

# A Call to Repent

## An Exhortation for All People Everywhere to Obey יהושע the Messiah at the End of the Age of the Messiah

The Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation are True and Reveal the 7000 Year Plan of Elohim

The Scriptures contained within the 66 books from Genesis to Revelation, including the *written* Torah of Moses, the Writings, the Prophets and the Messianic Scriptures are *inspired* by Elohim, and are true and without error in their original autographs.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** <sup>16</sup> *All Scripture is given by inspiration of Elohim, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,* <sup>17</sup> *that the man of Elohim may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

The Scriptures, which have been meticulously transmitted over the millennia, continue *perfectly to convey* the truth to this day in many different languages about the Creator and the 7000 Year Plan He has for His creation. יהושע the Messiah is the Son of Elohim – יהוה in the flesh – the image of the invisible Elohim – the Creator of the universe. יהוה Elohim is a unified One.

**Genesis 1:1** *In the beginning [The World that Was] Elohim [את] created the heavens and the earth.*

**John 1:1-3** <sup>1</sup> *In the beginning [The World that Was] was the Word [את], and the Word [את] was with Elohim, and the Word [את] was Elohim.* <sup>2</sup> *He was in the beginning with Elohim.* <sup>3</sup> *All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.*

**John 1:14** *And the Word [את] became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His Majesty, the majesty as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

**1 John 1:1-4** <sup>1</sup> *That which was from the beginning [The World that Was], which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of Life.* <sup>2</sup> *The life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you the Word of Life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us.* <sup>3</sup> *That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son יהושע Messiah.* <sup>4</sup> *And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.*

יהושע Messiah is the Aleph Tau את which is translated as the Alpha and Omega ΑΩ in Greek

John understood that יהושע the Messiah was the manifestation of Elohim and he understood the mystery of the **Aleph Tau** [את]. He understood that the Hebrew word that was beside or *with* the word **Elohim** in **Genesis 1:1**, was the **Aleph Tau** [את] – the first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet which are un-translated in English. He wrote further about the **Aleph Tau** [את] in Revelation.

**Revelation 1:4-11** <sup>4</sup> *John, to the seven assemblies which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne,* <sup>5</sup> *and from יהושע Messiah, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,* <sup>6</sup> *and has made us kings and priests to His Elohim and Father, to Him be majesty and dominion through all the ages and to eternity [World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come]. So be it.* <sup>7</sup> *Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, So be it.* <sup>8</sup> *“I am the Aleph and the Tau [את], the Beginning and the End,” says יהוה, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”* <sup>9</sup> *I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of יהושע Messiah, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of Elohim and for the testimony of יהושע Messiah.* <sup>10</sup> *I*



was in the Spirit on the Day of יהוה, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, <sup>11</sup> saying, “I am the **Aleph** and the **Taw** [תא], the First and the Last,” and, “What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven assemblies which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

**Revelation 21:6-8** <sup>6</sup> And He said to me, “It is done! I am the **Aleph** and the **Taw** [תא], the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. <sup>7</sup> He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his Elohim and he shall be My son. <sup>8</sup> But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

**Revelation 22:12-15** <sup>12</sup> “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. <sup>13</sup> I am the **Aleph** and the **Taw** [תא], the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.” <sup>14</sup> Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. <sup>15</sup> But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

## Moses taught that יהוה Elohim has an Image

The idea that Elohim has an *image* or a *likeness* comes from **Genesis 1:26-28** where Elohim created man in His *image* or *likeness*.

**Genesis 1:26-27** <sup>26</sup> Then Elohim said, “Let Us make man in Our *image*, according to Our *likeness*; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” <sup>27</sup> So Elohim created man in His own *image*; in the *image of Elohim* He created him; *male and female* He created them.

Although it is true that *Elohim is Spirit* it is also unequivocally clear in Scripture that *Elohim has an image* and that man was created in His image *male and female*. Moses in **Genesis 32:24-31** recalls the story of Jacob wrestling with an angel. Jacob prevailed over the angel who said that from then on his name would be **Israel**. Jacob asked what the angel’s name was, but did not receive an answer so Jacob named the place *Peniel* – because he believed that he had seen *Elohim* face to face.

**Genesis 32:24-31** <sup>24</sup> Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until *the breaking of day*. <sup>25</sup> Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob’s hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup> And He said, “Let Me go, for the day breaks.” But he said, “I will not let You go unless You bless me!” <sup>27</sup> So He said to him, “What is your name?” He said, “Jacob.” <sup>28</sup> And He said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but **Israel**; for you have struggled with Elohim and with men, and have prevailed.” <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked, saying, “Tell me Your name, I pray.” And He said, “Why is it that you ask about My name?” And He blessed him there. <sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the name of the place *Peniel*: “**For I have seen Elohim face to face, and my life is preserved.**” <sup>31</sup> Just as he crossed over *Peniel* *the sun rose on him*, and he limped on his hip.

**Hosea 12:4-5** <sup>4</sup> Yes, he struggled with the Angel and prevailed; He wept, and sought favor from Him. He found Him in Bethel, and there *He spoke to us* – <sup>5</sup> *that is, יהוה Elohey of hosts. יהוה is His memorable name.*

## יהושע the Messiah is the Image of the Invisible Elohim

According to Moses and Hosea, Jacob saw Elohim – יהוה – face to face, and from these accounts we learn that long before יהושע the Messiah came to the earth, the *image* of Elohim – the very *face* of יהוה – had been seen by Jacob. Just before the Messiah was born, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him that Miriam his betrothed would have a Son, and that His name would be called *Immanuel* – *Elohim with us*.

**Matthew 1:18-23** <sup>18</sup> Now the birth of יהושע Messiah was as follows: After His mother Miriam was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Set Apart Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. <sup>20</sup> But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of יהוה appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of **David**, do not be afraid to take to you Miriam your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Set Apart Spirit. <sup>21</sup> And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name יהושע, for He will save His people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> So all this was



done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by יהוה through the prophet, saying: <sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name **Immanuel**,” which is translated, “**Elohim with us**.”

The message of the angel to Joseph in his dream in fact fulfilled the prophecy of **Isaiah 7:14** and **Isaiah 9:6-7**.

**Isaiah 7:14** Therefore יהוה Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name **Immanuel**.

**Isaiah 9:6-7** <sup>6</sup> For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, **Mighty El**, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> Of the increase of His government and peace there is no end, on the throne of **David**, and over His kingdom, establishing and upholding it with judgment and justice, from now until eternity [**The World to Come**]. The zeal of יהוה of hosts will perform this.

Paul, at the time when he was persecuting those who were of the Way, had an experience on the road to Damascus in which a light shone and a voice was heard from heaven. The voice identified itself as יהושע whom he was persecuting.

**Acts 9:1-9** <sup>1</sup> Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Master, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly **a light shone around him from heaven**. <sup>4</sup> Then he fell to the ground, and **heard a voice saying to him**, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” <sup>5</sup> And he said, “Who are You, Master?” Then the Master said, “**I am יהושע, whom you are persecuting**. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” <sup>6</sup> So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Master, what do You want me to do?” Then the Master said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” <sup>7</sup> And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup> Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

After Paul began to serve יהושע the Messiah, he described Him as יהוה, the Creator, Elohim in the **flesh**, who was in the **form** of Elohim and who was the **image** of the invisible Elohim.

**1 Corinthians 8:5-6** <sup>5</sup> For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), <sup>6</sup> yet for us there is one Elohim, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Master יהושע Messiah, **through whom are all things**, and through whom we live.

**2 Corinthians 4:3-4** <sup>3</sup> But even if our message is hidden, it is hidden to those who are perishing, <sup>4</sup> in whom the god of this age [**Present Age, Age of the Messiah**] has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they are not illuminated by the message of His Majesty the Messiah, who is the **image of Elohim**.

**Ephesians 3:8-12** <sup>8</sup> To me, who am less than the least of all the set apart ones, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Messiah, <sup>9</sup> and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages [**World that Was**] has been hidden in **Elohim who created all things through יהושע Messiah**; <sup>10</sup> to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of Elohim might be made known by the called out assembly to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, <sup>11</sup> according to the purpose of the ages [**World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come**] which He accomplished in Messiah יהושע our Master, <sup>12</sup> in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

**1 Timothy 3:16** And without controversy great is the mystery of Elohim. **He was manifested in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in honor.

**Philippians 2:5-11** <sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you which was also in Messiah יהושע, <sup>6</sup> who, being in the **form of Elohim**, did not consider it robbery to be equal with Elohim, <sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the execution stake. <sup>9</sup> Therefore Elohim also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of יהושע every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue should confess that יהושע Messiah is יהוה, to the esteem of Elohim the Father.



**Colossians 1:13-18** <sup>13</sup> *He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,* <sup>14</sup> *in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.* <sup>15</sup> *He is the **image of the invisible Elohim**, the firstborn over all creation.* <sup>16</sup> *For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.* <sup>17</sup> *And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.* <sup>18</sup> *And He is the head of the body, the assembly, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.*

**Colossians 2:8-10** <sup>8</sup> *Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Messiah.* <sup>9</sup> *For in Him dwells all the completeness of the Almighty bodily,* <sup>10</sup> *and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.*

The author of Hebrews shared Paul's view that יהושע the Messiah was the express *image* of Elohim.

**Hebrews 1:1-4** <sup>1</sup> *Elohim, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,* <sup>2</sup> *has in these last days [the last two millennial days in the **Age of the Messiah**] spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the ages [**World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come**].* <sup>3</sup> *Who being the brightness of His Majesty and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,* <sup>4</sup> *having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.*

John, who understood the mystery of the **Aleph Tav** [את], understood that the Son of Elohim came to give understanding in order that those who are born of Elohim may know the *true Elohim* – יהושע *the Messiah*.

**1 John 5:18-21** <sup>18</sup> *We know that whoever is born of Elohim does not sin; but he who has been born of Elohim keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.* <sup>19</sup> *We know that we are of Elohim, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.* <sup>20</sup> *And we know that the Son of Elohim has come and has given us understanding that we may know Him who is true. And we are in Him who is true – in His Son יהושע **Messiah**. This is the true Elohim and the **Age of Life**.* <sup>21</sup> *Little children, keep yourselves from idols!*

יהושע Messiah Himself prophesied at one point in His ministry that Jerusalem would not see Him again until the children of **Israel** said, "**Blessed is He who comes in the name of יהוה!**"

**Luke 13:34-35** <sup>34</sup> *"Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!"* <sup>35</sup> *See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, '**Blessed is He who comes in the name of יהוה!**'"*

This prophecy in **Luke 13:34-35** was given between late **33 C.E.** and early **34 C.E.** several weeks or months before the crucifixion and it concerned the next time the Messiah would enter the city of Jerusalem. After He gave this prophecy, יהושע spent His time in Samaria, Galilee and the region of **Judea** beyond Jordan. According to **Matthew 21:8-9** and **Mark 11:8-10**, this prophecy was fulfilled when יהושע entered Jerusalem on a donkey on **Day 8 / Month 1** in **34 C.E.** Multitudes in Jerusalem who understood that יהושע Messiah was the Son of **David** destined to bringing the kingdom cried out when they saw Him, "**Blessed is He who comes in the name of יהוה!**"

**Matthew 21:8-9** <sup>8</sup> *And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road.* <sup>9</sup> *Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of **David**! **Blessed is He who comes in the name of יהוה!** Hosanna in the highest!"*

**Mark 11:8-10** <sup>8</sup> *And many spread their clothes on the road, and others cut down leafy branches from the trees and spread them on the road.* <sup>9</sup> *Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna! **Blessed is He who comes in the name of יהוה!**"* <sup>10</sup> *Blessed is the kingdom of our father **David** that comes in the name of יהוה! Hosanna in the highest!"*

Then just **2 days** after His first triumphal entry when the multitudes acknowledged that יהושע came in the name of יהוה, and only **4 days** before His crucifixion, יהושע sternly confronted the scribes and the **Pharisees**. It was at this time on **Day 10 / Month 1** in **34 C.E.** that יהושע *prophesied a second time* that **Israel** would not see Him until they say, "**Blessed is He who comes in the name of יהוה!**"



**Matthew 23:37-39** <sup>37</sup> “Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! <sup>38</sup> Behold, your temple is left to you desolate; <sup>39</sup> for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of יהוה!’”

