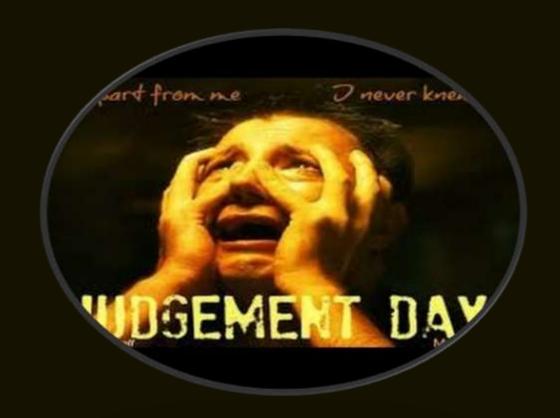


Depart from me, Ye that are "without Torah!"

It is written in the Bible in Matthew 7: 21-23!





Just for clarification, before I continue: In my studies I use YHVH (Yod, Hay, Vav, Hay in Hebrew, which I pronounce as Yahuah instead LORD, which is a title not a name. I also use Yahusha instead of Jesus, which is not a translation but a transliteration. The name Jesus really has no meaning, in Hebrew nor in English! YHVH and Yahusha are the actual original Hebrew names that speak of our Savior's true nature and character. For this reason, I prefer to use the Hebrew

Let's look at it: "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Master, Master,' shall enter into the reign of the heavens, but he who is doing the desire of My Father in the heavens. 22 "Many shall say to Me in that day, 'Master, Master, have we not prophesied in Your Name, and cast out demons in Your Name, and done many mighty works in Your Name?' 23 "And then I shall declare to them, 'I never knew you, depart from Me, you who work lawlessness!" The Scriptures



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The KJV states: "depart from me, ye that work iniquity!"
The Bible in Basic English: "...you workers of evil!"
The Contemporary English Version: "...ye evil people!"
The Good News Bible: "...ye wicked people!"
The Int'l Std. Version: "...ye evil doers!"
The literal translation: "....those working lawlessness!"
The Easy to Read Version: "....You people that do wrong!"
The Weymouth N.T.: "....you doers of wickedness!"
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Those translations don't help me much, because they basically all say the same thing. For this reason we need to go to the original Greek Text, to find the answer!

Let's look at what word is being used in Greek that is being translated as wickedness, evil, and or lawlessness etc.



It is the Greek word "Anomos" # 459

"a" = meaning "without"
And "Nomos" = meaning "Torah"
A better translation would therefore be: "Depart
from me, ye that are without Torah (law, teaching, instruction)!"



When we speak about the Torah, we immediately think about the five books of Moses, the first five books of the Bible. In a broader sense are all books of the Bible inspired by Yahuah. For this reason should all the books be included in the word "Torah". The Psalms, the Prophets as well as the Books of Esther and Ruth are part of the Torah Israel's.





The Jews call these books the TaNaKh (TNK), which is an acronym of Torah (Law), Nebi'im (Prophets) and Ketuvim (Writings)! That is for Christianity the socalled Old Testament!





Even Yahusha, our Savior pointed to the Tanakh in Luke 24:44, when talking to the two disciples of Emmaus about the prophecies that pointed to His life and mission. He said unto them: "These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me." KJV



What does that tell us? Anyone can find salvation in Yahusha, the Messiah, just by studying the TaNaKh, the socalled Old Testament!





Now, let's go back to the word "Torah"

The Hebrew word "Torah" in our Bibles is mostly translated as "Law", which is not a good translation. First and foremost, the Torah is Yahuah's teaching. The word does not mean "law", it means "teaching." The root word for "Torah" can be traced to the Hebrew word meaning "to shoot an arrow," or "to hit the mark." Sin, on the other hand means "missing the mark"!



Again, Torah literally means teaching, whether it is the wise man instructing his son, or YHVH instructing Israel. It is Yahuah's teaching, hitting the mark of man's needs, including his need to know who He is and what His righteousness looks like! So, when we look into the Torah, we look into the righteousness of Yahusha, we look at His very character! It also shows us, what we are to look like, what our character must be!



In Deuteronomy 30:19 Yahuah told the Israelites: "I have called the heavens and the earth as witnesses today against you: I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore, you shall choose life, so that you live, both you and your seed." (The Scriptures)



Torah teaches Agape Love!

The Torah tells us the truth, the difference between holy and unholy, clean and unclean, life and death. The Torah is therefore the grace of Yahuah, a blessing.



If those people in Matthew 7:23 would have studied and <u>lived</u> Torah, their good deeds would have been pure, unselfish and acceptable!

Galatians 5:14 puts it this way: "For the whole Law (Torah) is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself." KJV





The Ten Commandments <u>do not say</u> in actual words to love our Creator and our neighbor! The 10 Commandments are just 10 **"thou shalt and thou shalt not!"** It is the statutes and judgments, <u>the fine print</u> of the 10 Commandments that tell us to love our Creator and our neighbor!



