

THE
SACRED NAME
BROADCASTER

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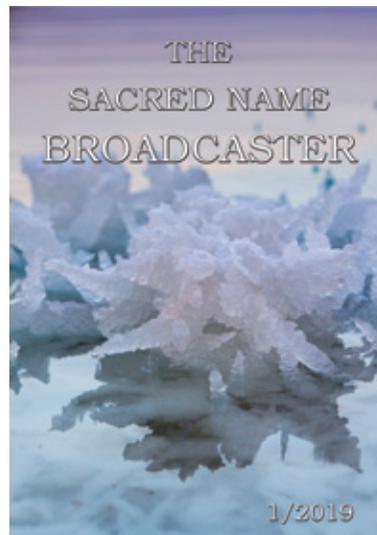
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Our Cover:



Salt crystals from the Dead Sea give the appearance of ice crystals on this month's cover. About 1,412 feet below sea level, the Dead Sea is the lowest place on the earth and is nearly 10 times more salty than the ocean.

A blessing is promised for those who obey Yahweh and keep His Law—a curse for those who do not. The Dead Sea area was described as "like the garden of Yahweh," in Genesis 13:10. Yet, Yahweh's judgment made it a wasteland. **"In this manner says Yahweh: Cursed is the man that trusts in man, and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart departs from Yahweh. For he shall be like the tamarisk in the desert, and shall not see when good comes, but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, a salt land and not inhabited. Blessed is the man that trusts in Yahweh, and whose trust Yahweh is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, that spreads out its roots by the river, and shall not fear when heat comes, but its leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."** (Jeremiah 17:5-8).

A blessing or a curse? Which do you want in your life?



by *Elder Jacob O. Meyer*

Many of the traditional religious customs—so generally taken for granted—which form an integral part of nominal Christianity, have no basis in fact in the inspired Scriptures. One of these dearly held customs is the evangelistic campaign popularized by Dwight L. Moody, in which an evangelist comes to town and holds meetings in a church, or public auditorium, over a period of several weeks. After preaching a message to induce a spirit of conviction into the hearts of unconverted people, the minister invites them to come forward and shake his hand. Frequently, the seeker is asked to kneel at the altar and pray, after which he is informed that his sins are forgiven and that he

is now “saved.”

Observation has confirmed that few of these “instant conversions” endure for any great length of time. Often, there is a first flush of zeal which soon lapses into apathy and growing indifference to spiritual things. Whereupon, the spiritual babe regresses into the comfortable lifestyle with which he was previously familiar. Conviction had produced a temporary feeling of dissatisfaction with his present life, which didn’t last very long.

What is true conversion, and how can it be made to endure to the end of a person’s life? The word *conversion* means to *turn back*. In every instance where the **King James Version** has used the word *converted*, the **American Standard Version** has rendered it *turn again*. Such

a restorative process may take many years to complete. The initial step in the conversion process, in which a person begins to turn back to Almighty Yahweh and His ways, is to have a sincere experience of repentance.

True Repentance First

On the Day of Pentecost (the Feast of Weeks), Acts 2, when the Apostle Cepha (Peter) was preaching to the assembled multitude who had gathered in Jerusalem to keep the second annual pilgrim Feast of Yahweh, his message rang through the crowd like a clarion call, “**REPENT!**” (Acts 2:38). In the following chapter, his message had not changed in the least: “**Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, so that there may come seasons**

of refreshing from the presence of Yahweh.” (Acts 3:19). Repentance must always precede conversion. The scriptural terms, *nacham* (Hebrew) and *metanoeo* (Greek), which have been translated *repent*, mean *to sigh or be sorry, to think differently or reconsider*. This is what true repentance means!

At some point in our lives, we were going away from Almighty Yahweh. We had turned our backs on Him, and we were living to satisfy the inclinations of our own carnal nature. Just as did Adam and Eve, we desired to know evil also, after having been shown the way of good. The tree, from which our first parents ate, was allegorical of knowledge, knowing good (which Almighty Yahweh had taught them), and knowing evil (which they were taught by Satan).

They had been taught properly by Almighty Yahweh when they were created, but they also desired to know the evil, the sordid side of living, which Satan was presenting with such tantalizing appeal. Eve was persuaded that, possibly, Yahweh was withholding something from her that would cause her to be like Him. The fleshly mind today still runs in the exact same channels. Sin may be pleasant, but, in the end, it proves destructive to the mind and body. Satan seeks to confuse and divert the convicted sinner by telling him that sin could not be so very bad. Many times, the diversionary tactic which Satan uses is to implant the idea that you are the master of your own destiny, and no one can tell you what to do. Have you ever experienced this kind of reasoning? Most all human beings have had to wrestle with this unscriptural concept, since Almighty Yahweh Elohim as Creator can command His human creation with author-

When we come face to face with the Word of Almighty Yahweh, His message to us thundering from the pages of the Sacred Scriptures across the ages since the sin of Adam and Eve, there is no more room for arrogance, or egotistical conceit.

ity. We are Yahweh’s children, required to listen to His instructions found in His Word.

Repentance, then, is to be sorry for your past life, to reconsider your past, and determine to do better in the future. When someone is brought to the point of repentance, he should just loathe himself, his degenerate human nature, and his past life. He should die to himself, realizing that it is only through the grace of Yahweh and His unmerited kindness, or mercy, that he is still alive. Sin has its intrinsic penalty, and that penalty is DEATH, Romans 6:23, ***“For the wages of sin is death; but the free gift of Yahweh is eternal life in the Messiah Yahshua our Master.”***

Perhaps some of the superficial

conversions, which did not bear a prolonged period of good fruit, were the product of insufficient Bible study, or too little heartfelt prayer, or a memory that is too short to recall the sadness and utter despair which accompanied the immature attitude which is characteristic of the carnal mind. When we come face to face with the Word of Almighty Yahweh, His message to us thundering from the pages of the Sacred Scriptures across the ages since the sin of Adam and Eve, there is no more room for arrogance, or egotistical conceit. We realize, forcefully, that we are but dust—a lump of worthless clay which had been wrongly molded, headed for certain annihilation at the hands of a just Mighty One.

How well I recall the days of my own repentance. After having studied some of the pagan origins of Christian symbols and having learned that they were derived directly from sun worship, I was flabbergasted to see them saturating the worship in which I had been engaged. A chilling and humbling thought came upon me: *“Why had Almighty Yahweh chosen to allow the human race to wander so far from His Truth? How had the human race deluded itself into believing that such worship was pleasing to the Heavenly Father? Why had He not reached out and smashed this earth out of existence in righteous indignation?”*

I, then, became humbled by the thought that Almighty Yahweh had indeed shown a generous amount of kindness and grace. He had given us ample opportunity to repent. His Holy Spirit was calling, beckoning us to leave all those worldly traditions behind and follow Him. His Word had pleaded with His people to come out of Babylon (Revelation 18:4 and Jeremiah 51:6), and He was

allowing us ample opportunity to fulfill His wishes. Knowing what I do today about the corruption of nominal religion, both Christianity and Judaism, there would be no way for me ever to return to that worship with a clear conscience. However, how many people ever really bring themselves to this point? How many sinners really comprehend the total repulsiveness and depravity, the utter destructiveness, of sin? They wish to have one foot in the world, while they simultaneously receive all of the benefits of biblical religion as well. They have seen the sordid side of life, but they have not fully repented of engaging in false worship, nor do they reject pagan society. They have not comprehended that sin, indeed, is as bad as Almighty Yahweh declares that it is. They have not learned to fear the Almighty Heavenly Father, Yahweh Elohim, the great Mighty One who is both just and merciful. ***“He will not always chide [scold, rebuke]; Neither will he keep his anger forever.”*** (Psalm 103:9). Standing before this great Mighty One, our righteousness appears as filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6), and we must begin to take constructive action if we wish to avoid the wrath which is predicted to be poured out upon this earth. ***“What if Elohim, willing to show his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: and that he might make known the riches of his glory upon the vessels of mercy, which he previously prepared for glory....”*** (Romans 9:22-23). Consequently, the secret of true repentance is to come to fully understand our carnal natures and how Almighty Yahweh must detest the arrogance of people who do

not live a life of continuing humility and dedication.

Repent of What?