**Matthew 23:37-39** records that יהושע gave this prophecy a *second time* on **Day 10 / Month 1** in **34 C.E.** יהושע was not able to gather the children of Elohim together in **34 C.E.** because they were not willing, and the Second Temple was left desolate in **70 C.E.** Therefore, it appears it will only be fulfilled in the **Millennial Kingdom** in the **Age of Life**.

It is critical to note that *many Judeans* received יהושע as the Son of **David** who was bringing in the kingdom of **David** and they received Him *in the name of יהוה*. It is **Judeans** who birthed the Messianic Movement, and some of those who received יהושע may have heard of the encounter between Him and a crowd several years earlier when He spoke from the perspective of the Omniscient One.

**John 8:58** יהושע said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, *before Abraham was, I AM.*”

On another occasion, יהושע spoke to 70 of His disciples as if He were a witness present at the creation, when Elohim separated light from darkness as recorded in **Genesis 1:3-5**.

**Luke 10:18-20** <sup>18</sup> And He said to them, “*I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.*” <sup>19</sup> Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”

When on several occasions יהושע was tempted by the devil, He responded that the devil should not tempt “יהוה your Elohim.”

**Matthew 4:5-7** <sup>5</sup> Then the devil took Him up into the set apart city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> and said to Him, “If You are the Son of Elohim, throw Yourself down. For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you,’ and, ‘In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.’” <sup>7</sup> יהושע said to him, “It is written again, ‘You shall not tempt יהוה your Elohim.’”

**Luke 4:9-12** <sup>9</sup> Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “If You are the Son of Elohim, throw Yourself down from here. <sup>10</sup> For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you,’ <sup>11</sup> and, ‘In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.’” <sup>12</sup> And יהושע answered and said to him, “It has been said, ‘You shall not tempt יהוה your Elohim.’”

Although Scripture is clear that יהושע is the image of the invisible Elohim, this teaching is not believed in Rabbinic Judaism which teaches and practices the 13 principles of the faith as espoused by a twelfth century philosopher and astronomer named Moshe ben Maimon who is commonly known as Maimonides. The fact that Rabbinic Judaism adheres to 13 principles is interesting as the first mention of the number is in **Genesis 14:4** where it is linked with rebellion. This is why 13 is generally recognized as the number of rebellion. The third principle of the 13 principles of Rabbinic Judaism is that the Creator *has no body* or *image*.

3. I believe with perfect faith that **the Creator**, Blessed be His Name, **has no body** and that He is free from the properties of matter, **and that there can be no (physical) comparison to Him whatsoever.**

Wikipedia – The Free Encyclopedia <[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish\\_principles\\_of\\_faith#Maimonides.27\\_13\\_principles\\_of\\_faith](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_principles_of_faith#Maimonides.27_13_principles_of_faith)>

This principle of Judaism flatly contradicts the Written Torah in **Genesis 1:26-27** and **Genesis 33:20**, and for this reason יהושע Messiah, who is the Word of Elohim, would *not agree* with this definition. He was very straight forward on this subject.

## יהושע Messiah saw Himself as the Physical Embodiment of Elohim

There can be no doubt from His own words that יהושע Messiah saw Himself as the physical embodiment of Elohim.

**John 6:44-47** <sup>44</sup> “No man can come to Me, except the Father who has sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at *last [millennial] day.*” <sup>45</sup> It is written in the prophets, ‘*And they shall all be taught by Elohim.*’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. <sup>46</sup> Not that anyone has seen the Father, except **He who is from Elohim; He has seen the Father.** <sup>47</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has the **Age of Life.**”



**John 12:44-50** <sup>44</sup> Then יהושע cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. <sup>45</sup> And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. <sup>46</sup> I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. <sup>47</sup> And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. <sup>48</sup> He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him – the word that I have spoken will judge him in the **last [millennial] day**. <sup>49</sup> For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. <sup>50</sup> And I know that His command is the **Age of Life**. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”

**John 14:1-11** <sup>1</sup> “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in Elohim, believe also in Me. <sup>2</sup> In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And where I go you know, and the way you know.” <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to Him, “Master, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup> יהושע said to him, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. <sup>7</sup> If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and **from now on you know Him and have seen Him**.” <sup>8</sup> Philip said to Him, “Master, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.” <sup>9</sup> יהושע said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father**; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. <sup>11</sup> Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.”

## יהושע the Messiah is One with the Father יהוה

יהושע Himself said, “**He who has seen Me has seen the Father**,” which testifies to the **Oneness** of Elohim. For although Elohim is **Spirit** according to **John 4:24**, He is a **unified One** according to **Deuteronomy 6:4**.

**John 4:23-24** <sup>23</sup> “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup> **Elohim is Spirit**, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

**Deuteronomy 6:4** Hear, Oh **Israel**: יהוה **our Elohim**, יהוה **is One** [אחד].

The Hebrew word used for **One** is Echad [אחד]. It is possible to know that this word means a **unified One** in **Deuteronomy 6:4**, as the same word is used to describe marriage between a man and a woman in **Genesis 2:24**.

**Genesis 2:24** Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become **one** [אחד] flesh.

When יהושע the Messiah was asked what the greatest commandment was in **Mark 12:28-34**, the first words from His lips were that **Israel** should understand that יהוה is a **unified One** according to **Deuteronomy 6:4**.

**Mark 12:28-34** <sup>28</sup> Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, “Which is the first commandment of all?” <sup>29</sup> יהושע answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, Oh **Israel**: יהוה **our Elohim**, יהוה **is One** [אחד].’ <sup>30</sup> And you shall love יהוה your Elohim with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment. <sup>31</sup> And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” <sup>32</sup> So the scribe said to Him, “Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one Elohim, and there is no other but He. <sup>33</sup> And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” <sup>34</sup> Now when יהושע saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of Elohim.” But after that no one dared question Him.

יהושע is a **unified One** with יהוה Elohim – He does not change and He does not lie. The **only way** a person will obtain immortality in the **Age of Life** and **The World to Come**, is by coming into covenant with Him by **faith** through **belief** and **immersion** in the name of יהושע the Messiah, by which one receives the **Spirit** of יהושע Messiah, thereby becoming **born again** as a **new spiritual being**. It is only **after** this spiritual birth that a person has spiritual eyes to **see** the kingdom of Elohim.



**John 3:3** יהושע answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of Elohim.**”

The **true evidence** of this spiritual conversion is the **indwelling of the Set Apart Spirit** as demonstrated through faith in יהושע the Messiah. The goal of every believer in יהושע the Messiah is to **imitate** Him and to walk in **the way** He walked, which is in **obedience** to the commandments of Elohim. For יהושע the Messiah said that those who **disobey** the Son will **not** see the **Age of Life**.

**John 3:36** “He who believes in the Son has the **Age of Life**; but he who does not **obey the Son** shall not see life, for the wrath of Elohim abides on him.”

These are the words of יהושע Himself and they were understood by His disciples as evidenced in the Messianic Scriptures.

## Israel is Justified in יהוה

Isaiah had prophesied that **Israel would be justified in יהוה**.

**Isaiah 45:25** In יהוה all the descendants of **Israel shall be justified, and will rejoice.**

Paul said that יהושע was the image of the invisible Elohim as he believed that יהושע **was One with יהוה**, and being aware of the prophecy in **Isaiah 45:25** he taught that sinners are **justified by the blood of יהושע** the Messiah.

**Romans 5:8-11** <sup>8</sup> But Elohim demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Messiah died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more then, having now been **justified by His blood**, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. <sup>10</sup> For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to Elohim through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. <sup>11</sup> And not only that, but we also rejoice in Elohim through our Master יהושע Messiah, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

## Salvation is by Grace through Faith and the Doers of the Torah will be Justified

Paul taught that **salvation** was by **grace through faith** and that **justification** was for all of those who **do the Torah**.

**Ephesians 2:8-10** <sup>8</sup> For by **grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of Elohim, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah יהושע for good works, which Elohim prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

**Romans 2:11-16** <sup>11</sup> For there is no partiality with Elohim. <sup>12</sup> For as many as have sinned without Torah will also perish without Torah, and as many as have sinned in the Torah will be judged by the Torah. <sup>13</sup> For not the hearers of the Torah are just in the sight of Elohim, **but the doers of the Torah will be justified.** <sup>14</sup> For when Gentiles, who do not have the Torah, by nature do the things in the Torah, these, although not having the Torah, are a law to themselves, <sup>15</sup> who show the work of the Torah written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them, <sup>16</sup> **in the day when Elohim will judge the secrets of men by יהושע Messiah, according to my message.**

The idea that **salvation** is by **grace through faith**, and that the **doers of the Torah** will be **justified** as Paul taught, has been perverted in Christianity, where **commandment keeping** is mislabeled as **legalism**, and **obedience** to יהוה is grounds for excommunication. Since the Protestant Reformation, Protestants have preached the message of **justification** by **grace through faith**, but they have not preached the message of **justification** by **works**. For the Protestant Reformers were **reacting** to the sale of indulgences and the **good works** as defined by the priests of the Catholic Church.

And although they began to understand that **penance** is **not** the same as **repentance**, many Reformers **never learned** to do the **works** of Elohim and to walk in **true repentance** in the Way that יהושע the Messiah walked. As a result, Protestants continue to this very day to obey the Catholic Pope by observing Sunday, Christmas and Easter and by eating unclean and detestable things. Christians are taught to disobey יהוה concerning the **Sabbath, Appointed Times and Festivals** and to disregard the dietary laws of Scripture. However, **obedience** to the commandments of יהוה is **highly desirable** in the eyes of יהוה. This was well understood and taught by the disciples of יהושע. In fact, the apostles testified openly on the record that the Set Apart Spirit is given **to those who obey** Elohim.



**Acts 5:29-32** <sup>29</sup> But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: “We ought to obey Elohim rather than men. <sup>30</sup> The Elohim of our fathers raised up יהושע whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. <sup>31</sup> Him Elohim has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Saviour, to give repentance to **Israel** and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup> And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Set Apart Spirit whom Elohim has given to **those who obey Him.**”

Paul was angry at the Galatians who were submitting to a group of men who were teaching them **not to obey the truth.**

**Galatians 3:1** Oh foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not **obey the truth**, before whose eyes יהושע Messiah was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?

In the **autumn** of 52 C.E., Paul prophesied of the tribulation that would come on the unbelieving **Judeans** who persecuted the believing **Judeans** and this came to pass in the First **Judean-Roman** War of 66-74 C.E. However, Paul also prophesied in 52 C.E. of the punishment which would come on the unbelieving and the disobedient who are alive when the universe transitions from the **Age of the Messiah** to the **Age of Life**. For Paul prophesied that those who do **not know Elohim** and who do **not obey the good message of our Master** יהושע Messiah will be punished with the destruction of the ages.

**2 Thessalonians 1:3-10** <sup>3</sup> We are bound to thank Elohim always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, <sup>4</sup> so that we ourselves boast of you among the called out assemblies of Elohim for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, <sup>5</sup> which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of Elohim, that you may be counted worthy of the **[Millennial] Kingdom** of Elohim, for which you also suffer. <sup>6</sup> For it is a righteous thing with Elohim to repay with tribulation those who trouble you [in the First **Judean-Roman** War], <sup>7</sup> and to give rest to you who are troubled and to us as well when the Master יהושע is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels [in the First **Judean-Roman** War], <sup>8</sup> in flaming fire taking vengeance on **those who do not know Elohim, and on those not obeying the good message of our Master** יהושע Messiah. <sup>9</sup> These [the disobedient who are alive at the end of the **Age of the Messiah**] shall be punished with the destruction of the ages **[Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah]** from the presence of the Master and from His awesome power, <sup>10</sup> when He comes to be brilliantly magnified in His set apart ones on **that [seventh millennial] day** and to be admired among all those who believe – for our testimony among you was believed.

## Unless you Repent you will all Likewise Perish

And the message of the Master יהושע Messiah Himself was to **repent – keep the commands of Elohim – or perish.**

**Matthew 4:17** From that time יהושע began to preach and to say, “**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

**Luke 13:1-5** <sup>1</sup> There were present at that time some who told Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate (27-37) had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> And יהושע answered and said to them, “Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? <sup>3</sup> I tell you, no; but **unless you repent you will all likewise perish.** <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> I tell you, no; but **unless you repent you will all likewise perish.**”

## Those who do not Obey the Son will not see the Age of Life

John the Immerser said that those who do not **obey** the Son will not see the **Age of Life.**

**John 3:36** He who believes in the Son will enjoy the **Age of Life**, but he who does not **obey** the Son shall not see life, for the wrath of Elohim abides on him.