A famous Rabbi Akiva is quoted as saying the commandment to love one's neighbor as oneself is "the greatest principle in the Torah." Love is not the replacement of the Torah; it is the summary of the Torah!



When Yahuah made human beings, he gave them an instruction manual to accompany them, one can call that "Torah". We do not function to our full potential without instructions. The Torah was not given as the means for salvation. When YHVH gave the Israelites the Thora at Sinai, they were already a saved people! Redemption must precede commandments.



The idea that one can merit or earn salvation through works of obedience is called "legalism". Legalism says: "I must obey God, in order to be saved."

Grace on the other hand says: "I want and must obey, because I am saved."



In His great love and mercy, Yahuah God gave man the Torah, the law, the target, the aim, the instruction, His standard, an objective standard of right and wrong. It is not based on what feels right for me or doesn't feel right for me. It is black and white, it is right and wrong, it is thou shalt not; what is clean and unclean; what is holy and what is profane.



It is a universal standard of righteousness. What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. That is the teaching of the Torah! Yahuah God gave us detailed instructions, so we know who we are, what is expected from us, how to behave, what to eat, how to stay healthy, what days and festivals to keep. He gave us laws and instructions of how to worship him as His people, His bride!



The Torah is a description of what His people look like (Deuteronomy 4:6)

The Torah reflects Yahuah's Holiness, Goodness and Righteousness!

The Torah shows what sin is (Rom 7:7; 1. John 3:4)!

The Torah reveals the wrath of YHVH (Rom 4:15)

The Torah leads us to Yahusha (Galatians 3:19-26)

The Torah reminds us of the Creator through the weekly Sabbat!

The Torah reminds us of the plan of salvation through the yearly appointed feast days! The Torah is a history book of creation, a manual for life, a covenant document and the constitution of the nation! Because the Torah tells us the truth, the difference between holy and unholy, clean and unclean, life and death, it is both a protection for us and a written revelation of the grace of YHVH.



Every man, woman or child who chooses not to live within the teachings of YHVH, which produce life, is consigned to a place outside of the blessing and protection established by these teachings. (Remember Deut.30:19-20)

From the book Torah Rediscovered by Ariel and D'vorath Berkowitz – page 26/27



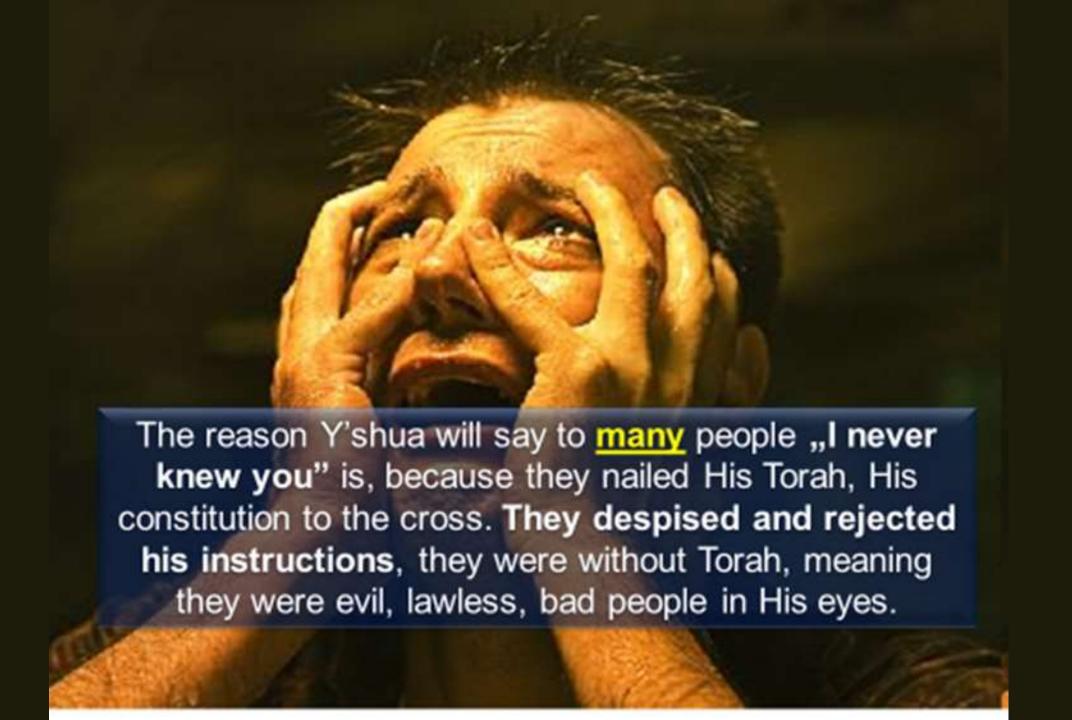
That obviously means, if someone rejects Torah, his or her prayers are useless, they might as well stop praying!