While ministers inveigh and sermonize against sin, they rarely present their congregations with the scriptural definition of the word. Almighty Yahweh has not left His people with a lack of instruction. He has given us the plain definition of this word in 1 John 3:4. ***“Everyone that commits sin also transgresses the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”*** When we have come to this realization and fully comprehend it with the grasp of human intelligence, then a double curse has been attached to our unrepentant attitude if we do not begin to obey the Law of Yahweh. Sin is doubly sinful when we transgress, or violate, the Law of Yahweh knowingly. Jacob 4:17, ***“To him therefore that knows to do good, and does it not, to him it is sin.”*** Should we continue to turn our backs and walk away from Yahweh, we can only look forward to being devoured in the lake of fire which He has warned will be the lot of the sinner. If you are holding up your life to the scrutiny of the Scriptures, you can now fully comprehend how indignant Almighty Yahweh must be with His human family for their rebellion against His Word. He has given the human race a magnificent code of simple instructions for righteous living. He has been ignored or spurned inasmuch as His endeavor to make the people of this world understand has obviously borne little fruit. This identical message was given by David in Psalm 10, as he exposed all of the thoughts which a wicked man will use to justify his evil conduct.

We must repent of disobedi-

ence to the Word of Yahweh and turn back toward Him in repentance through all of our reverence for Him. We must begin to do works of righteousness and this means keeping the Law of Yahweh, Deuteronomy 6:25. ***“Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city.”*** (Revelation 22:14). Then our conversion experience will be genuine, and we need not fear falling away at any time in the future, because it will be our desire to please our beloved Father in heaven.

Yahweh is Merciful

When you have finally reached the point of despair, crushed down by the heavy load of sin which you have been bearing, you will find welcome encouragement since the Scriptures declare that Almighty Yahweh is merciful. He does not desire to judge the wicked with an exterminative destruction. Although the human race certainly deserved such a punishment for disobedience to the Law of Yahweh, there is forgiveness with our Mighty One. ***“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to Yahweh, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our Elohim, for he will abundantly pardon.”*** (Isaiah 55:7). If you have truly repented of your past life and are willing to make an enduring change, you will stand justified (judged innocent) of your past life and you can then begin to rebuild your life on a solid foundation. ***“O Israel, hope in Yahweh; For with Yahweh there is lovingkindness, And with him is plenteous redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.”*** (Psalm 130:7-8).

“For all have sinned, and fallen short of the glory of Yahweh; being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in the Messiah Yahshua: 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; for the showing, I say, of his righteousness at this present season: that he might himself be just, and the justifier of him that has faith in Yahshua.” (Romans 3:23-26).

You were merely bearing the general characteristics of the human family when you were living in sin. There was only one sinless human and that person was Yahshua the Messiah (1 Peter 2:22). This is how He could serve as the unblemished sin offering for us. His righteous life could be an offering for our sins.

“Yet it pleased Yahweh to bruise him; he has put him to grief: when you shall make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of Yahweh shall prosper in his hand.” (Isaiah 53:10).

The Messiah was to be an offering for sin—taking our punishment, which we so justly deserved, upon Himself, when He died upon the tree of Calvary. It was He who made intercession for the transgressors and who had obtained mercy for us from Almighty Yahweh. Our new lives in the Messiah will be just as pure and spotless as His life, because we have the opportunity to start afresh with a new and clean page of a new life before us.

Digging Out the Evil

Repentance is sometimes comparable to an operation without anesthetics. It is sometimes difficult to humble ourselves to confess our sins. However, in order to be truly converted, one must dig up and discard every last vestige of sin out of our hearts and lives. This may cause us to shed many bitter tears of sorrow. Paul has described this repentant spirit so accurately in 2 Corinthians 7:9-11. ***“I now rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that you were made sorry to repentance; for you were made sorry after a holy sort, that you might suffer loss by us in nothing. For holy sorrow works repentance to salvation, a repentance which brings no regret: but the sorrow of the world works death. For behold, this same thing, that you were made sorry after a holy sort, what earnest care it worked in you, yes what clearing of yourselves, yes what indignation, yes what fear, yes what longing, yes what zeal, yes what avenging! In everything you proved yourselves to be pure in the matter.”***

Repentance produces contrite, remorseful, sincere pain in the hearts of people, anger at ourselves for being weak in the flesh so that we would consider violating the Word of Yahweh. It motivates us to take action! Zeal is then manifested in the lives of the repentant as they turn about to make a special effort to please Yahweh.

A Ritual Cleansing

Sin is not cancelled automatically by our Heavenly Father. In His Law, Almighty Yahweh made provision for ritual cleansing on a number of occasions when sin had led to corruption. For

instance, a leper who had been healed was required to undergo a ritual cleansing (Leviticus 14). Sin has left its indelible mark upon us, and we must take a ritual bath. Yahshua our Messiah instituted this practice when He entered the water of the Jordan River, not that He needed a ritual cleansing, but it was to fulfill all righteousness (Matthew 3:15). Baptism is a symbolic burial of our old person who had died and a resurrection to a new life in Yahshua the Messiah. Romans chapter 6 shows us that baptism is indeed necessary as a sign of total submission to Almighty Yahweh and His Will. When we have fulfilled all righteousness, the conversion process can begin.

The Holy Spirit

After a ritual cleansing, when the evil spirit of the world has been totally cleansed from our hearts and lives, we must implant the new guiding force of the Holy Spirit of Yahweh. This subject has been one of the most misunderstood of any in the Scripture. The Holy Spirit of Yahweh comprises His mind, character, life, power, and motivation within a repentant believer. It is to accept from Yahweh Elohim a new personality—the very mind and character of the Most High. This guiding force will give direction to the individual as he journeys back toward Yahweh. It will give Him strength to carry on in days of adversity, when he is confronted by the almost insurmountable trials of life.

The Holy Spirit is the most important facet in the life of the repentant believer. It reveals to the True Worshiper why the Law of Yahweh is righteous and how it will be beneficial for a converted person to keep it. The True Worshipers only receives a

small down payment of this Holy Spirit, and, thereafter, they must cultivate it every day through living in submission to the Will of Yahweh (2 Corinthians 1:22). By reading and studying the Sacred Scriptures and then living in obedience to its instructions, they will become more like Yahweh. This spiritual life brings joy to the True Worshipers as they walk down the Narrow Pathway leading to the Kingdom of Almighty Yahweh. The Holy Spirit will eventually overcome the lusts of the flesh (Romans 8:1-10).

Now Comes Conversion

When Almighty Yahweh has formed us into a lump of pliable clay through His Word, He then can work a miracle in the human life. It really is a miracle to come to the state of being totally submissive to Almighty Yahweh and His commandments. Sin is the transgression of the Law of Yahweh (1 John 3:4). Living sinless lives, then, must mean living in obedience to the Law of Yahweh. We cannot continue in sin after we have come to a knowledge of the Truth (Hebrews 10:26-27 and Romans 6:1-3). When we have come to the point of humble, sincere repentance and have been baptized into Yahshua the Messiah, we have been baptized into His death. We no longer can live for ourselves, but we take upon ourselves His spiritual character and likeness, living free from sin. We are baptized into His Name, and we have taken on His spiritual image. Conversion means living in humble obedience to the Laws of Yahweh, turning back to Him, knowing that we cannot be walk-

The Holy Spirit is the most important facet in the life of the repentant believer. It reveals to the True Worshiper why the Law of Yahweh is righteous and how it will be beneficial for a converted person to keep it.

ing a pathway back to Yahweh if we are breaking His Laws.

Conversion is truly a miracle! Such a tremendous change of heart and attitude cannot be identified in a scientific manner. You cannot dissect it on a laboratory table. You cannot isolate it in a test tube. What significant factor can be identified as the one which makes a man turn to Yahweh while he is having a successful life? Why should a person seek to please a being who cannot be seen? The proof of Yahweh may be seen in His creation (Romans 1:20). The wrath of Yahweh today is just as remote to the people of this contemporary age as it was in the days of Noah. Your Bible makes this comparative prediction nevertheless! Read Matthew 24:37-39.