Now there are many false shepherds who would want to distinguish between **believing** and **obeying** in order to justify their theological position which advocates willfully and perversely **disobeying** the commandments of Elohim, or **not believing** יהושע the Messiah. However, **belief** and **obedience** can never be separated. You can always tell who a person worships by the commandments they keep.





When it comes to practicing religion, people generally do the things they have been trained to do – the things their parents did. People demonstrate their *beliefs* and *who they serve* by the customs they keep. However, a person pursuing *truth* wants to *obey the truth*. A truth seeker will always be drawn out of the realm of organized religion and on to a personal spiritual journey in search of *truth*. Paul's sober exhortation was that anyone who does not *obey the truth* but who *obeys unrighteousness* will be subject to indignation, wrath, tribulation and anguish. Paul equates *not obeying the truth* with *obeying unrighteousness* and *doing evil*.

**Romans 2:1-11** <sup>1</sup> Therefore you are inexcusable, Oh man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. <sup>2</sup> But we know that the judgment of Elohim is according to truth against those who practice such things. <sup>3</sup> And do you think this, Oh man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of Elohim? <sup>4</sup> Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that **the goodness of Elohim leads you to repentance**? <sup>5</sup> But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of Elohim, <sup>6</sup> who “will render to each one according to his deeds.” <sup>7</sup> **the Age of Life** to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for esteem, honor, and immortality; <sup>8</sup> **but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,** <sup>9</sup> **tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Judean first and also of the Greek;** <sup>10</sup> but esteem, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the **Judean first and also to the Greek.** <sup>11</sup> For there is no partiality with Elohim.

Paul contrasts the *servant of sin* with the *servant of righteousness*. The life of a *servant of sin* is unclean and lawless and leads to *death*, while the *servant of righteousness* is *obedient* to Elohim and his ultimate end is the **Age of Life** and **The World to Come**.

**Romans 6:12-23** <sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. <sup>13</sup> And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to Elohim as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to Elohim. <sup>14</sup> For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under [the curse of the] Torah but under grace. <sup>15</sup> What then? Shall we sin because we are not under [the curse of the] Torah but under grace? Certainly not! <sup>16</sup> **Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves servants to obey, you are that one's servants whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?** <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to Elohim that though you were *servants of sin*, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered to you. <sup>18</sup> And having been set free from sin, you became *servants of righteousness*. <sup>19</sup> I speak in man's terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as *servants of uncleanness, and of lawlessness* leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as *servants of righteousness* to be set apart. <sup>20</sup> For when you were *servants of sin*, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup> What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the **end of those things is death.** <sup>22</sup> But now having been set free from sin, and having become *servants of Elohim*, you have your fruit to set apartness, **and the goal, the Age of Life.** <sup>23</sup> **For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of Elohim is the Age of Life in Messiah יהושע our Master.**

And the message of *repentance* in *obeying the truth* is not just for the **Judeans** or the 12 tribes of **Israel** scattered abroad. Paul's message at the Areopagus in Athens was very clear that **Elohim commands all men everywhere to repent**.

**Acts 17:29-31** <sup>29</sup> Therefore, since we are the offspring of Elohim, we ought not to think that Elohim's nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising. <sup>30</sup> Truly, these times of ignorance Elohim overlooked, but now **commands all men everywhere to repent,** <sup>31</sup> because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.

Paul said under oath before **Herod Agrippa II (48-70)** that both **Judeans and Gentiles** should *repent, turn to Elohim, and do works befitting repentance*.

**Acts 26:19-23** <sup>19</sup> “Therefore, King **Agrippa II (48-70)**, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, <sup>20</sup> but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of **Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to Elohim, and do works befitting repentance.** <sup>21</sup> For these reasons, certain **Judeans** seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. <sup>22</sup> Therefore, having obtained help from Elohim, to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said would come – <sup>23</sup> that the Messiah would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the people of **Judea and to the Gentiles.**”



## Every Individual Person from Among the Nations is to be Obedient to the Faith

In fact, Paul the apostle saw *the faith* as something that *all nations* should *be obedient to*.

**Romans 1:1-6** <sup>1</sup> Paul, a bondservant of יהושע Messiah, called to be an apostle, separated to the message of Elohim <sup>2</sup> which He promised before through His prophets in the set apart Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> concerning His Son יהושע Messiah our Master, who was born of the seed of **David** according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup> and declared to be the Son of Elohim with power according to the Set Apart Spirit, by the resurrection from the dead. <sup>5</sup> Through Him we have received grace and apostleship **for obedience to the faith among all nations** for His name, <sup>6</sup> among whom you also are the called of יהושע Messiah.

John taught that *anyone who practices righteousness is righteous* just as יהושע the Messiah is righteous, but *anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of Elohim*.

**1 John 3:1-15** <sup>1</sup> Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of Elohim! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, now we are children of Elohim; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. <sup>4</sup> Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup> Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. <sup>7</sup> Little children, let no one deceive you. **He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He [Messiah] is righteous.** <sup>8</sup> He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of Elohim was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup> **Whoever has been born of Elohim does not sin**, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of Elohim. <sup>10</sup> In this the children of Elohim and the children of the devil are manifest: **Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of Elohim**, nor is he who does not love his brother. <sup>11</sup> For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, <sup>12</sup> not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous. <sup>13</sup> Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you. <sup>14</sup> We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. <sup>15</sup> Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has the **Age of Life** abiding in him.

## Paul was Obedient to the Faith and Led the Nations to Obey Elohim

Paul ultimately realized that it was the *obedience of יהושע the Messiah* and His sacrificial death that will make many *righteous*.

**Romans 5:19** For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's **obedience** many will be made **righteous**.

So it is clear from the Messianic Scriptures that everyone who believes and obeys יהושע the Messiah will be *made righteous* by the atonement that comes from the shed blood of יהושע the Messiah. Those who want to walk in the footsteps of יהושע the Messiah ought to *practice* righteousness, *keep* the commandments of Elohim, and *cease* from sinning. When Paul became obedient to the faith, he ceased from sinning and encouraged others to imitate him as he imitated the Messiah.

**1 Corinthians 11:1** Imitate me, just as I also **imitate Messiah**.

In fact Paul was on a mission telling the nations to be *obedient to Elohim* – which meant keeping the commandments of Elohim.

**Romans 15:15-21** <sup>15</sup> I have written you quite boldly on some points, as if to remind you of them again, because of the grace Elohim gave me <sup>16</sup> to be a minister of Messiah יהושע to the nations with the priestly duty of proclaiming the message of Elohim, so that the nations might become presentable and favorably received by Elohim, purified by the Set Apart Spirit. <sup>17</sup> Therefore I exult in Messiah יהושע in my service to Elohim. <sup>18</sup> I will not venture to speak of anything except what Messiah has accomplished through me **in leading the nations to obey Elohim** by what I have said and done – <sup>19</sup> by the power of signs and miracles, through the power of the Spirit. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the message of Messiah. <sup>20</sup> It has always been my ambition to preach the message



where Messiah was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. <sup>21</sup> Rather, as it is written: "Those who were not told about Him will see, and those who have not heard will understand."

**2 Corinthians 7:13-16** <sup>13</sup> Therefore we have been comforted in your comfort. And we rejoiced exceedingly more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all. <sup>14</sup> For if in anything I have boasted to him about you, I am not ashamed. But as we spoke all things to you in truth, even so our boasting to Titus was found true. <sup>15</sup> And his affections are greater for you as he remembers **the obedience of you all**, how with fear and trembling you received him. <sup>16</sup> Therefore I rejoice that I have confidence in you in everything.

**2 Corinthians 9:6-15** <sup>6</sup> But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup> So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for Elohim loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup> And Elohim is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. <sup>9</sup> As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures throughout the ages [**World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come**]." <sup>10</sup> Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, <sup>11</sup> while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to Elohim. <sup>12</sup> For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the set apart ones, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to Elohim, <sup>13</sup> while, through the proof of this ministry, they delight in Elohim **for the obedience of your confession to the message of Messiah**, and for your liberal sharing with them and all men, <sup>14</sup> and by their prayer for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of Elohim in you. <sup>15</sup> Thanks be to Elohim for His indescribable gift!

**2 Corinthians 10:3-6** <sup>3</sup> For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in Elohim for pulling down strongholds, <sup>5</sup> casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of Elohim, **bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Messiah**, <sup>6</sup> and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

**Philemon 21-22** <sup>21</sup> Having confidence **in your obedience**, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. <sup>22</sup> But, meanwhile, also prepare a guest room for me, for I trust that through your prayers I shall be granted to you.

## Paul said that a Gentile has no Hope as he is without Elohim in the World

Paul describes a Gentile in this manner: carnal, without Messiah, alienated from the commonwealth of **Israel**, estranged from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without Elohim in the world.

**Ephesians 2:11-22** <sup>11</sup> Therefore, remember that you were once carnal Gentiles – who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision – the work of the hands in the flesh. <sup>12</sup> **And you were at that time apart from the Messiah, having been alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and estranged from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without Elohim in the world.** <sup>13</sup> But now, by יהושע Messiah, you who before were far off, have been brought near by the blood of Messiah. <sup>14</sup> For He is our peace, who has made the two become one, demolishing the wall which stood in the midst, <sup>15</sup> having abolished in His flesh the enmity, contained in man-made laws and ordinances. That from the two, He might create in Himself one new man, thus making peace. <sup>16</sup> He has reconciled both with Elohim in one body through the execution stake, thereby slaying the enmity. <sup>17</sup> And He came and declared peace to you who were afar off and to you who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through Him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Now therefore you are **no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the set apart ones and members of the household of Elohim**, <sup>20</sup> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, יהושע Messiah Himself being the chief cornerstone, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a set apart temple in יהוה, <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of Elohim in the Spirit.

Once a Gentile **believes** יהושע and **learns obedience to Elohim** he is **no longer a Gentile** but becomes part of the commonwealth of **Israel** – the **Israel** of Elohim as Paul says in **Galatians 6:16**.



**Galatians 6:14-16** <sup>14</sup> But Elohim forbid that I should boast except in the stake of our Master יהושע Messiah, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For in Messiah יהושע neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. <sup>16</sup> And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the **Israel of Elohim**.

A person **who believes** יהושע and **who learns to obey Elohim** becomes joined in a covenant relationship with his Creator with great hope in **The Present Age** and of immortality in the next age, the **Age of Life**. The journey is not always easy and there is guaranteed persecution when following the **narrow way**. However, even יהושע the Messiah **learned obedience** by the things which He suffered, which is of great encouragement to anyone who desires to walk in the Master's footsteps.

**Hebrews 5:6-11** <sup>6</sup> As He also says in another place: "You are a Priest throughout the ages [**World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come**] according to the order of Melchizedek," <sup>7</sup> who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His reverent fear. <sup>8</sup> Though He was a Son, yet **He learned obedience by the things which He suffered**. <sup>9</sup> And having been perfected, He [יהושע the Messiah] became the author of the salvation of the ages [**World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come**] to all who obey Him, <sup>10</sup> called by Elohim a High Priest, "according to the order of Melchizedek." <sup>11</sup> We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn.

Keeping the commandments of Elohim is always something that false teachers oppose. Certain false teachers in **Rome** were causing divisions and offenses and deceiving certain unlearned people with smooth words and flattering speech. Paul's advice then was to avoid those teachers, and many today would do well to heed his advice. Paul was glad for the **obedience** of certain disciples and wanted them to be **wise in what is good** and **simple concerning evil**.

**Romans 16:17-20** <sup>17</sup> Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. <sup>18</sup> For those who are such do not serve our Master יהושע Messiah, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple. <sup>19</sup> **For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.** <sup>20</sup> And the Elohim of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Master יהושע Messiah be with you. So be it.

It was **obedience to the faith** that was paramount in the mind of Paul and Peter as can be seen in their salutations and benedictions.

