which were written by mortal men. This is

why you find in the writings of men so many theories and ideas that are not substantiated by the inspired Scriptures.

In this study series on the holy days of Leviticus 23, we come, this week, to the Feast of Pentecost and its significance. This is, perhaps, the only scripturally commanded holy day that is celebrated by many of the modern Christians. This day is celebrated as the birthday of the church and is the day on which the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the disciples who were gathered in Jerusalem to observe the feast. The disciples were celebrating an Old Testament-commanded observance and were, thus, gathered in one place and in one accord to do so. The question that immediately comes to mind is this: "If the observances, which were commanded in the Old Testament, were nailed to the tree of Calvary and passed away when the Savior died, why were the Apostles assembled to observe a holy day that they were no longer required

to observe?" Surely Yahshua our Messiah would have informed them that they need no longer worship on these days after His death! However, this is not the case at all! They were taught obedience to the commandments of Yahweh, and this necessitated that they be in attendance in Jerusalem when the holy days were observed.

There is, obviously, more here than meets the eye. In order to understand the complete significance of this observance, we must return to the recorded instance when it was given to Israel. The nation of Israel had departed from Egypt under the protective guardianship of Almighty Yahweh. He had taken them into the wilderness and, in a very short time, He had brought them to Mt. Sinai, where He was about to present His Law to them. We find in Exodus 19:1 that this event occurred in the third month after Israel's departure from Egypt. It was on the very same day (of the week) on which they departed that they arrived in the wilderness of Sinai. This would have been on a Thursday. They were instructed by Yahweh to wash their clothes and appear before Him at the foot of the mount on the third day (three days—Thursday, Friday, Sabbath).

The third day, which was a weekly seventh-day Sabbath, Yahweh came down upon the mount in a mighty show of power and spoke to them with the voice as a trumpet. Known in Hebrew as the *mattan torah* (the giving of the Law), He first spoke the Ten Commandments. Then He took Moses upon the mount to make known His statutes and judicial decisions which were to accompany this Law. This entire code of Laws was to become a

Covenant, or agreement, between Almighty Yahweh and His people. Moses was told to place this code of Laws before the people

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and request that they come to a decision in regard to living in obedience to the Words of our Heavenly Father. Yahweh had told Israel that if they were to ratify this agreement, they would become a great nation of kings and priests and live as examples to the rest of the world.

Upon returning from the top of the mountain, Moses read the Law to Israel and requested that they reply in the affirmative should they desire to live in obedience to the commandments of Yahweh. This reading of the Law occurred at the beginning of the first day of the week, seven weeks after the offering of the sheaf of first ripe grain during the week of Unleavened Bread.

There was no hesitation on the part of the gathered Israelites.

With one voice they proclaimed their intention to obey the commandments of Yahweh. "*All the words which Yahweh hath said will we do,*" they cried. The following morning, Moses again questioned the people regarding their intentions after once more reading the Law. Again the people replied, "*All that Yahweh has said will we do and be obedient.*" Consequently, the agreement was ratified and put into force from that day forward.

Moses then took sacrificial blood and sprinkled the book of the Law and the people. "*Behold the blood of the covenant which Yahweh has made with you concerning all these words,*" he said. This Covenant was sealed in the blood of animals and was to remain in force until the death of Yahshua. The sacrifice for sin under the Old Covenant was the blood of animals, which we learn later was changed to the blood of the testator, our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah.

The observance of *Shavuoth*—or Pentecost, the Feast of Weeks—is the early thanksgiving day for first fruits. It is thanksgiving to Yahweh after the early harvest, which in the land of Israel is the barley crop. This barley harvest is typical of the early harvest of converts to the messianic Faith which was produced by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts chapter 2.

Now, just how are we going to tie together the giving of the Law from Mt. Sinai and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost? Many people feel insulted when we preach that obedience to the Law of Yahweh is necessary in order to obtain the gift of the Holy Spirit, yet this is exactly what the Bible proclaims. In Acts 5:32 we read, "***And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, which Yahweh has***

given to them that obey him.” Absolutely astonishing, isn’t it? How often have you heard that it takes obedience to receive the Holy Spirit of our Heavenly Father? No law, or lawlessness, is proclaimed from almost every pulpit throughout the world. Disobedience to Yahweh is depicted to be sufficient to obtain eternal life for you because it is only through the love of our Heavenly Father that we can be saved. That’s right, it is only our Heavenly Father’s paternal love which saves us, but He will never save a disobedient child from his sin. Contradiction is preached almost universally. “Stop sinning to be saved,” cry the preachers, while in the next breath they deny the scriptural definition of sin. We find this definition in 1 John 3: 4 and this text states that sin is the transgression, or breaking of Yahweh’s Laws. In 1 John 5:3 we read, **“For this is the love of Yahweh, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”** How plain and simple! Even the Apostle Paul writes in Romans 3:31, **“Do we then make the Law of no effect through faith?”** He replies, **“By no means: No, we establish the Law.”** How can this forthright statement be misunderstood in any way?