We believe the Word of Yahweh by faith, having the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen in view both in the Scriptures and in the world around us. Agnosticism refuses to accept the evidence of prophecy. We, who have been enlightened by the Holy Spirit of Yahweh at our baptism, have the mind of Yahweh, seeing the things which are invisible to the human eye. Moses was a man of faith. ***“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 True Worshipers take similar action, although we have no tangible evidence to prove our decision to be correct, except for the faith instilled within us that comes from living and believing in Yahweh and His Word.

The Example of Jacob

In the patriarch Jacob, we find one of the most outstanding illustrations in the Scriptures of an unconverted man. He was born the second of twins and, so, was relegated to the position subordinate to his brother, Esau. However, he schemed and won a place in the hearts of his parents by staying close to them. He obtained his brother's birthright by shrewd trading for it. He deceived his father into pronouncing upon him the blessing through the intrigue of his mother. He extracted substantial wages from his father-in-law through shrewd cattle breeding and with the help of Yahweh's blessing. When he had become quite rich, he returned to the land of promise and took up residence there. Reading over an account of his life will indicate that he was guilty of sin on a number of occasions...until finally Yahweh sent His angel to wrestle with him on the bank of the ford of the Jabbok stream (Hebrew means *emptying*). Jacob wrestled with the angel and had to be disabled before the angel gained supremacy. From this point on, Jacob was called *Israel*, meaning *a man who prevails*

Continued on page 21.

Did the Messiah and His Disciples Use the

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Over the years, in this publication, we have presented in-depth research articles showing that the concept of a Hebrew or Aramaic original underlying the New Testament Greek is not merely idle speculation. We have seized the challenge and accepted the burden of proof! I trust that you will order several of the articles currently available in reprint form at your earliest convenience. Then you will have laid a basis of understanding for the additional proof which will be presented in this two-part series to support our conclusions that there is no inspired “Greek” New Testament.

Again, we wish to affirm the inspiration of the New Testament, that the writers were recording that which was breathed by the Holy Spirit, but that, in the subsequent translations, into various common languages, the inspired Word was modified in order to make it more palatable for the masses who were steeped in paganism.

Since some religious organizations have raised additional objections to the necessity for accepting the Sacred Name

doctrine—denying that the Messiah and His disciples pronounced, used, or spoke the Sacred Name—we shall accept the challenge to prove that they did. We shall present two in-depth articles to support this conclusion in this and the next issue of **The Sacred Name Broadcaster**. In order to stimulate your interest, we shall set forth various Scriptures which clearly support this conclusion. The mark of a true scholar is to search deeply into the internal composition of a literary work for guideposts which will direct him to arrive at an accurate conclusion.

We shall begin initially by reiterating that, in the Hebrew Scriptures, the Name of the Heavenly Father is Yahweh. The four letters of the Name of the Almighty—known as the Tetragrammaton—have been conclusively proven during recent years to be pronounceable, with the best transliteration, or pronunciation, being Yahweh. If you have not as yet studied some of our literature on this subject, sit

down right now and write in for this material. Again, allow us to reiterate that the reason for the importance of using this Sacred Name of the Heavenly Father is that without calling upon a Name which means *eternal, everlasting life*, we cannot hope to attain to this prize which has been offered to us in the Word. If we do not know the pronunciation of the Sacred Name, how can we be certain regarding what the meaning was? The root of a Hebrew word governs its meaning. In the Hebrew language, all words have a meaning, and this makes the Sacred Name (the Tetragrammaton) so vital and significant.

Let us go one step further. The Moabite stone antedates most written history and has come down to us from about 830 B.C.E. This artifact comprises a record of the war between the Moabite King Mesha and the tribes of Israel. This ancient historical record contains the Name Yahweh in the text. The stone was inscribed with ancient Paleo-Hebrew-Semitic script such as was used before the days of

Sacred Name?

Ezra. If we are going to be able to read this account of the martial ventures of King Mesha, we will be forced to recognize that the Name YAHWEH as it correctly appears has indeed come down to our day in the identical pronunciation which was common in ancient Israel. Please turn to 2 Kings chapter 3 where appears the scriptural account of this war. Read this chapter and notice how the biblical account corroborates the historical facts on the Moabite stone, from the Moabite viewpoint obviously.

We respectfully acknowledge that subsequent to the time of Ezra, upon Judah returning from Babylonian captivity, there was a strong effort made by the priesthood to remove from mundane, common use the Name of Yahweh. They began to legislate against allowing the pronunciation of the Sacred Name by the common people. Talmudic sources will confirm that the pronunciation of the Sacred Name by any *am haeretz* (person of the land, peasant) would be punishable by death. Its common use was considered blasphemy, because of

an acknowledged misapplication of Leviticus 14:23. *Blasphemy* means *speaking disrespectfully against the Most High*. The term *Hashem* (Hebrew for *the Name*), or *Adonai* (more accurately *my L-rd*), or *the Power*, were substituted for expressing the Name of Yahweh. During the days of the Messiah, it was the custom of the High Priest to speak the Sacred Name 10 times on the Day of Atonement and then only in a distorted mumble so that no person standing near could ascertain the pronunciation. See one account in the Mishna, Tractate Tamid 3:8, also see note 8 on page 165 (**Herbert Danby translation**). *“From Jericho they could hear the noise of the opening of the great gate; from Jericho they could hear the sound of the ‘Shovel’; from Jericho they could hear the noise of the Wooden device which Ben Katin made for the laver; From Jericho they could hear the voice of Gabini the herald; from Jericho they could hear the sound of the flute; from Jericho they could hear the noise of the cymbal; from Jericho they could hear the sound of the sing-*

ing; from Jericho they could hear the sound of the Shofar; and some say, even the voice of the High Priest when he pronounced the Name on the Day of Atonement; from Jericho they could smell the smell at the compounding of the incense.” It was almost as though Proverbs 30:4 was crying out to the people, and that Isaiah 52:5-6 would never again be fulfilled!

“Who has ascended up into heaven, and descended? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has bound the waters in his garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son’s name, if you know?” (Proverbs 30:4).

“Now therefore, what do I here, says Yahweh, since my people is taken away for nothing? They that rule over them howl, says Yahweh, and my name continually all the day is blasphemed. Therefore my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that I am he that does speak; behold, it is I.” (Isaiah 52:5-6).

But Almighty Yahweh had not

The message of Yahshua was the Kingdom of Yahweh.

"Now after John was delivered up, Yahshua came into Galilee, preaching the good tidings of Yahweh, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of Yahweh is at hand: repent, and believe in the good tidings."

MARK 1:14-15

If we know that He was preaching the message of the coming Kingdom, we should know whose Kingdom it will be, would not you believe?

cast away His people (Romans 11:1). He sent His only begotten Son to this earth once again to witness the Truth to them. He sent as a type of EliYah the prophet, the forerunner of the Messiah, John the Baptist, a scion of the priesthood. John, although he, himself, was a priest, could not preach in Jerusalem, for some reason. He relocated to the wilderness of Judea, where his audience came to hear him powerfully preach the Sacred Scriptures. What could be the reason for John's relocation, we might wonder? Obviously, when John was preaching and used the Sacred Name of the Heavenly Father, he was in conflict with the establishment religion. Context shows this clearly when you consider Luke 3:4-5. Remember that this is a quote from the Hebrew Scriptures (Isaiah 40:3-4)! Now notice who it was that followed John (Luke 3:10-15).

Hearing about the great wilderness preacher, many Pharisees and Sadducees also came to check up on him (Matthew 3:7-9). Notice John's cutting denunciation against these leaders of the nominal establishment religion of that day. However, since John was surrounded by a host of loyal common people, the religionists did not dare attack him at that time.

Similarly, the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh today are a small group, scattered, few, frequently persecuted by nominal religion, on the fringes of society, allegorically "in the wilderness." The usual policy of nominal religion is to isolate those who are preaching Bible Truth by calling them radicals, deceived, or a cult! John was preaching a message that attracted multitudes, and his message was one of restoration. See Matthew 17:11. It was Yahweh's message for the hour!