**Romans 16:25-27** <sup>25</sup> Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my message and the preaching of יהושע the Messiah, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the time of the ages began [**Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah**] <sup>26</sup> but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the Elohim of the ages [**World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come**] for **obedience to the faith** – <sup>27</sup> to the only wise Elohim, through the brilliant majesty of יהושע the Messiah through all the ages [**World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come**]. So be it.

**1 Peter 1:1-2** <sup>1</sup> Peter, an apostle of יהושע Messiah, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup> elect according to the foreknowledge of Elohim the Father, being set apart by the Spirit, **for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of יהושע Messiah**.

Luke records that in the years immediately after יהושע ascended into heaven, that disciples of יהושע the Messiah were multiplying in Jerusalem, and that a great company of the priests were **obedient to the faith**.

**Acts 6:7** And the word of Elohim increased, and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly, and a great company of the priests were **obedient to the faith**.

It is for this reason that John's prophetic warning in the Book of Revelation is to **repent and do the first works**. John clearly describes the set apart ones as those who **keep the commandments of Elohim and remain faithful to יהושע the Messiah**.

**Revelation 2:5** Remember therefore from where you have fallen; **repent and do the first works**, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place – **unless you repent**.



**Revelation 3:3** Remember therefore how you have received and heard; **hold fast and repent**. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

**Revelation 3:19-20** <sup>19</sup> As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. **Therefore be zealous and repent.** <sup>20</sup> Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

**Revelation 14:12** Here is the patience of the set apart ones; here are those who **keep the commandments of Elohim and remain faithful** to יהושע.

## Those who Did Not Believe and Obey Elohim in the Wilderness Did Not Enter into His Rest

The author of Hebrews observed in **Psalm 95:7-11** that יהוה was angry with the generation of **Israelites** who tested Him and who subsequently died in the wilderness for their **disobedience**. יהוה swore in His wrath that they would **not enter His rest** which may be understood as entering the Promised Land of **Canaan**. Many **Israelites** did not enter into the Promised Land of **Canaan** because they **went astray in their hearts**, they **did not know the ways of Elohim**, they **did not believe** and they **did not obey**.

**Hebrews 3:1-19** <sup>1</sup> Therefore, set apart brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Messiah יהושע, <sup>2</sup> who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. <sup>3</sup> For this One has been counted worthy of more esteem than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. <sup>4</sup> For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is Elohim. <sup>5</sup> And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward, <sup>6</sup> but Messiah as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end [of one's life or until the end of the **Age of the Messiah**]. <sup>7</sup> Therefore, as the Set Apart Spirit says: "Today, if you will hear His voice, <sup>8</sup> do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness, <sup>9</sup> where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. <sup>10</sup> **Therefore I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways [the narrow way of obeying the commandments of יהוה].'** <sup>11</sup> **So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest [in the Promised Land].'**" [**Psalm 95:7B-11**] <sup>12</sup> **Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living Elohim [by disobeying His instructions],** <sup>13</sup> but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the **deceitfulness of sin** [in believing that you can enter the **Age of Life** while still being in rebellion against the Creator of the universe]. <sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Messiah if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end [of one's life or until the end of the **Age of the Messiah**], <sup>15</sup> while it is said: "Today Indeed, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." <sup>16</sup> For some when they had heard did rebel, however not all that came out of **Egypt** with Moses. <sup>17</sup> Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup> **And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest [in the Promised Land]? But to those who did not obey.** <sup>19</sup> **So we see that they could not enter in [to the Promised Land] because of unbelief.**

**Hebrews 3:1-19** aptly demonstrates that **unbelief** and **disobedience** to the commandments of Elohim are **one and the same**. Those with an **evil heart of unbelief** are those who **depart from the living Elohim** who **walk in disobedience to the Torah of יהוה**. Those who rebelled against יהוה in **1437 B.C.E.** could **not enter** into **Canaan** because of their **unbelief** and their **disobedience**. The author of Hebrews then continues to expound on a **future promise** of **entering into the rest** of Elohim

**Hebrews 4:1-13** <sup>1</sup> Therefore, since a promise **REMAINS** of entering His rest [in the **seventh millennium**], let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. <sup>2</sup> For indeed the good news was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. <sup>3</sup> **For we who have believed will enter that rest [in the seventh millennium], as He has said: "So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'"** [**Psalm 95:11**] although the works were finished from the disruption of the world [at the creation when light was separated from darkness and the children of light were separated from the children of darkness initiating the **Present Age**]. <sup>4</sup> For He spoke in a certain place of the **seventh day** in this way: "And Elohim rested on the seventh day from all His works" [**Genesis 2:2**]. <sup>5</sup> But again in this place: "They shall not enter My rest" [**Numbers 14:26-38 / Deuteronomy 1:34-35 / Deuteronomy 12:9**]. <sup>6</sup> **It REMAINS therefore for some to enter into it [the seventh millennium], but those who first heard the good news did not enter [the Promised Land of Canaan] because of disobedience.** <sup>7</sup> He again designates a certain day, saying in **David**, "Today" at a much later



time, as it has been said: “**Today**, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.” [Psalm 95:7-8] <sup>8</sup> For if Joshua had given them **rest** [when **Israel** entered the Promised Land], then he [David] would not have spoken of **ANOTHER DAY** at a later time. <sup>9</sup> So there **REMAINS a Sabbath rest for the people of Elohim**. <sup>10</sup> For anyone who enters His **rest** also rests from their own work just as Elohim did from His. <sup>11</sup> Let us therefore be diligent to enter **that rest** [on the **seventh day** and in the **seventh year** so that we may enter into the **seventh millennium**], **that no one may fall after the same example of disobedience**. <sup>12</sup> For the word of Elohim is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. <sup>13</sup> And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

In **Hebrews 4:1-13**, the author of Hebrews begins to **apply the concept of entering His rest** to the **7000 Year Plan of Elohim**. He says in **Hebrews 4:1** that a **promise REMAINS of entering His rest**. Then in **Hebrews 4:7**, he quotes **Psalm 95:7B-11**, which he attributes to King **David**, to demonstrate that the promise of **entering His rest** was **still believed** by **David** who lived more than **400 years after** Joshua entered **Canaan**. His contention is that the **rest** spoken of by **David** was a **prophetic allusion** to the age which would come after the **Age of the Messiah** which is the **Age of Life** or the **Sabbath of Millennia** which is commonly translated as **eternal life**.

It is obvious that the author of Hebrews was prophetically **looking forward in time** to the **transition** from the **Age of the Messiah** to the **Age of Life**. He saw יהושע Messiah as the One who **created the ages** and loved talking about the mystical concept of **the ages**.

**Hebrews 1:1-12** <sup>1</sup> Elohim, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> has in these last days [the last two millennial days in the **Age of the Messiah**] spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, **through whom also He made the ages** [World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come].

**Hebrews 5:6-11** <sup>6</sup> As He also says in another place: “**You are a priest throughout the ages** [World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come] according to the order of Melchizedek,” <sup>7</sup> who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His reverent fear. <sup>8</sup> Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. <sup>9</sup> And having been perfected, He became the author of salvation in the ages [Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah] to all who obey Him, <sup>10</sup> called by Elohim a High Priest, “according to the order of Melchizedek.” <sup>11</sup> We have much to say about this, but it is hard to explain because you are slow to learn.

**Hebrews 6:19-20** <sup>19</sup> This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters into the place behind the veil, <sup>20</sup> where the forerunner has entered for us, even יהושע, **having become High Priest for the ages** [World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come] according to the order of Melchizedek.

**Hebrews 7:14-28** <sup>14</sup> For it is evident that our Master arose from **Judah**, from a tribe of which Moses spoke nothing concerning a priesthood. <sup>15</sup> And it is especially apparent in that he said that another Priest will arise in the likeness of Melchizedek, <sup>16</sup> Who did not come meeting the physical requirements of the statute, but according to the power of an endless life. <sup>17</sup> For He testifies: “**You are a Priest through all the ages** [World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come] in the likeness of Melchizedek.” <sup>18</sup> But the change that was made in the first institution was on account of its powerlessness, and because its usefulness was over. <sup>19</sup> for the statute [that there be a Levitical priesthood during the **Age of Instruction**] made nothing perfect, but there has come in its place a better hope by which we draw near to Elohim. <sup>20</sup> And He confirmed it to us by an oath. <sup>21</sup> For they [the Levites] became priests without an oath, but this Man with an oath by Him who said to Him: “יהוה has sworn and will not relent, **You are a priest through all the ages** [World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come] in the likeness of Melchizedek.” <sup>22</sup> As a result the covenant has become stronger, as יהושע has become the guarantee for it. <sup>23</sup> And they as priests were numerous, because they were mortal and were not permitted to continue. <sup>24</sup> **But this Man, because He remains throughout the ages** [World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come], has a priesthood that will not pass away. <sup>25</sup> And He is able to resurrect those who come to Elohim by Him, for He always lives and sends up prayers for them. <sup>26</sup> For such a High Priest was suitable for us, pure, innocent, undefiled, [in contrast to **Annas II (62)**] separate from sinners, and exalted higher than the heavens, <sup>27</sup> and who is not required every day, as other High Priests, to offer up sacrifices for His own sins and then for the people.



For this He did once by offering up Himself.<sup>28</sup> For the Torah appointed flawed men as High Priests, but the word of the oath that came after the Torah, **appointed the Son who is perfect through all the ages** [*World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come*].

**Hebrews 9:11-15**<sup>11</sup> But Messiah came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.<sup>12</sup> Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Set Apart Place once for all, **having obtained redemption for the Age** [*of Life*].<sup>13</sup> For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sets one apart for the purifying of the flesh,<sup>14</sup> how much more shall the blood of Messiah, **who through the Spirit during the Age** [*of the Messiah*] **offered Himself without spot to Elohim, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the Living Elohim?**<sup>15</sup> And for this reason He is the Mediator for renewing the covenant by means of death, for redemption from transgressions under the preeminent covenant, **that those who are called may receive the promised inheritance in the Age** [*of Life*].

**Hebrews 9:24-28**<sup>24</sup> For the Messiah did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one. He entered heaven itself [*in the Age of the Messiah*] and now appears for us in Elohim's presence.<sup>25</sup> Nor did He enter heaven to offer Himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Set Apart Place every year with blood that is not his own.<sup>26</sup> Then the Messiah would have had to suffer many times since the disruption of the world. **But now He has appeared once for all** [*at His birth on Yom Teruah*] **at the end of the Age** [*of Instruction*] to do away with sin by the sacrifice of Himself [*on Passover at the beginning of the Age of the Messiah*].<sup>27</sup> Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,<sup>28</sup> so the Messiah was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people. And He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.

**Hebrews 11:3** Through faith we understand that the ages [*World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come*] were framed by the word of Elohim, so that things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

**Hebrews 13:7-9**<sup>7</sup> Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of Elohim to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.<sup>8</sup> יהושע Messiah is the same yesterday, today, and throughout the ages [*World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come*].<sup>9</sup> Do not be carried away with all kinds of strange teachings. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with [*strange man-made regulations about*] food which have not profited those who have been occupied with them.

**Hebrews 13:20-21**<sup>20</sup> Now may the Elohim of peace who brought up our Master יהושע from the dead, the great Shepherd of the sheep, **through the blood of the covenant which lasts through the ages** [*World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come*],<sup>21</sup> **make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through יהושע Messiah, to whom be brilliant majesty to the age of the ages** [*The World to Come*]. So be it.

The author of Hebrews also makes a prophetic parallel between יהושע son of Nun who led the children of Israel into the Promised Land and יהושע Messiah. Just as Joshua (יהושע) led the children of Israel into the Promised Land of Canaan, so too will יהושע Messiah lead the Israel of Elohim into the *seventh millennium* and to the *Age of Life* and immortality in paradise. This is why he said in **Hebrews 4:9** that there **REMAINS a Sabbath rest for the people of Elohim**. To this day no one has entered the *seventh millennium* because as of yet the world has not come to that time in history – therefore it **REMAINS** to be entered into.

Hebrews was likely written in the *summer* of 62 C.E. This was between when its author *fled for refuge* according to **Hebrews 6:18** in the *Flight to Pella* in the *spring* of 62 C.E. and when Israel entered the *Sabbath Year* in the *autumn* of 62 C.E. Therefore, the spiritual theme of *entering rest in context* refers to the *Sabbath Year*. However, as the word of Elohim is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, the *rest* which the author of Hebrews said *ultimately still REMAINS* refers to the *Sabbath of Millennia* – the *Age of Life*. When **Hebrews 4:1-13** is understood in this light it becomes a matter of the greatest importance. For the author of Hebrews makes it clear that *to the people of Elohim who obey* – there remains a *Sabbath rest* – but that *this rest is NOT for the disobedient*.