How important is the Torah for believers?
In Proverbs 28:9 it states: "He who turns away his ear from hearing the Torah, even his prayer is an abomination."

The Scriptures









For this very reason Yahusha did not recognize these people as His own and they really didn't know Him either! Did they follow a false Messiah? Did they have a false hope? Where they following traditions and teachings of man instead of a "Thus saith YHVH"?



Remember, Yahusha is the Word according to John 1:1, which became flesh, the <u>living Word</u>, the <u>living Torah!</u> The Torah is Yahusha embodied and Yahusha is the Torah <u>unfolded</u>.

Only those that love, teach and live the Torah, will Yahusha acknowledge as His own, because Yahusha is the Torah unfolded!

Whoever rejects the written Torah, rejects the living Torah, Yahusha!



Listen what YHVH has to say in Hosea 4:6 in reference to the Torah "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the Torah (law #8453) of thy Elohim, I will also forget thy children." (Restoration Study Bible)

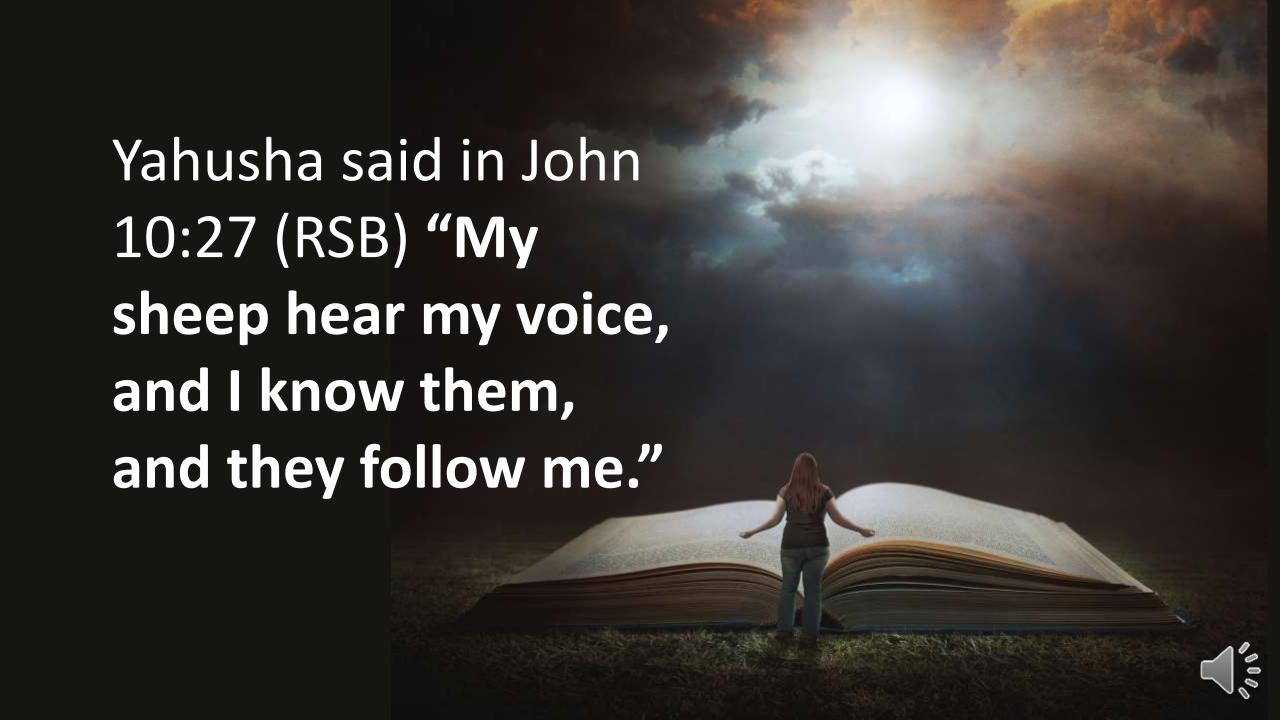


What kind of a knowledge is it talking about in this verse?

His people had forgotten Yahuah's instructions, called the Torah! And whose fault is it? Every individual is personally responsible to acquire this knowledge and follow it! Turning away from Torah with the statutes and judgments brings curses, but returning to the wisdom of Torah brings blessings and healing.







And the <u>Torah is Yahushas voice</u>, that means according to Matthew 7:23 that his sheep are only those, who hear the voice of the Torah, both the living and the written one with the statutes and Judgements, observe the instructions and are sealed with them (Isaiah 8:16)!

If the Word of YHVH is true, it must be consistent. If Messiah is true, He must be consistent with the Torah of Moses. The Hebrew Messiah Yahusha Ha Mashiach is consistent with the written Torah, but the Greek Christ of traditional theology is not.



Yashua said to His disciples in John 14:27:

"Peace I leave with you – My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." The Scriptures



SHALOM