The message of Yahshua was the Kingdom of Yahweh. See Mark 1:14-15. If we know that He was preaching the message of the coming Kingdom, we should know whose Kingdom it will be, would not you believe? Yahshua came to manifest the Name of the Heavenly Father (John 17:6, 26). He came in His Father's Name, and the common people heard Him! See John 5:43. How about you? Do you turn the other way when the Sacred Name of the Almighty is being preached to you? Certainly, the Messiah was called by the Name of the Father, as we have proven in our Bible Truth literature. However, He was also coming with a "power of attorney," using the Name of the Father! Again see John 5:43. Now notice the context. Yahshua the Messiah is saying that He did not come to receive honor of men. Verse 45 records Yahshua's accusation against the establishment religious leaders and He accuses them of not following Moses and the Law laid down in the Torah. This is what the Assemblies of Yahweh organization is faithfully teaching today—a restoration message in which we strive to return to the practice of keeping the commandments of the Heavenly Father as recorded by Moses. Please read Revelation 12:17, 14:12; Malachi 4:4-6; and Deuteronomy 31.

Notice that Yahshua the Messiah adroitly turns aside the temptations of Satan by using the Sacred Name in Luke chapter 4. He quotes from the Old Testament Law using the Name of the Almighty! Then He leaves the wilderness and the 40-day fast, strengthened in the Spirit. He begins to preach, not in Jerusalem where He would probably have been almost immediately martyred for using the Sacred

Name, but His ministry is centered far to the north, in Galilee (Luke 4:14). He returned to His hometown of Nazareth and read the Law in the synagogue. Read Isaiah 61 yourself in the **Jerusalem Bible**, the passage which He read and used. No wonder all eyes were fixed upon Him! Some in the audience accused Him of being uneducated, since He was called a carpenter and was recognized as the adopted son of a carpenter named Joseph. When He began to preach, the people seized Him and took Him to the top of a hill to execute Him! What a way to treat the Son of Yahweh! Exactly the same today; however, nominal religious leaders become filled with wrath (but not usually violent) when the Name is preached, and they seek to eliminate the servants of the Most High!

Continuing along, we find that Yahshua does mighty miracles in various localities throughout Galilee. People were astonished at His doctrine for His Word was with power. Here is provided another clue for us! The Jews often substitute the term *power* as a surrogate rather than pronouncing the Sacred Name. His Word was “with the Name of Yahweh” is what Luke 4:32 actually means. Now notice what we find in verse 36, as Yahshua cast out a demon from a man. **“And amazement came upon all, and they spoke together, one with another, saying, What is this word? for with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.”** His listeners wished to know what word He was using to perform His miracles. The puzzling word, of course, was the Name of the Almighty, our Father in heaven, Yahweh, before whom all creation bows! However, it had

been virtually forgotten prior to the appearance of the Messiah. Please see Ephesians 3:14-15.

Yahshua the Messiah was then brought before the Sanhedrin for trial. Read the account of His trial in Mark 14:60-65, and notice how He was accused of blasphemy and sentenced to death when He spoke the word *power*. It is obvious to the one who is informed that He pronounced the Sacred Name before the religious leaders. If you have access to **The Companion Bible**, be certain to consider the note included with this passage.

In John 7:1, we read, **“And after these things Yahshua walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill him.”** Finally, after His time had come, the Jews saw their chance to end this dynamic message by taking the life of the young preacher who had come in the Name of the Father, Yahweh.

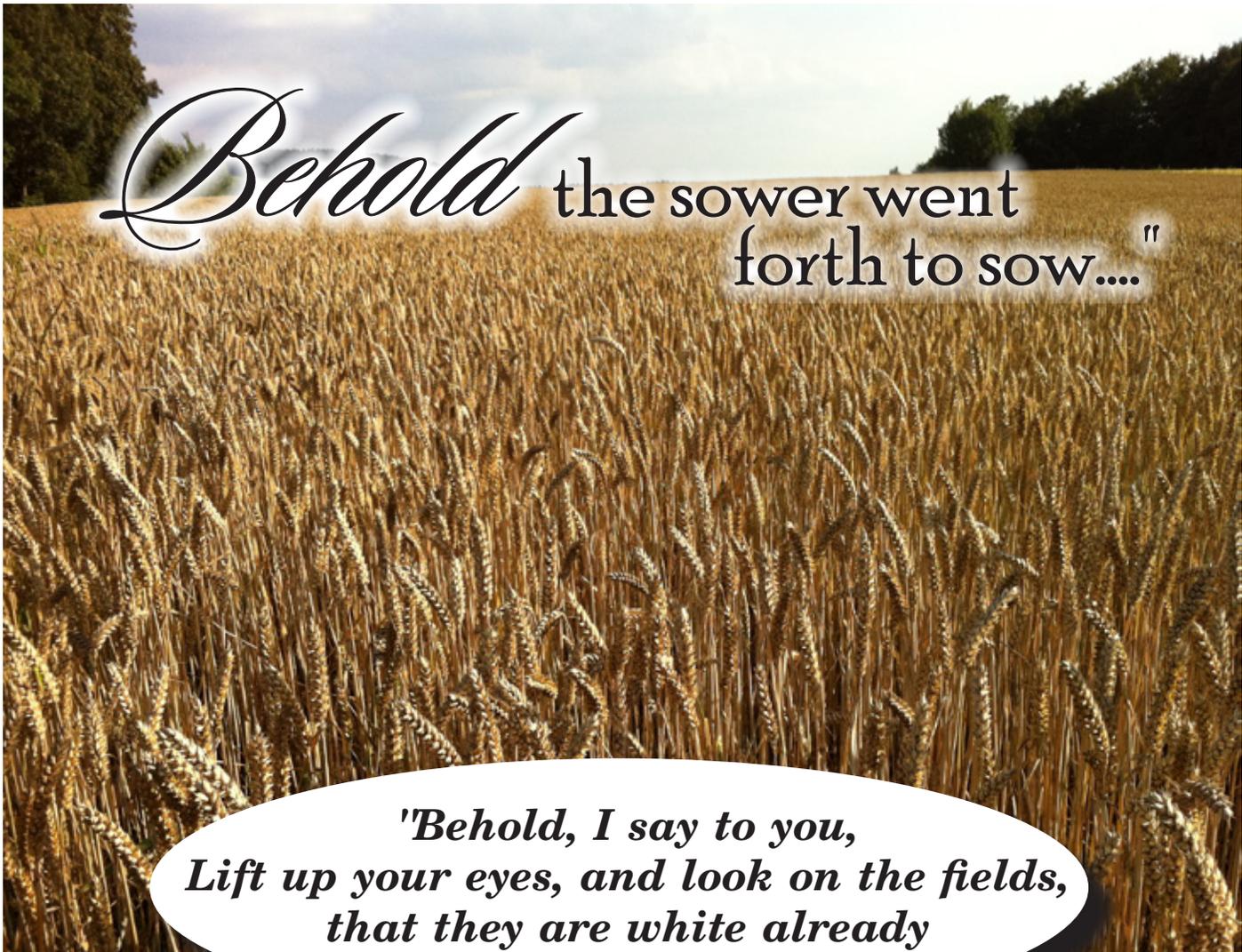
It is apparent also that the Apostles used the Sacred Name in their ministry. Read the book of Acts and observe how they constantly refer to the Name by which they were doing the miracles and the teaching. Read Acts chapter 7, and notice the statement made by Stephen at his trial which brought a similar reaction to what happened to Yahshua.

Then turn to Acts 18:12-17. **“But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews rose up with one accord against Paul and brought him in front of the judgment-seat, saying, This man persuades men to worship Elohim contrary to the law. But when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, If indeed it were a matter of wrong or of wicked**

villainy, Oh you Jews, reason would that I should bear with you: but if they are questions about words and names and your own law, look to it yourselves; I am not minded to be a judge in such matters. And he drove them from the judgment-seat. And they all laid hold on Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment-seat. And Gallio cared for none of these things.” It is obvious from this passage that they were preaching a Name which the Jews did not like. Gallio did not wish to rule on questions of WORDS and NAMES, and of YOUR LAW (meaning the written Torah or the Talmudic law of the Jews).