The *Greek* word *katépausen κατέπαυσεν* is used 8 times in **Hebrews 4:1-13** where it is *correctly* translated as *rest* in **Hebrews 4:1, 4:3, 4:3, 4:4, 4:5, 4:8, 4:10, 4:11**. However, the *Greek* word that is used in **Hebrews 4:9** is *sabbatismós σαββατισμός* which is *incorrectly* translated as *rest* in many translations when it should *correctly* be translated as *Sabbath rest*.



When the author of Hebrews says “*So there REMAINS a Sabbath rest for the people of Elohim*” he is not trying to persuade his readers of the **seventh day Sabbath** over another day. For all **Judeans** at that time were trained from birth to observe the **seventh day Sabbath** as well as the laws concerning the **Sabbath Year**. This was in the fabric of their culture and it was the law of the land. Rather he delves into the mystical aspect of the **seventh millennium** and exhorts his readers to diligently rest on the **seventh day** and in the **seventh year** so that in the grand scheme of Elohim’s **7000 year** plan they might enter into the **seventh millennium**. His counsel stands to this day.

## Belief manifests itself in Obedience – Unbelief manifests itself in Disobedience

In Hebraic thought **hearing** is intimately connected with **action** or **obedience**. יהושע the Messiah clearly said that those who love Him and who want to enjoy the **Age of Life** should **obey** Him and **keep His commandments**.

**John 3:36** *He who believes in the Son will enjoy the Age of Life, but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, for the wrath of Elohim abides on him.*

The **Greek** word **ἀπειθοῖν ἀπειθῶν** in **John 3:36** should be translated as **not obey** but is often translated as **not believe**. In Hebraic thought **believing** and **obeying** are synonymous. And for one with a Hebraic perspective it is perfectly acceptable to translate **ἀπειθῶν** as either **not obey** or **not believe**. However, people lacking a Hebraic mindset today have been taught that they can **say** they **believe** in the Messiah with their **mouth** and then **disobey** the commandments of Elohim with their actions. For this reason and at this time it is prudent to insist on the translation of **ἀπειθῶν** as **not obey** since יהושע Himself equated love for Him with commandment keeping.

## יהושע Equated Love for Him with Commandment Keeping

**John 14:15-21** <sup>15</sup> “If you love Me, **keep My commandments**. <sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you until the end of the **Age [of the Messiah]** – <sup>17</sup> the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him or knows Him. But you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you orphans. I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> A little while longer and the world will see Me no more. But you see Me. Because I live, you shall live also. <sup>20</sup> At that [**seventh millennial**] day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> **He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.**”

**John 15:9-17** <sup>9</sup> “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you. Abide in My love. <sup>10</sup> **If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.** <sup>11</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. <sup>12</sup> This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> **You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.** <sup>15</sup> No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. <sup>17</sup> These things I command you, that you love one another.”

In **Romans 2:12-16**, Paul agrees with יהושע when he says that it is the **doers** of the Torah of יהוה – those who **obey** the Torah of יהוה – who will be **justified**. By this statement he also meant that those who only pay lip service to obeying יהוה **will not be justified**.

**Romans 2:12-16** <sup>12</sup> For as many as have sinned without Torah [of יהוה] will also perish without Torah [of יהוה], and as many as have sinned in the Torah [of יהוה] will be judged by the Torah [of יהוה]. <sup>13</sup> **For the hearers of the Torah [of יהוה] are not just in the sight of Elohim, but the doers of the Torah [of יהוה] will be justified.** <sup>14</sup> For when Gentiles, who do not have the Torah [of יהוה], by nature do the things in the Torah [of יהוה], these, although not having the Torah [of יהוה], are a law to themselves, <sup>15</sup> who show the work of the Torah [of יהוה] written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them <sup>16</sup> **in the day when Elohim will judge the secrets of men by יהושע Messiah, according to my message.**

It is important to understand that according to Paul’s own words in **Romans 2:13**, **it is only those people who do the commandments in the Torah of יהוה who will be justified**. However, it is equally critical to acknowledge that **justification before Elohim does not come from doing the commandments in the Torah of יהוה but by the shed blood of יהושע the Messiah** which atones for the sin of all mankind.





A person must first **believe** in the Messiah's sacrifice for his sin and then live his life **following the Spirit of Truth** and **walking in the commandments of the Torah** of יהוה in love toward Elohim and one's fellow man in order to **attain** to the **Age of Life**.

In other words, **keeping the commandments** of Elohim alone will **not justify** a person and allow him to **attain** to the **Age of Life**, but **not keeping the commandments** of Elohim **ensures** that a person **will not attain** to the **Age of Life**. For it is the devil who comes as an angel of light – in the religious realm – and entices people to live an unrighteous life of sin and **lawlessness**.

## Many who Think they Know the Messiah will Soon Discover that He does not Know Them

Keeping the commandments of Elohim is just not a high priority for most people. As a result, they never learn to walk in obedience to יהושע the Messiah, instead choosing the path of lawlessness. יהושע Himself has prophesied that **many** people who are alive at the time of His coming **will be shocked to learn that they will not enter** into the **Age of Life** because they did **not keep the commandments of Elohim** but practiced **lawlessness**.

יהושע Messiah has prophesied that **immediately after** the door has been shut to the **Age of Life**, **many who thought they knew the Messiah** will discover that **He does not know them** because they would not keep the commandments of Elohim but instead practiced **lawlessness**. These doomed souls **thought they were saved** but will find themselves in opposition to the Word of Elohim as they could not accept that they were **wrong** about the name or identity of the Messiah, about the laws of clean and unclean, or about the **Sabbaths**. Some will have been trapped into doctrines of demons concerning Sunday, Christmas or Easter.

**Matthew 7:21-29** <sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘**Lord, Lord,**’ [**Master יהוה**] shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven [and obeys the commandments of Elohim in the Torah of יהוה]. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, ‘**Lord, Lord [Master יהוה],** have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ <sup>23</sup> **And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’** [living in **disobedience** to the commandments of Elohim in the Torah of יהוה] <sup>24</sup> Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and **does them** [and obeys the commandments of Elohim in the Torah of יהוה], I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: <sup>25</sup> and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup> But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and **does not do them** [and **disobeys** the commandments of Elohim in the Torah of יהוה], will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: <sup>27</sup> and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. **And great was its fall.**” <sup>28</sup> And so it was, when יהושע had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, <sup>29</sup> for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

**Luke 6:46-49** <sup>46</sup> “But why do you call Me ‘**Lord, Lord,**’ [**Master יהוה**] and not do the things which I say? <sup>47</sup> Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and **does them** [and obeys the commandments of Elohim in the Torah of יהוה], I will show you whom he is like: <sup>48</sup> He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. <sup>49</sup> But he who heard and **did nothing** [to obey the commandments of Elohim in the Torah of יהוה] is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. **And the ruin of that house was great.**”

**Luke 13:23-27** <sup>23</sup> And He said to them, <sup>24</sup> “**Strive to enter through the narrow gate,** for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. <sup>25</sup> **When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door,** and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, ‘**Lord, Lord [Master יהוה],** open for us,’ and He will answer and say to you, ‘**I do not know you, where you are from,**’ <sup>26</sup> then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.’ <sup>27</sup> But He will say, ‘**I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity!**’”

Although this dreadful prophecy will come to pass, it doesn't **have** to happen to **you** – the choice is up to each and every **individual**. **Personal salvation** is an individual matter between you and your Maker and no one else can save you on judgment day except יהושע the Messiah who is the image of the invisible Elohim. And although you may feel very secure within your current world view, any belief system that does not involve belief and obedience to the Creator of the universe – יהושע the Messiah – **will not** lead to life. John describes the characteristics of those who will cross over to the **Age of Life**.

**Revelation 14:12** Here is the patience of the set apart ones; here are those who **keep the commandments of Elohim and the faith** of יהושע.



## Elohim is not a Respector of Persons

Some adherents of rabbinic Judaism have been taught that they have a place in **The World to Come** because of their genetic heritage or because they practice the religion of the rabbis. There is one saying of the Messiah that seems directly aimed at those who claim to be genetic descendants of Abraham but who do not believe and obey יהושע the Messiah. In **Matthew 8:5-13**, a **Roman** centurion made an incredibly good impression on יהושע because he **believed** in the authority of the Messiah and demonstrated **faith** in Him. יהושע contrasted this centurion with His kinsmen in **Israel** who are reckoned as the **royal relatives** in the account.

**Matthew 8:5-13** <sup>5</sup> Now when יהושע had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, <sup>6</sup> saying, “Master, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented.” <sup>7</sup> And יהושע said to him, “I will come and heal him.” <sup>8</sup> The centurion answered and said, “Master, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.” <sup>9</sup> For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” <sup>10</sup> When יהושע heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, “Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in **Israel**!” <sup>11</sup> And I say to you that many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the [Millennial] **Kingdom** of heaven. <sup>12</sup> But those who are the **royal relatives** shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” <sup>13</sup> Then יהושע said to the centurion, “Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you.” And his servant was healed that same hour.

This account teaches us that יהושע the Messiah – who is the image of the invisible Elohim – is **not a respector of persons**. Anyone who believes in Him and does what He says is accepted by Him. In order to be granted immortality in the **Age of Life**, a person must accept the Messiah as their Master and their Saviour. In order to **obey** the Master, one must **acknowledge** the **Scriptural definition of sin** in order to **avoid sinning**. This confusion over the **definition of sin** is where the devil has deceived many adherents of Judaism and Christianity. There is only **one narrow way** which leads to the **Age of Life** and the devil is behind everything else.

**Matthew 7:13-14** <sup>13</sup> “Enter by the **narrow gate**; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. <sup>14</sup> Because **narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life** [in the **Age of Life**], and there are few who find it.”

**Luke 13:22-30** <sup>22</sup> And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup> Then one said to Him, “Master, are there few who are saved?” And He said to them, <sup>24</sup> “**Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.**” <sup>25</sup> When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, Lord [יהוה], open for us,’ and He will answer and say to you, ‘I do not know you, where you are from,’ <sup>26</sup> then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.’ <sup>27</sup> But He will say, ‘I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.’ <sup>28</sup> There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you [the wicked] shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the [Millennial] **Kingdom** of Elohim [at the resurrection of damnation at the end of the **Age of Life**], and you yourselves thrust out. <sup>29</sup> But they [the righteous] shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the [Millennial] **Kingdom** of Elohim [at the resurrection of life at the beginning of the **Age of Life**]. <sup>30</sup> And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last.”

## Sin is the Transgression of the Torah and the Blood of יהושע is the only Atonement for Sin

After acknowledging that **sin** is the transgression of the Torah of יהוה, a person must believe and accept that it is the **shed blood of יהושע the Messiah** that atones for sin. Then a person must **turn away** from practicing sin and **learn to keep** the commandments of Elohim as a demonstration of love toward יהושע the Messiah who has promised to save him. This is the **narrow way** that leads to the **Age of Life**. Paul grew up in organized religion and studied under **Gamaliel I** in one of the strictest sects of the **Pharisees**.

**Acts 22:1-3** <sup>1</sup> “Brethren and fathers, hear my defense before you now.” <sup>2</sup> And when they heard that he [Paul] spoke to them in the Hebrew language, they kept all the more silent. Then he said: <sup>3</sup> “I am indeed a **Judean**, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our fathers’ law, and was zealous toward Elohim as you all are today.”

Paul had learned to keep the **law of the fathers**. Although this would have involved keeping the Torah of יהוה, it also would have entailed observing under the authority of the rabbis many oral traditions which often contradicted the Torah of יהוה. Paul’s conversion



occurred when he realized that יהושע **the Messiah was יהוה – the image of the invisible Elohim**. At this point in his life, Paul had to **unlearn** the incorrect things he had received as truth and **retain** the correct things he had received as truth.