Yahshua our Messiah has also indicated that it is of paramount importance to obey the commandments of Yahweh in order to find salvation. The entire 14th chapter of John dwells on how we may enter into a personal relationship with our Heavenly Father. He begins this chapter with the familiar verse, **“In my Father’s house are many mansions.”** He then continues, **“If it were not so, I would have**

told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I come again, and will receive you to myself; that where I am, there you may be also [into the very heavenly Jerusalem that is to come down to this earth from heaven, the city of Almighty Yahweh.]” (John 14:2-3). In verse 8, Phillip requests that Yahshua show them the Father. Yahshua then launches into a sermon concerning how the disciples should have become familiar with the Heavenly Father through their association with Him in His ministry for 3 1/2 years, observing all the mighty miracles which He accomplished through the power of Almighty Yahweh.

Yahshua then promises that He will not leave the disciples comfortless while He is physi-

cally absent, but will send them the Holy Spirit, which would give them power to do greater things than He did in His ministry. However, there is one condition for receiving the Holy Spirit power from On High. Our Heavenly Father does not merely grant the mighty power of the Holy Spirit to anyone who might misuse it, or act in an indiscreet manner after receiving it. There is a condition to be met before anyone will receive the Holy Spirit. Let us understand.

In John 14:15, we learn what this condition is (reading down to verse 18). **“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter; that it may be with you forever; even the Spirit of truth: that the world cannot receive; for it beholds it not,**



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The significance of Pentecost simply stated is this: Pentecost depicts the early harvest of human souls who were called out through the early rain in this age of man. This harvest was produced when people desired to live in obedience to their Heavenly Father by keeping His commandments, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit power, producing lives that are pleasing to Yahweh.

neither knows it: you know it; for it remains with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you desolate: I come to you.” (John 14:15-18). Now do you perceive the importance of the keeping of the commandments and how they constitute a condition for receiving the Holy Spirit? Notice also verse 21, ***“He that has my commandments, and keeps them, he it is that loves me: and he that loves me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.”*** Again, this verse indicates that we cannot actually become acquainted with the Heavenly Father until we keep His commandments, nor will we receive the rich blessings of our Savior who is the Head of the New Testament Assembly of True Worshipers.

The disciple Judah then asks why Yahshua will not manifest Himself to the world. The following two verses contain the Savior’s reply. ***“Yahshua answered and said to him, If a man loves me, he will keep my word: and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our abode with him. He that loves me not keeps not my words: and the word which you hear is not mine, but the Father’s who sent me.”*** (John 14:23-24). How very plain and open for all to understand; even one who is small, or young in the Faith, will be able to comprehend the importance of obedience in order to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The thought is so simple. If you love Me, you will obey Me, and, then, I will reward you by giving you access to My Holy Spirit, or power from On High. This power will aid you to live lives which are pleasing to Me

and will enable you to do mighty miracles to prove to the world that I am with you, and that it is I, Almighty Yahweh, who am blessing you.

In the 31st chapter of Jeremiah, we read of the New Covenant into which Almighty Yahweh will enter with His people. This is the Covenant which the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh are trying to merit by living in obedience to our Heavenly Father now, so that when the Kingdom of the Heavens appears, we will be among those who are blessed to inherit it. We read in verse 33, ***“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says Yahweh: I will put my law in their inward parts, and in their heart will I write it; and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be my people.”***

Did you notice how once more a LAW will be a part of the New Covenant? This will be the same Law which was spoken to Israel from Mt. Sinai, but the blood offering for transgression will be the blood of the Testator, Yahshua Messiah, our Savior.

The significance of Pentecost simply stated is this: Pentecost depicts the early harvest of human souls who were called out through the early rain in this age of man. This harvest was produced when people desired to live in obedience to their Heavenly Father by keeping His commandments, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit power, producing lives that are pleasing to Yahweh. Have you experienced the joy of the indwelling Holy Spirit which comes from living in absolute obedience to our Heavenly Father, Almighty Yahweh, and the Savior, Yahshua Messiah? It is promised to you. Why not accept it today? ^{SNB}

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