Human, mortal man is a fighter. He is rebellious and dislikes being told that he could be wrong! Even though this end-time warning herald of the coming Kingdom of Yahweh is now reaching throughout this world in POWER (Yahweh’s Name) again in the last days, many people appear to be fighting against the Truth. Notice Revelation 16:8-9, **“And the fourth poured out his bowl upon the sun; and it was given to it to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat: and THEY BLASPHEMED THE NAME OF YAHWEH who has the power over these plagues; and they repented not to give him glory.”**

When those end-time plagues are poured out upon this earth will you be one of the people who will be scorched with fire for disobedience? See Matthew 3:7-12. Be certain to watch for our next in-depth article proving conclusively that the Messiah and His disciples used the Sacred Name. SNB



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forth to sow..."

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that they are white already
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RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Contemporary Social

Uphheavals

In Bible prophecy, there are obvious graphic hallmarks which will declare that the age of man is coming to an end. One of these recognizable signs of the times is the lack of respect of the younger generation for their elders. It is not unusual for a child to be surly, disrespectful, and sarcastic to his parents if any mutual disagreement arises. Historically, we find that it is only in the past few decades that such conduct has been tolerated by the average person. The lack of child discipline in the home may be held responsible for the

apparent lack of civilized conduct in the school and at work. In my boyhood days, there was evident the greatest respect for the school teacher, but, today, discipline has no place in many schools, especially in the metropolitan areas. One recent account of a school in New York City described it as “a zoo,” in which the noise was so bad that when a person came within a block of the building the volume of noise rose to a roar. Such a situation would have been unheard of just several decades ago. Should we allow something so deplorable

to exist today?

Can we isolate the blame for the deterioration of discipline among the youth of today? Can the situation be corrected, or must the contemporary society in which we are living merely endure it and hope for better days to come? You may never have realized this, but we read in the Scriptures that the youth of the end times would be in rebellion. Please turn with me to Isaiah 3:4-5, “***And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. And the people shall be op-***



child shall behave himself proudly against the old man, and the base against the honorable.

The youth rebellion of our times clearly indicates that this prophecy is also being fulfilled today. Your Bible says that a child should have the utmost respect for his elders. The commandments of Yahweh, the Almighty

pressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbor: the child shall behave himself proudly against the old man, and the base against the honorable.” Dropping down a little further to verse 12 in this third chapter of Isaiah, we find the following: ***“As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they that lead you cause you to err, and destroy the way of your paths.”*** You will notice that the context of this passage reflects the time when Yahweh’s people shall be at war, and the righteous judgment of Yahweh will be poured out upon this earth, because of the immorality which will be permeating this world. We are living in such a time, and one of the root causes of the lack of child discipline is the lengthy period of war which our western world has endured.

Paradoxically, we, today, have many examples of the fulfillment of this prophecy, and we would have to say that it is now fulfilled. At this present time, women stand at the head of many nations of the world. If we wish to be very literal in our interpretation of the Bible, Almighty Yahweh has said of the women, ***“Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply your pain and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; and your desire shall be to your husband, and HE SHALL RULE OVER YOU.”*** (Genesis 3:16). However, in our time, we can see women attempting to do everything that is done by the men and aggressively seeking positions above men. The women’s lib movement demanded more rights for the fair sex, and this is in direct fulfillment of these Bible prophecies.

The prophet says, ***“The***

Heavenly Father, reveal that when an elder enters the room, those younger people there should stand up in respect of him. This command can be found in Leviticus 19:32, ***“You shall rise up before the gray head, and honor the face of the old man, and you shall fear your Elohim: I am Yahweh.”*** This commandment means to stand up in the presence of an old man who has the snowy white hair signifying age and that we honor the presence of all elderly people. When I was a boy, no one was so disrespectful that they would say anything derogatory about or to an elderly person. Even though you might disagree with the ideas expressed by the elderly person, you kept your opinions to yourself, because you respected the wisdom and experience of the aged people. Today, the youth attack everything which has been constructed

laboriously across the centuries of antiquity. They are not afraid to tear to shreds the wisdom of the elderly, while simultaneously seeking to originate and inaugurate new concepts from untried theories. Such a course of action has resulted in the chaotic upheavals which are presently sweeping our land.

“Even a child makes himself known by his doings, whether his work is pure, and whether it is right.” (Proverbs 20:11). Consequently, we must conclude that the errant direction upon which many of the nation’s youth have embarked will reveal them to be following the pathways of Satan, rather than that which was blueprinted by the Almighty Heavenly Father Yahweh through the keeping of His commandments. The Bible also reveals where the root cause of the youth rebellion lies and why it is so widespread around the world today. Please turn with me to Proverbs 22:6. ***“Train up a child in the way he should***

go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it.” Neglect of child training has been the direct result of the modern industrialized world in which we live. No longer are the fathers working closely alongside of their children as they did in ages past, but today the child never sees the father except in his tired evening hours and on the weekends. Too many activities divert the attention of the father from his family, and the children never know what takes place, or is required, in the earning of a livelihood. The fathers are commanded by the Almighty to teach their children the Law of Yahweh. ***“And these words, which I command you this day, shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.”*** How many fathers take the time to teach the commandments to

their children, or even teach the children about the Bible? How can any proven ideology, such as we have in the Scriptures, be perpetuated without teaching? If we are to train up our children so that they will not depart from the way of life, then we must always remember to teach them the precepts of the Scriptures which have stood the test of time down through the centuries. This is the anchor to hold every society stable through any storm which may arise.

One of the hindrances to the family relationship in recent years has been the introduction of television (TV). The TV syndrome has captured the fancy of the people to such an extent that if there is a TV breakdown in the home the family will suffer “withdrawal symptoms.” Too many programs which are aired today should never be viewed. All of the violence, the murders, the broken homes, which make up the TV scripts are not conducive to raising obedient children. If a

child sees programs which present immorality, murder, broken homes, and general lawlessness in a good light, do you think he will view them as being evil? A helpful cure for a wayward child today is to get them out of the cities, out of the decrepit atmosphere of the lawless metropolitan areas, and back to nature



which reveals the creative power of Yahweh.

The arrogant child of today is not disciplined in the way that we were when we were children. I can recall that I received few punishments when I was a child, simply because we would not have dared to resist the authority of our parents. Corporal punishment was universally practiced by the parents of all of the families of our neighborhood. This is the stand of the Bible on child rearing! **“Chasten your son, seeing there is hope; and set not your heart on his destruction....”** (Proverbs 19:18). This verse does not mean that a child should be beaten, but it means that if the disobedient child needs corporal punishment, then it should by all means be administered. **“Withhold not correction from the child; for**

if you beat him with the rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with the rod, and shall deliver his soul from Sheol.” If you don't think that such a statement is found in the Bible, you may confirm that it is. Read Proverbs 23:13-14. Also, we read in Proverbs 22:15, **“Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.”**

In these Scriptures, we can find a great deal of instruction on how to raise children who will be an asset to the world in which they live. To raise children who are of the caliber to rule this earth in righteousness, the parents' responsibility is to teach them right from wrong and to enforce acceptable conduct among the young people. It is not proper

to allow young people to run wild and give them no training, as child psychologists of the day are suggesting. Conversely, also, the experience of the parents should be considered by the children to be invaluable as a model for their own lives. The parents can mold these little souls in the right direction if they will only use biblical principles to do so. There need be no more student uprisings, no more drug abuse problem, no more insurgence in the home. The answer to the correct raising of children should be to keep the Bible central in importance in the home, and teach the children about the plan of salvation and the Kingdom of Yahweh. If you do, then problems with your children will be minimal.