This is the process that every individual in search of truth must go through. Paul developed a relationship with יהושע the Messiah and after his conversion on the road to Damascus in **37 C.E.**, he dedicated his life to spread the message of the Messiah to the Gentiles **teaching them to observe to do all that Elohim commanded** – which means **doing the Torah of יהוה** – walking in the light – walking in righteousness – keeping the commandments of Elohim.

What Paul **did not teach**, which he had **unlearned** from his past, was that **doing the Torah of יהוה justifies** a person before Elohim. Paul did not believe that one could **keep commandments** to be **justified** before Elohim, for if that were the case, then the Messiah died for nothing and His sacrificial death on the execution stake would have been superfluous. Paul reasoned that as **all men have sinned, the only way** for anyone to stand **justified** before Elohim was the vicarious atonement of the Messiah who was **without sin**.

It is not difficult to convince adherents of Christianity that **doing the Torah of יהוה** does **not justify** a person before Elohim as they already believe it. However, what adherents of Christianity do not understand about the **true faith** and about Paul's writings is that when a person knowingly, willfully, defiantly and continually **disobeys the Torah of יהוה**, that person stands **condemned** before Elohim.

## Sin is Defined as Transgressing the Instructions in the Written Torah

There is no question of **what sin is** in Scripture although many adherents of Christianity seem to be **unable** to acknowledge this fact.

**1 John 3:4-9** <sup>4</sup> **Whoever commits sin transgresses the Torah** [of יהוה], **for sin is transgression of the Torah** [of יהוה]. <sup>5</sup> **And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.** <sup>6</sup> **Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins** [by disobeying the Torah of יהוה] **has neither seen Him nor known Him.** <sup>7</sup> **Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness** [and learns to obey the commandments of Elohim in the Torah of יהוה] **is righteous, just as He** [יהושע the Messiah] **is righteous.** <sup>8</sup> **He who sins** [by disobeying the Torah of יהוה] **is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of Elohim was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.** <sup>9</sup> **Whoever has been born of Elohim does not sin** [by transgressing the Torah of יהוה], **for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin** [and live in perpetual disobedience to the Torah of יהוה], **because he has been born of Elohim.**

Many adherents of Christianity refuse to acknowledge the Scriptural definition of sin because they cannot accept that they, along with billions of other adherents of Christianity, could be wrong about Sunday, Christmas, Easter and the laws of clean and unclean. As long as an adherent of Christianity thinks he is **already saved**, he will never **change**. He will never **repent** and learn to observe the **Sabbaths, Appointed Times** and **Festivals** of יהוה and to practice abstaining from the unclean. If one believes they are **already saved**, they may continue to live in perpetual disobedience to the Torah of יהוה by **unwittingly** engaging in idolatrous pagan rituals.

It is the **devil** who allows people to believe that they are **saved** when they are not in fact **keeping the faith**. Paul said to those under his care that they should **work out their own salvation with fear and trembling** until they received immortality in the **Age of Life**.

**Philippians 2:12-16** <sup>12</sup> **Therefore, my beloved, 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;** <sup>13</sup> **for it is Elohim who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.** <sup>14</sup> **Do all things without complaining and disputing,** <sup>15</sup> **that you may become blameless and harmless, children of Elohim without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,** <sup>16</sup> **holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the [seventh millennial] day of Messiah that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.**

## Do not be Deceived

The tragedy here is that the devil deceived these people into believing that יהושע **was not יהוה** – the image of the invisible Elohim. The devil has done everything in his power to separate the Father from the Son in the minds of men. One of his most effective strategies has been through the doctrine of the **trinity** – which is **counter** to the truth of Scripture that יהוה **is One**. When asked what was the greatest commandment, יהושע answered in **Mark 12:29** with the Shema – the central prayer of Judaism.

**Mark 12:28-34** <sup>28</sup> **Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, “Which is the first commandment of all?”** <sup>29</sup> יהושע answered him, **“The first of all the**



commandments is: **'Hear, Oh Israel, יהוה our Elohim, יהוה is One.**<sup>30</sup> **And you shall love יהוה your Elohim with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'** This is the first commandment.<sup>31</sup> And the second, like it, is this: **'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'** There is no other commandment greater than these."<sup>32</sup> So the scribe said to Him, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one Elohim, and there is no other but He."<sup>33</sup> And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."<sup>34</sup> Now when יהושע saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of Elohim." But after that no one dared question Him.

יהושע said that this was the greatest commandment because it is the **one truth** that completely **destroys** all of the **deceptions** of the devil. For it is consistent with the character of יהוה Elohim that **if** a person loves יהוה Elohim with all of his heart, soul, mind and strength, **that person will find** יהוה. For יהוה promised this to **Israel** at the time of **Jehoiachin's Captivity** in **604 B.C.E.**

**Jeremiah 29:11-14**<sup>11</sup> **"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you,"** says יהוה, **"Thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.**<sup>12</sup> **Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.**<sup>13</sup> **And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.**<sup>14</sup> **I will be found by you,"** says יהוה, **and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says יהוה, and I will bring you to the place from which I caused you to be carried away captive."**

Whatever deception the devil employs, the basic lie behind every one of his deceits is that Elohim is lying and that יהושע is not יהוה. Regarding the doctrine of the trinity, the devil says יהוה is **three** and יהושע says יהוה is **One**. The devil is always trying to **separate** the Father from the Son as he knows this lie is effective in leading people into lawlessness. John addressed this deception in his writings.

**1 John 2:22-29**<sup>22</sup> **Who is a liar but he who denies that יהושע is the Messiah? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.**<sup>23</sup> **Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.**<sup>24</sup> **Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.**<sup>25</sup> **And this is the promise that He has promised us – the Age of Life.**<sup>26</sup> **These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you.**<sup>27</sup> **But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.**<sup>28</sup> **And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.**<sup>29</sup> **If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness [by living in obedience to the Torah of יהוה] is born of Him [יהושע the Messiah – יהוה Elohim].**

In fact **practicing righteousness** by **keeping the commandments of Elohim** is equated by John with **the love of Elohim**.

**1 John 5:1-13**<sup>1</sup> **Whoever believes that יהושע is the Messiah is born of Elohim, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.**<sup>2</sup> **By this we know that we love the children of Elohim, when we love Elohim and keep His commandments.**<sup>3</sup> **For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep His commandments [in the Torah of יהוה].** And His commandments are not burdensome.<sup>4</sup> **For whatever is born of Elohim overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith.**<sup>5</sup> **Who is he who overcomes the world? Only he who believes that יהושע is the Son of Elohim.**<sup>6</sup> **This is He who came by water and blood – יהושע Messiah; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.**<sup>7</sup> **For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Set Apart Spirit; and these three are one.**<sup>8</sup> **And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.**<sup>9</sup> **If we receive the witness of men, the witness of Elohim is greater; for this is the witness of Elohim which He has testified of His Son.**<sup>10</sup> **He who believes in the Son of Elohim has the witness in himself; he who does not believe Elohim has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that Elohim has given of His Son.**<sup>11</sup> **And this is the testimony: that Elohim has given us the Age of Life, and this life is in His Son.**<sup>12</sup> **He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of Elohim does not have life.**<sup>13</sup> **These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of Elohim, that you may know that you have the Age of Life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of Elohim.**

## If you Abide in the Messiah's Word you will Know the Truth and be Made Free

יהושע promised that those students who **abided in His word** would know the truth and that the truth would set them free, and so it is crucial to understand that **abiding in His word** entails **living in obedience to the Torah of יהוה**.



**John 8:31-47** <sup>31</sup> Then יהושע said to those **Judeans** who believed Him, “**If you abide in My word [the Written Torah of יהוה], you are My disciples [students] indeed.**” <sup>32</sup> **And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**” <sup>33</sup> They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, ‘You will be made free?’” <sup>34</sup> יהושע answered them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **whoever commits sin is a slave of sin** [for it is a sin not to believe that the Father is in the Son].” <sup>35</sup> **And a slave does not abide in the house throughout the ages [Age of Life, The World to Come], but a son abides throughout the ages [Age of Life, The World to Come].** <sup>36</sup> **Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.** <sup>37</sup> **I know that you are Abraham’s descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.** <sup>38</sup> **I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father.**” <sup>39</sup> They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.” יהושע said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the works of Abraham.” <sup>40</sup> **But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from Elohim. Abraham did not do this.** <sup>41</sup> **You do the deeds of your father.**” Then they said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father – Elohim.” <sup>42</sup> יהושע said to them, “If Elohim were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from Elohim; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.” <sup>43</sup> **Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.** <sup>44</sup> **You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own language, for he is a liar and the father of it.** <sup>45</sup> **But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.** <sup>46</sup> **Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?** <sup>47</sup> **He who is of Elohim hears Elohim’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of Elohim.**”

There were some in the days of יהושע the Messiah who made the same argument that some adherents of rabbinic Judaism make today. They believe that because they are genetically descended from Abraham, they automatically have a place reserved for them in the **Age of Life** and **The World to Come** *without believing* in יהושע the Messiah and *without appropriating* His sacrifice to atone for their sin – this is a lie. יהושע responded in His day by saying that **whoever commits sin is a slave of sin**. He also said that the **first commandment** is to **believe** in יהוה Elohim who brought **Israel** out of the land of **Egypt** out of the house of slavery. As יהושע the Messiah *is* the image of the invisible Elohim, those who do not believe in **Him** do not believe in **Elohim**, and this is a **sin**.

Anyone who breaks the **first commandment** is well on their way to breaking many others. After this transgression, it becomes very difficult to become extricated from the web of lies that the devil will spin around a person. That is why the devil’s strategy is to cause confusion over the issue of just who Elohim is, and He does this by creating **false gods** in the **imagination** of many sincere people. Adherents of Christianity will always bring Paul into their argument to defend their practices as if Paul is the final authority for all they say and do. However, it is יהושע the Messiah who all men should try to emulate. That is what Paul tried to do.

**1 Corinthians 11:1** *Imitate me, just as I also imitate Messiah.*

Paul tried to do what the Messiah did and the Messiah only did the will of the Father in heaven – including the commandments in the Torah of יהוה. There has been confusion over Paul’s words concerning the works of the Law. In **50 C.E.**, Paul later wrote a letter to the Galatians to contradict a teaching by another sect who believed that **justification** was by the **works of the Law**.

## The Works of the Law

Between **1953 C.E.** and **1959 C.E.**, six ancient fragments were found at Qumran (**4Q394, 4Q395, 4Q396, 4Q397, 4Q398, 4Q399**) that are collectively known as **4QMMT**. The “**MMT**” part of the designation is the acronym for **Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah** – or **Works of the Law**. In their book *A New Translation: The Dead Sea Scrolls*, Michael Wise, Martin Abegg Jr. and Edward Cook say this concerning **4QMMT** which they call the **Sectarian Manifesto**.

**4QMMT: 4Q394-399** In all of antiquity, only the **Sectarian Manifesto** and Paul’s letters to the Galatians and Romans discuss the connection between works and righteousness. For that reason alone, this writing is of immense interest and importance. But the **Manifesto** has additional significance. Although the sectarian documents found in the caves at Qumran fairly bristle with legal discussions on a variety of issues, only this work, commonly known as **4QMMT** (an acronym from the Hebrew words meaning “some of the works of the Law”), directly challenges the position of another religious group ...

Following a thesis statement that identifies the central problem – **the impure being allowed to mix with the pure** (the profane with the set apart) the author lists some two dozen examples to prove his point ... The addressee (and secondarily the reader) is then encouraged to follow the author: **separate from those who practice such things**.



The author invokes Deuteronomy 30 as evidence that disobedience will bring down the curses of the Mosaic covenant, while obedience will issue in Elohim's blessing. **Solomon** was blessed for his obedience, he notes, whereas both **Judah** and **Israel** were led into exile because of disobedience.

A second round of warnings follows, illustrated by a challenge to remember how the works of the kings of **Israel** were rewarded: the obedient were blessed, the disobedient, cursed. **David** is presented as the ideal. A pious man, he was delivered from his trials and forgiven his sins. The final exhortation presses home the author's true point: **to be accounted righteous, one must obey the Law as interpreted in the Manifesto.**

The final exhortation is of great importance for a fuller understanding of statements the apostle Paul makes about works and righteousness in his Letter to the Galatians. The author of *Manifesto*, probably thinking of **Psalm 106:30-31** (where the *works* of **Phinehas** "were reckoned to him as righteousness"), is engaged, as it were, in a rhetorical duel with the ideas of the apostle. Paul appeals to **Genesis 15:6** to show that it was the *faith* of Abraham that was "reckoned to him as righteousness" (**Gal. 3:6**), and goes on to state categorically that "by the *works* of the Law shall no flesh be justified" (**2:16**). Probably the "false brethren" (**2:4**) that Paul opposed held a doctrine on justification much like that of the present writing.