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RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

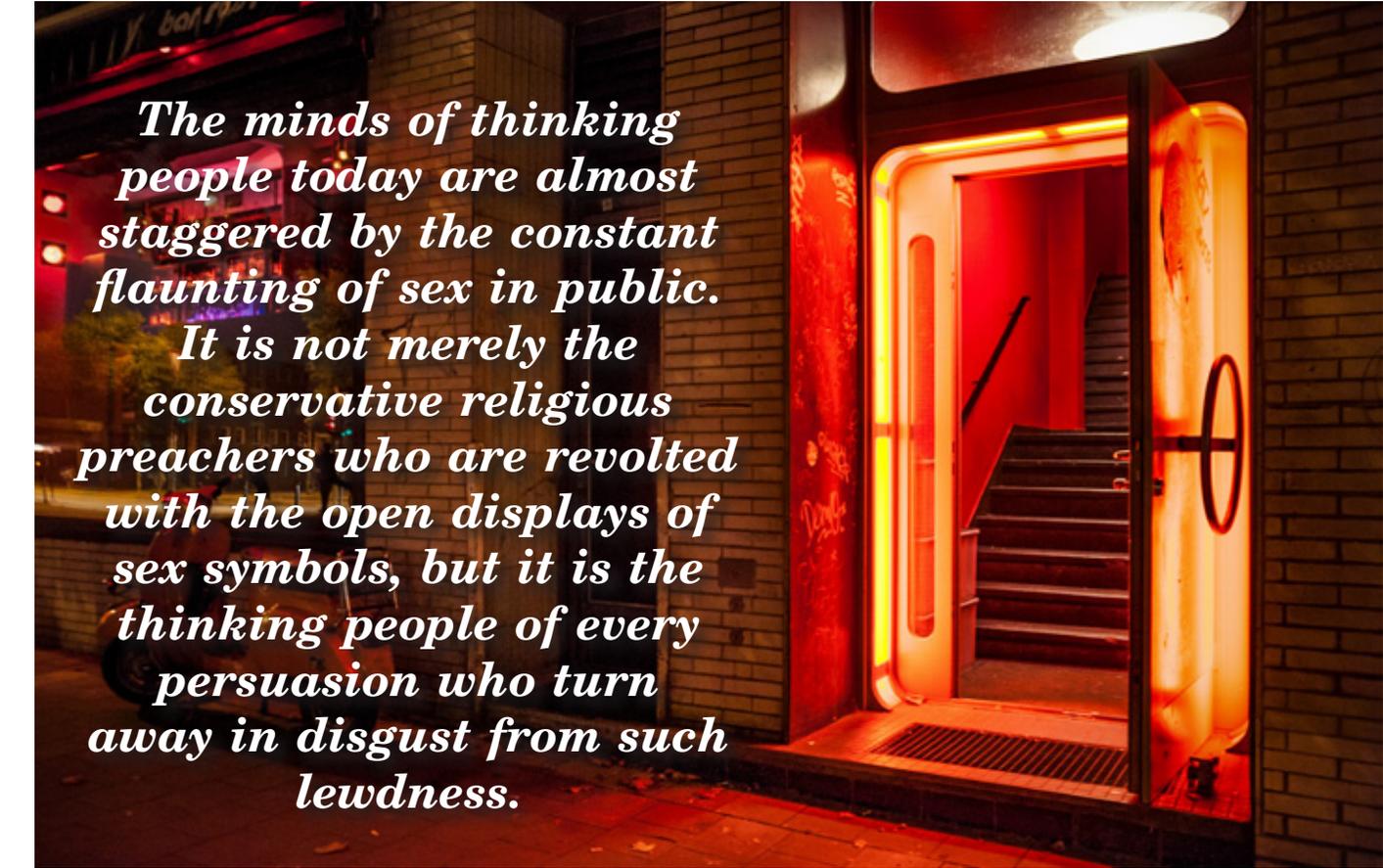
Further Contemporary Degeneration

A very astounding article appeared in a nationally circulated newspaper supplement recently. The subject of the article was the announcement that a new museum had opened in San Francisco, California. The nationwide publicity seemed to center on the fact that it is a rather unique museum which has devoted its display exclusively to sex and erotic art! When it opened its doors in the middle of March, over 6,000 people attended the festivities. It boasts of possessing the most complete collection of erotic art in the world. New York City also has a museum of sex in Manhattan.

The minds of thinking people today are almost staggered by

the constant flaunting of sex in public. It is not merely the conservative religious preachers who are revolted with the open displays of sex symbols in merchandising products, in popular magazines on every newsstand, and on every street in our land, but it is the thinking people of every persuasion who turn away in disgust from such lewdness. Within the memories of most of the people reading this magazine lies an era when sex was a taboo subject for mixed company, when risqué jokes were reserved for a men's club, and when sex-oriented magazines were not readily available on almost every street corner. Now all of the barriers have come crashing down with a

resounding thud, and even ministers no longer cry out against the excesses of the day, because they, themselves, are wallowing in the degenerative abyss of sex while their churches openly sanction perversion! What, indeed, has happened to this world, or doesn't anyone care anymore? Just a few years ago, I attended a meeting which featured the appearance of Dr. George Lamsa as guest speaker. The auditorium was only sparsely filled to hear this great Bible translator speak, perhaps only about 50 people were in attendance. Paradoxically, 6,000 people flock to the opening of a museum devoted to erotic art! We wonder why the values of people have defected



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from the way of living of years gone by, until today the aberrations have taken them into the paths of lewdness.

In order to solve the complexities of this problem, where would we have to search to determine the root cause of this decline in moral values? First of all, it seems our country has been at war constantly for over half a century. These wars of major dimension have absorbed millions of men into the uniform of their country via the draft. With the youth of our country staring death in the face and at a martial juggernaut, they have had to re-examine their lives and ask if it were really worthwhile to wait for the customary cycles of life to occur under the established system of their forefathers, or if it were not more appropriate to plunge right in and get all of the pleasure which one can

absorb immediately, because tomorrow death may come and then it would be too late. With the aid of misdirected psychology, the youth of our land have chosen the latter alternative. If you didn't already know this fact, this misdirected course of our youth has now led us to the position of national weakness, as illicit sex, venereal disease, drug abuse, and untrustworthiness have taken their absolute toll upon the physical and moral fiber of our land.

Can the tide of such events be turned back to the juncture at which the wrong turn was taken? Is it too late for our country and the Western world now, as the enemies of our country continue the calculated process of undermining the character of our people by continually dumping mind-destroying drugs within our borders in a conspiratorial

plot to weaken us, by invading our borders—not with military weapons, but with a vast arsenal of erotically-oriented literature and art? No, friends, it is not too late, if this country will just **GET DOWN ON ITS KNEES** and **CONFESS** its sins to a merciful Heavenly Father and then **TURN** from its evil ways to **SERVE AND OBEY** Him. What this country needs now is not the illicit love which is almost universal, but it is a renewed Faith in the message of the Bible. You may turn your back on Almighty Yahweh, you may reject His Word as being authentic, but this will not alter the fact that He has pre-determined that it will stand forever. ***“For, All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of it as the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls: but the word of Yahweh endures forever. And this***

is the word of good tidings which was preached to you." (1 Peter 1:24-25). This identical message is being preached to you today by the Assemblies of Yahweh.

There are many prophecies which we could call forth at this moment to show that sex will play a principal role in the events of the last days. One of the main prophecies is that which is found in Matthew 24:37-39, ***"And as were the days of Noah, so shall be the coming of the Son of man. For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and they knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall be the coming of the Son of man."*** How long has it been since you read the account of the flood in Genesis, chapters 6-8? However, possibly the most enlightening study which you could make is the meaning of the names of the people comprising the Cain family tree which perished in the flood. It shows that sex and self-gratification played a central role in the lives of these people. You may not have realized that, in the Hebrew, all words have a root, and they have a meaning. Language is basically the expression of an idea which you have and communicating it to someone else. More adequate communication can always be achieved when you are familiar with the meaning of the root words from which the word is derived. You will notice that Moses writes in recording the history of the flood in Genesis 6:2, ***"...that the sons of Elohim saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them***

wives of all that they chose." Back in chapter four, we learn that the first bigamist was a man called Lamech, of the Cain family. He took himself wives of his choosing. Apparently the family of Seth, who were then known as the Sons of Elohim, followed suit and they, in turn, corrupted themselves. Another enlightening bit of information is the fact that the daughter of Lamech is called *Naamah*. This name means *pleasure, agreeable, pleasurable*. Similarly, in our modern day, it is the women who must be agreeable and even seductive for the blatant illicit sex to transpire, which is taking place today. Wife-swapping incidents such as happened to two professional baseball players just last year indicate that we are in an era such as the days of Noah, when men took wives of all whom they chose, never for a moment using as a criteria whether it would be legal or not.

The prophet Ezekiel, in his 22nd chapter, is describing the sins of Jerusalem, which is typical of the religious worship of our day. Beginning in verse 9 and reading to verse 11, we find this description which can be applied to our troubled times. ***"...In the middle of you they have committed lewdness. In you have they uncovered their fathers' nakedness; in you have they humbled her that was unclean in her impurity. And one has committed abomination with his neighbor's wife; and another has lewdly defiled his daughter-in-law; and another in you has humbled his sister, his father's daughter."*** It sounds almost like a description of modern movie scripts, and the stories found in any newspaper.

Let us turn to another passage which predicts that illicit

sex would be one of the foremost problems in the last days. Turn with me to Jeremiah 23:10, ***"For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourns; the pastures of the wilderness are dried up. And their course is evil, and their might is not right..."*** We read then in verse 14 of this same 23rd chapter of Jeremiah, ***"In the prophets of Jerusalem also I have seen a horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies; and they strengthen the hands of evildoers, so that no one returns from his wickedness: they have all of them become to me as Sodom, and the inhabitants of it as Gomorrah."*** How many contemporary ministers today commit adultery and sanction perversion? Even one such incident is too many!

The book of Revelation contains many prophecies describing the last days and the activities of the people who are guilty of grave crimes of rebellion against the Most High in their insolent disobedience. We read in verse 21 of chapter 9, ***"...And they repented not of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts."*** Fornication is premarital sex, as you may already know. Then in Revelation 21:7-8, we find a contrast, ***"He that overcomes shall inherit these things; and I will be his El, and he shall be my son. But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone; which is the second death."*** Will you be among that latter crowd? Why not repent before it is too late? ^{SNB}



The Sacred Name Broadcast

RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

Laodicean Virgins

At the end of World War Two, the people of the United States appeared to have reached a new plateau of special, personal interest in religion. At that time, a spiritual revival seemed imminent to the alert observer. America had inducted over 12 million men into the armed forces. We had sustained nearly 300,000 casualties. While the men of the armed forces were fighting the battles in foreign lands, the families and friends of the fighting men were re-dedicating their lives to the Almighty. I recall many people making the statement, *“If only our Heavenly Father will spare our son or daughter and bring them home safely from the war,*

we will be everlastingly grateful.” How many fighting men, who in battle were brought face to face with death, vowed that, if their lives were spared, they would thereafter live a life totally dedicated to the Almighty? Interestingly, almost as soon as the war ended, many resolutions were quickly and conveniently forgotten while the people who had made them regressed into their old routines.

Our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, has accurately described the general frame of mind of the people who would be living immediately prior to His Second Coming. He described them as being lukewarm—rich

and increased in goods. This gross materialism would yield the spiritual fruit of impenitent, calloused indifference. In their minds, these people would equate gain with righteousness, just as the Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 6:5 warned Timothy would occur. Yahshua the Messiah informs the Laodicean Assembly that while they were positive that they were keeping all of the commandments, they were, in fact, guilty of breaking some of them, causing those self-centered people to become poor, miserable, wretched, blind, and naked.

In order to remedy the situation, Yahshua the Messiah urged the Laodicean people

to buy from Him gold which has been tried (refined) by fire. When we cross-reference this symbol in the Bible, we find that it stands for sound doctrine, or the keeping of the commandments. For instance, in Job, Psalms, and Proverbs, we find that gold is compared to wisdom, which comes only from Yahweh, meaning sound teaching or doctrine. In Malachi chapter 3, Almighty Yahweh informs us that He would refine His ministers (the Sons of Levi) as gold and silver is refined so that His true servants would be able to offer an offering in righteousness. In Zechariah 13:9, Almighty Yahweh predicts of all His people, ***“And I will bring the third part into the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people; and they shall say, Yahweh is my Elohim.”***

Could it possibly be that you, today, could have acquired a Laodicean personality? You may be one of those people who began to study your Bible years ago but, for some reason, today it just doesn't hold your avid interest as it once did. Do you feel that you might already believe all of the Truth which the Bible holds? If you have been neglecting your Bible studies, you should get busy again as did the noble Bereans. Perhaps you presently lack the incentive to resume a deep study of the Word, believing it to be boring. Do you remember Philippians 2:12? ***“So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear***

and trembling.” You are the only one who is responsible for your salvation. No minister or church organization can stand before the judgment seat of the Messiah for you.

Whenever I think of the Laodicean Assembly era, I think of the parable of the 10 virgins. One of the reasons why this association is made could be that both of these episodes are predicted to occur immediately preceding the time when the Messiah returns. Did you know that the symbols contained in the parable of the Ten Virgins can actually be interpreted from the inspired Scriptures and that they will give us a wonderful lesson which could ultimately mean the difference between salvation, or rejection, for you?

The parable is found in the first 13 verses of Matthew chapter 25. Verse one reads, ***“Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened to ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.”*** The symbol of the number 10 could be taken to allude to the so-called 10 lost tribes of Israel. This is a most absorbing subject when you study it. The 10 northern tribes of Israel were conquered by the Assyrian Empire and taken into captivity. As a combined body, they never returned to the land of Israel from that captivity. The people known as the Jews today are merely descendants

of two tribes, Judah and Benjamin, with some of the tribe of Levi and of the tribes of Israel. As a matter of fact, your Bible points directly to the people of the United States as the nation holding many of the dispersed people of Yahweh, as one of the 10 tribes of Israel. Please refer to Zechariah 8:20-23, where 10 men (Israelites) will be taught by a Jew (Yahshua the Messiah).

The symbol of virgin is found explained in 2 Corinthians 11:2. Paul says, ***“For I am jealous over you with a righteous jealousy: for I espoused you to one husband, that I might present you a pure virgin to the Messiah.”*** Throughout the messages of the Old Testament prophets, it is Israel who was to be known as a virgin. Sadly, they did not continue to wait in eager anticipation for the coming of their Messiah. They left the worship of Yahweh and consorted with other mighty ones, referring to pagan mighty ones and also to other nations. Israel became guilty of spiritual fornication, for which our Heavenly Father gave them a bill of divorcement.

We have now seen that these 10 virgins were Israelites who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. There should be no question in our minds of the individual to whom the term *bridegroom* refers. It is Yahshua the

You are the only one who is responsible for your salvation. No minister or church organization can stand before the judgment seat of the Messiah for you.

Messiah, and this can be recognized clearly from such passages as Revelation 21:9. Notice, now, the symbol for the lamp which each one of the virgins was carrying. In Psalm 119:105, we read, ***“Your word is a lamp to my feet, And light to my path.”*** Going along a little further, in Proverbs 6:23 we find this interpretation: ***“For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; And reproofs of instruction are the way of life.”*** I could refer to a number of additional Scriptures which will offer an identical interpretation, that the Word of Yahweh, and His commandments which are contained in the Bible, are the lamp to which our Savior refers in the parable.

Notice carefully as we come to understand the interpretation of this parable. All of the 10 virgins have lamps (the Bible), and they are going forth to meet the bridegroom (preparing for Messiah’s Second Coming). These people have taken up their Bibles and have begun a diligent study. Their lamps are burning brightly as the virgins await the Messiah with eager anticipation.

Five of the ten virgins are wise, and the word from which the translation *wise* is taken means *prudent*. These five wise virgins have taken the precaution to acquire plenty of oil in their vessels. Notice, all of the lamps of the virgins were illuminated and burning, but only the five wise virgins took the special precaution of obtaining additional oil which they carried in their vessels. The five foolish virgins took no additional oil besides what was in their lamps.

The symbol of the vessel in

“For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; And reproofs of instruction are the way of life.”

PROVERBS 6:23

the Scripture is the person himself. When Ananiah was sent to baptize the Apostle Paul, he was told by the Messiah that Paul was A CHOSEN VESSEL for the Work (Acts 9:15). The vessel is then identified as a human being, chosen of Yahweh. The five prudent virgins had obtained extra oil above that which was already in their lamps at the moment.

While the bridegroom delayed his coming, all 10 of these virgins became drowsy and went to sleep. This illustrates that a lukewarmness, or complacency, had set in. Perhaps the cares of the world, or self-satisfaction, had produced a sedative effect which led to slumber. Interestingly, all of the virgins alike went to sleep. However, at the sound of the warning cry which proclaimed, “Behold, the bridegroom is coming! Go out to meet him!” all of the virgins sprang up and trimmed their lamps. They all resumed their Bible studies. The wise virgins soon had their lamps burning brightly again, while the lamps of the foolish virgins had been almost entirely extinguished for lack of fuel.