Michael Wise, Martin Abegg Jr. & Edward Cook, *The Dead Sea Scrolls – A New Translation*, HarperCollins, pp. 454-455.

The final exhortation of the *Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah* does indeed espouse a *works for righteousness* formula.

**Dead Sea Scrolls – Fragments 14-17 Col. 2 (with 4Q397 Frag. 23 and 4Q399 Frag. 1 Cols. 1-2)** Remember **David**, he was a pious man, [and] indeed <sup>26</sup> he was delivered from many troubles and forgiven.

Now we have written to you <sup>27</sup> some of the *works of the Law*, those which we determined would be *beneficial* for you and your people, because we have seen that <sup>28</sup> you possess *insight* and knowledge of the Law. Understand all these things and beseech Him to set <sup>29</sup> your counsel straight and so keep you away from evil thoughts and the counsel of Belial. <sup>30</sup> Then you shall rejoice at the end time when you find the essence of our words to be true. <sup>31</sup> And *it will be reckoned to you as righteousness, in that you have done what is right and good before Him, to your own benefit <sup>32</sup> and to that of Israel.*

Michael Wise, Martin Abegg Jr. & Edward Cook, *The Dead Sea Scrolls – A New Translation*, HarperCollins, p. 462.

## Paul's Battle Against Those who Espoused the Works of the Law

When Paul wrote to the Galatians, he was responding to a rival sect that believed that the Torah of יהוה should be *filtered* and *interpreted* according to their *Sectarian Manifesto* – the *Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah* – the *Works of the Law* or some similar code.

These sects obviously *did not teach* that the blood of the Messiah was necessary to be *justified* before Elohim, and this was obviously a big problem for Paul. Now Paul's one-sided correspondence over this issue has been used for millennia to instruct people *not to obey* the instructions of יהוה, but that is *not* what Paul was saying at all. When he wrote to the Galatians in **50 C.E.**, Paul recounted a situation with Peter that had occurred one year earlier in Antioch in the summer of **49 C.E.** shortly after the Jerusalem Council.

**Galatians 2:11-21** <sup>11</sup> Now when Peter had come to **Antioch** [shortly after the Jerusalem Council in **49 C.E.**], I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; <sup>12</sup> for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision [who filtered and interpreted the Scriptures according to the *Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah*]. <sup>13</sup> And the rest of the **Judeans** also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy. <sup>14</sup> But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the message, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a **Judean**, live in the manner of Gentiles [walking in the Torah of יהוה and believing in יהושע the Messiah] and not as the **Judeans** [who believe that obeying commandments alone justifies one before Elohim], why do you compel the Gentiles [who obey the Torah of יהוה and believe in the substitutionary atonement of יהושע the Messiah] to live as **Judeans** [who believe that obeying commandments alone justifies one before Elohim]? <sup>15</sup> We who are **Judeans** by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, <sup>16</sup> know that **a man is not justified by the Works of the Law** [*Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah*] but by faith in יהושע Messiah, even we have believed in Messiah יהושע, **that we might be justified by faith in Messiah and not by the Works of the Law** [*Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah*]; **for by the Works of the Law** [*Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah*] **no flesh shall be justified.** <sup>17</sup> But if, while we seek to be justified by Messiah, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Messiah therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup> **For if I build again those things which I destroyed** [believing that obeying commandments alone justifies one before Elohim as espoused in the *Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-*



*Torah*], **I make myself a transgressor** [by not believing the Scripture in **Ecclesiastes 7:20** which says that all have sinned and fallen short of Elohim's esteem].<sup>19</sup> For I through the Torah [of יהוה] died to the Torah [which requires that each person should pay for his own sin] that I might live to Elohim.<sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Messiah; it is no longer I who live, but Messiah lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by **faith in the Son of Elohim**, who loved me and gave Himself for me.<sup>21</sup> I do not set aside the grace of Elohim; **for if justification comes through the Torah** [which requires that each person should pay for his own sin], **then Messiah died in vain.**"

For Paul it was a sin to compel people – who were coming to faith in יהושע the Messiah and learning to walk in the light of the Torah of יהוה – to believe that their **justification** came through **their ability to keep commandments**. When Paul speaks of “*building again those things which I destroyed*” it becomes apparent that the sect he was disputing in his letter held similar beliefs as the sect to which Paul had formerly belonged. This understandably brings a very interesting spiritual dynamic to bear – a very personal dynamic.

For after his conversion on the road to Damascus in **37 C.E.**, Paul had to **unlearn** the incorrect religious paradigms he had received as truth. And then many years later between **49-56 C.E.**, Paul's former co-religionists were among his greatest spiritual rivals, and their doctrinal battle was ultimately for the souls of men – just like all doctrinal battles are even to this very day.

Paul's letter to the Galatians in **50 C.E.** indicates that a schism had already begun to form among the elect in the summer of **49 C.E.** James, the brother of יהושע, was the leader of the movement that believed in יהושע the Messiah. When certain men who knew James came to Antioch shortly after the Jerusalem Council, Peter stopped eating with the believers there who obeyed the Torah of יהוה and believed in יהושע the Messiah, because he feared these men who knew James. Even Barnabas acted hypocritically at this time.

This scenario of non-**Judeans** eating with **Judeans** is a perfect example of what someone following the **Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah** would be against. For the concept that identifies this sect was that the **impure** should not be allowed to mix with the **pure** or the profane with the set apart. The author of the **Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah** encouraged his reader to follow his example and to **separate** from those who practice such things. The adherents of this sect would have despised anyone who did not follow its rigid code – a code that insisted that **justification** came through **the ability of one to keep the Works of the Law** – the **Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah**.

Peter and Barnabas distanced themselves from the local believers in Antioch who were not ethnically **Judean** because they feared offending certain **Judeans** following the **Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah** who knew James. This was strictly an issue of racial prejudice and Peter and Barnabas acted in a **bigoted** manner when they did not want to be seen eating with non-**Judeans** by the adherents of this sect. Paul preached that **justification** came by **the blood of Messiah** and he was offended at the behavior of Peter and Barnabas and withstood Peter to his face over the issue. The **Judeans** who caused Peter and Barnabas to act hypocritically in **49 C.E.** **were likely** the same men who had just instigated the Jerusalem Council several months earlier on **Shavuot** in **49 C.E.**

**Acts 15:1-2** <sup>1</sup> And certain men came down from **Judea** and taught the brethren, “**Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.**” <sup>2</sup> Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question.

In **Acts 15:1-2**, the men at the Jerusalem Council at **Shavuot** in **49 C.E.** insisted on **circumcision for salvation**. In **Galatians 2:11-21**, the men who came to Antioch from James several months later in **49 C.E.** insisted on **adherence to the Works of the Law in order to be justified**. In **Galatians 3:1-14**, the men in Galatia in **50 C.E.** insisted on **circumcision into their sect and obedience to the Works of the Law in order to be perfected in the flesh**. And in **Romans 3:20**, the men in **Rome** in **56 C.E.** insisted on **obedience to the Works of the Law in order to be justified in the sight of Elohim**.

**Galatians 3:1-14** <sup>1</sup> Oh foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not **obey the truth** [the Torah of יהוה], before whose eyes יהושע Messiah was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? <sup>2</sup> This only would I learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the **Works of the Law** [**Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah**], or by the hearing of **faith**? <sup>3</sup> Are you so foolish? **Having begun in the Spirit** [in **49 C.E.**], **are you now** [in **50 C.E.**] **being made perfect by the flesh**? <sup>4</sup> Have you suffered so many things in vain – if indeed it was in vain? <sup>5</sup> For we **through the Spirit** eagerly wait for the hope of **righteousness by faith**. <sup>6</sup> For in Messiah יהושע neither circumcision nor un-circumcision [into a sect that believes that one can be justified before Elohim by obeying the Torah] avails anything, but **faith working through love** [as demonstrated by belief in the Messiah to save one from sin and obedience to the Torah of יהוה]. <sup>7</sup> Therefore know that only those who are of **faith** are sons of Abraham. <sup>8</sup> And the Scripture, foreseeing that Elohim would justify the Gentiles by **faith**, preached the message to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” [Genesis 12:3] <sup>9</sup> So then **those who are of faith are blessed** with believing Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For as many as are of the **Works of the Law** [**Miqsat Ma'ase Ha-Torah**] are under the curse [of the Torah of יהוה]; for it is written in the Torah [of יהוה], “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the Book of the Torah [of יהוה],”



to do them.” [Deuteronomy 27:26] <sup>11</sup> **But that no one is justified by the Torah [of יהוה] in the sight of Elohim is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.” [Habakkuk 2:4] <sup>12</sup> For the Torah [of יהוה] does not require faith as “the man who does them shall live in them.” [Leviticus 18:5] <sup>13</sup> Messiah has redeemed us from the curse of the Torah [of יהוה], having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”) [Deuteronomy 21:23], <sup>14</sup> that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Messiah יהושע, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through **faith**.**

Paul, who according to Acts 16:6 first met the Galatians in the **winter** of 49-50 C.E., **marvelled** to learn that people in Galatia whom he had spiritually invested in were by the **summer** of 50 C.E. **so quickly** being swayed to leave the truth and join a sect that preached a message of **justification** by **obedience** to the Torah of יהוה. This sect did not teach that **the blood of יהושע the Messiah justifies one before Elohim**, or even that one needed to have **faith** in Elohim. Rather, it preached that one could be perfected in the **flesh** by keeping the commands of Elohim as determined, prescribed and interpreted by those who adhered to the **Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah**.

It would have been all the more infuriating to Paul if the **very sect** he had left in 37 C.E. after his conversion was attempting to steal the spiritual fruit which he was laboring to bring forth in the kingdom of Elohim for יהושע the Messiah. And Paul’s fight over the **false teaching** that the Messiah’s blood is **not necessary** for justification did not end in Galatia in 50 C.E. In a letter written to the **Romans** in the early spring of 56 C.E., Paul was still doing battle against the sect which adhered to the **Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah**.

**Romans 3:9-31** <sup>9</sup> **What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both **Judeans** and **Greeks** that they are all under sin.** <sup>10</sup> As it is written: “There is none righteous, no, not one; [Ecclesiastes 7:20] <sup>11</sup> There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after Elohim. <sup>12</sup> They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.” [Psalm 14:2-3 / Psalm 53:2-3] <sup>13</sup> “Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit;” [Psalm 5:9] “The poison of asps is under their lips;” [Psalm 140:3] <sup>14</sup> “Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.” [Psalm 10:7] <sup>15</sup> “Their feet are swift to shed blood; <sup>16</sup> Destruction and misery are in their ways; <sup>17</sup> And the way of peace they have not known.” [Isaiah 59:7-8] <sup>18</sup> “There is no fear of Elohim before their eyes.” [Psalm 36:1] <sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the Torah [of יהוה] says, it says to those who are under the Torah [of יהוה], that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before Elohim. <sup>20</sup> **Therefore by the Works of the Law [by keeping the commandments of Elohim as prescribed in the Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah] no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the Torah [of יהוה] is the knowledge of sin.** <sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of Elohim apart from the Law [apart from keeping commandments for justification as prescribed in the Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah] is revealed, being witnessed by the Torah [of יהוה] and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> even the righteousness of Elohim, through **faith in יהושע** Messiah, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; <sup>23</sup> **for all have sinned and fall short of the esteem of Elohim [Ecclesiastes 7:20], <sup>24</sup> being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Messiah יהושע, <sup>25</sup> whom Elohim set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance Elohim had passed over the sins that were previously committed, <sup>26</sup> to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the Justifier of the one who has faith in יהושע.** <sup>27</sup> Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup> Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the Works of the Law [as prescribed in the Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah]. <sup>29</sup> Or is He the Elohim of the **Judeans** only? Is He not also the Elohim of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, <sup>30</sup> **since there is one Elohim who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.** <sup>31</sup> **Do we then make void the Torah [of יהוה] through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the Torah [of יהוה].**

Paul’s point to the **Romans** was that the **righteousness** of Elohim is revealed through faith in יהושע the Messiah, and that Elohim **justifies** those who have **faith** in יהושע the Messiah. Propitiation for sin comes by the **blood** of יהושע the Messiah. Justification before Elohim does **not** come from keeping commandments as prescribed in the Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah, as the righteousness of Elohim is revealed in the Torah of יהוה through **faith** in all who believe. Paul’s argument was that **faith** in יהושע the Messiah justifies both **Judeans** and non-**Judeans** by the **blood** of the Messiah, as everyone has sinned and is guilty before Elohim. And **faith establishes** the Torah of יהוה. It is easy to believe that Paul’s spiritual opponents worked overtime to convince others that Paul was **unrighteous**.

## The Rumors Against Paul

The idea that Paul was a preacher of **unrighteousness** who was teaching people **not** to obey the Torah of יהוה was a **rumor** that he lived with in his own lifetime. When Paul came to Jerusalem for **Shavuot** at the end of his Third Missionary Journey in late **spring** in 56 C.E., a **rumor** was circulating that he was teaching **Judeans** to forsake the Torah of יהוה.





**Acts 21:15-25** <sup>15</sup> And after those days we took up our *carriages* and went up to Jerusalem [on **Day 30 / Month 2**]. <sup>16</sup> Also some of the disciples from Caesarea went with us and brought with them a certain Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we were to lodge. <sup>17</sup> And when we had come to Jerusalem [afternoon of **New Moon 3**], the brethren received us gladly. <sup>18</sup> On the following day [**Sabbath** morning on **Day 2 / Month 3**] Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. <sup>19</sup> When he had greeted them, he told in detail those things which Elohim had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. <sup>20</sup> And when they heard it, they magnified יהוה. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many myriads of **Judeans** there are who have believed, and they are all zealous for the Torah [of יהוה]; <sup>21</sup> **but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Judeans who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs.** <sup>22</sup> What then? The assembly must certainly meet, for they will hear that you have come. <sup>23</sup> Therefore do what we tell you: We have four men who have taken a vow. <sup>24</sup> Take them and be purified with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads, and that all may know that those things of which they were informed concerning you are nothing, **but that you yourself also walk orderly and keep the Torah [of יהוה].** <sup>25</sup> But concerning the Gentiles who believe, we have written and decided that they **keep themselves from things offered to idols [idolatry], from blood, from things strangled [from eating unclean and detestable things], and from sexual immorality.**”

The King James Version retains the word *carriages* in **Acts 21:15** which is interesting from a chronological viewpoint as Paul was trying to get from Caesarea Maritima to Jerusalem before the **Sabbath** preceding **Shavuot**. He left Caesarea Maritima on the fifth day of the week on **Day 30 / Month 2** and arrived in Jerusalem the next day on **Day 1 / Month 3** on the sixth day of the week in **56 C.E.** According to the **ORBIS**, the Stanford Geospatial Network Model of the **Roman** World, the fasted journey from Caesarea Maritima to Jerusalem took **1.4 days** covering **126 kilometers** if the mode of transportation was a *fast carriage* at **67 km/day**.

Luke does an accurate job of transmitting Paul’s predicament for all posterity. Paul *would never have* taught anyone to *forsake Moses* and disobey the Torah of יהוה, and he *would never have* taught people *not to circumcise their children*, but he *would have* taught them *not to walk according to the customs* of the rabbis that contradicted the Torah of יהוה.

The same predicament exists to this day when adherents of rabbinic Judaism are seemingly unable to comprehend that there are many people in the world who wish to believe and do the commands in the Torah of יהוה *without* believing or accepting the basic tenet of rabbinic Judaism that the traditions of the rabbis in the Oral Torah supersede the Written Torah.

James along with the elders embarked on a public relations campaign intending to *prove the rumor false*. They advised Paul to take a Nazarite Vow at the temple and obliged him to pay for the expenses of four other men who were also taking a Nazarite Vow. Paul was to pay for the costs that would be incurred for the requisite sacrifices which would be offered at the end of the process. It was hoped that this act would demonstrate that *Paul loved the Torah of יהוה* and would thereby put the *rumor* to rest. However, the *rumor* that Paul was a preacher of *unrighteousness* teaching people *not to obey* the Torah of יהוה is believed to this very day.

Paul ended up taking a Nazarite Vow for **seven days** during the week of **Shavuot** in **56 C.E.** It was on the seventh day of his vow on the **Sabbath** on **Day 9 / Month 3** in **56 C.E.** that a riot broke out over Paul’s presence in the Temple. Paul was taken into protective custody and stood trial before **Antonius Felix (52-59)** **five days** later on **Day 14 / Month 3** in **56 C.E.** according to the account in **Acts 24:1-23**. Paul testified before **Antonius Felix (52-59)** that he *believed* all things in the *Written Torah* of יהוה and the *Prophets* – and by this statement Paul made it clear that he did *not believe* all things in the *Oral Torah*.

**Acts 24:14-16** <sup>14</sup> But this I [Paul] confess to you [**Antonius Felix (52-59)**], that according to the Way, which they call a sect, so I worship the Elohim of my fathers, **believing all things which are Written in the Torah [of יהוה] and in the Prophets.** <sup>15</sup> I have hope in Elohim, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust. <sup>16</sup> This being so, **I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward Elohim and men.**

Paul believed, practiced and taught that all people should believe in יהושע the Messiah and *obey the truth* – the Written Torah of יהוה – *by faith* and by the power of the *Set Apart Spirit*. Many people in the **Age of the Messiah** have stumbled at Paul’s letters. Some of his letters were written to particular assemblies that were being seduced by certain practitioners of the *Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah*. Paul was against this sect as they taught that a person could be *perfected in the flesh* without *faith* and without the *Set Apart Spirit*. These false teachers were attempting to persuade set apart believers in the Messiah to be *ritually circumcised* into a *false religious system*.

**Galatians 5:1-4** <sup>1</sup> Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Messiah has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a **yoke of bondage** [by adhering to doctrines espoused in the *Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah* in an attempt to justify yourself]. <sup>2</sup> Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become **circumcised** [into a sect adhering to the *Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah*], Messiah will profit you nothing. <sup>3</sup> And I testify again to every man who becomes **circumcised** [into a sect adhering to the *Miqsat Ma’ase Ha-Torah* which teaches that justification comes strictly by keeping



commandments] that he is a debtor to keep the whole Torah [of יהוה perfectly without ever sinning once in his entire life].<sup>4</sup> You have become estranged from Messiah, you who attempt to be **justified** by the Torah [of יהוה]. You have fallen from grace.

Paul knew that it is impossible for a man to be perfected in the flesh because every man has sinned.

**Romans 3:10-12**<sup>10</sup> As it is written: “**There is none righteous, no, not one; [Ecclesiastes 7:20]**<sup>11</sup> There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after Elohim.<sup>12</sup> **They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.**” [Psalm 14:2-3 / Psalm 53:2-3]

## James Taught that Faith Without Works is Dead

James taught that faith and works go together: **faith without works is dead – a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.**

**James 2:14-26**<sup>14</sup> What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? **Can faith save him?**<sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,<sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?<sup>17</sup> Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.<sup>18</sup> But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.<sup>19</sup> You believe that there is one Elohim. You do well. Even the demons believe – and tremble!<sup>20</sup> But do you want to know, Oh foolish man, that **faith without works is dead?**<sup>21</sup> Was not Abraham our father **justified by works** when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?<sup>22</sup> Do you see that **faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?**<sup>23</sup> And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed Elohim, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” [Genesis 15:6] And he was called the friend of Elohim. [2 Chronicles 20:7 / Isaiah 41:8]<sup>24</sup> You see then that **a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.**<sup>25</sup> Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also **justified by works** when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?<sup>26</sup> **For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.**

James implies that faith that does not have the works to back it up **cannot save**. The teaching that **faith without works is dead** is intended to instruct those who would give lip service to their **faith** in יהושע the Messiah, but then live a life of **unbelief** and **disobedience** to the commandments in the Torah of יהוה. Paul was in full agreement with James and exhorted the Corinthians not to make the same mistake the **Israelites** made in 1437 B.C.E. when they **rebelled against** יהושע the Messiah during the Exodus from **Egypt**.

**1 Corinthians 10:1-13**<sup>1</sup> Moreover, brethren [the set apart ones in Corinth], I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers [the children of **Israel** and the mixed multitude] were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,<sup>2</sup> all were immersed into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,<sup>3</sup> all ate the same spiritual food,<sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. **For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Messiah.**<sup>5</sup> But with most of them Elohim was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.<sup>6</sup> Now these things became our examples, to the intent that **we should not lust after evil things** as they also lusted.<sup>7</sup> **And do not become idolaters** as were some of them. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.”<sup>8</sup> **Nor let us commit sexual immorality**, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell;<sup>9</sup> **nor let us tempt Messiah**, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents;<sup>10</sup> **nor complain**, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer.<sup>11</sup> **Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages [Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah] have come.**<sup>12</sup> **Therefore let him who thinks he stands** [by professing belief in יהושע the Messiah but then rebelling against the Torah of יהוה] **take heed lest he fall.**<sup>13</sup> No trial has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but Elohim is faithful, who will not allow you to be tried beyond what you are able, but with the trial will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

## Every Soul who will not Hear the Prophet Like Moses Will be Destroyed

Every man’s beliefs will be put to the test when יהוה Elohim will judge the secrets of men by יהושע the Messiah of **Israel**. יהושע will **save** all those who **hear** Him at the end of the **Age of the Messiah**. Those who do **not hear** Him will be **utterly destroyed from among the people** before the **Age of Life** begins to fulfill the word of יהוה in **Deuteronomy 18:15-19** and **Acts 3:22-23**.



**Deuteronomy 18:15-19** <sup>15</sup> “יהוה your Elohim will raise up for you a Prophet like me from among your brethren. You shall hear Him <sup>16</sup> according to all that you asked from יהוה your Elohim, in Horeb, in the day of assembly, saying, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of יהוה my Elohim, nor let me see this great fire anymore or we will die.’ <sup>17</sup> And יהוה said to me, ‘What they have spoken is good. <sup>18</sup> I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. <sup>19</sup> And it shall be that whoever will **not hear** My words which He speaks in My name, **I will require it of him.**”

**Acts 3:22-26** <sup>22</sup> For Moses truly said to the fathers, “יהוה your Elohim will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. You shall hear Him in all things, whatever He says to you. <sup>23</sup> And it shall be that every soul who will **not hear** that Prophet shall be **utterly destroyed from among the people.** [Deuteronomy 18:18-19] <sup>24</sup> Yes, and all the prophets, from Samuel and those who follow, as many as have spoken, have also foretold these days. <sup>25</sup> You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which Elohim made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’ <sup>26</sup> To you first, **Elohim, having raised up His Servant יהושע, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.**”

יהושע Messiah was sent to bless us by **turning us away from** our iniquities. For when men **turn away from sin** the blessings of the covenant will certainly be enacted. However, the author of Hebrews makes it very clear that willful disobedience to the commands in the Torah of יהוה will **cancel out** the sacrifice that יהושע the Messiah made for sin on the execution stake.

**Hebrews 10:26-31** <sup>26</sup> For if we sin [and disobey the Torah of יהוה] willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup> but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. <sup>28</sup> Anyone who has rejected the Torah of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. <sup>29</sup> Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of Elohim underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was set apart a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? <sup>30</sup> For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says יהוה [Deuteronomy 32:35]. And again, “יהוה will judge His people.” [Deuteronomy 32:36] <sup>31</sup> **It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living Elohim.**

A wise person will discern that it is critically important to **believe the sayings** of יהושע the Messiah – to **do the will** of the Father in heaven which is to **keep the commandments of Elohim** and abstain from practicing lawlessness. As the world comes to the end of the **Age of the Messiah**, the words of Paul could never be more true – **let every man who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.**

**Jude 24-25** <sup>24</sup> Now to Him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His radiant splendor with exceeding joy, <sup>25</sup> to the only Elohim our Saviour, is honor, majesty, power and authority, both now and in all the ages [World that Was, Present Age, Age of Desolation, Age of Instruction, Age of the Messiah, Age of Life, World to Come]. So be it.