If we all desire to be alert and ready to meet the bridegroom as wise virgins, then we should have a special concern

to understand the symbol of the oil. It seems that the majority of ministers teach that this is the Holy Spirit. When the Bible student demands to know where a Scripture could be found which would verify this conclusion, no such Scripture is forthcoming. I have tried to find such a text myself and have taken a concordance to check each individual reference to oil, only to learn that it is not the Holy Spirit at all.

The symbol is interpreted in Song of Solomon 1:3 where we read, ***“Your oils have a good fragrance; YOUR NAME IS AS OIL POURED FORTH; THEREFORE DO THE VIRGINS LOVE YOU.”*** How perfectly this verse explains the crucial symbol of the oil. As a matter of fact, the Hebrew word for ointment is oil (*she-men*). The oil is the NAME of the Bridegroom or the Messiah, and the NAME of our Heavenly Father Yahweh, and will make the lamps of the Word begin to burn brightly once more.

Let’s go back again to the book of Revelation and visualize exactly how all of this ties in with the Laodicean Assembly. Notice in verse 18, that our Savior directs the Laodiceans to obtain eyesalve to anoint their eyes so that they can see. This eyesalve must be none other than His own Name, Yahshua the Messiah, and the Name of His Father, Almighty Yahweh. With these Names, the people of Yahweh are sealed (Revelation 14:1). Have you really understood the importance of the Heavenly Father’s Name? Why not give it some serious thought and study? It may be just what you need to overcome the spiritual lethargy and apathy in which you may find yourself today.

SNB

THE *Miracle* OF CONVERSION

Continued from page 5.

or rules with El. What sort of a man was this? His conduct from that time on indicated true repentance.

His complete conversion occurred and is recorded in Genesis chapter 35. Jacob was told to go to Bethel (the House of El) and there build an altar to Yahweh. Yahweh ordered Jacob and his family to first bury the idols which they had, which symbolizes a type of repentance. Then they were told to undergo a ceremonial cleansing. Finally, they were told to change their garments, which means the putting on of robes of righteousness, which is allegorical of conversion. Conversion, then, is a change of garments, attiring oneself in the spiritual white robes, which is symbolical of saints (pious ones) (Revelation 19:7). After this repentance and conversion experience, Jacob proceeded to offer pure worship acceptable to Yahweh and was used by the Almighty to found a family which ultimately developed into a great nation—the twelve tribes of Israel.

The Un-Natural Change

The Prophet Jeremiah asked the question, ***“Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may you also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.”*** (Jeremiah 13:23). The natural tendency of the human family is to do evil. Almighty Yahweh

declares, ***“... I will not again curse the ground any more for man’s sake; for that the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again destroy any more every living thing, as I have done.”*** (Genesis 8:21).



The Psalmist also expresses similar conclusions in Psalm 58:3-5, ***“The wicked are estranged from the womb: They go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies. Their poison is like the poison of a serpent: They are like the deaf adder that stops her ear, Which listens not to the voice of charmers, Charming ever so wisely.”*** The wicked people will not listen to the voice of Yahweh. They will reject the call of the Holy Spirit of Yahweh, just as a deaf adder will not be charmed to music. Almighty Yahweh has offered such sweet music in His Word. He has offered blessings, end-

less life, adoption into His own family as His spiritual children. Indeed, the wicked have spurned His pleas just as they did in the days of Noah.

The unnatural are then actually changed. Although few people make an effort to experience true conversion, there are a select few who are heeding His call. They have sought to turn their backs to the world. These people have seen a miracle take place in their lives! They have sought Almighty Yahweh against all that is natural in their human lives. They are striving, even agonizing, battling against the current of the stream of the world, to live for Yahweh and keep His Laws. Where once they were going away from Yahweh, now they have turned back to Him. ***“For you were going astray like sheep; but are now returned to the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.”*** (1 Peter 2:25). Could this miracle describe you in your present state? In essence, this is the only way to salvation.

Alters the Human Personality

Instead of a self-centered, avaricious nature, when all that a man desires is to acquire or obtain, his very being now becomes devoted to giving, to making someone happy. Such a changed personality is Holy Spirit inspired and is a carbon copy of the very personality of Yahweh. It overcomes sin and makes every effort to please the Heavenly Father by being obedient to Him. Who can tell how this miracle occurred, or what it is? It cannot be described in scientific terms, but it is a very real and tangible way of life to the converted individual—the True Worshiper. S^{NB}

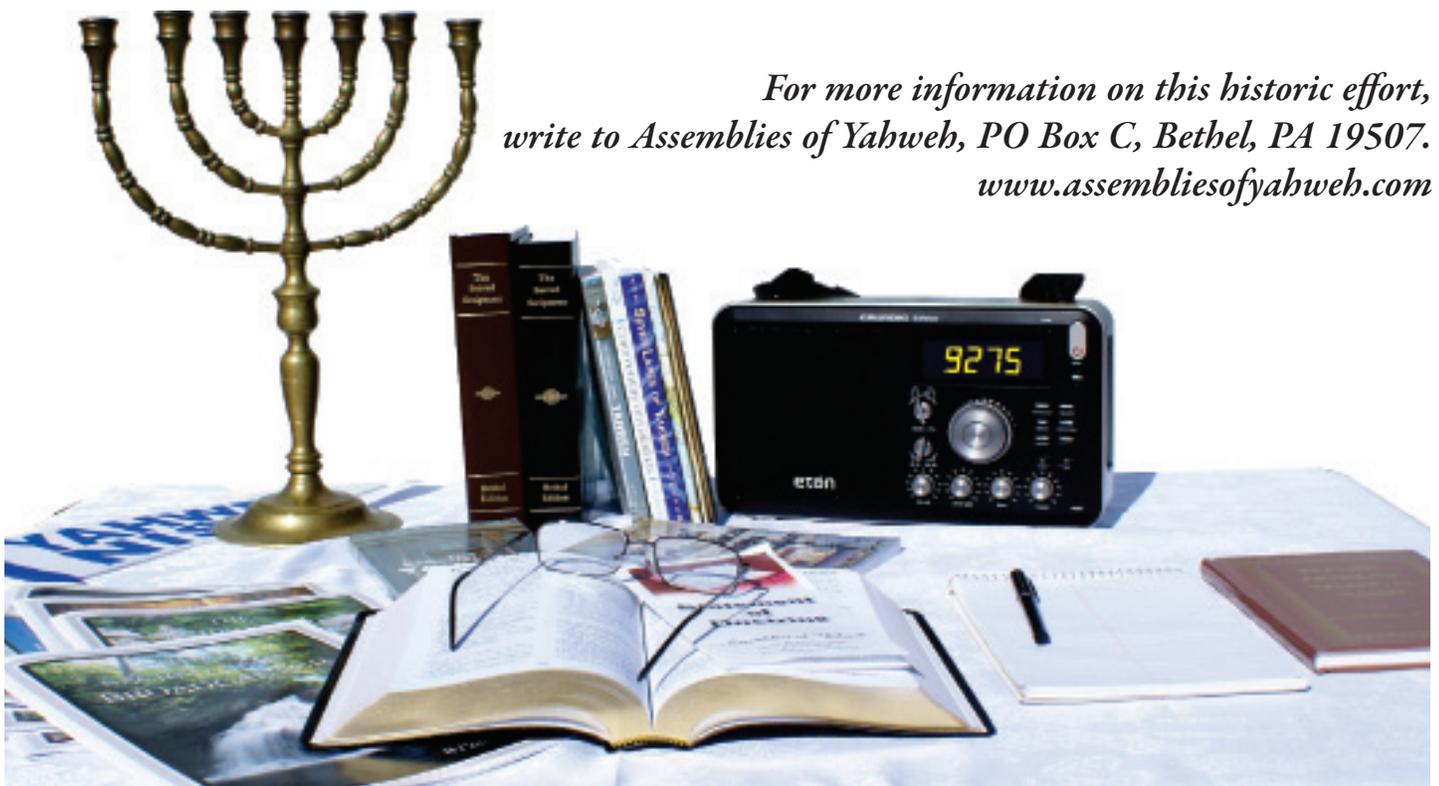
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REVELATION 14:6-12

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And these good tidings of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all the nations; and then shall the end come.” —MATTHEW 24:14